

NEW-BRUNSWICK LEGISLATORS RUSH BILLS THROUGH HOPPER WITH INOXICATING SPEED

Usual Closing Days' Hurry on and Acts Going Through Without Curb—Found Necessary to Revamp Some Measures—Bills Affecting St. John Interests Debated Yesterday.

Assembly Chamber, Fredericton, N. B., April 12.—The House met at three o'clock.

Hon. Mr. Byrne presented the final report of the Law Committee.

Mr. Metcalfe, pursuant to notice moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, (A. B.), the following resolution:

"Resolved, that, whereas the market for agricultural, fishery and other products is available in the West India Islands; and

Whereas, there is now being operated two lines of steamers from Maritime ports to those islands; and

Whereas, in the interests of the people generally it is essential that our markets be enlarged;

Therefore, be it resolved that this House express its opinion in favor of the appointment by the Government of New Brunswick of one or more trade agents, under the Department of Agriculture, to represent this Province in the above named territories.

Mr. Metcalfe, speaking to the resolution, said he arose with some diffidence in view of some observations which had lately been made on the subject of indifferent oratory.

He looked upon remarks of that nature as being very unkind. Often when an hon. member rose in the House to present his views with respect to some matter concerning his constituency, or in the interests of the Province as a whole, he was sometimes met with the remark that he had "wheels in his head."

Referring to the resolution before the House, he thought the time had arrived when the Province should endeavor to increase its trade with the West Indies. He had referred to the matter on previous occasions, and felt that the opportunity now had arrived for action. The West India Islands were anxious to trade with the Province, and only recently the late of Jamaica had endorsed the preferential tariff arrangement with Canada.

Money was expended for immigration and he thought better results could be achieved if larger markets were provided for the products of the farm. If that were done, he felt sure that the immigration problem would take care of itself.

The time had arrived for a change. If the boys could be induced to remain on the farm, the prosperity of the Province would be greatly increased. He believed that the preferential tariff should only apply to goods carried through Canadian ports, and was glad that the matter had lately been brought to the attention of Parliament. If trade agents were appointed, there would be no interference with the work carried on by Trade Commissioners, and the Province would be able to devote itself to the marketing of New Brunswick products.

Mr. Smith (Albert) as second to the resolution, said that the subject had been so well dealt with that little remained for him to say. He wished to go on record, however, as being of the opinion that it was a step in the right direction.

From the standpoint of agriculture the greatest need of New Brunswick was larger markets, and he believed that the West India Islands offered a partial solution of the problem and he hoped the Government would look into the matter of appointing one or two men to act as trade agents. They should be capable men in whom the people of the Province had every confidence. He was glad to second the resolution, and hoped to secure a hearty support from his side of the House.

Hon. Mr. Foster said that the resolution before the House touched on a matter of public interest, and said for its object the broadening of the markets for the products of New Brunswick. He was pleased to have Hon. members bring to the notice of the Legislature matters in which the people had a deep interest. The proposal of the Hon. member for Westmorland might involve some expense, and if the Government had gone ahead with it without a discussion in the House, it might have been said by some critics that it was merely a scheme for the appointment of new officials. All Hon. members knew of the depression existing in the agricultural and lumbering industries, and would agree to the additional markets for the products of those industries would be of benefit to the country.

The Province was suffering from restricted markets, largely brought about by tariff conditions in the United States. If new markets could be found it would be to the advantage of all. He hoped the officials of agricultural department would endeavor to work out some plan by which the purpose of the resolution could be carried into effect. The Province did not need trade commissioners, but wanted men who would go to the West Indies and look up business for exports. He would heartily support the resolution and wished to thank the Hon. mover and second for having brought the matter to the attention of the Government.

The resolution was unanimously adopted without division.

Hon. Mr. Roberts laid on the table the report of the Mental Hygiene Survey of the Province of New Brunswick, made by the Canadian National Committee.

House in Committee

The House then went into committee, with Mr. Hayes in the chair, and

considered the bill to amend the Highways Act, 1919.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said that the object of the bill was to increase the road tax from twenty-five cents to forty cents on the \$100. He wished to say that he was not wedded to make the increase to forty cents, but would like to hear the opinion of the House on the question. The total valuation of the Province, exclusive of cities and incorporated towns, was \$48,000,000, and he estimated that an increase of fifteen cents in the road tax would yield about \$23,000. The act would not become effective until the year 1923.

Mr. Warnock said that the road tax was now optional and in some of the parishes in his county it was as high as sixty or seventy cents. The tax had been increased at the time the law came in force and though there had been opposition at first, the people would now suppose any attempt to make a reduction.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said that the bill would not make any change in the power of the municipality.

