

OTTAWA LETTER.

Hon. Mr. Paterson the "Big Thunder" of the House.

Government Speakers Harped on the Race Cry—How the Tariff Tinkers Put up the Price of Spool Thread Hon. Mr. Fisher Talks Too Often and Too Long.

OTTAWA, March 20.—Mr. Tarte has announced his intention of constructing an additional building for the accommodation of the members of the house of commons. Let us hope that the new structure will be placed as far as possible away from the present chamber, in the quiet recesses of its hallways, parliamentarians and others may be enabled to escape the thunder of "Billy" Paterson's voice. The term "Billy" is not used with any disrespect to the minister of customs, it is the way in which his colleagues and his supporters refer to him, as was shown in one of the letters produced in the Cook investigation. When the cabinet is mentioned it would seem that it is customary to speak of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Sir Richard Scott, and so on, and in the case of the minister of customs, "Billy" Paterson. Mr. Paterson, if he were a sensitive man, might resent this method adopted by his friends in their discussions in regard to himself, but he does not seem to be troubled by trifles, or even by serious matters, and will probably survive.

In his speech on the budget Mr. Paterson is said to have made more noise than he has on any like occasion since he has been minister of customs. Parts of his address reminded one of a railway train passing through a tunnel. It was a great and ever-increasing roar, and when he emphasized any particular part of his speech he fairly raised the roof. At one time he became pathetic, and his great sobal movements moved the chairs out of their places. If Mr. Paterson could shed tears large enough to be in keeping with his voice, he would be unquestioned. Of course there would be some danger of a flood, but some means might be taken to remedy any serious effects that might result.

It will be necessary to consider that part of the minister's speech which had reference to the increasing trade of Canada. The figures he used in that connection were made public last fall, when Mr. Paterson stumped Canada in the interests of the tariff. If the Halifax audience who listened to him on the occasion of his visit to that city, in October, had been present, they would have found that the minister of customs favored the house with almost the same address as he delivered on that occasion. Considering that he was the principal speaker on the government side, who might be expected to clear up some of the points made by the opposition, it was disappointing that he did not consent to enlighten the government as to what the government proposes to do in regard to the many important trade questions which are attracting so much attention at the present time. The prime minister's attention was called to the fact that our trade with the West Indies had fallen off, that the present was the acceptable time for making a closer connection with the Australasian colonies in matters of commerce; that there was every necessity for suggesting some means whereby our relations with Germany might be improved, and that foreign trade in general might be further developed by proper attention. This was a wide field of attack in one sense, but even this broad subject did not suggest anything to Mr. Paterson. Judging by his remarks, the government intends to pursue the same policy it has in the past, and this means that the West Indian trade of the maritime provinces will probably show another large decrease in the coming year. The excuse that the government is not aware of the imports of this trade cannot be urged, for the honorable the leader of the opposition, Mr. Monk, Mr. Bell of Pictou and other gentlemen referred to in the course of their remarks, and showed conclusively that United States manufacturers were driving Canadian competition to the wall. The United States have largely increased their exports to the British West Indies during the past four years, while Canada has shipped during 1900 one million dollars worth less goods to that market than she did in 1895.

Another point that Mr. Paterson has neglected was the demand made for the relief of the conditions existing at present in some of the manufacturing centers of Canada. Mr. Kennedy on the other side of the debate placed some startling figures before the house. He had letters from prominent woolen manufacturers which showed that hundreds of men were being discharged from the woolen mills and hundreds would be discharged during the month of April. This means that these mechanics, all skilled workmen, must look elsewhere for employment. Already over fifty-woolen workers have abandoned Hopedale, and at Alberton, Peterborough and other centers mills are being worked on half time. The wages are being reduced, and the situation is dismal. But Mr. Kennedy has no hope that it will be improved. He pointed out that the minister of finance had already been approached in the matter, but that nothing had resulted from any representations that had been made by the woolen millers. But if the woolen industry is neglected, the minister of customs is taking good care that biscuits are well looked after. Mr. Paterson is one of the largest biscuit manufacturers in Ontario, and he succeeded in raising the duty on biscuits raised from 25 to 21-1/2 per cent. Besides this protection he gets all his raw material in this country and is able to use unskilled labor to a very large extent. On the other hand the woolen and other industries are compelled to import their raw material from abroad and employ experts, and are thus placed at a disadvantage. But it would be surprising to find that

Mr. Paterson had not looked after himself and helped others, because Sir Louis Davies frankly stated that the policy of the Laurier administration was to look after its interests without any regard to the best interests of Canada.

