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Sessional Notes.

cerned, last week's proceedings in much of it without even the exvancing some private bills a stage. The first three days of the week were practically frittered away why they failed to safeguard our recognition. in the fashion described.

About noon on Thursday the House began to assume an air of "something doing." The first indication of this was the presentation by Mr. Mathieson of a monster petition of Joseph Mc-Pherson and two thousand other electors of the Province, as fol-"To The Legislative Assembly of

Prince Edward Island. Your petitioners, resident elec-

perform and asking the Governtors of said Island, respectfully

proposed re arrangement of Pro vincial Subsidies no consent be given by your Honorable House on behalf of this Province to any utter inconsistency of the Governreduction of the per capita subsidy now secured and allowed by tion declaring the delegates had law to this Province.

(2) That in order to make provision to meet the increased expenditure of this Province since Confederation Ifor education, pub lic works, agriculture, etc., the claim of this Province be now presented to the Dominion, showing that we are entitled to revantages and consideration as are proposed to be given to the other Provinces of Canada.

(3) That a special claim be made for additional consideration and recognition on account of the special conditions existing in this Province, and the non-fulfilment by Canada of the terms of Union with this Province and in parti cular for a fair adjustment of transportation, rates continuous communication with the mainland by the best means that can be provided, and a restoration of the original number of our representatives in Parliament.

The presentation of such petition was, perhaps not altogether a surprise to the Government side of the House; but its size rather staggered them. But that is not the end of the petition business; there are others. After the members on the Government benches had recovered themselves Captain Read rose and moved the following resolution seconded by Mr. Clarke:

Resolved that the delegates re- Conference sufficient for the pur- Province are out, on the Governments' presenting this Province at the pose. In any case this Legislat-Conference held in the City of ure should make known to the Ottawa in October 1906, between Imperial Government, their disdelegates representing the various sent from the conclusions of the Provinces of the Dominion and the Conference, so far as the per Dominion Government in refer- capita subsidies to this Province ence to the Provincial subsidies, are concerned. Mr. Mathieson's were authorized and instructed by arraingment of the delegates on Thursday evening last Sir Wilfrid Deputy Minister of Finance heard this Legislature to secure and ac- and the action of the Govcept the following:

Provincial Legislature in 1906 are the conclusions of the Conference then set forth including the name was trenchent and powerful and of Prince Edward Island instead the Government supporters winced of Saskatchewan and! Alberta as under his merciless onelaught. in resolution "C" of the Provincial Conference 1906.)

No word of reply or attempt Be it further resolved that this at defence come from the Govern-House is of opinion that the dele- ment benches, when Mr. Mathieson gates of the Government of this concluded his speech Friday fore-Province having reported that noon, and Mr. Speaker was about these terms have been acceeded to. to put the motion, when Mr. A. J. the Government be authorized to McDonald rose and continued the confirm the above terms and to debate. He referred to the public 400,000, \$30,000. meetings that hadbeen held in

accept nothing less, Neither the mover por the sconder of this resolution support- and the resolutions passed thereat 800,000, \$180,000. ed in with reasons why it should condemning the action of the dele-

to refuse to confirm their action. It would be difficult to frame In addition to this, he pointed to vince exceeds a million and a half, Ottawa lawyer, \$5,591 to another private interest." a resolution more wretched in the petition presented in the \$240,000. construction or more contradictary House on the previous day quite (b)-Instead of an annual grant in terms than the one just refer- in line with the resolutions passed head of population now allowed, the red to. In the evidently sinister at the meetings, This was the larg-same reto of eighty cents per head but end desired by its framers, the re-est petition, but one, that he had diculousness of the document was ever seen brought into the Leg. overlooked. It seems quite plain islature. In view of all these facts that this resolution was put for- the Government should halt and sand and at the rate of 60 cents per ward for the purpose of deceiving the resolution before the House head for so much of said population the people, and its promoters, no should not pass. He concluded as may exceed two million five hundred doubt, entertained the hope that his speech by moving an amend, thousand it might pass unchallenged. Their ment to the resolution of Captain tactics in this connection point in Read. The amendment seconded years to the province of British Column that direction. It was sprung by Mr. Kennedy was as follows - bis

