

date of the establishment of the province, and in every respect unaltered, that is to say, I want them applied as of the date at which the province is established. I object to the use of the words to which I have just referred, 'as if the said province of Alberta had been one of the provinces originally united.' I do not think they are necessary, although I consider them to be merely descriptive.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. My hon. friend is aware that these words are used in the Manitoba Act; they are also in the Order in Council passed in connection with Prince Edward Island and British Columbia.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The minister will remember that Manitoba was constituted a province immediately upon its becoming a part of the Dominion of Canada, while Prince Edward Island and British Columbia were not united to the Dominion until they became provinces.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I have adopted that clause because these cases are the only cases in which territories came in as territories, and provinces came in as provinces. I think the words are found in the Manitoba Act, and in the Order in Council relating to British Columbia and Prince Edward Island, and I do not like to depart from them.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I expected the Minister of Justice would make that answer. I will not discuss the matter any further to-night, though I may discuss it again on the third reading.

Amendment (Mr. R. L. Borden) negatived on division.

Progress reported.

On motion of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, House adjourned at 1.50 a.m., (Friday).

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIDAY, June 30, 1905.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

RELIEF OF ARTHUR HERSEY.

Mr. L. P. DEMERS moved:

That leave be given to the Select Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Private Bills to employ the services of a stenographer to take down such evidence as the committee may deem necessary in connection with Bill (No. 167) for the relief of Arthur O. Hersey.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND RAILWAY— LAND EXPROPRIATIONS.

Hon. H. R. EMMERSON (Minister of Railways and Canals). I beg to lay on the table a return in answer to an order of the House of Commons, dated 13th March, 1905, calling for copies of all correspondence, letters, petitions and so forth, in possession of the government, or of any member or official thereof, relating to land damages claimed by Thomas Curley and Charles Mitchell and others, of the village Green, Prince Edward Island, for land expropriated for the Murray Harbour branch of the Prince Edward Island Railway. I might explain to the House that there is missing from this return a petition or copy of a certain petition that is referred to in the other papers. A thorough search has been made for that petition here and at Moncton, but there is no record that it was ever actually filed in the department, and we can get no tidings of it from the general manager or from the superintendent of the Prince Edward Island Railway.

COMPANIES' ACT AMENDMENT.

Hon. R. LEMIEUX (Solicitor General) moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 187) to amend the Companies' Act, 1902.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Might I ask the Prime Minister if that is a government measure?

Hon. CHAS. FITZPATRICK (Minister of Justice). It was introduced by the Secretary of State in the Senate, but I do not think that so far the government has given much consideration to the provisions of the Bill.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. If it were a government measure I intended to ask for an explanation of its provisions.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. We will let the first reading stand over until to-morrow.

Motion withdrawn.

HALF-BREED SCRIP.

Hon. GEO. E. FOSTER. Before the Orders of the Day are called, I would like to ask the First Minister if he can give any information with reference to counsel being appointed for the commission to inquire into the issue of half-breed scrip. I understood him the other day to be favourable to having counsel appointed on both sides. That commission opens on the 25th of July, and I would like very much to know what provision is to be made for counsel on the side of the charges and of the grievances.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. The matter has not been considered yet, and I am not in a position to answer my hon. friend to-day.