

## GOVERNMENT NOTICES OF MOTIONS.

Hon Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved for a Committee of the Whole, for to-morrow, to consider certain resolutions, to increase the salaries of the Civil Service of Canada, as provided in the "Act respecting the Civil Service of Canada."

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmoreland) moved for a Committee of the Whole, for to-morrow to consider the expediency of transferring the powers and authorities of the Trinity House of Quebec to the Quebec Harbor Commissioners, with the property of the said Trinity House, except the Decayed Pilot Fund, which shall be transferred to the Corporation of Pilots, for and below the harbor of Québec; and of amending the Constitution of the corporation of the said Harbor Commissioners.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved that the House shall meet for the remainder of the session on Saturdays at three o'clock, and that the measures of the Government shall have precedence on the Orders of the Day.—Carried.

## REPORTING OF MR. PLUMB'S SPEECH.

Sir JOHN A MACDONALD said he desired before the Orders of the Day were called to direct the attention of the First Minister, and also the chairman of the Printing Committee, to a matter connected with the reporting of the debates. Yesterday the hon. member for Niagara spoke for an hour, and his speech was replete with argument and exceedingly interesting to those who followed him; and it was observed that the reporters did not take down a single word—did not use their pencils during the whole time he was speaking. It was not to be borne that the official reporters should be the judges of what addresses should be reported or not.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE—Of course, the hon. gentleman does not attribute any responsibility to me in this matter.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD—No.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he had been too busy to read the reports and could not say who was well or who was ill reported. He thought it inexpedient that the Government of the day should have any control over the reporting of the debates. It was a matter for the House to deal with, and the House had referred it to the Printing Committee. The chairman of

*Hon. Mr. Cartwright.*

that committee had called upon him to-day with reference to making arrangements for next session; and he (Mr. MACKENZIE) had stated that the question would have to be brought before the House so that they could order such arrangements as they thought best. It was important that such measures should be taken as would secure a perfectly faithful and impartial report of what was said on both sides of the House; and he regretted exceedingly if the hon. member for Niagara had not had justice done him.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he quite agreed that it was inexpedient that the Government should interfere with the reporting of the debates, and he had not alluded to the hon. gentleman in his capacity of leader of the Government. He trusted that the Chairman of the Printing Committee would see that every hon. member got fair play in the reports, and that there would be no necessity of referring to this matter again.

Mr. DYMOND, in the absence of the Chairman of the committee, to whom the report of the debates had been referred, and as a member of that committee, said the committee did not conceive it to be their duty to assume any responsibility with regard to the taking of the reports. The editor was of course responsible to the committee, and through the committee to the House, for the due discharge of his duties, but the committee could not be expected to give instructions as to what speeches should be reported at length and what should be condensed.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD agreed that the Committee could not be held responsible with respect to the exact length of the speeches, but somebody must be responsible, and it was specially important to the minority that their speeches should be faithfully reported. Of course some discretion must be left to the editor, but it was one thing to condense a speech and another thing for the reporters to lay down their pencils and refuse to report a single word.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that no doubt this conversation would direct the attention of the committee and of the editor to this matter. For his part he hoped the speech of the hon. member for Niagara last night would be faithfully reported.