upon the House with the shortest That all after the word "that ssible notice and the mover gave in the 4th line from the botton no explanation or made no speech be struck out, and the following on introducing it. If this was the substituted:—

and sought the Government were "This House having before it badly disappointed; for the re-solution was scarcely tabled when the representatives of Canada and the fat was in the fire. Mr. Mor- of the provinces signed by the son immediately took the floor Secretary, Mr. Lanctot and issped and began a most vigorous analy- by the Premier of this province, sis of the resolution and it did not and also the minutes of the same take him long totear the wonder- Conference signed by Messrs ful thing to shreds. He pointed Lanctot and Pope as joint that it, was in many respects, simi- secretaries, and issued by the lar to the resolution passed in our Dominion Government, both of So far as killing time is con- Legislature last year. What good which expressly say that the he asked, could such a resolution above terms have not been accedthe Legislature were, for the most do now. It was not very likely ed to, refuses to ratify the action part, a repetition of what occurred another delegation would be sent of the said delegates from this during the previous week. The to do the work our late delegates province as being unauthorized Government managed to dawdle had failed to accomplish. The by this Legislature and contrary away the time from day to day, delegates from this Government to the terms of the resolution to the Ottawa Conference of 1906 thereof passed in 1906; and be it cuse of the cancus. The short failed to do what they were told further resolved that our delegates sittings of Monday, Tuesday and to do, and did several things they should have presented in writing Wednesday were taken up in the were instructed not to do. Re- at the Conference the claims of asking of questions and in ad- peatedly Mr. Morson asked the this province to further sums than Premier and his co-delegate Mr. those set out in the resolution and Hughes, to explain, even now, to additional consideration and

Province's right to receive the per capita subsidy on our maximum By the time Mr. McDonald had population. But the delegates concluded his speech 12 o'clock sat silent and no one on the Govhad arrived and the House adernment side had a word to say journed till Monday of this week. in their defence. But, while the In the meantime Sir Wilfrid members on the Government side Laurier moved in the Dominion of the House knew and felt the Parliament in the matter of bringdelegates had failed in their duty ing the question before the Imto our Province, a resolution bearperial authorities, as will be seen ing falsehood on its face is atelsewhere in this issue, and the tempted to be forced through the debate in the Legislature has not Legislature crediting these deleyet been resumed. gates with what they failed to

ment to confirm the accomplishment of the same. After Mr. (1) That in the matter of the Morson had badly shattered the Government, for the nine months ended Government's position, Mr. Fraser on the 30th September, 1906, published by took up the fight and poured in us last week, there are several special feasome hot shot. He showed the ment attempting to pass a resoluciering in connection with the hay importdone something, while the report is well known that this hay was the Goved and distributed by them in 1904-5. It of the Conference plainly showed ernment's principal canvass in the election they had done the very contrary. pampaign of 1904, and numerous revelaons have since been made of the various Mr. Mathieson, Leader of the ways in which this hay was exploited to Opposition, continued the debate, the Government's advantage. Many state-His analysis of the resolution be- ments had been asked for, and several furfore the House was merciless and nished, during the last two sessions, regardbe made its insufficiency and utter ing the Government's management of this could fail to understand it. He held up to scorn the evident attempt made to deceive by this rethe tax-payers of our Province. It was solution and appealed to the asthought that the last statement of agents sembled representatives to put the position of the Province in its true light by protesting against by no means the case, and our readers will been furnished last session; but such was what the delegates had done. The be amazed to learn that an amount of \$1, British North America Act would 764.64 of charges by agents is included in have to be amended before the the expenditure of 1906. This brings new subsidy arrangement would agents charges in connection with the hay, come into force. This amendment up to \$3,292.84. This is surely a considcould be effected by the Imperial erable amount to be paid for the distribu-Parliament only; but that Parlia- tien of this hay which the Government ment would not make the amend- claimed to be furnishing so cheaply. But ment without the consent of all this is only a fraction of the expense in the parties to the compact. We connection with this matter. The followwere one of the parties, and we ing amounts were paid out in the transaccould yet prevent the ruinous tion. Back charges \$1,332,06; printing bargain of our delegates from be- stationary and advertising \$4,453,01 ing ratified by forwarding our steamers Minto and Stanley, \$4,000,000. protest against it. Now was the These four items added to the original cost of the hay, \$45,001,96, brings the time to make that protest. The Imperial authorities, he said, might require an enactment of the Provincial Legislatures or a statutory 68 constitutes part of the deficit rolled up declaration of the Dominion Par- by the Government in the nine months of liament before amending the act! 1906, and is written off and added to the or they might deem the unanidelit of the Province. Our readers will mous resolutions of the Ottawa see therefore, that the tax-payers of this

