

## POST OFFICE ACT AMENDMENT.

Hon. MARTIN BURRELL (for the Postmaster General) moved concurrence in the amendments made by the Senate to Bill No. 167, to amend the Post Office Act. He said: The amendments made by the Senate are to remove the ambiguity that seems to have been in the Bill under which it was supposed weekly newspapers were not included in the three-quarters of a cent rate.

Motion agreed to.

## INLAND REVENUE ACT AMENDMENT.

Hon. MARTIN BURRELL moved concurrence in an amendment made by the Senate to Bill No. 178 to amend the Inland Revenue Act. He said: The amendment made by the Senate strikes out a clause in the Bill which provided for a new definition of standard leaf tobacco in regard to the moisture content. There have been a great many representations from different tobacco manufacturers all over the country that it would involve great hardship to adjust themselves suddenly to the provisions of this clause, and on the whole we have thought it better to postpone the matter and allow the clause to go.

Motion agreed to.

## BANKRUPTCY ACT AMENDMENT.

Hon. HUGH GUTHRIE (Acting Solicitor general) moved concurrence in amendments made by the Senate to Bill No. 126, to amend the Bankruptcy Act.

Mr. ARCHAMBAULT: What is the nature of the amendments?

Mr. GUTHRIE: The Senate has undertaken to strike out two of the clauses of the Bill to amend the Bankruptcy Act which this House passed this session. The first is in relation to the fees and remuneration of trustees under the Act. Under the original Act these fees were limited to five per cent of the estate. Under the Act which this House passed this session, power was given to increase that amount with the consent of the inspectors or of the court. The Senate has refused to pass that amendment and has stricken it out from the Bill. The second amendment refers to solicitors' costs. The provision in the Act which passed this House last session was that the costs of solicitors, attorneys and the like should not exceed five per cent of the estate. Under the amendment which was made during the present session these costs were to be taxed

according to a tariff to be fixed by general rule. The Senate has likewise stricken out that amendment. In my opinion these two clauses improve the Bill, and I would not like to say on behalf of the Government that they have been abandoned. At the same time I do not think any difficulty will come through the action of the Senate during the next six or eight months; and I think as an experiment—indeed the whole Act is experimental—we may as well concur in these amendments at the present time. If, however, it becomes necessary at a future time the Government may seek the opportunity to restore the two clauses in question.

Mr. ARCHAMBAULT: What will be the tariff of solicitors as a result of these amendments?

Mr. GUTHRIE: Under the Act, five per cent of the estate will be the maximum amount that can be charged.

Mr. ARCHAMBAULT: I understand that the Act comes into force on the 1st of July. Have the necessary trustees been appointed?

Mr. GUTHRIE: I could not answer that question; the administration of the Act is in the hands of the Secretary of State.

Mr. SPEAKER: That question has already been submitted on two or three occasions on the Orders of the Day. I do not know that it is in order at this stage of the proceedings.

Mr. ARCHAMBAULT: I was under the impression, Mr. Speaker, that the amendment of the Senate referred to the appointment of trustees.

Mr. GUTHRIE: It does not refer to the appointment of trustees but to their remuneration.

Mr. ARCHAMBAULT: The question I asked was whether the trustees had been appointed.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Government has already answered that very question.

Mr. ARCHAMBAULT: The information is not very precise.

Mr. McKENZIE: Do I understand that the action of the Senate restores the old sections?

Mr. GUTHRIE: The Act will remain as it passed last session with respect to the two sections in question.

Motion agreed to.