POOR DOCUMENT

MC 2033

..R THE PROVINCES.

SUMMARY OF EVENTS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

What is going on Among Ourselves—The Daily Doings of Our Neighors Talked About—People you know or of Whom have heard.

London, March 20—It has been decided that the national memorial to Queen Victoria shall be erected in front of Buckingham Palace.

Quebec, March 19—(Special)—A new company, to be called the La Compagnie de Pulpe Ouiatchouan, is being organized to manufacture and sell pulp and paper, with a capital stock of $150,000, and head office in this city.

Ottawa, March 19.—(Special)—A story is current here tonight that the Rothschilds have taken hold of the Georgian Bay canal. They were at the back of the Manchester ship-canal.

Montreal, March 19.—(Special)—Governor General and Lady Minto attended the opening of the McDonald Technical School in connection with McGill normal school and the new technical school at Westmount this afternoon. They returned to Ottawa tonight.

Kingston, Ont., March 19.—(Special)—Prof. T. R. Glover, M. A., of Queens University, has resigned his position, having been appointed to the professorship of Latin at St. John's College, Cambridge, England. He came to Queens from England about four years ago.

Ottawa, March 19.—(Special)—In the house of commons today E. F. Clarke, of Toronto, presented a petition from the city of Toronto asking for legislation to prohibit the Bell Telephone Co. from increasing its rates, and compelling them to place poles where requested for the

Quebec, March 19—(Special)—A bill to incorporate a company to build a railway from Roberval, Lake St. John, to James' Bay, passed without opposition in the railway committee of the provincial legislature today. The preamble of the bill to incorporate the Canada Atlantic and Occidental Railway of Gaspe, was adopted after very warm discussion.

Toronto, March 19—(Special)—General Manager Nichols, of the Canadian General Electric Light Company, announced tonight that his company had bought 30 acres of land in the city and would at once erect the largest foundry in Canada. The new factory will be devoted exclusively to the manufacture of castings, engineering and electric cranes, of 50 tons lifting power. The works will employ about 1,000 men.

Montreal, March 19.—The number of subscriptions received by the Dominion Iron & Steel Co. for its issue of 30,000 shares of preferred seven per cent. cumulative stock was 88,000.

Owing to the issue having been nearly three times subscribed, the directors who met here today had considerable trouble in alloting a proportion of the shares to applicants. The majority of the applicants received 25 shares and the stock was thus distributed amongst a large number of small holders.

Yarmouth, N. S., March 19—(Special)—The adjourned meeting of the Yarmouth Steamship Company is to be held Thursday next. Business of considerable importance to the shareholders is to be transacted.

Active measures have been taken to prevent the spreading of smallpox in this vicinity. Both town and municipal councils have recommended general vaccination, and a hospital is being prepared on the outskirts of the town in case any cases break out.

The matter has been reported to the American government and passengers travelling on the Boston boats will, in all probability, have to undergo strict quarantine.

Digby, March 19 — (Special) — Schooner Mercedese, Capt. Herbert Saunders, arrived at Belleveau's Cove Saturday, after a passage of 18 days from Barbados. Capt. Saunders reports speaking, on March 10th, in latitude 38 N, longitude 70.30 W, the barque Silver Sea, of St. John's, Nfld., Captain Snow, from Rio Grande de Sol with sugar, bound for New York. The Silver Sea was out of provisions. Capt. Saunders supplied them with one barrel of flour and other necessaries of life. Capt. Snow reported being out 60 days and out of that time had been 38 days to the north of Bermuda, and only 300 miles north when spoken. He reported that he had been driven back six times with continued gales of wind from the west-northwest. Captain Saunders also reports bad weather.

Ottawa, March 19.—(Special)—The special committee of the senate appointed to investigate the charges made against the government by H. H. Cook, ex-M. P., met this morning for organization.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell was elected chairman. Mr. C. H. Ritchie, K. C., was appointed counsel for the committee and the chairman will arrange as to the fees. It was thought that in view of the fact that the investigation is likely to extend several days $50 a day should be sufficient. The committee will meet again next Tuesday, when Mr. Cook is expected to be present, and the taking of evidence will be commenced. The secretary was instructed to send a copy of today's proceedings to the prime minister so that he could be informed of the actions of the committee and take steps to look after the interest of the government when the investigation commences.

