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PLANS FOR RECRUITING THE FOURTH CANADIAN CONTINGENT ANNOUNCED.

Where and by Whom Applications Will Be Received—Why Kritzingler Was Acquitted—Lord Rosebery to South Africa—Canadian Prisoners Reported Shot.

Ottawa, April 9.—(Special)—The orders were issued this evening in connection with the recruiting of the fourth contingent for South Africa. There will be four regiments, to be known as the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Canadian Mounted Rifles. They will be armed, clothed and equipped as the Imperial Yeomanry of his majesty's forces. The conditions of service will be for 12 months, or until the termination of the present war in South Africa.

The pay will be the same as that of the second mounted rifles, namely: Cavalry rate from date of enlistment to embarkation, and Imperial Yeomanry rates from that date on; the age not over 30 years nor over 40; the standard height has been changed to not under 5 feet 4 inches, not more than 5 feet 11 inches, and the weight not more than 180 pounds, instead of 185, as previously stated. The chest measurement will be not less than 34 inches. The medical requirements and qualifications are the same as those of the mounted rifles preference to be given to men who have had previous service in South Africa, and single men; married men and widowers with children will be accepted conditional on no separation allowance being issued.

The establishment will be: Regimental staff—One lieutenant, 1 major, second in command, 1 adjutant, 1 medical officer, 1 quartermaster, 1 veterinary officer, 1 sergeant-major, 1 quartermaster-sergeant, 1 cook, 10 privates, 2 clerks, 2 orderlies, 2 medical officers, 10 batten.

Squadron establishment—One major or captain, 4 subalterns, 1 squadron major, 1 squadron quartermaster-general, 1 farrier, 1 sergeant, 4 sergeants, 3 shoeing smiths, 1 saddler, 9 buglers, 9 corporals, 9 privates, 101 men.

The establishment will be: Squadron establishment—Eighty officers, 112 staff sergeants, 64 artificers, 32 buglers, 112 rank and file, total 1,920 men.

Regimental staff—Twenty-four officers, 12 staff sergeants and sergeants, 64 rank and file, total 100.

Total—Officers, 104; staff sergeants and sergeants, 124; rank and file, 1,712; 2,940 men, 2,038 officers and men, with 2,174 horses.

In the case of this contingent, the privileges will be granted to officers, non-commissioned officers and men to assign part of their pay to relatives, such assignments will be made monthly from the department of militia.

Recruiting in the maritime provinces will commence April 15, and continue until ordered to cease. The recruiting stations with the recruiting and medical officers, are:

New Brunswick—Fredericton district, commanding officer, in medical charge. Moncton—Capt. W. H. Watts, 74th Regiment; Sergt. Major F. White, 74th Regiment. New Glasgow—Major Malby, 12th Field Battery; Sergt. Major J. B. Baxter, 73rd Regiment.

St. John—Lieut. Colonel McLean, 62nd Regiment; Major MacLaren, A. M. S. Woodstock—Major W. C. Good, 10th Field Battery; Sergt. Major Hadd, 10th Field Battery.

Nova Scotia—Halifax, district officer commanding; Sergt. Capt. Foster, 68th Regiment. Kentville—Major J. A. Northrup, Surg. Major Webster, K. C. H.

Truro—Lieut. Col. N. Laurence, 78th Regiment, to be detailed. Sydney—Capt. W. Crowe, Sydney, C. A.; Lt. Colonel F. O'Neil.

Springhill—Lieut. Colonel W. Letcher, 72nd Regiment, to be detailed. Yarmouth—Capt. T. R. Jolly, 2d division, C. A.; C. A. Webster, M. D. Middleton—A. M. S. detailed; Major J. A. Scowen, A. M. S.

P. E. Island—Charlottetown, district officer commanding; Surg. Major S. Jenkins, 17th Regiment. The recruiting will be at Charlottetown, as before stated. Recruits will be forwarded any day following the date of enlistment. At Halifax they will be formed into four regiments and shipped according to transport accommodations. The third regiment will be shipped first and the others in turn.

