

The Herald

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 1921

SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.00 A YEAR. TO THE UNITED STATES \$1.50 PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY THE HERALD PUBLISHING COMPANY, LIMITED.

Please Send in Your Subscription Money.

At The Federal Capital

The Parliamentary week ending Saturday, April 16th, afforded more excitement in the House of Commons than had hitherto been supplied during the present session. As indicated in last week's correspondence, it was quite plain that the members of the Opposition were riding for a fall. They seem to be extremely shortsighted and are altogether incapable of anticipating the disasters that may befall them, if they pursue certain lines of procedure. It was explained in last week's correspondence that on the estimate for completing the programme of shipbuilding in connection with the Canadian Government Merchant Marine, the Opposition were affording considerable obstruction. It was stated that Mr. Duff, the member for Lunenburg, N. S., had held up the committee for five hours at a stretch. Some of the remarkable characteristics of Mr. Duff are his extreme ignorance, his physical ponderosity, his absolutely uncouth and uncultured manners. There had not been wanting from the very beginning of the session evidence that it was the intention of the Opposition to render all the obstruction possible. They thought their opportunity had arrived when, late on Monday night, the 11th, the committee requirement of the Appropriations for the Merchant Marine was again under consideration. Honourable Mr. Ballantyne, the Minister in charge of these estimates, was asked all manner of questions, the greater number of them having no relation whatever to the matter under consideration. Shortly after midnight it became quite evident that the Opposition members to hold up this appropriation indefinitely. The attendance was comparatively small on both sides of the House, as a great number of the members had left for home shortly after 11 o'clock, thinking that the committee might continue for an hour or two and that the item of eight million dollars would be passed, and the House would adjourn. However, it soon developed that there was nothing further from the minds of the Opposition bunch who remained over than to allow the item to pass if it could be blocked in any way at all. So then the fight went on. After a brief space all the talking was left to the members of the Opposition, as it was quite evident that any intelligent discussion or explanations from the Government side, or from the Minister, would only mean so much loss of time. So one after another kept on talking against time. The talking was confined to about half a dozen of the members of the Opposition side, and it was mostly in the form of questions until one after another became exhausted. The first one again took up the cudgels, and so they went round and round for the whole night and early hours of the morning. The worst offenders were, of course, Mr. Duff, Mr. Sinclair of Guysboro and Dr. Clarke of Bed Deer. On two or three occasions during the early morning hours Dr. Clarke intimated that probably it would be as well to let the item pass, as the Government would carry it some time or other and that having made, as he said, such

protests the holding up of the supply did not avail. But this manner of reasoning did not appeal to Mr. Duff and Mr. Sinclair of Guysboro, and one or two other of the obstructors. It was indeed somewhat of a demoralized House of Commons, during the early hours of the morning. Coming along about four o'clock or so, a number were slumbering fitfully, according as they might be permitted, or until someone fired a blue book at the slumberer, or something of that kind brought about a rude awakening. Finally after six o'clock messengers were sent out and relays began to appear on both sides. Along about nine o'clock or so the Prime Minister arrived, with Sir George Foster and the Minister of Railways, and they were all very much surprised to know that the House, which they had left in committee when they went home in the evening, was still in committee and that no progress had been made. The new arrivals of course infused new blood into the committee, and those who had borne the brunt and had kept the long, tiresome, lonesome vigil were disposed to retire and seek some rest. The discussion went on but did not vary very much in quality, as the new arrivals on the Opposition side followed the same line of tactics as those who had been there during the night and early morning. The Ministers who had come in in the morning, and other members on the Government side, after a brief space finally observed what was going on, and did not interfere to any great extent. After Sir George Foster had come, he was one of the first to arrive, some members of the Opposition appealed to him, in an innocent way as it were, to break this deadlock and have the committee rise and report progress. But the veteran statesman was not to be caught napping, and after an investigation he found that no progress had been made, therefore, none could be reported. He so stated to the House, and the grind went on. One after another of the Opposition side of the House got up and asked questions, and said over again what had been said one hundred times or so within the past twenty hours. After those who had been up over night had returned to the House in the afternoon, having had a little rest and recreation, it was plain that the time for action had pretty nearly arrived. The Opposition had invited drastic measures and the Government were not by any means averse to have such measures emphasized; but they did not wish in any way to precipitate the rules in such a way that the obstructors would be brought to a sudden stop. But when the Opposition had again asked the committee to rise, it looked to the Prime Minister that the time had arrived when he would be disposed to yield to their request. This, however, is the way in which the Prime Minister brought this about. After he had secured the floor, about three o'clock in the afternoon, he intimated that after eighteen hours continuous sitting of the committee, it was not unnatural that those who had obstructed the business might be somewhat wearied, and that relief might be welcomed. He was prepared to afford that relief to them. Possibly the manner in which he intended to bring it about might not be as agreeable to them as they would like, but they had themselves to blame. They had brought this upon themselves, and now it was the Government's turn. After he had scored them fairly well for their scandalous conduct, he moved that further consideration of the item under review be postponed. This is the first intimation that closure is coming. This motion carried without further discussion; it is a motion that is not debatable. Then a curious spectacle was presented. Many further items of supply requested by the Minister of Marine were voted quite readily. The Opposition members who had been so reckless, extravagant and obstructive completely fell down. They saw that they had blundered right into the net that the Government had prepared for them. They had put their heads right into the noose, and the only thing for them to do was to withdraw with as little injury to themselves as possible. As a consequence of this obvious effect on the Opposition, items of supply for the Minister of Marine and Fisheries went through with extraordinary rapidity during the remaining hours of the afternoon. The conceit was completely taken out of the obstructors. They, in the beginning of their tactics, thought they were doing something exceedingly clever, but when they found where they landed they felt, to use a common phrase, like kicking themselves. Closure was upon them and they foolishly brought it on. Finally, when six o'clock came, recess was taken, the first break in the sitting of the House for twenty-two hours.

