

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. We could adjourn till Wednesday, and members will be all here by eight o'clock on the second Wednesday. There are, according to the memorandum handed to me, thirty-three members of the Opposition besides all the Quebec Opposition members, and forty Ministerial members besides all the Quebec members on this side, in favor of the adjournment.

Mr. CHARLTON. As this is the Jubilee year, I would ask whether it is proposed, in the event of the House not adjourning, to observe the Queen's birthday? A holiday will probably be held on the 21st of June.

Mr. CASGRAIN. I would like to say to the Prime Minister that some of our friends on this side have not heard a word about this matter. I never heard a word of it until I heard it in the House, though I do not object to the adjournment.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The paper handed to me begins with the Opposition members, and then gives the names, headed by that of the hon. member for Bothwell.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). I was never spoken to on the subject.

Mr. SUTHERLAND. As I took the responsibility of this paper, I may be allowed to explain it. At the request of a few of the members I undertook to see what the feeling of the House was, and I spoke to almost all the Ontario members, who, without signing any paper, agreed, on consideration, that there would be no time lost. That was the almost unanimous expression of opinion. The members from Quebec to whom I spoke said they would be almost all in favor of it.

Mr. TISDALE. I will explain the paper for this side of the House. I spoke to more than fifty, not one of whom objected, and Mr. McMillan spoke to the members for Quebec, and said they were all for it.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Perhaps we had better bring the question to a vote. I move that when the House adjourns on Wednesday, the 18th inst., it stand adjourned until the following Wednesday at 3 o'clock.

Motion agreed to.

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. BLAKE. Before the Orders are called I desire to call the attention of the hon. First Minister to the statement made on Thursday that the motion for the appointment of a Chairman of Committees would be made on Friday. It was not made on Friday, and we have now passed the time when that motion could be made to-day. It would be well to know what the hon. gentleman's intentions are as to making the proposal.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I will move it to-morrow, which is a Government day.

UPPER COLUMBIA RAILWAY COMPANY.

Mr. MARA moved second reading of Bill (No. 49) to incorporate the Upper Columbia Railway Company.

Mr. CASGRAIN. Some of these Bills are not printed in French.

Mr. SPEAKER. If my attention is drawn to the fact, of course I cannot allow the Bills to be read. It cannot be done without the unanimous consent of the House.

Mr. BLAKE. I will say to my hon. friend that we have adopted perhaps a rather lax practice in allowing the Bills to be read, if they are printed in either language, at the earlier part of the Session, and do not appear to be objectionable, so that they might get to the committees as early

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as possible. I do not consider that if any hon. member has an objection to a measure, he is to be precluded from insisting on the absolute rigor of the rule. However, I think it would be for the advantage of the House if we winked at the irregularity.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the second time.

SECOND READINGS.

Bill (No. 43) to incorporate the Niagara River Bridge Company.—(Mr. McCarthy for Mr. Rykert)

Bill (No. 45) further to amend the Act respecting the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.—(Mr. McCarthy for Mr. Kirkpatrick.)

Bill (No. 48) to incorporate the Guarantee and Pension Fund Society of the Dominion Bank.—(Mr. Sutherland.)

Bill (No. 55) to incorporate the Eastern Canada Savings and Loan Company (Limited).—(Mr. Kenny.)

Bill (No. 59) to amend the Act incorporating the Alberta and Athabasca Railway Company.—(Mr. Shanly for Mr. Colby.)

Bill (No. 61) to amend the Acts incorporating and relating to the British Canadian Loan and Investment Company (Limited).—(Mr. Small.)

Bill (No. 62) to reduce the stock of the Ontario and Qu'Appelle Land Company (Limited), and for other purposes.—(Mr. Sutherland.)

SCRIP TO VETERANS OF 1837.

Mr. PURCELL asked, Is it the intention of the Government to make provision, during the present Session, for the payment of pensions or the granting of scrip to the Veterans who served the Crown in 1837, as has been done in the case of the Veterans of 1812 and in the case of those who served in suppressing the recent North-West Rebellion?

Sir A DOLPHE CARON. It is not in the power of the Federal Government to grant scrip or pensions to the Veterans of 1837. It is a matter which properly comes under the purview of the Governments of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, as it occurred previous to Confederation.

POST OFFICE AT CORINTH.

Mr. LANDERKIN asked, Is it the intention of the Government to open a post office at Corinth, in the township of Bentinck, at an early date?

Mr. McLELAN. That matter was under the consideration of the late Postmaster, and the decision was that it should stand a while.

DUTY ON TOBACCO.

Mr. THÉRIEN asked, Whether it is the intention of the Government to impose a Customs duty on leaf tobacco imported? If so, what will the duty be?

Mr. BOWELL. That is a question which cannot be answered until the Budget is brought down.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY RATES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Mr. MARA asked, Have the rates charged by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company in the Province of British Columbia been submitted to and approved of by the Governor in Council?