

1191 ESTIMATES WERE APPROVED

LEGISLATURE PASSED VOTES FOR SUPPLY INCHANGED AT YESTERDAY'S SESSION.

The Legislature was in committee of supply most of the afternoon yesterday and all of the evening in consideration of the estimates. The work was completed shortly before midnight. There were many interesting items of information brought out as to the public expenditure and frequent criticisms by the members enlivened the proceedings. None of the votes were changed.

There were some severe criticisms of the license department by R. B. Bennett but they were effectively answered by the Attorney-General. The only vote taken during the afternoon session was on the grant of \$30,000 towards a new Government House in the west end of Edmonton. This was carried, however.

Mr. Bennett made a strong plea for the raising of the status of the civil service. His remarks along this line were warmly applauded by the whole House.

A tribute to the work of Clerk Cowell was given in increasing his salary by unanimous consent of the whole House from \$900 to \$1,000.

In the evening session the members had an opportunity to talk on the public works and agricultural estimates. Owing to a severe cold Mr. Bennett was compelled to retire and afterwards the votes proceeded with much greater rapidity.

Larger Grant Than Last Year.

Dr. Rutherford remarked in speaking of the grant of \$29,900 for the attorney-general's department that the amount was larger than last year.

Attorney-General Mitchell said that several clerks of the executive council had been transferred. Possibly another law clerk or two would be added and so a larger amount was asked.

Premier Sifton said that in running through the estimates it might be noticed that there was some increase, the result of putting salaries on a monthly, instead of a yearly basis.

Dr. Rutherford in speaking of the Public Works Department said that shortly some of the staff in the architect's branch could be dispensed with. He did not object to the present grant, however.

On the Education Department estimates he thought some of the figures were too low. The deputy minister should soon get more than \$3,000. A superintendent of education would be necessary in the near future.

Objects to Big Contingents.

R. B. Bennett said that no private corporation would allow of its contingent expenses being put on a case contingent expenses was 25 per cent. another case 30 per cent. of the total vote. This was allowing too much latitude to the Government in the matter of money for which the House got no information.

Public Works Committee which was a dead letter.

The Premier remarked that all these contingent expenses would be shown in the public accounts for next year.

Mr. Bennett replied when the House met in November that the estimates could not get the public accounts. They would not be available till 1913.

Dr. Rutherford said the fiscal year for Alberta should be changed and the Premier agreed that this course would be best.

Mr. Bennett made some remarks on the civil service in general. He did not think an indifferent storekeeper made a good deputy-cassier. He did not think in ordinary business the cashier's servants should be political hacks. He thought the time was here when the Premier should make provision for competence for men long in the service.

He instanced the deputy minister of public works formerly in the C.P.R. who would be retained with that company now have got a retiring allowance, but as conditions were growing old from overwork at a mere annual salary of \$2,000 a year. He instanced British Columbia, where he said the civil service was reaching a high standard.

More Money for Cowell.

On the item for \$900 for clerk of the Legislative Assembly, C. M. O'Brien thought that there should be a much bigger grant. In his opinion Mr. Cowell was the wisest man in the House and all the House had to go to him for information.

Premier Sifton said that the matter was one for the House to decide with. He would have no objection if the amount were increased to \$1,000 and travelling expenses.

This was agreed to.

R. B. Bennett thought that the \$5,000 for the legislative library was excessive. Many libraries larger and more expensive were kept at much lesser cost. The librarian should be a man who would delve into the past and collect data. For this position he suggested a man such as J. I. Poole, barrister of Lacombe, a Liberal, and one who delighted in this kind of work.

And in addition to this sum there was \$1,200 for an architect which seemed excessive. He hoped provision would be made in the new building for an adequate library, not of books that could be bought any time but of records of the past for the historian of the future.

Dr. Rutherford said the present estimate when your feet are wet and cold, and your body chilled through and through from exposure, takes a big dose of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, balm your feet in hot water before going to bed, and you are almost sure to ward off a severe cold. For sale by druggists everywhere.

was very creditable to the province. Compiling Year Book.

"What are the duties of the statistician?" asked Mr. Bennett.

"We intend to compile a book of the year's statistics in the near future," said Hon. Mr. Marshall.

"This was satisfactory to Mr. Bennett who said he thought no one in the service of the Government could do the work better than Mr. Blue.

Speaking of procedure in the administration of justice the Attorney-General said they would always be operated at a loss. They were for the convenience of litigation. The largest revenue this year was from Strathcona district.

"The money paid to the sixty process issuers is merely a retainer," said Hon. Mr. Mitchell.

"I think that is putting it right, to retain them for the Government," said Mr. Bennett.

Reduction of Fees.