On the question of preferential trade Mr. Paterson almost cried. It was striking to see him flinging his knuckles against the many deeks within his reach and threatening at every moment to bring down his fist on the head of the unfortunate minister in front of him. But without noise and without the pounding, there would be little in Mr. Paterson's oratory. He professed the utmost astonishment that the opposition should support a proposition which would benefit Canadian workmen to the disadvantage of the artisans of the mother country. While he is prepared to admit that Canada pays \$2,000,000 per annum for the sentiment which is covered by the preferential arrangements, he maintains that it is impossible to secure any concessions for Canadian goods in English markets. Mr. Paterson was delighted to think that the Toronto delegation which attended the trade and commerce congress in London had not been able to receive the attention it anticipated at the hands of the home government. Lord Salisbury and Mr. Chamberlain were quite willing to discuss the question with those who presented Canada's case, but they pointed out that they had an election, the war in South Africa, and the troubles in China to engage their attention. Under the circumstances they requested the Canadian delegates to allow the matter to stand over. This belittled Mr. Paterson, is the reason why the mutually in preference is not discussed. Lord Salisbury was afraid to touch it, and the minister of customs asserts that if the gentlemen from Toronto had been given any thing in that connection Lord Salisbury would have been defeated beyond a shadow of a doubt.

What childish prattle this is. Does not the minister of customs admit that the war in Africa, the Chinese war and an election are sufficient to engage the entire attention and energy of the home government? If he will just turn his attention to Canada for a moment and consider the position of his own colleagues he will find that a weak excuse must be offered for anything like the justification that Lord Salisbury and the colonial secretary used. When parliament first opened Mr. Tarte and other ministers, in replying to questions, frequently stated that certain things had not been done because the economy was not, and their hands had been tied. Now if an election can tie up the government which claims to control the winds, the rains, the sunshine, the fishes of the sea and the wealth of the mines, it surely must be admitted that two wars and an election might be expected to hamper an ordinary, every-day conservative government like that which the people of Great Britain have supported for so many years. And there does not seem to be very much reason in the noise of the minister of customs. Mr. Kemp, who was in England with the Toronto delegation, informed the house in a convincing way that England can be brought around to consider mutually in the preferential policy, and so it would seem that Mr. Paterson dodged the real issue.

Then the question of increases in expenditure were hardly touched upon at all. In 1896 the total expenditure was \$38,500,000, while in 1900 it was \$52,000,000. But Mr. Paterson, by introducing a bill to amend the receipts from the Yukon, finds that \$46,000,000 is not an increase as compared with \$38,000,000. This is marvellous bookkeeping, but it is probably as good as that which enabled Mr. Fielding to show his surplus of \$8,000,000. Mr. Paterson defended the surplus which has afforded so much relief to government supporters, yet he announced that Sir Leonard Tilley had won \$4,500,000 from the people of Canada in the years 1882 and 1883. He admitted that Sir Leonard reduced the taxation as soon as it was possible to do so, but he challenged conservatives to condemn Sir Leonard's policy. Why they should decry an arrangement which resulted in benefits to the people of the dominion is somewhat of a mystery, and it would require some further explanation from the fertile brain of Mr. Paterson to convince them of the wisdom of acting on his suggestion. If Sir Leonard "wrung" money from the people's pockets, what is Mr. Fielding doing?

But it was in his remarks about the race and religion cry that Mr. Paterson made most of his noisy proclivities. His voice was almost broken as he referred to the opposition that had been passed upon the Quebec members. Horrible to think of it, said the minister of customs. But Mr. Paterson is another man with a past, and so his arguments were turned against himself a few minutes later. When the conservative party had a majority in the province of Quebec Mr. Paterson was in the cold shades of opposition. He was, as he is now, one of the leading gits of Ontario. In those days Mr. Paterson does not seem to have held the same high regard for the members for Quebec as he expresses at the present time. Dr. Sprule reminded him that in days of yore he (Paterson) had been one of those strong minded liberals who repeatedly brought to the attention of the people of Ontario the danger of French domination. The Quebec peril was advocated by Mr. Paterson on many platforms that he spoke from, and all this was recalled to refresh his memory. Surely the opinions of such a man as this will not be accepted by those to whom they are addressed, but Mr. Paterson has the satisfaction of knowing that he has discharged an obligation to his party by making as much of the race cry as possible. If the campaign he is so ably seconding is not successful, it will not be the fault of government supporters, but let us hope that this well planned appeal to passion will meet with that fate at the hands of the people of Quebec which it so justly deserves.

