

It is the most disgraceful measure passed this session, and I want to put upon record my dissatisfaction with the way in which these bills are brought down at the end of the session, when one has no opportunity of properly considering them. I had no opportunity of judging of the merits of that measure, and I fully intend to divide the House upon it, to ascertain whether the hon. gentlemen are willing to pay a sum twice over. The hon. Minister of Justice shakes his head. He knows more about it than I do and I think I am entitled to the information that he possesses. If these papers had been brought down, the hon. gentleman might have been able to satisfy us that we were not paying the amount over again. With reference to the question of interest, that has been well settled. Already there has been a great decrease of deposits in the various post office savings banks of this country. It is impossible for poor men to accept so low a rate. Three per cent is low enough, and I should very much like to see a larger amount paid to depositors. It is a policy that should have been pursued long ago. My idea is that when a man has \$100 he should be entitled to deposit his money and receive the government security; that is better than depositing it with a bank. Now, however, they are going to withdraw the money from the savings bank and deposit it in the banks of the country. The rate of interest is increasing in England, and here we are decreasing it, and I think it is a very bad system. I hope the government will take the matter into consideration for the benefit of the people. It is too late to enter into the discussion now, but one thing strikes me very forcibly, that when the Reformers held their great meeting in Ottawa in 1893 and promised what they would do, they deceived the people. They said they would do certain things.

Hon. Mr. MILLS—You did not agree with their view.

Hon. Mr. CLEMON—Circumstances alter cases. But these far-seeing men, who knew what they were talking about, should never have made promises that they would not be able to carry out when they were improper. I am not a politician—

Hon. Mr. MILLS—Oh, oh!

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Oh, oh!

Hon. Mr. CLEMON—I merely want to place matters in a proper light before this country. These gentlemen made a promise that they would reduce the expenditure; now they find it is an impossibility. Why were they not honest? They knew all the difficulties they would have to face. They blamed their opponents for the increase in the past, and now they find it necessary to come and ask pity from their opponents for the very assertions they made when in opposition. I hope that another session we will have important bills before us in proper time. If I could have my way, I would peremptorily refuse to consider any measure unless we have time to consider it carefully.

Hon. Mr. MILLS—We must have something coming last, otherwise we would have brought the session to a close months ago.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was read the second and third times and passed.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

THE PROROGATION.

This day, at Three o'clock P.M., His Excellency the Governor General proceeded in state to the Senate Chamber in the Parliament Buildings, and took his seat upon the Throne. The members of the Senate being assembled, His Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons, and that His use being present, the following bills were assented to, in Her Majesty's name, by His Excellency the Governor General, viz. :—

An Act respecting the Lake Erie and Detroit River Railway Company.

An Act respecting the Board of Trade of the City of Toronto.

An Act to amend the Mounted Police Pension Act, 1889.

An Act further to amend the Act respecting Government Harbours, Piers and Breakwaters.

An Act further to amend the Petroleum Inspection Act.

An Act further to amend the Gas Inspection Act.

An Act further to amend the Inland Revenue Act.

An Act further to amend the Act respecting Certificates to Masters and Mates of Ships.

An Act respecting the Dominion Building and Loan Association.

An Act to incorporate the Prudential Life Assurance Company of Canada.

An Act for the relief of Robert Augustus Baldwin Hart.

An Act respecting the Hudson's Bay and Pacific Railway Company.