

### BUSINESS OF LEGISLATURE IS PRACTICALLY CONCLUDED

Continued from page 1.  
power to alter, change or reduce the telephone rates or tolls. It found excessive, which was accepted.

An amendment to section 11 that the making of deposit to ensure the bonafides of any complainant should be compulsory was struck out and the sections remains as originally drawn, leaving the making of such deposit in the discretion of the commissioner.

The bill as amended was agreed to. Hon. Mr. Hazen moved that a bill in aid of the construction of a dry dock at St. John be recommitted to insert an amendment so as to make it apply to a dry dock built "in or near to" St. John. Agreed to.

The bill relating to the Town of Newcastle was agreed to as amended. The bill to incorporate the Gibson and Minto Railway Co. was next taken up.

Mr. Copp said it was the intention of the company to apply to the Government for a guarantee of bonds.

Mr. Shipp having been present in the negative, Mr. Copp said in that case the section referring to that subject might as well be stricken out.

Mr. Shipp said there was no present intention to apply for the guarantee of bonds, but it might perhaps happen in the future that such a necessity would arise and the section would be applied to stand.

Mr. Copp reiterated his objection, but it was allowed to stand.

The title of the bill was changed to the Fredericton and Grand Lake Coal and Railway Company, and the bill as amended was agreed to.

**Tobique Dam Bill.**  
The committee on the Tobique Pulp and Paper Company's bill.

Mr. Hatheway moved that the bill be not considered but be referred back to the corporations committee for further consideration. He had made inquiries as to the result from the building of the dam and the St. John Board of Trade claimed that it would ruin the salmon fishing industry.

Fishermen at Lorneville owned about a hundred boats engaged in fishing and there were many more at West St. John.

Ten boats alone last year caught thirteen thousand salmon where a year or so previously they had only caught eight thousand. The increase was said to be due to the benefits of the work of the Tobique Salmon Club.

The total value of the salmon industry was about fifty thousand dollars a year, and the closing of the Tobique river would mean the destruction of the industry altogether.

He hardly thought it would be so bad as that, but that was claimed by men supposed to know.

The Deputy Minister of Fisheries had reported against it, and the evidence of Messrs. Harrison and Calder, two experts, was to the effect that salmon could not pass a forty foot dam. It would benefit the promoters of the bill, Messrs. Stetson, Cutler and Company, who owned considerable timber limits in the neighborhood, for it would give them a tin yard for their operations, some three and a half miles long.

The construction of a pulp mill would also stimulate trade by the employment of a large number of hands and would be the means of circulating a good deal of money in the district. It was too open to question whether it was proper to confer on a private company the right to erect a dam by means of which water power to the extent of twelve or fifteen horsepower might be developed. They might be prepared to pay rent, but the power remained theirs forever. Before coming to any decision the matter of a company should have much fuller information as to the proposed works and plans and specifications of what was going to be done.

**Mr. Woods.**  
Mr. Woods seconded Mr. Hatheway's resolution and said that he had agreed with all that had been said. He believed the bill would mean the destruction of salmon fishing, that it would interfere with the vested rights of riparian owners and that it would interfere materially with lumber coming down river.

Mr. Tweeddale took the point that the committee of the whole could not refer a bill back to the corporations committee.

Chairman Sproule ruled that the point of order was well taken and the resolution of Mr. Hatheway was out of order.

Mr. Hatheway moved that progress be reported and the chairman put the motion.

Mr. Tweeddale was about to address the committee when Mr. Hazen took the point that the years and days had been called and Mr. Tweeddale was out of order.

The chairman ruled that the point of order was well taken and the vote was then called and resulted as follows: yeas 19, nays 17.

The speaker resumed the chair as the bills relating to St. Paul's Presbyterian church, Fredericton, an addition to the fisheries act—relating to public utilities—to amend the game act—relating to New Brunswick coal and railway—relating to the town of Newcastle—to incorporate the Gibson and Minto Railway Company, were read a third time and passed.

The House went into committee, and took up the bill relating to the Alberte Oilite and Coal Company.

Mr. Robinson asked if the intention of the bill was not to settle the meaning of the word in the case before the courts.

known to spend any money to speak of. They secured leases at a rental of \$300. Under the development of the Petroleum Company these leases have increased so that now the Alberte Oilite Company asks \$2,500,000 for their lease and have been offered the equal of \$300,000.

