DISTRICT NEWS

FORT SASKATCHEWAN.

Bulletin News Service.

W. J. Green, of Yorkville, two miles southeast of the Fort, has this week finished seeding 125 acres of wheat. The farmers throughout this district have all about completed wheat seeding, which is a month earlier than last year. It is said that there is 25 per cent. more wheat this year than any previous year, owing to the larger number of settlers and the general prospects for a large crop this year, are excellent.

Among the visitors to Elk park this week were Dr. and Mrs. Braithwaite and friends, Edmonton; Messrs. Ker, Young, P. S. Hook, R. E. Staples and several others. The buffalo are now out of their winter corrall and are looking fine and contentedly roaming through the spacious grounds of the park.

John Paul has secured the lease of the town scales and takes charge today.

The Epworth league of the Methodist church was reorganized this week, and will take the place of the Reading circle, which held meetings during the winter.

Mrs. N. Griffin, of Winnipeg, is a visitor in the Fort, the guest of her nephew, A. G. Griffin.

Captain Walke, inspector of the R. N. W. M. P. at Prince Albert, was renewing acquaintances in the Fort this week.

Acting Corporal Martin, from Regina, has arrived here and will be stationed at "G" division.

Quite a number of the music lovers of this place intend going to the Capital on Monday to attend the musical festival.

The Ladies' Guild of St. George's church will have a refreshment booth on the fair grounds on May 25th, and on the same date the Fort fire brigade is to be here on Arbor day. A good

C. M. Burk, photographer, of Edmonton, was in town last week and made arrangements to open a studio over Shera's store next week. Mr. Burk will be in the Fort one day each week.

A meeting of the vestry of St. George's church was held in the parsonage this week. The estimates for the year were made out, including the building of a driving shed, new walk and other necessary improvements. It is expected that the mortgage on the property will be retired in full by the end of the year. The following gentlemen compose the vestry for the year: C. B. F. Mount, vicar's warden; A. Chard, people's warden; D. N. McLean, Sergt. Sweetapple, J. W. Shera, W. L. Wilkin, W. F. Langworthy, J. C. Karran, A. Karran, F. Karran, A. S. Maxwell, F. D. Mount, vestry clerk.

The culvert in front of the Methodist church has been filled in and a good crossing built.

Fort Saskatchewan, May 2.

VERMILION.

Bulletin News Service.

Dr. West has moved to his homestead for the summer.

John McCue visited in Edmonton on Saturday.

The cantata held in the English Church Friday night was a decided success.

Wm. McKenzie spent Friday in Levoy.

Harold Cambridge, who recently went out to his brother's homestead, had an unusual experience last week. While out hunting he lost his way and after wandering around for two days and two nights he finally reached the home of Wm. Parsons. Although tired and hungry, he was none the worse for his adventure.

Harry Bowtell, homestead inspector, returned from a business trip at Vegreville on Monday.

E. Buckle, who has purchased the machinery of the Eason Brick Company, has moved the plant from its former site on Alex Eason's homestead to town, where it will be put in operation as soon as possible.

While Hansen and Giesbrech's traction engine was crossing the Battle River, the ferry sank, and so far the united efforts of the farmers around there have been unable to get the engine out of the water.

William Parsons has been awarded the contract for the erection of the creamery which is to be built at the foot of the hill, near the bridge across the Vermilion River.

The members of Veritas Lodge I.O.O.F. attended service at the Methodist Church on Sunday afternoon, April 26th.

Father Bernier celebrated mass at the home of Rod. McRae on Sunday last.

Miss Bessie Pilkie returned to Edmonton on Sunday to resume her studies at Alberta College.

While crossing the Battle River with the mail on Friday, George Dolman had an exciting experience. The current over turned the buggy and carried away the mail bags, two of which were lost.

Lou McLuhan, one of the pioneers of Vermilion, who has been visiting in Mount Forest, Ontario during the winter, returned to town on Monday, accompanied by his brother Murdock. He is preparing to spend the summer on his homestead, near Denwood.

The firemen's benefit dance, given by the ladies in the fire hall on Monday evening, upheld the good reputation of the former dances by the fire brigade.

Wm. Donnahue has accepted a position as checker on the C.N.R. staff.

Mr. Tulley, agent for the Oddfellows' relief association, spent Saturday in town.

