

The Herald

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At The Federal Capital

Proceedings in the House of Commons for the week ending, March 12th, were not of a very exciting nature. The splendid majority with which the Government emerged from the debate on the address has so tempered the ardour of the Leader of the Opposition, and his friends, that they have become exceedingly mild in their attitude towards the administration. No Government measure of importance occupied the attention of the House during this week, but several quite important and interesting debates took place on motions by private members, who introduced resolutions of one kind or another that afforded much interest and supplied no inconsiderable information to the House. These debates, of course, being of a private nature were discussed according to the personal convictions of members without regard to party affiliations, and members on both sides united or differed according to such convictions. Very often in matters of this kind, after the debate has spent itself and the object of the motion—eliciting information—being served, the resolution is withdrawn by the mover. However, one of these resolutions, introduced by Mr. MacMaster, was allowed to go to a vote, and passed out rather disastrously for the mover. Mr. MacMaster is a loud-voiced member who loves to introduce something of a novel character, which he himself, no doubt, considers something marvellous, but which is generally regarded by the majority of the members of the House of very little consequence, and not infrequently looked upon as very foolish. On this occasion Mr. MacMaster introduced a resolution that members of the Federal Cabinet should be obliged, before accepting office, to resign as directors in any private corporations with which they might be affiliated. It is generally thought that the object of introducing the resolution was to strike at Hon. Mr. Ballantyne, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, who, as well as Mr. MacMaster, resides in Montreal. Before entering the Government Mr. Ballantyne held important positions as director of banks and other great corporations. Of course, in becoming a Minister, he has taken no active part at all in these institutions, but it would seem rather a cruel proceeding that he should be obliged to sacrifice very great interests in matters which had been his life work. The same would apply to any other Minister. The debate was discussed very fully by members of both sides of the House, and it developed that Mr. MacMaster's own friends, members of the Opposition, were not unanimous in their disposition to support him. Several of them had spoken against it, among them the Chief Liberal Whip, who thought that the carrying of such a resolution would have a very bad effect. Mr. MacMaster was asked by the Leader of the Opposition to withdraw his motion, after the debate had spent itself, but he would not consent to this. Finally, when the question was put by Mr. Speaker, the yeas and nays from the members indicated without any doubt that the motion would not carry. Mr. MacMaster would

be quite satisfied to let it go at that, but members on the Government side thought it was better to have a record vote taken. As a consequence, a sufficient number of them stood up to have the Speaker "call in the members." When the division was taken they found that the official Opposition were divided, several of them voting against it, and the Agrarian group were split in two; at least half of them voted against the motion, and all the members of the Government side were against it. The consequence was that the Government had, on this motion a majority of 51. It will thus be seen that, on the divisions that have so far been taken, the Government is surely quite safe. Another debate was precipitated by the motion of Mr. Wm. Smith of South Ontario, who introduced a resolution to the effect that the embargo imposed by Great Britain on Canadian cattle should remain, and that Canadian interests would be well served by a continuation of the same. Mr. Smith is a supporter of the Government, and is a large stock raiser, one of the very foremost in Canada. He produces and puts on the market probably as fine cattle as are found in any part of the Dominion; but certainly the wording of his resolution on the face of it is directly in opposition to the attitude that all Governments of Canada have assumed regarding this cattle embargo for some thirty years. The debate was very interesting in character, and elicited no small information relative to the cattle business, and to the attitude assumed by the Imperial Government on this matter. Just a short time before this debate a by-election was contested in one of the constituencies in England, where the Minister of Agriculture, who had just been appointed and had gone back to his constituents for approval, was defeated, and it was considered that it was largely in consequence of this cattle embargo. Lord Beaverbrook, who is a Canadian, took a very active part against the election of this Minister, and made this very question of an embargo on Canadian cattle one of the features of the campaign. It is not in evidence that Lord Beaverbrook himself took part in the election fight, but it is said that a newspaper which he controls made this matter the chief battle cry against the new Minister of Agriculture. In any case, the Minister was defeated by a small majority. In the course of the debate on Mr. Smith's resolution, it was plainly pointed out that Canadians desire for the last thirty years had been that this embargo might be removed, and it was shown pretty plainly that no particular cause existed now, so far as Canada is concerned, that the embargo should be continued. Over thirty years ago Sir Charles Tupper took up this matter when he was Canadian High Commissioner in London, and fought it bitterly on behalf of Canada. The ostensible reason for placing the embargo in the first place was that some of the cattle imported from Canada had pluro-pneumonia, and consequently the conclusion was adopted that they should be slaughtered immediately after being landed. It will readily be understood that this was a great disadvantage to the Canadian exporters of cattle, because after a long voyage the cattle would be in very poor shape, and a few weeks' delay, in which they could be fed and finished for slaughter, would make a great difference. But Sir Charles had several of the animals slaughtered, and there was none of this disease found in them, and it has not been proven from that day to this that any such defects prevail among the Canadian cattle exported to England. However, there are no doubt private reasons which in-

