

which would accrue to the Dominion from the construction of a canal uniting the waters of Lake Huron with those of the St. Lawrence via the Ottawa River, the said committee to consist of the Honourable Messieurs Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Scott, Casgrain, McMillan, Dobson, Bellerose, De Boucherville, Ogilvie, Owens, Almon, Miller, McKay, Power, Bernier, Boulton, Perley, Macdonald (P.E.I.), Prowse, Reid, and the mover; with power to send for papers, persons and records, and to employ such persons as the committee may deem necessary for the purpose of the investigation, and to report from time to time.

He said:—I stated the other day that it was my intention to move for a committee to inquire into this subject. I desire the opportunity of proving by reliable parties the feasibility of this project, and the only way, apparently, would be to bring those parties here to give their evidence. It is the intention to summon the parties interested in the proposal for the purpose of obtaining this information. One of them is on his way from Mexico, and will be here in a few days. It is also the intention to summon scientific men, who know all about it, and whose evidence will be of great assistance in coming to a conclusion as to whether this route is feasible and should be constructed under the terms foreshadowed in the few remarks I made the other day. I do not intend to elaborate the question at the present time. Hon. gentlemen are aware of the circumstances, and I think the investigation will satisfy the House and the whole country that it is a step in the right direction, and that we may expect to realize the importance of this great channel of communication between the northern country and the seaboard. I do not know whether I would be in order if I were to ask the House, in the event of its being necessary, that this committee should sit during recess. It may not be necessary, but if these parties arrive here in a few days, it would be very desirable, if we could get the committee together, to have an opportunity of taking their evidence in order that there might be no delay.

Hon. Mr. MILLS—Most of the members will be away.

Hon. Mr. CLEMOV—Very well. I thought possibly it might be done.

The motion was agreed to.

THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC IN THE YUKON COUNTRY.

MOTION.

Hon. Mr. PERLEY—On behalf of the prohibition people of Canada I desire to move:

That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General; praying that His Excellency will cause to be laid before the Senate, the number of permits that have been granted to persons for the purpose of taking spirituous and intoxicating liquors into the Yukon District, the date of such permits, together with the name of the person to whom a permit has been granted, and the number of gallons covered by such permit, and the fee charged by the government per gallon.

I should like to ask, also, which government gets the fee, the Dominion or the Territorial?

Hon. Mr. MILLS—There is no objection whatever to the motion being granted. The return which the hon. gentleman has moved for will be brought down. I notice that in giving my reply to the hon. gentleman's question, which he put yesterday or the day before, a number of newspapers have it that I said that I had issued several permits for the sale of liquor in the Territories. I did not say so, and I never did so. My department has nothing whatever to do with the matter.

Hon. Mr. FERGUSON—The government did it though.

Hon. Mr. PERLEY—Will the hon. gentleman be good enough to add the information that I have asked for—who gets the fees for the sale of the permits?

Hon. Mr. MILLS—The hon. gentleman will see that this Yukon country is still in an unsettled condition. When we bring in our bill—which I hope will be immediately after we meet subsequent to the adjournment—that matter will be regulated by the bill about to be introduced. With regard to the permits that have already been issued, that I apprehend is under the authority of the North-west Territories Act and the revenue is disposed of by the terms and provisions of that Act. My present recollection, without looking into the matter, is that it is part of the revenues of the North-west Territories.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Could the Minister of Justice inform the