POOR DOCUMENT

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WILL MAKE A TWO YEARS' TEST OF SEWAGE IN RIVER

Legislature Votes 27 to 16 to Permit Fredericton to Use the St. John

Will Have an Expert Analyze the Water Before and After to See the Effect---Will Spend $2,000 Boring for Artesian Wells in Sunbury—Judicature Act, New Brunswick Telephone Co. and Other Important Measures Agreed To.

Fredericton, N. B., April 9.—The house met at 3 o'clock.

On the third reading of the Fredericton sewerage bill Mr. Hazen said: Before the question is put I intend to move an amendment which I hope will commend itself to the good sense of the members of this house. This bill has already been three times discussed and I do not propose to take up the time of the house at any length. It is evident that there has been a great difference of opinion in regard to it among honorable members and considering the great importance of the subject I move that the further consideration of the bill be postponed until the next session of the legislature.

George F. Hill.

Hon. Mr. Hill—I did not intend to speak any more on this subject, but I consider that this proposition is the most absurd that ever I heard of. It asks that the city of Fredericton shall be kept for another year in its present unsanitary condition. That after spending thousands and thousands of dollars on a sewerage system to promote the health of the city it shall be allowed to lie idle.

A Two Years' Test.

Hon. Mr. Robinson then moved the following amendment to the amendment:

Moved by Hon. Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Murray:

"That the order for third reading be rescinded and that the bill be referred back to the committee of the whole house with instructions to so amend it as to permit the city of Fredericton to discharge crude sewage into the St. John river subject to the following limitation. That upon the expiration of two years from the first day of June next the Lieut.Governor in council may by order in council prohibit the city from continuing to discharge crude sewage into the river from and after the period of one year subsequent to the passing of such order in order to enable the city to provide septic tanks and filtration beds if the lieut. governor in council should decide to require the same also so to amend the bill as to provide that the lieut. governor in council shall cause bacteriological and chemical tests of the water of the river below the city of Fredericton to be made from time to time with a view to ascertaining what effect the discharge of such sewage matter has upon the petability of the water of the river and also to provide that it shall be the duty of the lieut. governor in council to appropriate a sum not exceeding $2,000 for the purpose of sinking test wells at such points in the counties of Sunbury and Queens as the lieut. governor in council may determine upon the advice of an expert well borer in order to ascertain whether a suitable and abundant supply of water for domestic purposes can be obtained by the boring of wells."

Hon. Mr. Robinson.

In moving this amendment I may say that I am of the same opinion as the member for Charlotte. The house has already decided this question and passed a bill and we should accept the decision of the house but as there has been doubt as to the effect of this measure, it seems it would be advisable that the privilege of putting sewage into the river should be limited while certain tests are being made and I trust that this will be considered a proper solution of the difficulty.

Mr. Farris.

Hon. Mr. Farris—I think that the amendment moved by the leader of the opposition is a very reasonable one as it will only delay the bill for the year, during which time the necessary tests can be made and I am of the opinion that if the sewage once goes into the river it will never be stopped.

Premier Thinks Compromise Fair.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—I may say that in the first place I oppose the resolution of the member for York, but that resolution after being warmly debated was carried by a vote of 23 to 19. That I think might be taken as the deliberate expression of a majority of the members of the house. In accordance with the resolution I introduced a bill to give effect to it and this bill has been carried by the house. If the amendment of the leader of the opposition is voted down we must assume that the house would vote down any similar amendment and that the bill will be carried. In that case where would be the interests of the people, of whom the commissioner of agriculture speaks? If this bill is passed it will be the law of the land for all time to come but considering the great interest involved I feel it my duty to vote for the amendment of the hon. member for Westmorland to limit the time and to enable enquiries to be made as to the effect of the sewage on the river. That I think is the only reasonable and sensible course.

Mr. Carpenter Protests.

