

been taxed under Section 13 (5) of the Special War Revenue Act, there being required thereon the tax of 1 cent in addition to the postage payable.

A mailed form letter, which by the method of folding has the address placed thereon without the use of an envelope, requires no stamp duty for the same reason as in the case of a post card.

A form letter, mailed in an envelope, acknowledging payment of \$10 or over, requires a two-cent stamp affixed thereto because it has thereon no evidence that any other tax has been paid under the Special War Revenue Act.

2. & 3. Answered by No. 1.

4.

5. Conditions as provided by the Act.

6. Penalties as provided by the Act.

7. Yes.

MINISTERS' AND OFFICIALS' TRAVELS

Mr. STANSELL:

1. What Ministers of the Crown have been absent from Canada since the close of last session?

2. What were the several tours taken by each minister so absent, and what was the object of each trip?

3. What were the names of those who, at public expense, accompanied each minister, and what was the purpose?

4. What officials of the various departments have been out of Canada since the last session and for what purpose in each case?

5. What were the several tours taken by each official so absent, and what was the object of each trip?

6. What has been the cost to Canada of such trips by ministers and officials, and those who accompanied them?

7. What has been the cost to the Dominion of the various trips made by ministers and persons who accompanied them since the last session of parliament: (a) within Canada; (b) out of Canada?

Hon. Mr. FIELDING: I would ask the hon. gentleman to kindly renew his question in the form of a motion, when it can be better considered.

MATT C. BECKETT

Mr. DUNCAN:

1. Was Matt C. Beckett, of Owen Sound, Ont., appointed Customs and Excise Preventive Officer for Grey county?

2. If so, when was such appointment made?

3. Was the said Beckett subsequently dismissed?

4. If so, for what cause?

Hon. Mr. BUREAU:

1 and 2. Mr. Matt C. Beckett, of Owen Sound, Ont., was authorized to act as a Customs-Excise Enforcement officer, without salary, and with power to make seizures for infractions of the excise laws, by letter dated 16th March, 1922, such authority to

terminate at any time at the discretion of the hon. the minister.

3 and 4. Authority for Mr. Beckett's employment was withdrawn by letter dated April 24, 1922.

GRAND TRUNK ELECTRIFICATION

Mr. CHURCH:

1. Has the attention of the government been called to a telegram sent to the Hamilton Board of Trade by Sir Henry Thornton, President of the National Railways, dated December, 1922, stating that the Grand Trunk would be immediately electrified between Toronto, Hamilton and Niagara Falls and the border?

2. Have plans been prepared, and what will the cost of this work be, and what amount of money will be required to be furnished by parliament for this project, and why were the government and parliament not consulted before such a declaration of policy involving an expenditure of millions?

3. Is it the intention of the government to electrify the National System in other parts of Canada as well?

Hon. Mr. GRAHAM:

1. The President of the Canadian National Railway system has given no assurance to the effect that the Grand Trunk would be immediately electrified within the territory contemplated by the question. An assurance was given, however, that the Canadian National Railways would at once undertake an investigation of the whole position, to see to what extent it was necessary to improve transportation facilities to meet the requirements of the public; and that as soon as such investigation was completed the public might anticipate immediate relief.

2. The investigation referred to is under way, but has not yet been completed.

3. The Canadian National management will consider the electrification, from time to time, of such parts of the system as can be electrified economically and in the interests of the public.

HUDSON BAY RAILWAY LAND

Mr. CAMPBELL:

1. What is the total number of acres of land sold as authorized by Statute of 1908 for the purpose of Hudson Bay railway construction?

2. What is the total amount for which this land has been sold?

3. How many acres of land are still held in western Canada on account of the above legislation?

Hon. Mr. STEWART:

1. There was no specific authority under the Dominion Lands Act, 1908, for the sale of land for the purpose of Hudson Bay railway construction, but pre-emptions and purchased homesteads were sold under the provisions of the said act as follows:—

2. Total acreage of pre-emptions and purchased homesteads sold under the statute of 1908,—8,050,720 acres approximate. Total