

Bill that I introduced last session, and it is for the purpose of making it plain that railway companies shall not furnish passes to enable electors to attend the polls. Our law has been uncertain on this subject, while the provincial law has been settled. I think it is important, in view of the near approach of an election, that it should be perfectly clear that railway companies shall not have the right to furnish passes under these circumstances and that electors shall not have the right to accept passes from the railway companies when about to attend the polls. The Bill is also intended to prevent what is commonly known as "plugging," and to give facilities for the arrest of personators.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES ACT.

Mr. McCARTHY moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 15) to amend the North-west Territories Act. He said: The purpose of this Bill is to confer upon the Legislative Assembly of the North-west Territories full and complete power in the matter of education.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. McCARTHY moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 16) to amend the Act respecting the House of Commons. He said: This is a Bill which I trust I shall have the opportunity to press through. The important provision of the Bill is that when a vacancy occurs in the House of Commons, the effect of the Speaker's warrant shall not be delayed or intercepted by the failure of the Government to name a day for the election and to appoint a returning officer. The Bill provides that if the Government do not appoint a day within a certain time after the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery receives your warrant, Mr. Speaker, the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery shall direct his writ to the sheriff, or, if there be more than one sheriff in the county, to one of the sheriffs, and that the election shall take place within a given time. The object, of course, is to prevent the abuse which, I am sorry to say, has prevailed under the present law. We have had elections fixed by the Government with reference only to their own interest, or what they supposed to be their interest, and without the slightest regard to the power of this Parliament. Above all things this Parliament ought to recognize the fact that it is the supreme body in the state, and this conduct on the part of the Government is an insult which we ought to take the earliest opportunity of resenting, and the power which the Government seeks to exercise of controlling this House is one of

which we ought to deprive them at the earliest moment.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

VOTING BY EMPLOYEES.

Mr. RIDER moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 17) to facilitate voting by employees at the elections of members of the House of Commons.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

MINISTERIAL RESIGNATIONS.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day are called, I desire to express my regret that I am not in a position to-day to make a final announcement in reference to the reconstruction of the Cabinet. The negotiations are almost completed, and, to-morrow at three o'clock when the House meets, I have no doubt I shall be in a position to announce definitely that the Cabinet is reconstructed. I move that the House do now adjourn.

Mr. WALLACE. Before the House adjourns I wish to make a statement. An article appeared in the "Mail and Empire" on Saturday last in which reference was made to the anonymous letters attention to which has been called in this House. In that article it is stated that there is one man in this country who has particular reasons to feel uneasy. I have been told by several members of the House of Commons that it has been freely stated that I am the one man referred to in the article which has appeared in the "Mail and Empire." From the rumours that are industriously circulated and what has previously appeared in print I have come to the conclusion that there is no doubt that I am the person alluded to and aimed at in the statement which I have just read, and I have, further, no doubt from what I have heard, but I make the statement subject to contradiction, that these rumours and the statement in the Government organs have originated with the Minister of Railways and Canals. I allude to the hon. member for Haldimand (Mr. Montague), who, I understand, is Minister of Railways and Canals to-day. Under these circumstances I have deemed it right to add to the formal and explicit denial that I gave to the House respecting these anonymous letters on Thursday last a full statement of all the facts and circumstances in connection wherewith that have come to my knowledge.

Some time in the latter part of June or in the early part of the month of July last, as I was returning home from the House of Commons I was accosted by Sir Adolphe Caron, then Postmaster General. He told me that there was a conspiracy of the vilest kind against him for the purpose of driving