

## Questions

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I ask Your Honour's ruling on this question. It seems to me to belong to a class of questions that should not be permitted to appear on the order paper.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will examine the point.

## MISSION CITY—PUBLIC BUILDING SITE

Mr. BARBER:

1. Was a site purchased at Mission City, British Columbia, for public building?
2. If so, when was it purchased?
3. What price was paid?
4. What was the total revenue from the Mission City post office for the year 1926?
5. How many rural routes are served through the Mission City post office?
6. How many boxes on each route?
7. What is the post office accommodation at present at Mission City?
8. If premises leased, what is the rental?
9. To whom is rental paid?

Hon. Mr. RINFRET:

1. Yes.
2. January, 1913.
3. \$6,000.
4. \$6,669.21.
5. None.
6. Answered by No. 5.
- 7, 8 and 9. Eight hundred and fifteen square feet is provided for postal purposes in a building owned by the postmaster. The postmaster is granted a rent allowance of five hundred dollars a year based on the revenue.

## DAWSON POST OFFICE

Mr. BLACK (Yukon):

1. Was a vacancy in the post office at Dawson, Yukon, filled during November or December last, by temporary appointment made without reference to the Civil Service Commission and without the preference to be given to applicants who are returned soldiers?
2. If so, will an opportunity be afforded returned soldiers to apply for and compete by examination for appointment to said position, and when?

Hon. Mr. VENIOT:

1. Yes, temporary appointment.
2. Yes, if permanent appointment becomes necessary.

## STEAMER PELEE

Mr. GOTT:

1. What is the cash subsidy paid to the steamer Pelee for the year 1927?
2. When was the contract drawn for the 1927 season?
3. On whose recommendation was it passed?
4. Is the following item which appeared in The Amherst Echo on March 25th correct.  
"The steamer Pelee subsidy has been cut to \$11,000—a reduction of \$2,750—according to the budget brought down in the Dominion House this week."

[Mr. Gott.]

5. Will the government please explain?

6. Is the government aware that the company to whom the subsidy is granted has paid high dividends for some years past—having paid as high as 25 per cent?

7. Was there any attempt made this season to reduce the subsidy as promised by the department in July last?

Hon. Mr. MALCOLM:

1. The contract subsidy is \$11,000.
2. The contract is dated February 25, 1927.
3. The recommendation of the minister.
4. No. While the subsidy is \$11,000 it has stood at this figure for several years. There is only an apparent decrease in 1927-28, due to the fact that there was an increase of \$2,750 included in the estimates for 1926-27, to cover a similar amount remaining unpaid from the year 1925-26, due to the fact that the steamship company sent in their subsidy claim for the last quarter of their contract after the books of the Auditor General had closed for 1925-26. This amount, therefore, had to be paid out of 1926-27 funds and provision made therefor in the estimates.
5. Answered by No. 4.
6. No. From information in the department it would appear that the average profit is very moderate.
7. No.

## QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURN

## FARM INDEBTEDNESS OF PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Mr. CARMICHAEL:

1. How many farms in the province of Saskatchewan are mortgaged?
2. How many have first mortgages?
3. How many have second, third, and fourth mortgages?
4. What is the total mortgage debt of Saskatchewan farms?
5. How many farmers in Saskatchewan were assessable under the Dominion Income Tax Act for the last preceding year?
6. What is the total federal provincial, urban, and rural debt of Saskatchewan, Alberta, and Manitoba, respectively?
7. How many farms in each of the three prairie provinces have Dominion seed and relief loans against them, and what is the total of such in each province?
8. How much money is invested in farm machinery in Saskatchewan?
9. How much money is owing by farmers on such farm machinery in the said province?

## IRON AND STEEL—EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

Mr. SMITH (Cumberland):

1. What quantity of iron and steel and their products, of all grades and classes—specifying the grades and quantities, naming the country of origin and the value in grades and classes—was imported into Canada for the year ending in January, 1927?
2. What quantity of iron and steel and their products, of all grades and classes—specifying