

Mr. HALL. Because we have more guarantee in their case.

Mr. WELLS. You may think so, but I do not; and I do not think the majority in this House think so. The principle is the same with respect to both forms of companies. If it is a wise provision in regard to foreign assessment companies it is a wise provision in regard to other companies.

Mr. BOWELL. If my hon. friend from Richmond and Wolfe (Mr. Ives) will allow that matter to stand, and give notice of it, so that it may be moved on the third reading, I should like it much better. I confess I am not in a position to know what effect that will have upon the whole Bill, particularly as he has another clause which he proposes to move in case this is carried, making all the clauses of the Insurance Act of Canada applicable to this, except where otherwise provided. Although this is an independent Bill of itself, I understand it is an amendment of the General Insurance Act, but extending its provisions still further, in order to bring within its scope this class of companies. I would ask the hon. gentleman to allow the matter to stand over until to-morrow, so that we may give it further consideration.

Mr. BLAKE. I hope, under these circumstances, the hon. gentleman will consider how far we have power to mould a specific contract of insurance, as has been proposed by some of the amendments. I think some decisions of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, with reference, particularly, to our jurisdiction in the matter of insurance, have been to the effect that the form of contract would rather be prescribed by the Local than the Federal Legislature, although we had incorporated the Act.

Amendment withdrawn, and Bill reported.

INSPECTION OF GAS AND GAS METERS.

House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 119) further to amend the Acts respecting the inspection of Gas and Gas Meters.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. McLELAN. This is a substitute for clause 54 of the Inspection Act, which requires that twenty-four hours' notice should be given to the party when either the quality of gas or the meter are to be inspected; that is, that the manufacturer of the gas shall have twenty-four hours' notice and may be present at the inspection. But it has been found that the manufacturer is by that means enabled to improve the quality of the gas before the inspection is made, and it is proposed to substitute for that clause another, one allowing the manufacturer to be present at the inspection of the gas or of the meter, but only giving him notice in advance of the inspection of the meter, dropping the notice for the inspection of the quality of the gas.

Mr. BLAKE. Have the gas companies petitioned for this?

Mr. McLELAN. I am not aware that they have, but this is supposed to be in the interest of gas consumers.

Bill reported, and read the third time and passed.

COURT OF CLAIMS BILL.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. When I gave notice of Bill, (No. 93) to establish a court of claims for Canada, some three months ago, I thought we would be able to deal with it before this. But inasmuch as the Session has already been protracted, and there is no absolute necessity for passing this measure at the present Session, I move that the Bill be withdrawn and the Order discharged.

Motion agreed to, and Bill withdrawn.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN moved that the Order for the House to resolve itself into Committee to consider certain

proposed resolutions respecting the salaries of the judge and officers to be appointed under any Act to establish a court of claims for Canada, be discharged.

Motion agreed to, and Order discharged.

CANNED GOODS.

Mr. McLELAN moved the second reading of Bill (No. 142) respecting Canned Goods. He said: It will be remembered that last Session a clause relating to canned goods was added to the Weights and Measures Act, specifying that they should have certain weight and be marked in a certain manner. It is proposed to repeal that clause, which was appended to the Weights and Measures Bill, and to provide that canned goods shall have the packer's name or dealer's name stamped upon the package, and that the cans or packages shall specify the nature of the contents, whether they be fresh or dried goods. It is further provided that the Governor in Council, after the Bill is in operation, shall ascertain and determine standard sizes for the various kinds of canned goods, which shall be known by number, so that dealers may sell goods of those standard sizes by numbers. It is also provided that if the dealer or packer marks the weight upon the can, it shall be the proper weight. The Bill is a very short and simple one, and meets the wants of that branch of trade.

Mr. BLAKE. This Bill has come down very recently from the Senate, namely, on the 6th instant. I, therefore, trust the hon. gentleman does not propose to take it through committee this evening, because a little time should be given for the trade to be communicated with. We made a mistake last Session, which we are now attempting to rectify, and we must not act too hurriedly. The hon. gentleman stated, in explaining the Bill, that it provided for standard sizes, and that these shall be settled by the Governor in Council. I find no such provision in the Bill.

Mr. McLELAN. I find I was speaking of the Bill as it was sent to the Senate. That clause was struck out.

Mr. CHARLTON. Did I correctly understand the hon. gentleman to say that the date of the packing of the goods shall be placed upon the can?

Mr. McLELAN. It is provided that any person who places a date, which is proved to be the incorrect date, on the cans, shall be liable to a penalty.

Mr. CHARLTON. I have a letter here from a very large producer of canned goods in the west, objecting to this feature of the Bill, that the label on cans shall be dated, and he has sent me a number of extracts from papers interested in the canned goods trade, in Maryland, New York, California and elsewhere, setting forth the objection of the trade to that provision. He also sends me a list of the standard sizes adopted by the Baltimore Canned Goods Exchange. He represents that to require absolute accuracy as to weight is to ask an impossibility; that, owing to variations of temperature, when the goods are being canned part of the liquor may escape in some cases and the weight may vary half an ounce or more per can. The sizes given for canned goods on the Baltimore Exchange are five numbers, 1, 2, 3, 6 and 10. The size is determined, not by weight, but by the dimensions of the can. Those sizes give the weights within an ounce or two, and it is a much more convenient method of arranging the sizes than to have it absolutely required that the cans shall contain a specified weight of goods. Another objection made to the Bill by this packer is, that the labels, instead of specifying the quantity, should specify the quality of the goods; in fact, that the law should require a standard size of cans and that the labels should specify the quality of the goods. I shall be happy to submit to the Minister the letter and enclosures to which I have referred.

Mr. McLELAN. The Bill does not provide that the weight shall be marked upon them, but that if the manu-