Vermilion, April 28.

VEGREVILLE.

Bulletin News Service.

H. A. Loddick, of Edmonton, is in town fixing up the gasoline engine that went through the fire at the McAllister hotel. The engine is to be used in pumping water for the workmen while the building is under construction.

A well attended ball was held in the McIntyre hall last night.

The second game of baseball between the Tigers and Colts resulted in a runaway for the Colts. J. McCusker, pitcher for 1908, was in uniform.

The Edmonton baseball aggregation is to be here on Arbor day. A good game may be expected as the teams are evenly matched.

A. L. Horton went up to Edmonton today on business.

A large number of settlers are arriving daily. On the 12th of this month 200 French immigrants are expected from Quebec.

Two Chinamen from Edmonton are opening out a restaurant in the building vacated by the W. C. T. U. and formerly used as a reading room.

Vegreville, May 2.

EDISON.

Bulletin News Service.

Ploughing, discing, harrowing and seeding are going on rapidly.

A meeting of the ratepayers took place at Dungannon school, Saturday, April 24, to investigate the engaging of the last two teachers. After leaving the books to be inspected a short time, E. Nelson declared his intention of sending them into the education department in order to avoid profitless discussion.

J. Baldwin has opened up a new grocery store in this neighborhood.

R. Free, who had lately dug a well for John Zaczowski, has gone to the city.

Miss T. McKechnie, who taught a short time in Dungannon school, has gone to Edmonton.

Mr. Price, of Morinville, has been drilling a well for Mr. J. Baldwin lately.

Services have been resumed both at Edison and Clyde, the quarantine being removed from the district.

The engagement is announced of Miss Isabella, only surviving daughter of the Rev. Jas. H. Beatt, and Mr. Frank, the youngest son of the late Mr. Charles Edgson. The marriage will take place early in July.

Frank Edgson is building a house and barns on his homestead.

Work on the government road will be resumed under the superintendence of Mr. Gibson as soon as men canbe secured. The great colonization road running north from Riviere Qui Barre, will join the government road at Mr. Shutt's corner. This will be a great convenience to the western district, as a good road to the city.

There is no word of operations on the construction of the railway north from Morinville, although we are led to expect that it will be in this district this summer. It is represented on the maps as coming north to Clyde, but everyone in Edison and westward is convinced that that is too far east to be of much use to the district as a whole and besides that the richest land is in the west. Fine coal is found just two miles south of Edison and great seams are visible in the banks of the Pembina.

A new school district is being formed, embracing two miles north and two miles south of the government road and extending five miles westwards from the east side of Mr. Shutt's land. The division between ranges 26 and 27 will be the centre of the district and the school will probably be built on the southwest corner of Mr. Stephen Beatt's homestead.

Mr. Horace Reeves and John Steadman, companions of the Beatt Bros., have homesteaded near them, and they all have formed themselves into a farming company.

Wild ducks and geese are daily flying northwards in great flocks and the usual spring birds are with us in great flocks.

Rev. Mr. Beatt lost a purse containing a sum of money and a number of cheques. Although he has made a diligent search he has been unable to locate the purse.

Edison, May 1.

CLARKVILLE.

Bulletin News Service.

Mr. Colvin, who has been seriously ill for some time is slowly improving.

Mrs. Chas. Jackson gave a party for her father, Mr. L. M. Greenstreet, the tenth of this month, in commemoration of his sixty-ninth birthday.

Mr. Greenstreet returned to Alberta last month, after an extended trip through the States.

An excellent Easter program was given at the Clarkville Union Mission Church. Mr. Tennant, the Supt. of the Sunday School, gave a splendid address. A very large crowd was in attendance.

Mr. Martin, of Floating Stone Lake, made a flying trip to Clarkville Thursday.

Mr. Parish is finishing his house. When completed it will be a splendid addition to Clarkville.

Mrs. Gardner and son Frank, have returned from Good Fish Lake, where they were spending the winter. Their many friends are glad to see them home again.

The Misses Lewis attended the meetings at the Sacred Heart Mission at Saddle Lake Easter Sunday.

A new addition has been made to the post office, and it is much more roomy and convenient.

Mr. and Mrs. Pallot have gone to Edmonton to remain all summer.

Fish are plentiful in most of the creeks now. Everyone is making big catches.