OTTAWA, April 1.—The budget debate is finished after lasting exactly two weeks. It might not have been over yet, but the government whips succeeded in choking off many embryo orators, who insisted on placing their

views in Hansard for the benefit of their constituents. The debate was interesting, being participated in, as it was, by the younger men and new members who have made their appearance this session. Its outcome must have been pleasing to the opposition, for those to the left of the speaker certainly made much more impressive speeches than government supporters and conducted their attack in a most creditable manner. Borden, the leader of the opposition, replying to Sir Wilfrid Laurier early in the session, announced that if the government intended to be a business-like recourse to idleness, and setting the opposition, the opposition would endeavor to be a businesslike opposition. Whether the government has kept its promise or not is open to question, but the opposition has certainly been business from head to heels since the house opened. Not only have they furnished almost every item of importance, but they have taken the lead in the matter of suggesting amendments to the present fiscal policy, which they consider to be in the interests of Canada. The government, on the other hand, have like recourse to idleness, and setting the opposition to criticize the policy of the honorable minister of finance. How well that challenge has been answered the public already knows.

One of the features of the budget debate was the decided effort on the part of the government, speakers to make the most of the race cry. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Hon. Wm. Paterson, Mr. Suburban, Dr. Russell, Mr. Charles Marcell, Mr. Walter Scott and others, all prominent in the government ranks, did their best to create a strife based on race and religion. But with a single exception the conservative party had not a word to say. It was on the conservative side to resist the attack, and he did so for the purpose of showing that the government during its opposition experience was even more aggressive in this direction. The present opposition were accused of having spent the time they devoted to this useless agitation in informing the house and the country what they intended to do in many important trade matters brought to their attention. "What's the matter, you're unemployed?" Evidently the government seem to think so, for they are, according to their own standard, a businesslike government. The opposition, far from wasting golden opportunities, used the time at their disposal to urge the government to make changes which would relieve Canadians, particularly the middle and lower classes, from the payment of heavy duties.

Among the things that the government has done since the 1st of January, were the reduction of the rates on postage, the preferential tariff, and the lowering of the duties on certain articles which are being more extensively imported into this country. They also engaged the attention of the house by proposing up the tariff on surplus on consolidation account. Of course all these things were mentioned as being incidents of the "tariff for revenue only." But it must not be forgotten that if the government has reduced the charges for paying duties, it has raised the rates of duty on the surplus of the post office department by other means. When we consider that the deficit in the post office department, amounting to over half a million of dollars, was made up by an additional duty on the surplus of the post office, it is a little difficult to see what the government has to congratulate itself upon. Then in the matter of preferential trade it costs Canada \$2,000,000 for her sentiment in this direction. The policy of providing markets for the products of the colonies, and the closing out the handwork of our own mechanics, resulting as it did in a loss of \$2,000,000, was straightened out by taking one cent per five from the poor man for every purchase of tobacco he made. On jewelry, silks and other luxuries Mr. Fielding's duty and of considerable percentage in the duty, and the result was that the imports on these fine goods have increased. But when it comes to the workingman's tobacco and his free breakfast table, the minister of customs has no objection to raising the duty on a certain article in their behalf. In the matter of the surplus of \$8,000,000 the government seem to have an idea that they had a pretty fair case. It almost looked as if they had blundered into something good, but in order to remove any false impression that he had arisen in connection with the growing time policy, they borrowed about \$30,000,000 on capital account, and behold a deficit of \$2,000,000. In a few words this has been the policy of the government during the four years of its rule.

