

RAILWAYS' HIGH HANDED POLICY

J. G. Turfitt Advocates Increased Powers for Commission. Irrigation Act Submitted.

Ottawa, Feb. 18.—In the House of Commons this afternoon Hon. Frank Oliver, minister of the interior, introduced the amended Irrigation act, which contains two new provisions of importance. The first provides for reference to the railway board of disputes arising between irrigation and railway companies. The second is a provision designed to facilitate the provincial government in carrying out the law in respect to drainage. The bill was read a first time.

Amendment to Railway Act.

W. F. Maclean, Conservative, South York, moved the second reading of the amendment to the railway act regarding the furnishing of freight cars with Niagara grape growers protesting against the reduced wine duties in the French treaty and asking that this portion of the treaty be not ratified. The amendment further provides that loaded cars must be promptly despatched and forwarded to a minimum of fifty miles per day unless otherwise agreed. The company must give notice of its failure to furnish a car in a convenient position for unloading the freight. The consignee must also unload within a certain time. Mr. Maclean held that the railway, insurance and banking acts failed to compel corporations to give an adequate service for the benefits received. It was time this state of affairs was corrected and when the corporations failed in their duty no one should interfere. He claimed business houses and farmers had been ruined through the failure of railways to supply cars. He charged the C. P. and G. T. railways with diverting their equipment and energy to American through traffic to the neglect of Canadian business. A rate preference was also extended to American traffic and business had done more cartage loss insurance than the Armstrong explosives.

In answer to Mr. Maclean he said that the law of railway stringency were often best for the sake of life insurance. He insisted that the annual distribution of profits was very difficult to manage. In answer to Hon. Mr. Fielding, he said he did not think there was any danger of a marked shortage this year. E. D. Smith, Conservative, Wentworth, a leading fruit man in western Ontario, said he wanted 25 cars last week to ship fruit west, but after six weeks he got one car only and was forced to ship via Chicago and the American railways. J. G. Turfitt, Liberal, East Assiniboine, declared that the railways had too much power and were too high handed. He cited a shipment from Ottawa to Montreal that took 21 days. He stated that the railways were to meet the demand for this harvest and what would have happened had there been no frost and the crop had been late. Further, he said that the cars were often sidetracked from two to four weeks. This was a serious matter where grain was sold for delivered at a specified time. If the question were referred to the railway commission that body would need strengthening. The delays were due to a shortage of cars, engines, trackage and sorting facilities. Resuming after recess Mr. Turfitt, after dealing with railways affairs, concluded that the railway commission should have increased powers and personnel. The only way to deal with railways was in imposing heavy fines when they failed to live up to their undertakings.

ANY FARMER MAY PROCURE SEED

Farmer With Cash Will Not be Discriminated Against in Securing Seed Grain.

At a meeting of the agricultural committee of the legislative assembly, held this morning, it was decided to accept orders for seed grain from farmers who had the money to pay cash as well as those who are financially unable to buy seed as was at first proposed. Those who have the money though are urged to try seed on their own account if possible. Their applications will be accepted by the government. As cash cannot be collected by the station agents who distribute the grain the farmer who desires to pay cash will be required to sign the mortgage for the grain and he can immediately redeem the said mortgage by forwarding the amount due for the grain to the provincial government at Edmonton. Some difficulty had arisen regarding the affidavit to be made by the farmer who was required to answer the question: "Are you financially able to procure seed grain, etc.?" He can now answer the financial part in the affirmative and still secure the seed. The work of arranging for the distribution of seed grain is an important and also a very difficult one and the agricultural department has been spared no pains to make it as fair and as effective as possible. The members of the legislature are deeply interested in the matter and every effort will be made to carry out the difficult program successfully.

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LIQUOR BILL AS A RESOLUTION

C. Hiebert Submits His Dispensary Bill in New Form in Legislature.

(From Wednesday's Bulletin.) Yesterday's session of the legislature was not a lengthy one, the main features of the afternoon being the first reading of the Seed Grain Act and a lively discussion upon Mr. Rosenroth's bill for the incorporation of the Canmore Canadian Club. The Workmen's Compensation Act, which was expected to come up in committee in respect to Dr. Robert Wood received a first reading and will be taken up on Saturday afternoon this week. The galleries have at no time since the opening of the legislature been as well filled as yesterday, a large number of men interested in unions being present. The bill brought in by Mr. Hiebert in respect to Dr. Robert Wood received a first reading and will be taken up on Saturday afternoon this week. The galleries have at no time since the opening of the legislature been as well filled as yesterday, a large number of men interested in unions being present. The bill brought in by Mr. Hiebert in respect to Dr. Robert Wood received a first reading and will be taken up on Saturday afternoon this week.

