

wood pulp are among the goods of which export is prohibited except under license issued by the Minister of Customs at the request of the War Trade Board?

2. If so, what is the object of said Order in Council?

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: 1. Yes.

2. The object in passing the Order in Council was to assist in the control and supply of newsprint for domestic purposes.

IMPERIAL MUNITIONS BOARD.

*Mr. DEVLIN:

*1. During the months of October, November or December, 1917, did the staff of the Imperial Munitions Board do any work for the Government in connection with the copying of lists showing the names of soldiers' wives and soldiers' dependents?

2. If so, who paid the various members of the staff of the Imperial Munitions Board for doing this work?

3. For what purpose were these lists used?

4. Did any member of the staff of the Militia Department arrange to have the work done?

5. If so, what is his name?

6. On whose instructions were the lists copied?

General MEWBURN:

1. There is no record of any such work having been done for the Government.

2. and 3. Answered by No. 1.

4, 5 and 6. There is no record in the Militia Department of any such instructions, nor was there any payment made on account of such expenditure.

UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR PAPERS.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER:

For a copy of all Orders in Council appointing members of the National Service Board, and all reports made individually or collectively by the members of the Board.

QUESTION PASSED AS MOTION FOR RETURN.

Mr. ARCHAMBAULT:

Who were the officers of the Engineer Training Depot stationed at the St. Johns, Quebec, barracks during the months of October and December, 1917? Who were the officers of the Engineers Training Depot stationed at St. Johns, Quebec, barracks on the 17th of December, 1917? Where did these officers enlist and where did these officers reside before their enlistment? Where were these officers residing at the time of their enlistment?

RURAL MAIL CARRIERS' CONTRACTS.

Mr. J. H. BURNHAM (W. Peterborough) moved:

That, in the opinion of this House, Parliament should provide that the Postmaster General shall have power to revise rural mail carriers' contracts not yet fully executed in order that the service may not suffer from conditions bearing unfairly on the said carriers arising

[Mr. Lemieux.]

from sudden rise in prices due to unusual circumstances and unfairly affecting the rate of remuneration contracted for.

He said: My object in bringing this motion before the House is that mail carriers, after they have entered into certain obligations, sometimes find themselves, owing to circumstances over which they have no control and which they could not reasonably be expected to have taken into consideration, placed in such a position that they have a moral right to appeal for a revision of their contract, but the Postmaster General has no power to revise the contract in any way. When he is apprised of these unusual circumstances, he replies that he has no power to revise the contract, and the consequence is that there is no reconsideration. I, myself, know of cases where mail couriers are going behind daily, as a plain statement of their expenditures shows, and the result is that the country is really taking advantage of these men by holding them strictly to their contract. A great injustice is done these couriers solely because the Postmaster General has not the power that other ministers of the Crown have, under different circumstances, of revising a contract or improving its conditions. The Postmaster General simply has to shut out all consideration of the matter, and this works a very great hardship. The Government should not take undue advantage of any man, especially of men so necessary to the business of the country as mail couriers, and since the desire of the House can only be that all the people shall be treated fairly, I fancy the House, if it will but think of the matter for a moment, will be only too glad to empower the Postmaster General to revise these contracts so as to enable him to do justice in every case where a grievance is clearly shown.

Hon. C. J. DOHERTY (Acting Postmaster General): The motion which the hon. gentleman makes looks to the creating of a power in the Postmaster General to "revise," by which I understand he intends to convey the idea of altering the conditions of the contracts that have been entered into for the carriage of rural mail. Those contracts were entered into after calling for tenders, and as a rule there was some competition and some difference of prices. It is not impossible—it is, in fact, highly probable—that there are cases (quite a few have been brought to the attention of the department where it is contended, and in many of them it may be true, that conditions have so changed by reason of circumstances quite unforeseen