Canadian Prisoners Shot? Lord Minto received a cable from the casualty department at Cape Town today,

stating that General Lord Kitchener had commended the death of Corporal Wm. A. Kinsley and R. B. Day, who, he says, were shot on April 2nd between Boschult and Clerksond. This statement with respect to these two men would seem to indicate that they had been shot by the Boers after being taken prisoners. They were first reported dead by released prisoners, and as they were not shot until two days after the battle at Kleinfontein's river, it is evident that they must have suffered death at the hands of the Boers.

A small force of Canadians and mounted infantry, says the correspondent, were opposed by sevenfold their number. Six hundred Boers charged confidently, calling upon them to surrender. Lieut. Carruthers, of the Canadians, sprang to his feet, and, exclaiming that he would not surrender, shot the foremost Boer with his revolver at a distance of 15 paces. The Canadians had no cover except the short grass. Lying prone upon the ground they fired steadily and forced the Boers to seek the shelter of a screen of trees. Many of the Boers climbed these trees and fired down on the Canadians. The latter kept the enemy at bay for two hours. The British troops were killed or wounded, the Boers venturing another rush and captured the handful of survivors. Lieut. Carruthers was the only British officer who was not seriously wounded. He had several teeth wounds, but refused to go to a hospital. Some of the Boers wanted to shoot him when he was taken prisoner, but they ultimately thought better of this, saying: "He is too brave a man to die that way."

All of the dead men and most of the wounded had several wounds each.

Details of Kritzingler's Trial. Graff Reinert, Cape Colony, April 9.—The trial of Commandant Kritzingler lasted two days. No evidence was obtained to connect the prisoner with the shooting of natives, and on account of what had been written by Kritzingler, testified that he had been well treated and that a pass had been granted him. The charge of twin wrecking against the Boer commandant was withdrawn, and he was acquitted without cross examination by counsel for the defence. Kritzingler was tried for a court-martial on the charge of committing four murders, in addition to twin wrecking and cruelty to prisoners.

Protoria, April 9.—Mr. Siegen, the former president of the Orange Free State, who is taking part in the peace negotiations in South Africa, is suffering from severe ophthalmia, and is threatened with total blindness.

Protoria, April 9.—The British authorities are making preparations for a great series of "drives" on the arrival of reinforcements. The general outlook for the Boers is said to be most depressing.

St. John, April 10.—The Daily Chronicle this morning publishes a rumor that Lord Rosebery is going to South Africa to study the situation there, with a view of submitting his impressions and advice to King Edward.

London, April 11.—The Financier & Bullionist publishes a despatch from Pretoria this morning declaring that the Boer leaders have accepted the British terms, that peace has been arranged and that the terms of peace have been cabled to the Boer agents in Europe.

Other unfavourable statements of a similar character are in circulation in London tonight. It is said that Frederic Rutherford Harris, former secretary of the British Chartered South Africa Company has received a telegram to the same effect but nothing of any official or reliable nature concerning the matter is known.

NEW POST OFFICE REGULATIONS.

Civil Service Examinations in Some Cases to Be Done Away With—Salary Rules Changed.

Ottawa, April 10.—(Special)—Hon. Mr. Mulock introduced into the House of Commons today his post office bill. It applies to messengers, packers, letter carriers, porters and sorters. In their case, civil service examination has been done away with. Instead of a yearly salary a per diem allowance would be substituted, instead of waiting for nine years to reach the maximum salary half that time would be all that is necessary. A superintendent of city post offices would be provided for in the bill. The first one to fill this position would be given Mr. Ross, assistant post officer of Toronto.

NO SETTLEMENT YET OF HALIFAX STRIKE TROUBLE.

Deputy Minister of Labor Meets Both Sides—Builders' Laborers Make Demands Now.