TRIP TO SEVEN ISLANDS.

Steamer Lady Grey Selected for the Service.

Quebec, February 18.—The government steamer Lady Grey is under orders to come out of winter quarters and make a trip in the first week of March to Seven Islands, four hundred miles east of Quebec, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The ice-breaker Montcalm performed this service last winter, but owing to the accident that put her out of commission for repairs last fall the Lady Grey is now called upon to make the trip. The mail will serve mail at the populated districts along the north shore, besides carrying a limited amount of freight to Seven Islands. At first the Marine and Fisheries Department were reluctant to have the Lady Grey perform the service on the ground that she was not considered equal to it, but finally yielded to the demand for the service. She was released yesterday of the ice that held her frozen in the Louise Basin, and when given room to play went through four feet of ice under her own steam, which proved her a valuable winter boat.

NAVY IS RULING PASSION.

Zeal for Sea Power is Reason For Activity in Britain.

New York, February 18.—A London cable to the Tribune says: Zeal for sea power has become the ruling passion in England. It furnishes the chief motive for diplomatic and political activity. Lord Curzon is heard with languid interest on strategy on the north-western frontier of India because the Allies have a common interest in that Russia will not even threaten an attack in that quarter. Lord Curzon is heard with languid interest on strategy on the north-western frontier of India because the Allies have a common interest in that Russia will not even threaten an attack in that quarter.

THE STRATHCONA SUFFRAGETTES

Invaude Legislature Committee and Demand Their Right to Municipal Franchise.

The committee on municipal law held a protracted session in the library at the Legislative Building last night. The amendments to several city charters were considered, viz.: those of Edmonton, Red Deer, Strathcona and Calgary. The unique feature of the evening's session was a deputiation of ladies. This was the first time the mellow tones of the feminine have been heard in the open session of the Alberta government. The spokeswomen of the deputiation consisted of Mrs. Hodson, Mrs. Richards and Mrs. Ripston of Strathcona. They presented the claims of married women owning property to exercise the right of franchise in the municipal elections, and reiterated with all the power and charm of feminine persuasion, the fundamental doctrine of taxation without representation. If a wife was fit to own property and pay taxes, it followed as a corollary that she was fit to vote. It was true that the husband exercised the right of franchise on behalf of the wife, but there was no guarantee that the husband was a worthy representative. They called attention to the resolution of the City Council of Strathcona in favor of an amendment to the city charter, conferring the right to vote on the worthy matrons of Strathcona. At this point City Solicitor Jamieson, supported by J. R. Lavelle, interjected the observation that the resolution referred to was carried by the second vote of the Mayor, who also arbitrarily refused to consider the rescinding of the resolution. It was quite apparent that those worthy legal gentlemen, regretted their preference, for the chief spokeswoman of the deputiation deftly brandishing a heavy valise, emphatically refuted the argument. The committee were disposed favorably towards the claims of the deputiation, but Mr. Moore pointed out that the women of Strathcona had settled their family quarrels with the council of that city, and the legislature would be in a stronger position to grant the request. The deputiation of ladies had considerable difficulty in finding their way to the committee room. First, they scurried through the main department office, past a fruitless quest for the registration of the deputiation in the legislative building where they found out the names of the members of the committee room. First, they scurried through the main department office, past a fruitless quest for the registration of the deputiation in the legislative building where they found out the names of the members of the committee room.

The Manchester House (Established 1886) Our Big Stocktaking Sale Offers you a splendid opportunity to secure fairly wonderful values in white cottons, cambrics, embroideries and ladies' whitewear of every description. SALE CONTINUES UNTIL FEBRUARY 22nd. W. Johnstone Walker & Company 267 Jasper Avenue East.

ARE YOU UNION MAN? Bill to Make This Quip Illegal Defeated in B. C. Legislature. Victoria, Feb. 18.—A bill introduced by the Socialists to make it illegal for an employer to ask "Are you a member of a union?" was defeated in the House today by a majority of ten. Two government members voting with the opposition in favor of the bill. The Premier argued it was an employer's right. The Opposition held the view that there was legal ground for the bill under the Lennox Act, which recognized labor unions as lawful organizations. The Socialists urged its adoption in an effort to stamp out of British Columbia American methods which interfered with the liberty of the employer. Negotiations for the settlement of the differences between the government and the G.T.P. are to be resumed here next week. Vice-president Wright and Solicitor Tute are leaving Montreal tomorrow in an effort to make a final bargain.

