

est reserves, are included. The seventh clause allows us to get lands by exchange. Heretofore we had power to acquire them in various ways. We can now acquire them in any way. Clauses eight, nine and ten are just as they were.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Is the mode of obtaining reserve lands for the extension of a park changed?

Rt. Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT Yes. The Bill deals with reserves as well as ordinary parks.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Does it mean Indian reserves?

Rt. Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—All reserves I think, and especially forest reserves. It is not in the least likely that a park will be established in an Indian reserve; portions might be detached, but only in rare cases. A few words are introduced in the eleventh clause:

Nothing in this Act shall affect or prejudice any right or interest heretofore acquired under any order or license for cutting timber or for any other purpose in respect of lands in a reserve.

That is giving special protection to existing interests and no more. In clause twelve there is no change. In the next clause the change is that railway companies pay one-half the cost of fire patrol—a reasonable provision. Clause fourteen is of importance and substantially new. It is intended to allow forest rangers to arrest and bring before justices of the peace parties who are guilty of violation of the forest regulations, and that appears to be necessary in the interests of the community. Clause 15 refers to lands which are withdrawn from reserves for railway purposes. Occasionally, a railway may cross a forest reserve. Clause 16 gives the Governor in Council power to make regulations. Clause 17 gives the Governor in Council authority to establish parks within reserves and to make regulations. Clauses 18, 19 and 20 remain. The Bill looks a little long, for the simple reason that they have reprinted the whole Act in place of introducing an amendment.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

Rt. Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT.

The House resolved itself into committee of the Whole on the Bill.

(In the Committee.)

Hon. Sir GEORGE W. ROSS (Middlesex)—This is an important Bill, and I have not had a chance to look at it. If there is nothing urgent about it, I think it would be only fair to let it stand over.

Hon. Sir RICHARD SCOTT—The provisions are all in the right direction.

Rt. Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—I will not press it if any hon. member objects. It is only in case of public urgency that I would adopt the line I have adopted.

Hon. Sir GEORGE W. ROSS (Middlesex)—When the case was urgent I yielded, but if this is not urgent I think the Bill should stand.

Hon. Mr. POWER—I trust the hon. gentleman will not persist in his objection, because we have already had some fires this summer, and last summer there was immense destruction of forest in various parts of the country. The only object of the Bill is to enable the government to do more than they have been doing in the past in the way of preventing these fires. With regard to the distribution of Bills, I do not undertake to blame the Printing Bureau, and do not altogether blame the Commons, but my experience has been that the work of placing the Bills on our files has not been done in a satisfactory way. In many cases, my hon. friend on my right will have a Bill on his file, and it will not be on my file. The hon. gentleman on my left may have that Bill on his file. I think the officer who makes up the files should be a little sterner than he has been in the past. I do not know whether the pages are to blame, or the Commons, or the distribution office.

Hon. Mr. ELLIS—When the Bill came in I read it, and when the proper time came I thought I would endeavour to call the attention of the House to the injustice a measure of this kind imposes on a province which has no public lands belonging to the Crown; that is to say, government lands.