Toronto, March 19—(Special)—Rev. Dr. Robertson, who has been in Europe seeking assistance, both financial and spiritual, to minister to the Slavonic and German settlers in the Canadian northwest, made his report today to the home mission board of the Presbyterian church, now in session here.

He secured a number of missionaries in Scotland, but reports scarcity of divinity students there as well as in Canada, and this interferes with the supply desired.

One of the two Protestant Hungarian missionaries will probably come to Canada in the spring. Dr. Robertson failed to arouse much interest in the Austrian centres over the spiritual condition of the Galicians and Magyars now coming to Canada. Religious devotion, he says, is at a very low ebb in the Austro-Hungarian empire.

Fredericton, March 20 — (Special) — Messrs. D. W. Hoegg & Co. have leased the Maritime Pure Food Company's premises and will commence business April 1.

Yarmouth, March 21.—(Special).—A meeting of the stockholders of the Yarmouth S. S. Company was held this afternoon. No business of importance was transacted, the meeting being postponed awaiting decision relative to the Yarmouth S. S. Company versus D. A. R.

Ottawa, March 20.—(Special)—St. John delegation had to postpone their interview with the government until tomorrow.

Montreal, March 20—(Special)—W. S. Goodhue & Co., commission merchants, have assigned with liabilities placed at $50,000. They were large dealers in tea.

Halifax, March 19—(Special)—On arrival of the steamer Corinthian, from Liverpool, this afternoon, Detective Power, on a cable request from the under secretary of the home office, arrested Walter Pope, alias John Roberts, on charge of embezzlement.

Quebec, March 20—(Special)—The railway committee of the legislative assembly has passed the Gaspe short line bill granting a charter on condition that the company build five miles of road within two years.

Montreal, March 20.—(Special)—The Star's special cable from London says: "Major Dent, who has been appointed imperial remount officer in Canada, with rank of lieutenant colonel, sailed today on the Teutonic to purchase more remounts for the army. Major Ormsby Gore, Eleventh Hussars, accompanies him as assistant officer."

Halifax, March 21.—(Special)—Mrs. Davis Edwards, last night, received a telegram from Boston notifying her that her son, James Tierney, had been killed there yesterday. No particulars were given. Mrs. Edwards telegraphed this morning to have the remains forwarded to Halifax. Deceased was 31 years of age and was a painter by trade.

Ottawa, March 20.—(Special)—The railway committee today passed Archie Campbell's bill to incorporate the Canada National Railway and Transport Company to conduct an air line from Collingwood to Toronto. An amendment on the lines of Mr. Blair's proposition of yesterday authorizing the government to take over the line at any time deducting the amount of the dominion subsidies was defeated by 33 to 55.

Fredericton, March 20.—(Special)—Chief Census Commissioner Haddow met the city and county commissioner for New Brunswick at the Queen hotel this evening and gave them further instructions. The commissioners will leave for their districts tomorrow and will notify the enumerators as to their duties.

Probabilities are that the prorogation of the legislature will be at the last of next week.

Wiarton, Ont., March 20.—(Special)—The dominion by-election in North Bruce today was a very close contest and the result is in doubt. Returns received up to midnight give Halliday, Conservative, one majority with three places to hear from. These went Conservative at the last election. The country roads are blocked with snow and the final returns not obtainable tonight.

Montreal, March 20.—(Special)—The report that J. J. Hill and other American railway magnates are buying up Canadian Pacific stock with a view to getting its control, is regarded here as far wide of the mark. The street takes the view that the price movement is purely a speculative one. Berlin, which trades largely in Pacific, has been short for some time and the present rise is said to have been worked to squeeze the German shorts.