Halifax, April 10.—(Special)—Deputy Minister of Labor King, who is here from Ottawa to try to adjust the labor trouble, held a conference today with representatives of both sides, but so far no settlement has been reached. Three steamers are being loaded with coal by union men, the Bricklayers, Chalkdall and Magda. The builders' laborers notified builders today that on May 1, they will demand 20 cents an hour with 30 cents for overtime. Their present pay is 14 cents an hour and 21 cents for extra time. The day is nine hours. Furness liner Carlisle City, from London, arrived this afternoon, after a stormy trip, and proceeded to St. John.

BIG RAILWAY PROJECT FOR THE BRUNSWICK.

Legislature Agrees to Bills Which Mean New Lines—More Business for St. John—American Capital In It—School Act Amendment—Five Year House Session.

Fredericton, April 7.—The house met at 9 o'clock. Mr. Copp rose to an explanation. In his remarks on the Sackville bridge he was represented as saying the contract was to be completed September 1st, 1901. What he said was that the contract was to be completed on December 1st.

Hon. Mr. Lablouis, to Mr. McManon, said that immediately after the fresh steps were taken to take care of the Joachim bridge over the Shediac river and instructions have been given towards the erection of a new structure; that the Legue bridge at Legue Brook, Shediac, will be replaced by a new structure. Since the fresh a temporary has been put up, that arrangements will be made for a new bridge on the Dickie Brook, Shediac, early in the coming summer; that the department is giving attention to the Harsham Brook bridge, near the new bridge, and that a new bridge will be built.

Hon. Mr. Lablouis, to Mr. Osman, said the question of erecting a bridge across the Petricolae between Moncton and Salisbury is receiving attention. A survey has been made, but was not found satisfactory. During the summer a new survey will be made.

To Mr. Johnson the attorney general said it is the intention of the government to pay the revisors annually appointed by the lieutenant governor in council.

To Solemnize Marriages. Mr. Todd introduced a bill to authorize the lieutenant governor in council to solemnize marriages. This clergyman lived in Chalais, but a number of families of his congregation lived in St. Stephen. They were in the habit of solemnizing marriages in his own parish. He moved that the bill be read a second time on the ground of urgency.

Mr. Haem said only a few years ago the legislature had passed a marriage act and he thought that in an exceptional case like this the bill should not be hurried.

Hon. Mr. Hill said the present bill was to meet a particular case—where the daughter of a gentleman whom Mr. Hazen very well knew had been seduced and was to be married by her own clergyman. Besides, for every such marriage the province received \$4.

The bill was read a second time. Hon. Mr. Haem introduced a bill to amend the law relating to peddlers. It imposed a fine of \$1 on a peddler who resided in the county where he took out any debt or \$3 where he resided in an adjoining county.

Probate Court Act. The attorney general introduced a bill to amend the probate court act. Among its sections is one allowing executors and administrators when permitted by a judge to give the guarantee bond of a company instead of a personal bond and to charge the cost, not exceeding one half of one per cent, against the estate. He thought it better to encourage the use of guarantee bonds by companies rather than personal bonds. The second section gives authority to the judge of probates with the consent of the court to make any debt or claim against the estate. The third makes a slight change in the power of the judge with regard to costs. Where a will is proved in solemn form and no objections it gives him a discretion as to costs. The fourth deals with the salaries of judges of probates, the statute places them at a fixed sum, and where the fees exceed the salaries the excess goes into a common fund. Some of the judges complain that this law deals unfairly with them.

In one county the salary of judge was only \$40 while the fees amounted to \$80. It seemed unfair to ask a man to preside in a judicial capacity for so small a sum. The bill provides that the lieutenant governor shall adjust the salaries every three years on the basis of the fees earned. It also makes some slight changes in the table of fees. Under the present act it is provided that after the first day the proctor shall be paid at the rate of \$1 per hour. The bill changes this to a sum not exceeding \$1 per hour, thus giving the judge discretion. Another section provides that certain citations shall be served on any person interested as well as on a creditor and that a surety shall also have notice.

