

24. Statement of the amount and nature of the security given by Ryan & Macdonell for the completion of their contract for sections 1 and 2, Soulanges Canal.

25. Copy of notice to tenderers for reletting of sections 1 and 2, Soulanges Canal, that the Government would furnish a quarry for the use of contractors.

26. Copy of the agreement with Ryan & Macdonell as to the quarry at Rockland.

27. Statement of the royalty to be paid by Ryan & Macdonell to the Department on stone to be quarried at Rockland Quarry.

28. Copy of the Order in Council dated between the dates 15th May, 1897, and 29th May, 1897 (both dates inclusive), for the payment of \$10,000 to Archibald Stewart.

29. Copy of letter or telegram from the Department of Railways and Canals to one C. W. Ross, a clerk in the Department of Railways and Canals, in the month of December, 1897, or January, 1898, instructing him to break into the office of Archibald Stewart, at his quarry in Rockland.

30. Copies of letters or telegrams to one Middleton, Government Inspector at Rockland, from the Department of Railways and Canals, during the months of December, 1897, and up to 13th of January, 1898.

Ordered, That the same do lie on the Table, and it is as follows:—

(*Vide Sessional Papers, No. .*)

The Honourable Mr. Landry called the attention of the Government to the following facts:—By its legislation of 1897, the Government was binding itself to give to the Drummond Railway Company, for a period of 99 years, an annuity of \$64,000, this representing the interest on a capital of \$1,600,000 at a rate of 4 per cent. This amount of \$1,600,000 was the estimated cost of a railway between Chaudière and Ste. Rosalie.

The Government has been able, since several years, to borrow money at a lower rate than 3 per cent.

A capital of \$1,600,000 at a rate of 3 per cent would bring \$48,000.

If this interest of \$48,000 were deducted from the annuity of \$64,000 it would leave \$16,000 for a sinking fund.

This sinking fund embodied in the annuity of \$64,000 would, at the end of 47 years and two months, reproduce the original capital of \$1,600,000.

By binding itself to pay an annual grant of \$64,000 during 99 years, the Government, having paid the capital of \$1,600,000 at the expiration of 47 years and two months, was undertaking, by this very fact, to pay during a further period of 51 years and ten months \$64,000 per annum for a capital already paid back.

This useless annual payment of \$64,000 would, at the expiration of 51 years and ten months, form a capital in round numbers of \$7,800,000.

And asked:

Was not this amount of \$7,800,000 really saved the country by the action of the Senate in throwing out the Drummond deal?

Does the Government deny the correctness of these figures? If so, wherein are they wrong, and what are the correct figures?

Debated.

The House resumed the adjourned debate on the Honourable Mr. Mills' motion on the second reading of the Bill (168) intituled: "An Act respecting the Manitoba School Fund," viz:—

That the said Bill be now read a second time.

After further Debate.

The question of concurrence being put on the said motion; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down as follow:—

CONTENTS:

The Honourable Messieurs

Dandurand,
Dever,

McLaren,
Mills,

Power,
Scott,

Snowball.—7.