And so it was with his fruit bill. Mr. Fisher might easily have told the house in one quarter of the time all that he knew of this particular piece of legislation and a number of others also, but he strayed from his question time and time again, until the debate became almost unintelligible. In introducing the bill Mr. Fisher is complying with what he says are the wishes of the fruit growers of the dominion. It will, if properly enforced, lead to great improvements in the packing of fruit, not only for the export trade but for the home market. That such a bill should be passed was the opinion of the maritime board of trade two years ago, and the government was urged on that occasion to take some action in the matter. Several bills have been introduced from time to time, but in each case they were opposed vigorously by representatives from the fruit growing centers of Ontario, and were invariably defeated.

The debate which took place on Friday and yesterday afternoons showed that something must be done if the interests of fruit growers are to be served. It was pointed out that in Manitoba and other western parts of the dominion the consumers were robbed of their money by the unscrupulous Ontario farmer, who shipped inferior fruit wrongfully marked. Mr. McCreary and several other western representatives were very strong in their denunciation of the practice carried on by the fruit packers of Ontario. Mr. LaRivière from Provencher was particularly pointed in his support of the bill, and kept the house in good humor by his happy references to his own experiences in fruit buying.

hours of discussion, was that section which related to the marking and grading of apples. The clause included by Mr. Fisher in his draft provided that all apples intended for export should be marked "A No. 1 Canadian" only in such cases where the fruit consisted of well grown specimens of one variety; sound, of nearly uniform size, of good color for the variety, of normal shape, and not less than 90 per cent. free from scab, worm holes, bruises and other defects, properly packed, and marked in a plain and indelible manner, with the minimum sizes of the fruit in inches (or fraction thereof) across the core of the fruit. Messrs. Gorley, Wade, Ross (Victoria), Kaubach and the leader of the opposition all protested against making imperative the branding of barrels "A No. 1 Canadian." It was pointed out that in Nova Scotia, shippers by careful attention to packing had established a reputation in English markets for what was known as the Nova Scotia brand of fruit. This class of fruit was claimed to be so much superior to anything grown in Ontario that the businessmen disputed anything that tended to do away with any privileges that they might enjoy at the present time. Now the term "A No. 1 Canadian" belongs to a class of goods shipped from Ontario. The western orchardists have for years past, this mark to distinguish their apples, and they are known throughout the British Isles by that trade term. Mr. Clancy and other Ontario representatives wanted this trade mark to be made a national one, but it was urged on behalf of the Nova Scotia fruit growers that if this were done Ontario would be largely a gainer, while the fruit growers of the Annapolis Valley would be made to suffer for any frauds that might be perpetrated in Ontario. After hours of discussion on this point, Mr. L. Borden by careful and close questioning ascertained that whether the clause passed or not was immaterial, as there was no intention on the part of the government to enforce it. Mr. Fisher stated that his only reason for incorporating it into the bill was to comply with the suggestions of some of the leading fruit growers' associations of Canada. Mr. Fisher, when asked just what his idea was in placing suggestions on the statutes of Canada, informed the house that it was in order to educate the public, but in the end it would have no more legal effect than if it had never been framed. The fruit growers of Nova Scotia will therefore be enabled to adhere to their policy of the past, and brand their apples as they formerly did.

With the budget over, it looks now as if the session would end by the middle of May. The government has taken Wednesday for government business, so that every day in the week will be devoted to the consideration of estimates and other matters in which the administration is interested. Of course the bill to sanction the agreement between the province of Manitoba and the Great Northern Railway will take some time to consider, as such bills have been introduced on this important question, and it is expected that they will cause no end of talking when they come up before the house. Another thing that may tend to prolong the session is the neglect of the government to seriously consider any of the important measures it has to place before parliament. There is a bill introduced an Act to Amend the Dominion Election Act of 1900, and in connection with this legislation some half a dozen private bills have been introduced. It is to be expected that the members who have given the question consideration will have their own little measures to explain, and it is not unlikely that some days will be spent in straightening out the disastrous ballot used at the last election.

It is expected that little business will be done from now until after Easter, and that Parliament Hill will be unusually quiet for a few days. The senate has adjourned until the 10th April, and the commons commenced their Easter holidays on Thursday, which will be continued until the following Tuesday. With the approach of the "period of rest" the maritime members have already commenced to migrate, and those who live at not too distant points in the west are reported, for example of the "wise men from the east," so that the house will be slimly attended until after the Easter eggs are disposed of. With the return of the members, however, things are expected to go with a rush, and it is now confidently expected that the 6th of May will see prorogation.

