

cussion at this hour of the afternoon, I move in amendment to leave out the words "the House do resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday next" and to substitute the following:—

"In view of the magnitude and gravity of the questions presented, and in order to give time for consideration by the House and country, the House do resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on Wednesday the fifth day of January next."

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The objection to this resolution, in my opinion, is that it is altogether premature. Granting the premises of the hon. gentleman, granting the great gravity of the question, granting the immensity of the interests involved—all these being granted, there is still greater reason that the discussion should go on at once. The contract is before the House and the country. It has reached from one end of the Dominion to the other. The people of British Columbia know every word of the contract and the schedule just as well as we do; and what the whole country wants and is waiting for, and will insist on having, is to obtain as soon as possible the reasons for and against the contract, for and against the measure which the Government has thought proper to bring down. After it has been fully discussed, after the Government has been heard as to their policy, after the objections which may be taken by any hon. member have been fully laid before the House and the country—if then it be the will and voice of Parliament that delay shall be granted and an extension of time shall be granted, we are, of course, the servants of Parliament, and must yield; but we desire and claim, as a matter of right, as a Ministry, taking the responsibility of submitting this large measure, to lay, as soon as possible, before the House, the reasons for our action.

After a division had been called,

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD rose and said: I omitted to state—I do not know it is necessary, because it is conveyed to us by a Message—but I wish to say that these resolutions have been submitted to His Excellency, and I have received his sanction to submit them to Parliament.

House divided. Amendment negatived. Yeas 51, nays 104.

YEAS:
Messieurs

Anglin,	Geoffrion,	Mills,
Bain,	Gillies,	Olivier,
Blake,	Gillmor,	Paterson (Brant),
Borden,	Glen,	Pickard,
Bourassa,	Gunn,	Rinfret,
Burpee (St. John),	Haddow,	Robertson (Shelburne),
Burpee (Sunbury),	Holton,	Rogers,
Cameron (Huron),	Huntington,	Ross (Middlesex),
Cartwright,	Killam,	Rymal,
Casey,	King,	Skinner,
Casgrain,	LaRue,	Smith,
Charlton,	Laurier,	Snowball,
Cockburn (Muskoka),	Macdonell (Lanark),	Thompson (Haldimand),
Dumont,	Mackenzie,	Trow,
Fiset,	McCallum,	Weldon,
Fleming,	McIsaac,	Wheler,
Flynn,	Malouin,	Wiser.—51.

NAYS:
Messieurs

Beaty,	Grandbois,	Mousseau,
Beauchesne,	Hay,	Muttart,
Benoit,	Hesson,	Orton,
Bergeron,	Hooper,	Patterson (Essex),
Bill,	Houde,	Perrault,
Bolduc,	Ives,	Pinsonneault,
Boutbee,	Jones,	Platt,
Bowell,	Kaulbach,	Plumb,
Brecken,	Keeler,	Pope (Compton),
Brooks,	Kirkpatrick,	Pope (Queens),
Bunting,	Kranz,	Richey,
Cameron (Victoria),	Landry,	Rochester,
Caron,	Lane,	Ross (Dundas),
Cimon,	Langevin,	Rouleau,
Colby,	Lantier,	Routhier,
Connell,	Little,	Royal,

Costigan,	Longley,	Ryan (Montreal),
Coughlin,	Macdonald (Sir John),	Sproule,
Coursol,	McDonald (Cape Breton),	Stephenson,
Cuthbert,	McDonald (Pictou),	Strange,
Daly,	McDonald (Victoria, N.S.),	Tasse,
Daoust,	Macmillan,	Tellier,
Dawson,	McCaig,	Tilley,
Desaulniers,	McDougall,	Tupper,
Desjardins,	McKay,	Vallee,
Domville,	McLennan,	Vanasse,
Drew,	McLeod,	Wade,
Elliott,	McQuade,	Wallace (Norfolk),
Farrow,	McRory,	Wallace, (York),
Fitzsimmons,	Manson,	White (Gardwell),
Fortin,	Massue,	White (Hastings),
Fulton,	Merner,	White (Renfrew),
Gault,	Methot,	Williams,
Gigault,	Mongenais,	Wright.—104.
Grouard (Kent),	Montplaisir,	

House adjourned at 6.20 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

TUESDAY, 14th December, 1880.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD reported lists of Members to compose the Select Standing Committees of the House, from the Special Committee appointed to prepare said lists. Ordered, That the said Report be concurred in.

The following Committees were also appointed:—

Select Committee to assist Mr. Speaker in the direction of the Library of Parliament, so far as the interests of this House are concerned, and to act as members of a Joint Committee of both Houses on the Library.

Ordered, That a Message be sent to the Senate requesting that their Honors will unite with this House in the formation of a Joint Committee of both Houses, on the subject of the Printing of Parliament; and that the members of the Select Standing Committee on Printing will act as members of the said Joint Committee on Printing.

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD presented a Message from His Excellency.

Mr. SPEAKER read the Message as follows:—

Lorne.

The Governor General transmits to the House of Commons, in accordance with the Act 34 Victoria, Chapter 6, Section 10, three approved Minutes of Council, relating to the administration of Savings Banks, and to the computation of the rates of Interest allowed on Deposits in such Banks, etc., etc.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

OTTAWA, December 14th, 1880.

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT enquired whether it had been usual to bring down a message on the subject of Savings Banks, as he did not remember any such course having been previously adopted.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY said a Message had not been brought down before, the fact that the Savings Bank Act required it having been overlooked by his predecessors in office, and by himself for the past two sessions.

Mr. MACKENZIE asked if the Act required that a Message should be brought down.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY said he thought it did; and the Government thought it desirable that that course should be followed.

REPORTS AND PAPERS.

Mr. SPEAKER presented a statement of the Receipts and Disbursements of the House of Commons.