

was poorly attended, but the next one will not be. As it seems to stand now, the most of the Ontario members on the committee will vote Hydro, while the strongest supporters of the Canadian Northern railway were the French members. They always seem to be out to hit anything Ontario wants."

I want to register my most energetic protest against this statement, and to qualify it as absolutely unfounded, unjustifiable, and unworthy of a man occupying a representative position in Canada. Let me tell this gentleman that the French members of the Railway Committee, of which I am one, sit there as representing all Canada. In their deliberations and in their judgments, they know no provincial boundaries, no parochial boundaries, no sectarian motives; to the best of their ability they devote themselves to the interests of their country. I may add that I feel deeply on this question, but at this juncture I shall say nothing more than this: I leave it to the judgment of the well-thinking and broad-minded men of this country to treat this contemptible assertion as it deserves to be treated, emanating, as it does, from a narrow mind.

#### WINTER COMMUNICATION WITH PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

##### On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. J. J. HUGHES: I call the attention of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to a telegram which I have received from the Summerside Board of Trade in connection with winter communication between Prince Edward Island and the mainland. The telegram states that efforts are being made to have the steamer Prince Edward Island keep up communication between Pictou and Charlottetown, but that she is not able to do so, with the result that mails are delayed, passenger traffic seriously interrupted, and trains tied up. The telegram asks that in view of the fact that she is not able to keep up communication with Charlottetown, she be transferred at once to the Pictou-Georgetown route. I ask, what action, if any, the minister intends to take.

Mr. HAZEN: The same policy is being pursued this year as in previous years. The service is performed between Pictou and Charlottetown so long as ice and weather conditions permit. When the ice conditions become of such character that the service cannot be carried on between Charlottetown and Pictou, then the service is carried on between Summerside and Pictou. The same

instructions have been given to the captain of the boat this year as in previous years, and if the condition is such as has been described by my hon. friend, and the service cannot be carried on between Charlottetown and Pictou, then the boat will be transferred to Summerside.

#### HILLSBOROUGH, P.E.I., BRIDGE.

##### On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. J. J. HUGHES: I have received a telegram stating that some time ago representations were made to the Government asking to have a guard placed on the Hillsborough bridge. This is an expensive bridge and people, fearing it may be interfered with by evil-minded persons, are very desirous that a guard should be placed there.

Mr. REID: There is one man in Prince Edward Island who seems to be raising a lot of trouble and agitating to have a guard placed on the Hillsborough bridge, and he has tried to work up some feeling on the matter. The Railway Department have received a telegram from this gentleman, and I have directed that it be forwarded to the general manager of the road, Mr. Gutelius, with instructions to investigate and, if he deems it necessary, to place a guard on the bridge. I received a telegram this morning or Saturday in respect to the same matter and I have forwarded it also to Mr. Gutelius. I find that in some cases railway bridges are guarded by the Railway Department and in others by the Justice Department, through the Dominion police. I have therefore forwarded copies of these communications to the Justice Department, with a request that they look into the situation. Thus the question of guarding this bridge will be looked into by both the Railway Department, through the general manager of the railway, and the Justice Department, through Colonel Sherwood; and if, as the result of either or both investigations, it is deemed necessary to have a guard on the bridge, one will be placed there.

#### ST. JOHN AND QUEBEC RAILWAY.

##### On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. CARVELL: I read in the St. John Standard, which is the recognized organ of the Government in that city, that a new arrangement had been made with regard to the construction of the St. John and Quebec railway. The paper states that it has been decided that the road shall not go any farther north than its present terminus