Sydney, C. B., March 21.—(Special)—Duncan R. Cummings was arrested this afternoon. The charge against him is "that he did on or about March 12th inst., at Sydney, unlawfully and corruptly attempt to obtain for himself from Benjamin S. Atkinson, J. W. Woodworth, S. E. McManus & Co., William Blair, and others, all of Sydney, the sum of $3,000 in cash for the purpose of unlawfully and corruptly interfering with, stifling and preventing the prosecution, detection and punishment of the above named parties for violation of the second part of Canada Temperance Act.

Montreal, March 20.—(Special)—It is reported here that an agreement has been arrived at between the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company by which, in return for important mineral concessions, the C. P. R. will withdraw all opposition to the new charter which parliament is asked to sanction from Fernie to the United States border. No official statement has been made although Senator Cox, one of the directors of the Crow's Nest Company, has intimated that the report is correct.

Montreal, March 19.—(Special)—The Star's special cable from London says: "Hon. Mr. Mulock, post master general of Canada, has been confined with the colonial office and other departments. He leaves London Thursday and expects to pay two or three visits on the continent on his way to Marseilles where he will embark on the Himalya for Australia. Especial interest attaches to Mr. Mulock's visit by reason of the expectation in certain quarters that the chancellor of the exchequer may restore Sir Robert Peel's resignation charges of a shilling per quarter on wheat and by the exemption of Canadian and other colonists wheat, and make some imperial recognition of Canada's preferential tariff.

"A British minister of the crown, when asked whether the chancellor was likely to take this step, replied, 'every British minister has a superstitious dread of raising revenue in any shape on wheat.'

"Sir Charles Tupper, who naturally watches this question with keenest interest, returned to London Saturday after a visit to Germany."

LOCAL LEGISLATURE.

Mr. Tweedie Concludes Budget Speech.

Fredericton, March 19—In the house this afternoon, Hon. Mr. Tweedie resumed his budget speech. He said: When I concluded last evening I had gone over the items of expenditure for the year and I hope that I have succeeded in showing that this expenditure was a fair one and would have been within the estimate but for the extraordinary expenditure incurred by the smallpox epidemic and other causes. I now take up estimated receipts of 1901 and I think they will show that there is a brighter side to the picture. We calculated upon a revenue of $1,030,000 and an estimated expenditure of $808,000, leaving a balance in favor of the province of $150,000.

Receipts in Detail.

Taking up the estimates of receipts we have the same sum for dominion subsidies as last year, $483,491. I have not estimated any increase on account of the census, although no doubt the census, if carefully taken, will show that our population has largely increased. The Eastern Extension claim is put down at $270,000 and as it is for interest which accrued from year to year, I think it is properly put into current account. The leader of the opposition last year referred to this item as one that had done good service in the past and might do good service for many years to come. I think that this is nearly the last time we will hear of it. While some members of the opposition may regret that we have succeeded in obtaining this claim, the people of the province as a whole will feel gratified. The sum named in the estimates may be greater or less than what we have put it down. We discovered an error in the calculations of the arbitrators which would have increased their award by about $7,000, and this fact has been brought to the notice of the dominion government.

Territorial Revenue.

We have calculated the territorial revenue at $185,000. As far as could be learned the lumber cut this year will be about the same as last year. The receipts from land sales have been good. A few days ago upwards of $12,000 was realized from 137 miles. Some of the opposition papers have referred to land held in Restigouche by the Muskoka Land Company, represented by A. H. Campbell & Co. It has been said that they have sold their licenses for $150,000 for which they paid only $3,000, and that they have been holding this land for speculative purposes. These parties own 450 square miles of land, but he believed that no such sale had taken place. Instead of having paid only $3,000 they had paid about $28,060, including interest.

"Some people say," he continued, "that we should insist on the company cutting over this land every year. There might be some ground for this contention if land was scarce, but that is not the case. Every year this land is left alone it is becoming more valuable. The surveyor general has the power to compel lessees of land to operate on it if he sees fit, or to pay $10 a square mile."

Fishery Leases.

The sum of $8,000 placed in the estimates for a refund from the dominion government on fishery leases arose in this way: The government sold salmon fishing privileges in Restigouche and the dominion government afterwards appropriated these waters for breeding purposes, and destroyed the fisheries of the lessees, who refused to pay their rental. This has been charged against the dominion government. The matter is now being pressed.

