

FREDERICTON, N. B., April 1.—The house met at three o'clock. Mr. Allen presented the petition of J. Simeon Armstrong in favor of his auto road bill.

Mr. Robertson presented the petition of the city of St. John for a bill to remove doubts as to the harbor of St. John.

Hon. Mr. Jones introduced a bill to amend the acts incorporating the town of Woodstock.

The house went into committee of the whole on bills, Mr. Osmen in the chair. The bill to amend the act incorporating the Maine and New Brunswick Electrical Power Co. was agreed to as amended.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie objected that a clause for the redemption of the property had been added which had not been agreed to by the municipalities committee. He thought this should not be done.

The bill to incorporate the Second Advent Christian conference of New Brunswick was agreed to.

The bill relating to the city of Moncton was agreed to by the committee on municipalities.

The bill to authorize the town council of Milltown to provide a system of sewer works for said town was agreed to.

The bill to amend the act amending the Consolidated Statutes respecting rates and taxes in the city and county of St. John was committed.

Dr. Riddick said that as some members were absent, progress should be reported.

Hon. Mr. Jones said he thought it was wrong in principle and unfair that the husband should be assessed for the separate property of his wife.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley said he quite agreed to the principle but it was more difficult to enforce payment by a woman than a man.

Hon. Mr. Fleming introduced a bill to authorize the municipality of Carleton to pay the grand jurors in the circuit and county court.

The bill relating to the construction and inspection of buildings within certain limits in the city of Fredericton was agreed to as amended.

The bill to amend the act incorporating Gibson Village for water and five purposes was agreed to.

The house went into committee on bills, Mr. Burns in the chair.

Mr. Robertson said that in St. John the school trustees had borrowed largely and the people were generally of the opinion that all the bonds issued by the city should be in the name of the corporation.

The bill was agreed to. The house adjourned at 6.15.

FREDERICTON, N. B., April 3.—The house met at 3 o'clock.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley introduced a bill to confirm the charter of the Grand Falls Power Co. He said that the 24th of March letters patent had been issued authorizing the leasing of the Grand Falls water power and giving the authority to proceed with the construction of developing and appropriation of the property, as some doubts might be raised as to the power to expropriate under letters patent, this bill has been introduced to confirm the letters patent.

Mr. Hazen—Have you any information with regard to the Grand Falls Co. which has been incorporated by letters patent at Ottawa?

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—Having seen the notice of the incorporation of this company in the newspapers, I telegraphed at once to Ottawa to obtain a copy of the letters, part for the purpose of ascertaining what powers had been granted. We feel that there is no question that the exclusive right of legislation for provincial objects is vested in the legislature. I have received a copy of the letters patent by telegraph and I find that the petitioner has ex-ercised considerable ingenuity for the purpose of avoiding the provisions of the B. N. A. act. The document contains general powers, but no local habitation is given for the exercise of these powers. It has the power to erect pulp mills, build factories and carry on a mercantile business, but it does not say where. It has the right to run vessels on the St. John river, and this is the only mention of any locality. The head office of the company is to be at Grand Falls. There is no power of expropriation given. It will be our duty to take some action either by passing an act or to make known to the authorities at Ottawa that we object to them giving general powers for work of a local character.

Mr. Hazen—Do the government at Ottawa recognize our exclusive powers to incorporate local companies?

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—I don't think they dispute our rights, but they have been a habit of getting around it by stating the measure to be for the general advantage of Canada, thereby usurping our jurisdiction.

Mr. King presented a petition asking for power to erect a foot bridge across the St. John river at Clair.

Mr. King presented the petition of the mayor and council of Sussex for a bill to improve their water supply.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Pugsley the time for introducing private bills was extended to Thursday.

The house went into committee on bills, and the following bills were agreed to: The bill relating to the Carquet Ry. Co.; to amend chapter 170 of the Consolidated Statutes; respecting rates and taxes in the city and county of St. John to amend the act providing for the appointment of assessors of taxes in the city of St. John; relating to the U. N. B. Hon. Mr. Tweedie respecting the bill to amend the act providing for the admission of a certain number of free students. The senate found that in some cases they were being imposed on, and that students got free tuition fees who were not entitled to pay. This bill gives the senate of the university power to look into the matter and select such students as they think deserving of gratuitous instruction.

The bill relating to the First Church of Christian Scientist, St. John. The bill to empower the ratepayers of Rexford to assess themselves for lighting purposes. The bill to amend the act to empower certain of the inhabitants of the parish of Richibucto to assess themselves for lighting purposes.

Mr. Martin presented the petition of the Madawaska Log Driving Co. praying for the passing of a bill to amend the act extending the powers of the Madawaska Log Driving Co. of Maine to the provincial waters of the River St. John above Grand Falls. The petitioners asked to have authority to use drives of logs at Grand Rapids and to have the limits of their drive extended from the mouth of the Allagash River to Grand Rapids.

The house adjourned at six o'clock.

