

The Herald

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At The Federal Capital

During the week ending May 3rd, considerable business was done in the House of Commons, although, apart from the opening day of the week matters were very quiet. A couple of long bills were discussed, and one of them completed without much noise. Apart from the discussion of these bills referred to below, routine business and some passing of estimates, as well as progress of numerous bills from stage to stage were attended to. As intimated in last week's Herald, the closure came into force on Monday, April 28th. The committee stage of the bill incorporating the Canadian National Railway Company was resumed immediately after the routine proceedings of the day. Once the committee was constituted, the Hon. Mr. Meighen moved that the discussion of the clauses of the bill, postponed from the last previous sitting be proceeded with, and that there be no further postponement of their consideration until all were disposed of. The time limit under the rule when the debate should automatically cease is 2 o'clock of the following morning. He explained the rule which provided that no member would be allowed to speak on any clause more than once or more than twenty minutes, at a time. Discussion could be had on every clause remaining according to these restrictions, or all the discussion could take place on one clause under the same restrictions; but which ever method was followed, the whole debate would cease once two o'clock of Tuesday morning arrived. The opposition challenged the position of the government as outlined by the Hon. Mr. Meighen, and called for a division. The government's position was sustained by a vote of ninety-eight to thirty-four.

The debate now commenced, that is, if it could be called a debate. It was rather a matter of obstructive talking by the opposition members. The government side took very little part in the discussion, as they did not wish to unnecessarily prolong the debate. As a consequence, one member after another of the opposition occupied his twenty minutes and then subsided. During the afternoon, and the final stage in the evening, two other divisions were called for. In one the vote stood ninety-three for the government, and forty-one against, and at the final division the vote was ninety-two to forty-one. The members of the opposition did not discuss the remaining clauses separately, but contented themselves to do all their talking on one clause. This will show how little merit was in their contention. If they were anxious to improve the bill, they surely would take up one clause after another and attempt to show wherein they could make an improvement. After observing the course pursued by the opposition in this particular case, any reasonable member of the House who is desirous of having the public business go on in a reasonable way, must conclude that the closure is a very useful instrument. Of course, no one would want it invoked, except when it comes to a case of pure obstruction as in

this very case. The bill, with some slight amendments incorporated by the government was reported and held for a third reading at 2.15 a. m. Tuesday.

After the ordinary routine proceedings on Tuesday afternoon, the Hon. Mr. Calder introduced a new immigration bill. Perhaps it might quite properly be called an immigration amendment bill, as very considerable portions of the existing immigration act remained and numerous sections of it are amended in the new bill. The Hon. Mr. Calder, Minister of Immigration and Colonization delivered a speech of considerable length when introducing the bill. He outlined the most salient features of the new bill, and the most important and most drastic departures from the existing immigration law are in those sections of the bill which deal with the exclusion and deportation, in some cases, of undesirable residents of Canada. The minister pointed out that changes in the immigration law were absolutely imperative under the present existing conditions. In consequence a general upheaval following the war, and the onerous obligations arising on the Dominion Government, in the matter of repatriation and reconstruction, it is necessary for us now to be most careful as to the class of immigrants we should allow to come into the country. As a matter of fact, too great care cannot be exercised on this point. It was unfortunate for Canada that in the past a very considerable number of people had been allowed to come in who were not well qualified to be suitable residents of Canada. Many of them are opposed to assuming the duties of citizenship, notwithstanding that they are glad to avail themselves of all the privileges that the laws of the country afford them. At the outbreak of the war this particular condition of things was accentuated. A great number of those from south eastern Europe who had settled in the western parts of Canada, Donkboons and Galicians, refused to enter the army. Conscientious grounds was the reason, ostensibly at least, and for many other reasons these people are undesirable. They do not adapt themselves to Canadian customs or conditions under which they find themselves surrounded in this country. A great many of these people are undesirable. They do not adapt themselves to Canadian customs or conditions under which they find themselves surrounded in this country. A great many of these people have given the authorities a good deal of trouble, and it is thought best at this stage that no more of these shall be admitted, and many of those who have proved themselves enemies to our laws should be deported. These features in the immigration bill were those that evoked discussion.

