

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

## OFFICIAL SYNOPSIS OF PROCEEDINGS

(Continued)

**THE MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES** in reply stated that no such officials had been employed and consequently no salaries paid.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Sales Tax resolutions.

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE** pointed out that the Resolutions were simply to abolish the Sales Tax on freight and duty and allow of duty being reckoned on the invoice cost only.

The Committee having risen and reported having passed the Resolutions, a Bill was introduced and read for the first time.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Legislative Disabilities Amendment Bill.

**THE ATTORNEY GENERAL** pointed out that a suggestion had been made by Mr. Warren on the subject of amending our legislation to conform with the English law, as to the re-election of members who take an office of emolument under the Crown. He introduced an amendment to the effect that election it will not be necessary for a minister to seek re-election.

**MR. WARREN** said that he would have moved the amendment himself but felt that it was the privilege of the Government to introduce such a change. He was heartily in accord with the proposed amendment.

The Committee rose, in order to give further time for the consideration of amendment.

On the second reading of the income Tax Bill, the **MINISTER OF FINANCE** said that the Bill had been fully explained before, but pointed out that the repeal of previous Acts did not exempt anyone from payment of taxes due previous to December 31st, 1924.

**MR. GRIMES** opposed the amendment on the grounds of its being un-British, as it would involve a heavier proportion of indirect taxation on the ordinary producer. He pointed out that in none of the Dominions had the income tax been lifted. He would be favor of a modification of the tax. He felt we should follow along the lines laid down by British statesmen, the men who control the destinies of the Empire, who since 1842 have adopted the law of an income tax.

**THE PRIME MINISTER** agreed that the removal of a tax upon the rich and levying it on the poor, was a principle that he did not subscribe to, but the income tax had proved unworkable and grossly unjust, as only 1200 people were effected, and numberless persons were escaping it. He contended that the only way to collect taxes in this country was through the Customs House. It was impossible to collect an income tax from scattered sections without excessive cost. The merchant type of tax-payer invests the amount saved by non-payment of the tax in his business, and it is kept in the country. He was satisfied that we were a great deal better off in collecting taxation through the Customs House.

**MR. GODDEN** while agreeing with Mr. Grimes in principle, appreciated the difficulty in operation the collection of the tax. He suggested that the Act be retroactive to January 1st, 1924 rather than to January 1st 1925.

**THE COLONIAL SECRETARY** pointed out the measure was introduced in the first instance purely as a War Measure and he supported it then as such. He questioned the benefit that was accruing in England from the tax, and pointed out the industrial paralysis that existed there, owing to the fact the industrial paralysis that existed there, owing to the fact the surplus funds of the capitalist were being used to pay the debt, and not enlarge their industries. So far as this country was concerned the bulk of the tax, owing to ease in assessment, was being paid in St. John's. As the Prime Minister has said grave consideration had been given to the measure. He had agreed with the tax as a war measure and would support it if it were possible to collect it from all. He felt the abolition of it now, would tend to place business and industry on a level.

The Bill was read a second time and referred to Committee. On the second reading of the Hotel Bill, the **LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION** and that, as they had stated previously the Opposition did not intend to oppose the measure, but at the measure of caution and that the plans and specifications of the hotel and its furnishings. He felt a grave mistake would be made by rushing the measure through.

**THE PRIME MINISTER** said that these people were committed to the erection of a building to cost \$700,000. The Government had seen a tentative plan and the actual plans would not arrive for some time and he the work, in order that members couldn't agree to hanging up might look at the plans. **THE GOVERNMENT** were perfectly satisfied that the contractors would erect a fire-proof structure to cost \$700,000. He felt the Opposition should not place a stumbling block in the way of the work.

**MR. ASHBOURNE** said that the erection of a hotel in St. John's was not going to benefit the Outports. He opposed the measure, as he considered that the project was profitless. He also stated that during his absence from the House he had not met any one who had any faith in the tourist policy.

**THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION** said they were not trying to obstruct the measure. They were trying to correct the Government.

**MR. SCAMMELL** regretted that the Prime Minister could not see the force of Mr. Hickman's arguments for some delay. Without opposing the measure, he could see the point raised by Mr. Ashbourne. He was opposed to the Government backing of the scheme owing to the lack of faith in the Government's tourist policy.

**THE ATTORNEY GENERAL** said that there were many different ways of opposing this measure. The time has arrived when we have to commercialize our natural advantages. The Government is backing this scheme in order to put on record their faith in their own country. We are adopting the measures

of other countries. The matter had to be viewed from the national aspect. A hotel was essential to this scheme. With all deference to the Leader of the Opposition, he pointed out that a section of the Bill provided that a building had to be erected on plans to be approved by the Government, the total cost of which erection would not be less than \$700,000.00. Again with deference to the House, he declared that the plans would not enlighten any member for they would not understand them. He advocated the boosting of the hotel scheme and suggested as a slogan, "This is one of the series. We want ten hotels." He deprecated members stating that the tourist policy was mistaken because people wouldn't come here. People wouldn't come. The Government was after people who had money to spend.

**MR. GRIMES** said that the Attorney-General had misunderstood the attitude adopted by their side of the House. He claimed that there were as many boosters of the country on the Opposition side as on the Government side of the House. He declared that the position taken by Mr. Hickman was the correct one and that the members were entitled to know how the money was going to be spent.