When the House resumed at 8 o'clock in the evening, some matters of a more or less routine character were pressed forward. These had been held over in consequence of the very long previous sitting. Then the House went again into committee of supply. The item of eight million dollars that had been held up during the twenty-two hours sitting was again presented, and also the matter of interim supply. This amounted to nearly seventy millions of dollars, one-sixth of the whole supply to be voted during the session. It may be necessary to give a little explanation here. Every session, with hardly any exception, a portion of the money necessary to carry on the public business of the country is voted on bloc, before the budget is dealt with, and before all the estimates have been discussed in committee. This is necessary in consequence of the date when the financial year ends. The 31st of March is the end of the fiscal year for the Dominion of Canada, and the money that has been voted in the previous year has all been expended. As a consequence new votes are required in order to get the money to pay the salaries of officials and carry on the public business generally, until the whole supply bill is passed. This does not come until practically the end of the session. Tuesday night, the 12th, had arrived, and the salaries would have to be paid on the 15th. It would thus be seen that there was not very much time left. The motion for granting interim supplies had been brought up in the House by the Finance Minister about a week before, and on a technically raised by the Opposition was not passed, but was allowed to stand over. Now then on this occasion the motion was again made, but immediately the Opposition manifested their disposition to block the voting of interim supplies. As a matter of fact, it has very seldom happened during the history of Canadian Parliamentary procedure that any attempt has been made to block interim supply. Feeling, no doubt, that if the matter were left to Mr. MacKenzie King, he would make a sorry exhibition of himself and blunder as he always does, Mr. Fielding came to the rescue. He no doubt, felt that his long experience as Finance Minister and as parliamentarian would enable him to carry through his opposition to the interim supply. He was assisted by some of those young men, and they did all possible to prevent the motion from going through. They quoted from the authority on parliamentary procedure what they thought

was sufficient evidence that no motion was not in order. After they had exhausted themselves, Mr. Deputy Speaker quoted from 'May' to show that the voting of an interim supply on bloc was absolutely in order. The quotation so completely covered the point in every respect that the Opposition were simply defeated, and no further obstruction went through, as did also a resolution for granting the eight millions for the Merchant Marine. At this stage the Rt. Hon. Mr. Doherty, Minister of Justice, who was leading the House after the Prime Minister had gone out, moved that, on the following night, that is twenty-four hours from the time he was speaking, the items would come up for consideration and the debate on them would cease at two o'clock on the morning of Thursday, the 14th. This constituted the general inauguration of closure. The meaning of it is, that when these matters came up for discussion twenty-four hours later, discussion of them would automatically cease at two o'clock Thursday morning. More than that, only speech could be made in the debate by any member, and that would be confined to the limit of twenty minutes. This is how closure was brought about, and it would seem that all will readily admit that the Opposition now got what they deserved, and that they walked quite nicely into the trap and had themselves to blame for any grievances that they might consider themselves subjected to.

The final stage in this dramatic performance came on Thursday evening, the 14th. In the afternoon of Thursday, on the motion to go into supply, Mr. Fielding moved an amendment that the House should advance the principal of reciprocity which had been entered into by the Liberal Government with the Washington authorities in 1911, but which had been rejected by the people of Canada in the election of that year. The introduction of this resolution seemed so futile and so inopportune that the debate thereon did not assume dignified proportions. Few members spoke on it on both sides of the House, and it was defeated by a majority of twenty-one, in a House that was not full by any means. After this had been disposed of supply was taken up. This was during the evening sitting of the House. Finally the closure rules regulating the speeches at twenty minutes and one speech by each member came into operation at twelve o'clock, and for two hours the members of the Opposition, many of whom had exhausted themselves in the long night session, made futile attempts to revive and repeat such stale expressions as they had worn thread-bare in the long sitting. It was interesting to note the promptness with which the Deputy Speaker called down each one as he reached his twenty minutes limit. Finally, when the two hours came to an end he brought them to a standstill, and the debate automatically ceased. Then division was taken. It will be understood that the House is in committee. Consequently the vote in such divisions is not recorded. It is simply counted. The first division was on the introduction of the closure rule. This was carried by a majority of 19, 100 to 81. The next division was on the Marine item, which was carried by 79 to 103, majority of 24 for the Government. Then an amendment to exempt from the interim supply bill a certain item was voted upon. This was introduced by Mr. Lemieux, and was defeated by a vote of 103 to 77, a majority of 26. The final division was on the main motion to vote the interim supply item of sixty-nine millions, and this

