

French, but all that we shall take up are printed in English. Of course, rule 93 of the House of Commons applies to private Bills as well as to public Bills, and, if any hon. member insists upon the objection that, before the second reading private Bills must be printed in French as well as in English, I shall have to rule in his favour. I must say, however, that it has not been the practice of the House to do so, for the reason, I think, that the Bill, long before it reaches the committee for consideration, will be printed in French. Perhaps the hon. gentleman will not insist upon the point.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. No.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the second time.

SECOND READINGS.

Bill (No. 17) to incorporate the Winnipeg, Duluth and Hudson Bay Railway Company.—(Mr. Macdonell.)

Bill (No. 18) to confer certain powers on the Board for the management of the Temporalities Fund of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland.—(Mr. Charlton.)

Bill (No. 19) respecting the Manitoba and South-Eastern Railway Company.—(Mr. Landarkin.)

Bill (No. 21) respecting the Alberta Railway Company.—(Mr. Oliver.)

Bill (No. 22) respecting the Trans-Canadian Railway Company, and to change the name of the company to the Trans-Canada Railway Company.—(Mr. Davis.)

Bill (No. 23) to incorporate the Methodist Trust Fire Insurance Company.—(Mr. Sutherland, for Mr. Britton.)

Bill (No. 24) respecting the Manitoba and Pacific Railway Company.—(Mr. Douglas.)

Bill (No. 25) to confirm an agreement between the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and the Hull Electric Company.—(Mr. Sutherland, for Mr. Gibson.)

Bill (No. 26) respecting the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada.—(Mr. Sutherland, for Mr. Gibson.)

Bill (No. 27) to incorporate the Royal Victoria Life Insurance Company.—(Mr. Quinn.)

DISMISSAL OF POSTMASTER IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Mr. MARTIN asked :

What is the date of the dismissal of Mr. Martin as postmaster at Eldon, in Prince Edward Island? What was the nature of the charges preferred against him, if any? Has he been fur-

nished with a copy of those charges? Has he been given an opportunity to defend himself against those charges? Was his case examined by the investigating commissioner who is inquiring into such cases in Prince Edward Island? If not, why not?

The POSTMASTER GENERAL (Mr. Mullock). In reply to the hon. gentleman, I would state that there is no post office named Eldon in Prince Edward Island. The hon. gentleman probably refers to some other post office.

DISMISSAL OF JAMES ROSS, SUB-COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS.

Mr. MARTIN asked :

What is the date of the dismissal of James Ross as sub-collector of customs at Mt. Stewart, in Prince Edward Island? Were there any charges preferred against him? If so, what was their nature? Was he given an opportunity to refute them? Was his case examined by the investigating commissioner? If not, why not? Was he dismissed for political partisanship? Has a successor been appointed? If not, why not?

The COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS (Mr. Paterson). James Ross, sub-collector of customs at Mount Stewart, P.E.I., was dismissed by Order in Council dated 21st October, 1896. The reason for his dismissal was that no appropriation was obtained for payment of his salary for the fiscal year 1895-96, and provision was only made in the Estimates for the current fiscal year for payment of his salary to 30th September, 1896. Charges of political partisanship were preferred against him but were not investigated. He was not dismissed on that ground. No one has been appointed in his place, as it was not deemed necessary to fill the position.

DISMISSAL OF DANIEL McDONALD, SUB-COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS.

Mr. MARTIN asked :

What was the nature of the charges preferred against Daniel McDonald, late sub-collector of customs at Vernon River Bridge, in Prince Edward Island? Were the charges referred to the investigating commissioner? Did Mr. McDonald have an opportunity to refute charges? Has a successor been appointed? Was there an appropriation last session for sub-collector's salary?

The COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS (Mr. Paterson). No charges were preferred against Daniel McDonald, late sub-collector of customs at Vernon River Bridge, P.E.I. He was dismissed by Order in Council, dated 21st October, 1896. The reason for his dismissal was that no appropriation was obtained for payment of his salary for the fiscal year 1895-96, and provision was only made in the Estimates for the current year for payment of his salary to 30th September, 1896. An officer was appointed at Vernon River Bridge on the 1st January,