The attorney general introduced a bill to provide for the payment of revisors for the province. He explained that it provided that the revisors appointed by the government shall be paid by the province but not more than county councils pay the revisors they appoint.

The time for introduction of private bills was extended to and to include tomorrow.

Once More the Sun. Mr. Porter rose to a question of privilege. In today's Sun reference was made to a payment of \$370 to Guy G. Porter, whose receipt for \$37.50, the Sun says, was produced and asks where did the \$12.50 go. Mr. Porter explained that a check for \$30 was sent to his son Guy G. Porter, in part payment of a road machine, the total cost of which was \$67.50. Half of this amount was paid last year and the balance will be paid out of this year's bye road grant. Insinuations of this sort in the press were most unfair. When we acknowledged the great and good power of the press in education and controlling the masses we feel that responsibility resting on the press and which we feel should be wisely and intelligently wielded for the good government of the province, but when we find

the press or any portion of it condescending to menace or intimidate we feel that it has not only lost its usefulness but has become a stumbling block and a nuisance to the party of which it claimed to be an exponent.

Mr. Lawson explained that the \$30 which the Sun had referred to was sent to Victoria county in half payment of a road machine, the total cost of which was \$67.50. The balance will be paid out of this year's bye road grant. There being no bank at Andover the cheque was made payable to Guy G. Porter, son of Mr. Porter, M. P. P. for convenience. The check was for \$30 and \$37.50 was paid on account of the road machine. The balance, \$12.50, was used up in this way. It cost \$1 to get the check cashed, \$9 was paid for a cutting blade and \$2.50 went to two men for setting the machine. The matter was perfectly honest and clear and he was glad to have the opportunity of explaining so that the press and the country may see that Victoria county is well and honestly represented.

The St. John Recorder. Hon. Mr. Pugsley said the lieutenant governor approves of a bill vesting the appointment of recorder of St. John in the common council of that city.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley introduced a bill to amend the law relating to the granting of divorce and matrimonial causes and on the ground of urgency it was read a second time. He explained that it dealt with matters of practice regarded necessary by the divorce court judge to make the court efficient. Among other things it changes the term of the court and provides for the trial of facts by jury.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley introduced a bill to legalize the electoral lists of 1902. Section 10 of the act passed last session requires the lieutenant governor to sign his names to each sheet containing the electoral list. At the last revision, through ignorance in some cases and oversight in others the sheets had not been signed and it was not thought desirable that the revision should be effected by this session. The bill amends the act by amending the liquor license act of 1895. It has been brought to the notice of the government that in many cases the beer sold by persons under a liquor license contained a degree that renders it intoxicating. It is a question of some difficulty to determine what percentage of alcohol renders beer intoxicating and it was thought desirable to fix a percentage. In England anything above 2 per cent, is regarded as intoxicating. This bill leaves the matter to the lieutenant governor to determine after hearing expert testimony what percentage of proof spirits shall be permitted in beer. He felt the bill would meet with public approval.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley introduced a bill amending the election act of 1899 and on the ground of urgency it was read a second time. It relates to the county of St. John. The act 43rd Victoria empowers the tax collector to call upon a constable to give notice of the payment of the 6th Vic. might repeal this and the object of the present bill is to provide that it shall not. There is another section with regard to the serving of notices on non-residents.

Mr. Appleby thought it would be advisable for the government to look into the matter of taxation and make a unit on the ground of urgency the bill respecting the payment of revisors appointed by the government was read a second time.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley introduced a bill relating to the jurisdiction of police or stipendiary magistrates. A large number of parish magistrates had been appointed and doubt has arisen as to their jurisdiction in the county. This provides that they shall have jurisdiction in the county but jurisdiction in offences committed within the limits of a city or town. On the ground of urgency the bill was read a second time.