Farmers have in their wheat and barley and are now planting oats.

Clarkville, May 1.

BATTENBURG.

Bulletin News Service.

Barney's saw mill outfit which is located near Stoney Creek, Landing trail, was destroyed by fire on Thursday last. Several thousand feet of lumber and logs were also destroyed.

Several prairie fires have been raging in the Sturgeon valley, considerable damage having resulted. Mr. Evans lost a quantity of hay and oats.

Mr. Oliver, New Lunnon, had a very narrow escape from having the whole of his premises destroyed. He lost a large amount of fencing.

Seeding is going on rapidly. The ground is in first class condition and a large quantity of wheat has already been sown.

Miss A. Milligan, of Gore Bay, Ont., has been engaged by the trustees of Sturgeon valley to teach in their school and is expected to open the school the second Monday in May.

Battenburg, May 1.

BON ACCORD.

Bulletin News Service.

E. Hewitt, of Bon Accord, was summoned by the chief game guardian, to appear before T. Mulligan, J.P., on Wednesday last. He was charged with hunting deer without a license. The defendant claimed he was out hunting cattle and that the reason he had taken his rifle along was that he might shoot a coyote as at that time there was a bounty on them. Rex Hewitt confirmed the evidence given by the defendant and the charge was dismissed.

Bon Accord, May ..

NORTHERN INDEPENDENCE.

Bulletin News Service.

Seeding is nearly completed here.

A number of young people gathered at the home of Miss Blanch Reece last Friday evening, giving her a pleasant surprise in honor of her birthday. A very enjoyable time was spent.

Poison spread out for wolves and coyotes has resulted in the death of twelve dogs.

A farewell party will be given in honor of the Messrs. Charley, Harold and Willie Harris, next Saturday evening as they are moving to Edmonton.

Work will be commenced to-morrow on the government road extending north from Riviere Qui Barre.

Northern Independence, April 27.

VERMILION.

Bulletin News Service.

Ross Garland is visiting in Edmonton.

Miss McLuhan has returned to her home in Mannville.

Mr. Broley, contractor from North Battleford, is in town in connection with the school contract.

Murdock McLuhan left for Edmonton on Tuesday.

Mr. McGregor, who has been connected with W. F. H. Thompson's store for the past year, has resigned and will leave for his homestead on the C.P.R., sixty miles south of here on Monday.

S. Brown, of Winnipeg, is in town in connection with the new school.

J. C. Baker, civil engineer, left for Edmonton on Friday. Mr. Baker has secured the contract for surveying several townships about 200 miles west of Edmonton and expects to have enough work to last until November. Messrs. J. P. Harvey, Joe Harvey and Geer accompanied him.

W. J. McNab, local advertising agent, has returned from a trip to Saskatoon.

It is reported that Mr. Morrison will resume boring for coal where he started work in the valley last fall.

Vermilion, May 2.

RED DEER.

Bulletin News Service.

C. W. Parke's wife and family arrived from Ontario this week. They will occupy the house formerly owned by J. R. Cowell on Hillcrest.

Rev. Chas. Huestis delivered a lecture "The Making of Man," to a good-sized audience on Wednesday night at the Methodist Church. It was a very interesting and able address and a great many went away with new thoughts on this subject.

R. J. Hutchings, manager of Great West Saddlery Co., Calgary, is in town today in connection with a meeting of the creditors of Stewart G. Cowan estate.

James Anderson of Islay is the guest of J. E. Bower for a few days.

David Linton, who has been spending a short time in this district, has returned to his homestead near Marwayne.

Best Bros. and R. C. Brumpton have made an exchange in some of their lines of stock, the former firm exchanging their stock of crockeryware for the stock of carpets and rugs of the latter.

Red Deer, May 1.

KILLAM.

Bulletin News Service.

Seeding is the order of the day. The farmers report nearly 75 per cent. already in, and this week will likely finish the balance.

A. W. MacDougall, of Olds, moved in on Friday last to his farm south of town. He brought two cars of settlers' effects and one car of cattle.

The football club are practising vigorously these days in order to get into shape for their initial match with Bawlf on May 18. They play their first game here on the 25th of May with Wavy Lake.

Anderson & Sorenson commenced operations with their steam plow on Friday last. According to all reports, it is eminently satisfactory as regards work.