> B. N. A. Act To Be Amended.

hay business, to the tume of \$5,685,68.

In the House of Commons, Ottaws, Laurier gave notice of an address to his Majesty asking for an amendment to ernment in attempting to foist the B. N. A. act fixing the scale of pay-(The resolutions passed by the on the public a false statement of ments to be made by the ominion to asked for are as follows:

(a)-Instead of the amounts now paid Canada to the several provinces for the support of their governments and legisand as follows.

(1)-Where the population of the province in under 150,000, \$100,000. (2)—Where the population of the province is 150,000 but does not exceed 200,000, \$150,000.

(8)-Where the population of the pro-(4)-Where the population of the prodifferent parts of the Province vince is 400,000 but does not exceed

(5)—Where the population is 800,000 gates and asking the Government \$220,000.

(5) - Wases the population of the pro-

annual payment hereafter to be at the

()-An additional allowance to th

Uttawa Weeklu Letter.

G. T. P. Finance.

A Little Bill for \$160,000-For So Called Preliminary Expenses - Wanted the Government to Guarantee Bills as Cost of Construct

COMPLACENT DE- tion. PARTMENT.

Railways and Canals Satisfied Refused to Pass Accounts -It was Finally Disallowed And the Record Disappear-

CANADA.

Says South Africa Is Better But Still Draws Canadian

N. A. T. COMPANY DAM AGES.

Making Money on the Side.

Highly Paid Officer Specu lates in Land-Uses official Information for Private

CHANGES IN THE PRE FERENCE POLICY.

> GREAT HYMAN MYSTERY.

Conservative Victory In Manitoba.

Ottawa, March 9 1907 off inquiry into details the public vestigate has come back with the

AN EXPANDED ACCOUNT. It will be remembered that the government guarantees seventy-five per cent of the bonds covering " cost of construction" of the prairie and mountain sections to be constructed ooo of bonds have been issued, the heavy one. government paying the company as their expenditure is certified. Last year the company presented a claim the statement and struck out \$162.

ooo. These were accounts for legal the bill there were no vouchers explaining the accounts or showing what money was paid for.

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT EASILY SATISFIED.

Notwithstanding the Accountant's alverse report the Chief Bogineer (f. the department certified to the whole bill, saying in his letter to Mr. Emmerson that he had consulted the Department of Justice on the matter. The Department of Railways having approved, the whole claim went to the Department of Finance. The Mr. Shannon's statement and consulted with his Minister with the result that the abcount was beld up for would look very well in the auditor's the sums hereafter payable yearly by report. At all events the department did not pay. The Grand Trunk Company asked for the return of the account, and all the papers certified as correct by the Department of Railways were bundled off to the company's office and no record of them.

