

2. That in the United States, western cities would organize their own banks.

3. That the Federal Reserve banks have been helpful in stabilizing the price level by stabilizing the money market.

4. That a federal reserve system organized on the same basis as in the United States—that is, a regional system—would be impossible in Canada.

With regard to the control of the price level, as a good many hon. gentlemen know, there are two schools of economists that differ widely. When introducing my resolution some weeks ago I quoted at length from Mr. Reginald McKenna—

Hon. J. A. ROBB (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I gather from the observations of my hon. friend that he imagines he is discussing the report of the banking and commerce committee on the inquiry into the banking system.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Yes.

Mr. ROBB: That is not the report before the house at all. The motion is to approve the eighth report of the select standing committee on banking and commerce, which covers bill No. 38, an act to amend the Bankruptcy Act.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I was informed by the chairman of the committee that there had been a slight error on the part of the clerk and that "seventh" and "eighth" had been confused, but that it was the report on improving the banking system that was before the house.

Mr. SPEAKER: At the foot of the motion is a note that the eighth report covers bill No. 38, an act to amend the Bankruptcy Act (attendance for examination), which the committee recommend be withdrawn in view of the several amendments to the Bankruptcy Act contemplated next session.

Motion agreed to.

RAILWAYS AND SHIPPING

Mr. W. T. GOODISON (West Lambton) moved:

That the fourth and final report of the select standing committee on railways and shipping owned, operated and controlled by the government be concurred in.

Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker I think notice should be given. In the meantime the report referred to should be printed in order that it may be studied by hon. members before they are asked to concur in it.

Mr. DUNNING: Agreed.

Mr. SPEAKER: Stands as a notice.

[Mr. Woodsworth.]

SOLDIER SETTLEMENT ACT

Hon. ROBERT FORKE (Minister of Immigration and Colonization) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 288 to amend the Soldier Settlement Act.

Mr. JAMES ARTHURS (Parry Sound): Mr. Speaker, is this bill in accordance with the recommendations of the soldiers' committee?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Yes.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS—NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING

Mr. CHURCH:

1. What sums were spent on advertising in newspapers by the Canadian National Railways in 1927 and 1928, and to whom paid?

2. What sums were spent on free transportation in exchange for (a) newspaper space, (b) eulogy articles on the system and its officials, and to what papers in each case was transportation issued accordingly, (c) to aid in securing new business for the system?

3. How was an item of \$175,162 increase in such advertising in 1927 and 1928 expended, and what papers benefited?

4. What was the number of passes granted each paper, and to whom?

Mr. DUNNING:

This question calls for information of a kind that the management of the Canadian National Railways holds not to be in the public interest to divulge in detail, as publication, while serving no useful purpose, may place the Canadian National Railways in an invidious position with respect to competitors whose advertising appropriations are not subject to publication.

Even if it were advisable to bring down the information asked for in detail, it could not be given in the form of an answer to a question as it covers advertising of all kinds—newspapers, magazines, printing of booklets, etc.—and also not only the entire Canadian field, but such portions of the United States as are served by Canadian National lines in that country.

The item under advertising in Canadian National accounts which the hon. gentleman refers to as having increased by \$175,162 during 1927, covers advertising of all kinds throughout Canada and the United States. During 1927, the management expended on advertising in newspapers \$303,809.25. In