Cleven Bros. are also unloading a 32 horsepower Avery plowing engine, with which they intend to commence plowing operations at once.

J. E. Vanderburgh has erected a fine dwelling house on his half section of land adjoining the town, and has a large number of men at work putting in his crop. His son, R. G. Vanderburgh will manage his Killam interests this year.

W. R. McGowan has purchased the house and lot recently occupied by John Montgomery.

John W. Rattray and C. E. McGowan returned on Tuesday from their deputation to the High Court, I.O.F. at Calgary. They report a splendid time and a very progressive outlook for the I.O.F. in Alberta this year.

A. Dwyer, of Barrie, Ont., has been in this locality for the last two weeks with a view to purchasing land. Mr. Dwyer has a considerable amount of experience as an agriculturist.

Miss Sarah Rattray returned home on Wednesday from a visit to her relatives in Okotoks, Alberta.

John Smyley has purchased the place owned by H. B. Clanahan, about three miles west of town. The price was in the neighborhood of fifteen dollars per acre.

Homestead Inspector Cunningham, of Vegreville, was in town last week attending the distribution of seed grain in this district. All the applicants express themselves well pleased with the grain shipped here.

W. J. Webster, of Edmonton, the High Chief Ranger of I.O.F. for Alberta, paid the town an unofficial visit on Tuesday, the 22nd inst.

Killam, May 1.

RIVIERE QUI BARRE.

Bulletin News Service.

The continued fine weather is a great boon to the farmers, who are all busy seeding. The seed oats furnished by the government is of excellent quality, free from wild oats and noxious weeds. All in this section are highly pleased with it.

Mr. Drayton was injured at St. Albert on Monday. His horse, scared by an automobile, became unmanageable, throwing him heavily to the side walk. Drs. Hiroux and Ternan attended the injured man, who is improving.

Lieutenant Courtenay, of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police, had Vaudebautin up before Messrs. Poiner and Constantine on Wednesday last on a charge of unlawful detention of a horse. Lawyer St. Germain, of St. Albert, represented the defendant. A verdict with costs was awarded the plaintiff, Jerry Donovan.

Mrs. Crist, who was ill for some time at the General Hospital, Edmonton, has returned home completely recovered.

Sandy McDonald and family intend moving to Edmonton in a few days.

Riviere Qui Barre, April 28.

WETASKIWIN.

Bulletin News Service.

Cecil Bell, of Edmonton, paid his sister, Miss Helen G. Bell, an unexpected visit.

Mrs. George Holifer is very ill.

The dance given under the auspices of the Forty club on Monday evening was a decided success. The hall was almost uncomfortably crowded. The decorations were very pretty and the music furnished by a Wetaskiwin orchestra was all that could be desired. Mrs. C. C. Bailey, Mrs. West, Mrs. L. R. Rix and Mrs. Wyld acted as patronesses and succeeded in making the guests feel very much at home. Festivities did not break up until after 3 o'clock.

Miss Ada Legge has been confined to the house recently through illness. She is once more able to be about.

Mrs. Alfred Barnard, who has been visiting Mrs. C. C. Bailey, returned on Wednesday to her home in Daysland.

Miss Arabella Kolb expects to start for the coast a week from Monday. Mrs. Gould and possibly Mrs. Kolb, will follow her later.

Mrs. Allison and sons, from Glasgow, Scotland, are recent arrivals in the city.

The bazaar and egg tea given in Mrs. Girling's ice cream parlor on Tuesday afternoon under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid of the Methodist church, was a remarkable success. The exhibition of fancy and practical articles of work was very creditable and the work sold rapidly. The receipts were about $125, this sum to be applied to the church debt.

Mr. Briton, of Toronto, is the guest of Mr. Ed. Williamson.

Mrs. A. R. Dixon gave an afternoon bridge party on Wednesday.

The Driard hotel has exchanged hands this week. The former manager and proprietor, John Clegg, has sold out to Mr. Dennis, who takes possession immediately. Mr. Dennis has brought all the furniture and equipment but has only rented the building.

Mr. Torrence, the car repairer at the station, is to be transferred to Red Deer to act in the same capacity there.

W. Hustwaite, of Peterboro, Ontario, arrived in the city last Sunday. He has been engaged as assistant in W. J. Stevenson's book store.

An epidemic of smallpox has broken out at Battle River, where a large force of laborers is engaged for the G. T. P.