Mr. Carpenter—The premier has stated that the first vote on this matter, which was taken the other day, expressed the deliberate opinion of the members of this house. I take exception to that statement, for I found that a large number of members were pledged to the resolution before it was brought down. It was, therefore, not a well considered vote, while the second vote on the question was. As far back as 1896 a law was passed giving the people of Fredericton an opportunity to put in a sewerage plant. This question was twice referred to the people of Fredericton, but in both cases they declined to do so. It was not until 1905 that a council was elected which was willing to grapple with the situation. They asked for legislation to enable them to put the outlet of the sewers half a mile nearer the intake than the first bill provided. The bill was passed subject to the approval of the board of health. The board refused permission and their verdict was sustained by the government, and therefore I say that this city has nothing to complain of either from the government or the legislature. The effect of this resolution will be to put all the sewage into the river. I appeal to the fair play of the members on this side of the house, as the representative of a county whose members have supported the government for the past twenty-five years. When the county of York rejected the greatest leader that this government ever had, it was the county of Queens that took him and returned him to this house. Is it fair then, to sacrifice the interests of the county of Queens for the sake of York? Let no man take you by the throat and try to influence you. Back up your vote and put down this attempt to pollute the river that flows past your doors.

Mr. F

Mr. [illegible] am against both propositions. [illegible]e question be settled now by either accepting or rejecting the bill. I am opposed to digging wells for the people of Sunbury county at the expense of the government.

Robert Maxwell.

Mr. Maxwell—When this resolution was first brought up I thought that a great injustice would be done to Fredericton if, after the enormous sums they spent on their sewage system, they would be prevented from putting their sewers into the river; but I have thought since that Fredericton should have accepted the offer of the government to assist in establishing septic tanks for the purification of the sewage. I find also that all down the river there is a great deal of alarm at the effect that this sewage will have on the water, and on the ice which is taken out of the river. If any means can be adopted for purifying the sewage without undue expense to Fredericton, it should be tried. The amendment to the amendment ought to be voted down, and therefore I will vote for the amendment of the leader of the opposition to postpone this bill for a year.

Mr. Clarke.

Mr. Clarke—I have made up my mind to vote for the amendment. I voted for the resolution, but I have since changed my views on the subject in consequence of the great difficulty that surrounds the getting of water to the people down river. I think the amendment should be accepted, because it does no injustice to the city of Fredericton.

Mr. Hazen.

Mr. Hazen—If the amendment is carried it kills for all time the rights of the people down river. I must censure the conduct of the leader of this house who, no doubt, wrote the judgment confirming the action of the board of health and now supports a proposition to put the sewage into the river for at least three years. How does he reconcile this with his former action? This business of limiting the term of placing sewage in the river is simply a pretence.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—I must call the gentleman to order. Instead of discussing the merits of the bill, he is making a personal attack on me for political purposes. He is seeking to introduce party politics into a matter with which politics has nothing to do.

Mr. Speaker—The leader of the opposition is in order if he is speaking to the amendment.

Mr. Hazen—The resolution was only supported by a majority of four votes, and I submit that in view of the claims of the people down river the bill should be postponed for a year.

Mr. Burgess—Have you lost sight of the interests of the people of all the towns up river?

Mr. Hazen—The proposition to bore wells put forward by the government will not be received with favor by the people of Sunbury.

Notes Mr. Hazen's Change of Front.

Mr. Pugsley—I very much regret that the leader of the opposition should feel himself so much carried away by this question as to make a personal attack on me. If I had chosen to follow his example what strong expressions I might use towards the member for St. John who spoke in the former debate in such terms of the injury that would be done to Fredericton if not allowed to put sewage in to what he described as this great river, which was intended to bear away the sewage of all the up river counties and who I find now reversing his former views. So also with regard to the change of opinion of the member for Charlotte. But I do not desire to impugn the motives of these gentlemen. I have no doubt that they are acting conscientiously. To me it makes no difference what others may think for I shall discharge my duty according to my honest convictions. No doubt there will be disappointments, no matter how the vote may go.

The leader of the opposition refers to the judgment of the government. On the appeal from the decision of the board of health I recognized, as I do now, that if the people below use river water an injury will be done to them. But today we are obliged to consider this matter from the standpoint of what this house has already done in passing the bill and if we can limit this privilege and make such test, as is proposed in the amendment, we shall be lessening the evil and paving the way for better conditions.

It is greatly in the interests of the people all over the province that the city of Fredericton should be in good sanitary condition, for students come here to the University and Normal School by hundreds and the representatives of the people have also to spend several weeks here every year. We must also consider the rights of the people who live in the up river counties for if we prohibit Fredericton from putting its sewage into the river we must expect that the people of this city will obtain an injunction to prevent Woodstock and other towns from draining into the river. I, therefore, think that the proposition put forward by the member for Westmorland is a reasonable one and should be adopted. We do not propose to bore wells on every man's farm, but merely to make tests in suitable places and if we find that the sewage of Fredericton is endangering the public health then it can be stopped by order in council. Prof. Starkey, in his evidence, said that the water now was unfit for use and that it should be boiled. If it is shown that the water is not materially worse than it is at present then there will be no reason for preventing Fredericton from continuing to put sewage into the river.

