

MR. MCLURE—NAMING OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
CAR FERRY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. CHESTER S. McLURE (Queens): Having lingered somewhat too long at the banquet board yesterday noon, I was late for the opening of the house at 3.30 in the afternoon. At page 4015 of *Hansard* I find a suggestion in regard to the naming of the Prince Edward Island car ferry. I am greatly indebted to the hon. member for St. John-Albert (Mr. Hazen) for his very kind remarks concerning myself, and also his suggestion. My point of privilege, however, is that it is not my desire to have the Minister of Transport or his government devote too much time to the consideration of the kindly suggestion of the hon. member for St. John-Albert, until I have given the matter some further consideration myself.

QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk).

WAR ASSETS—PURCHASES BY COLONEL
J. P. J. GODREAU

Mr. CASE:

1. Have goods been purchased from war assets corporation by Colonel J. P. J. Godreau or any company he may represent or be associated with? If so, what goods?
2. When were they purchased and what price was received at time of purchase?

Mr. McILRAITH: In reference to part 1 of this question may I say that it is impossible for the corporation to get the information to answer it in this form, because there is no means of identifying the companies with which Colonel Godreau may be associated. We have also been unable to find any means of locating Colonel Godreau; we have no clue as to where he resides or what part of the country he may be in. The only way we could identify any transactions with him would be to search all the invoices. I have discussed the form of the question with the hon. member for Grey North (Mr. Case) and would suggest that it be dropped in its present form and reworded in such a way as to give him the information he desires.

Question dropped.

CENTRAL MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION—
AUDITORS

Mr. FLEMING:

1. Who are the auditors of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation?
2. When were they appointed, and on what basis as to fees or other remuneration?

3. What amounts have been paid to them to date for their services, and what services or periods do such payments cover?

4. (a) What reports have they submitted as auditors, and on what dates; (b) what subjects or periods did such reports cover?

Mr. McILRAITH:

1. Mr. W. H. Campbell of Campbell, Glendinning and Company, chartered accountants of the city of Montreal and Mr. Jean Valliquette of Anderson and Valliquette, chartered accountants of the city of Montreal.

2. Appointed by order in council P.C. 262, dated January 24, 1946 in accordance with section 32 of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation Act, for a term of two years from March 1, 1946. The minister approved a salary of \$4,000 each plus expenses, for the fiscal year 1946.

3. \$9,762.17 fees and expenses, for audit for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1946.

4. (a) and (b).

On February 12, 1947 a report to the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply containing a statement of the corporation's position with the department as at December 31, 1946 which confirms balances collected on behalf of the minister and balances owing the corporation by the minister.

On February 20, 1947, the financial statements consisting of balance sheet, statement of profit and loss with appended certificate, for the year ending December 31, 1946.

*FEDERAL GRANTS TO MUNICIPALITIES

Mr. CHURCH:

1. On what municipal projects was the grant made by parliament from 1938 to date, annually, to the city of Ottawa as a subvention in exchange for services rendered by the city to the government?

2. What sum of money was spent in each year, and the various uses made of this grant for municipal purposes?

3. What action has been taken to extend the principle in the legislation to other municipalities throughout Canada rendering to the government similar services?

Mr. FOURNIER (Hull): I think I should give oral answers to these three questions. The grants to the city of Ottawa are made under a special statute of this parliament, and the statute does not provide any obligation on the part of the city to show how the money is spent. That would be the reply to Nos. 1 and 2. If and when the government takes action or does anything to extend this principle to other municipalities the house will be informed in due course.

Mr. CHURCH: Even if it is statutory are not the people entitled to know how public funds are expended?