If this lease was to be extended it should be done on equitable terms to the province as the province needed money.

**Mr. Hazen.**  
Hon. Mr. Hazen said that he had been a member of the house when legislation regarding the matter under dispute had passed. It was the clear intention to give the New Brunswick Petroleum Company oil and gas rights on 10,000 square miles. Later and spent some money on the exploration of the Alberte Oilite and Coal Company, who had also promoted the bill for the New Brunswick Petroleum Company of which he was president.

He passed the Alberte bill, a clear intention of which was that that company should have shale rights on a certain area.

At Ottawa recently he had talked with Hon. Mr. Pugsley, who was attorney general at the time, and who told him that he had drawn leases, and that it was the intention to give one company oil and gas rights and the other the shale rights.

The properties overlapped and now the petroleum company claimed they were entitled to shale rights as well as oil and natural gas, in the territory over which their leases extended.

The contention had not been made until the Maritime Oil Fields, Limited, represented by Dr. Henderson, who represented English capital, came in and spent some money on the exploration of the New Brunswick Petroleum Company's property. Mr. Matthew Lodge, who was really the founder of the New Brunswick Petroleum Company, and who was also interested in the other company, had written letters ridiculing this contention and saying it was the idea to have the New Brunswick Petroleum Company control natural gas and oil rights and the other company to have shale rights.

Result of contention between parties that borings for shale would have the effect of taking away oils and natural gas which could not help escaping up the shafts. Another contention was that because oil found in shales no other company was entitled to take shales or gas which was found beneath them. This was now set up for the first time and it had never been claimed by the petroleum company. The result would be if it prevailed, that there could be no prospecting for minerals in future except by the N. B. Petroleum Company. The company had not found their business very paying till last summer when they struck gas on other side of the Pettedodiac river, but in the meantime the gentleman who had property, took steps to develop it. Capital was required to erect works because manufacture must take place at a short distance from where shales are to be found.

Scraples of shale had been sent to Scotland where similar works were established and shales had been pronounced quite as good as Scotch shales by the products equally so.

The company had been started in England to develop the business, but little progress had been made because it was ascertained that the company had no right to shale, therefore they turned to the Legislature to ascertain what the rights of respective companies were. There was no doubt in his (Hazen's) mind that the intention was that no other company should be prevented from prospecting for minerals over such large area because in doing so they might tap oil and gas.

Mr. Copp strongly opposed the idea that the legislature was the right tribunal to decide rights of respective companies. That was a matter for law courts. The Petroleum Company had met with misfortune until Mr. Sumner went to the old country and introduced capitalists.

Mr. Robinson said this lease specifically says that any dispute shall be settled by arbitration or appeal to the law courts. It was a question between the government and the lessee not between the two lessees and he strongly suggested that the matter stand over for future consideration in the hope that some amicable settlement might be arranged.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer was surprised at the attitude taken by the honorable gentleman opposite, when he recalled the fact that one of them was provincial secretary and arranged leases and the other was surveyor general and signed them. Neither thought they did an injustice to the New Brunswick Company when they granted the lease to the Alberte Oilite Company. When the Petroleum Company's lease expired in 1907, it was renewed two days after it had expired for 99 years, in December of the same year, without any consideration except \$300 a year rental, they gave the Cannel Company lease for two years only. The government must do nothing but simple justice and no one would say that the Petroleum Company should take all the oil and shale over an area of ten thousand acres in addition to that included in 1907 acres leased to the Cannel Company.

Mr. Byrne said the proper place to decide this question was a court of law. He would have to vote along lines taken by the leader of the opposition.

**Mr. Burchill.**  
Mr. Burchill did not think many members now in the house knew what was the intention under the original leases. He thought it was a matter of law to be decided and not of fact and that the legislature should not be called upon to decide a matter of law.

Mr. Sweeney said it was unheard of for the government to try to repudiate its own acts and those of former administrations. The two leases were not covering one and the same thing. This bill would interfere with the fair name of this province and breaking faith with capitalists from England, and would prevent others from coming in here.