Expenditures.

There are some changes in the agricultural department. The grant to the farmers' annual meeting will cease and the money will be applied to the holding of county farmers' institutes.

Last year the government was approached by representatives of the Natural History Society of St. John and asked to establish a forest preserve and provincial park on the Tobique, around Nictau Lake. The arguments presented impressed the government and they are seriously considering the matter. They could not afford to spend much money on this, but could make a beginning.

Various Grants.

The sum of $200 is put down for the fish fair at Campobello. This bears the same relation to that place as a grant to an agricultural society to other portions of the province. The grant to immigration will be fully explained by the surveyor general in committee.

The Asylum.

The grant to the lunatic asylum has been largely increased. The usual grant of $36,000 has been insufficient and the institution has been going in debt. The over-expenditure, accumulation of the number of years now amounts to $21,000, and this will be paid off. Hereafter the regular grant will be $40,000. The institution has been well managed and run more cheaply than those of a similar kind in the United States or other parts of Canada. The cost for each patient is only $105, while in other asylums the annual cost ranges from $139 to $160 per head.

Historical Society.

The grant to the New Brunswick Historical Society has been increased to $500, to assist in the publication of documents in regard to the claim of the Loyalists. This society has done much good work and published many valuable papers.

Smallpox.

In the estimates have been placed $9,000 for claims on account of the smallpox, and to assist the municipalities. As the municipality of Westmorland declined to deal with the bills presented on account of the smallpox epidemic I only know of them incidentally. I am informed that for the county of Westmorland the amount of $12,000, and for Gloucester $5,000.

Mr. Hazen—How do you expect to pay all these claims with $9,000?

Hon. M. Tweedie—We do not propose to pay the whole amount, but only a portion of it. The municipalities will be required to contribute.

Tourist Associations.

We have increased the grant to the Tourist Associations. I hope to see the day when tourist travel to this province will be largely increased, and when tourists from the United States will make a round trip from St. John, through Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, coming over the Canada Eastern to Fredericton and going down the river to St. John. When the Canada Eastern becomes a part of the Intercolonial system, as is likely to be the case at an early day, tourist travel will be greatly stimulated. This legislature has placed itself on record in favor of this scheme and we shall be all glad to see it carried out.

Outlook Hopeful.

"Mr. Speaker, in presenting this financial statement I have endeavored to make it as plain and explicit as it is possible to do in a short time and without wearying the house. I am fully aware that my honorable friends opposite will criticise the statement freely and in doing so, all I would request of them is that their criticism should be fair and justified by the facts. No careful business man going over the statement that I have made, and taking the auditor general's report of the business for the current year, but must arrive at the conclusion that the province is in good financial condition.

"It is to the business men of the country that I appeal, and it is by their opinion that I would be judged. The opponents of the government in their desire to bring discredit upon the government, very often work an injury to their own province. In endeavoring to belittle the financial standing of the province by showing that its bonds today will not bring as much as they did a few years ago, to claim that the government of the country is extravagant and that we are on the eve of direct taxation, has always seemed to me to be unwise and unpatriotic on the part of the opposition. However we may differ upon the administration of affairs of this province, the fact stands prominently forward today that there is a feeling of self-reliance, of faith in the province and it is evidenced in every branch of industry. The agriculturist of today is a different man from the agriculturist of 20 years ago. His son is a different man. They have faith in the country and they are bending their energies now to develop the agricultural resources of the province in a very large degree; and, with the further assistance of cold storage and the establishment of an agricultural school, greater results will follow, and with the development of our coal areas and other resources, I think that we need not be in doubt about the future of our province. We are giving to every child an education; they are being trained in loyalty to our British institutions, and with the spirit of pride in our land and devotion to its interests which is abroad today, we can confidently be assured that the enterprise, thrift and the intelligence of its people will keep it abreast of the times, and in the fore-front with the other portions of this dominion."

Mr. Flemming in Reply.

