

received the reply one would naturally expect. That is what I object to. I say that the hon. gentleman knew what the result of his telegram would be and those gentlemen complied with his order, as he knew they would. With regard to the remarks of my hon. friend from Pictou (Mr. E. M. Macdonald) who seems to think that because Mr. Sumner is a Conservative, that forsooth, whatever he does or says must go, I say that I do not care whether a man is a Conservative or a Liberal in circumstances such as these. I never saw Mr. Sumner before but I was told he was a Conservative or had been and I do not doubt it at all.

Mr. E. M. MACDONALD. Except that it was Mr. Sumner who was managing director of the company who sold the oil, after the present Minister of Railways had given up all connection with the company.

Mr. BARKER. The present Minister of Railways has not to this hour given up all connection with the company. The minister never pretended—

Mr. EMMERSON. Given up what?

Mr. BARKER. All connection with the company.

Mr. EMMERSON. Oh, yes, I have.

Mr. BARKER. The statement was that when he became minister he wished to resign the presidency of the company, and they objected to his resigning, and he did not resign then, but later on he resigned and Mr. Sumner took the presidency. The minister's interest is just what it was, and whether he is a mere shareholder or the president is immaterial. They knew why the telegraph was written and replied to his request, which was an order that they should buy that oil.

Trent canal—staff, \$8,300; repairs, \$8,000.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Why are these additional amounts necessary?

Mr. EMMERSON. They arise because of our taking over certain works that have heretofore been operated by the Ontario government. We have to increase the staff wages on the canal now under operation and for employees on the works recently taken over from the Ontario government. There are salaries on the Kirkfield lift lock and salaries for lockmasters and bridge tenders on the Gamebridge division. We expect to have that portion of the canal in operation shortly.

Mr. HAGGART. Where are the repairs to be done?

Mr. EMMERSON. To make improvements on the dams and slides on the Gull river, Burnt river and Union river. These works were recently taken over by the department from the Ontario government. We repaired two swing bridges on Lindsay and South Lindsay streets in Lindsay.

Mr. BARKER.

Mr. HAGGART. Are you using these dams, &c., for reservoirs?

Mr. EMMERSON. Yes; we want to conserve the waters up there.

Lachine canal—to pay W. Mitchell two-thirds time lost and for medical attendance, injured while at work, \$123.

Mr. EMMERSON. This is an employee who was injured while loading timber at the Lachine canal basin. He was loading a piece of timber which fell back and disabled him.

Welland canal—to pay gratuity to D. W. Parr, \$1,000.

Mr. EMMERSON. This is a case which will be in the minds of hon. members. Two or three years ago some characters from the other side of the line came over to the Welland canal and used dynamite with a view to the destruction of the canal. This was in 1900, on the evening of the 21st of April, 1900, an attempt was made to destroy with dynamite lock 24. At the time D. W. Parr, a lockman, was on duty at the lock, his business being to patrol the canal between locks 21 and 24. From his own statement it appears that Parr the moment of the explosion was sitting in the lock-house with the door open. Another man who was there, seeing a smoking valise suspended in the water, suspected dynamite and ran away. The charge immediately exploded, and Parr returned to the lock-house and telephoned to Thorold for police. While he was at the 'phone a second charge went off and broke the windows in the lock-house and shattered the telephone in Parr's face. He then ran to the central telephone office and telephoned to the canal superintendent, who told him to go back to the lock-house. A staff of repair men arrived and made repairs. From that time until daybreak he says he was left alone to endure a nervous strain far exceeding what he should have had. The shock affected his nervous system and heart action to a serious extent. I had several examinations made as to the condition of this man, and I felt that as an employee of the government standing by his post of duty—of course, that was his duty—but yet, under those circumstances, standing there and communicating with the police, as a result of which these men were apprehended—

Mr. HAGGART. How many years ago?

Mr. EMMERSON. In 1900. The matter has been brought to my notice upon quite a number of occasions by Mr. Parr. He has sent in petition after petition, he had the certificate of his own physician, and the department sent a disinterested physician to inquire into his condition, and, as a result, I think that the country would be justified in paying him this amount.

Mr. HAGGART. Would not the sum be a large one?