

PROCEEDINGS AT THE HOUSE WERE VERY TAME YESTERDAY MORRIS MAKES POOR SHOWING

Opposition Leader In Speech Makes Trenchant Criticism of Government.

Shows How the Railway Policy Has
Been Bungled and Much Money
Lost to the Country.—Opposition
File Many Questions.

When the members returned to the Assembly Room, after the ceremony in the Legislative Council Chamber, the Speaker announced that His Excellency had agreed to his selection as presiding officer of the House. He also read the Speech from the Throne.

The Premier then announced that the Governor had notified him that Sir Robert Bond had resigned his seat in the House as Member for the District of Twillingate. Sir Edward Morris and Mr. Kent, the official leader of the Opposition, spoke in appreciative terms of Sir Robert's record as a member of our local legislature.

The motion for a Committee on the Address in Reply to His Excellency's speech was made by Mr. John Currie, Burin, and seconded by Mr. W. J. Higgins, St. John's East.

Very Tame
The proceedings were very tame. Simply the usual old style way of moving on opening day.

The gathering was the largest for many years, and many friends of the Government made a point of being present.

The speech of Mr. Currie was very commonplace and of little value, and what bit of interest it contained was confounded by mixing a lot of figures which he understood little, and which the gathering understood less.

The speech of Mr. Higgins, although far from eloquent was delivered fluently and as a maiden speech was fairly passable.

The remarks made by both were of little importance, as there is not much of interest in the Speech from the Throne that could be elaborated.

The one serious revelation for the country, is that of a deficit in revenue for the last six months, which the Government attribute to the reduction in the tariff made last year.

It looks as if the Colony will have to find about \$400,000 to make up the deficit for the year ending 30th June next. It is apparent that the duties on tea, pork, beef, and sugar, were taken off as an election bait. It was indeed a death-bed repentance and the Government now admit it. The question now is, how will the loss in revenue be made up. Sir Edward stated that it would be taken from the well-to-do, indicating that luxuries will be further taxed.

Difficult Position
In our opinion very little more revenue can be raised by taxing luxuries further. \$400,000 is no small sum, although Sir Edward yesterday stated in the House that it was but a flea bite.

The Speech points to no development in the near future. It is a lifeless thing so far as the future is concerned and all it amounts to is a few repetitions of former opening speeches in reference to cold storage, and the fog free zone—all Utopian proposals.

The Opposition members will reply to-day to the remarks of the Premier and the fads and follies contained in the Governor's speech, which of course is not the Governor's composition.

The Governor's speech delivered on opening is always written by the Prime Minister. The Governor reads it as a matter of form.

Mr. Kent's Speech
Mr. Kent's speech dealt with the serious financial position of the Colony. He pointed out that it would be impossible to raise more money for railway construction at three and a

half per cent, and quoted Lord Strathcona as having stated that loans could not now be raised at less than four to five per cent.

Mr. Kent effectively scored against the Government in showing that had Sir Edward paid Reid in debentures of the Colony, instead of in gold, the Colony would not now be worrying over the raising of money to pay its obligations. Sir Edward agreed to pay Reid in gold and gold he must find, although the Colony may have to pay \$45,000 per million as interest on what may be raised.

He showed up the stupidity of the Government's action in reducing taxation last year in the manner it did, and when he informed Mr. Cashin that he "forgot" to take certain matters into his calculations, the gathering expressed their approval in a very explicit manner, which added little to the pleasure of Mr. Morison, who sat amongst the crowd with discomposed countenance.

Tame Reply
Sir Edward's reply to Mr. Kent consisted of appeals to the gallery. It contained little argumentative matter, "explained" very unsatisfactorily the financial muddle the Government have placed the Colony in and very poorly justified the enormous expenditures of the past five years.

His statement that a million and a half more dollars would finish the Bonavista, Heart's Content, Grate's Cove and Trepassay railways, added little to the comfort of his hearers, for by his own admission yesterday it will take nearly eight million dollars to complete only a part of what he solemnly stated in 1910 would be completed for \$4,000,000.

To-day the proceedings will probably be a little livelier.

Mr. Coaker gave notice of his intention of asking to-day a number of important questions in relation to the public expenditure in Bonavista District during the last five years.

Mr. Coaker's Questions
I give notice that on to-morrow I will ask the Minister of Public Works to lay upon the table of the House a statement showing:

(a) What grant other than local were issued by his department during the months of April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November and December, in the district of Bonavista, giving dates such grants were issued and to whom, and copies of the returns of such expenditure and accounts in connection therewith.

(b) What grants other than local were issued by his department for Bonavista District during the years 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, and 1913, and to whom sent.