Mr. Flemming followed. He said that while it is an easy matter to find fault it is not a pleasant task. He could not congratulate the government upon the financial statement, nor could he congratulate the country upon the financial position in which it is found today.

The provincial secretary said that it was unpatriotic on the part of the opposition to point out to the world the very unsatisfactory financial condition of the province. He would say that the premier and those associated with him do not embody all the patriotism. If the members and the newspapers opposed to the government feel that they should point out these disagreeable matters he claimed that they are just as truly patriotic as those who sit idle and do not raise their voices in protest, nor exert their influence to right the wrong in our management.

The provincial secretary has always tried by manipulation of figures to make it appear that there was a surplus to the credit of the province, but this year it is otherwise. The provincial secretary admits a deficit of some $42,000. He attributes this to various causes. One was that the great freshet last fall which did much damage to our roads and bridges made necessary large expenditures of money in repairs and was partially responsible for the deficit, and the government went so far as to put a statement to this effect in the mouth of his honor in delivering the speech from the throne. He submitted that it was not right to put a statement like that in the mouth of his honor and it is not honest nor the truth to make the statement that the freshet of last fall is in any way responsible for the deficit of last year. The provincial secretary knows, the government knows that not a single dollar was spent in the fiscal year ended October 31st, 1900, on account of the damage done by the freshet last fall.

The provincial secretary, last evening, in connection with that same expenditure, said that he did not propose to take it out of the ordinary grants to roads and bridges, but to change it to capital account and issue bonds. In this he practically admits that so unsatisfactory is the financial condition that the moment any unforseen expenditure is necessary the province has to rush deeper into debt and add to its interest charges.

Another statement in the budget speech was that the interest on the permanent bridge account must be paid out of the grant to roads and bridges. Consequently as the expenditure upon permanent bridges grows from year to year and the interest charge multiplies so will the annual grant to roads and bridges grow less.

Mr. Flemming took up the question of the revenue and claimed that the expenditure was increasing more rapidly than the revenues. He asked the provincial secretary where he proposed to get increased revenue. He did not think that the census would show any material increase in population so as to get larger subsidy from the dominion. For the revenues from stumpage, he did not think so great a sum would be received the present year, as less lumber was being cut. It seemed to him that the utmost limit of taxation upon banks, insurance companies, telegraph and express companies, had been reached. He claimed that this was simply a form of direct taxation, as the banks, street railways, and insurance companies made people pay the tax. He laid down the proposition as unanswerable, that the provincial income must be increased to meet the expenditure, the expenditure reduced to meet the revenue or financial ruin cannot long be averted.

Mr. Flemming then took up the expenditure and said the increase of 1900 over 1899 was $44,832, and over 1898 was $67,427. He next took up the branches of the public service responsible for this increase. Education, one of the largest and most important services received in 1900, $4,044 less than it did four years ago; $197,800 was expended on public works last year, an increase of only $2,000 in four years. The amount for agriculture was only $4,864 more in 1900 than it was in 1898. These three great branches of the public service are therefore responsible for but a very small part of the $67,427 increase of the past two years.

The speaker then entered into a consideration of the debt. He contended that if the present rate of increase was maintained for the next four years that the interest charge in that time will increase by $16,605. He also noted the fact that there are large overdrafts at the bank on lunatic asylum account, and the bank charges the province interest on that overdraft, and it is being paid, although it does not show in the auditor general's report. Taking up the increased expenditure Mr. Flemming stated that the increase last year was only $1,200. He also showed that the salaries and travelling expenses of this department are taken from the grant to agriculture when they should be charged to executive government. Salaries, travelling expenses and contingencies of the agricultural department the last two years amounted to nearly $2,000 more than was given to butter and cheese factories and skimming stations.

Contingencies is controlable, but instead of keeping down the expense under this head the government increased it last year by nearly $3,000.

It being 6 o'clock the house took recess.

Evening Session.