Mr. Copp said that \$250,000 had been spent in exploring and development under the New Brunswick Petroleum Company's lease. They have been trying to get to the solution of the trouble but had not been able to have any fair arrangement arrived at.

On vote of 19 to 14 it was decided to go into consideration of the bill section by section, and after a short discussion the bill was agreed to.

Progress was reported in respect of the bill relating to winding up of incorporated companies and that relat-

## STANDARD PASSES FIRST MILESTONE OF USEFUL AND PROMISING CAREER



JAMES H. CROCKETT, MANAGING DIRECTOR.

Year Ago Today First Issue Of The Standard Was Published—Steady Progress In All Departments.

One year ago today the first number of The Standard was published. From the first no expense has been spared to secure the live news of the day over the wires and to cover the provincial field thoroughly. Subscribers in every village and town in New Brunswick are convincing evidence of appreciation of the enterprise shown. Wherever newspapers are sold The Standard can be secured and the growing advertising patronage is but the natural outcome of the rapidly increasing circulation.

ing to motor vehicles. The Speaker having resumed the chair a motion to receive and adopt the report of the committee on the bill to amend the Alberte Oilite and Coal Company's act was carried by a vote of 21 to 14 as follows: Yeas, Messrs. Hazen, Flemming, Grimmer, Morrissey, McLeod, Maxwell, Murray, Dickson, Woods, Hartt, Jones, Munro, Sproul, Pinder, Young, Robinson, Glasier, Prescott, Wilson, MacLachlan, Baker, Cyr, Hatheway, Sheridan.

Nays, Messrs. Currie, Labllois, Robinson, Copp, Sweeney, Tweeddale, Burgess, Bentley, Legere, Lowell, Byrnes, Legere (Glo.), Upham, Burchill.

On motion for third reading of the bill to aid in construction of the St. John Valley Railway, Mr. Burchill moved seconded by Mr. Currie that the bill No. 76 be not now read a third time, but that the order for the third reading be rescinded and the bill be referred to the committee of the whole House to be amended by adding a section to the effect that before the bonds for such a large amount be guaranteed by the province the people of the province may have an opportunity of expressing an opinion upon the question. This was lost by 39 votes to 8 as follows: Yeas—Messrs. Labllois, Sweeney, Bentley, Legere, Lowell, Byrnes, Legere, Burchill.

Nays—Messrs. Hazen, Flemming, Grimmer, Morrissey, McLeod, Maxwell, Murray, Dickson, Woods, Slipp, Hartt, Jones, Munro, Sproul, Pinder, Young, Robinson, Glasier, Prescott, Wilson, MacLachlan, Robinson, Copp, Tweeddale, Burgess, Baker, Cyr, Hatheway, Upham, Sheridan.

**Mr. Copp.**  
Mr. Copp then moved that bill No. 78 be not now read a third time but that it be referred back to the committee of the whole House with instructions to amend the same so as to provide that the Government shall not make any guarantee of bonds until it is assured that the proposed line of railway shall connect with the Transcontinental railway at or near Grand Falls or some other point on the line of Transcontinental railway



RUPERT HAZEN, CITY EDITOR.

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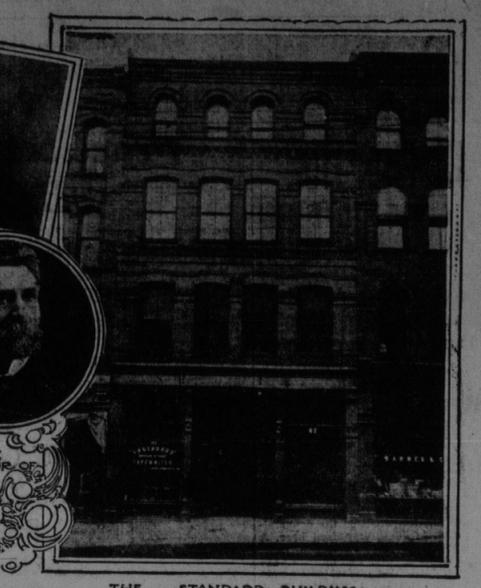
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THE STANDARD BUILDING.

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### HOLY CITY AT OPERA HOUSE

Biblical Drama Presented Last Evening Proved Inoffensive—Well Staged and Received With Applause.

