

3. Is there any (a) minimum, (b) maximum age of employment?

4. Is any provision made for pages under the age of 14 years attending day school? If not, why not?

4. Have the services of any pages been dispensed with during the present session of Parliament? If so, what is (a) the name, (b) the age of the pages in each case?

6. What are the working hours of pages employed by the House of Commons?

7. Which, if any, of the pages employed by the House of Commons are the sons of men who saw active service in the recent war with Germany?

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE.

Rt. Hon. Sir ROBERT BORDEN (Prime Minister) moved:

That on and after Friday the 4th instant and until the end of the present session the House shall meet at two o'clock in the afternoon of each day.

He said: I have conferred with my hon. friend the leader of the Opposition (Mr. Mackenzie King) and with the hon. member for Marquette (Mr. Crerar) in regard to the disposition of the notice which stands on the Order Paper. I have also endeavoured to ascertain the views of hon. members generally throughout the House and I understand that the motion in the form which I now propose will be acceptable.

Mr. BUREAU: Does that include Saturdays?

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: No, not Saturdays. As far as Saturdays are concerned, I propose to leave that question in abeyance at present until we have made progress with the Budget and until it is more apparent as to what programme it will be possible to deal with at the present session.

Mr. FIELDING: That will apply also to Monday?

Mr. BUREAU: It says "each day."

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: Yes.

Motion agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT OVER KING'S BIRTHDAY.

Rt. Hon. Sir ROBERT BORDEN (Prime Minister) moved:

That when this House adjourns on Wednesday the 2nd day of June, it do stand adjourned until Friday, the 4th day of June.

He said: My personal view, as I explained at the time, was that we might very well have sat on the 24th May and the 3rd June. However, in deference to what seemed to be the general view of hon. members,

[Mr. Bureau.]

the House stood adjourned over the 24th of May. Under the circumstances it seemed to me that our action might be misunderstood if we did not adjourn over to-morrow. There is the fact also that hon. members had a somewhat protracted session yesterday and I dare say some will desire to make amends.

Mr. BUREAU: Oh no; we are young.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: My hon. friend is anxious to sit to-morrow, I see.

Mr. BUREAU: No, no; I do not wish to assume any blame for that.

Mr. BELAND: But he disclaims any fatigue.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: I am sorry that we are not all so young and energetic as he is. However, I present the motion in that form.

Motion agreed to.

CATASTROPHE AT THERIAULT AND ST. QUENTIN, N.B.

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. PIUS MICHAUD (Restigouche and Madawaska): I wish to ask if the Government is aware of the great catastrophe that took place yesterday at Theriault Settlement and St. Quentin in my own constituency. There are sixty-five families homeless; there is a million dollar loss of property and I understand that under these circumstances the Government might come to the assistance of these poor, unfortunate people.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: The unfortunate disaster to which my hon. friend has alluded has been made known to the Government through the press, not otherwise. There have been like disasters, I believe, in other parts of the country through forest fires. However, the subject has not been considered by the Government. We will take it into consideration, perhaps, within a day or two, but I would like to remind my hon. friend that assistance in the case of disasters of this kind might possibly come more particularly within the sphere of activity of the Provincial Governments.

CANADIAN MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY AT WASHINGTON.

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. RODOLPHE LEMIEUX (Maison-neuve): I have not the despatch under my hand, but I read in this morning's Citizen