

Mr. CASGRAIN (Translation): That remark does not reflect credit upon the hon. member.

Mr. DURANLEAU: My information is that there was no demand for the installation of any life saving stations in the province of Quebec, but I can look over the files and give the information to my hon. friend. I know that years ago there was a station at the Magdalen islands, but the station was doing nothing at all so it was dropped.

Mr. CASGRAIN (Translation): If my memory serves me right an accident happened years ago when the boats which carried on the service to the island of Anticosti were obliged, at their own risk and peril, without being fitted out for salvage purposes, to go out at sea and rescue a ship in peril. If such accidents sometimes occur during the stormy season, I think it would be good policy for the hon. minister to look into this matter, in consultation with the officers of the department. The question is worth looking into by the government.

Mr. DURANLEAU (Translation): Has the hon. member any locality in view?

Mr. CASGRAIN (Translation): I mentioned the island of Anticosti which is situated in the middle of the gulf of St. Lawrence. I am aware that accidents and wrecks have occurred near this island.

Mr. FAFARD (Translation): The hon. minister stated that there existed a station at the Magdalen islands and that they were obliged to close it as there were no drowning accidents. If such are the conditions, I would not request a station, however, if it can be a safeguard to fishermen I would request the minister to establish one.

Mr. MERCIER (St. Henri) (Translation): I am glad to hear that all these amounts will be spent in the maritime provinces. This is a proof that our St. Lawrence is a navigable and safe route which can be relied upon, it helps the good name Canada has abroad. I trust that we shall continue to maintain on the St. Lawrence, not life saving stations—if they are not required so much the better—but buoys and that the deepening of the channel will be continued that all modern installations will be resorted to and that care will be particularly taken to light up the channel, at night.

The hon. member for Inverness (Mr. Macdougall) complained, a moment ago, that we had a garage or a repair-dock, at Quebec, for vessels and that there were none in the

[Mr. Gobeil.]

maritime provinces; his wishes, however, have been gratified.

Mr. DURANLEAU: I quite agree with my hon. friend that the St. Lawrence is the safest for navigation and I consider that the best thing we can do to save lives is to provide the most efficient aids to navigation such as lights, buoys, signals and so forth. I do not think that any country has better safeguards than we have in the aids to navigation which we supply.

Mr. POULIOT: As the minister says that the river St. Lawrence is the safest place for navigation, I think that would be the best place for the government to stay.

Mr. MacLEAN: Has the life saving station at Alberton, Prince Edward Island, been discontinued?

Mr. DURANLEAU: Yes, it is closed. There is only one station, which is at Charlottetown.

Mr. McLURE: Is the Charlottetown station to be equipped and maintained this year by the Marine department?

Mr. DURANLEAU: The boat and equipment will be maintained during the season.

Mr. NEILL: During the spring of 1932 was a shore patrol maintained on the west coast of Vancouver island?

Mr. DURANLEAU: Yes. We spent last year on that patrol \$2,500.

Mr. NEILL: Yes; but was it maintained during January, February and March?

Mr. DURANLEAU: Yes, it was kept in operation.

Mr. NEILL: What rate was paid the men? I think it was \$90 per month.

Mr. DURANLEAU: The salary is \$75 plus board allowance of \$25, less the ten per cent cut.

Mr. NEILL: That would make it \$90. Was a Mr. W. J. McDonald employed on that patrol during those three months?

Mr. DURANLEAU: Yes, during the winter months.

Mr. NEILL: Was he the same gentleman who afterwards got a contract to build bridges?

Mr. DURANLEAU: Yes.

Mr. NEILL: Without competition. That contract ended on October 19. Did he go back again on the patrol on the first of November?