

I.C.R. ESTIMATES PASSEES AFTER SOME CRITICISM

Opposition Objects to Inspectors of Window Washers and Stationery—Surplus of \$18,000—Deadlock Over Elections Bill in Fair Way of Settlement—Borden Given Free Hand At Cancos About Passing Supply.

Ottawa, June 9.—During the afternoon sitting of the house, Mr. Graham's inter-colonial estimates of \$4,327,250 on capital account, an increase of \$1,600,000 over 1907-8, were discussed. Mr. Ganong referred to a conversation he had had with a commercial traveller, who declared that the inter-colonial was not only inefficient but dangerous. Mr. Ganong said he would like to know also if it were true that the speed had been reduced to be reduced to thirty-five miles per hour.

Mr. Graham replied that on all well regulated railways the speed was reduced during the time when there had been no additions to rolling stock and of course the speed was reduced to make up for depreciation. Then the member for Kings-Albert proceeded to show that the proper addition of locomotives to replace worn-out cars had been made the sum of \$72,000 would have been provided out of revenue. "Thus," said Mr. Fowler, "reducing this \$16,000 surplus far beyond the vanishing point."

Mr. Graham's defence was that in practice railway companies would liberal provision out of revenue for depreciation in good years and liberal allowance out of capital in lean years. It was the policy of the I.C.R. to deduct \$25,000 per month or \$300,000 a year for depreciation. In 1907-8 a provision of \$443,400 had been made out of revenue for new rolling stock.

Replying to Mr. Crockett, the minister said that no permanent appointment of a successor to Mr. Allen as claims agent had been made, but Mr. Leighton was acting temporarily. Mr. Standford's petition would be that claims against a government railway should be settled on a basis of equity rather than on a strictly legal basis.

Mr. Fowler registered a complaint against the methods of Travelling Auditor Stewart. Mr. Standford (Conservative, Colchester, N. S.), complained of the treatment of train hands. "Of course with the curtailment of business," he said, "a large number of men have had to be laid off on the inter-colonial, as on the other roads—conductors, engineers, brakemen and others. Conductors who have been on the road for years are put back to brakemen, brakemen are put back to special men and so forth. We all admit that when business is poor we have to curtail, but I do not think it fair that the reduction should be confined to these men, whose wages when the business increased considerably, a large number of officials were added and I think if the rule is to work as you would work both ways. If you had to lay off some of the petty officials who were put on when business was good, all I ask is a square deal for the men who draw small pay and that you lay off some of the officials who are still drawing full pay and are travelling about the country's expense."

Mr. Graham replied that it was necessary to keep the number of men down to the office of inspector of stationery was required. Mr. Crockett added that there was also an inspector of window washers.

Mr. Foster drew attention to the delay in publishing the estimates of receipts. The I.C.R. always had their statements ready in about ten days, whereas he was unable to get a statement for the month of April.

Mr. Graham said it took twenty-five days to get the statements of receipts. The question of advertising on the I.C.R. was discussed. Mr. Fowler criticized the work of the purchasing agent.

Mr. Blair discussed the question of supplies and drew from the minister that these were purchased from party friends. This was the practice of all governments.

Mr. Fowler condemned the purchase of supplies from senators. The names of Hon. Peter Mcweeney and Hon. Fred Thompson were mentioned and Mr. Fowler thought they had done well enough.

The name of Mr. Maconn, son-in-law of Sir Frederick Borden, also figured in the accounts. Mr. Fowler remarked that Mr. Wallberg, a middleman, would have to look to get the money. Mr. Fowler objected to the contract for oil being given to a foreign company, when there were purely Canadian companies.

Mr. Graham said the contract was an experiment. Mr. Foster asked if all the firms on the patronage list were given an opportunity to tender for the \$51,000 worth of iron goods purchased from Messrs. McAvity & McLean & Holt, of St. John's.