The house resumed at 8 o'clock. Mr. Flemming continuing, first referred to the very large sums received by some members of the executive. Hon. Mr. Pugsley, he said, received last year $3,500, although he was attorney general for only one month of the fiscal year, and he may have received, as well a portion of the $619 paid out for settling succession duties. Hon. Mr. McKeown, generally supposed to receive no salary, got no less than $1,214.30.

Public printing, Mr. Flemming said, cost the province last year, $12,978.12, nearly $1,000 more than in 1899. A few years ago a member looked carefully into this matter and stated that by a system of tender and competition the public printing could be done for about one-half of what it now cost. He next referred to the expenditure on steel bridges. He said that steel bridges are now being built under tender at 4.97 cents per pound, whereas under the previous policy they cost 7.98 cents. Had the bridges been so built in 1897, 1898, 1899 and 1900, $35,000 would have been saved. He thought that the bridge investigation had been a good thing.

Messrs. Appleby, Porter, Osman and Copp next spoke.

Mr. Hazen.

Mr. Hazen was the next speaker. He thought the budget speech was a dismal dirge and delivered with great solemnity. The house was led to believe by the provincial secretary that extraordinary expense was entailed by the freshets last fall. They put that statement in the mouth of the lieutenant governor, and it was absolutely false. No more disgraceful thing had ever been done in any legislature in this dominion than this of the present administration in putting a statement which they knew to be false in the mouth of the lieutenant governor and for the purpose of misleading the people of the province.

Referring to the expenses of the bridge investigation he said that the only items authorized by the committee, as reported to the house last session, were only $2,088.97, in addition to which the committee subsequently allowed $300 for copies of the evidence. When the provincial secretary asked to have the sum of $6,000 voted to pay the costs of the bridge investigation, he (Hazen) pointed out that the sum was too large by one half. The government paid Hon. William Pugsley $1,549 for attending on the committee at 15 sittings, and yet that gentleman had the audacity to come into the house and vote to whitewash the government and his client, Mr. Emmerson. Then the government paid the St. John Telegraph $250 for printing and circulating the speeches made by the government supporters in the house, a payment entirely without justification. They paid Mr. Winslow, an official in the public works department, $100 for appearing before the committee to give evidence. Then they paid $900 to Dr. Stockton as his (Hazen's) counsel. He would tell the house that he (Hazen) had never asked the government to pay that sum and he was prepared to pay his own counsel.

Mr. Hazen then took up the question of public debt, and said that during the past four years the public debt had increased nearly half a million dollars, and thought that it evidenced rash and reckless management of the affairs of the province. The province is going behind every year despite the fact that the province is getting $90,000 in taxes, which the provincial secretary a few years ago did not have. A large share of this extra taxation comes out of the city of St. John. The honorable provincial secretary makes the explanation that because of the loans for permanent bridges the grants to the roads and bridges are reduced to provide interest and sinking fund. Every member of the house knows that all the money borrowed for this purpose has not been expended on permanent steel structures, but a large share of it has been put in temporary works and wooden bridges, thus we are burning the candle at both ends.

Mr. Hazen then took up the question of travelling expenses and said that these expenses average $648.80 for each member of the executive. He thought that it would be wiser to increase the stated salaries of the members of the government and stipulate that the members shall reside at Fredericton, and do away with uncertain travelling expenses. Mr. Hazen said that the province had paid last year $7,307.94 for legal expenses outside of the salary and travelling expenses of the attorney general and the sums paid for prosecutions in circuit courts. In addition to the travelling expenses of the members last year we have the sum of $540 paid for cab hire to J. A. Edwards in Fredericton.

Upon the item of immigration Mr. Hazen said that the policy adopted by the government had not justified the money spent. We have the statement of the surveyor general that last year 50 people, including children, came to this province at an average cost of $167.40 each. This was a pretty large sum to pay for a few immigrants. The most of the money spent on immigration, nearly $8,000 last year, goes to Mr. Hickman for delivering a lecture now and then in England. He thought that the better policy to pursue would be to employ some good man who had come out from the old country to return there and move around among desirable immigrants.

Taking up the report of public works he said that it was a most inadequate report. He suggested that the chief commissioner in future publish a report similar to that of Nova Scotia.

