

handsome revenue; but these parties were in possession, I presume, and it is nothing but right that their leases should be extended; but when the current leases expire I think the Government, in the interest of this locality and of the public generally, should offer the hydraulic lots at the Chaudière to public competition. It is a matter for congratulation that this long-standing dispute has been settled. I hope that the papers will show that the settlement which has been effected is advantageous to all the parties concerned.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—There is no objection to the Address.

The motion was agreed to.

AN ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION.

HON. MR. ABBOTT moved that when the House adjourns this day it do stand adjourned until Tuesday, the 4th of February, at 8.30 p.m.

HON. MR. WARK—Perhaps the hon. member can inform us whether the Government have decided to introduce any of the important measures referred to in the Speech from the Throne in this House. The Bank Act is a measure which might be discussed with advantage in the Senate. We have in this House not only bank presidents, but bank directors and men engaged extensively in commerce; the leader of the House stands at the head of commercial lawyers, and we have also other members who are eminently qualified to consider such questions. Then there is the measure relating to bills of exchange and promissory notes, which might be brought up with advantage in the Senate, where we have, perhaps, more leisure to deal with such matters than they have in the House of Commons. I should like to know, before the adjournment, whether those measures will be introduced in the Senate or not.

HON. MR. KAULBACH—I might object to this motion on the ground that it is irregular, but I waive that objection. I am always opposed to these adjournments except when they are proposed by a member of the Government in this House, who is responsible largely for the progress of legislation. It is unfortunate, when these adjournments are to take place, that suf-

ficient notice is not given, so that members, particularly at a distance, may know whether it is worth while to come to the Capital before the adjournment takes place. If I had had notice in time, I should have remained at home until after the adjournment.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—If my hon. friend had been here yesterday he would have heard the representation that I made to the House, that I was endeavoring to arrange for business for the Senate in this early portion of the Session, but was not aware until yesterday that we could not get a sufficient amount of business to occupy us in any reasonable degree for the next two weeks. That is the reason why I did not give my notice earlier. In the Senate, and in the House of Commons also, important business is not usually introduced for a few days after the opening of the Session. A great many of the important measures must be introduced in the Lower House, and cannot with propriety be introduced here, so that we have even a less proportion of business to do, even if we had all we could do, than the House of Commons. The Banking Act, to which the hon. member from Fredericton referred, is one which lies peculiarly within the functions of the Finance Minister, and we could hardly expect it to be introduced and explained by anybody but himself. The Bill relating to promissory notes and bills of exchange might with propriety be introduced here; I do not know that there is any objection to it, but everyone realizes that we have a Bill just as completely under our control when it comes to us from the Commons as when it is introduced here in the first instance. So that after all, except to enable us to do work at the beginning of the Session when we are not busy, instead of having to hurry it through when we are busy—except for that, which is an important reason, we have all the advantages with respect to these Bills that we would have if they were introduced here in the first place. The Bill relating to bills of exchange and promissory notes was introduced in the House of Commons last Session, and probably there was some consideration arising out of that fact, that it would be better to proceed with it there instead of introducing it in the Senate this Session.

The motion was agreed to.