

On the 2nd of April, 1912, Mr. Sylvestre again took the matter up and proposed the following motion, which condenses the whole question:

"Mr. Sylvestre moved in amendment:

That all the words after "that" in the main motion be struck out and replaced by the following:

"Whereas, the Government has the power, and it is its duty, to watch over all fire insurance companies, organized under the laws of this Province;

"Whereas, under the law, no such company can do business without the authorization and consent of the Provincial Treasurer;

"Whereas, in order to receive the proper administration of such companies, the Lieutenant-Governor appoints an Insurance Inspector who is bound to act according to the instructions of the Provincial Treasurer;

"Whereas, the present inspector has been in office since the 1st June, 1891 (Journals, Legislative Assembly, 1911, p. 212);

"Whereas, according to articles 5377 and 5378, of the Revised Statutes, 1888, such inspector was bound to visit the head office of each company at least once a year, to carefully inspect the company's books and business and report to the Provincial Treasurer;

"Whereas, according to article 5379 of the said Revised Statutes, the Provincial Treasurer had the power to have an inquiry held, and all the affairs of each company fully investigated, in order to ascertain whether it was in position to carry out its engagements;

"Whereas, according to articles 5382, 5383, 5384, 5385 and 5386 of the said Revised Statutes, the Government had the power to forbid any company not offering the necessary guarantees to continue to do business and even to put it into liquidation;

"Whereas, according to the Act 63 Victoria, Chapter 35, sanctioned on the 23rd of March, 1900, the inspector was bound, once every five years, and even oftener at the discretion of the Provincial Treasurer, to value all the insurance policies of each company and to report to the Treasurer, when there might be any danger to the public through effecting insurances with such company;

"Whereas, the various provisions of the said Revised Statutes, 1888, have been replaced by the Act 8, Edward VII., Chapter 69, sanctioned on the 25th of April, 1908, and afterwards by the Revised Statutes, 1909, but that the powers and duties of the Government, of the Provincial Treasurer, and of the Insurance Inspector have substantially remained the same as before as regards insurance companies;