

## REMOVALS FROM OFFICE.

Mr. HAGGART moved for :

Return showing the names of all persons who have been dismissed or removed from office or who have been superannuated, and the causes of such dismissal, removal or superannuation, or who have resigned or been requested to resign since the 11th day of July, 1896, showing the office or position such person occupied and whether on the permanent staff or in the temporary employ of the Government or otherwise in the public service, and when such dismissal, removal, superannuation or resignation took place. Also, the names of all persons appointed to positions in the public service, temporarily or permanently, and the office to which they were so appointed.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. I desire to move in amendment :

That the following words be added to the motion : Also copies of every letter, report and document relating to each of the dismissals in question.

Amendment agreed to.

The PRIME MINISTER (Mr. Laurier). I have no objection to the resolution except that I would move as an amendment that the papers be brought down not from 11th July only, but from 23rd June.

Amendment agreed to.

Mr. HAGGART. I hope the hon. gentleman (Mr. Laurier) will hasten the bringing down of this return as much as possible. It will tend a great deal to the speedy discussion and passing of the Estimates if we have the return down in time.

The PRIME MINISTER. It will be brought down at the earliest possible moment after that intimation from the hon. gentleman.

Motion, as amended, agreed to.

## ORGANIZATION OF THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

On the order being called :

That the time has arrived when the North-west Territories should be treated on the same footing as the organized provinces, that an annual subsidy should be voted for carrying on the government of the Territories, which subsidy should be calculated on the same grounds as those on which the subsidy voted to the province of Manitoba is based.

Mr. DAVIN. The ground of this motion has already been occupied by a motion of my hon. friend from Alberta. If my hon. friend had informed me that he had given notice of the motion, I would not have given notice of this. I shall not move this motion.

## ST. LAWRENCE RIVER FLOODS.

Mr. BEAUSOLEIL (translation) moved for,

Copies of all memorials, reports of engineers, documents and letters, in relation to the great

inundation on the St. Lawrence, between Quebec and Montreal, in the months of April and May last (1896), its causes and the best means of preventing the recurrence or mitigating the disastrous results thereof.

He said : Mr. Speaker. In moving this motion, I wish, to call the attention of the Government to the urgent necessity of preventing, if possible, the recurrence of the disasters almost yearly resulting from the inundation on both shores of the St. Lawrence, between Montreal and Quebec. Nearly every year, Sir, when the snow thaws and the ice-bridge breaks on the St. Lawrence, ice-dams are formed, which obstruct the passage of the water and cause the lands on both shores of the river to be flooded. In 1865, an inundation caused considerable damage. On that occasion not only did it result in an enormous loss of property but it was accompanied by a deplorable loss of life. Since that time, the water has not reached so high a level ; but this year, it rose by two feet and a half above the level reached in 1865. The losses suffered from the flooding of the lands are more considerable than in 1865, notwithstanding that, no loss of life had to be deplored this year. In the town of Berthier, chief town of the riding which it is my privilege to represent in this House, all the houses with one single exception were flooded and the water reached up to four feet and even seven feet. The hon. gentlemen may easily infer from that the extent of the losses inflicted on that locality. The town of Berthier was not the only one to suffer from the inundation, but the list of the sufferers was swelled by the parishes of St. Cuthbert, St. Barthélemy, Sorel, Ste. Anne, and the Islands. In those localities, the losses are still more considerable than at Berthier. A great many houses and a still larger number of barns have been carried away by the water, and the hay and grain are a total loss. In the parish of St. Barthélemy, the losses are estimated at \$40,000. In the county of Richelieu, for which sits my hon. friend who is unavoidably absent to-day, forming part of a delegation for waiting upon the Postmaster General, and who entrusted me with the task of inviting the attention of the House to the damages caused by the floods at Ste. Anne of Sorel, it is estimated that the losses suffered there reach no less a sum than \$60,000. The total losses suffered by all the localities of the two counties situate on the two shores of the St. Lawrence, between Montreal and Quebec, are estimated at the outside at \$500,000. After the great inundation of 1865, some reports were made by engineers sent to the spot with a view to inquiring into the position and taking some action if possible, in order to protect the town of Berthier from the ravages of the flood. With this end in view they had an ice-breaker built, but so low that, in the spring of the year, it is several feet under water, so that it serves no useful purpose.