JULY 16, 1908

I prepared stating the provisions of the old Bill that are now left out. First we have all provisions with regard to surveys because they are included in the Dominion Lands Survey Act. We passed a law affecting surveys. Then the next: Removing the bar from granting re-entry to a person whose entry has been cancelled for nonfulfilment of duties except at the discrimination of the minister. The third matter is repealing hamlet and co-operative farming clauses. The fourth matter is doing away with the issue of certificates of recommendation for the issue of patents; then doing away with notice of intention to apply for patents six months in advance; then repealing provisions with regard to charges against homesteaders. Then doing away with establishment of timber districts. Then certain powers of the Governor in council have been left out. First the reservation of land for railway construction. That is out altogether. Then the reservation of lands for granting of subsidy in aid of construction of a railway to Hudson bay. The clause in the Public Lands Act of 1884 alloting 12,800 acres per mile is repealed. That would only be repealed on the assumption that provision would be made for the building of a line from some other source. It simply confirms the statement that I have made, that it is intended to allot the \$15,000,000 from the sale of the land to the construction of the Hudson Bay Railway.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED-We had better put that in the Bill.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Then we have the granting of lands to persons in consideration of the construction of drainage works. It appears there have been extra areas given to persons who took up land that required drainage.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED-At a reduced figure.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Then there are other matters. Those are powers taken from the Governor in Council under the law which has been exercised by the Governor in Council.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL-Have a second homestead. Is the country not these powers which are taken from the generous enough after they have given a

Governor in Couuci. been vested anywhere else?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Some of them, no doubt, will be contained in the Bill—any of them that ought to be retained. It may be that in the opinion of the Minister of the Interior some of them ought not to be exercised. As years go on, and the land becomes more valuable, and people take up land more freely, the inducements offered in past years should not be continued.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL-That provision should be accepted as a movement in the right direction, in order to prevent, if it were possible, similar transactions to those which have taken place in the past in the disposition of large grants of lands and timber limits and other concessions by order in council. It seems to me that these orders in council are now crystallized into clauses of the law, so that if the law is adhered to, the whole outside world will know what is being done, but I do not understand that they would prevent other orders in council from being passed, changing regulations which may exist even at the present time. I am not going to discuss the details of the Bill, for the simple reason that I know very little about them. There is, however, one principle involved in the Bill, the clause which grants a second homestead which I think is disposing of the public domain in too liberal a manner. The object in granting the homestead, with which I think most public men agree, was to induce people to go into the prairie country and become settlers. Does the government not think, or will not the country think, that they have gone pretty near far enough when they give away 160 acres of land as a whole without payment of anything except the payment of \$10 for the recording of his name and the right under the law to pre-empt 160 acres? Under the provisions of this Bill when it becomes law the man who has gone into that country and homesteaded 160 acres and remained there sufficiently long to secure his patent. then has the right under this Bill to move to another section and enter his name for a second homestead. Is the country not

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