With regard to the proposal which we made to give the city $2,000 or $3,000 a year to the expense of a purification plant the mayor and other members of the city council represented to us that owing to local conditions the cost of maintaining such a plant would be much greater than Fredericton could afford, while it was extremely doubtful whether such a plant could be kept in proper order owing to the severity of the frost.

Mr. Tweeddale.

Mr. Tweeddale—The origin of this whole question was the resolution of the present speaker some years ago in regard to the unsanitary condition of Fredericton. Typhoid prevailed to such an extent that people were afraid to send their children here and unless these conditions were remedied these educational institutions would have to be removed. The citizens of Fredericton were roused to action and came to this legislature for authority to issue sewerage debentures. Their intention to do so was duly published in the newspapers, but no person in Sunbury or Queens raised any protest. The city entered into contract for the expenditure of about $75,000 on a sewage plant, but there was no sign of any opposition until Mr. Hazen in the last days of last session succeeded in tacking a rider to the bill referring the matter to the board of health. The majority of the members of this house have voted that the people of Fredericton should have the right to put their sewage into the river.

The government has a mandate from the legislature to pass this bill, and should have put it through as a government measure. This house must legislate for the whole [illegible]e, and not for a few. The leader [illegible]he opposition is representing the peo[illegible] of Sunbury, but we must look further ahead and consider the situation from every point of view. For the purpose of purifying the river water the people of this city have expended $40,000 for a filtration plant, but the people of Sunbury say we will swallow all the filth that now goes into the river but they must not put any more in.

The legislature has already given power to the towns up river to have water systems, and their drainage goes into the river. These towns are developing rapidly and increasing in population, while the down river counties are stagnant, are going back. I think that the government has done wisely in bringing forward this proposition, and I shall vote for it.

Mr. Robinson—I do not think that this is an occasion for excitement or hysteria. We should look at this matter with all the calmness of a judge. I am informed that the decision of the board of health was not unanimous, and that Dr. Steeves, of Moncton, was opposed to it. We should bear in mind that already one-third of the sewage of Fredericton goes into the river, and that what this bill will add will have little or no effect on the purity of the water. The towns and villages up river are growing rapidly, and if we say to Fredericton you shall not have the same privilege which is enjoyed by every other town on the river including Gagetown, they will naturally resort to means to have the privileges of other towns curtailed. The council of the city of Fredericton has agreed to the arrangement now proposed, and will stand by it, however it may turn out.

It is absurd to say that if this amendment is passed the sewage will go into the river for all time, for no future government will feel itself bound by this decision.

27 to 16 for Sewage Test in River.

The vote was then taken and the Hon. Mr. Robinson's amendment to the amendment carried by the following vote:

Yeas—Hon. Messrs. Robinson, Pugsley, Sweeney, LaBillois, Jones and Hill, and Messrs. Allen, Whitehead, Copp, Scovil, Murray, Campbell, Burden, Barnes, Currie, Lowell, Ruddick, Tweeddale, Smith, Burns, Young, Johnson, Lantalum, Burgess, Leger, Clair, Martin—27.

Nays—Hon. Mr. Farris, Messrs. King, Ryan, Carpenter, Gogain, Robertson, Hazen, Flemming, Grimmer, Clarke, Morrissey, Glasier, Maxwell, Poirier, Hartt, Morrison—16.

Judicature Act

The house went into committee to consider the judicature bill.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—I have asked for this bill to be recommitted in order that some amendments, chiefly verbal ones, may be made in it. The chief alteration is in sub-section two of section one, which provides that any person to be appointed judge shall be of at least ten years' standing at the bar. I move that this be struck out. The B. N. A. act says that the provincial legislatures have no authority to insist on any particular qualifications for judges. In some cases this has been done, and has gone through, but I do not think it advisable to enact any clause which may be doubtful.

Mr. Hazen—I agree that this clause should be struck out, and I question very much whether we have any right to fix the places at which the judges should reside.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—It is important that the legislature should have power to say at what places the judges should sit in chambers, and this is very much along the line of residence. I think myself it is desirable that we should have power to say that certain places should have a judge living there.