Mrs. George Bayliss is quarantined with measles.

It is rumored that the C. P. R. intends building a high level bridge across the Pipe stone, near Gwynne, just east of the city. The object is to cut off a steep grade and treacherous roadbed at that point. This latest report appears to be authentic. This bridge will be a necessity when the road runs through this city from Winnipeg to the coast and in all probability operations will be commenced at once. The outlook appears good for the completion of this new C. P. R. in the near future, which will bring Wetaskiwin before the public eye as it has never been brought before.

Wm. Scoville and family expect to move on Monday to a farm in the neighborhood of Camrose.

J. O'Neill Hayes, of the C. P. R. land department, Edmonton, is in this city for a day or so. He was formerly a resident of Wetaskiwin.

L. R. Rix left on Friday evening for his new quarters at Stoney Plain. His gent's furnishing store is nearing completion and he went to superintend final arrangements. He took quite a complete stock with him. He expects to be gone only for the summer months.

Mr. Barber, of Okotoks, possible successor to Rev. J. H. Bowering, preached very acceptably in the Baptist church on Sunday.

Wetaskiwin, May 2.

L.I.D. 26-R-4 MEETING.

The last meeting of the council of Local Improvement District 26-R-4 was held recently at the residence of B. H. Monypenny. After the transaction of some routine business it was decided that the councillors buy the necessary tools for work in their respective townships.

The secretary-treasurer was instructed to write the secretary of L.I.D. 27-R-4 intimating that the council approved of the resolution to exchange work, regarding which he will get full particulars from Mr. Leslie, councillor 52-21-4.

It was decided that the councillors for each division of the district shall have power to appoint a foreman to work out all government money coming into the district for the making and improving of roads, and that settlers be given the first chance to do this work. A copy of this resolution will be sent to the Public Works Department.

After some discussion it was decided to ask the advice of the government regarding the closing of the road through S.W. 23-52-22-W4 after May 1. The owner, Theodore Lenders, has given notice of the closing of this road, which is the only trail allowing settlers to get out from their property.

On motion of Councillor Leslie, seconded by Councillor Sanford, it was decided that the council should forward a vote of thanks to Premier Rutherford for the grant made to pay for the Coney Island trail.

Cooking Lake, May 2.

LAC STE. ANNE.

Bulletin News Service.

This week the government are starting three big gangs of men to work on the road from here to the Pembina. All the men required for this work will be engaged locally and A. McConnochie, F. Woodward and F. McConnell, the three foremen, are busy hiring men and purchasing supplies preparatory to starting work to-morrow.

D. McDonald reports that the new three-span bridge which he is building over the Sturgeon at his own expense, is nearly completed.

The country round has been overhung with smoke last week as there have been prairie fire in all directions. The only serious damage reported to date is that of F. Sellick, of Rhubarb Prairie, who had his new house, built last fall, burned down.

Foley, Welch and Stewart's splendid outfit of four horse teams passed through here on Saturday with heavy loads for the Lobstick, and the balance of Fitzgerald's mules with the grader and dump waggons also stayed here the other night.

Many prominent people from the Lake were in Edmonton last week, including Mr. and Mrs. Lambert, Constable Tyler and Messrs. Hornby, Woolhard & Cawes. The latter sails from Halifax for the old country this week, where we wish him a pleasant holiday.

A. St. Cyr, D.L.S., passed through here on his way to the Athabasca with five teams and a large outfit of men. His pack outfit consisting of thirty-five herd, with Billy Young in charge left Tuesday to take him on from the end of the waggon road.

Lac Ste. Anne, April 30.

L.I.D. 26-C-4 MEETING.

At the last meeting of the council of the Local Improvement District 26-C-4 the councillors reported upon the necessity of getting more road machinery in order to facilitate the improvement of the roads in the district, as there was a great deal of work to be done to get the roads in a better condition to travelling. Councillors Robinson and Goodridge stated that as the roads north went through a considerable portion of brush it would be necessary to get some brush-breaking plows, and that where sloughs and marshy places had to be filled in it would save a considerable amount of labor and time if wheel scrapers were used on the long draws. As a result, a resolution was passed that the secretary procure two brush-breaking 14-plows and four wheel scrapers for this district. In order that they might complete the work in the district sooner than last year, it was decided that each councillor should have jurisdiction to employ one or more foremen in each division to superintend the work, and that each ratepayer should only work out their own taxes or as a substitute for another. The secretary was instructed to send to each councillor labor notices for the foreman employed.