DESPERATE ATTEMPTS TO DEFEAT BOURASSA

Lavish Use Of Liquor And Money Were Of No Avail. Prisoner Taken From Jail By Turnkey To Vote Against Him—Nationalist Leader Doesn't Appear To Leadership Of Opposition—Whitney Lost His Minister Of Agriculture But Had 68 Majority—Recounts To Be Had In Quebec.

Montreal, June 9.—The latest count in the Quebec elections gives the following standing: Government 51 Liberal-Independents 12 Conservatives 12 Nationalists 12 Elections to be held 3 Total 78

With the close of the unusually lively fight in Montreal district and the tremendous excitement in St. James there has come a general lull, each side resting on its oars and figuring out where it stands. It was stated today by Bourassa workers that in all probability the Nationalist leader gained a real majority of nearly 500 in St. James, but that expert manipulation by the government workers booted out this today to 41. In any event, Premier Gouin today stated that he was quite satisfied to accept the verdict of his old constituency and would not ask for a recount.

It has also been stated by many Liberals that great dissatisfaction exists throughout the Montreal district over the way in which the outside constituencies were starved in order that all the funds at the government's disposal could be flooded into St. James to win the election of the premier, which funds were augmented by the active participation of the Ottawa government workers in the fight. It is stated by those who took part in the contest that probably upwards of \$75,000 was spent in the riding by the government supporters, while Mr. Bourassa's campaign fund consisted of about \$1,000 and a vast number of enthusiastic followers.

Latest reports show that a vote was polled in St. Hyacinthe between Mr. Bourassa and Mr. Morin. But in the inevitable recount it seems almost certain that this will be changed in Mr. Bourassa's favor, as the riding is rife with reports of crooked work. Mr. Bourassa stated that at least one vote at St. Hyacinthe was polled by the jailer taking a prisoner to the polls.

In Leval, where P. E. Levesque is defeated by seventeen there will also probably be a recount, as the government Canadian regiments will be represented by the Conservative leader, and when the effects of their work are extracted the position may be materially altered.

Another recount will also probably be demanded in St. Anne's division, Montreal, where Walsh, Liberal, defeated Tassery, Conservative, by eight votes. It appears that the various polls of the riding 80 votes were rejected, while 3,000 ballots were cast. Under such circumstances, a recount is almost certain for election week. Mr. Tassery stands excellent chances for a final victory on a recount.

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Methodist District Meetings Eided. The St. John district of the N. B. and P. E. I. Methodist conference concluded the annual meeting Wednesday afternoon.

Novo Scotia Masons Will Establish Home For Aged Members. Yarmouth, June 10.—The grand lodge of Free Masons opened here today when the members attended Holy Trinity Church in a body.

West Kent Returned Conservative First Time In Twenty Years. Toronto, June 9.—In West Kent, which has not returned a Conservative in the provincial assembly in twenty years, G. W. Sulman was victorious by more than 400 votes.

Sir Hibbert Tupper Will Not Run in Pictou. Halifax, June 9.—The New Glasgow Standard, one of the recognized Conservative newspapers organs of Pictou county, says: "His many friends in this country, as well as elsewhere in this province, will learn with sincere regret that matters of personal nature have prevailed with Sir Hibbert Tupper and persuaded him to withdraw from the nomination for Pictou."

Maritime Stock Breeders Meet In Annual Session. Moncton, N. B., June 10.—The annual meeting of the Maritime Stock Breeders' Association and Winter Fair was held at Amherst yesterday and today. J. B. Spencer of Ottawa acting stock commissioner was in attendance.

Frederickton Mystery Cleared Up At Last. Fredericton, N. B., June 9.—The mystery surrounding the disappearance of Edward Currie, fish warden of Douglas, who has been missing since Sept. 29 last, was cleared up this afternoon by the discovery of his body grounded on a rock in the river at the lower side of the court-house slip. The body was in an advanced stage of decomposition, but fish warden's papers found in the pocket left little doubt as to the man's identity.

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