

HON. MR. ABBOTT—I think I explained to my hon. friend the difficulty which existed last year—that it was almost impossible to determine a standard percentage, because the percentage of fatty matter in the milk of some animals was at times so extremely low that it would not be convenient to make that the standard, and at the same time it would be an extreme hardship to provide that the milk of Holstein cows, for instance, should be excluded because it was not up to the standard. I have not discussed the matter with my colleague this Session, but I shall do so before we proceed with the Bill.

The motion was agreed to, and the Order of the Day was discharged.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE, CHEQUES AND PROMISSORY NOTES BILL.

SECOND READING.

HON. MR. ABBOTT moved the second reading of Bill (6) "An Act relating to Bills of Exchange, Cheques and Promissory Notes." He said: I suppose the House will not expect me to enter upon the details of this Bill on its second reading. It is almost a reproduction of the existing law—in fact, it is a sort of code for promissory notes and bills of exchange, the first that has been made under the power given to the Federal Parliament by the British North America Act. Every clause will be considered in detail in committee, and in order that members may have time to look carefully into the Bill and make up their minds about it, I propose to submit it to Committee of the Whole on Wednesday next.

HON. MR. SCOTT—This Bill has just been handed to me, and I am not in a position to say much about it; but my hon. friend will remember the promise he made yesterday, that he would get somebody in the Department of Justice to strike off a few slips showing what the changes are in this Bill?

HON. MR. ABBOTT—I have given such orders. It is not very easy to show what all the changes are, but I propose to show in what respect the law is to be changed.

HON. MR. KAULBACH—The changes are, briefly, to make the law uniform throughout the Dominion.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill read the second time.

The Senate adjourned at 4 p. m.

THE SENATE.

Ottawa, Friday, March 21st, 1890.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at 3 o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

NORTH CANADIAN ATLANTIC RAILWAY AND STEAMSHIP CO.'S BILL.

THIRD READING.

HON. MR. DICKEY, from the Committee on Railways, Telegraph and Harbors, reported Bill (88) "An Act to incorporate the North Canadian Atlantic Railway and Steamship Company," with an amendment. He said: The substance of this amendment is that it affords time in which the competing line can have legislative power to sell their property, if they so agree, to this company. It provides also, in case of difference of opinion, a mode of adjusting the price, and in the meantime this company shall have only running powers over the competing line. This amendment was reported to us today by a sub-committee to whom the whole matter was referred. The committee, of which I had the pleasure of being chairman, had before them the difficult task of reconciling the passage of this important measure with a due regard to the legitimate interests of the competing line; and I am happy to say that this object was attained in a manner that commended itself to the support and concurrence of all the parties interested in it. This happy result has been attained, I think it is fair to the committee to say, in consequence of the patient hearing which was given to all parties on the question, this being the last of three distinct sittings which the committee devoted to the consideration of this measure. I may be also permitted to hope that this amendment may receive approval in another place, and that the result will be that this measure, in which a large portion of the people of Quebec have evinced such an interest, may be brought to a successful issue. I have therefore great pleasure in