In the Opera House last evening Clarence Bennett and his company presented the much discussed Biblical drama "The Holy City." Several prominent citizens who were prejudiced against the play, and attended in a critical spirit, readily admitted after the performance that they could detect nothing wrong with the production.

The Salome dance which was advertised as a special feature was abandoned in deference to representations made by the moral and social reform council.

The "Holy City" is a drama in four acts and deals with chapters in the life and death of the Savior, and with the story of John the Baptist. Whatever objection may be raised from a religious point of view against the staging of sacred events, the audience who witnessed last evening's performance came away convinced that the Holy City was in every way a moral production and entirely free from suggestiveness.

Mr. Bennett, who is author of the piece, has ingeniously created an atmosphere round the history of the persecution, death and resurrection of Christ that the audience unconsciously feels the nearness of the event. The tragedy of Calvary is presented by a tableau, after the famous painting of Michael Angelo.

The company is well balanced. Mr. Bennett in the double role of Judas Iscariot and King Herod was particularly good and Miss Capicola Marshall, as Elizabeth the mother of John, won much applause. Today being Good Friday the play will not be presented.

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### CHATHAM MAN VICTIM OF SERIOUS ACCIDENT

Michael Losier Falls From Quarry Embankment, a Distance of Forty Feet, Sustaining Severe Injuries.

Chatham, N. B., March 24.—Michael Losier of Chatham was seriously injured this morning, while working in Walsh's quarry at Millbank and now lies in a precarious condition at Hotel Dieu. Losier fell down the quarry embankment a distance of forty feet and struck heavily against the stones at the bottom. He sustained a cut four inches deep on his head, his spine was injured and he suffered other bruises. Dr. Duffy was called in and he had Losier removed to the hospital.

statements of fact and for the most part they are letters exchanged between Buckley and the late George P. Sheldon, who was president of the Phoenix Fire Insurance Company, of Brooklyn, Buckley's power with the legislature was well worth the money he admits he received.

But Buckley's influence at Albany went even further, according to his own words. He was able to learn in advance of a decision of the court of appeals, he said, and kept Sheldon informed of what was coming off in the court.

Niles Dawson, of New York, consulting actuary, said under oath in unequivocal terms that Buckley informed him that he could not get favorable action on a bill in which he was interested unless he paid some money to "the boys."

Money for the Boys Required at Albany

New York, N. Y., Mar. 24.—Bitt by hit, there was unfolded at the fire insurance inquiry today, the story of the career of William H. Buckley, the Albany lawyer, who for years was a legislative agent at the state capital, for the fire insurance companies. On the face of the documentary evidence produced Buckley was well-nigh invincible at Albany. If the letters which were entered on the records contained

### MR. FOSTER GIVES NOTICE OF APPEAL

Toronto, March 24.—George R. Foster, M.P. for North Toronto, has filed at Osgoode Hall notice of appeal from the recent decision of Mr. Justice Macgill and a jury dismissing his action against J. A. MacDonald, editor of the Toronto Globe, claiming \$50,000 damages for alleged libel.

Portland, March 24.—Sailed for John A. Beckerman, Beaver Harbor, N. B.

### DEATHS

Stubs.—In this city, March 23rd, Enid Plossie, eldest daughter of the late Chas. F. Stubs, aged 21 years, leaving mother, sister and four brothers to mourn their loss. Funeral Friday afternoon from her late residence, 204 St. James street. Service begins at 3:15 o'clock.

Spent.—In this city, on 23rd inst., David Henry Short, in the 63rd year of his age, leaving a wife, three sons and two daughters.

Funeral from his late residence, 42 Carleton street on Friday at 4 p. m. Watts.—On March 23, Annie Watts, sister of the late James W. Racine, in the eighty-third year of her age. Funeral this afternoon at 2:15 o'clock from the residence of Newton A. Rogers, 54 St. James street.

Sancton.—On March 23rd, in New York city, George Edward, youngest son of the late Henry P. Sancton, Esq.

Farm for Sale.—At Armstrong's Corner, Queens Co., 6 1/2 miles from Welsford Station, fronting on Nepesic Creek. Farm consists of 200 acres of land, house and woodhouse attached, 4 barns, water in house and barn. Apply to R. A. Corbett, 274 Douglas Ave. 878-12-d-App

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