The bills went into committee on the number of bills. Mr. Porter in the chair. That relating to the importation of horses was recommitted. It was thought that adding a section for a grant of \$800 to the maritime list stock show and \$500 to aid in the establishment of plants for drying mud. The bill was agreed to with amendments and an amended title.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley committed the bill to the ground of urgency it was read a second time. He said it had been carefully considered by the law committee and at a suggestion of the secretary of the committee of the approval of the representatives of St. John

a section was inserted that the salary of the present incumbent shall not be decreased during his tenure of office, and it was further amended by providing that the bill shall not come in force except by proclamation of the governor in council.

Hon. Mr. Hazen said he failed to see the purpose of the last provision. It leaves the whole matter in the hands of the governor in council who may never proclaim the act. He could not understand why it should not come in force at once. This section should have been considered at a full meeting of the last committee. Only three had been consulted. He was doubtful if the full committee would approve of it. He for one would not.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley said the bill could never have reached its present stage unless the governor gave his consent which was only given today. The bill contains a guarantee of the government's willingness to bring the act in force. It was the bona fide intention to vest the appointment in the common council when the term of the present incumbent expired. Why it should not be brought into force by proclamation was for those that claimed a different course should be pursued to explain. It was an interference with the prerogative of the crown and the lieutenant governor consenting to the introduction of the bill the enforcement of it by proclamation was the proper course. There was no likelihood of a vacancy in the near future. Therefore it would do no public inconvenience if the act did not come in force at once. Again, persons knowing the office could be made vacant might possibly hasten the resignation of the present incumbent, by making it unpleasant for him. He could not pledge the council to treat the matter as though the act immediately when the proper time arrives.

Mr. Hazen said the pledge of the attorney general did not bind his successors. It would be more wisely to refuse the common council the right of making the appointment rather than leave it optional which killed the bill.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley said the honorable gentleman forgets that it is optional with the lieutenant governor to sign the bill. When the governor in council consents to a bill, provides that it shall be brought into force by proclamation and those interested are agreeable it is sufficient guarantee of the government's bona fide intention. The leader of the opposition would not treat the matter as though the common council had the right to insist that the bill should pass. They did not stand in the position at all. Property owners should have asked the lieutenant governor in council to introduce the bill but having taken the course they did and the crown having given its consent it was proper that the act should come into force by proclamation.

Hon. Mr. Hazen said similar bills had been introduced before and no objection was taken. The attorney general wants the common council to think that he is complying with their wishes and at the same time to amend the act and those who are optional whether their wishes shall be complied with or not.

The bill was agreed to as amended. Hon. Mr. Pugsley committed a bill amending the general mining act.

He explained that by section 97 of the mining act power is given the lieutenant governor to grant a lease for a larger area than ordinarily for mining purposes, but before obtaining the lease it is necessary that a license should be obtained. It was felt that no purpose was served in taking out a license. The general mining act also names an amount of \$60 per square mile for rent. The bill proposes to leave the amount to the discretion of the governor in council. The bill was agreed to.

The house went into committee on the bill to amend the game act. In the absence of Hon. Mr. Dunn, Mr. Lawson explained the provisions. One section amends section 10 of the game act by imposing a penalty on any person who has in his possession a carcass of a colt, moose or cow moose or any portion thereof to prevent the carrying of the same or of destroying or selling any property seized other than live game; another to prevent the carrying of arms in the woods that are enclosed, but which are open to the public and used as places of public resort.

Mr. Todd proposed to amend the act to make the close time for moose and caribou in the territory west of the St. John river begin December 15 instead of the 1st.

Mr. Lawson expressed the opinion that the close time all over the province ought to be uniform, and Mr. Hazen agreed.

Hon. Mr. Burchill said that before passing the section changing the close time in the northern counties he would like to communicate with a gentleman in Northumberland who was conversant with game matters. A few minutes later he announced that he had communicated by telephone and that the gentleman expressed the opinion that the open season for moose ought to begin September 1st instead of the 15th, and to end December 15.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie thought progress should be reported. It was not well to make so many changes in the game laws. The law was very fully discussed before it was passed and changes ought not to be made unless they were shown to be in the general interest.