Mr. Wetmore expressed regret that the bill did not fix a minimum road tax of \$1 for non-residents. All knew that collectors had difficulty in collecting amounts from those assessed on \$100 or \$200 in rural districts.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said that he would have no objection to amending the act along the lines suggested by the honorable member. If the committee deemed it advisable, a minimum tax would apply to non-residents who had summer cottages and now contributed very little to the upkeep of the roads.

He held that they should pay \$2 at the very least. On very recent occasions he had been called to an incorporated town to discuss road matters, and had afterwards learned that two suburbanites who did not live in the town had paid road taxes of forty and fifty cents, respectively.

Mr. Scott said he had discussed road tax matters with a number of people and all seemed to be in favor of an increase. Personally he did not believe that fifty cents was too much, and he felt sure that the Hon. Minister would have no difficulty in spending the money. In the State of Maine the road tax was about five times what it was in New Brunswick. He knew of people in his own town who drove over the country roads with autos two and three times a day and paid very little for the privilege. He was one of the number, and his road tax was only fifty cents. He and others to whom he referred would have no objection to paying more.

Hon. Mr. Metcalfe thought a forty-cent tax would be sufficient with an option to municipal councils to increase it if they saw fit. It must be remembered that the tax was higher in some counties than in others, and it must not be considered that farmers got off with a fifty-cent tax. The present was a real burden for the farmers, and the Legislature should not add to their burdens.

In some parishes the tax rate was five or six dollars on the hundred, which was greater than in the cities. Mr. Veniot said he did not want to be understood as favoring a minimum tax of \$2.00 on residents. When he suggested that amount he had in mind non-residents owning summer cottages and cars in the city.

Mr. Young agreed with the Hon. Minister of Agriculture that people in the country were paying all the taxes they could afford at the present time. Personally he was taxed \$100 on property worth \$4,000 or \$5,000 and he did not know where he was going to get the money to pay it this year.

Mr. Pickett said he thought some equitable arrangements should be made in regard to assessments for winter roads. At present the work cost more in some parishes than it did in others, and there should be a change.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said that possibly a remedy might be found in a district assessment rather than a parish assessment. It was too late to make a change during the present session, but he could prepare a motion for submission to the House at a future session.

Mr. Metcalfe thought an increase in the road tax of fifteen cents was about all that should be done at the present time. A minimum tax of \$1 for the man with the bungalow might be all right, but it would work a hardship on the owner of a few acres of land.

It would be good business at the present time to make the minimum tax above forty cents. If the Hon. Minister was disposed to make a larger tax, he hoped he would wait until such time as business conditions improved and money was more plentiful. He had no objection to the proposal to impose a minimum tax on the owners of summer cottages. There had been talk of abolishing statute labor, but he hoped it would not be done until conditions had improved.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said that it would not come this year.

Mr. Smith (Carleton) said he believed the increase in the rural districts of his county would be a benefit. An increase in the road tax would result in more people performing statute labor. At one time he favored the abolition of statute labor, but had since changed his views.

Mr. Fawcett said he would be sorry to see statute labor abolished at the present time, as of late years very good results had been obtained from it. People were imbued with the idea of good roads, and worked better than in the past. The case in the old days. They also received better instruction from the supervisors as the result of the changed spirit of the times.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said that the total assessment for road tax last year was \$261,442 and of that amount \$78,534 was paid in cash and \$182,908 in the form of statute labor. Returns from the different parishes showed that a large proportion of the people worked out their tax each year rather than pay the cash. For instance in the parish of Moncton, out of an assessment of \$8,036 there was paid in cash \$2,660 and \$5,376 in statute labor. In Manvers-Sutton, York County, out of an assessment of \$14,441, \$1,676 was paid in cash and \$12,765 in statute labor. It was the custom to hand delinquents' lists over for collection at the close of the season.

Mr. Smith (Carleton) said he believed the proportion of statute labor to cash would be much greater during the present session.

The bill was agreed to as amended.

The Committee took up consideration of the bill to amend the Act to fix the valuation of Ready's Beverages Limited, 1922.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said the purpose of the bill was to amend an act already through, in relation to exemption from assessment not applicable to school taxes. The subject had been thoroughly discussed before.

Hon. Mr. Metcalfe said he was at a loss to understand the purpose of the bill as he had believed that the principle of non-exemption of school taxes was adopted and was almost regarded in the light of legislation.

To his mind it should apply to all such bills before they were introduced.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said this bill slipped through without the matter being noticed.