Councilor Robinson proposed that the secretary write to Mayor Brimacombe to draw his attention to the dangerous condition of the hill leading into town from the north and request that immediate steps be taken to repair the same in the interest of the large settlement north of the river.

The secretary reported that he had received a reply from the Department of Public Works in reference to the road proposed through section 22-51-5, stating that this matter had been noted for attention by an engineer this season if possible.

In reference to the proposed road through township 50 range 5, the department requested that the proposed route be marked on the enclosed diagram and returned for consideration.

The question of improving the district roads leading to and from Vermilion was a vital one and there was much work needed to put these roads in proper condition. It needed more than the taxes levied in the district to put them in proper shape. The secretary was requested to write J. B. Holden, M.P.P., and request him to secure the assistance of the Department of Public Works on behalf of the district. The roads that are needed badly are the—

Road leading north of Vermilion to the ferry on the Saskatchewan river;

Road leading south to G.T.P. over the Battle River;

Main road leading east and west along telephone route.

Road through section 22, 51-5;

Road through township 50, range 5.

With reference to the road along the route of the telephone line, the council spent about $1,000 on a piece of the road along the C.N.R. track about two miles east of Vermilion. At present some parts are now two feet under water in the ditches along the railroad track, and other new grades have been worked out that will entail a heavy expenditure on the district. Other parts are practically unfit for heavy traffic. It is suggested that a practical government inspector be appointed who will inspect these roads and report their condition to the Department of Public Works, and give the local authorities grants, so that they may be able to carry out the improvements required.

The next meeting of the council will be held after seeding operations are completed.

Vermilion, May 2.

LILLY LAKE L.I.D. MEETING.

The second meeting of the council of Local Improvement District 29, B-4 was held recently at Lilly Lake, with Councillor Martin as chairman, W. Mason (secretary) and Councillors E. L. Scheel, G. Zachengaski, and Johan Welfinsider present. The secretary read the minutes of previous meeting, which were confirmed. Letters from the Department of Public Works upon various matters were read by the secretary and a discussion followed the reading.

In the matter of the payment of an official councillor for division No. 4 for 1907, it was decided that E. D. Martin, who was appointed official councillor for division No. 4, be allowed and paid $2 per meeting and $2 per day for two days' work in instructing and paying out work for said division and mileage at the rate of 10c per mile in going to and returning from said division.

It was also resolved to pay R. E. Sparrier, W. J. Waugh, John Trenday and H. Rostink $2 each for the use of their houses at the last election of councillors.

It was moved that two scrapers and a plough be purchased for the use of division No. 3 and also that one scraper and one plough be bought for use in division No. 2.

A rather long discussion took place respecting a bridge that is required across Birch Creek at section 2, 57, 23 W. 4 and Section 34, 56, 23 W. 4. After a long debate it was resolved that Councillor Martin be instructed to proceed with the building of a bridge and grading of the approaches at a cost not to exceed $50.

Labor pay sheets and sundry accounts were presented for payment, amounting to $3-9.25, and after the revision were ordered paid.

The next meeting of the council will be held at Lilly Lake on Saturday, August 1, 1908, at 1 p.m.

Through the very fine weather this spring, a very large amount of brush and timber cutting on road allowances has been completed. Two of the divisions are now ready to commence grading. There will be a considerable amount of this done during the summer. Up to the middle of last year there were no roads in this district opened up except the Lorndale trail, and there are now many miles open.

Bon Accord, May 2.

ONE CENT DROP LETTERS.

Bill To Lower Rate in City Drop Letters.

Ottawa, May 5.—Hon. Rudolphe Lemieux, postmaster general, has given notice of a government measure to reduce the postage rate on all drop letters in cities where the letter carrier system is established, from two cents to one cent. This is along the line of the policy of the government to devote the steadily increasing postal revenue of the country to a reduction of the rates and the betterment of the service wherever possible. The reduction will mean a considerable decrease on the postal taxation in each city of Canada where the number of letters posted for delivery in the same city forms a large proportion of the total mail.

Marine Department Investigation.

