

Local Legislature Prorogued Friday

Women's Suffrage Held Over—Wild Lands to be Taxed.—Debt to be Refunded.—Many Other Acts Passed

Fredericton, June 19.—The House met at 2 p. m.

Workmen's Compensation

Hon. Mr. Byrne moved that the third reading of the bill to aid and facilitate the work of the commission to enquire into the working of the Ontario Workmen's Compensation Act and also the third reading of the bill respecting compensation by employers for injuries to workmen be rescinded and the bill be referred back to the committee of the whole for further consideration.

South West Boom

The House went into committee and took up for consideration the bill relating to the Southwest Boom Co.

The sections passed.

Mr. Burchill in reply to a question by Mr. Sweeney said that the un-logged lands would be taxed and sold and the proceeds would be levied on the land among the log owners who of course would be the owners.

The bill was agreed to with amendments and an amended title.

Land for Settlement

The last paragraph—providing that no land in a timber area should be open for settlement—was struck out of the Bill relating to the Crown Land Timber Limits; and the Bill was agreed to.

Municipalities May Purchase Food

The committee then took up the bill to enable cities, towns and municipalities to purchase food and other supplies for the use of the people during the war.

Mr. Fots of St. John did not see how the people of St. John were going to manage through the coming winter. The question was too big a one for the city to handle properly.

He suggested that it be up then they could get so elsewhere.

Mr. Tilley then said the bill was a good one. If the cities did not want to use it they did not have to, but if they did want to use it then they had sufficient powers to make a success of it.

Hon. Mr. Foster said things were likely to be scarce in the coming winter and the idea of the bill was not to regulate prices, but to insure a supply. He thought that St. John should be allowed to expend up to \$50,000.

Hon. Mr. Byrne had the section amended so as to authorize the city of St. John to issue debentures to an amount not exceeding \$50,000.

Mr. Burchill wanted to know if the bill gave power to municipalities to purchase fertilizer.

Ex Premier Murray said the matter was one of great importance. All the hon. members would be surprised to know that more than one half of the chemicals for fertilizer imported into Canada came to New Brunswick. He was strongly in favor of giving the encouragement to dairying as by that means the supply of natural fertilizer would be increased. The policy of the late government had been to supply chemicals to agricultural sections and he hoped that policy would be continued.

Hon. Mr. Foster thought that the question as to how the money was to be expended could very well be left with the town and municipalities authorities.

The committee agreed to the bill as amended.

Motor Vehicle Law Amended

The bill to amend the motor vehicle law was then taken up.

Hon. Mr. Veniot outlined provisions of the bill, the principal one of which is that it requires each car to be equipped with an appliance for dimming the lights on approaching any other vehicle and it changed the method of assessing the tax from horse to weight. The scale of fees will be sixty cents per hundred weight for all ordinary cars. Motor trucks not exceeding two tons \$10, with \$5 per ton or fraction of a ton over 2 tons. Motor cycles \$3.

Mr. Magee said he would like to see some provision made for adopting the patrol system and he would suggest an additional tax of 70 cents per hundred weight on all cars, the money to be applied towards the cost of installing the system. The system was strongly recommended by the auto association and he personally was in favor of it.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said that he thought the bill went far enough in reference to a patrol system.

Hon. Robinson said he was strongly in favor of the patrol system. In this connection he would suggest that one quarter the fee be set aside for purposes of establishing such a system.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said that in order to test the feeling of the committee he would move that the fee be increased from 60 cents to 90 cents per hundred pounds and one quarter of the amount be used to establish a patrol system.

Mr. Sweeney said that if the auto-

ists were to furnish the money for a patrol system the Association would probably want to control its expenditure.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said that money once paid into the treasury belonged to the province and its expenditure would be controlled by the province.

Hon. Mr. Veniot withdrew his amendment and said that the matter of a patrol system would have the careful consideration of his department during the coming year.

The bill was agreed to.

The House went into committee of supply.

No Increase for Teachers

When the grant for education came up Mr. Sweeney made a strong plea for increased salaries for school teachers.

Hon. Mr. Foster replied that the government was recognizing the importance of the question but was not in a position to deal with it this session.

Mr. Magee dwelt on the great importance of technical education and hoped before long that action would be taken by the government that would place New Brunswick in line with Nova Scotia and other provinces in this respect.

June 20

The House met at 3 p. m.

Re Stumpage

Hon. Dr. Smith introduced a bill to facilitate the collection of stumpage under which licensees of crown lands are required not later than the first of October every year to furnish the department with a sworn statement of their operations. Failure to comply will forfeit the license.

