

PARLIAMENT.

Hon. Mr. Sutherland Introduces a Bill to Amend the Post Office Act.

Estimates for Department of Agriculture Presented and a Lively Discussion Over Cold Storage Matters—The St. Lawrence Lloyd's Bill Passed Its Third Reading

OTTAWA, April 10.—Premier Laurier, at the request of Mr. Bickard, fixed Wednesday next for the discussion of the transportation question.

Hon. Mr. Fielding announced that tomorrow Mr. Blair would again take up the railway question.

Mr. Stephens of Kent, Ontario (liberal), complained of the treatment he had received from Mr. Tarte in regard to the blocking of the River Thames, Ontario.

Mr. Stephens announced that he intended to resign his seat if he did not receive the attention of the government at once. He informed the house that he would stand no nonsense.

Premier Laurier promised to have Mr. Tarte attend to the matter, but the latter came in later and informed the house that Hon. Mr. Davies was responsible.

Mr. Stephens refused to be appeased and insists that his request should be attended to.

Mr. Fitzpatrick's bill act to amend the franchise act of 1898 was read a second time and referred to the committee of the whole. The debate which followed was spirited. Clause 1 provides that the voters' lists to be used in the Dominion elections shall be the lists on the date of the issue of a writ for such Dominion election which were in force or were last in force under the laws of that province for the purpose of provincial elections.

The opposition urged that no lists should be used except those furnished from Ottawa. It was also contended that the words "were in force or were last in force" would lead to ambiguity as to what list should be used. Laurier agreed to allow the clause to stand for amendment.

Objections were also made to a provision to enable persons whose names were omitted from the lists to vote on taking the oath that they were entitled to vote. It was alleged that such legislation would result in endless frauds.

Hon. Mr. Fitzpatrick claimed that the cause was necessary in consequence of provincial lists having been adopted for Dominion lists.

Progress was reported and consideration of the bill deferred.

The bill an Act to amend the Dominion Election Act, 1898, was then considered. Hackett asked if the government intended to investigate the theft of a ballot box in West Prince, but Mr. Fitzpatrick professed ignorance as to the incident.

Hon. Mr. Sifton's bill, which was intended to amend the Dominion Lands Act, was then taken up.

The estimates of the department of agriculture were then taken up. The most important item considered was the vote of \$50,000 for the census.

The system now in vogue was strongly condemned by some members, and the item was allowed to go over for consideration.

OTTAWA, April 12.—In the house today, Hon. Mr. Sutherland introduced a bill to further amend the post office act. It provides for train postmen to assist the railway mail clerks in cases of necessity. It also provides for the establishment of dead letter offices in the principal cities, where they are not now opened, including St. John.

Before going into supply, Mr. Wilson brought up the question of immigration. He expressed pleasure that the government had at last commenced to encourage immigration from Great Britain by placing aliases in English schools. Mr. Wilson showed that the government policy in Ireland, of which much was promised by Hon. Mr. Sifton, had resulted in Canada getting 785 immigrants in 1900, out of 45,000 who left the Emerald Isle.

Mr. Borden also promised to consider the advisability of establishing Canadian prior advocated pensions for the headquarters staff and the permanent force. He stated that 40,000 men had volunteered for service in South Africa. Messrs. Hughes, Ross, of Victoria, and Thompson, spoke in favor of the proposal.

Hon. Mr. Borden, minister of militia, replying, admitted the justice of the claims, and expressed his intention of bringing in a bill which will make provisions for the Northwest mounted police pension fund to be applicable to the permanent force. Non-commissioned officers and men will receive full benefits without any deductions from their pay. Officers will be treated as civil servants and now and will have to contribute a percentage, each year from their pay.

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Hickman, who started out to secure settlers for New Brunswick, was held up as an example of a successful official. He contrasted that gentleman's efforts with those of Preston and other dominion officials. He condemned Preston's scheme to form a company to promote immigration. He insisted that the time had arrived when Canada should cease to grant aid to undesirable immigrants. Paupers have been brought in, much to Canada's injury. He denounced the Doukhobors as a disgrace to Canada, and urged the government with giving them privileges in military matters which are refused to our own citizens. He hoped the government would enforce the laws of the country and refuse to grant the Doukhobors reserves or to give them freedom in regard to marriage laws. The government had refused to bring down papers in connection with the settlement of these people in Canada and had successfully blocked all enquiry. He scored the immorality of the Doukhobors unmercifully, and demanded that they be made to conform to the laws of the land.

