

Mr. CARDIN: No, there is no understanding.

Mr. STEVENS: Will the harbour commissioners be at liberty to make the decision they think best at that date, namely, October 31?

Mr. CARDIN: Yes.

REPORTED STATEMENT OF CAPTAIN SHAW

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. G. G. COOTE (Macleod): I would like to ask the government a question based on an article appearing in the Edmonton Journal of June 2. This is a despatch from High Prairie, dated June 2, headed:

Alberta needs Liberal government to get favours, says Captain Shaw.

It quotes some other remarks made by Captain Shaw at this meeting, and says in part:

He spoke on long term credits, educational and health matters but doubted if a Liberal government at Ottawa would sponsor any legislation promoted by an Alberta government other than Liberal.

I would like to ask the government if the leader of the Liberal party in Alberta is correctly interpreting the attitude of this government, and if he has received any authority from this government or any member thereof for making such a statement.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I would not like to be drawn into participation in the general election which is taking place in Alberta at the present time. I would say to my hon. friend, however, that so far as co-operation by this government is concerned I do not imagine any legislation would be prejudiced by coming from a Liberal government anywhere; but I would also say that this government is ready to co-operate with any of the provincial governments irrespective of party affiliations in measures which are for the general good of Canada.

CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. R. J. MANION (Fort William and Rainy River): I have a telegram here, which I imagine has been sent to a number of the members, in regard to civil service salaries. It is from the amalgamated civil servants at the head of the lakes, who wire:

General meeting of Amalgamated civil servants demands the immediate completion of personnel of Civil Service Commission, also a satisfactory revision of the civil service salaries before the end of the present parliamentary session, with increases made retroactive to April 1, 1924.

Perhaps the Prime Minister would care to make a statement in regard to that.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): The only statement I would have to make in regard to that particular telegram if it reads as I think I heard it, that certain persons demand that certain things be done, is that the government is not inclined to respond to requests preferred in that way.

Mr. MANION: That is a matter between the Prime Minister and the amalgamated civil servants. I was simply asked to bring the telegram to the attention of the government.

Mr. A. U. G. BURY (East Edmonton): I would like to call the attention of the right hon. the Prime Minister to a telegram received by me from the civil servants in the city of Edmonton, expressing dissatisfaction that the salary revision of the civil servants has not been effected, and asking whether anything will be done this session, and that the increases be made retroactive. I would like to know if the Prime Minister can make any statement in that regard.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: All I can say is that this matter is receiving consideration. The government has had numerous representations from civil servants as to the position of their salaries, and we are as anxious as any hon. member to have the matter adjusted as speedily as possible, but the government does not wish to have a large bill for increased salaries run up without the matter being carefully inquired into, and we will have to use due caution in that regard.

Mr. BURY: May I ask the Prime Minister if it is the intention to hold the matter up until the personnel of the Civil Service Commission has been completed?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Not necessarily.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

TORONTO OFFICE BUILDING

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. R. J. MANION (Fort William): Some time ago I put a question on the order paper dealing with the erection of a building at the corner of King and Yonge streets, Toronto, and asked if any new arrangement had been come to in regard to that proposed structure. I received the answer no. I do not doubt the word of the government, but even before then I had received word, rather authoritatively, that an arrangement had been entered into. I should like to ask now—it is some weeks