Mr. Hazen—I would favor a provision that all the judges should live in one town. This is done in Nova Scotia, and also in Ontario. They then have opportunities of meeting and conferring together on any subject which may be necessary to consider. I would prefer to retain the clause fixing the age limit rather than fix on any particular place of residence.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—More than one minister of justice has expressed the view that the local legislature have no power to fix the age limit. The bill was agreed to with these amendments.

Mr. Allen gave notice of inquiry as to the intention of the government to make additions to the legislative library or to provide better accommodations for the numerous and valuable natural history specimens now in this and the departmental building. Also whether it is the intention of the government to obtain from the judicial committee their opinion as to power of the cities, towns and municipalities of this province to impose a tax upon the income of the officials of the federal government, having regard to the case of Webb vs. Outrim, recently decided before that committee.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—I desire to make a few observations on the subject of the telephone bill as to certain changes which I propose to make in the bill in order that the public may know of the change. The bill, as presented, provides that in case of a telephone company or a municipality owning telephone systems wishing to make connections with the long distance service, in case of the refusal of the other company, the governor-in-council may compel the connection to be made, provided the system of the company desiring connection is up to the standard of the system of the company with whom the connection is sought and upon such terms as shall be approved of by the governor-in-council. I do not think the house would feel disposed to pass this bill unless this correction is made. The matter is one of great importance.

Mr. Flemming—I see the bill provides for a limit of eight per cent. dividend. Has any provision been made for depreciation and repairs?

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—Yes, that has been provided for.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—Before the bill relating to the Canada Atlantic terminal railway comes before the committee, I think very strongly that the promoters should withdraw the pamphlet which they caused to be circulated among the members of this house. This pamphlet sought to build up L'Etang at the expense of St. John. The house, no doubt, read it, and I do not think that any more unjustifiable statement than it contains could be made. St. John is the recognized winter port of Canada, and it is intolerable that the gentlemen promoting this bill should go out of their way to slander that port. The house should look with disfavor on such disparagement and I think the house would be justified in refusing to consider the bill until these unwarrantable statements are withdrawn.

The house then went into committee on the Fredericton Boom Company's bill.

Mr. Hazen said: I asked that this bill should be recommitted for the purpose of adding another section to it. Under the charter of the St. John River Log Driving Company, the directors of the company are not entitled to any fee, but merely to be repaid their traveling and out-of-pocket expenses; but, as under the new conditions it may be necessary for them to devote considerably more time to the duties of their office, it may be desirable to give the company power to allow them fees. I have, therefore, drafted another section, which has been approved of by the attorney-general. This section can only become operative under a by-law which must be consented to by two-thirds of the members of the company, and approved by the lieutenant-governor-in-council.

The house took recess at 5.45 p. m.

The house met at 9.30 p. m. and went into committee of the whole on the Presbyterian church bill. Section six of this bill provides that the moderator of the session shall take the chair at all congregational meetings, but that in his absence or refusal to act another chairman may be appointed. The moderator is the minister.

Mr. Murray moved that this section be amended so as to enable the congregation to select any chairman they wished. The subject was discussed at some length by Messrs. Murray, Robertson, Currie, Morrison and Copp and Flemming. The amendment was defeated, and the bill passed in its original form.

On the third reading of the judicature act, Mr. Hazen said that the act provided for three trial judges, and three appeal judges. In his opinion there was no necessity for an additional judge, and therefore he would make a motion to that effect for the purpose of placing himself on record. The object of the government in creating another judge was to provide for some political follower.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley said: I regret that the leader of the opposition should not take a fair and impartial view of the situation. A court of appeal was necessary for the proper administration of the law. I would repudiate entirely the statement that we wish to provide for some political friend. We desire to strengthen the court. The present chief justice is seventy-six years old, and as he desires to remain on the bench his ability to do work will naturally be lessened with advancing years, and it must be kept in mind that we are now introducing a new system of judicature. The equity business of the court is constantly increasing, and I feel certain that seven judges will not be found too many to do the work.

Mr. Hazen's amendment was then put and lost by a vote of 23 to 9 and the bill was read a third time.

The house went into committee for the consideration of the following bills. The bill relating to the discharge of sewage of the city of Fredericton into the St. John river, which was agreed to with an amendment.

The bill to incorporate the New Brunswick Telephone Company, which was agreed to with amendment.