OTTAWA, April 2.—Hon. Sydney Smith, the minister of agriculture, had the honor of placing in committee the first government bill which has been introduced to the house since prorogation as a committee of the house this session. It was "An Act to provide for the marking and inspection of packages containing fruit for sale." Yesterday was the second occasion on which it was up for discussion, and after two whole days' wrangling over the bill was brought up for consideration on its third reading. Mr. Fisher is a man inclined to talk considerably more than he should, and so he invariably prolongs the debate on anything he brings before the house by insisting on commanding its attention a very long time. In the case of the fruit bill the house had occasion to hear from Mr. Fisher during the present session, and on that occasion he was so verbose that it was only by desperate efforts the opposition could induce him to conduct his business on proper lines. As the bill occurred in the morning had before the house a supplementary estimate providing for \$30,000 for the Paris exposition. In connection with this estimate there is an interesting little story. It seems that on the day that the estimates were placed before the house Mr. Fisher had received a large delegation from the cattle raisers of Ontario. Among the representatives of the different societies were many prominent persons from the agricultural districts. During the afternoon Mr. Fisher extended to them an invitation to be present at the opening of the exposition, but will have the inspectors confine their attention to such shipments as may be necessary to determine that the law is being generally observed. The inspectors, who according to present arrangements, will number a dozen for the Montreal and Halifax, and the fruit centres of Nova Scotia and Ontario. If the law is found to work to the best interests of the fruit trade a number of other inspectors will be appointed next year.

These inspectors will have the power to enter any premises and to make any examination of packages of fruit suspected of being falsely marked in violation of any of the provisions of the act, whether such packages are on the premises of the owner or any other premises, or in the possession of a railway or steamship company. The person obstructing any such inspector in the discharge of his duty will be liable to a fine not exceeding \$50, and not less than \$5, together with the cost of prosecution, or imprisonment in default of payment for a period not exceeding six months. Any person wilfully altering, effacing or obliterating wholly or partially, or causing to be altered, effaced or obliterated, any mark or label on any package, which shall have undergone inspection, shall be liable to incur a penalty of \$40. The packer who is guilty of any violation of the provisions of the act relating to the packing of fruit shall for each offence, on summary conviction, be liable to a fine not more than \$1 and not less than 25 cents for each package which is packed, sold, offered, exposed, or had in possession for sale contrary to the provisions of the act, together with the cost of the prosecution. This act holds the party exposing the goods liable to any penalties in connection with the packing of goods. An objection was raised to this method of enforcing the act inasmuch as dealers might very innocently be led into the sale of improperly packed apples, but it was overruled and the law will be enforced on and after July 1st next in keeping with the original proposals of the minister of agriculture. J. D. McKENNA.

And so it was with his fruit bill. Mr. Fisher might easily have told the house in one quarter of the time all that he knew of this particular piece of legislation and a number of others also, but he strayed from his question time and time again, until the debate became almost unintelligible. In introducing the bill Mr. Fisher is complying with what he says are the wishes of the fruit growers of the dominion. It will, if properly enforced, lead to great improvements in the packing of fruit, not only for the export trade but for the home market. That such a bill should be passed was the opinion of the maritime board of trade two years ago, and the government was urged on that occasion to take some action in the matter. Several bills have been introduced from time to time, but in each case they were opposed vigorously by representatives from the fruit growing centers of Ontario, and were invariably defeated.

