

6. What was the total salary of said employees for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1933?

7. How many between the ages of sixty and sixty-five are paying into one of the several superannuation funds?

8. How many pay into the retirement fund?

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

STABILIZATION FUND

Mr. MOTHERWELL:

For a copy of all correspondence, memoranda, telegrams and other documents received by the government or any officers thereof, since August 1, 1932, and prior to Tuesday, March 21, 1933, with respect to the establishment of the stabilization fund announced by the Minister of Finance in his recent budget.

ILE AUX GRUES, QUE.—SIGNAL AGENT

Mr. POWER:

For a copy of all correspondence, telegrams, orders in council and other documents, from August 28, 1930, to date, dealing with the position of signal agent and semaphore operator at Ile aux Grues, Quebec.

ST-AURICE DE L'ECHOIRIE AND CAP DES ROSIERS—PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. BRASSET:

For a copy of all paylists respecting works carried out by the Department of Public Works at St-Maurice de l'Echourie and Cap des Rosiers, in the county of Gaspé, from the month of August, 1930, to date.

FERNIE COAL MINES

On the orders of the day:

Hon. IAN MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Mines (Mr. Gordon) based upon a telegram I have before me from the city of Fernie, British Columbia. Has the minister received representations from Fernie pointing out the very serious condition of the coal industry in that vicinity, and what are the intentions of the government with regard to preventing the closing down of that industry and the total collapse of that community?

Hon. W. A. GORDON (Minister of Mines): Yes, a communication was received by a member of the government in connection with the situation at Fernie. It appears that through inability to market their products, which has been growing apparent for a period of years, I believe, the mines at that point gradually have been going down until now they are practically closed. The question of what can be done, if anything, has been taken up with the government of British Columbia, upon whom the responsibility rests, if there is responsibility on any other than those im-

mediately concerned. If it is possible for this government to assist, of course that assistance will be given. I have not the details as to the number of people affected, and am awaiting further word from the government of British Columbia.

THE BUDGET

CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The house resumed from Tuesday, April 4, consideration of the motion of Hon. E. N. Rhodes (Minister of Finance) that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair for the house to go into committee of ways and means, the amendment thereto of Mr. Ralston and the amendment of Mr. Lucas.

Mr. W. E. ROWE (Dufferin-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, it is not my intention to follow the varied arguments that hon. members who sit to your left have brought forward during the course of this debate, in which they charged the government with broken promises and made a general criticism of the budget now before parliament. However, I am glad indeed to express my appreciation of the mutual admiration which has been shown on every side of this house for the very capable manner in which the Minister of Finance (Mr. Rhodes) presented his budget for 1933.

In common with all other hon. members I appreciate the situation and the condition with which we are confronted to-day. I believe every hon. member realizes that the great difficulties we have had to face within this country, confused by even greater problems without, have added enormously to the task of the government, and have brought about grave and unprecedented problems in administration. I do feel, Mr. Speaker, as I know many other hon. members feel, that it is unfortunate that following the great war and until the depression in 1929 so many countries entered upon an era of extravagance; there seemed to be something of a celebration, and I believe Canada was right in the vanguard. We saw reckless extravagance such as has not been witnessed in modern times; watered stock and borrowed money became the principal methods of our new progress, and future generations were bonded in debt for services we have enjoyed in the past. At last we have found that we cannot borrow ourselves out of debt, and now we must meet the obligations we incurred in connection with services we enjoyed for several years.

Mr. Speaker, though we find the ship of state rocking and listing in perhaps the worst