

THE SENATE.

OTTAWA, Friday, January 29, 1909.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

WATER CARRIAGE OF GOODS BILL.

SECOND READING.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL moved the second reading of Bill (A) An Act relating to the Water Carriage of Goods. He said: This is precisely the same Bill as was passed last year by the Senate. Hon. gentlemen will recollect that a very thorough inquiry was made in reference to this measure. The parties interested, both for and against, were allowed an opportunity to present their views before the Committee on Banking and Commerce, and the result was that in the end an agreement was reached. The shipping interests were satisfied with the Bill as it was amended, and it passed the Senate unanimously, but it was so late in the session that when it went to the House of Commons the time for discussing public Bills had elapsed, and consequently there was no opportunity of passing the Bill. The government, I may say, were anxious to have the Bill passed, and did call the order in the latter part of the session, but some members objected that it was such an important measure there was not sufficient time to consider it in the closing days of the session, and, therefore, it was left over till this year.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—I do not think it was distributed.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL—I have a copy of it. Of course if any hon. gentleman objects it can stand over, I suppose, but I would like to get it through as soon as possible so that it can go to the House of Commons.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—There will be no delay at all, because it must be referred to a committee, and the committee cannot sit before the 25th. I think the government will have ample time to have the Bill printed during the recess.

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL—Public Bills need not necessarily be referred to a Standing Committee. They go to Committee of the Whole.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—But it must go to a Committee of the Whole also.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL—Last year it was referred to a committee on account of the opposition to the measure, and the desire of some parties to be heard.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—I think we are not in a position to pass it to-day because it must be referred to a Committee of the Whole.

The order of the day was discharged and placed on the orders of the day for the 25th of February.

GOVERNMENT ANNUITIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

SECOND READING POSTPONED.

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT moved the second reading of Bill (B) An Act to amend the Government Annuities Act, 1908. He said: There is no question of principle involved in this. Its object is to make one or two amendments which have been suggested by the Department of Justice to make a little more clear the obvious intention of the measure, and to enable, under certain conditions stated therein, a man who has acquired an annuity to make a certain division with his wife in conformity with the rules and regulations laid down, a proposition to which I am sure the House will not oppose any objection. The discussion of the Bill can be postponed until it is referred to committee. If any hon. gentleman wants to discuss it now, I would prefer to let the second reading stand. I propose just to take a stage for the Bill now and after we return it can be discussed fully in committee.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—Since the hon. gentleman is in no hurry, I should like to have the second reading postponed until we can have a French copy of the Bill.