**MR. ASHBOURNE** said that regarding the Attorney-General's contention that he was not a booster of Newfoundland, he felt he would have the support of his colleagues when he declared himself as much a booster as anyone else. He was prepared to boost the country but he had to look at truths. He contended that a plebiscite would show the consensus of opinion to be against this scheme. He felt that any live Company would build a hotel without any guarantee.

**THE COLONIAL SECRETARY** pointed out that this was not a new scheme. The late Government had been prepared to guarantee interest without

**NEWFOUNDLAND**  
**NOTICE TO MARINERS**  
No. 5, 1925.

**South Head Fog Alarm Established,**  
Lat. 49° 09' 00" N.  
Lon. 58° 22' 00" W.  
POSITION—On South Head, on Southern Point, at the entrance to Bay of Islands.  
DESCRIPTION—A 3 inch Diaphone Fog Alarm operated by Compressed Air by Oil Engine.  
PERIOD—One blast 2 1-2 seconds duration in every 60 seconds, thus:  
BLAST SILENT BLAST SILENT  
2 1/2 5 1/2 2 1/2 5 1/2  
STRUCTURES—Engine house, dwelling house and store house, each a one storey building with a flat roof, painted white.  
REMARKS—This Fog Alarm will go in operation on November 10, 1925.

W. C. WINSOR,  
Minister of Marine and Fisheries,  
Department of Marine and Fisheries,  
St. John's, Newfoundland,  
September 24, 1925. oct9,31

**NEWFOUNDLAND**  
**NOTICE TO MARINERS**  
No. 6, 1925.

**LIGHT ESTABLISHED.**  
**South Head--On Southern Point,**  
AT THE ENTRANCE TO BAY OF ISLANDS.  
Lat. 49° 09' 00" N.  
Lon. 58° 22' 00" W.  
POSITION—On South Head, at the entrance to Bay of Islands.  
CHARACTER—A double Flashing WHITE ACETYLENE GAS Light, giving 15 flashes per minute.  
ELEVATION—Height from high water to focal plane—104 feet.  
STRUCTURE—An Octagonal wooden structure, painted white, lantern red.  
REMARKS—This Light will be put in operation on November 10, 1925.

W. C. WINSOR,  
Minister of Marine and Fisheries,  
Department of Marine and Fisheries,  
St. John's, Newfoundland,  
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security to the tune of \$35,000. This proposal had been made by the same people who were now the contractors, only the capital could not be found. As too the tourist policy, he knew that we would get a very large influx of tourists, as soon as we could accommodate them. He had recently received a deputation of young business men who were voluntarily going to establish a Tourist Bureau. They were going to boost the country and aid the tourist in his desire to see the country. They were going to put the word of "Welcome" across the Narrows. We have the basis of a very big industry, if we only had the faith in our own country that strangers seemed to have. He appealed to the House to have faith in the country and in the sincerity of the Government's policy. What Norway did, Newfoundland can do. He trusted that the Jeremiahs would cease their lamentations and realise the necessary for concluding this agreement and getting right down to business, and allow the labour to start at once.

**MR. GODDEN** compared the hotel scheme and its merits with the dock scheme. He agreed that we wanted at least one good hotel and also concurred in the opinion that if private enterprise would not attempt it, the Government might hold out some inducements.

The Bill was read a second time. On the motion for the reference of the Bill to Committee the **PRIME MINISTER** said he felt sure Mr. Hickman did not realise, when he made the suggestion about the plans, that full provision was made for this in the agreement. Touching Mr. Godden's reference to the dock, he explained that the criticism of the Upper House on the Dock Bill urged the Government to seek another opinions. Consequently they agreed to ask the Prime Minister of Canada to send down a good dock engineer. The Engineer of the Public Works Department of Eastern Canada, Mr. Gray, came down and reported practically the same as Colonel Mitchell and Mr. Bishop did. Since Mr. Bishop returned home he telegraphed to say that upon checking up he could make the dock of all concrete for the same cost as previously stated. As to the machine shops, Mr. Gray found that very little expenditure was required there and that \$50,000 in that respect, would make the shops up to date and be able to handle any job that came along. The position now was the same as had existed when the Government had received Colonel Mitchell's report, except that he hoped the public were more satisfied. In conclusion he asked that certain rules be suspended in view of the Hotel Bill be referred to Committee of the Whole at next sitting. This was agreed to without sending the Bill to a Select Committee.

The House adjourned until Tuesday at the usual hour.  
(To be continued.)

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**NEWFOUNDLAND**  
**NOTICE TO MARINERS**  
No. 4, 1925.

**Meer's Point OR Meadow's Point,**  
Bay of Islands.  
Lat. 48° 59' 30" N.  
Lon. 58° 03' 40" W.  
POSITION—On Meadow's Point bearing from Frenchman's Head Lighthouse—5 1/2 miles S. S.E. 1/2 S.  
CHARACTER—A WHITE ACETYLENE GAS LIGHT giving 20 flashes per minute.  
ELEVATION—Height of light from high water to focal plane—27 feet.  
STRUCTURE—Square wooden structure, sloping sides, painted white, lantern red.  
REMARKS—This Light will be put in operation October 5th, 1925.

W. C. WINSOR,  
Minister of Marine and Fisheries,  
Department of Marine and Fisheries,  
St. John's, Newfoundland.  
oct 2,31



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