Progress was reported.

Evening Session. The house resumed at 8 o'clock. Mr. Osman presented the report of the public

(Continued on page 2.)

RAILWAY COMMISSION PROJECT PRESENTED TO HOUSE BY HON. MR. BLAIR

To Be of Three Members to Hold Office for Ten Years—Decision of Commission to Be Final—Control of Rates—Interesting Address by the Minister.

Ottawa, April 8.—(Special)—The minister of customs, Hon. Wm. Paterson, made a thorough and exhaustive speech on the budget today, dealing with the financial position of the country and showing the great development which has taken place during the time the Liberals have been in power. Mr. Paterson's speech was full of valuable information on the condition of trade and kindred subjects.

Mr. Paterson resumed the budget debate. After a few introductory sentences he proceeded to show that the increase in population for the last decade took place largely in the last five years. He took up the trade returns and showed the large increase in business during the five years of the present government, compared with the five years of the late government. He showed from trade returns, bank returns, land sales and immigration returns that the prosperity of the country was such during the past five years of the decade that there was no doubt as to the great increase in the population. The business never could have been done but for the growth in population.

Taking up the public debts, Mr. Paterson said that while the Conservatives increased the debt \$146 per head during the last five years of their rule, the Liberals decreased it 87 cents per head during the five years of Liberal rule.

Notwithstanding the increased revenue of the country, the taxation was reduced 12 per cent. Economy did not mean parsimony and as long as the money was wisely expended in the people's interests it accrued to the public benefit.

The minister of customs alluded to the trust problem in the United States and to the grave consequences which certain of our people thought the event might have upon Canadian trade. The government was not insensible to the altering conditions of trade and would make his trust question one for study. If a means could be devised, he was in favor of extending to the hardy fishermen of our coast a larger share of the benefits derived from the public expenditures. The prime minister was shortly to engage in London with the other colonial representatives in a conference with regard to inter-imperial trade. What instructions would the opposition party wish to convey to him for his guidance? Was that advice to be found in the resolution proposed by Mr. Borden? Surely not. How would the premier of Canada look before the eyes of the empire saying to the British authorities: "We want you to tax yourselves for a preference to Canadian products in your market and my instructions from the Canadian opposition are that we will give in return a reduced rate of duty on all lines of British goods that we in Canada cannot produce for ourselves."

"It would like a line of these lines of goods," said the minister. "Perhaps the opposition could supply it. But for my part I know nothing that we could not produce for ourselves with the adequate protection for which the Conservative party stands. That adequate protection means the absolute shutting out of goods from all other countries. The issue is now clear on that point. The opposition wants then an exclusion of foreign wares. We stand for a revenue tariff. What would England say I ask again, if a proposal such as I have outlined from our prime minister? Yet that is what the resolution before the house means. I hope the opposition leader will realize the position and withdraw his resolution.

In the senate, Mr. Scott introduced a bill restricting the issuing of charters for joint stock companies by letter patent. This is intended to facilitate the issuing of charters and to make the Canadian law assimilate to the English. There are seven persons signing articles of agreement which have subscribed and lodged them with the registrar received a certificate. A royal commission appointed to inquire into these matters reported most favorably. In Canada it now took eight to 10 weeks. Under the new act it would take a few days and would require no deposit of money. Of course, this would apply only to charters for the whole dominion. He followed the English act, which was adopted by Nova Scotia and British Columbia. The bill was read a first time.

Notes. The department of trade and commerce has been advised that the Union Bank of Halifax has opened a branch at Trinidad.

John Charlton, M. P., addressed the Ottawa Board of Trade this evening on the commercial relations of Canada.

Ottawa, April 9.—(Special)—The minister of railways introduced in the house this afternoon a bill to provide for the appointment in Canada of a railway commission and to amend and consolidate into one statute for the guidance of the commission the various amendments made to the general railway act since its passage by parliament in 1888. He felt warranted from the expressions of members on both sides of the chamber and from what he heard of public opinion particularly in the western country, that this proposal would be backed by a very strong sentiment.

