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moving pictures. A question was asked and answered.

Council's Amendments to Education Bill and Trawl Fishery Bill were read a second time and agreed to.

The Sawmills Amendment Act was read a second time.

THE PREMIER explained that this was to provide that no royalty should be payable on lumber saved and trees cut on private property.

A Bill to Amend the law re exportation of timber was read a second time.

HON. MIN. OF FINANCE explained that this was to extend the time for exporting pit-props to six months after the termination of the war; and to provide for fixing a minimum price below which pit-props shall not be purchased.

MR. COAKER said the three mile limit had been cut out throughout the Northern Districts.

HON. MIN. OF FINANCE said that the Imperial Government had asked that the export of pit-props be permitted; and also that Mr. Coaker himself had been shouting all last year that the Northern people would be starving if they were not allowed to cut pit-props.

MR. COAKER said he had suggested cutting in the interior, not on the coast.

The House divided, and the second reading of the Bill was carried.

THE PREMIER moved second reading of the Prohibition Bill, putting into force the result of the election held last November. The Bill was read a second time.

The House adjourned to tomorrow at 3 p. m.

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H. J. B. WOODS,
Postmaster General.

General Post Office,
St. John's, Nfld., Nov., 1915.

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SYDNEY D. BLANDFORD,
Minister of Ag. & Mines.
Dept. Agriculture & Mines,
Sept. 1st, 1915.

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HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
Synopsis and Proceedings

Tuesday, April 25th, 1916.

The House met at 3 p. m., pursuant to adjournment.

Petitions were presented by Mr. Stone and Mr. Targett.

THE PREMIER gave notice of a bill to prohibit the manufacture, importation, and sale of spirituous liquors. The bill was read a first time.

MR. HALYARD moved the adjournment of the House in order to discuss certain alleged irregularities in the expenditure of public moneys at Carbonear, Victoria Village and other places in the years 1913 and 1914. He read a large quantity of evidence taken by the Auditor-General in relation to the matter, occupying about an hour.

MR. GRIMES thought the matter was a very serious one, and involved improper practices on the part of a member of the House. It ought to be looked into. He seconded the motion.

MR. CLIFT thought the matter ought to be taken up by the House in support of its own dignity.

MR. LLOYD moved that the House go into Committee in order to give the member for Carbonear an opportunity to explain the matter. The matter was then referred until later, in order to deal with the regular matters on the Order Paper.

Certain amendments made by the Council in the Education Bill, were read a first time. The Sealfishery Bill was read a third time. The House went into committee of the Whole on Ways and Means.

MR. LLOYD discussed the Budget and Revenue Bill. The matters contained in the latter this year were of but trifling importance. He said that in the year preceding last, election taxes amounting to \$380,000 had been taken off, and that after the election, about \$600,000 worth of taxes had been put on. The Government had expected to be able to reduce this latter amount; but the war and consequent dislocation of trade had prevented this, and instead of a surplus, there had been a deficit. He thought that this year the Government were justified in expecting at least to come out free of debt; but this was due to the extensive re-stocking of the local trade with goods at increased prices. He thought that the net loss to be met next year, on account of Prohibition, would be about \$115,000. The addition to the Revenues by Death Duties would be about \$100,000, and the duties on pit props, \$150,000.

The Government were counting on getting next year \$100,000 Surplus. Why had not war profits

been taxed, as in Great Britain and Canada? They should have been taxed, and the general taxation correspondingly reduced.

HON. MIN. OF FINANCE felt it was a compliment to the Government that the leader of the Opposition had no more serious criticism to offer than he had done upon their financial arrangements. At the beginning of the year, no one was in a position to predict what our position would be. So far we were going along very well, and since we could not foresee the future, we should be satisfied to work along carefully, as we were doing. We had done very well during the past year, our people had actually added a million dollars to their savings in the banks, not to mention what might be saved elsewhere, and we could not get enough tonnage to bring in the goods that had been ordered. We therefore did not to impose any extraordinary taxation.

MR. CLIFT thought it would have been more becoming for the Finance Minister to have been able to tell the country that he had been able to reduce instead of to increase public expenditure. The Finance Minister had, during his term of office, exceeded his Estimates every year. We should be saving our public moneys to meet emergencies that might arise any day.

HON. MIN. OF FINANCE said that blue ruin had been preached by the Opposition for the last eight years; ever since this Government came into power instead of ruin we had experienced prosperity.

The Committee rose until tomorrow.

Council's Amendments to Bill for protection of persons engaged in trawling were read a first time.

The House adjourned to tomorrow at 3 p. m.

Wednesday, April 26th, 1916.

The House met at 3 p. m., pursuant to adjournment.

Petitions were presented by Mr. Downey, Mr. Currie, Mr. Clift, from breweries, asking for some compensation in view of the loss of their business, owing to Prohibition; and Mr. Stone.

The House went into Committee of the Whole to consider a report of the Auditor General upon certain irregular expenditures in the District of Carbonear.

MR. GOODISON stated to the House that he had, as sworn to by him before the Auditor General, counter-anced some of these expenditures, supposing himself to be within his rights.

MR. LLOYD and MR. CLIFT held that Mr. Goodison should express regret, and that the House should no longer have confidence in him.

THE PREMIER pointed out that at most, the member had exceeded his powers with a view to affording relief to the people during hard times. Several members, including Mr. Finance, Mr. F. J. Morris, Hon. Mr. Emerson, and Mr. Higgins, pointed out that what Mr. Goodison had done was in accordance with a well recognized custom in every District for fifty years past, and was commonly done by every member of the House.

MR. COAKER said that was no excuse.

The House divided, and Mr. Lloyd's motion of censure on Mr. Goodison was lost.

THE PREMIER presented the report of the Joint Select Committee on the proposed Municipal Bill. The Premier introduced a bill for the censorship of

Thursday, April 27th, 1916.

The House met at 3 p. m., pursuant to adjournment.

Petitions were presented by Mr. Beverux (from liquor sellers asking for an extension of time for closing their business).

The House went into Committee of the Whole on Ways and Means.

MR. COAKER reviewed the Budget. He considered the expenditure of the Government on railways had seriously increased the burdens of the Colony. We were still under obligations to build railways which would cost at least two millions more than had been provided for. He considered that the Government had never done anything to advance the interests of the fishermen, to assist them in catching and selling fish or in getting prices. There were many things the Government might have done, for instance, establish night schools. It was true that one million dollars had been added to the savings of the country; but that was no credit to the Government. He referred shortly to a large variety of other matters.

HON. MIN. OF FINANCE corrected one or two mis-statements made by Mr. Coaker in reference to the public debt. He then proceeded to read a number of extracts from Mr. Coaker's paper, the "Mail and Advocate," published since the outbreak of war, attacking the Governor, Government, Premier and others, and prophesying poverty and starvation; and proceeded to show that all these prophecies had been entirely astray. In his opinion the poor response to the call for recruits in comparison with other Colonies was mainly due to the unpatriotic campaign of the "Mail and Advocate." Articles in that paper had been a disgrace to the Colony in foreign countries. He had attacked the Captains of the war ships "Cressy," "Aboukir" and (Continued on third page.)

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