

respect to the financial ability of the person, persons, company or corporation who have been promised the subsidy?

Hon. JAMES SUTHERLAND (Minister of Public Works):

1. Yes.
2. On the 18th of May, 1903.
3. Yes, the Vancouver Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company, Limited. The initiative steps were taken by S. Thompson, the names of the other parties interested are not known to this department.
4. Extract from report of G. A. Keefer, resident engineer, under date of October 8, 1903, as follows:

As to the solvency and responsibility of the Vancouver Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company, Limited, as a firm, I have no means of knowing further than a favourable personal knowledge of its representative, Mr. S. Thompson. Mr. Thompson is a marine and mechanical engineer of high standing, has been a resident of Vancouver for 16 years, and is a resident of Vancouver for the past five years, and the valuation of his property, plant, &c., in Vancouver is placed at \$100,000. He is in touch with and known to the firm of Clark & Stanfield and the constructing firm of Clark & Hunter, designers and builders of the Bermuda, Havana, Algiers, Maryland, and numerous other floating docks, of which they make an exclusive specialty, to whom the work of the Vancouver dock will be given. Mr. Thompson's references are: Evans, Coleman & Evans, Bank of Montreal, Canadian Bank of Commerce, and Molson's Bank, all of Vancouver, so we may assume that his business standing is all right. It is his intention to proceed to England immediately on obtaining the necessary permission to construct from the Dominion government, where he anticipates no trouble in floating the company, as he states the necessary capital has been secured contingent on government assistance and permission being obtained.

QUEBEC BRIDGE PAYMENTS.

Mr. MORIN asked:

1. Has the government paid any amount, since the 1st July, 1903, on the million voted for the Quebec bridge?
2. What amounts were thus paid, and to whom, and on what dates?

Hon. H. R. EMMERSON (Minister of Railways and Canals):

1. No amount has been paid since 1st July, 1903, on the \$1,000,000 voted for the Quebec bridge.
2. The answer to number one answers number two.

MAIL SUBSIDIES—MONTREAL AND BRITISH PORTS.

Mr. HENDERSON—by Mr. Sproule—asked:

What was the total amount paid by the government during the year ending 31st December, 1903, as mail subsidies and steamship subventions for ocean and mail service, or other steam communication, between the port of Montreal and any port or ports in Great Britain?

Rt. Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT (Minister of Trade and Commerce). I would call the attention of the hon. gentleman to the fact that almost all the steamship subsidies paid for steamers from Montreal cover a double circuit, from Montreal during the summer, and from Halifax, St. John or other ports during the winter. Consequently, there may be a question of subdividing. With this qualification I would say that the total amount paid was \$110,656.25. That will have to be divided hereafter.

PAYMENT OF MILITIA AT VALLEYFIELD.

Mr. CLARKE asked:

1. Have the Valleyfield municipal authorities paid to the government of Canada the sum demanded for the services of the militia who were called out on the occasion of a strike in Valleyfield?
2. When was the sum paid over?
3. What was the amount demanded by the government; and what was the amount paid by the municipality?

Hon. Sir FREDERICK BORDEN (Minister of Militia and Defence). I beg leave to read a memorandum on this subject, prepared by my deputy:

This case now stands as follows:

On the 10th instant His Excellency in Council approved of the settlement of the case on the basis of an offer by the municipality, viz.: To pay the cost of transport and pay for the first and second day the troops were out.

At the end of the second day (26th October, 1900) seven magistrates had ordered the withdrawal of the troops, and the department is advised that the power which can order the troops out can also order their withdrawal.

They were not, however, withdrawn on the 26th, as the officer in command thought it inadvisable to do so.

Some of the troops were withdrawn on the 27th and others later, until on the 30th all had been sent home.

Sum advanced out of consolidated fund—\$4,481.01.

Total cost of transport, and pay for two days, which is the amount to be repaid by the municipality under the above arrangement, \$2,040.24.

NATIONAL TRANSCONTINENTAL—ALIENS ON SURVEYS.

Mr. CLARKE asked:

Have any protests been received from or on behalf of the Society of Canadian Civil Engineers, or from any person or persons, respecting the employment of aliens on the surveys being made in connection with the proposed National Transcontinental Railway; and if so, from whom were such protests received, and when were they presented to the government?

Hon. H. R. EMMERSON (Minister of Railways and Canals). A protest has been