Complications Prof. McKean. The minister paid incidentally a high compliment to Professor McKean for the excellence of his report to the government on the matter of a railway commission. He did not intend at the present time to go into all the details of the proposed statute. They could be considered later. Before entering into an outline of the bill, Mr. Blair referred to the conditions existing in regard to transportation in Canada and

told the house and country not to expect an ideal solution of all the complaints. In many parts the condition was sparsely settled and railway companies had to try and get as much as possible out of their traffic on account of their local business being small.

Would Afford Relief. Now the minister would not have it supposed that there were not likely to be any beneficial results from the establishment of the commission even with regard to this main grievance that was put forward. He felt the enactment would afford considerable relief, but far from the hopes of those who called for the appointment of this new tribunal.

The present bill dealt largely with the constitution of the powers of the railway commission, but the government had judged this an opportune time to effect a complete revision and codification of the existing act. Many minor changes were recommended in the present law leading to the more effective enforcement of the railway commission's regulations.

The bill he had described as a bona fide endeavor to create a commission under such conditions as were most likely to conduce to its success. Canada had been here the experience of similar bodies in England and the United States and as far as possible had tried to avoid the weak points in those.

Railway Committee Would Be No More. With the enactment of the present law the railway committee of the privy council would pass away. Of that body, he would say that which it failed to perform, discharge the duties laid out to it owing to the many calls on ministers' time that its weakest point was the control of railway rates. The present powers of the railway committee would by the present bill be transferred to the railway commission moreover new powers would be vested in the new body. The two main features of the present measure were to provide for the constitution of a railway commission and to regulate tolls.

Make-Up of the Commission. The government in defining the number of commissioners, their tenure of office, age limits, etc., consulted the public and listened to the suggestions of the house. The very best material was needed for the tribunal. In fact the selection of the members was everything. Unless Canada could afford the right kind of men to manage this commission its operation could not prove successful. To get the right material was necessary to provide a fairly lengthy tenure of office and a fairly high rate of pay. He considered that the commission should be composed of three members appointed for a term of five years and re-appointment and who could not be removed except through a joint measure of both houses of parliament. The members should be mentioned no age limit, but left that space blank to take parliament's judgment. The chairman would receive a decision final.

The bill provided that the decisions of the commission should be final, subject only to the approval of the governor in council.

If the commission were composed of the right men, it ought to be more competent to deal with questions of fact in railway matters than any court of law, therefore its decisions would not be subject to revision by the bench. In the United States it took about four years of litigation to get a final judgment on railway disputes. By the absence of appeals this condition would be obviated in the dominion.

Mr. Haggart's Objections. Mr. Haggart said that with the minister of railways his predilection was the railway committee of the privy council to settle railway matters. The present bill had been forced on the government by western members and he did not believe it would result successfully. If it had the scope the minister stated, it would be very dangerous and might interfere with private rights or contracts existing between the people and the companies. The power given the commission to fix rates absolutely of their own volition would seriously interfere with such contracts. The commission would be entirely independent of parliament and would bind future parliaments, a thing which would not sanction. If there was a commission to look into rates and remove anomalies, it might be some use, but there was not at present sufficient public opinion urging such a radical change as the giving over to a commission powers such as no other like body in the world had. Giving to three or four men the power of holding up railways without any control by parliament, the courts or public opinion.

Mr. Robinson (West Elgin), addressing his fellow members told them to let the minister introduce his bill and find out afterwards what was in it.

Mr. Ingram (East Elgin), insisted that the government railways should be made subject to the commission.

Mr. Davis (Saskatchewan), who has been a steady foe of a commission, said they were very much pleased to find the government introducing this bill. The railway business was growing so rapidly that the railway committee of the privy council could not handle all the applications coming before them. The people of the west had lost and were losing a great amount of money because there was not such a body to regulate rates. They were paying double the freight rates which

(Continued on page 8.)