One part of the bill, responsible for

hours of discussion, was that section which related to the marking and grading of apples. The clause included by Mr. Fisher in his draft provided that all apples intended for export should be marked "A No. 1 Canadian" only in such cases where the fruit consisted of well grown specimens of one variety; sound, of nearly uniform size, of good color for the variety, of normal shape, and not less than 90 per cent. free from scab, worm holes, bruises and other defects, properly packed, and marked in a plain and indelible manner, with the minimum sizes of the fruit in inches (or fraction thereof) across the core of the fruit. Messrs. Gorley, Wade, Ross (Victoria), Kaubach and the leader of the opposition all protested against making imperative the branding of barrels "A No. 1 Canadian." It was pointed out that in Nova Scotia, shippers by careful attention to packing had established a reputation in English markets for what was known as the Nova Scotia brand of fruit. This class of fruit was claimed to be so much superior to anything grown in Ontario that the businessmen disputed anything that tended to do away with any privileges that they might enjoy at the present time. Now the term "A No. 1 Canadian" belongs to a class of goods shipped from Ontario. The western orchardists have for years past, this mark to distinguish their apples, and they are known throughout the British Isles by that trade term. Mr. Clancy and other Ontario representatives wanted this trade mark to be made a national one, but it was urged on behalf of the Nova Scotia fruit growers that if this were done Ontario would be largely a gainer, while the fruit growers of the Annapolis Valley would be made to suffer for any frauds that might be perpetrated in Ontario. After hours of discussion on this point, Mr. L. Borden by careful and close questioning ascertained that whether the clause passed or not was immaterial, as there was no intention on the part of the government to enforce it. Mr. Fisher stated that his only reason for incorporating it into the bill was to comply with the suggestions of some of the leading fruit growers' associations of Canada. Mr. Fisher, when asked just what his idea was in placing suggestions on the statutes of Canada, informed the house that it was in order to educate the public, but in the end it would have no more legal effect than if it had never been framed. The fruit growers of Nova Scotia will therefore be enabled to adhere to their policy of the past, and brand their apples as they formerly did.

The bill has a number of important provisions that can be enforced. The package containing the fruit must be closed, and for the purposes of the act the bill will be interpreted to mean a box or barrel. All such packages must be marked with the initials of the Christian names and the full surname and address of the packer, together with the name of the variety or varieties, and with the designation of the packer. The packer shall not sell or offer, expose or have in his possession for sale, any apples or pears marked No. 1 extra, or by any other designation that may tend to mislead the public as to the quality of the fruit contained in the said package. In order to provide against any deception being practised in this way, the act sets forth that the face of the barrel shall be made up of apples or pears, such that not more than 15 per cent of the fruit in the body of the package shall be inferior to the fruit in the said face or top layer.

In order to enforce the provisions of the act, inspectors will be appointed at convenient points. Their duties will be carried on in much the same manner as those discharged by the officers of the inland revenue department. The government will not attempt to enforce the inspection of all or a majority of the packages, but will have the inspectors confine their attention to such shipments as may be necessary to determine that the law is being generally observed. The inspectors, who according to present arrangements, will number a dozen for the Montreal and Halifax, and the fruit centres of Nova Scotia and Ontario. If the law is found to work to the best interests of the fruit trade a number of other inspectors will be appointed next year.

These inspectors will have the power to enter any premises and to make any examination of packages of fruit suspected of being falsely marked in violation of any of the provisions of the act, whether such packages are on the premises of the owner or any other premises, or in the possession of a railway or steamship company. The person obstructing any such inspector in the discharge of his duty will be liable to a fine not exceeding \$50, and not less than \$5, together with the cost of prosecution, or imprisonment in default of payment for a period not exceeding six months. Any person wilfully altering, effacing or obliterating wholly or partially, or causing to be altered, effaced or obliterated, any mark or label on any package, which shall have undergone inspection, shall be liable to incur a penalty of \$40. The packer who is guilty of any violation of the provisions of the act relating to the packing of fruit shall for each offence, on summary conviction, be liable to a fine not more than \$1 and not less than 25 cents for each package which is packed, sold, offered, exposed, or had in possession for sale contrary to the provisions of the act, together with the cost of the prosecution. This act holds the party exposing the goods liable to any penalties in connection with the packing of goods. An objection was raised to this method of enforcing the act inasmuch as dealers might very innocently be led into the sale of improperly packed apples, but it was overruled and the law will be enforced on and after July 1st next in keeping with the original proposals of the minister of agriculture. J. D. McKENNA.

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On wash day and every other day is SURPRISE SOAP  
It will give the best service; is always uniform in quality, always satisfactory.  
You cannot do better than have Surprise Soap always in your home.  
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MONCTON.  
Dwelling Burned at Lower Hillsboro—Scott Act Matters—Fishing Privileges Selling.

MONCTON, April 3.—Fire destroyed the house of Dawson P. Steeves at Lower Hillsboro on Sunday morning at an early hour. The family were aroused by the smell of smoke, and it was with difficulty that the children were rescued from the burning building. Mr. Steeves had no insurance, and as he lost all his furniture and clothing, besides the buildings, the loss is a heavy one. Alex. Mowat, the well known fishery expert of Campbellton, is disposing of his fishing privileges on the Restigouche and Metapedia rivers. The price is said to be in the vicinity of \$20,000.