Mail Contract

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon on Friday, the 10th June 1921, for the conveyance or His Majesty's Mails on a proposed Contract for four years, six times per week, on the route, New Wiltshire Rural Mail Route No. 2, from the Postmaster General's pleasure. Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Offices of New Wiltshire and Kelly's Cross, and at the office of the Post Office Inspector. JOHN F. WHEAR, Post Office Inspector. Post Office Inspector's Office. Charlottetown, April 25, 1921. April 27, 1921—31

Mortgage Sale

There will be sold by Public Auction on Saturday, the Seventh day of May, A. D. 1921, at the hour of Twelve o'clock, noon, in front of the Law Courts Building in Charlottetown; All that tract, piece and parcel of land, situate on the 2nd day of March, A. D. 1893, and being in Township Number Twenty-four, in Queen's County, in Prince Edward Island, bounded and described as follows, that is to say:—On the North by the East by land in possession of Frederick Toombs, (formerly of the late Joseph Toombs (and by land of John H. Buntath, (formerly John Buntath's) on the South by Kate Donestie and Zachariah Doucette her husband, (formerly Frances Gallan's) and on the West by land in the occupation of Thomas Craswell, (formerly Daniel Bulman's) containing fifteen acres of land, a little more or less, together with a right of way therefrom of the mean width of upwards of fifteen feet to the Buffalo Road, as the same hath been used continuously for upwards of fifty years by the Mortgagee and his father, Sylvester Martin, before him; Also all that other tract of land situate on the 2nd day of March, A. D. 1893, and being in Township Number Twenty-four, at the distance of five chains and thirty-seven links, from the northwest angle of land now or formerly in the possession of Joseph Donestie, thence South two chains fourteen links, thence East seven chains and fifty links, thence South eleven chains, thence South sixty-five degrees West eight chains, thence North five chains thirty-seven links, thence South sixty-five degrees West to the place of commencement, containing forty and one-half acres of land, a little more or less, and is part of said Township Number Twenty-four, and is referred to in said Will as forty-two acres, together with the right of way therefrom of the mean width of upwards of fifteen feet to the Buffalo Road aforesaid, as the same has been and now is in use, together with a right of way of the width aforesaid from said twenty-one acres to the hereinafter described tract of 2 1/2 acres, and all rights of way appurtenant to or used in connection with the herein described tracts of land, or any of them.

Canadian National Railways

Double Daily Service

P. E. ISLAND AND THE MAINLAND

Effective On May 2nd

Trains for Borden connecting with S.S. Prince Edward Island leave Charlottetown at 7.00 a.m. and 1.35 p.m. Morning Train connects with train leaving Tormentine at 10.30 a.m., and connecting at Sackville with No. 1 Express for Montreal, and at Moncton with train for St. John and Boston. Train leaving at 1.35 p.m. connects with train leaving Tormentine at 6.20 p.m., connecting at Sackville with No. 3 Maritime Express for Quebec and Montreal, and with No. 10 Express for Truro and Halifax.

For changes in Local Service and further particulars Apply to W. K. ROGERS, or W. T. HUGGAN, City Ticket Agent. Dist. Pass. Agent. April 27, 1921—21

Live Stock Breeders

List of Pure Bred Live Stock for Sale.

Table with columns: NAME, ADDRESS, BREED, AGE. Lists various breeds like Ayrshire bull calves, Shorthorn Bull, etc.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE

Commencing Wednesday, 5th inst. And Continuing Until the 15th. inst.

We Will Offer OUR - WHOLE - STOCK At Discounts of 20, 25, and 33-3 per cent

THESE DISCOUNTS APPLY TO PRACTICALLY ALL DEPARTMENTS These Discounts are for CASH only—and continue for 10 days.

Buy NOW!

MOORE & McLEOD, Ltd 119-121 Queen St. Charlottetown

Furs. Furs.

—SHIP TO US DIRECT— THE TOP MARKET PRICE PAID AND EQUITABLE GRADING MADE —NO DELAYS AT ANY POINT—

We are registered with and recognized by the United States War Trade Board and all of the Collectors for Customs under licence P. B. F. 30, and you can send your furs to us direct by our tag or any tag, changed to suit to marked "Furs of Canadian Origin," and your furs will come right through.

FAIR GRADING

The rules and ethics of the exchange do not permit us sending out alluring price lists, yet we give you an exact and expert grading and pay you at a rate of five to twenty five cents more on the dollar than the average advertising fur company, as we cut out all middle man's profit in dealing direct with you.

St. Louis Fur Exchange 6th & Chestnut St. St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A.

Advertise in the Herald

McKinnon & McLean Barristers, Attorneys-at-Law CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I. MONEY TO LOAN