Hon. Mr. Labillois said that a sheet giving detailed expenditure upon each bridge had been sent to the printer of the public works report, but had been omitted by the printer.

Mr. Hazen said that in that case the chief commissioner should have thrown the report back upon the hands of the printer.

Mr. Hazen then reviewed briefly the history of the bridge investigation, and said that the government had now adopted the course with respect to bridge building which he had advocated last year.

The friends of the government say that we have made no charges against them although we have shown how they threw away the public money. The four bridges which will be built this year will cost on an average 4¾ cents per pound, which is just half the price paid for the ten bridges that were investigated last year. The Kingston and Marysville bridges that were not completed and not investigated last year have since been finished. The two bridges cost $21,153 more than they would cost under the new arrangements. He had no hesitation in saying that out of the $570,000 paid for bridges at least $100,000 had been thrown away.

With regard to the Eastern Extension claim this money had been placed in the estimates as current receipts. It had been expected that it would be used to create a fund of some kind, but now it will be all dissipated in a few years.

Leaving out this sum of $270,000, and also the amount of overdrafts which had been placed in the estimates the government only were able to show a surplus of about $4,000, and as $8,000 of their receipts consisted of a fishery claim which was not likely to be paid, they had practically no surplus at all, but a deficit. In concluding he said he would yield to no man in his faith of New Brunswick and he believed that in its farming lands, its fisheries and its forests we possessed a great natural heritage of incalculable value. He had faith also in its people and no province produced better men or women. As long as we produce such men and women we need never despair of the future of New Brunswick.

Messrs. Burchill, Hill and Burns spoke and Hon. Mr. Tweedie closed the debate. The motion that the speaker leave the chair was carried, after which the house went into committee of supply and passed the paragraph of the speech from the throne referring to the granting of supplies to his majesty, after which the committee reported progress. Supply was made the order of the day for Wednesday.

Adjourned at 12.50 a. m.

Fredericton, March 19.—The house met at 3 o'clock. In reply to Mr. Glazier, Hon. Mr. Labillois stated that the contract for rebuilding the Abner Smith bridge in the parish of Lincoln for which tenders were asked in December 21st last, was awarded to Jos. A. Noble. The tenders were James E. Simmons, $1,100; R. A. & G. A. Anderson, $1,200; Jos. A. Noble, $739; D. E. Smith, $957; McKenzie & Simpson, $840. The work is to be completed April 1st.

In reply to Mr. Osman, Hon. Mr. Labillois said that the department of public works had received a report regarding the preliminary survey for a bridge across the Petitcodiac river between Salisbury and Moncton and found that the site presented serious difficulties, that the bridge would cost a very large amount, and therefore the government has not yet decided whether the structure will be undertaken as a provincial work.

For French School Inspection.

Mr. Johnston gave notice of an enquiry as to whether the government intended to appoint a French speaking inspector in the French speaking school districts. Mr. Johnston said he thought the time had now come when a decided answer should be given. He referred to the patriotic attitude of the French of Kent and Gloucester during the war of 1812, and expressed the opinion that their loyal conduct on all occasions entitled them to fair treatment.

Mr. Joseph Porier said he was pleased to be able to join in urging upon the government the necessity of having in French rural districts particularly, an inspector of schools having full command of both languages. Representing as he did a county of a mixed population in many districts of which from the very necessity of the case the French language only was spoken he would be remiss in his duty if he did not co-operate in this. Needless to say our children of French extraction desire to learn the English language, but to his mind the only proper channel through which they could become masters of both languages was through their mother tongue. He believed that the government would do justice in this matter and he would ask them also to give their children a series of French school books on the same footing as the English.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie said they had decided to make the appointment asked for. It would be made in a few weeks.

Bye-road Money.

Mr. Johnston gave notice of a resolution that a committee consisting of one member from each county be appointed to divide the bye-road money according to the length of the roads and the population of the counties.

Petitions and Inquiries.

Mr. Joseph Porier gave notice of enquiry in regard to a bridge over the Caraquet river.

