

Dominion Parliament

Mr. Foster Rebuked by Premier For His Indulgence in Personalities.

Precautions Taken Against Introduction of Bubonic Plague on Pacific Coast.

Mr. Russell's Able Speech on Preferential Tariff Resolution Disturbs Sir Charles.

Effect of Preferential Trade on Relations Between Britain and Canada.

Ottawa, March 14.—The entire sitting of the House of Commons yesterday was consumed in the discussion of a motion for adjournment proposed by Mr. Foster to give him a chance of pitching into the government for not allowing the order paper to be turned upside down for the passage of the resolution favoring an investigation of the Brockville and West Huron elections. A practice the government sometimes followed has been to run over the order paper for the adoption of unopposed orders for papers, etc., on which there was no call for debate. The notice for the reference to committee of the Brockville and West Huron cases stands well on in the list but the desire of the opposition was that it should be dealt with at once as an unopposed motion. The government's refusal to sanction this procedure had led to a good deal of hard feeling a few nights ago, which was all repeated today. As an incident to this unlooked for turn of events there was no business transacted at all, and many private members who had intended they wanted to dispose of in a few words will now have to wait for a chance next week, which may slip by them in the same way.

Sir Charles Tupper announced that he had received a communication from the agents of the Ocean Accident Guarantee Company to the effect that the one million dollars' insurance placed on the members of the first Canadian contingent was not to be understood as covering those who are now going out as reinforcements.

On the motion for adjournment Dr. Russell (Halifax) gave notice that when the government again moved the House into committee of supply, which will probably be to-day, he would propose an amendment to the preferential tariff.

New Bills.

At the opening of the House the Prime Minister introduced a bill from the Senate extending the ticket-of-leave system to prisoners in jails and reformatories and another bill respecting the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories. Mr. Hurley introduced a bill respecting the Oshawa Railway Company and Mr. Charlton one to incorporate the Royal Marine Insurance Company.

West Indian Steamship Service.

Mr. Fraser (West Lambton) made enquiry whether it was the intention of the government to take steps to improve transportation facilities between Canada and the British West Indies.

The Minister of Trade and Commerce said that steps had been taken in connection with the British government to obtain a fast service. The service would commence on July 1st.

A Question of Order.

When the next order, notices of motions, was read Sir Charles Tupper asked that the list be run over first and unopposed motions allowed to pass.

The Prime Minister was sorry that his courtesy in this matter had been shamefully abused by the opposition, the other evening, in an attempt to force through under the head of unopposed motions one for investigation into the last bye-elections in West Huron and Brockville, on which the government had a word to say. He would therefore have to ask that the motions on the order paper be taken up in their regular order as they stood on the order paper.

Protest From Mr. Foster.

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Mr. McMullen denied that the opposition had last session made out a single charge.

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The Hon. Mr. MacDonald (British Columbia) drew attention to the necessity of taking every precaution to keep the bubonic plague out of Canada. Recently a ship with a number of coolies on board had arrived, and now within fifty miles of Victoria, on the United States coast, there was bubonic plague. If it found a place in Canada it would be terrible.

The Hon. David Mills read a letter from Dr. Montizambert stating that the C. P. R. steamship lines were not carrying steerage passengers from infected parts, and that stringent measures were being taken to prevent the importation of the disease. He pointed out that at the time occupied on the voyage was greater than the period of incubation. It was not proved that the plague was carried in merchandise. He thought the House would see that proper precautions had been taken.

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Sir Wilfrid Laurier expressed his regret that Mr. Quinn had given him no intimation of his intention to bring the matter up. He, however, appreciated the sentiments which had inspired him in his frank utterances, and agreed with him that the action taken by Her Majesty will probably have a great effect in deciding the differences which have existed for many generations in the relations between Ireland and England. There is no race in the world, he said, more amenable to an act of kindness than the Irish. (Hear, hear.)

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A Quid Pro Quo Policy.

Dr. Montague went over the speeches and actions of Mr. Chamberlain in support of his scheme of Imperial inter-colonial trade, which he declared was not the day dream, the charming myth of the will of the wisp, which the member for Halifax said it was. Coming down to the resolution