I give notice that on to-morrow I will ask the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay upon the table of the House a detailed statement showing:

(1) The cost of the Lighthouse erected at Shoe Cove, Point Greenspond, and the Fog Alarms at Puffin Island and Bonavista.

(2) The amount paid for Coals for Lighthouses during 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912 and 1913, from whom purchased, the cost paid per ton for coal, and the cost of freight per ton delivered at Lighthouse.

(3) Also a detailed statement of all monies expended for the construction of Marconi stations during the years 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, and 1913.

(4) Also a statement showing when the Cod Liver Oil Expert entered the services of the Government and what amount of money has been paid for his services.

(5) Also a statement showing the cost of the Fishery Board from 1909 to 1913, both years inclusive.

(6) Also a statement showing what money was collected by the Inland Fisheries Board, during the years of 1912 and 1913, for what and from whom received.

(7) Also a statement showing the number of foxes confiscated during the year 1913, from whom taken, how such foxes were disposed of, and what they were sold for.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE OUTLINES THE PROGRAMME FOR PRESENT SESSION.

GOVERNMENT ADMITS A CONSIDERABLE DEFICIT IN THIS YEAR'S REVENUE.

(Continued from page 1.)

are gradually bearing fruit. My Ministers are at present in negotiation with the representative of a large group of British investors with a view to the utilization of some of the vast water powers of Labrador and the establishment of very large industries calculated to afford permanent employment to numbers of our people, and to reproduce in that land the transformation that has been effected in our own Island in recent years.

My Ministers have also been for some time and are at present engaged in negotiating with British capitalists for the construction of a railway from Notre Dame Bay to Bay of Islands, and for the establishment of a train ferry service between Bay of Islands and the eastern seaboard of Canada, for the purpose of establish-

ing a better transportation system for developing the fishing industry of the Island.

It is now something over fifteen years since the prosecution of the whole fishery was revived in this country. During that period a feeling has grown amongst our fishermen that the carrying on of this industry is detrimental to our great fishery, the cod, as well as to our bait supplies of caplin and squid. It is important that this question should be promptly enquired into, and, if the fears of our people are well grounded, measures must be adopted to remove the evil. My Ministers propose to have an investigation made into this matter immediately.

FISHERIES BOOMED BY REMOVAL OF DUTIES. Canadian Fishermen Reap Big Harvest Under New United States Tariff.

The removal of the U. S. tariff on fresh fish has had the effect of largely increasing the export from the fishing centres on the Strait of Canso, and the freezers can scarcely get through fish to fill orders. A big fleet of gasline boats harvest the sea's riches around the shore waters daily, while the trawlers steam out to the fishing banks in the Atlantic and the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The ports of Canso, Arichat and St. Peter's are productive banks.

Cold storage plants to handle the fish and prepare them properly for shipment inland, are needed. The plants at Hawkesbury and Canso are splendidly equipped, but there is the opportunity for other and even greater ones. With the increasing prices for the fisherman, the army of toilers of the sea will be largely increased, and it is to be hoped that the migration of young men from the fishing villages to the industrial centres will be halted.

COST OF PANAMA CANAL.
Up to date the Panama Canal has cost \$314,370,978. The total cost when completed will be within the original estimate of \$375,000,000. Engineering has cost \$158,316,095, and of this nearly \$84,000,000 has been spent on the Culebra Cut. Sanitation—a fundamental necessity if the canal was ever to be built—has cost \$16,250,164. The sale of old material; the work done for outside companies; and water rentals have yielded the United States about \$10,000,000.

THE DAILY MAIL SPORTING SECTION News of Sport at Home and Abroad.

AUSTRALIAN CRICKETERS Will Visit the Dominion and Will Wield the Willow Against the Cannucks

The visit of an Australian cricket team to Canada is to be repeated this year, according to the statement R. B. Benjamin, the promoter of last year's venture. He makes the announcement in England that he is in negotiation for another series of over fifty matches, which he hoped to be able to book up by February.

"Capt." Diamond would not be able to repeat the trip, but would look after the selection of the players, who would probably be under the command of one or two men whose names were household words in Australia cricket. They would arrive about the end of May and visit several fresh districts, but it was doubtful whether the time could be spared for the trip to the West Indies, which he had at one time projected.

Skilled Men
Questioned as to prominent opponents the team had met in America last summer he regarded the old Reptonian, G. Curgenven, who had assisted Derbyshire, as among the best. Another was Duncan of British Columbia, while in Philadelphia they found P. H. Clark, C. O. Morris, R. B. Anderson and H. A. Furness all in good form. A point that struck him was the number of excellent wicketkeepers in the Philadelphia teams, men good enough to keep for any county in England. Another feature was in the ability and impartiality of the umpires there, who know the game from "A to Z."

