

delivered the flax as seed, in which event they would not be paid and will not be paid; or whether they delivered it as crushing flax, in which event they are entitled to a bonus of fifty cents a bushel, which has been paid, according to my advice from the wheat board.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

REFERENCE TO REMARKS IN DEBATE—REPORT IN OTTAWA "JOURNAL"

On the orders of the day:

Mr. JEAN FRANÇOIS POULIOT (Temiscouata): I rise on a matter of personal explanation with regard to a kind and generous editorial in this morning's *Ottawa Journal*. It is entitled, "Mr. Jean François Pouliot called the wrong number."

Mr. MacNICOL: He never does that.

Mr. POULIOT: Calling the wrong number was calling Mr. Hector McKinnon, chairman of the tariff board, a Tory appointee. Then the *Journal* gives the right number as follows:

It is true that his first real promotion in Ottawa (where he had joined the civil service) came from R. B. Bennett.

This is the right number. I will add, Mr. Speaker, that the *Journal* says that Mr. McKinnon is an old-time Liberal. In the civil service there should be no Liberals, no Conservatives, no C.C.F., no Social Credit, no Bloc Populaire, but only public civil servants. That is all they are. The old men should be gotten rid of as soon as they are sworn in.

FLOOD CONDITIONS

FRASER VALLEY—REQUEST FOR CEILING ON PRICE OF HAY—PLANS FOR REHABILITATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. THOMAS REID (New Westminster): I have two questions to ask in regard to the people in the flooded area of the Fraser valley. One is directed to the Minister of Finance, and is about the price of hay. It has been estimated that some 10,000 tons of hay will be required. Information has just reached me from the Canadian Legion to the effect that speculators are going round the various districts now, offering exorbitant prices for hay, to the detriment later on of the people who have lost their crops. The Canadian Legion would like the minister to give consideration to the placing of a ceiling on hay in that district in order to preserve some semblance of equality and to assist in the rehabilitation later on of the people in the flooded areas.

[Mr. Howe.]

Hon. DOUGLAS ABBOTT (Minister of Finance): I shall be glad to look into the matter at once. Yesterday I received word from General Hoffmeister that the relief commission had authorized the purchase of some 1,500 tons of hay. But I will look into the matter that the hon. member has referred to and see what action should be taken.

Mr. REID: My other question is to the Prime Minister. In view of the uncertainty which prevails in the minds of many thousands in the flooded area, will he be good enough at an early day to make a statement as to the plan outlined and agreed upon between the dominion government and the provincial government for effecting rehabilitation of the people in the flooded area?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I would say to my hon. friend that I made a statement on that very matter a few days ago. I have since been in communication with the premier of the province, and will have a further statement to make a little later.

BUTTER

INQUIRY AS TO RETENTION OF CEILING PRICE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. E. DROPE (Northumberland, Ont): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Is it the intention of the government to retain the ceiling price on butter? If not, when will it be removed?

Hon. DOUGLAS ABBOTT (Minister of Finance): That action is a matter of government policy, of which my hon. friend will be informed in due course.

TARIFF BOARD ACT

AMENDMENT WITH RESPECT TO TENURE OF OFFICE, APPOINTMENT, ETC.

Hon. DOUGLAS ABBOTT (Minister of Finance) moved that the house go into committee on Bill No. 345, to amend the Tariff Board Act.

Motion agreed to and the house went into committee, Mr. Golding in the chair.

On section 1—Tenure of office.

Mr. FLEMING: The proposed amendment to section 3, subsection 3, will have the effect of giving to the governor in council power to appoint members of the tariff board for any term whatsoever—

Mr. ABBOTT: Not exceeding ten years.