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**House of Assembly Proceedings.**

**OFFICIAL SYNOPSIS**

(Continued.)

April 21st. The House met at the usual hour.

**PETITIONS.**

**HON. W. S. HIGGINS** presented petitions from Outer Cove on the subject of a winch, from Biscayan Cove on the subject of a launchway. Mr. P. F. Moore supported the petition.

**THE ATTORNEY GENERAL** introduced a Bill to amend "The Industrial and Provident Societies Act of 1919," the purpose of which was to increase the holdings in such societies from \$200 to \$1,000. The Bill was read for a first time and ordered to be read a second time.

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.**

**HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY** replying to a question of Mr. Hickman said: There is no Board of Health in the Colony, all matters relating to this subject being dealt with by the Department of Public Health, which is presided over by Dr. R. A. Brehm, Medical Health Officer. The inspection of food, milk, meats, etc., is undertaken by special Inspectors attached to that Department, whose salaries are voted in the Estimates. Reports are furnished by these Inspectors upon any particular matters which may arise. Health matters in the various Outports are under the immediate care of the respective Magistrates, they being constituted under the Act as a Board of Health. The Government have received no report from the Superintendent of the Child Welfare Association.

**HON. THE PRIME MINISTER** replying to a question of Mr. Godden said: Mr. Peters, of the Liquor Control, has not been deputed to visit Canada officially.

**MR. DUFF** asked the Colonial Secretary if it was correct that the Evening Telegram and Daily News were being paid for publishing the synopsis of the debates of the House of Assembly.

**THE COLONIAL SECRETARY** in reply stated that neither of the papers mentioned was being paid one cent for publishing the debates of the House of Assembly.

**HON. THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION** (Prime Minister) replying to Mr. Grimes said: The only persons in connection with the Normal School building, other than the teaching staff and janitors, is Mr. Thomas, who was Clerk of Works during the construction of the building, and who is still employed at the rate of \$5.00 a day pending the settlement of some outstanding differences between contractors and the Government. At present Mr. Thomas is engaged in supervising the grading of the grounds of the building.

The House went into Committee on the Income Tax Bill. Some questions were raised as to the definition of Bank loans, and the tax on absentee landlords also created some desultory discussion.

**THE COLONIAL SECRETARY** on the subject of absentee landlords said it was a case of "Heads I win, tails you lose," and that the landlords always won. In their leases they made it a covenant that the tenant pay all the taxes and this still continued despite the endeavours made by the Municipal Council and the Legislature itself to check this practice. He referred to vacant lands of absentee landlords, that they were holding these waiting for a very high price and not making any improvements on their property and these he felt should be highly taxed. He would strongly oppose any attempt at the abolition of this tax.

Before the passage of the Bill before Committee **MR. GODDEN** appealed again that the retroactive section of the Bill be made to take effect from December 31st, 1923.

**THE ATTORNEY GENERAL** while sympathizing with the attitude adopted by Mr. Godden pointed out that the Finance Minister had brought this in as a Budget measure as the revenue was required other-

wise he would support Mr. Godden's suggestion.

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE** promised that though the Bill could not be made retroactive all delinquents who owed taxes and also those who had not made returns would be rounded up and that there would be a lot of fun by and bye.

The Committee reported progress and were given leave to sit again to-morrow, in order to more fully enquire into the subject of bank loans.

The House then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the Hotel Bill which was passed without dissent and ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

The Bill respecting the Sales Tax was read a second time and referred to Committee of the Whole to-day.

Orders of the Day being completed the House adjourned until the usual hour Wednesday.

Wednesday, April 22nd.

The House met at the usual hour.

**REPORTS.**

**THE HON. PRIME MINISTER** presented the reports of the Select Committee on the Avalon Telephone Company's petition that the Bill be presented.

**MR. DUFF** demanded that fuller information be given the public as to concessions such as this, which are being continually asked for and referred to recent communications to the press, in which a suggestion was put forward as to the establishment of a Public Utilities Board.

**THE PRIME MINISTER** pointed out that the subject matter of the Bill was not within the province of the Select Committee, but merely as to whether the Rules had been complied with.

**MR. SPEAKER** repeated what the Prime Minister had said relative to the Select Committee. He further pointed out that under Rule 303 the Bill would later be referred to another Select Committee to consider the subject matter of the legislation. Nevertheless he felt constrained to point out, that in such matters the Rules should be strictly adhered to.

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.** Answers to questions on the Order Paper were tabled, including Mr. Gray's report on the Dock and on the Old Days Pond Construction Works.

The Commission appointing the Tariff Committee was also tabled. It is as follows: [COPY.]

**ROYAL COMMISSION** (Seal) (Sgd.) C. Alexander Harris, George the Fifth, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the British

Dominions beyond the seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

To—  
The Hon. Henry J. Brownrigg, Henry W. LeMessurier, Esq., C.M.G.