Mr. McCready defended the Doukhobors, whom he classed as highly moral people. They were misunderstood and maligned, but in the west they were considered good settlers.

Private bills were taken up after dinner. A bill, an Act to incorporate the Nova Scotia Central railway, was read a second time and referred to the railway committee.

A bill, an Act respecting the Eastern Canada Savings and Loan Company, passed its third reading.

The debate on the government's immigration policy was then renewed. Robinson, West Elgin; Oliver, Fraser, and others spoke on the question. Mr. Hackett asked for cold storage for P. E. Island products.

After dinner Hon. Mr. Fisher rehearsed the whole cold storage question and invited his efforts. Mr. McGowan asked that every attention be given to the dead beef trade. He pointed out that the refrigerator facilities on land and sea were highly defective. Canada is far behind the Australasian colonies in this respect.

The Hon. Mr. Sifton and Premier Laurier spoke and the house adjourned.

After the house adjourned at 1 a. m., Mr. Talbot, government, attempted to assault Clarke Wallace in the lobby of the house, and was only restrained from using violence by those present. The incident caused great excitement and will likely be ventilated in the house.

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Mr. Kendall caused a sensation by stating that the liberals did not recognize it as a liberal paper. He characterized it as a journal owned by trusts. Ross, Victoria, chimed in and endorsed Mr. Kendall's statement, and Mr. Wallace expressed gratification that the government had at last awakened to the fact that the Chronicle's utterances were not to be relied on.

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Hon. Mr. Dobell, in answer to Mr. Northrup, stated that the interview attributed to him in which he condemned the purchase of the Plains of Abraham was substantially correct.

Hon. Mr. Fisher, answering Mr. Northrup, told the house that 1,805 of Assistant Census Commissioner Cote's circulars had been sent out. In the maritime provinces there were distributed as follows: New Brunswick, 196, and P. E. Island, 287. Mr. Fisher did not mention those sent to Nova Scotia.

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adrian ride works, but asked to have consideration of the item deferred until the main estimates come up. The estimates of the department of agriculture then came up. Mr. Fisher announced that the government intended to deal with Furness, Withy & Co. for breach of contract in taking cold storage from the vessels running from Halifax without first notifying the department.

Mr. Borden of Halifax drew attention to the necessity of proper facilities on the Intercolonial so that fish might be carried in good condition from the maritime provinces to western points. He urged that attention should be given to this trade as well as to foreign export. He pointed out that the shipment of fresh fish has largely increased, but Americans have great advantages in cold storage, and the maritime provinces suffer in consequence. In order to do this he urged the government to reduce the railway rate from 61 to 50 hours, with close connection with Toronto, to improve the cold storage cases. He also reduced the time from Mulgrave to Montreal, and to assist in the transportation of fish in less than carload lots.

Mr. Ross of Victoria seconded Mr. Borden's proposals.

Hon. Mr. Fisher proposed to give the suggestions serious consideration.

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TORONTO BANK SWINDLE.

New Believed G. A. Winton Who Claimed to Come from St. John, is a Noted American Crook, and Had Several Confederates Working With Him—No Trace of His Whereabouts

TORONTO, Ont., April 15.—It was ascertained this morning that G. A. Winton, who passed a cheque raised from \$20 to \$2,500 on the Bank of Commerce, and one raised from \$10 to \$2,455 on the Imperial Bank, also endeavored to extend the practice to the Bank of Nova Scotia, Bank of Ottawa, Bank of Montreal, Union Bank, Bank of Ontario, and the branch of the Imperial Bank, at the corner of King and York streets. In each instance the banks mentioned were saved by adherence to the rules, which expressly stipulate that cheques drawn on the savings department and marked "good" by the ledger keeper, shall not be taken from the premises. They are regarded more in the nature of a receipt, in the Bank of Montreal, it is the variable custom for the ledger keeper to hand such cheques to the paying teller of the savings department without the formality of passing them back to the persons presenting them.

In the cases of the Commerce and Imperial, the cheques were cashed by the current account tellers. It now transpires that Winton had deposits in eight Toronto banks, and it is thought that he had several confederates. Although G. Albert Winton claims to have come from St. John, N. B., it is believed that he is a noted American crook. The swindle will likely lead to a radical departure in banking methods, as the officials are much incensed over the matter. In each case the substitution was made by means of acids.

THE SENATE.