The bill relating to the Caraquet Electric & Water Power Company, which was agreed to with amendments, also the bill to incorporate the Chatham Hebrew congregation, with an amendment; also an act relating to forest fires in the county of Westmorland, with an amendment; also the bill relating to the C. P. Backus Electric Light & Power Company, with an amendment.

On the bill to incorporate the Canada Atlantic Railway Company, Mr. Clarke explained that with reference to the pamphlet about which the premier spoke earlier in the day and which was written in somewhat disparaging terms of the city of St. John, he desired to say he knew nothing about it, and it was not in any way owing to any effort of his that the pamphlet was circulated among the members. With regard to the bill it had been thoroughly considered in committee, and he moved that it be agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—I notice the omission of the clause in the bill which we usually have had inserted in the railway bills during the last three or four years, that the act should only come into force by a proclamation of the lieutenant-governor-in-council. It is usual, too, for the promoter to make a deposit of $1,000 a mile. I do not think the matter is very material, but if we depart from our accustomed rule in this case we must do so in the future in other bills. If the application is a bona fide one and the proposed railway has any merit, I see no reason why the charter should not be granted.

Progress was reported, with leave to sit again.

The telephone bill was explained by Hon. Mr. Pugsley, and progress was reported, as also was the workmen's compensation act.

The house adjourned at 1 a. m.

Agriculture Committee.

The committee on agriculture met this morning under the chairmanship of Mr. Ryan.

Hon. Mr. Farris said: I had received a letter from Mr. Baxter, of Andover, with reference to the poultry industry and more particularly to the desirability of doing something to stimulate the export trade of the province. He suggests that the efforts which some years ago were made by the dominion government in that direction should be continued by the province and assistance given towards the establishment of fattening stations in the province as being the best means of stimulating that trade. Such fattening stations would do for the poultry industry what factories have done for cheese and butter. The governments of all the other provinces have a poultry branch to their agricultural department which are doing good work. I would like to have any suggestions this meeting may have to give.

The deputy commissioner said there could be no doubt that poultry raising paid better than any other branch of farming, having regard to the small amount of capital required. But he saw very little benefit to the general farmer in fattening stations unless as a place where he could sell his chickens.

Hon. Mr. LaBillois could not see that the idea would benefit farmers very much. He thought much more good would be done through institute speakers and distribution of public pamphlets among the farmers.

Mr. Ruddick and Mr. Legere agreed with the idea.

Hon. Mr. Farris said the department had employed a practical poultry man as an institute speaker last year and he had produced excellent results. He was only too glad to distribute literature and send it out all over the country. Personally he could not see much practical benefit from fattening stations.

The committee decided to recommend the distribution of practical pamphlets on poultry raising among the farmers of the province, said pamphlets to be printed in English and French.

Mr. Legere referred to the proposed importation of draught mares and wished to know how these mares were to be distributed among the farmers.

Hon. Mr. Farris said that question had not been finally settled but he thought there would be at least two sales by auction probably at Fredericton and Moncton where the farmer could come and inspect them. He thought this would be the best place. It would not be advisable to have too many auctions as there would be fewer animals on view at each.

Mr. Carpenter's experience was that if the agricultural societies were allowed to compete with the farmers for possession of mares the farmer would have no chance.

After some further discussion the matter was allowed to drop.

Hon. Mr. LaBillois said he would like to see something done to stimulate wheat growing. He thought if the department would purchase high class seed grain and resell it to the farmers at cost price it would help in that direction.

Mr. Ruddick agreed he would like to see help given to the little mills throughout the province so that farmers might be able to get their wheat ground readily. It was no use growing good wheat if they had to feed it to the stock afterwards.

Hon. Mr. Farris reminded the last speaker that any community could build a mill and that the government would give it the authorized bonus when qualified to receive it.

Hon. Mr. Farris desired to call the attention of the farmers of the province that he had had a letter from the deputy minister of marine and fisheries stating that he had a large quantity of fish scrap fertilizer for disposal at the factories at Canso and Shippegan at $30.

The committee then adjourned.

Fredericton, N. B., April 10—The house met at 3 o'clock.

Mr. Allen made the following inquiries: Is it the intention of the government during the present session to make any addition to the legislative library building or to provide better accommodations for the numerous and valuable natural history specimens now in this and the departmental building?

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—The question of building an extension to the library has been more or less engaging the attention of the government for some time past. We realize the necessity of making better provision for our natural history specimens, but the question of funds has been the difficulty. Now that our financial condition has been improved, the question will be taken up during the recess.

