

repairs were made to the existing structure, which rendered it unnecessary to incur the capital expenditure involved until this season. Specifications to accompany the plan were approved in August last, tenders were called for in September, and the matter is now before the government for consideration.

CUSTOMS SURVEYOR—VANCOUVER

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver):

1. Was R. C. Maxwell, former surveyor of customs and excise at the port of Vancouver, demoted by the present government?

2. Did the said R. C. Maxwell frequently act as acting collector in addition to his duties as surveyor?

3. Did the Department of National Revenue appoint an assistant surveyor to assist R. C. Maxwell in the discharge of his duties as surveyor?

4. Was the said R. C. Maxwell acting in a dual capacity with the knowledge of the government and did the department approve of his work while acting collector?

5. Was a petition signed by some seventy business firms of the port of Vancouver, asking for an unbiased investigation in reference to the demotion of R. C. Maxwell received by the right hon. the Prime Minister, and if so, was the same acknowledged?

6. What action, if any, did the right hon. the Prime Minister take in connection with this matter?

Mr. RYCKMAN:

1. R. C. Maxwell, formerly surveyor of customs and excise at the port of Vancouver, was demoted by the Department of National Revenue, July 1, 1932.

2. In accordance with the usual practice, R. C. Maxwell, as surveyor and next in rank, acted as collector during the absence of that officer on statutory leave or sick leave.

3. H. M. Dunn was on April 1, 1924, appointed by the Civil Service Commission assistant surveyor of customs and excise, grade 6 port, as a result of a promotional competition.

4. As a matter of routine practice, R. C. Maxwell was authorized to act as collector in the absence of that officer. The files of the department do not indicate that while acting as collector any special expression of approval of his work was given by the department, and it is not customary so to do.

5. The case of R. C. Maxwell was given the personal consideration of the Prime Minister and the petition was received very shortly after a letter had been despatched to Mr. Maxwell by the Prime Minister giving the conclusions reached by him in consultation with the Minister of National Revenue.

6. No action was taken with respect to the request for a re-investigation, the facts upon which the decision was based amply justifying the decision arrived at.

TRENT RIVER DAMS

Mr. BLAIR:

1. Have tenders been called for replacing dams 4 and 5 on the Trent river, north of Peterborough?

2. If any tenders have been accepted, who was the successful tenderer?

3. Will the government replace one of these wooden dams with a concrete dam this year?

Mr. MANION:

1. As to dam 4 (now dam 23), no. This is a new concrete dam completed in 1927. As to dam 5 (now dam 22). Tenders have been called for, and are now before the government for consideration.

2 and 3. Answered by No. 1.

LOCKS BRIDGE—OTONABEE RIVER

Mr. BLAIR:

1. Have tenders been called for the replacement of the locks bridge on King's highway No. 7, over the Otonabee river, near Peterborough?

2. Will the government construct the bridge at this point, this year?

3. Have terms been settled with the Ontario government as to the proportion each government is to pay for the construction of the said bridge?

Mr. MANION:

1. No.

2. The matter is under consideration as between the dominion and the province but awaits final agreement with the province as to site.

3. Answered by No. 2.

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

UPPER PORT LATOUR—WHARF

Mr. RALSTON:

1. How much money was voted for the repairs to Upper Port Latour wharf in 1932?

2. How much has been expended to date?

3. Is the work completed?

4. Who was the foreman?

5. What rate of pay per hour was paid to foremen, carpenters, labourers?

6. Who supplied the timber and/or logs used in said repair?

7. What was the total amount paid for said timber and logs delivered?

8. What size timber and logs were called for in this work?