

establish a line of steamers to cross to Prince Edward Island and shall build some extensive piers ; and he says this is what the people of Prince Edward Island want. Within the last two weeks the people of Prince Edward Island sent a deputation to Ottawa to say that they wanted nothing of the kind. The deputation came before the committee, and all they asked was to be let alone, and to have the question of communication between Prince Edward Island and the mainland left between Prince Edward Island and the government, and they protested against any private corporation coming between the two. My hon. friend is mistaken, what the people of Prince Edward Island asked and what he asked was, let us alone.

Mr. J. J. HUGHES (King's, P. E. I.) Mr. Speaker, I would be glad to support anything brought forward by the hon. member for West Prince (Mr. Hackett) that would be for the real benefit of Prince Edward Island. There are many things that that province requires as well as the other provinces of Canada ; but to establish a ferry between the capes is, in the opinion of a great many people of Prince Edward Island, myself among the number, entirely impracticable ; and therefore I should have to vote against this amendment if it were put to a vote. Generally speaking, the hon. gentleman advocates what is reasonable and fair for the province he represents, and if I thought he were doing so now, I would heartily support him ; but the amendment he now proposes I must vote against.

Mr. HACKETT. Mr. Speaker, will you kindly allow me an explanation in reply to the hon. Minister of Finance and to the last hon. gentleman who spoke. With regard to the delegation which came from Prince Edward Island, I supported it against granting to a private company a monopoly of the waters between Cape Tormentine and Cape Traverse, and we had the Bill amended to meet the views of the people of Prince Edward Island.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. There was no proposition for a monopoly.

Amendment of Mr. Hackett negatived, on division.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the third time and passed.

QUESTIONS.

PAYMENTS TO MONTREAL 'HERALD' PRINTING COMPANY.

Mr. ROSAMOND asked :

1. Is it true that the Montreal 'Herald' Printing Company has received \$113,000 from the government since 1896 ?
2. Is it true that the Montreal 'Herald' is being offered to subscribers through Canada for a sum barely sufficient to pay postage ?

3. If so, is there any connection between these two facts ?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE (Hon. W. S. Fielding). The sums paid to the Montreal 'Herald' Printing Company for advertising, printing, and lithographing since the beginning of the year 1895-96 have been as follows :

	Advertising.	Printing and Lithographing.
1895-96	\$ 6 25	
1896-97	994 88	\$ 604 79
1897-98	1,946 37	2,349 70
1898-99	2,800 58	12,208 42
1899-1900	2,766 90	22,358 61
1900-01	2,697 53	49,068 79
1901-02	2,490 57	13,341 39
	\$13,703 08	\$99,931 70
Total		\$113,634 78

2. and 3. We have no information.

THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION.

Mr. BARKER—by Mr. Clarke—asked :

1. When did Sir William Van Horne decline to act on the transportation commission appointed by the Governor in Council on May 19, 1903 ?
2. Had Sir William Van Horne been informed, previous to the time when he declined to act on such commission, that the government intended to enter into the arrangements set forth in the Bill intitled : 'An Act respecting the construction of a National Transcontinental Railway,' and in the schedule attached to said Bill, or into any arrangements for such or similar purposes ; and did he, after receiving such information, decline to act upon the commission ?
3. Did the government ascertain Sir William Van Horne's views with regard to the government's proposed or contemplated arrangements ; and did the government thereupon intimate to him that it was desirable that he should not act upon the said commission ?

The PRIME MINISTER (Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier) :

1. The last letter received from Sir William Van Horne on this subject, wherein he declined to act on the Transportation Commission, is dated, Montreal, the 20th of July last.
2. No.
3. No.

LEASE OF GRAZING LANDS.

Mr. ROCHE (Marquette)—by Mr. Ingram—asked :

1. Has the government granted a grazing lease of any lands in the North-west Territories to Mr. George McDonnell or his wife ?
2. If so, how much, on what terms, and what is the length of the lease ?

The MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR (Hon. Clifford Sifton) :

1. No.