To Tax Wild Lands

He also introduced a bill respecting the taxation of wild lands, which authorizes the Governor-in-Council to impose an annual tax of 2c per acre upon all owners of five hundred acres or more of wild lands, the tax to go into consolidated revenue.

Hon. Mr. Robinson introduced a bill to amend the act relating to taxes on telephone companies, Cap. 7, 5 George V., which increases the tax from 25c to 50c per phone.

On the ground of urgency the above bills were read the second time.

Pursuant to notice Mr. Baxter moved the following resolution for the 21st:

Moved: Mr. Baxter. Seconded: Mr. Magee.

WHEREAS the growth and development of the Western Provinces of Canada have been much greater and are likely to be still greater after the war;

And whereas the representation of the Maritime Provinces in the Dominion Parliament is not likely to increase and possibly may be decreased if the population of such Provinces shall not increase proportionately to that of Quebec.

—And whereas it is becoming more and more important that there shall be unity of aim and action among the representatives of the Maritime Provinces in the Dominion Parliament so that the said Provinces may obtain such advantages in commerce and transportation as will give them a fair share in the benefits accruing from the development of our country;

And whereas the assembling together of representative men of the Maritime Provinces in the transaction of public business would tend to promote community of aim, unity of action and a wider understanding of the needs of these communities;

Therefore resolved that this House would favorably regard any action which the government may be disposed to take for the purpose of ascertaining whether the provinces of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island or either of them would be willing to consider the question of legislative union of the Maritime Provinces.

To Retain Their Seats

Hon. Mr. Baxter's motion to refer the eligibility of Hon. R. Murray and Mr. A. Dysart to the Committee on Privileges was defeated.

To Amend Game Law

The committee went into consideration of a bill to amend the Game Act. The first section proposed to prohibit the shooting of moose under three years old and having less than five points. Another section fixed the open season for ducks from Sept. 1st to Dec. 1st, excepting in the County of Westmorland, where Sept. 15th was fixed for the opening date.

Hon. Dr. Smith explained that Westmorland was made an exception in order that the act would conform with the Nova Scotia law.

Sections of the bill extending the close season for beaver and sable and further prohibiting the sale of cartridges until July 1st, 1917, were adopted.

Hon. Mr. Smith explained that the present law only allowed game for private use to be kept in cold storage for ten days after the season closed. An amendment to the bill would permit storage for a longer period. He added that the shooting of wood duck had been prohibited at the request of the International Commission.

Another section of the bill prohibiting the shooting of brant, geese and ducks in the spring was adopted. Another amendment prohibited the gathering of gulls' eggs. Sections 12 of the amended act fixes the non-resident license fee at \$50 and a resident license fee at \$2.

Hon. Mr. Smith explained that he had made a reduction of \$1 in the local license at the request of a number of people. He added that permission was not given to dealers to place game in cold storage.

Another section of the bill prohibited the issuing of a hunting license to boys under 18 years of age.

Mr. Campbell, of St. John, said he considered this a wise provision of the act. He regretted, however, that the license fee for residents had been reduced to \$2. If he had his way non-resident sportsmen would pay \$50 for a moose license, \$50 for a caribou license, and \$50 for a deer license.

Dr. McGrath thought that \$2 was sufficient for a farmer to pay for the privilege of shooting a moose which had fed for several years in his carrot and turnip fields.

Mr. Dickson thought that Sept. 1st was too early a date for the opening of the shooting season for ducks, and suggested that it be made Sept. 15th.

Hon. Dr. Smith said he would accept the suggestion and have the bill so amended.

Hon. Dr. Smith said that he had suggested the change from 3 to 5 points in the case of moose in the interests of conservation, but if there was any objection he would not adhere to it. It was not his wish to work any hardship on any class of people, therefore he would amend the law as requested by the hon. member for Sunbury.

Mr. Melanson said that he was pleased to notice that the Minister was prepared to retain the present law and would not insist upon the five points in the horns. He also expressed the opinion that '18 was quite young enough for any young fellow to be trusted with a license to shoot.

Mr. Robichaud protested against the section which prohibited shooting of black duck. He said these birds came to the coast in large numbers in the spring of the year. They were not natives and he could not understand why people should be prevented from shooting them.

Hon. Mr. Smith said that the birds referred to were not black duck but coot.

The bill was agreed to.

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50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size, 25c. At all dealers or sent postpaid by Fruit-a-lives Limited, Ottawa.

To Borrow North Shore Rails

The St. John and Quebec (Valley) Railway Co. were authorized to borrow the 20 miles of rails of the N. E. and Seaboard (Drummond Co.) railway.