duced the Imperial Government to continue the embargo. After the debate had been fairly well talked out, an amendment was moved setting forth that the course pursued by the present Dominion Government, as well as by preceding Governments, regarding this matter of the cattle embargo, was commendable, and should be supported. This amendment was carried unanimously, and thus disposed of the resolution. Still another resolution that had been some time on the order paper was introduced towards the end of the week and brought forth a lively debate. There were a number of circumstances connected with this resolution that rendered it of unusual interest. In the first place, the resolution was introduced by Sir Sam Hughes, and its purport was that the present Civil Service arrangements relative to appointments to the public service be abolished and that patronage be restored. There is no doubt a very strong feeling in the minds of a great number of members of parliament supporting the Government, at any rate, that it would be better, so far at least as the outside service is concerned, that we should go back to the old patronage system. All know that Sir Sam Hughes has been a very prominent character in the parliamentary and public life of Canada, in the last 25 years or so, and all are equally aware that he had rendered splendid service to Canada at the beginning of the war. Sir Sam was in his day, not infrequently, a strong centre in the House of Commons. When he had anything to say, he enforced it in most emphatic fashion. He did not believe in compromise to any great extent. He was a fighter in every sense of the word. He was a warrior in Parliament as well as in the field, but to-day he is not the Sir Sam of old. He is broken in health, bowed down, and does not occupy his seat in the Commons for any great length of time on any day. He had not, during the present session, up to this day, spoken a word; but he desired to have his views placed on record on this question. Perhaps it may be the last resolution he will ever introduce in the House of Commons. Every courtesy was shown to the old warrior. He was invited by Mr. Speaker to take a seat in the most convenient place in front of the Government side, so that he could be heard by the greatest possible number. He was received with most generous applause; but all could see when he started to support his motion that the old fire had almost burned down to a few sparks now and then; his voice was little above a whisper, and he was unable to reach the heights of former days or to emphasize with his usual force the opinions he expressed. All the same, he was listened to with the greatest possible attention, and most generously applauded when he concluded his brief speech. He then was obliged to leave the chamber, as he had said at the beginning of his remarks that he was undertaking this matter contrary to the advice of his physician. The old warrior, however, left his contentious resolution with the House, and it was debated thoroughly; very lively and interestingly from both sides during the whole afternoon and into the evening sitting, when on the advice of Sir Sam the resolution was withdrawn. Whether or not, some changes in the present Civil Service operations may be introduced before the end of the session is not at present quite clear, but it is possible that the Government may make some changes. It is not likely, however, that any very serious amendments will be made to the law, especially as regards the inside service.