It may be said that the discussion was almost entirely in relation to the western provinces. Not many of these people, if any, had come into the eastern sections of Canada. It was pointed out by some of the western members that just recently a number of very undesirable people, somewhat of the character of those already described, had come in to Western Canada from the United States, from which country they had been deported. It was shown that it was very unfair and very unjust if people who were unfit for citizenship in the United States could find a refuge just across the line, and make of Canada, as it were, a dumping ground. In consequence of this there was a strong demand that no more of them be allowed to come in, and that those already in be deported. The minister pointed out that

under the existing law, it was somewhat difficult to carry out this, but that a certain section of the bill under consideration provided for all such contingencies. Once this section as agreed to, the government would pass an order in council meeting the cases referred to. This has always been done. It may be said that on the whole the bill was most acceptable and met with scarcely any adverse criticism from either side of the House. The bill which was quite long was almost entirely completed in-so-far as the committee stage is concerned by Thursday evening. Some slight amendments to be introduced by the minister remain; as a consequence, progress was reported. Whenever the bill comes before the House again, it will only take a very short while to completely dispose of it. This is a very important matter of legislation, and it is very satisfactory that it has got through with such expedition.

The next long bill to engage the attention of the house was a Bankruptcy Bill, promoted by Hon. Mr. Guthrie, Solicitor General. It appears that Canada has not had a bankruptcy bill, properly so-called, since Confederation. Different provinces have had bills of one kind or another, and there has been what is known as the winding-up Act, which has to some extent taken the place of a proper Dominion-wide bankruptcy Act. The bill now up for consideration has received a great amount of care and study. It was first proposed last session, and held over for further consideration. It has been in charge of a special committee of the best minds of parliament for the purpose of endeavoring to bring it to as great a degree of perfection as possible. It is thought by the time this is placed on the statute book that it will be as near perfection as any law of this nature, and there we will expect it to reach. The bill is quite long, but a very great amount of progress was made in its consideration up to Friday at 6 o'clock.

At the evening sitting on Friday the House was moved into committee of supply. The Hon. Mr. Rowell, acting for the Postmaster General, took up some estimates of supply for the Post Office Department. The motion of the honorable member was taken advantage of by Mr. Lemieux, who seldom loses an opportunity of having himself embalm in Hansard to renew the discussion that he had initiated just before the Easter holidays. It referred to newspapers. He was desirous that more specific announcements of the personnel of ownership of newspapers should be published, than is sometimes the case. His grievance was that shortly previous to the last Dominion election a number of Liberal newspapers had been purchased by Conservatives, and that for a time, while apparently owned by members of the opposition party, they kept up the appearance of advocating the Liberal side of the election campaign. Finally, at a crucial stage the lines were drawn, and it was found that their teeth had been pulled. Mr. Lemieux waxed wroth regarding this conduct, but it soon dawned upon the House, upon his own side as well as on the government side, that he was pronouncing the worst kind of indictment against those of his friends in charge of those Liberal papers; who seemed to have had no principle at stake, and were only lying waiting for someone to buy them up. This phase of the question was clearly discussed by Hon. Mr. Rowell, and the tables so completely turned against Mr. Lemieux that members on his own side were completely dumfounded. Alto

gether some other members had briefly discussed this exposure of Liberal instability and perfidy, the matter dropped, and the discussion of Mr. Rowell's estimates was taken up. Progress was reported well on towards midnight, and the House adjourned till Monday May 5th.