Mr. Allen—A great many strangers desire to see the natural history collection, which is in the departmental building, and which I believe is not surpassed by any in America, except the Smithsonian at Washington, but the departmental building is closed at 4.30, so that persons arriving by the boat are too late generally to see it, while the parliament building is kept open until 6 o'clock.

Mr. Allen made the following inquiry: In view of the recent decision of the judicial committee of the privy council, in the case of Webb vs. Outram, is it the intention of the government, either by stating a case or by any other effective means, to obtain from the judicial committee their opinion as to the power of the cities, towns and municipalities of the province to impose a tax upon the income of the officials of the federal government?

Willing to Test Civil Service Tax Exemption.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—The municipalities are all interested in the settlement of this question, and the government would be willing to co-operate with them in having a special case stated and decided. I would suggest, however, whether, in view of that decision, it might not be that the supreme court of this province would feel bound to reverse its former decision. It seems to me that the supreme court should do this.

Mr. Allen—It might be that this case might not be found to be on all fours with the case presented, and therefore the supreme court might not be disposed to reverse its decision, if it could distinguish the one case from the other, so that it would be better to appeal to the higher tribunal.

Hon. Mr. Sweeney introduced a bill to encourage the erection of miners' houses in Sunbury and Queens. He stated that the government has acquired a part of the right of way formerly owned by the N. B. Coal & Railway Company, and it was proposed to obtain authority to grant portions of this right of way to miners to enable them to build houses along the line of railway.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley introduced a bill to amend the joint stock companies' act. He said its object was to enable the company incorporated in any province in Canada to obtain supplementary letters of patent incorporating it in this province.

Increased Aid to U. N. B.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley introduced a bill to grant additional provincial aid to the University of New Brunswick. This bill provides an additional $5,000 a year. The manner in which it is to be used is to be settled by the governor-in-council. It would be expended probably in establishing a chair of forestry and agricultural chemistry in engineering work and to increase the salaries of the present professors. Their university is now doing excellent work. A resolution was passed unanimously at the forestry convention, asking the government to establish a chair of forestry. This act will come into effect by proclamation after the additional subsidy is received.

The Champlain Monument Grant

Hon. Mr. Pugsley introduced a bill to assist in the erection of the Champlain monument at St. John. He explained that the amount to be given was $1,500, on the assumption that the monument would cost $10,000. The dominion government was giving $5,000, the city of St. John $1,000, and the balance is being made up by private subscriptions. He thought it was fitting that there should be a monument in St. John to commemorate the deeds of that great explorer, Champlain.

Hon. Mr. Hill—The only trouble with this monument is that it is being erected in the wrong place. It should either be erected at St. Croix Island, where he spent the winter of 1604-5 or at Annapolis where he founded a settlement in 1605. Champlain did not stop at St. John at all and there is no proof that he landed there. Three years ago they had a Champlain celebration at St. John and they came up here begging $1,000 from the government. We at St. Croix Island had also a Champlain celebration, but we paid the money for it ourselves. We raised the whole sum necessary in less than an hour. I don't think that the St. John people should come here, hat in hand, every time they have a celebration. I do not think that they ought to get $5,000 for a show which was only an agricultural show in name. Our people who visited the last show in St. John said it was the poorest they ever had there.

Mr. Clarke called attention to a paragraph in the St. Andrew's Beacon objecting to this grant.

George Robertson.

Mr. Robertson—The city of St. John and the whole province will endorse the action of the government in making this grant. I have listened with pain to what the member for Charlotte has been saying about St. John. There are three great events in the history of America. Its discovery by Columbus, Cabot's discovery of Newfoundland and the discovery of St. John harbor by Champlain. I might also refer to the discovery of L'Etang, by one of the members of Charlotte in the form of a pamphlet which was scattered about the house. Champlain discovered St. John harbor and that harbor is known all over the world as the great winter port of Canada. Our cities have far too few monuments. We should honor our great men in this way. I do not know that I will live to see the monuments of the leader of the government and the leader of the opposition erected in St. John, but no doubt my descendants will. The Burns monument in this city is a noble example for other cities. It is an inspiration to see it and makes one feel that life is worth living and that "A man's a man for a' that." The erection of this monument to Champlain will be a recognition of what we owe to these gallant French adventurers who discovered this land and of whose labors we are reaping the benefit.