Mr. Shaw presented the petition of the city of St. John in favor of the passage of a bill for a plebiscite in regard to granting money for an exhibition.

Mr. Osman presented the petition of J. P. Carter and others in favor of the bill to incorporate the Riverside Cemetery Company.

Mr. Appleby presented the petition of the Carleton municipality in favor of a bill authorizing them to issue $10,000 debentures.

Mr. Osman introduced a bill to amend the act incorporating the Hillsboro Branch Railway Company.

Mr. Scovil presented a petition in favor of the bill incorporating the New Brunswick Central Coal, Iron & Railway Company.

Mr. Fish introduced a bill to authorize the school trustees at Newcastle to issue debentures.

Hon. Mr. Hill presented the petition of J.J.Tucker, H.F.Puddington and M. B. Edwards in favor of the bill incorporating the Southern Railway Company.

Mr. Lawson introduced a bill to authorize the municipality of Victoria to issue debentures.

Mr. Lawson presented the petition of Wm. Currie and others in favor of the bill to incorporate the Andover Presbyterian Rural Cemetery Company.

Leave of absence was granted to Messrs. Allen and Todd.

Hon. Mr. Dunn laid on the table of the house the crown lands' report.

Mr. Lawson presented the petition of G. H. Sadler and others in favor of the bill incorporating the village of Perth Centre for fire and water purposes.

On motion of Mr. Shaw the 79th rule was suspended to admit of the introduction of the St. John exhibition plebscite bill.

On motion of Mr. Burchill the 79th rule was suspended to introduce the bill changing the date of the Northumberland municipal election.

Hon. Mr. Labillois' motion for a committee on the claim of Mrs. Amelia Morton was carried and Messrs. Thompson, Burchill, Humphrey, Lawson and Allen were appointed such committee.

Hon. Mr. Burchill introduced a bill to change the date of the municipal election in Northumberland.

Notices of enquiry were given by Mr. Hazen in regard to a number of bridges in Queens and Sunbury counties.

Mr. Glazier gave notices of enquiry in regard to a bridge in the parish of Lincoln.

Fredericton, March 20.—The house met at 3 o'clock. Mr. Thompson submitted the report of the special committee on the claim of Mrs. Amelia Morton asking for power to send for persons and papers and to examine witnesses. On motion of Hon. Mr. Tweedie the request was granted.

Mr. Appleby introduced a bill to authorize the Carleton municipality to issue debentures to pay off the floating debt.

Mr. Lawson introduced a bill to authorize the municipality of Victoria to issue debentures.

Mr. Shaw introduced a bill to provide for a plebiscite on the St. John exhibition this year.

On motion of Mr. Pugsley the Rothesay list bill was placed on the order of the day for third reading.

Mr. Scovil introduced a bill to incorporate the New Brunswick Central Coal & Iron Railway Company.

Mr. Lawson introduce a bill to incorporate the Andover Presbyterian Cemetery Company.

The bill incorporating the New Brunswick Southern Railway Company was introduced by Hon. Mr. Hill.

Mr. Purdy introduced a bill to change the name of Charles William Tisdale Davis.

The bill continuing the act for the registration of births, deaths and marriages and providing that the act may be repealed by proclamation was passed in committee.

Mr. Copp moved the house in committee on the Moncton hospital bill providing for the election of trustees; agreed to.

Administration of Justice.

The house went into committee of supply. On the first item of $ 1,500 for expenses and services connected with the administration of justice, Mr. Hazen said the amount was larger than required. If the attorney general attended to the criminal prosecution it ought to be reduced by $500.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley said the leader of the opposition was in error as to the practice in the past with regard to criminal business. It was quite impossible for the attorney general to attend all the circuits. Recently there were four circuits opened in one day. It is his intention to attend to the criminal business as well as possible but the attorney general had a great deal of other business to look after.

Mr. Appleby said the government should appoint a solicitor general.

Mr. Hazen said the criminal business was gradually growing less, there were only 15 indictments in 1899 and the attorney general attended only four of these prosecutions. The government paid $7,000 for legal expenses during the past year.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie said that he had

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