First Member of German Royalty to Visit Paris Since War. Paris, Feb. 18.—Prince Etienne Fredrick, second son of Emperor William of Germany, who arrived here last night, accompanied by his wife and three children, left Paris this afternoon for Berlin. This is the first time since the Franco-Prussian war that a member of the royal house of Prussia has come to Paris other than in a private capacity. It was proposed several years ago that Emperor William visit the French capital, but the popular feeling was too strong and the idea had to be abandoned. Today the French press prints no comment on the presence here of the young prince, but it does give detailed accounts of his sojourn and it is generally believed that the visit of the young man will have a beneficial effect on the relations between France and Germany. The only official recognition of the visit of Prince Etienne was to provide him with an escort of French army officers when he drove to the army museum and to the tomb of Napoleon. Several hundred Germans and a small gathering of Frenchmen were at the railroad station to see the prince leave the city. Blizzard in Western States. Chicago, Feb. 18.—A blizzard raged in history swept over the city today. The storm is general all over the west, extending over Missouri, Arkansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Wisconsin and Northern Illinois. Traffic was severely impeded on the railroads and some lines are impassable by huge drifts of snow. It is believed that a number of lives have been lost.

P. E. I. ASKS DOMINION TO BUILD BRANCH LINES Dominion Government Petitioned to Construct Sixty Miles of Railway in Interior of British Columbia. Annuity Inquiries—Return on Bonus Immigration. Ottawa, Feb. 17.—In the House today, H. B. Ames, Conservative, Montreal, was informed by Hon. Frank Oliver, minister of the interior, that the answers in relation to the Interior Annuity Inquiries—Return on Bonus Immigration. Ottawa, Feb. 17.—In the House today, H. B. Ames, Conservative, Montreal, was informed by Hon. Frank Oliver, minister of the interior, that the answers in relation to the Interior Annuity Inquiries—Return on Bonus Immigration.

WILL PURCHASE G.T.P. RIGHT OF WAY TO COAST Geo. H. Pope, Purchasing Agent, is Here to Secure Property for Right of Way Into and Out of City—No Information as to Site for Station. (From Wednesday's Bulletin.) Geo. H. Pope, purchasing agent of the right of way of the Grand Trunk Pacific, arrived in the city this morning on the C. N. R. and is a guest at the Alberta hotel. He is here to purchase the right of way into the city from the point where the G.T.P. crosses the C. N. R. to the city limits for the passenger tracks, and through the Delton subdivision along the northern part of the city where the freight sheds and yards will be located. The bill will purchase the right of way from the city limits to First street and will grant the company the right of way along McKenna avenue and Twenty-first street through the Hudson's Bay property and the Hagman property and thence westward. Asked if he anticipated any difficulty in connection with the purchase of this right of way adjacent to the city Mr. Pope stated that it was impossible to tell. His plan of action, however, was to find out at the registry office the names of the property owners. He then settled on what he considered a fair price and if this was refused the matter was left to arbitration. He will be engaged during the next ten days in completing the purchase of the right of way near the city and will then leave for the east. He is assisting the city in the purchase of the station site here. Dr. Resume is Nominated. Windsor, Feb. 18.—The North Essex Conservative Association in convention here today unanimously nominated Dr. Resume, M.L.A., minister of public works, for the legislature. Dr. Resume was proposed by Wm. Robins, of Walkerville, and seconded by Oliver Wilcox, of Rochester township. Among the speakers were J. P. Downey, of Guelph; Sol White, of Cobalt; and F. D. Reville, of Brantford.

WAS LOST TWENTY-SIX YEARS. Remarkable Family Reunion Occurred Here Yesterday. Mrs. Van Fossen, accompanied by her husband, arriving from Macomb, Ill., to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Matre. Mrs. Van Fossen was kidnapped from her home at St. Charles, Minn., when a child five years old, and her parents searched for 26 years. She had been taken to the orphan asylum, Quincy, Ill. In 19 years after she married. Finally securing trace of her parents she came here to visit them for the first time since her disappearance. To Sentence Stossel Tomorrow. St. Petersburg, Feb. 19.—The military court which has been trying General Stossel in the surrender of Port Arthur to the Japanese, ordered for deliberations at noon today, retiring Stossel and the other defendants. Generals Foock and Reiss, to appear tomorrow at eleven o'clock, when the sentence is expected to be pronounced.

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