A SECOND ATTEMPT. Meantime the company had submitted a second statement. This time some \$70,000 of the claim sas abandoned and the company tried to get the remainder. Mr. Shannon straight party lines to vote down the again refused to pass the items that he had rejected before. He seems to have kept a copy of the last lot rejected which includes \$6,421 to an Ottawa lawyer, \$5,591 to another law firm, \$3,500 to a third lawyer, fees to directors in London, and numerous other payments which are but does dot exceed a million and a half he had rejected before. He seems to hardly cost of construction. The

anding the fact that these accounts were certified by the officer, on whom streight par y division of 16 to 13, Mr. Pielding vating with the rest for the suppression of the informa-

WHAT IT MEANS.

pany which spands the money is to be allowed to put in all kinds of bills, get them through the departments to have been furnished with much official information. Now the law promay carry away all the records, so vides that an employee of the Departthat no parliament or committee or ment of the Interior shall not without MR PRESTON AGAINST government may be reafter discover authority disclose information of which any trace of the transaction. It is of his duties. For the rest we quote Mr. freely spent during the time that the that Mr. Powell, one of the defendants Grand Trunk Pacific bills were be- had carried off at least one of Mr fore Parliament and while the company was promoting and floating its large part of these " preliminary " of the homestead inspectors up there. expenses were passed by the De partment of Railways as a legitimate charge sgainst the Government guarantee. How much more there which the Company would not dare to present to the view of an auditor like Mr. Shannon can never be learned. It is perhaps convenient for some of the parties that Mr. Shanuon has been removed to

SUPPORTING THE N. A. T. There is a new development in the tion, using the reports of other Governsee of the North Atlantic Trading ment officers to assist him in his trad Company whose contract was ter-In this particular deal Mr. Smith and minated last November. Under the contract the Company was to receive \$30,000 profit for themselves. Whether \$5 per head for immigrants. This he has been guilty of deceiving the New agreement could only be terminated England speculators or not, he has got on four year's notice unless the the Department involved in an on four year's notice unless the pleasant story. The worst of it is that terms were violated. Mr. Oliver, both Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Minisstated that there had been a breach ter of the Interior supported Mr. Smith of the agreement and so cancelled and called upon the House to vote the contract. Doubties the real down Mr. Boyce's reasonable resolution reason was the exposures of last because it seemed to reflect upon a Gov-Session of the various frauds con A startling state of affairs respect needed with the contract itself and land speculating official is in sharp ing Grand Trunk Pacific finance has the popular condemnation of the ment, a short time age when it disle business But thhe sequel of Committee. If the Liberal majority large damages, and that a Govern- whose only offence was that he was re-

may never learn the full particulars report that the Company bue done But here are some of the facts so far all that the contract required. Seeing that Mr. Smart, who as Deputy Minister negotiated the contract with the Company has now become a resolution declaring that the British the Canadian agent of the con- tariff preference should be allowed only the Country may be prepared for ports. The motion was amended by the worst. As the Company was getting \$100,000 a year from the until authorized by order in council.

PRESTON AGAINST CANADA. Meanwhile Mr. Preston, inventor of this contract, is in South Africa, though for \$926 293. The Accountant of he is under salary as the commercial the Railway Department went through agent of Canada in China and Japan. He is receiving a salary of \$3000, and expenses. How much he is receiving outlays and general expenses which his chief occupation at present appears he would not recommend for pay- to be to boom South Africa as a field ment, as they were not " cost of con- for farm immigrants from Great Britain struction." In regard to \$55,000 of English papers are publishing a series of letters from Mr. Preston, of which the following two sentences may be taken as samples. "The Dutch settlers have proved that a return, unequaled in other Colonies, can be readily had here for a very moderate expenditure of farm labor." "South Africa can more readily support millions of population in its agricultural possibilities between Table Mountain and the Zambesi than tion and amended the clause so that Canada can between Winnipeg and the the preference would be allowed on

