

Rt. Hon. Sir WILFRID LAURIER (Prime Minister) :

1. W. W. Cory. Appointed 1st January, 1905.
2. 31st December, 1904.
3. He resigned.
4. No.
5. There are no reasons on record but it is understood he resigned to better his circumstances.
6. Has been employed temporarily, since he resigned, at occasional special work outside of Ottawa, for short periods, for the Department of the Interior (Immigration Branch.) Has been paid his travelling expenses and \$10 a day when so employed, such per diem allowance covering his services and actual living expenses.
7. Answered by No. 6.
8. Answered by No. 6.

#### PIER AT AMHERST, NOVA SCOTIA.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN asked :

1. Who has or had the contract for the construction of the pier at Amherst, Nova Scotia ?
2. What amount has been paid to the contractors for the construction of the pier ?
3. Have the contractors finished the pier ?
4. If not, when will it be finished, and what will be the total cost when finished ?

Hon. C. S. HYMAN (Acting Minister of Public Works). No contract has been awarded yet for the construction of a pier at Amherst, Nova Scotia.

#### HERRING AND LOBSTER INDUSTRY.

Mr. McLENNAN asked :

1. Has the commission appointed to investigate the herring and lobster industry made their report ?
2. Is it the intention to have the same printed for distribution ?

Hon. R. PREFONTAINE (Minister of Marine and Fisheries) :

1. Yes.
2. Yes. I lay a copy of the report on the table with the request that it be printed for distribution.

#### SALE OF LAND NEAR NEW WESTMINSTER.

Mr. LANCASTER—by Mr. Taylor—asked :

1. What were the circumstances under which certain valuable lands south of and close to New Westminster recently sold to T. W. Patterson for \$10.10 per acre ?
2. Why was advertisement for sale or map marked that land was proposed to be sold to T. W. Patterson ?
3. Did government or department know that land was worth \$60 to \$80 per acre ?
4. Was government or department advised from New Westminster that land was valuable ?
5. Why was sale not advertised in the newspapers ?
6. Did the government or department instruct the Dominion Land Agent of New Westminster to hold the sale upstairs in his office instead of in a public place ?

Mr. TAYLOR.

7. Did the government or the department know that this land was occupied by one Herring for the past forty years ?

Rt. Hon. Sir WILFRID LAURIER (Prime Minister) :

1. The land in question was vacant Dominion land situated within the railway belt in British Columbia, and applications to purchase the same were made by M. W. Winthorne and T. W. Patterson. The former withdrew his application. The agent of Dominion lands at New Westminster recommended that the land be put up for tender at the upset price of \$10 per acre, the successful tenderer to pay also for clearing and fencing improvements. The department gave public notice by poster that the land would be sold by public auction. The land was sold accordingly on the 4th of March, 1905, to T. W. Patterson, who was the only bidder, at \$10.10 per acre.

2. The copy of poster advertising sale on file in the department does not show that it was proposed to sell the land to T. W. Patterson.

3. No.

4. No ; the agent of Dominion lands simply reported it was difficult to fix a valuation as dyking, ditching and pumping would be required to raise the value of the land, and considered \$10 an acre a fair upset price.

5. There was so few applicants to purchase that it was not considered necessary to advertise the sale in the newspapers.

6. The notice of sale announced that sale would be held in the agent's office, post office building, and notices were placed in the most public places, including the general post office, the public market, the Dominion land office, real estate offices and post offices throughout the district.

7. The department knew that one Herring occupied a portion of the land (4 acres), on the river front for a considerable time, which Herring was allowed to purchase.

#### MAIL CONTRACT BETWEEN MELBOURNE AND UPPER MELBOURNE.

Mr. WORTHINGTON—by Mr. Taylor—asked :

1. Were tenders called for in connection with the carrying of mails between Melbourne, Quebec, and Upper Melbourne ?
2. How many tenders were received, and from whom ?
3. What were the amounts of the respective tenders, which one was accepted, and who are his sureties ?
4. What was the contract price previously paid for such service, and to whom ?

Hon. Sir WILLIAM MULOCK (Postmaster General) :

1. Yes.
2. Two tenders were received, one from William Davis and the other from A. E. Main.
3. William Davis' tender was at the rate of \$85 and A. E. Main's \$100. Mr. Davis'