

Pacific railway paid. The third reason given was this:

The management will pay the same standard of wages as the Canadian Pacific Railway Company as soon as the Grand Trunk Railway Company, through its relation with the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company, is in a position to participate in the higher rates obtaining on traffic in the Northwest, by reason of the completion of that road and the obtaining of through rail connections between the Grand Trunk Railway Company and the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company, which should be accomplished within two years.

I have always had the idea that the object of the government of Canada in constructing the Grand Trunk Pacific railway was to cheapen the rates of this country. It was to be a road which would be in competition with other roads in Canada and for that reason would be the means of lessening the rates. So I do not think either the men or the government or the public of Canada or any one else, took that reason very seriously. I can tell the minister that there are employees in the city of Windsor who have not yet received the positions to which they are entitled under the terms of the agreement which was entered into with the Grand Trunk Railway Company, and which provided that they were to be taken back in three months. It was through their trust in the honour of the Department of Labour that the men were willing to accept that condition; but I am of opinion that in that agreement the minister ran up the white flag, that he did not stand by the men. The voice was the voice of Jacob, but the hand was the hand of Esau. The men were looking for bread, but the minister handed them a stone. To-day they have not their positions, and it seems to me that they are justified in taking the position they do, in condemning the minister and his department for not giving to them that service which they had a right to expect from those supposed to be working in their interests.

Amendment (Mr. Northrup) negatived on division.

Motion agreed to, and House went into Committee of Supply.

SUPPLY.

Maintenance and repair to government steamers and ice-breakers, \$1,000,000.

Hon. L. P. BRODEUR (Minister of Marine and Fisheries). The amount voted last year was \$710,000, and the amount asked for next year is \$1,000,000, but this is really not an increase in the expenditure, but results from our intention to pay under this vote a number of amounts which were last year charged to other accounts. We had

Mr. WILCOX.

in the service paid under this vote 11 ships, namely, the 'Aberdeen' the 'Champlain,' the 'Druid,' the 'Earl Grey,' the 'Lady Laurier,' the 'Lansdowne,' the 'Minto,' the 'Montcalm,' the 'Nelson,' the 'Quadra' and the 'Stanley.' Besides these there are several which were paid out of other votes. Let me give a list:

The 'Brandt'..	\$ 8,466 99
The 'Rouville'..	11,950 89
The 'Frontenac,' charged to the St. Lawrence service ..	19,119 99
The 'Lambton,' paid out of construction..	9,213 62
The 'Maisonneuve,' out of maintenance..	8,745 64
The 'Newington'..	25,641 75
The 'Reserve'..	8,139 79
The 'Scout'..	12,577 73
The 'Simcoe'..	23,440 00
The 'Shamrock'..	10,247 35
The 'Verchères,' paid out of construction..	8,925 98
The 'Montmagny'..	25,000 00
The 'Lady Grey,' out of the St. Lawrence service.....	60,000 00

Mr. CROSBY. The appropriations will, I suppose, be that much less this year in these other votes?

Mr. BRODEUR. Yes.

Mr. CROSBY. How many boats have been in commission this year on the Nova Scotia coast, and what have they been doing? I understood that one of them at least would patrol the coast of Nova Scotia, which would be considerable advantage to the fishermen along that coast in their winter fishing; but I may have been mistaken. If one of these boats were to patrol the coast between Halifax and Canso that would be a great encouragement to our fishermen in the winter season. It will not suffice to have the boat remain in harbour until called for, because she might then very often be too late to be of any use. I would therefore urge on the government to have one of those boats set apart to patrol the coast in order to take care of our fisheries. It is a very rough coast. These boats are comfortable, well manned, well fitted for that purpose. If some were kept in commission it would be a great advantage to our fishermen. I have seen it stated that the United States have ten of their revenue boats patrolling their Atlantic coast during the winter, and in this connection a statement was published showing the number of lives and the amount of property saved by this service. I regret I have not these facts under my hand at the present time. If some such a service were established on our own coast our fishermen would carry on their work with much less danger and with much greater confidence.

Mr. BRODEUR. Some years ago, we had only one boat carrying on the lighthouse and buoy service at Halifax, but of late