Hon. Mr. Foster said he doubted whether there could be legislation making non-exemption from school taxes generally applicable. There were other private bills which were affected.

Mr. Richards said it was necessary for this bill to go through to meet the situation which had arisen. He was heartily in accord.

Mr. Hayes said he thoroughly approved of the stand taken by the Hon. Minister of Public Works. There were other bills similarly affected. That concerning the Cornwall and York Mills was one. He could say that the St. John City Council drove a hard bargain with the company. Its exemption had expired with no application for renewal being made, and an assessment was made on a full valuation of \$700,000. The Company then asked for reduction in valuation, but did not get all that it asked for. This amending bill, of course, would mean a saving of \$1500 to the city in school taxes, but the city had no desire to shelter behind Provincial legislation after having made an agreement with the company.

Hon. Mr. Foster said he could see the difficulty of the matter. The difficulty referred to by the Hon. member for St. John might be dealt with by alteration in valuation a year later.

Mr. Hayes said that this would make a very little difference in the County School fund to which the Hon. Minister of Public Works had made reference, as \$18,000 was paid out and \$17,000 received.

The bill was reported.



MCCORMICK'S JERSEY CREAM BISCUITS SODA

Fresh and crisp, you will enjoy the particular flavor of

McCormick's Jersey Cream Sodas

As soon as the cherry buds begin to open the whole country, including even the city streets, is transformed into a fairy land, enticing all its people into the open air for the national festival of flower visits.

In this season the holiday spirit is abroad and all who can give themselves up to gaiety. The people gather at all the well-known resorts dressed in their best or in fantastic costumes that catch their feelings and keep festival all day long under the pink white blossoms.

The genial influence of the season warms everyone into joviality and their buoyant spirit finds expression in joyous festivals. These occasions of popular rejoicing which follow one another through the spring are excellent opportunities for the British Prince to see the Japanese at play.

The Imperial garden party of cherry is one of the most interesting of these. He considers that the place of the outstanding social functions of the year in Japan. Government officials, prominent business men, merchants, social workers and distinguished foreign visitors are guests of the Emperor and Empress on this occasion, and it is expected that the Prince of Wales will attend the function this year.

The party is held when the cherry blossom is at its best in the imperial garden at Shitajiki, a suburb of Tokyo, where the spacious lawn, decked out with beds of spring flowers and blossoming trees and shrubs, provide ample accommodation for a big assemblage.

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Cherry Blossoms For Reception of Prince of Wales

Tokio, April 12.—The Prince of Wales is visiting Japan in cherry blossom time, the most delightful season of this "Land of Sunrise."

Some of the ceremonies which will attend his tour will be made more attractive by the festivities in which the Japanese indulge during this time when all Japan puts on its loveliest appearance.

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ASOP'S FILM Tables THE WAYWARD DOG

A wayward pup once joined a crew of dog who stole and burgled. One night, when they set out to rob, they made him look out on the job. Some people came—he barked, and they (The robber-dogs) all got away. Only the wayward pup was caught. From which we gain this Moral: "Bought This maxim, full of wisdom deep: 'We're judged by company we keep'—E. J. Jr.

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ITS PURITY UNEQUALLED
BECAUSE IT IS HEATHIZED

You want the purest, best, safest. Then always order "Purity."

We all like to know that the food we eat is pure and clean. We rebel, naturally, at taking into our mouths anything that we know is not clean.

WHEN IS FOOD PURE?

Now, we ask you, how can a food product be clean that is made with ordinary air, when we know that all city air is a mass of dust and impurities, and is often laden with dangerous germ life?

Purity Heathized Ice Cream is made by driving the air out of the freezers then filling them with a pure, clean, sterile, germless atmosphere a hundred times purer than air. Then we freeze the mix in this pure atmosphere.

Now do you see why Purity Heathized Ice Cream is purest?

Do you see why it is safest—safest for you and for the kiddies who are the greatest ice cream consumers?

No other ice cream is made in New Brunswick by this expensive Heath patent method. So if it isn't Purity Ice Cream it isn't Heathized. Insist on Purity.

PURITY ICE CREAM
BEST AND PUREST BECAUSE ITS HEATHIZED
PURITY ICE CREAM CO., LTD.
ST. JOHN, N. B.

Spring Medicine Hood's Sarsaparilla Purifies the Blood

Montreal, April 12.—A lawyer, eighty years of age, defending a client eighty years old, was the unusual spectacle witnessed at Mr. Justice Sawyer's court here this week. The case was a minor one and was taken by Professor Davidson, acting for Alford Joyce.

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