The Legislature
 Thursday May 8.
 House met at 12.
 Appropriation Bill read a first time.
 Bill respecting Grand Jurors read a third time.
 Act incorporating Rose Valley Presbyterian Church read a third time.
 Act incorporating Hillside Lodge read a third time.
 Act respecting Births, Marriages and Deaths read a third time.
 House went into committee on Georgetown Fish Co. Ltd.
 House took recess at 1 o'clock.
 Afternoon Session.
 House met at 3.50; went into committee on Housing Bill.
 Hon. H. D. McEwan suggested that fishermen be given some privileges as farmers under the bill. Sir Charles Dalton, Mr. A. C. Saunders, Mr. J. H. Bell, Mr. J. D. Stewart concurred in the suggestion.
 A clause was added providing that a fisherman desiring to erect a dwelling on his own land can secure a loan to the amount of 75 per cent of the value of his property.
 The House then adjourned till 10 a. m. on Friday.

**German Government
 Rejects Peace Terms**
 Berlin, May 14.—Declaration by Chancellor Scheldman in assembly that the peace terms were unacceptable, brought members of assembly, the spectators and those in the press gallery to their feet in a hurricane of cheers and applause. The chancellor quickly reached the climax of his statements on the peace terms. Ten minutes after he began the chancellor paused in his address, and then thundered out the word which announced the German government's rejection of the Versailles conditions.

**German Ships
 In Britain's Hands**
 London, May 13.—In the House of Commons, at question time, yesterday, Leslie Watson stated that twenty-two German passenger ships of 168,889 tons, and 89 cargo ships, of 663,210 tons, had been handed over to Great Britain.
 Hon. Mr. MacNamara stated that, at the time of the armistice, 15 German liners of 240,754 tons and 649 cargo ships of 2,261,430 tons, were interned abroad.
 Besides these, 299 German vessels of a given tonnage of 91,231 tons had been captured by the Allies.
 These figures included the ships operated by the Allies.

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M. McManus	New Haven	Shorthorn Bull	(5 years)
W. F. Weeks	Fredericton	" "	(2 years)
David Reid	Victoria Cross	" "	(2 years)
Ramsay Auld	West Covehead	" " calf	" "
Frank Halliday	Eldon	Yorkshire Pigs	(5 weeks)
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		" " Sows	(4 weeks)

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 at 2 a.m. Sunday, March 30, 1919

All clocks and watches used in operation of Canadian National Railway will at 2 a.m. Sunday, March 30th, be advanced one hour. To prevent serious confusion and inconvenience to the public the attention of all concerned is directed to the following conditions resulting from the important change of time:
 If cities, towns, villages and other municipal bodies do not change their local time to correspond with the new Railway time, all concerned should keep in mind that while trains continue to leave Railway Stations on present schedule, such schedule will be operated one hour ahead of present local time. Therefore any municipality where local time is not changed to correspond with the new Railway time, passengers must reach Railway Station ONE HOUR EARLIER than shown in current folders and public time posters.
 Where municipal time is changed to correspond with the new Railway time, passengers will not experience difficulty growing out of the change.
 April 2, 1919

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St. Louis Fur Exchange
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 March 12, 1919—31

.. Announcement ..
 For the information of our many patrons, in both town and country, we deem it necessary to announce that the Coal Business, successfully carried on in the past by the late Mr. Charles Lyons, will be continued by the Estate, under the old firm name of C. Lyons & Co.
 By maintaining a high standard of service and by courteous and honest treatment of the public, this firm has, for a period of more than a quarter of a century, enjoyed a large and ever-increasing patronage; and in announcing our intention of "carrying on," we desire, most earnestly, to give expression to our appreciation thereof. We are deeply grateful to the firm's many patrons for their constant manifestation of confidence in it in the past, and we assure them that if they favor us with a similar evidence of their good-will in future there shall be no economy of effort on our part to make our intercourse both pleasant and profitable to them.
 As we possess almost unlimited facilities for supplying the coal trade, and as we are desirous of extending our already large business, we respectfully invite the patronage of new customers; and if we succeed in thus increasing our present connection, we guarantee that we shall be indefatigable in our endeavor to justify the confidence of our new friends.
 We again thank our patrons for their past generous patronage, and respectfully solicit a renewal of their esteemed custom.

C. LYONS & CO
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 March 10, 1919