

can understand what took place. The matter was not very clear yesterday, as members of the committee will recall. If the minister would table the correspondence we would all feel that we knew the situation better.

Mr. HOWE: Any correspondence that there was took place between Park Steamship company and the War Assets Corporation and the agent. That correspondence is all in Montreal. I tried to get hold of the manager of Park Steamship company this morning but was unable to do so. I shall be glad to table the information when I get it. I am no wiser about that situation than I was before, but it could be referred to the committee on war expenditures where those who handled the transaction could appear and any questions that might be asked could be answered. The whole matter could then be explored by those who are really familiar with transactions of the kind referred to.

Mr. MACDONNELL: That may be a fair suggestion; nevertheless I would like to see it on *Hansard*, because the members who listened to the discussion yesterday might be interested in having the information for themselves. After that, the course of procedure which the minister suggests might be reasonable.

Mr. HOWE: I will try to obtain the correspondence. I have not been able to do so yet. I would like to see it myself.

Mr. ADAMSON: I should like the minister to give us some information about the documents in connection with the strip mill at Anaconda.

Mr. HOWE: That has just been tabled.

Mr. ADAMSON: I would ask a question on that, but unfortunately I have not the answer. While I am on this matter I should like to say something about the Anaconda American Brass company. I believe their finished production compares favourably with that of any brass company in the entire world. I understand they have operated a government subsidiary, a crown company, and have established a production cost lower than that of any other company manufacturing brass and similar articles. But this is not their only attainment. What I shall say further is said because two other hon. members have made similar references. At the time of the ninth victory loan this company invested more per man than any other Canadian company, their contributions reaching the astonishing figure of only \$7 less than \$500 per employee. The total subscription by the company amounted to more than \$3,800,000. May I take this opportunity to congratulate the company upon its

[Mr. Macdonnell.]

creditable showing in this respect. I am sure the committee will pardon me for having taken time to point out this most remarkable performance.

Mr. HOWE: Apropos of the hon. member's remarks, may I place before the committee an example of the government in business, as applied to the manufacture of brass. Capital expenditures for Canada Strip Mills amounted to \$3,192,300.15. Brass was sold at current world prices. I might point out in passing that it is a world commodity, and sells at a world price. Profits of the operation were \$16,289,181.20. After writing off capital there was an excess of profits over capital expenditures of \$13,096,881.05. In addition to that we had another operation in Montreal East, where there was a capital expenditure of \$6,515,429.40. Profits of that operation were \$15,597,586.66, with an excess of profits over capital expenditures of \$9,082,160.26.

Item agreed to.

Termination of contracts, \$175,000,000.

Mr. HOWE: At the last sitting I undertook to make a statement respecting the termination of contracts, to substantiate the item of \$175,000,000. The termination provisions in the majority of outstanding contracts are substantially as follows:

35. Termination

(a) Notwithstanding anything in the contract contained, the minister may at any time, by giving notice to the contractor, terminate the contract (save and except the provisions of this clause and of clause 28 of these general conditions) as regards all or any part or parts of the work not theretofore completed. Upon such notice being given, the Contractor shall cease work (including the manufacturing and/or procuring of materials for the fulfilment of this contract) in accordance with and to the extent specified in such notice. The minister may, at any time or from time to time give one or more additional notices with respect to any or all parts of the work which remain to be completed after the giving of any previous notice or notices;

(b) In the event of any notice being given under the provisions of this clause—

- (i) all work completed by the contractor hereunder before the giving of such notice, and all work completed thereafter pursuant to such notice, shall be paid for (subject to acceptance by His Majesty in accordance with the provisions of the contract) on the basis provided in the agreement;
- (ii) in respect of work not completed hereunder before the giving of such notice, and not completed thereafter pursuant to such notice, the contractor shall be entitled to be reimbursed the actual cost to the contractor of such uncompleted work and to receive in addition an amount representing a fair and reasonable profit in respect of the work done thereon. For the purposes of this subdivision (ii)