The corporations committee held a special session last evening to further consider the Restigouche Boom Co. bill. The committee consists of Mr. King, Hon. Mr. Tweedie, Mr. Pugsley, Mr. Hazen, Mr. Mott, Mr. Hazen, Mr. Burns, Mr. Clair, Mr. Scott, Mr. Whitehead, Mr. Lantulum, Mr. Clarke, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Carpenter, Mr. Tweedie, Mr. Glasier, Mr. Osmen, Mr. Morrison, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Burns, Mr. Riddick, Mr. Leger and Mr. Murray.

ards Company, all acquired at par, and 250 shares taken payment for money actually expended upon the works of the Boom Company. At the time Mr. Richards was paying par value for this stock it was selling at forty cents on the dollar. Mr. Richards was very liberal in his dealings with the company, although the largest stockholder, and to show this Mr. Mott gave the names of the several boards of directors from incorporation to the present. The boards represented the lumber interests of the Restigouche. A large share of the criticism against the Wm. Richards Company is because of a contract entered with the Boom Company and the Richards concern. In 1881, when the question of booming first came before the directors, a contract for three years was entered into with James Robinson of Miramichi. He lost so much money the first year that he threw up the contract. In turn contracts for booming were entered into with the Boom Company. Each contractor abandoned the work before the expiration of his contract. At last Wm. Richards took up the work at the urgent request of his co-directors, carried out the contract for three years, and finally took the contract for another five years, with the approval of the directors and the company. In January, 1903, at a meeting of the directors, Kilgour Shives in the chair, it was resolved to let the contract for five years to the Wm. Richards Company for a period of five years. The contract was duly executed and signed by Kilgour Shives as president of the company. Important changes were made in the industry of the Restigouche have taken place within the past few years. Kilgour Shives has become largely interested, and he was offered stock in the Boom Company. He did not take it, and Wm. Richards had to take it as payment for the work he had already done and expense he had already incurred on behalf of the company. The contract for holding the contract, the dividends were paid out of the pockets of Wm. Richards. The Mott interest disappeared and passed into the hands of the Dalhousie Lumber Co. They became interested in the affairs of the boom company and H. Hilyard was elected a director. In 1904 the first contract was held against the Wm. Richards Co. holding the contract, when H. F. McLaughlin attended the annual meeting of the company and entered a protest against it as being ultra vires, and threatened an equity suit. The action was stayed and the equity court in May last and up to the present time no further action has been taken by those who instituted the suit. Now those parties come to this legislature and attempt to take away by force the benefits which accrue to the Richards Co. as the result of their energy and efforts for many years.

Mr. Barry argued that the attorney general has given it as his opinion that it is within the right of the governor to control the company. He contended that it should not pass, as there was only a majority of one for it in the council, and the mayor of Moncton was opposed to it.

Mr. Robertson presented the petition of the Inglewood Paper and Pulp Co. in favor of the bill.

Mr. McLaughlin presented the petition of the town of Campbellton in favor of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie gave notice that he would refer the Maine and New Brunswick Light and Power Co.'s bill to the committee of corporations tomorrow for the purpose of settling some questions with regard to the driving of logs over their dam.

Mr. Clarke gave notice of motion for Friday with reference to the desirability of the Dominion government taking over the New Brunswick Southern railway.

Mr. King introduced a bill to improve the water supply of Sussex.

Mr. Robertson introduced bills to remove doubts as to the extent of St. John harbor and to empower the city of St. John to establish telephone lines. The house went into committee on bills, Mr. Ryan in the chair.

On the bill to incorporate the East Forenoville Water Co., Mr. Smith said that the power to expropriate water privileges for domestic and fire purposes is generally incorporated in such legislation and that is why it originally appeared in this bill, and not because the company promoting this legislation were at all desirous of taking advantage of that clause, as there are no springs, brooks or other privileges that could be used for such purposes.

The bill relating to the assessor of taxes in St. John was recommended.

FREDERICTON, N. B., April 4.—The house met at three o'clock.

At the instance of Mr. Ryan, the Mayor returned back to the committee of the whole house. He contended that it should not pass, as there was only a majority of one for it in the council, and the mayor of Moncton was opposed to it.

The speaker thought the bill should pass, as there was a petition in favor of it from leading citizens of Moncton, and also as one of its provisions from the board of trustees had been taken on the bill, it was agreed to. Reported to the speaker and read a third time and passed.

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the change should be brought about. The mayor in supporting the legislation asked said he clearly understood that he did not do so from any personal interest, as might now be said. He had always been of this opinion and had espoused it in his inaugural address last year, when he had not the least intention of being a candidate for mayor again. Circumstances had so happened that he was again going to be a candidate, but that had not in the least influenced him in promoting this change, as he said before he always was of that mind. The mayor spoke at some length, showing the benefits to be derived from having elections biennially, and said that he had talked the matter over with many citizens and he had only met one man opposed to it.

Dr. Pugsley moved as an amendment that the bill be passed, but not to be proclaimed law by the governor in council until the new city council to be elected on April 18th by a two-thirds vote sanctioned the change. This was the first opportunity, and the citizens an opportunity to express their opinion.

Mr. Lantulum was opposed to the change with reference to the desirability of the Dominion government taking over the New Brunswick Southern railway.

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