

Questions

*NATIONAL DEBT RETIREMENT POLICY

Mr. LANDERYOU:

Has the government any definite plan in mind which, if proceeded with, would substantially reduce and eventually pay off Canada's national debt within, (a) twenty years; (b) fifty years; (c) one hundred years?

2. If so, in what respect does this plan differ from the policy of the past thirty years?

Mr. DUNNING: This is not a proper question. It has reference to government policy and cannot be put in the form of a question.

Mr. SPEAKER: Dropped.

SALE OF GOVERNMENT DREDGING FLEET

Mr. PELLETIER:

1. Has the government sold the dredging fleet of the St. Lawrence, or a part of it, including the marine facilities at Sorel, Quebec?

2. If so, (a) to whom were they sold; (b) for what amount were tenders called; (c) was the lowest tender accepted; (d) were any other tenders received, and from whom? (e) what was the amount of each tender received?

Mr. HOWE:

1. Yes.

2. (a) To General Dredging Contractors, Limited.

(b) The properties referred to were disposed of by negotiation.

(c), (d) and (e) answered by 2 (b).

PORT OF SOREL ADMINISTRATION

Mr. GARIEPY:

1. Is the port of Sorel included under the administration of the national harbours commission?

2. If not, will the said port be put under the administration of the said commission, and when?

3. Why is said port not under such commission?

Mr. HOWE:

1. No.

2. This question relates to a matter of government policy.

3. The harbour at Sorel is administered by the Department of Transport as a public harbour under the provisions of the Harbours and Piers Act.

VETERANS' ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Mr. EDWARDS:

1. What is the total cost to date of the royal commission on veterans' assistance?

2. What are the rates of pay and allowances (travelling and living) made to each commissioner, and the amounts paid to date to each commissioner, by name, under these or other heads?

[Mr Speaker.]

3. What are the rates of pay and allowances of any kind to counsel and assistant counsel, of the commission, and the amounts paid to date to each such official, by name, under these or other heads?

4. What is the total cost to date for: (a) secretarial assistance; (b) clerical assistance; (c) preparation of stenographers' report of proceedings of the said commission?

5. How many days did the commission sit to hear evidence, and how many days were spent in travelling?

6. How many witnesses were called by the commission, and what was the total amount paid for their appearance before the said commission?

Mr. POWER:

1. No royal commission was appointed.

The veterans' assistance commission was appointed under authority of the Veterans' Assistance Commission Act, 1936. \$326,640.65.

2. Rates of pay:

J. G. Rattray, chairman

7-7-36—31-3-37 at \$6,000, less 5%—\$4,183.06

1-4-37—6-1-38 at 6,000, less 5%—4,506.77

H. L. de Martigny

7-7-36—31-3-37 at \$4,800, less 5%—\$3,346.45

1-4-37—6-1-38 at 4,800, less 5%—3,677.42

A. Ross

7-7-36—6-10-36

Nil

R. MacNicol

7-10-36—31-3-37 at \$4,800, less 5%—\$2,206.45

1-4-37—6-1-38 at 4,800, less 5%—3,677.42

Actual transportation and travelling expenses:

J. G. Rattray \$1,068.39

H. L. de Martigny 739.95

A. Ross 340.50

R. MacNicol 1,093.39

3. No counsel employed.

4.

(a) Secretarial assistance, Ottawa..\$10,117.49

Secretarial assistance, honorary committees 30,212.97

(b) Clerical assistance, Ottawa... 31,082.96

Clerical assistance, honorary committees 10,238.04

(c) Nil.

5. The commission held sittings on thirty-seven days at various centres from Sydney to Victoria during the period September 14, 1936 to January 5, 1937, in the course of which approximately sixteen additional days were employed by each commissioner in travelling.