Rocky Mountains.' WHY IS THIS ALLOWED. Are the people of Canada paying Commissioner Preston a large salary to tell English farmers that Canada is not as good a field for them as South Africa? by the Committee of Privileges and This country is paying heavily to in- Electons to find out whether Mr. Hy duce farm laborers to come to Canada man has resigned his seat. This effort rather than go elgewhere, and here is has failed Mr. Duffield of London, who an officer in the pay of the government has been in telegraphic communication spending his time and efforts to persuade with Mr. Hyman, was summoned the several provinces. The amendments a month. It may be supposed that British farmers to go elsewhere rather appear on Thursday and tell what he Mr. Fielding did not think these bills than come here. Why does Mr. Prest- knew about the Minister's instruction works without motive. Is he in the to sign the second resignation as with ray of some syndicate which is working nesses. Mr. Duffield did not come and up immigration to Africa? Is he try- sent no reason for his absence. So the ing to vindicate his North Atlantic combined to wait another contrast and his own record as an immigration offic-r in England by causing the immigration to fall off when the former conservative worker \$400 out of contract is cancelled and he has quit his job? Sir Richard Cartwright, who is Mr. Preston's chief, has been questioned but will only say that he is wait

Since Mr. Hyman's success at the polls Since Mr. Hyman selects this gentleman

PUBLIC POSITION BOR PRIVATE Hyman wants.
AGRAND VICTORY. On Wednesday the house divided on following motion.

stated in the motion was sound, but
called upon his followers to vote it
down because the mover introduced it
down because the mover introduced it
death of Senator Casgrain of Windsor, from their second statement are as a condemnation of Qbed Smith, Com-more interesting and more objection. missioner for Immigration at Winniappeared from the department.

KEEPING IT DARK.

There was steady and vigorous objection on the part of Government supporters to any inquiry into these items and any attempt to see accounts.

The part of Government items and any attempt to see accounts of the Line in the late of the correct of the Line in the late of the correct of the late able, but all record of them has dis-

Smith is not satisfied with his duties Treasury, chairman Geofficon ruled and his salary but speculates heavily that the Committee had nothing to in lands. Recently he put through a do with them. When the motion cale of 47,000 acres at \$6.56 an acre to was made that the Grand Trunk ac- parties in Vermount. The New England countum, who is to give a vidence at people claim to have been deceived in the pext meeting, should bring with that block as 7,300 acres was sold to bim the accounts for this \$162 000 other parties whereas the Vermonnt the motion was voted dave on a They sued Smith and his partner and

ON HIS OWN EVIDENCE. The charge that Commissioner Si made use of his position to promote his When it is remembered that the private interests rests on his own evid-Government will probably endorse ence in this trial. He swore that thirty or forty millions of bonds for homestead inspector Ridington in the -Though the Accountant the two Western sections, it is a discharge of his duty sent him reports rather serious affair that the com which he used in making the sale. Ridington's reports leaving no cor the office, Mr. Smith testifie Question. Who is Mr. Ridington who

sent you this report? Answer. One Question. An employee of the Dominion Government? Yes.

of Government officials to make report for you in order that you might make money on the side? A. Yes, that is

"ON THE SIDE."

So we have the chief immigration officer of the Government, whose business it is to place immigrants on the land and is well paid for doing it, giving his time and attention to land specula his partner seem to have made about ernment officer. This concern for in the committee continues to head ment officer sent to Europe to in ported to have some interest in a small The Government party in the House voted to a man against Mr. Boyce's

PREFERENCE IN 1911. All day Thursday the House debated the Premier who added the provisor

that the policy should not go into effect by the company. About \$15,000,- Government, the bill will be a pretty The date mentioned by Sir Wilfrid was 1911, six years from now when the Transcontinental shall be finished. This shelves the question for the life of the present and the next Parliament. A FICKLE MINISTRY.

Three years ago all the Ministers terms as the one which is now headed then or have been influenced. But the tariff of this year shows a more rapid introduced in November the tariff gave no preference to Canadian ports. As Mr. Fielding amended the bill or February the 14th it was provided that preference should be allowed only on raw sugar imported when it came "by ship to a port in Canada from a British country." On March 6th, Mr. Fielding abandonded the Canadian port rastricsugar brought in by foreign ports. will be seen that the Ministerial mind is changing with startling rapidity.

IS HYMAN IN OR OUT. Another futile attempt has been made Sir Richard is to prepare the ground for the next campaign we are free to judge for ourcelves what kind of a campaign Mr.

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tractors and is pushing the claim on goods imported through Canadian the Country may be prepared for ports. The motion was amended by

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