

ing the sitting of the conference, the session of the House is suspended.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—I thought all the rules we had were suspended. I thought we were declared to be the most unruly body on earth.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

After some time the House resumed.

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE—As manager on behalf of this honourable House in the conference with the House of Commons, I may say we have met the managers of the House of Commons and agreed on the following amendment to be substituted for the amendment made by the Senate to Bill (No. 17) to which exception was taken by the House of Commons. Add to section 3 the following as subsection 2:

2. The said Board shall in their report to the minister recommending the lease of any line of railway.

(a). Give their estimate of the cost of such line, and such information as they are able to give of the moneys received by the company holding the line from the sale of bonds, or by way of bonus or otherwise.

(b). State the then present equipment of the road, together with the average rate of freight and charges for passengers on the same and a comparison of such rates with those charged on the Intercolonial railway.

(c). The total receipts and expenditure for three years last past.

(d). The estimates of receipts and expenses in the office of the road being leased as a branch of the Intercolonial railway.

Hon. Mr. FORGET—What is the difference between the two?

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE—It is the same thing, only placed in another position in the Bill. I have the honour to move, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Power, that this report be now adopted.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—That is virtually the amendment carried by the Senate, only in a more modified language. Pretty nearly the same object will be attained.

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE—It is exactly the same amendment. Instead of saying that parliament shall not hereafter ratify the lease, which may be presented for ratification, before being furnished with the best information, it is provided that the information be presented to parliament

The SPEAKER.

whenever any lease is recommended by the Railway Commission in connection with these lines. I think hon. gentlemen will see that the House of Commons are getting the shadow and we are keeping the substance.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL—Do I understand that this report is to be presented to the minister instead of parliament. Is that the case?

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE—It will have to be presented to parliament.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL—I know it has to be later, but I understand it is presented to the minister in the first place?

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE—Yes.

The motion was agreed to.

IMMIGRATION OFFICE, QUEBEC.

DISCUSSION RESUMED.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—I was just about to read the letter sent by Mr. Stein, in answer to a letter from the Department, as follows:

Quebec, 19th April, 1910.

Mr. Dear Senator,—I inclose herewith the declaration of Capt. Geo. Le Bel, Provincial Immigration Agent at Quebec. He was indignant at the manner in which his evidence had been distorted. Would you be good enough to ask the department to change the evidence in that investigation. I inclose to you at once one of these re Byrne. You can judge from it what that investigation was worth. We have good reason to demand a commissioner who knows the French language to make the inquiry. Le Bel gave his evidence in French and it has been interpreted. Send it promptly this week, if Byrne will not execute it, as we embark at the end of the week.

Cordially,
(Sgd.) L. STEIN.

Mr. Fortier answered: 'To what date do you wish the inquiry adjourned?'

Mr. Stein answered: 'My letter will give you all explanations re adjournment.'

And then Mr. Fortier wrote:

In reply to your letter of the 5th inst. I beg to state that enough can be learned from inquiry before me to enable the minister to decide whether there is prima facie a case for a royal commission as your letter seems to suggest. The inquiry will therefore go on beginning at 10 a.m. on Tuesday next, the 15th inst.

The place was fixed and Mr. Fortier came down and Mr. Stein was absent, but he