

Mr. LENNOX. The only provision of the Railway Act that could be said to apply would not cover the case.

Amendment disagreed to.

On motion of Mr. Fielding the second amendment was concurred in.

SECOND READINGS.

Bill (No. 15) to incorporate the Live Stock Insurance Company of Canada, Limited.—Mr. Walsh (St. Anne).

Bill (No. 153) for the relief of Victor Harold Lyon.—Mr. Wilson (Russell).

Bill (No. 149) to incorporate the Rock Life Assurance Company of Canada.—Mr. Par-melee.

Bill (No. 150) to incorporate the Collingwood Southern Railway Company.—Mr. McCarthy (Simcoe).

SUPPLY—IMMIGRATION POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT.

The House resumed discussion of the motion that the House go into Committee of Supply, and the amendment of Mr. Armand Lavergne thereto.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN (Carleton, Ont.). Mr. Speaker, after the very lengthy debate on the motion of the hon. member for Montmagny, I do not intend to detain the House at any great length. The Minister of the Interior was good enough to refer to the speech of the hon. member for Montmagny (Mr. Armand Lavergne) as a very discreditable one. I do not agree with everything the hon. member for Montmagny said, but I did not notice anything discreditable in his speech; on the contrary, I thought he argued his case from his own standpoint very fairly indeed. It is true that the Minister of the Interior may very well think it a most outrageous thing that the member for Montmagny should have selected extracts from the speeches of the minister himself, embody them in a resolution, and move them as an amendment to the motion to go into Committee of Supply. I do not wonder that the feelings of my hon. friend the Minister of the Interior (Mr. Oliver) were somewhat hurt. I trust that my hon. friend from Montmagny (Mr. Lavergne) will never again be guilty of perpetrating such a trick on any minister of the Crown because that is rather a serious thing to do. Then to have my hon. friend the Minister of the Interior (Mr. Oliver) launching out into a somewhat discursive and very warm speech in attack of that very motion, which was taken from his own utterances of bygone days, was a spectacle which of course the minister himself did not relish as soon as he came to realize the situation. My hon. friend the Postmaster General (Mr. Lemieux) as well as my hon.

friend from Strathcona (Mr. McIntyre) did not argue this motion very seriously. They contented themselves with criticising very strongly the speeches made by the hon. member for Montmagny (Mr. Lavergne) and the hon. member for Labelle (Mr. Bourassa) in support of what those gentlemen consider a proper policy. The Postmaster General (Mr. Lemieux) asked very warmly more than once whether we propose in this country to exclude foreign immigrants. But I did not understand either of the gentlemen who supported this motion to advocate any such policy. They simply proposed that we should not spend money in certain quarters to encourage immigration from those quarters. When it was suggested by the Postmaster General (Mr. Lemieux) as well as by my hon. friend from Strathcona (Mr. McIntyre)—and the hon. member for Strathcona (Mr. McIntyre), I thought, did not exhibit his usual fairness in some passages of his speech—that there was something racial or narrow in the arguments put forward by the mover and seconder of the motion, I am bound to say I found nothing racial or narrow in the speeches of those gentlemen. I have not agreed very often with my hon. friend from Labelle (Mr. Bourassa) in this House. We have sat on opposite sides, and, as a general rule, have not been very much in agreement; but I am bound to say that I never denied him the qualities of courage and sincerity, and I believe that he has never said in the province of Quebec anything he has not been willing to say in this House. I believe that thoroughly; and even if his speech had the characteristics which were somewhat unfairly imputed to him this afternoon, I would venture to inquire most respectfully whether the Postmaster General should be selected as the one to throw the first stone.

There were one or two other observations which I wish to take up. The hon. member for Strathcona (Mr. McIntyre) referred to this as a very unimportant subject. I do not agree with him. I think it is a very important subject indeed and one which well deserves the consideration of this House. It was said by my hon. friend the Postmaster General (Mr. Lemieux) and also by my hon. friend from Strathcona (Mr. McIntyre) that the hon. member for Labelle (Mr. Bourassa) had endeavoured to raise the racial cry with reference to the transportation of people from Quebec to the west. I did not so understand the remarks that were made. I simply understood my hon. friend from Labelle (Mr. Bourassa) to allude to the difference in transportation rates, whether from the maritime provinces, Quebec or Ontario, as compared with those charged by the transportation companies of this country to persons landing at Halifax or Quebec from foreign countries or the British Isles.

As a point was sought to be made against the hon. member for Labelle (Mr. Bourassa)