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April 19, 23



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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL SYNOPSIS OF PROCEEDINGS

(Continued.)

Now my chief reasons for opposing the second reading of this Bill are these. In the first place, the number of protests, which do not so much oppose the measure, as ask for sufficient time for its consideration. These have come from gentlemen who are held in high esteem in this community and we think they should not go unheeded.

For these reasons Mr. President, I must oppose the second reading of this Bill, during this session, in doing this I am not committing myself as to the merits, or demerits, of the Bill, as I do not feel called upon to consider such at this time.

Stall's Books

Rev. T. Albert Moore, D. D., General Secretary of the Dept. of Social Service and Evangelism of the Meth. Church of Canada, who visited Newfoundland in Sept., 1917, in connection with the Social Congress, says:

"Stall's Books on Avoided Subjects have been standard works for such a long time that it seems almost unnecessary to say a word in their behalf. I believe they have accomplished great good, and are written with care and delicacy, at the same time with sufficient frankness or the modest discussion of these delicate subjects. They are safe books for general reading, especially if from the various books there is proper selection for the youth or adult, man or woman, as the case may be."

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ing a week or more, as we usually do, at the opening, we can at once take up this legislation, which by then should be ready to come before us.

While the Manifesto of the Prime Minister referred to prohibition, it was not seriously considered during the election campaign. The literature of the opposing parties had no serious reference to it. As a matter of fact it is well known that the whole issue of the election was "a clean up," and the people asked for that in no uncertain sound.

As a member of the Select Committee which had this Bill in hand, I heard the protests of those who appeared before us, they were, for the most part, courteously given, and I was convinced that the welfare of this community was the welfare of the whole of the island.

For these reasons Mr. President, I must oppose the second reading of this Bill, during this session, in doing this I am not committing myself as to the merits, or demerits, of the Bill, as I do not feel called upon to consider such at this time.

HON. SIR PATRICK McGRATH congratulated Hon. Mr. Morine on the comprehensive and illuminating address he had given. He favored the principles of the Bill, not that he had abated in any way in his belief that the desirable state was that of Prohibition.

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ere better as a result, and he was convinced that the Prohibition Law had done a great deal to add to the comfort and welfare of the people there, and he wished that the law could do the same here.

Because of the existing state of affairs Sir Patrick stated he would support the Bill before the House and give it a trial; a year or two would show whether the experiment were satisfactory or no.

MR. GIBBS congratulated the Government on having the courage of its convictions in bringing in a Bill such as that before the House. In reference to the United States he said that it was quite a common practice for bootleggers to call at private houses for weekly orders.

SIR P. T. McGRATH in reply stated that when the British Government asked Geddes to make his report in regard to Prohibition in the States he had said that in the main it was a success.

HON. MR. GIBBS did not consider that U.S.A. with its easy divorce laws, murders, etc., was so prosperous as might be imagined.

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