Resolutions. Member for Placentia & St. Mary's Raps Government Hard -- Extra Weight of Taxation for New-

Discusses Railway

Mr. M. S. Sullivan

foundland. THURSDAY, July 14. Mr. Chairman. As Sir Michael Cashin, the leader of the Opposition, has been unavoidably called away for a short while, I intend to make a few remarks on the Resolutions now be-fore the 'Chair. I fully realize Sir, that anything I may say will not have probanything I may say will not have prob-ably the slightest effect on the Govern-ment or in any way cause them to so told you, that the re-railing of the so told you, that the re-railing of the that is the reason. Sir, why I for one amont is provide the source of structure of structure. That deficit can be explained considerably, and that is the reason. Sir, why I for one amont is provide the source of structure of structure. That deficit ably the slightest effect on the Govern-ment or in any way cause them to so told you, that the re-railing of the amont is provide the structure of structure of structure. That deficit ably the slightest effect on the Govern-ment or in any way cause them to so told you, that the re-railing of the amont going to vote a million and a Railway at the present time is not necessary. So much for Sir George amend the Resolutions which are now before this Committee. Undoubtedly this Government takes the stand that Bury's report

they were elected to this House by a NO POLICY OUTLINED. majority of the people of Newfound land, and I presume they take it they have a mandate from the electorate to will take, the Resolutions which were pose those resolutions on a confiding people, and I am safe in leaving introduced by the Prime Minister. These I regret to say, do not throw the present Government to the verdict of the people who sent them here in the event of their putting through these iniquitous Resolutions as they now stand. While, Sir. I do not anticipate of how that policy was going to be car-ried out, and furthermore we had reathat anything I may say will alter these resolutions still I would be recreant in my duty to the people who son to suppose that we would be given sent me here, if I stood by and gave some explanation why the financial silent consent to imposing a further assistance to the enormous amount required was to be given. We expected, burden on the people of Newfoundland of a million and a half dollars. One Sir, that some estimate, some plaus-of the greatest statesman of the age ible reason, some plausible excuse gives the meaning of the word parlia-ment as "speaking one's mind without of this country should be asked to Well I am here this hand out a further sum of a million fear or favor." evening and am prepared to call a and a half dollars to meet the deficit spade a spade. I am prepared to can a land a nam others to meet the dener as lies in my power to show the Gov- Company that had already contracted wrong, wherein I think it would be a lour Railway system. But, we waited in gross injustice for this House to vote vain, and after the Prime Minister had million and a half dollars to meet a | introduced and tabled his Resolutions, deficit on the operating account of the we were as much in the dark as be-Reid Newfoundland Company from fore they had been brought in. During July 1st 1921 to June 30th 1922. I am the few remarks which he made, some not speaking here to embarrass the questions were asked of him informal-Government in any way, because I am | us across this House, for certain in-quite positive there are men on that | formation, and I will be honest enough side of the House who are just as anxi- to admit that the Prime Minister was ous to get the best possible terms as only too pleased to get this informa-I am, and I am sure they will realize tion, but sir, he introduced those Rethat the expression of opinion I am making here to-night, and the critic-pared. This is no small measure, this isms that I may make, will be made vote of a million and a half dollars, with the best intentions, and as far as nothing two-penny-half-penny about In my power I am prepared to use it. The Prime Minister would have what ability I have to help out and as- saved considerable time if he had come sist the Government in carrying out in here fortified with all the informasome policy to operate the Railway in tion that was essential for the favorthis country. I am not up here criticiz-able reception of those Resolutions by ing those resolutions because I am un-the members of the Opposition. It is "Iriendly to the Reids or the Reid in-terests. I have always found them most members on the Government side of obliging in anything I had to do with the House. They are aware of all that them, but, Sir, we owe our allegiance ' is going on, they have their party to our country this evening, and not meetings and the Prime Minister, no to a Company, and whether the Reids | doubt, takes them into his confidence do or do not take my remarks as and gives them all the statistics that you their forfeit of \$250,000, and let friendly or otherwise is immaterial. are required to give them the neces- the matter be decided one way or the friendly or otherwise is immaterial, are required to give them the neces-But, after the information we sary assurance that the measure he is have dragged from the Government in introducing is the only measure that of putting off the evil day. It was a connection with the operation of the can be introduced, and that it is in the mistake, last year, a grave mistake, railway for the past twelve months, best interests of the Country that those for the Railway Commission to take

Sir, and then only if there is no other way out after doing that, let us safe-guard that million and a half dollars, safeguard it, tie it up so that not one cent of the money can be used or spent in any way except on actual operation of our Road. AN IMMENSE SUM OF MONEY.

THE THE PARTY STATES AND MADE TO AND THE STATES THE EVENING TELEGRAM, ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, JULY 25, 1921-6

The first question, Sir, that I am The first question, Sir, that I am-sure strikes the members of this House, is, have we had sufficient in-formation to lead us to suppose that there is going to be a deficit of a mil-lion and a half dollars. It seems an immense sum of money. Let us think for a moment. What happened last year under. Government control. Government control is the worst thing that could happen—so it is said— lavish expenditure all round. Now what did we find under Government control last year? What was the deam not going to vote a million and a half dollars to meet an anticipated deficit next year, unless the Reid Nfid Company are prepared to share their proportion of that loss. We must bea

in mind, Mr. Chairman, that las There are a lot of reports, to be year we ran a tri-weekly service. We dealt with in this discussion here. We must bear in mind again, that the price of everything was at its height including labour. We must remember that last year we ran a trimuch further light on the subject. We have been led to expect that some po-licy would be outlined and we had four trains daily from St. John's to been led to expect some explanation Carbonear. We must bear in mind that we ran daily trains on the other branch lines, and then, Sir, we must take this fact into consideration, that this year those resolutions only call for a semi-weekly service across country, unless the passenger and freight service demand it. We must realise that the branch lines, instead of a daily service, are giving us a service. We must tri-weekly bear in mind, Mr. Chairman, that as soon as the snow comes the branch lines will be shut down. We must bear in mind that the line from Humbermouth to Millertown Junction across the Topsails will be closed down. We must recognize the fact, that the cost of everything is dropping. I must ask you Sir, if it is not right that the members on both sides of the House should realize the fact that there is bound to be a reduction of at least tweney-five per cent. on the cost o operating next year. I am sure that the men on the other side of the House, after weighing those facts carefully, and if they are as much interested in Newfoundland as I am. will not feel justified in voting a million and a half dollars this year when the deficit last year as I stated, was only \$1,600,000. There is bound to be, and there will be, a big decrease in the cost of operating on the curtailment of trains alone. Now, if the contractors at the present time cannot see their way clear to operate this road, and they have no solution to offer, the best thing for them to do is to tell the Government to take the railway, and they will pay



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