Mr. Bennett also asked for a revision of court fees. They should be materially reduced.

"This whole matter is under discussion," said the Premier.

Speaking of the land titles office expenditures, Mr. Michener said there should be other centres. Lethbridge for example had a large county registry and there was often great delay in sending documents to Calgary.

Dr. Rutherford said he was not in favor of multiplication of registration offices under the present system.

Mr. Bennett said that at last session of the law benchers they had asked for a registration office in each judicial district. He urged for lower rates in connection with the land titles office.

The Premier said this was well worth consideration.

Lethbridge Not Modest.

Mr. Michener thought Lethbridge would be satisfied with a very modest office but Mr. Buchanan said they would want as good an office as Calgary.

Speaking of the \$52,700 for license inspection Mr. Bennett said there were very serious complaints with reference to this department all over the Province. For example, there were now three cases in the Supreme Court to cancel the actions of the commission.

"I will state openly that it is contended that hotels are paying toll to the license inspectors," said Mr. Bennett. "I don't know how true those statements are but such a condition should not exist whereby certain hotels are paying toll to the inspectors."

"One license commissioner has been heard to say that where doubt arose he would give the doubt to a Grit. The cases before the courts show that the commissioner did not do their duty."

These inspectors should be taught that they are not there to promote political interests. I favor the district court judges becoming a license board and doing their work entirely apart from the House. Some hotels openly violate the law because they are in with the authorities.

Hon. Mr. Mitchell Replies.

Attorney-General Mitchell said he knew this branch had been the subject of criticism for persons who were unwilling to give the source of their information. No formal complaints of a specific nature had been received.

His desire was to see the liquor license provisions were carried out in their entirety. He denied that political influence was being used by inspectors. If such were the case offenders would be at once dismissed.

A. Bramley Moore said the hotel-keepers whom he had abused. The Premier could do credit to the Province on a smaller sum. In his opinion \$5,000 would be a liberal estimate.

Premier Sifton humorously said that possibly if there were any money over he would return it to the treasury.

Mr. Moore said that all that was worrying him was whether the Premier would come back. When the King found out of his ability he might send him to India as Viceroy. (Laughter.)

After further banter the item was passed.

Several members asked when considering the items for capital account on telephones whether any provision was being made for sinking fund.

The Premier replied that none had yet been arranged for but would be before long.

This estimate included the putting in this year of a new trunk line between Edmonton, Calgary and Lethbridge.

To Protest Lethbridge Election.

Lethbridge, Dec. 14.—A protest is being entered against the election of H. E. Preece, present chairman of the School Board, as school trustee on the ground of his acting as poll clerk in the election in which he was a candidate. An effort may be made to upset the election of Dr. Galbraith and of D. Austin, who were elected trustees in the same election. The friends of H. E. Preece, a defeated candidate, are pushing the protest.

Hattie Loblaw Is Not Guilty.

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 15.—Hattie Loblaw's plea that she be allowed to go back to her home in Nova-Scotia with her children was granted today when a jury after deliberating an hour and a half decided she was not guilty of murder of Clarence Grew. The verdict was a popular one. The demonstrations continued for some time and the officials were powerless to stem the tide of popular approval.

Winnipeg Strike Threatened.

Winnipeg, Dec. 15.—Great interest attached to the meeting of street railway employees to be held tonight. Sentiment being said to be all in favor of a strike. Union leaders refuse to make any positive announcement but it is understood that a meeting of the executive yesterday decided on a strike should the company give away and take back the men dismissed.

Bombay, Dec. 14.—The German Crown Prince arrived here today on the German cruiser Gensler. The party will stop at the Government House. This afternoon the Prince exchanged visits with the Governor. The populace gave the visitor a friendly reception.

BRAMLEY MOORE IS IN LIMELIGHT

RESOLUTION DECLARING MEMBERS LATE ADMINISTRATION ABOVE REPROACH.

A. Bramley Moore was in the limelight for a brief period in the Legislature yesterday afternoon. He furnished the only sensation for some days past and it looked for a time as if he might plunge the House into a prolonged discussion. Mr. Moore had a resolution which he endeavored to get before the House, but was unsuccessful yesterday. It will likely come up at a later date.

The resolution which was seconded by W. F. Puffer was as follows: "Whereas a royal commission was appointed to investigate certain matters relating to the late administration of the Government, and a report has been laid on the table of the House. Therefore be it resolved that it be the opinion of this House that the personal integrity of the late government with respect to the matters investigated is above reproach."

The order of Motions other than Government under which Mr. Moore could produce his resolution, had not been given by the Speaker when Premier Sifton moved that the House adjourn.

Premier Sifton pointed out that the order had not yet been reached and it began to appear as if Mr. Moore was to be jockeyed out of getting his motion before the Legislature.