Cold Storage Aid.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley introduced a bill relating to cold storage. He said: The object of this bill it to change the rate of interest on the bonds to be guaranteed by the province to aid a cold storage warehouse in St. John from three per cent to four per cent. We propose to give $750 a year to cold storage warehouses in any part of the province for five years. The cost of such warehouses to be not less than $15,000. I am sure that the house will approve of this proposition, for such warehouses are absolutely necessary to our farmers. There is a warehouse at Sussex where large quantities of agricultural products are being stored, and at Woodstock a company has already been formed to take advantage of this offer. There is a company which proposes to build a warehouse in St. John which will cost $100,000. The dominion government, I understand, will give thirty per cent of this amount. By the consolidated statutes we are authorized to guarantee the bonds of a cold storage company to the amount of $80,000 not to exceed three fourths of the cost. The rate of interest was put at three per cent, but owing to the change in the money market it is necessary to name a higher rate of interest not to exceed four per cent. I feel satisfied that nothing we can do will be of more value to the province than the establishing of these cold storage warehouses.

Mr. Hazen—It would seem that if the provincial government gives $80,000 and the dominion government thirty per cent of the cost of the cold storage plant in St. John which will cost $100,000 there will be very little money for the company to raise. Only $10,000 and there should be no question but what such a plant can be established on such terms.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—The company will have to pay interest and provide a considerable amount of working capital, probably from $50,000 to $75,000 to enable them to carry on their business and make advances to farmers.

St. John Dry Dock.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley introduced a bill relating to the St. John Dry Dock. He stated that the province had agreed to give $5,000 a year for 40 years, which had been changed by subsequent legislation to a larger sum for 20 years. It was provided that the bonds should pay three per cent interest and that the company must take the bonds at par. It was now proposed to change the rate of interest to four per cent in accordance with the change in the money market.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley introduced a bill to grant $3,000 a year to the New Brunswick Rifle Association. He stated that this was the revival of a former grant.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley introduced a bill to grant $300 a year for five years to the Salvation Army Maternity Hospital in St. John. He stated that a sub-committee of the government had examined this hospital and reported that it deserved assistance.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley introduced a bill to provide for certain improvements in the dairy school at Sussex. It was proposed to increase the cold storage facilities, which are now inadequate, and to make other improvements, the whole to cost $800.

The house went into committee on bills and agreed to the act to amend the workmen's compensation act and the bill to encourage the production of starch.

Progress was reported on the bill to provide for the organization of fishermen's union.

The house took recess.

The house resumed at 9.30.

New Bridges.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley said: Perhaps it will be proper for me to give notice now that a bill will be introduced to provide for a number of permanent bridges. I will read the list, which is as follows:

Madawaska county—St. Leonards, St. Jacques.

Victoria county—Broadway, Salmon River, Three Forks and Riley Brook.

Carleton county—Florenceville bridge, Bath bridge.

Charlotte county—St. George, Young's bridge.

York county—Fredericton bridge, Hawkshaw bridge and Paterson Gulch bridge.

Queens county—Chipman bridge, Narrows bridge and Beach bridge.

St. John county—Cushing canal bridge, Suspension bridge.

Kings county—French Village, Hammond River bridge, Salmon River bridge, Passakeag bridge, Apohaqui bridge, Roachville bridge.

Albert county—Saw Mill Creek bridge, McFarlane bridge and Mill Creek bridge.

Westmorland county—Hall's Creek bridge, Memramcook bridge, and Shediac bridge.

Kent county—McLeod's Mill bridge, Cocagne bridge, Little River bridge.

Northumberland county—North West Miramichi bridge, Tabusintac bridge, Chatham bridge, Donald's bridge.

Gloucester county—Bathurst Station bridge, Rive bridge.

Restigouche county—Eel River bridge.

Mr. Ryan presented the report of the agricultural committee.

Mr. Robertson—I wish to draw the attention of the commissioner for agriculture to the advisability of including in his next stock importation a number of goats of good breed. As the government has decided to endeavor to increase the raising of sheep, I would suggest that two or three goats in a flock of sheep would make them practically immune from dogs.

Mr. Allen suggested that the government send a royal commission to the Island of Juan Fernandez to see if any goats of Alex. Selkirk's breed were left there.

Mr. Hazen—I would like to hear the views of the commissioner of agriculture on the subject. Thirty years ago there were a great many goats in St. John, and the popular impression was that they were fed mostly on old tin cans, old hoop skirts and old newspapers. It is a pity that this industry should have died out.