Ottawa, May 5.—Pending the resuming on Monday next of the public enquiry by Judge Cassels into the charges made against the marine department, Messrs. Watson and Perron, the counsel appointed to assist the commissioner, will be again going through the files of the department with a view of summoning the officials to explain anything that might look like an overcharge for supplies or any other misuse of public funds. Col. Gourdeau, deputy minister of the marine department will probably be the next witness examined, and his evidence is likely to disclose some interesting and illuminative facts with reference to the manner in which civil service commissioner Fyshe conducted his investigation of the departmental documents.

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BILL AMENDING ELECTIONS

Hon Mr. Aylesworth's Clear ment of Necessity for posed Amendments

Ottawa, May 5—When the House of Commons met today Premier, in accordance with his of Monday, mentioned the list still to be introduced this session includes the following: tion in respect to aid to the Bay railway; An Act to Ex Boundaries of Manitoba; An Amend the Civil Service Act to Amend the Grain Inspect An Act to Amend the Dominion Act; An Act in Respect of Chi migration; An Act to Amend toms Act and an Act in Re the Yukon Council. The la tioned will make council ele stead of only partly elective sent.

Hon. A. B. Aylesworth rose the second reading of "An Act end the Dominion Elections A Aylesworth remarked that explanation of the bill, when introduced two months ago, t been considerable discussion erence to the measure. It h limited largely to the first cla view of these circumstances, ject to what other members House might have to say wi ence to the other provisions bill, he would limit himself present to a discussion of t visions of that section, leav other provisions to be discuss er this session or in committe whole.

As to Voters' Lists.

The first clause of the bill de the question of the voters' li the franchise in a very cons portion of the Dominion. For p of classifying the method of p tion of the voters' lists, one divide the Dominion by the bo line between the provinces of and Manitoba. Speaking in th the whole of Canada east of t prepares its voters' lists with of the assessment or valuation municipal locality as a basis list, while all the Dominion west of that line prepares i upon a system of registratio without reference to the asse roll. Mr. Aylesworth sketched the various changes which hav made in the franchise law up when the present law, adopt voters' lists prepared by the provinces, was adopted. Upo occasion he said the opposition day put itself upon record form of a substantive motion the second reading of the bill favor of the principle that th minion should absolutely cont own franchise, that the Federal should not under any circum part with the preparation of i voters' lists.

Upon the government side contended that the voters' lis pared upon the basis of the asse roll are a guarantee of substa and fairness. These municipal cils, consisting of from four to men, are necessarily acquainte all the families in the distric were in a position to make goo Then there was the assessor wi tainly no inducement to omit fr roll any land owner liable to b ed. There was the guarantee every man who ought to pay would find his name placed up assessment roll. There was, in tion, a local body, consisting probably of opposite political engaged in the work of revisin assessment roll. It was pointe at that time, in an observation by the present leader of the o tion, that if the time should when any provincial governme provincial legislature should, legislation or by its administrat that legislation, interfere with course of the preparation of the or that there was ground to fea the lists were not of a fair and factory nature, then the Federal always had it in its power to r control over its own lists and franchise and to prevent the intended evil from taking place.

The "Difficulty" in Manitoba

"At the last general election 1904," continued Mr. Aylesw "there was difficulty, to use a word, with reference to the v lists in the province of Man particularly in that province. especially there, perhaps elsewhe well, but a difficulty which ha origin out of the system of prep lists which under the Manitoba ute and under the method in w that statute was administered ha necessity arisen. These lists were based upon the assessment rolls. T lists were prepared upon a syste registration, personal registration the part of the voter if possible, not necessarily personal registra provisions being contained in statute law for registration of a without personal application in cumstances that the statute desc The general outline of their syste preparing voters' lists was that tration clerks were appointed for ious constituencies of the prov and the work of the registration c in forming the basis of the v lists was afterwards revised by a of registration which upon the of the statute might consist eith county judges or of barristers of years' standing. Those lists were essarily prepared under the sy obtaining in Manitoba with refe to the various electoral district laid down for provincial purp Now what is the consequence? purposes of representation in House the whole province of Mani is divided into nine constituencies, for the purpose of representatio the provincial legislature of the province, we have the same terri divided into forty constituencies. every Dominion constituency ther four provincial constituencies and boundaries are not coterminous. not know whether in any single ance any Dominion constituency composed of just four or just thre