The member finding that he could not prevent the resolution from being introduced in order that he might address the members. He said he would go into committee of supply. This would shut out the member for Alexandria, who at once raised a protest.

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A VETO QUESTION IN THE CANADIAN SENATE

Auditor-General Fraser Declares That Senate Will Not Obey Order to Return Certain Vouchers to Him—Public Accounts Committee in Session.

Ottawa, Dec. 14.—The action of the Senate in paying to certain of its officials more than they are entitled to in the way of salary, despite the protest of the auditor-general is to be justified into by A. B. Warburton, chairman of the Public Accounts Committee of the House of Commons, the auditor-general and the chairman of the Senate committee were responsible. On motion of Mr. S. Barker, (Con.) of Hamilton, this course was decided upon by the Commons Public Accounts Committee this morning after hearing the complaint of Mr. John Fraser, auditor-general, who said that the Senate had declined to return certain vouchers to him.

During the course of discussion, F. B. Carvell, (Lib.) of Carleton, N.B., remarked that the Senators were getting into a class by themselves. "There ought to be some way of getting after these gentlemen," he added.

Question of Veto Seen.

Mr. Fraser went on to explain that even when his rulings had been sustained by the treasury, the Senate declined to obey. There will be a question of veto pretty soon if this sort of thing keeps on, retorted Mr. Carvell.

The auditor-general further explained that the finance department had not power to withhold payments because under the Senate Act the Upper House was allowed a certain credit.

"Better amend the act," suggested Wm. Germain, (Lib.) of Welland. "The House of Commons is in the same position," said Mr. Fraser, amid general laughter.

The purchase of the Government steamer Earl Grey was inquired into by the committee. J. Desbarats, former deputy minister of marine, was on the witness stand.

Dr. Reid, of Grenville, was informed that with the changes made in the original plans, the vessel would not be able to enter the Welland canal lock. He learned also that a number of orders were received and the contract given to Vickers, Sons and Maxim, an English firm for 102,000 pounds, which was higher than several other tenders which had been received.

Most Satisfactory Tender.

In reply to Major Currie, Mr. Desbarats said the Government report, which was passed upon by the committee, was in the opinion of the department. He mentioned that the Lady Gray had been built by this firm and had done very satisfactory work.

Another fact brought out was that the order for tenders was signed by the Deputy Minister of Marine on February 19th, 1908 and the tenders had to be in by March 9th, leaving only twenty days to get the advertisements published in the English newspapers and the tenders to be received by mail from England. The Vickers firm had their representative in Canada, Dr. Reid having ascertained that the Vickers firm had reduced its tender from 102,000 to 102,000 pounds asked if it was the practice of the department to allow tenders to be reduced? Mr. Desbarats said if the explanation was satisfactory the request would be considered.

Gigantic Traffic in Orientals.

San Francisco, Dec. 15.—That the investigations following the smuggling into San Francisco of fifteen contraband Chinamen on December 4th, on the steamer Manchuria may result in the uncovering of a gigantic traffic in Orientals, in which white men are engaged, was the statement made today by Frederick S. Stratton, collector of the port of San Francisco.

Stirling Hotel Burned.

Lethbridge, Dec. 17.—The hotel at Stirling was burned to the ground today. The loss is partially covered by insurance.

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THE MASSACRE TURKISH ROYALS

Unhappy Every... Soldiers Were... Captured, Govern... and Families Mur-

Dec. 15.—Reports from Bayat, where Bedouin were recently reported, in the uprising in the Turkish officials have been and at several military troops were annihilated. The man who was an eye-witness of the scenes of the uprising a detailed account to several companies of says, have been sent out to effect the disarmament of the Bedouins. The troops in small companies of various tribes in the Jordan, when the revolt was executed. The Bedouins, objected to the program planned an attack on the station at all stations north of they were successful at every completely annihilating the sixteen field guns many of the Turkish soldiers. The victorious march on El-Hadramout in the Dead Sea. There, too, successful. The massacre government officials and school and schools, and party of eight American

HO HAS AN EPIDEMIC.

Immolation Necessary For... Fever

Dec. 14.—Owing to an of scarlet fever in this city, to fifteen cases cannot be in the isolation hospital. The Board of Control this Dr. Hastings, city medical officer, who asked for money to have a temporary camp erected in conjunction with the hospital. The board of this purpose.

of Opinion Defeated.

Dec. 15.—Chancellor and party yesterday voted down by-law, which was undominion government act to the electorate in British for the first time. At Prince of opinion was defeated by the smallness of the vote. It is the opinion of the spot that the vote would, have been in the same pro-Chilliwack local option before a vote of 182 to

AND WOMEN

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