

SENATE.

Ottawa, Thursday, January 19, 1905.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

THE COMMITTEE ON STANDING ORDERS.

FIRST REPORT ADOPTED.

Hon. Mr. YOUNG from the Committee on Standing Orders presented their first report. He said: I move that this report be now received.

Hon. Mr. FERGUSON—We have now the reports of the organization of all the standing committees of the House except the joint committees. I have no observation to make further than to congratulate hon. members of this House from Quebec and from Manitoba on the somewhat fair distribution of the chairmanships of the various committees that they have made between themselves, to the exclusion of all the other provinces.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—Before the report is adopted, I should like to know if there was a quorum at the meeting of the Standing Orders Committee?

Hon. Mr. YOUNG—Supposed to be.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—I want to know, as a matter of fact, if there was really a quorum of that committee? Is the hon. gentleman from Killarney chairman of that committee? Is the report signed by the chairman?

THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE—Yes.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—I should like to know on what authority? Could the hon. gentleman give us an explanation?

Hon. Mr. YOUNG—I will leave that to the other members, who are present, to speak for themselves.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—That is not giving an answer. This House should know if that committee sat this morning—if there was a regular meeting of the committee.

Hon. Mr. YOUNG—No, they adjourned until two o'clock for want of a quorum. They did not sit this morning.

The motion was agreed to.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT.

BILL INTRODUCED.

Bill (A) for the relief of Edward Albert Murphy.—(Hon. Mr. Kerr, Cobourg.)

AN ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT moved:

That when the Senate adjourns to-day it do stand adjourned until Monday the 13th of February at three o'clock.

He said: After the House rose last evening a number of senators from both sides of the House called upon me and said that the time fixed for the meeting again after the adjournment, the 8th of February, was rather inconvenient for them, and they thought the time might be altered. The gentlemen embracing this deputation were chiefly from the maritime provinces and the western country, and they suggested that if when the House adjourns to-morrow it would stand adjourned to Monday, the 13th of February, that time would suit the largest number, and I presume, as this is the only long adjournment the House will have, it is advisable to make the change.

The motion was agreed to.

THE SEAT OF HON. RUFUS CURRY.

ORDER POSTPONED.

The notice of motion being called:

That the report of the Clerk of the Senate, respecting the absence of the Honourable Mr. Rufus Curry, during two consecutive sessions of parliament, be referred to the committee appointed to consider the order and customs of the House and the privileges of parliament, the committee to meet—

Hon. Mr. SCOTT moved that the order be discharged, and that it be placed on the order paper for the 20th of February. He said: Mr. Fielding will have returned by that time, and I wish to see him on the subject.

The motion was agreed to.

THE NATIONAL TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILWAY SURVEY.

MOTION.

Hon. Mr. WOOD moved:

That an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General; praying that His Excellency will cause to be laid upon the table of the Senate the reports of the surveyors