Charles P. Ayre, Esq., M.B.E. John V. O'Dea, Esq., Fred F. Harris, Esq., Fred W. Angel, Esq., M.B.E., James J. McKay, Esq., Mortimer Green, Esq., and The Hon. Harris M. Mosdell, M. D.

**Greeting:**

Whereas we deem it expedient to cause an Enquiry to be made into the Tariff at present in force in this Colony;

Now know ye that we, reposing great trust and confidence in your knowledge and ability have constituted and appointed, and by these Presents do constitute and appoint you, the said Honourable Henry J. Brownrigg, our Minister of Finance and Customs; Henry W. LeMessurier, Esquire, Companion of Our Most Distinguished Order of St.



**Proclamation**

By His Excellency Sir Wm. Lamond Allardyce, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael W. L. Allardyce, and St. George, Governor and Commander in-Chief in and over the Island of Newfoundland.

Whereas it is desirable that occasion should be afforded the people of this Colony to render thanks to Almighty God for the mercies He has been pleased to bestow upon this Colony during the past year, and to rejoice because of our National blessings; And Whereas Sunday, the Fifteenth day of November, next, would be an appropriate occasion for the said Thanksgiving;

I do, therefore, by this my Proclamation, order and direct that Sunday, the Fifteenth day of November, next, shall be observed, throughout this Colony, as a Day of Thanksgiving, as aforesaid. And I do further order and direct that Wednesday, the Eleventh day of November, next, being Armistice Day, shall be set apart and observed, throughout the Colony, as a Day of Rejoicing and a Public and Bank Holiday, of which all persons concerned are hereby required to take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my Hand and Seal, at the Government House, St. John's, this 22nd day of September, A.D., 1925.

By His Excellency's Command, J. R. BENNETT, Colonial Secretary.

sept.25.41/b.w.

Michael and St. George, Our Assistant Collector of Customs; Charles P. Ayre, Esquire, Member of Our Most Excellent Order of the British Empire; John V. O'Dea, Esquire; Fred F. Harris, Esquire; Fred W. Angel, Esquire, Member of Our Most Excellent Order of the British Empire; James J. McKay, Esquire; Mortimer Green, Esquire; and Honourable Harris M. Mosdell, Physician, Member of our Legislative Council, to be our Commissioners to investigate and enquire into the arrangement of the Tariff, and the several rates of duties levied on goods imported into this Colony, or admitted off the free list, or taken out of Warehouses for consumption therein, and the articles dealt with in Schedule C.D. and E. of

"The Revenue Act, 1905" and amendments thereof, and to recommend such changes in said duties, and such rearrangements of the items in said Tariff to our Governor in Council as you the said Commissioners may deem desirable. And we do appoint you, the said Hon. Henry J. Brownrigg, Our Minister of Finance and Customs, to be Chairman, and you, the said Hon. Harris M. Mosdell, to be Secretary of this Our Commission.

And we do, by these Presents, confer upon you the said Hon. Henry J. Brownrigg, Henry W. LeMessurier, Esq., Charles P. Ayre, Esq., John V. O'Dea, Esq., Fred F. Harris, Esq., Fred W. Angel, Esq., James J. McKay, Esq.,

(Continued on page 3.)

**St. John's General Hospital**

OCTOBER 1st, 1925.

**NOTICE.**

The position of two Resident Housemen will become vacant early in December next.

Applications for these positions from qualified Practitioners will be received by the Board of Governors up to the 30th November.

Address all communications to the Secretary,

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS.**

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**NOTICE.**

**Department of Agriculture and Mines.**

Farmers requiring ground Lime Stone for use in their ground, will please place their orders with this Department, pay for same and present the order at the Lime Linn, Battery Road, and take immediate delivery of the material. The maximum amount available to farmers in five tons. Persons operating on small areas of land may purchase proportionately less quantities only. The Pulverized Lime Stone will cost \$6.00 per ton at the Pulver.

Outport applicants requiring this material are requested to communicate directly with this Department.

**W. J. WALSH,**

Minister Agriculture & Mines.

pet.2.6i

**NOTICE**

**To Owners and Masters of British Ships**

The attention of Owners and Masters of British Ships is called to the 7th Section of the "Merchant Shipping Act, 1894."

75.—(1) A Ship belonging to a British Subject shall hoist the proper national colors—

- (a) on a signal made to her by one of His Majesty's ships including any vessel under the command of an officer of His Majesty's navy or full pay, and
- (b) on entering or leaving any foreign port and
- (c) if of fifty tons gross tonnage or upwards, on entering or leaving any British Port.

(2) If default is made on board any ship in complying with this section the master of the ship shall for each offence be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds.

At time of war it is necessary for every British Ship to hoist the colours and leave to if signalled by a British Warship; if a vessel hoists no colours and runs away, it is liable to be fired upon.

**H. W. LeMESSURIER,**

Register of Shipping

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