

PARLIAMENT

he Gifts Voted to a Man to Shield Blair.

Consequently Mr. Archibald's Evidence Will Not be Taken by the Public Accounts Committee—The Easter Adjournment.

OTTAWA, March 19.—When the speaker took the chair Mr. Bell of Picton, N. S., brought up the matter of the refusal of the majority of the public accounts committee to allow P. S. Archibald to be summoned.

He said there was no precedent for this refusal. Hereafter any witness asked for had been summoned, provided the member asking for him stated that his evidence was material.

Some matters of a dubious nature had appeared which required investigation, and the interest of the country demanded that the investigation be thorough and complete.

He therefore moved that the members desiring such enquiry believed that Mr. Archibald would be an important and essential witness.

He knew more of the intercolonial than any other person not now on the railway. He was a man of high reputation as an engineer and railway man.

He could give information on matters concerning the subject of this enquiry. Mr. Bell was not disposed to criticize Mr. Blair's motives in asking the committee to refuse this summons.

He no doubt refused in his own interest and with regard to his own safety. He would only say that Mr. Blair was the first minister who in the history of the dominion had found it desirable to shut out evidence in a parliamentary inquiry.

He therefore moved that the public accounts committee be instructed to summon this witness. Hon. Mr. Blair followed in a most heated and violent speech.

information. They wanted him again to pour distilled poison in their ears and coach them in the inquiry.

The premier said there would be no hurrying at the inquiry by the government. He said that he would be sure to say what he dared, but the house owes it to itself not to allow this witness to be summoned now.

Mr. Haggart said Mr. Blair's action was a precedent in refusing to allow witnesses to be called. It was the minister who was himself on trial who was dictating what witnesses should be called to testify.

He said that the motion was defeated by a straight party vote of 100 to 56. The debate was continued by Northrup, Flint, Lemox, Tisdale, Ingram and McLean.

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Mr. Smith, conservative, of Wentworth, pointed out the failure of the government to provide properly for shipping fruit and perishable goods to Britain.

He called attention to the fact that a deputation of Nova Scotia fruit growers were here now demanding a remedy.

Mr. Borden of Halifax spoke of the delightful exhibition the ministers were giving of fairness and moderation. He reminded Mr. Fielding that when he was premier of Nova Scotia, charges of corruption were made, he refused to allow the necessary witnesses to be called.

It was therefore all one to him whether charges were made or not; the testimony was excluded just the same.

Mr. Fielding interrupted by saying that the reply on that occasion was 36 to 2, referring to the general election. Mr. Borden—That is your answer—Choke off evidence and call in members.

Mr. Blair had given the house to understand that Mr. Archibald was not wanted here because his testimony would not "exonerate" the government.

But the business of the committee was to discover facts, whether they support the government or not. What harm would it do if the opposition got information on this subject from Mr. Archibald or any other source?

One would suppose the committee would be glad to learn from any source. This refusal would be an unfortunate precedent.

It was pleasant to find ministers themselves voting to shut out information, but Mr. Blair must not suppose that his inquiry could be suppressed.

Mr. Blair must not suppose that his inquiry could be suppressed. The members on the opposition side would not allow the inquiry to be buried. If the truth could not be ascertained, Nova Scotia men sent in large quantities, causing the accumulation of coal previously stated.

while coal bought now from the Nova Scotia mines cost only \$3.10. Examined by Mr. Barker, Mr. Pottinger stated that the new rails laid last year were wholly charged to capital.

He stated that so far as he knew all new rails laid by the former government from 1890 to 1896 were charged to maintenance.

Major Curry, Amos Eitler and F. A. Gates are here from Amherst. They have been discussing the possibility of making the Chignecto ship railway dock available as the port of Amherst.

Mr. Provand of the Ship Railway Co. has been here some weeks. The Amherst delegation suggest that it will be satisfactory if Mr. Blair builds a spur line to the neighborhood of the Fort Lawrence terminus ship railway.

Mr. Rhodes, of the Rhodes, Curry Co. is here. He has been discussing with Maroon the construction of the Cape Breton station for wireless telegraphy.

The company want towers 200 feet high and will have nothing but hard pine. Arthur Jenkins, eldest son of S. J. Jenkins of the civil service, formerly private secretary to Hon. Mr. Postle, died in St. Luke's hospital last night.

The young man has been cattle ranching in the Western States, but returned a few days ago suffering from tumour on the brain. He did not want to the hospital and underwent an operation, which proved unsuccessful.

Dr. W. Kain, who is a patient at a sanitarium in Muskoka, is now in this city. His health is improving, but he finds it necessary to seek a more extended leave of absence.

OTTAWA, March 20.—The budget debate was resumed today by Mr. Blair, conservative, of Peel, a new member who captured a government seat, and is one of the best speakers in the house.

Mr. Morrison, government member for British Columbia, followed, generally commending the government, but condemning a large part of the tariff, complaining of Chinese immigration and scolding about a great many things.

Mr. Charlton, from the front liberal bench, then rose and began a sensational speech. He agreed with Cartwright's praise of Alex. Mackenzie, but he wanted the present government to take note of history and the fight in the administration.

About 1876 many supporters of Mackenzie desired him to raise the tariff from 11-1/2 per cent to 21-1/2 or 25 per cent. He (Charlton) was one of them. Their demands were moderate and reasonable and should have been met by the government.

OTTAWA, March 21.—The budget debate was resumed this afternoon by Ralph Smith of Vancouver Island, who addressed himself wholly to the Chinese question, demanding the utter exclusion of these orientals.

Mr. Clarke, conservative, of Toronto, was speaking at six o'clock. Mr. Clarke spoke till ten o'clock in the evening, holding the attention of the house in a remarkable degree.

He was followed by Mr. Hughes of Kings, P. E. Island; Avery, conservative of Adirondack, and Oliver, liberal, of Alberta. Bell of Picton, N. S., moved the adjournment of the debate.

THE SENATE. In the senate today the secretary of state, replying to a question, stated that nothing would be done at present respecting the admission of the Northwest to full provincial rights.

Up to midnight the minister of militia had not received any reply to his query about the alleged outbreak of mutiny among the Canadian Mounted Rifles in South Africa.

Bicyclists and all athletes depend on BENTLEY'S Liniment to keep their joints limber and muscles in trim.

Str. Simonside has been fixed to load deals here in May for W. C. England at \$58.

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DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE. THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, of Sept. 26, 1886, says: "If I were asked which single medicine I should prefer to take abroad with me, as likely to be most generally useful, to the exclusion of all others, I should say CHLORODYNE."

DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE. IS THE GREAT SPECIFIC FOR Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Cholera.

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Baby's Own Soap. Only vegetable oils—and no coarse animal fats—are used in making "Baby's Own Soap". Pure, Fragrant, Cleansing.

The Whole Story in a Letter: Pain-Killer. From Capt. L. L. Folsom Station No. 5, Montreal: "We frequently use Farn's Davis' Pain-Killer for pains in the stomach, rheumatism, etc."

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SEAL FISHERY. N. F., March 28.—The sealers' Cross put into the harbor and this evening with only 70 seals.