

when gentlemen speak in this House about a fair day's wages for a fair day's work, I feel happy in saying that in this country wages are much better than they used to be. I do not say for a moment that the workman is getting too well paid yet, because I would like to see him having all the comforts that it is possible for any man to have; and there is no doubt the day is coming. But I will say this, that they are much more comfortable and prosperous now than they were under the regime of hon. gentlemen opposite, because they are now fully employed. Even if we admit that the articles they have to purchase cost them a little more, we must remember they are fully employed, and have more money to purchase with, whereas under the Administration of the hon. gentlemen opposite they had neither work nor money, but were starving. But, say they, Providence has done all that; we have had good crops. Well, it is a strange thing that these gentlemen are so unlucky when they come into office. I remember in a former case, when they were in power, we had the weevil in the wheat; and whenever they come into power we have poor crops. We never have any evils in legislation. Now those gentlemen have got to change their tactics; they have got to adopt this policy if they ever expect to succeed in this country and come over to the Ministerial side of the house. I do not say they will do it, though whether any man living to-day will see it or not I do not know. But they must change their tactics; they must work in the interests of Canada; must stop running down their own country; they must stop praising up the adjoining nation, before the good, loyal people of Canada will trust them with the management of their affairs.

Mr. MACKENZIE. I would like to know if you obtained the coal for your steamers from the United States free of duty?

Mr. McCALLUM. I tell the hon. gentleman that I did not.

Mr. MACKENZIE. The hon. gentleman should be obliged to me for getting the matter straightened.

Mr. McCALLUM. The matter was straightened before, as the hon. gentleman would have known if he understood plain English, and I always endeavor to speak plainly.

Mr. BOULTBEE moved the adjournment of the debate. Motion agreed to.

REPORT.

Mr. MOUSSEAU presented the report of the Secretary of State, for the fiscal year ending 31st December, 1881.

House adjourned at 12:55 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

WEDNESDAY, 1st March, 1882.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

The following Bills were severally introduced and read the first time:—

Bill (No. 55) to incorporate the Canada Mutual Telegraph Company.—(Mr. Kirkpatrick.)

Bill (No. 56) to amend the Act 43 Victoria, chapter 69, respecting the Anchor Marine Insurance Company.—(Mr. Beatty.)

Bill (No. 57) to incorporate the Chignecto Marine Transport and Cape Railway Company.—(Mr. Cameron, Victoria.)

Mr. McCALLUM.

Bill (No. 59) to incorporate the Brant Loan and Savings Company.—(Mr. Paterson, Brant.)

Bill (No. 60) to incorporate the Ottawa, Waddington and New York Railway and Bridge Company.—(Mr. Currier.)

Bill (No. 61) to incorporate the Ontario Pacific Railway Company.—(Mr. Bergin.)

Bill (No. 62) to incorporate the Lake Athabaska and Hudson Bay Railway Company.—(Mr. Cameron, Victoria.)

RAILWAY PASSENGER TICKETS.

Mr. THOMPSON, in moving for leave to introduce Bill (No. 58) to provide that railway passenger tickets shall be available to the holder thereof until used, said: This is a short Bill and explains itself. It provides that all railway tickets issued by all railways over which this Bill has control shall be good until used; in other words, that a person shall receive value for his money. The Bill will be printed in a few days, and then hon. gentlemen will be able to make themselves fully acquainted with it.

Bill introduced and read the first time.

STAMP ACTS REPEAL BILL.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I call the attention of my hon. friend the leader of the Opposition, to a Bill (No. 63) to repeal the duty on Promissory Notes and Bills of Exchange. I was so successful in carrying a Bill the other day without much interruption, that I am emboldened to try it on again, with the assistance of my hon. friend. It is to carry the Act for the repeal of the Stamp Acts. They must be repealed, otherwise the legal obligation of affixing stamps still exists. On consulting with the Law Clerk, and his opinion is endorsed by Mr. Todd, the Bill can be introduced without resolution; and if you agree with those authorities, I shall move, with the unanimous consent of the House, to have the Bill carried. The special reason for which I ask the House to do so, is this: His Excellency the Governor General will be asked to come down and give assent to the Prince Edward Island Bank Bill, and I would like that he be asked to give assent to the two Bills at the same time. I, therefore, move, seconded by Mr. Blake, for leave to introduce a Bill to repeal the stamps on promissory notes. The Bill reads as follows:—

Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:—

1. No duty shall be payable on any promissory note, draft or bill of exchange, made, drawn or accepted in Canada, after the fourth day of March, in the present year, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two; and from and after the said day the Act passed in the forty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign, and intitled: "*An Act to amend and consolidate the laws respecting duties imposed on promissory notes and bills of exchange,*" shall be repealed: Provided always that all Acts or enactments repealed by the said Act shall remain repealed, and that all things lawfully done, and all rights acquired under the said Act or any Act repealed by it, shall remain valid, and all penalties incurred under them or any of them, may be enforced and recovered, and all proceedings commenced under them or any of them may be continued and completed, as if this had not been passed: And provided also, that all unused stamps lawfully issued under the said Acts or any of them for the payments of any duty hereby repealed, shall after the said day and until the thirtieth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two, be received at their face value in payment of any money payable to Her Majesty for the public uses of Canada, or in exchange for postage stamps of like face value.

Mr. BLAKE. I would ask my hon. friend kindly to relieve me from the position of seconder of this motion. I do not at all object to the proposal that we should dispense with all notices and proceed at once to legislate in the direction which the House now intends to legislate; but unless it would embarrass him very much indeed, to find a seconder, I would prefer not to act in that capacity.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I would then suggest Sir Charles Tupper, if that will relieve my hon. friend's embarrassment.