

KNOCKS HIS OWN CONSTITUENCY IN PARLIAMENT

(From our Special Correspondent) (From our Special Correspondent)

Press Gallery, House of Assembly, Halifax, April 11th:—It is seldom such a
sorry spectacle has been witnessed in
the legislature of this Province as that which occurred recently, when the New Provincial Secretary, Hon. D. A. Cameron Member for Victoria County, in his subserviance to the Premier, found it necessary to back him to the extent of joining in an onslaught against his own constituency of Victoria and the adjoining County of Inverness. It remained for the member from Richmond, Dr. John McDonald, to champion the cause of Victoria.

The House had gone into Supply and the Government was rushing through the estimates. The Crown Lands Department came under consideration when Mr. Corning said he had asked important questions concerning the Crown Lands of Victoria and Inverness to which no replies had been given, and he objected to further consideration of these items until his questions were an-

Mr. Corning pointed out that in the questions asked, was a copy from a recent prospectus of the American Company holding that vast domain of 600,000 acres of Cape Breton Crown Lands stating that they contained six million cords of the finest pulpwood or enough to run a sulphite pulp mill of the siz proposed for over a hundred years. If this were true it would be a perpetual supply, as the natural growth of the wood would more than keep itself re-produced in such a period of time. Yet the Government was permitting this wood to be exported to the United States, contrary to the terms on which these lands were granted.

The Premier, Mr. Armstrong, stated that it was impracticable to establish pulp mills in Victoria or Inverness. The country was inaccessible for the greater part of the year, and chemicals and sup plies for such a mill could not be gotten into the country except in the summer, and that sufficient chemicals could not be stored as they would spoil: Besides he said, there was no means of transportation by land or sea, as there were no harbors on these coasts, there was no water power and coal could not be gotten to such mills. Altogether in the opinion of the Premier it was a most barren and God-forsaken country. The Premier contended that a good bargain had been made with the company and that the only thing to do was to export the supposed to the United States, which he considered was good business. The Gevernment was getting a rental "of \$6,000 per year and that this winter there were some 350 men and 200 horses

Dr. John McDonald, the member for Richmond County, then took up the eudge's for Cape Breton. Dr. McDonald and that when the lease of these vast Crown Land areas in Victoria and In verness had been given to Mr. Barnjum, Mr. Barnjum had an experienced pulp and paper expert go into the whole matter. As a result of this investigation it was considered thoroughly feasible to estab-lish pulp mills and manufacture pulp and paper there. Dr. McDonald ex-pressed great surprise that the government by an Order-in-Council, had taken upon itself to break this agreement, if it we'e entered into in good faith on behalf of the ople of Nova Scotia, to establish pulp and paper mills in our own Province and give employment to some thousands of our people, instead of exporting the wood to the United States to give employment to thousands of people across the American border.

Hon, D. A. Cameron, the member for Victoria County, then arose in his place, not to advocate the interests of his own constituency and the adjacent County of Inverness; but at once de-

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ared that he endorsed every word that the Premier had said concerning the inaccessibility of the county for the greater the establishment of pulp and paper mills. He said there was no water or other power and that all the harbors were frozen up during the whole winter, there was no colf near and hot even enough water for the manufacture of sulphite pulp. If anything, he painted even a blacker picture of that desolate country than Mr. Armstrong.

On being plied with questions by Dr. McDonald concerning the nature and whereabouts of the leases of these Crown Lands and their not being available in 1913, Mr. Cameron finally threw up his hands and said that he was new to the

sible how the Provincial Secretary, Mr. Cameron, could try to lead this House and country to believe that Victoria and Inverness Counties were such desolate and desperate sections, that mill supplies could not be gotten into it and that there was not even coal or other mean of generating power near the place. Was the Honorable gentleman not aware that the great Sydney coal mines were within 40 or 50 miles and that there was an abundance of the best cxal be to found

in Nova Scotia in Inverness.

Was neither the Premier or Mr. Camer on aware that there was a splendid har-bor at St. Ann's, and also harbors at Ingonish, Neil's Harbor and Bay St. Lawrence? There is also a water power on the St. Ann's River and an ahund ince of water in the Margaree Rive and numerous other rivers in the north. At Sydney there were also extensive chemical works from which abundan supplies for a sulphite pulp mill could be had, and the sulphite is the finer and more expensive product. Had they also lost sight of the magnificent harbor at

derstand how Mr. Cameron could stand up in the House and defend the action

up in the riouse and detend the action of the government in trottling a large industry in his own constituency.

The original lease given of these lands required that the material be manufactured in Victoria County and about 1900 an Order-in-Council was passed making the lease 99 years instead of 30 years. The government now enters into a species of jugglery. Observe the progress. First an innocent short lease and a guarantee to manufacture the material on the ground, then a long term lease in 1900, then in 1904 another Order-in-Council is passed enabling the company to export the pulpwood by merely strip-ping the bark off, which for the the pur-pose of evading the terms of their lease would be considered as manufactured

This was very wrong and should never have been permitted. As a result of it the Counties of Victoria and Inverness which may be submitted touching the have been robbed of an important in-dustry which might now be employing several thousand people, and these-counties be increasing instead of de-creasing in population as they have been

correspondingly enriched.

Ex-Attorney Daniels who has been in the limelight before, on the question of Crown Lands, took a hand in the de bate. Mr. Daniels stated that these

lands were practically nothing but a running through it and a few trees alo their banks. He considered that their banks. He considered that he (Mr. Daniels) had made a good bargain when he leased these lands at what equal-

Dr. McDonald replied that it would e more profitable if Mr. Daniels would read the report of that great timbe expert Dr. Fernow rather than reheats the arguments used in the House in 1912 and 1913. While the Ex-Attorney While the Ex-Attorney General, Mr. Daniels, was in office, Dr. McDonald said, pulpwood enough was floated down St. Ann's River in one year to manufacture about \$5,000,000 worth of pulp.

According to Dr. Fernow's report Dr. McDonald stated, there are between 50 and 60 cords of pulpwood per acre on this land. This would give a total of 36 million cords. Surely a handsome donation to the industrial life of the United States, which if kept and manufactured into pulp and paper in our own Province would have kept home some thousands of our young m

The Belleville, Ont., Weekly Intelligencer discontinued publication recently on account of the scarcity of experienced

Ridgetown, Ont., is the latest place to join the ranks of one-newspaper cities and towns, the Plaindealer having been taken over by the Dominion. The same old reason—increase in the cost of paper, machinery, type, and the scarcity of experienced help.

Minard's Liniment for Coughs and

NOVA SCOTIA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

In the Matter of the Application the Wolfville Electric Commission For Approval of a Decrease in Rates for Power

NOTICE

A sittings of the Nova Scotia Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities will be held at the Board's rooms, Technical College Building, Halifax, N. S., on Wednesday, the 25th day of April, 1923 at the hour of 2.30 o'clock in the afternoon when oral or written argument will be heard in connection with the application of the Wolfville Electric Commission for approval of a decrease

in rates for power.

A member of the Board will sit at the Town Hall, Wolfville, N. S., at 11 a. m. on Saturday, the 21st day of April 1923, for the purpose of taking any evidence

Of which all persons interested will take notice and govern themselves ac cordingly.

Such proposed schedule may be se doing for 30 years, and the trade of at the office of the Town Clerk, at Wolf-Nova Scotia as a whole would have been correspondingly enriched.

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Halifax, N. S., April 12th, 1923 By Order of the Board L. B. TAYLOR

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No. 100 From Yarmouth (Mon., Wed., Sat.), arrives 4.28 a.m.

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