The effort to get up a little diversion on Scott act account is likely to prove a failure. When ex-officer Belyea brought his first case before Stipendiary Shay yesterday, the magistrate inquired as to his authority for proceeding. Belyea said he was employed by the Law and Order League, but he could only give the name of one person as representing that organization. Then the magistrate wanted to know who would be responsible for costs in case of appeals, but no information was forthcoming. The magistrate said that as the city has a duly authorized Scott act prosecutor and the county attorney, and as no person appeared to be responsible for Belyea's action, he would not entertain the case, and accordingly dismissed it.

There is still abundance of snow in this section, and the country roads are very bad, neither wagging or sliding. In the vicinity of Newcastle there is still fall of ice, and there is little sign yet of opening of navigation at Point du Chene, a warm rain and sunning being needed to take the ice out of the harbor.

**Rheumatic Warped Limbs.**  
Mrs. H. Willis, Chesley, Ont., says: "My boy was all crippled up with rheumatism. Although we doctored, he was in this way for about one year, and the pain was terrible. Reading of many cases where Dr. Chase's Liver Pills had cured rheumatism, we got a box. Before they were half gone he began to improve, and was now quite well. I am very glad to recommend them to others. One pill a dose, 25 cents a box."

**CULPABLE NEGLIGENCE.**  
Ottawa Minister Says Military Authorities are Responsible for a Young Soldier's Death.  
OTTAWA, April 2.—From the information obtainable, I believe this young man's death was due to culpable negligence of the militia authorities at Halifax in sending him away on the completion of his term, while sick in summer clothing, although the weather was severe at the time. These were the words of the Rev. H. J. Horsey of Zion Congregational church while delivering a few remarks during the service this morning over the remains of the late Bert Walter Sievers of the provisional garrison lately quartered at Halifax. Sievers, an enlisted while wearing summer clothing, and was obliged to wear the same when leaving Halifax.

LOCAL LEGAL

Putting Bills Very Rapidly

The Salary of Hon. the Pay of Hon. Greatly

St. John Bills and He Succession Duties Africa Contingent Tweedie's Warning Railway Charters.

FREDERICTON. This afternoon Hon. introduced a bill to amend the act of the railway from to Shediac and to ten miles of railway. Forrester, and to Francis branch.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley relating to "danged" said it was to meet who had been assaulted. Sgt. Hipwell, and pleaded guilty, certified to the judge, but the chief him to two years in penitentiary. When he was found to be in turned to the St. J. was to enable him asylum.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley to amend the Bill that early in the suggested to members to him any change polling districts. He number of suggestions to receive voters. The important feature of the owner of real estate vote in the county was situated, thus Mr. Hazen—this vote.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley it by so fine a name the same effect. T. will be in the city John, where the other what anomalous. The bill was read by Hon. Mr. Lablond statements in a by members of the aspect to a number of parts of the pro Hon. Mr. Dunn in ending the game as Harrow a bill related for lighting purposes Hon. Mr. Lablond ment did not intend bill this session.

ONE MAN O Mr. Hazen's not affirm the principle vote, was carried never intended to on this question or a partisan standpoint delighted to find the support of a great the support of the O'Brien's Charitable second it. The pri all the states of the in New Zealand, Vt. Wales and South A in all the great pr The idea was that it unfair that a man in a county, and w interest in it, should the will of the res great deal of the needed with election causes. Candidates great expense in bri voters to the polls, see that the govern of this principle a bill which would plish, he had failed, however, to son why St. John from the operation hoped that before it discussed in committee general would away out the exception, w Hon. The legisla showed how necess an opposition, for been adopting the sition. They had p bridges, also of pu to public tender, in legislation in the e technical school, an adopted the princip vote. Under the thought that it w him to press his s with the consent o would withdraw it.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie motion had been p pressed unanimously the opposition assu he said he had for The government th tion for some tim of changing the spect to non-reside is the outcome. Mr. Hazen—in i voted solidly again to this. Hon. Mr. Pugsle this ago. Hon. Mr. Tweed would have been same if the leader had not given this With regard to ties being abandon by due to the cha part of the repres Scotia. Because the times adopted a p voted by the gov out and the opposi Balaban's asp master not to g angel stood in his not therefore claim of the prophet. B ed this prophet an

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