Hon. Mr. Farris—The house is indebted to the member for St. John for bringing up this matter, and it will receive the serious consideration of the government.

To Amend Game Laws.

Hon. Mr. Sweeney introduced a bill to amend the law relating to the protection of game. He said this bill is the result of suggestions which we have received from the chief game warden. We propose to impose a fee of $10 on non-resident sportsmen who come into this province to shoot our game birds. It also requires registered guides to make a return of the game killed by theparties they take into the woods. We also intend to shorten the open season for marten, fisher and sable, and to extend the close season for beaver to the year 1910. Beavers are increasing in number and the present close season will expire in July next. We also propose to reduce the number of persons one guide can take into the woods from five to two. When so many are taken into the woods by a single guide it is impossible to keep track of the number of animals killed.

Another proposal is that, when the wives of a hunting party accompanying their husbands but do no shooting, that is certified by the guide, the license fee will be remitted. Another provision relates to the killing of deer in the open season. It has been represented to me that the farmers' crops are frequently destroyed by deer, and this will provide that it will be a sufficient justification for a violation of the game law if the animals are killed when destroying a farmer's crop.

We also propose to prohibit the use of automatic guns and rifles in shooting our game birds. These are very destructive and cause immense slaughter. They may not now be in use in the province, but they are likely to be within a short time, if not prohibited.

The house went into committee on bills. On the motion to consider the bill to incorporate the Canada Atlantic Terminal Railway Company, Mr. Clarke said with reference to the remarks made by the honorable attorney general when the bill was last before the house while he quite agreed with the policy of the government in their efforts to safeguard the interests of the province, in this case he thought that the promoters of the road had convinced the government of their bona fides and their ability to build the road, he hoped the matter of the deposit would not be pressed as it might hamper them in their operations, more particularly as they had not asked for any subsidy.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—As I said last night I never thought very much of the necessity of the deposit myself. It had been, however, the policy of the government of late years. He was satisfied as to the bona fides of the undertaking which he thought had great merits and deserved encouragement.

Mr. Hazen favored the payment of the deposit which he said operated as a check on speculative corporations, and what had been described as "Wild cat schemes."

The bill was agreed to as amended, and with an amended title.

The committee then took up the consideration of the Fredericton assessment bill and agreed to the bill as amended without the addition of the section postponing the coming operation of the bill.

The committee also agreed to the bill relating to the imperial dry dock of St. John with some amendments.

Hon. Mr. Sweeney introduced a bill relating to dams, sluices and fishways. In introducing this he explained that it has been found advisable that the old law be re-enacted in order to allow of fishways being put in the river, otherwise the dams made the rivers useless for fishing purposes.

He also introduced a bill to amend the fisheries act which he said provided for the sale of fishing leases by tender as well as by public auction as at present. He anticipated a considerable increase of revenue by this means.

Hon. Mr. Jones introduced a bill to provide for the continuance of the consolidated school at Kingston. This school for some time past has been carried on class student. She again entered the senby means of the Macdonald school fund, and it would be necessary in the future, if the school was to continue to have a larger assessment.

The house went into committee on the government's bill respecting telephone companies. Mr. Murray in the chair. The first three sub-sections of section 9, were held over for further consideration until tomorrow. These sections relate to the requiring the company to put its wires underground.

Mr. Robertson thought this provision too severe and Mr. Currie agreed with him.

Mr. Lowell thought the right to enforce this should not be limited to cities of 10,000 inhabitants, but should apply to such towns as Fairville.

Mr. Carpenter thought Mr. Lowell's proposal was not an unreasonable one.

On section H, relating to long distance connection with any other company or municipality, the bill was amended so as to compel a company to give connection even in cases where the company seeking connection had a line duplicating that of the larger company. This was objected to by Mr. Whitehead and Mr. Robertson.

Mr. Lowell thought a large company should not raise any objection but should be content to take what they got.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley said that the feeling in favor of this feature of the bill was very strong. Under this section a company or municipality owning a line of the N. B. Telephone Company can compel the latter to give long distance connection with all the places on its system. Section 17 of the bill imposing a penalty on any person using a telephone not being a subscriber was struck out.

The bill to encourage the erection of miners houses and the bill to amend the N. B. Joint Stock Company's act, were agreed to.

The house adjourned until tomorrow at 3 o'clock.

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