Some regulations may be introduced that will in some sense modify the branches of the Service outside of the city of Ottawa. The trend of what this may be, of course, no one can tell until the Government brings in the measure, if they will bring in such a measure. Death has again intruded itself into the Federal Parliament and taken away, at a comparatively early age, one of its useful members. This time it is the Senate, not the Commons, that has suffered. Senator Crosby of Halifax, who has been ill for a brief period, died on Thursday, the 10th of March. Senator Crosby was about 62 years of age. He had been an important figure in the commercial and civic life of Halifax for some years, and was elected to the House of Commons in 1908, as a colleague of Sir Robert Borden. He failed of election in 1911, and in 1917 was appointed to the Senate. The deceased Senator was an amiable, energetic gentleman, who took a very considerable part in all important debates in the Senate, and in every way was a useful public man, as well as a very worthy citizen. He was indeed rather an aggressive and useful parliamentary representative, and always ready to stand up for his country, and enforce his ideas in vigorous fashion. He leaves a widow and two sons. His remains left Ottawa for Halifax on Saturday afternoon, the 12th. The funeral took place in St. Mary's Cathedral, Halifax on Tuesday, the 15th. The weather at Ottawa just now is surely remarkably mild for the season of the year. It is, to all intents and purposes, spring, as the greater part of the snow has disappeared, and Parliament Hill and the great campus in front of the Parliament Buildings are all bare, and are assuming somewhat slowly their wonted summer green. The ice on the river and canal is breaking up, and appearances generally indicate spring is returning. It is possible that we may have a little touch of snow yet; but, in any event, the probabilities are that a winter-like weather that may come will be of brief duration. Should present conditions continue, in a week's time we shall have green grass all around Parliament Hill, and on the lawns and campus in the vicinity. WANTED The names and addresses of all Contractors, Carpenters, Property Owners, Real Estate Owners, together with all others interested in the prices of Building Material, Doors, Sash, Mouldings, Hardwood Flooring, Roofing Paper, Asphalt Shingles, Mantels, Tiles, Grates, School Desks, Blackboard, etc., etc. We will issue in the near future, a complete catalogue covering all classes of Building Material, and will be glad to send a free copy of this catalogue to everyone sending us their names and address. Please let us have this information by Postal Card or letter, mailing same to us at Amherst. This catalogue will be one of the most complete of its kind, and to those interested in the purchase of Building Material, will prove of great value and assistance. RHODES, CUREY, Limited, Amherst, N. S. Feb. 23, 1921, 61 D. C. McLeod | W. K. Bentley, K.C. McLEOD & BENTLEY Barristers, Attorneys and Solicitors MONEY TO LOAN Offices—Bank of Nova Scotia Chambers, Charlottetown, P. E. Island.

Mail Contract
SEALED TENDERS addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon on Friday, the 22nd April, 1921, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails on a proposed Contract for four years, six times per week, on the route, St. Peter's Bay Rural Mail Route, No. 3, from the 1st July, 1921, next.

Mail Contract
SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon on Friday, the 8th April, 1921, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails on a proposed Contract for four years, six times per week, on the route, Milton Station Rural Mail Route No. 1, from the Postmaster General's pleasure.

Mail Contract
SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon on Friday, the 1st April, 1921, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails on a proposed Contract for four years, six times per week, on the route, Winooski Rural Mail Route No. 1, from the Postmaster General's pleasure.

Mail Contract
SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General will be received at Ottawa until noon on Friday, the 1st April, 1921, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails on a proposed contract for four years, six times per week, on the route, Winooski Rural Mail Route No. 1, from the 1st July, 1921, next.

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMS AND INLAND REVENUE. EXCISE TAX LICENSES. Retailers, Jewellers, Manufacturers and Sales Tax Licenses as required under the Amendment to the Special War Revenue Act, 1915, are ready for issue, and application forms may be had from the undersigned.

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W. J. P. McMILLAN, M.D.
Physician and Surgeon
Office and Residence: 105 Kent Street
CHARLOTTETOWN - P. E. I.
J. D. STEWART
Barrister, Solicitor and Notary Public.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
CHANGE OF TIME
Commencing Friday, February 18th, 1921, Trains Nos. 11 and 12 between Summerside and Tignish will run bi-weekly until further notice, leaving Tignish Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and Summerside Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Legislative Assembly.
Princes Edward Island
Rules Relating to Private Bills.
36 All petitions for Private Bills must be presented within fourteen days after the commencement of the session exclusive of adjournment.
37 No Private Bill shall be brought into the House, but upon a petition first presented, truly stating the case at the peril of the petitioners for such Bill, and such petition must be signed by the said petitioners.