

*Kingsville Harbour Master*

since I put the question before—if the government has any further statement to make dealing with the erection of a building at the corner of King and Yonge streets, Toronto.

Hon. CHARLES A. DUNNING (Minister of Railways and Canals): The statement made previously is still true in every particular.

Mr. MANION: No arrangement has been come to?

Mr. DUNNING: No.

INQUIRY FOR RETURN  
DEBT AND TAXATION

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. W. E. TUMMON (South Hastings): I should like to ask the government, more particularly perhaps the Minister of Finance (Mr. Robb) when I may expect replies to questions put on the order paper on February 4, and appearing on the order paper, previous to March 15 last, as question number 108, and passed on March 15 as an order of the House for a return. I have made repeated inquiries about the matter, but am told the information has not yet been brought down.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Would my hon. friend state what was the subject matter of that order?

Mr. TUMMON: The question had reference to the total net debt of the Dominion, the amount of the debt said to be attributable to the war, the total amount collected through the income tax, sales tax, and so forth.

Hon. J. A. ROBB (Minister of Finance): My recollection is that the return was tabled some days ago, but I will have the matter looked into.

STRAWBERRY IMPORTATIONS

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. S. F. TOLMIE (Victoria): I would like to ask the Minister of Customs (Mr. Boivin) if the government has taken any action or proposes to take any action in connection with the report presented to the House yesterday by the hon. member for Nanaimo (Mr. Dickie) relating to the flooding of the Canadian market by American strawberries.

Hon. GEORGE H. BOIVIN (Minister of Customs and Excise): I am very sorry that owing to an engagement with an official from a friendly country I was unable to be in my seat in the House yesterday at two o'clock.

[Mr. Manion.]

I am glad to say that the government has taken action. A representative of the Department of Customs has been sent to the country of production to ascertain on the ground the home market value of the fruit in question, and in the meantime instructions have been given to all of our collectors in western Canada to accept entry only subject to amendment and correction.

KINGSVILLE HARBOUR MASTER

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. E. J. GOTT (South Essex): In Hansard of May 26, at page 3729, the following question appears:

Has Mr. J. A. Donaldson of the town of Kingsville, Ontario, who acted as returning officer for the south riding of Essex in the federal elections of 1925, been appointed to the position of harbour master at the port of Kingsville, Ontario?

Several other questions followed. The answer to the first question was no, and the other answers were just as empty.

On June 7, the following appeared in Hansard:

1. Who was the harbour master at the port of Kingsville, Ontario, in 1925?

2. Who occupies the position of harbour master at port of Kingsville, Ontario, now?

and several other questions. To that the answer was:

1. There was no harbour master at the port of Kingsville, Ontario in 1925.

And the other answers were just as empty.

I would ask the government, or the Minister of Marine and Fisheries (Mr. Cardin) if this is an evasion, or if the questions are unanswered simply because of a technicality, because the word "harbour master" was used in place of "wharfinger."

Hon. P. J. A. CARDIN (Minister of Marine and Fisheries): The answer which has been given to my hon. friend was given according to the information handed to me by the officers of the department. I am bound to say that I think the information given is absolutely correct. I can understand that certain questions might not have been answered specifically, but by a reference to the answer to a previous question, such as "Answered by No. 1." Of course, if no harbour master has been appointed, it is unnecessary to give any particulars about him. At all events, I shall make inquiries, and if there is any technicality in regard to which my hon. friend thinks he is entitled to complain, I shall see that he is given the information.