

Harbour Commissioners of Montreal, who, through one of our members, extended to us an invitation to visit the harbour. Had the right honourable gentleman who is leading the House to-night (Right Hon. Mr. Graham) been with us, I should have asked him to say a few words, and should not myself address the House.

Not only did we enjoy the hospitality that characterizes our Montreal friends and the citizens of Montreal generally, but we had more than the usual hospitality: we had a real opportunity of viewing the harbour, which was the primary object of the visit. After partaking of refreshments at the quarters of the Harbour Commissioners, we went in a boat down the river and had a full opportunity of seeing not only what has been done, but what is contemplated to be done with the money that has been voted. When the vote for Montreal Harbour came up in the House I said that it had my heartiest endorsement. We were reminded then by the Chairman of the Board (Hon. Mr. McDougald) that Montreal has the greatest grain harbour in the world, and that in volume of business it is second largest on this continent, and, I believe, the fifth largest in the world. That is a record of which Canada may well be proud.

Some hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY: It is indeed a great satisfaction to us to know that the Harbour of Montreal is self-sustaining in every way. Moneys for harbours and harbour improvements are voted by this House on the faith that is in us, not on facts accomplished. Fortunately, the Harbour Commissioners of Montreal have a record of achievement, not only in building up the harbour, but in making Montreal a great national port. Although I come from the western country, I look with great pride upon that development for the furtherance of our trade, just as I am gratified at the progress made at Vancouver and other harbours of Canada.

After we visited the harbour we had the pleasure, through the kindness of the honourable gentleman from De Salaberry (Hon. Mr. Beique), of visiting one of the oldest churches in Canada; and some honourable gentlemen anticipated the last journey that they will make in this world, by unintentionally visiting a cemetery.

Some hon. SENATORS: Oh, oh.

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY: Altogether the trip was a thoroughly enjoyable and instructive one.

I know a little about the grain trade. I am not a practical man, but it has been my duty, as well as my opportunity, to acquire some knowledge of the grain trade in the West, and of the methods of handling grain, and it is quite obvious even to a neophyte that the facilities already provided in Montreal Harbour, or now being installed, are most up-to-date and adequate for the quick despatch of grain—the important thing—so that there will be no congestion.

So, on behalf of the members of the House, I extend to the Harbour Commissioners of Montreal, through their president, one of our members, our very hearty thanks for their invitation to visit the harbour.

Some hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. W. L. McDOUGALD: Honourable gentlemen of the Senate, may I at once thank the honourable leader on the opposite side of the House for his very kind remarks regarding the trip to Montreal which those who were good enough to honour me with their presence yesterday enjoyed. My only regret is that all of you could not come. I think perhaps we may make this an annual affair, and that next year we may plan it sufficiently in advance so that all may be able to avail themselves of the opportunity of visiting Canada's national port.

Right Hon. G. P. GRAHAM: Honourable gentlemen, I am not going to add to the eloquent remarks of my honourable friend (Hon. Mr. Willoughby). But I had a really good alibi for not accepting the invitation of the chairman of the Montreal Harbour Board. I can assure you that it had to be a good one to prevent me from being present.

Montreal Harbour is ably managed under the guidance of our good friend the Senator from Wellington (Hon. Mr. McDougald), and, without being peculiarly altruistic, I may say it is just another example of the wisdom of the Government in selecting its officials.

#### REPARATION PAYMENT BILL

##### FIRST READING

Bill 285, an Act to provide for the payment of Claims for Compensation for loss sustained by the civil population of Canada during the late War.—Right Hon. Mr. Graham.

#### RETURNED SOLDIERS' INSURANCE BILL

##### FIRST READING

Bill 310, an Act to amend the Returned Soldiers' Insurance Act.—Right Hon. Mr. Graham.