Increased Coal Royalties

The Royalty on Coal was increased from 10 to 15 cts per ton.

Jordan Sanatorium

The sum of \$43,000 was voted the Jordan Sanatorium, several members objecting because the institution has no free beds.

To Tax Wild Lands

The bill to tax Wild Lands was passed as follows:

1.—Notwithstanding the provisions of any act to the contrary, the Lieutenant-governor-in-council, is hereby authorized by order-in-council, to impose an annual tax upon all wild lands where 500 acres or more are owned by any person, or by any number of persons, jointly, as joint tenants, tenants in common or in co-partnership, residents of this province of one cent per acre, and on lands where 500 acres or more are held, by non-residents, the sum of two cents per acre.

The said Lieutenant-governor-in-council is hereby further authorized to make all rules and regulations for levying and collecting such tax, which tax, when collected, shall be part of the consolidated revenue fund.

2.—Where lands are held jointly by residents and non-residents, and one half the interest or more in said lands is owned by non-residents, such lands for the purposes of this act, shall be held to be owned by non-residents, and shall be liable to an assessment of two cents per acre. If less than one-half interest in said lands is owned by a non-resident or non-residents, they shall be liable to an assessment of one cent per acre.

3.—Any tax imposed under the authority of this act, shall be paid not later than the first day of September, in each year, after the coming into force of this act, and shall

be a first lien upon all the wild lands in respect to which such taxes have been imposed.

Collection of Stumpage which should and will if properly enforced set at rest all questions as to the proper collection of stumpage is entitled "An act to facilitate the collection of stumpage," and provides:

1.—All licensees of crown lands in the province, shall annually not later than the first day of October, in each year, furnish the minister of lands and mines, with a sworn statement of all operations upon timber berths held by such licensees, stating the quantity, number and superficial contents and kind of logs, lumber or other timber, cut, or made, upon each of such timber berths, during the twelve months previous to the first day of May in each year, and also the quantity cut or made upon granted lands, during the same twelve months.

2.—All licensees exporting pulp wood, dressed or otherwise, shall furnish a sworn statement to the minister of lands and mines, at the close of the shipping season, showing the number of cords shipped.

3.—Should any licensee fail to comply with the provisions of this act, or should the statement furnished be found to be wilfully inaccurate, the licensee furnishing the same, shall forfeit all right to his license, and the berths, and limits shall become vacant.

Early Closing of Stores

The House in committee took up consideration of the bill relating to the early closing of shops. This bill provides that where three-fourths of the people engaged in any particular line of business petition a city or town council the council shall require that during the whole or part of the year the stores should be closed from six o'clock p. m. till 5 o'clock a. m. on each week day except Saturdays. This provision will not apply to municipalities. Stores are not to be closed on evenings preceding public holidays or during the last three of December or the first two weeks of January. The provision of the act will not apply to persons who close their stores at one o'clock on Saturday afternoon. Violations of the act are punishable by a penalty of not less than \$10 or more than \$40.

(Continued on page 6)

Workmen's Compensation

The bill to amend the Act relating to compensation for injuries to workmen which had been referred back to the committee for further consideration was also agreed to.

Women's Suffrage Defeated

The House then took up Hon. Dr. Robert's Bill to give the right to vote, and the right to be elected to the Legislature to women, on the same terms as to men.

D. Mersereau of Sunbury Co. moved in amendment, that the Bill be laid over till next Session.

The amendment carried on the following non-partisan vote:

The Suffrage Vote:—Dr. McGrath, Hon. Mr. Smith (Westmorland); Hon. Mr. Veniot, Hon. Mr. Tweeddale, Hon. Mr. Dugal, Mr. LeBlanc, Mr. Dysart, Mr. Michaud, Mr. Mersereau, Mr. Melanson, Mr. Berdago, Mr. Robichaud, Mr. Leger (Westmorland), Mr. Leger (Gloucester), Mr. Sweeney, Mr. Dickson, Mr. Guptill, Mr. Smith (Charlotte), Mr. Crockett, Mr. Plader, Mr. Carson, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Campbell.

Against standing the bill over:—Hon. R. Murray, Hon. J. A. Murray, Hon. Mr. Baxter, Hon. Mr. Smith (Carleton), Mr. Tilley, Mr. Fots, Mr. Young, Mr. Sutton, Mr. Grimmer, Mr. Smith (Alberni), Hon. Mr. Foster, Hon. Mr. Byrne, Hon. Dr. Roberts.

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