Game Spreading
In Canada the game was spreading in all quarters, and there was some talk of a team being sent over from Toronto to play a series of matches in Scotland, but there was a difficulty in securing full strength, and perhaps it would be better to wait awhile, though a combination thoroughly representative of the Dominion would stand a good chance of holding their own with a Scottish side. In Western Canada the clubs were now getting better organized and securing grounds of their own. Winnipeg possesses quite a fine enclosure and were anxious to have a

good English side visit them. Such a player as George Hirst would be intensely popular, especially as there were so many Yorkshiremen out in the Golden West.

CURLIANA. All-Comers Defeat Natives.

In the play off for the prizes offered by Mr. A. Robertson, the All-Comers won by a score of 18 to 11 last night. They put up a good game and deserved the victory. The scores were:—

Natives.	All-Comers.
W. Shirran	F. V. Chesman
H. J. Duder	A. Montgomerie
T. Winter	A. Robertson
W. H. Duder (sk.)	J. Jackson
Total—11	Total—18

CHARITY DAY. The Curlers Charity Day takes place Wednesday next, 21st. An energetic Committee are now looking after the arrangements. The regular Committee of Management is as- sisted by Hon. J. Harvey; Hon. W. C. Job, Messrs. J. C. Heppburn, R. G. Reid, P. C. O'Driscoll, J. C. Jardine, Dr. Macpherson, D. Baird, and Mrs. J. Baird, Mrs. Gosling, Mrs. Clapp, Mrs. Macpherson, Mrs. G. Knowling, Mrs. Rennie.

The ladies will provide the tea tables. Last year's Charity Day netted close on \$500, which was devoted to the coals for the poor. Next week it is hoped to exceed that amount.

BONAVISTA TROPHY. The Blues and Reds are competing for the Bonavista Trophy. This con- test will likely be a close and exciting one, as the teams are well balanced.

MARITIME BONSPIEL.
Eight or ten members of the St. John's Club have signified their intention of attending the Maritime Bospiel at Halifax, Feb. 9th to 14th. An interesting programme has been arranged and suitable prizes will be distributed.

BRIGADE HOCKEY. The Officers and W. & N. Co.'s of the C.L.B. played a hockey match after drill last night and a very in- teresting and enjoyable game was played. On Tuesday night the differ- ent companies will play off for a silk pennant.

Important Announcement For Union Fishermen!

We have entered into an agreement with

THE FRASER MACHINE & MOTOR COMPANY, OF NEW GLASGOW,

For the manufacture of a large number of two cycle engines, which we will sell to F. P. U. Members at prices that will stagger the sales of all other first-class engines. We have used the FRASER engine for two years and found it satisfactory as a two cycle engine, and the engines to be built by FRASER for us will be supplied with the latest improvements in engines. No carburetor will be used with our engines. An adapter and igniter has been invented that does away with the carburetor, and our engines will all receive the fuel from the top of the cylinder, instead of from the bottom. Only one tank will therefore be necessary. No gasoline tank will be required. The engine will start on gasoline, supplied through a starter, and as soon as started will use kerosene oil. A Circular Letter describing the engines and giving prices and terms has been mailed to every Council and Union Store. Those engines can be had on terms allowing two years for payment. Altogether we have contracted for the delivery of 3500 engines, including "The Coaker," "The F. P. U.," "The U. T. C." and "The Advocate," for 1914 and 1915, and during the last two weeks we have received 100 orders and 250 enquiries. Consequently we are safe in asserting that the F.P.U. will handle 75 per cent. of the Motor Engine business transacted in the Colony. Union Members buying from the Trading Company save the following amounts: On "The Coaker" \$75.00, on "The Advocate" \$65.00, on "The U. T. C." \$55.00, on "The F. P. U." \$50.00. Not only are those amounts saved but any poor member is enabled to purchase for two years payment, while Agents of other engines require full payment within six months after delivery of engines.

We Also Sell "The Coaker" 4 Cycle 6 h.p. Engine on Easy Terms.

For Further particulars apply to

The Fishermen's Union Trading Company, Limited,

Water Street,
St. John's.

Coal! Coal! Coal! \$6.80 per ton.

The S. S. "KINTAIL" is due here on Saturday with 400 tons North Sydney Coal, which will be sold from ship's side at SIX DOLLARS AND EIGHTY CENTS PER TON SENT HOME.

Orders must be booked immediately. Orders booked now at THE UNION TRADING COMPANY'S OFFICE. This is a chance for the poor Toilers to save 80 CENTS on a ton of coal. Rush at once with your orders, as the cargo wont stand two days.

Union Trading Company.