

THIRD READINGS.

Bill (201) An Act to amend the Militia Act.—(Hon. Mr. Scott.)

Bill (202) An Act respecting roads and road allowances in the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta.—(Hon. Mr. Scott.)

Bill (157) An Act to incorporate the Hillcrest Railway, Coal and Coke Company.—(Hon. Mr. Gibson.)

GENERAL INSPECTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

ORDER POSTPONED.

The order of the day being called :

House again in Committee of the Whole on Bill (C) An Act to further amend the General Inspection Act.—(The Right Hon. Sir Richard Cartwright.)

Hon. Mr. SCOTT (in the absence of Hon. Sir Richard Cartwright) moved that this order be discharged and placed on the orders of the day for Tuesday next.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—My hon. friend must know that the government has no intention of proceeding with this Bill during the present session.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I did not care to discharge it in the absence of the Minister of Trade and Commerce—that is the reason.

The motion was agreed to.

RAILWAY ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

ORDER DISCHARGED.

The order of the day being called :

Committee of the Whole House on (Bill H) an Act to amend the Railway Act, 1903, with respect to the operation of mortgages.—(Hon. Mr. Béique.)

Hon. Mr. POWER (in the absence of Hon. Mr. Béique)—I find that it is impracticable to get this Bill passed this session. I, therefore, move that this order of the day be discharged.

The motion was agreed to.

GRAND RIVER AND WESTERN POWER COMPANY BILL.

THIRD READING.

The order of the day being called :

Consideration of the amendments made by the Standing Committee on Railways, Telegraphs and Harbours to (Bill Z) an Act to incorporate the Grand River and Western Power Company.—(Hon. Mr. McMullen.)

Hon. Mr. McMULLEN moved that the amendments be concurred in.

The motion was agreed to.

Hon. Mr. McMULLEN moved the third reading of the Bill. He said : The parties have come together and the opposition is withdrawn. I have here a copy of the agreement executed between the parties. I spoke to Mr. Gibson, and he said he had no further opposition to the Bill. They have agreed with the town of Dunnville to give them some two hundred horse-power for all time to come, free, and have also agreed not to lower the Grand river below the ordinary level of the water.

Hon. Mr. EDWARDS—I am very sorry indeed that my temporary absence from the House caused me to miss that which I intended to do.

Hon. Mr. POWER—The hon. gentleman has plenty of time yet.

Hon. Mr. EDWARDS—I think not. My intention was to move that this Bill be referred back to committee. My reason for so intending is that the Bill is absolutely without the jurisdiction of this parliament. It deals with properties entirely within the jurisdiction of Ontario. All the streams involved are provincial streams, over which this parliament or the Dominion government have no control whatever, and in so far as the Bill is concerned it will be a dead letter under any circumstances. It will have no effect, because as I said before, it is entirely without the jurisdiction of this government or this parliament. I may be answered : 'Well if that is your view, why not let it go?' Simply because I do not want to see this Senate do what I think it should not do. However, it is now too late, I regret to say, to make the motion I intended, and the only thing I can do is to avail myself of the motion of which I gave notice a day or two ago, that on the third reading of the Bill I would move that clause 17 be stricken out, which I now do. In making this motion I am simply adhering to a principle which I have advocated ever since I have had the honour of a seat in parliament; namely, that the power of expropriation is an extraordinary power—a power which should only be exercised under extreme circumstances. Under any circumstances it is an infringe-