

THE HERALD

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SESSIONAL NOTES.

On Friday afternoon 18th. consideration of the annuities bill was resumed in committee. Mr. Prowse said he considered such legislation altogether out of place in this Province. He considered that it opened the door to fraud and, therefore, should not be placed on our statute book. Mr. McNeill thought it was the duty of the people's representatives to legislate to make people honest, and to protect the honest man against fraud.

Friday evening the Premier delivered his budget speech. This and the reply thereto were referred to in our editorial columns, last week. Saturday forenoon, the House met at 11.30. On motion of the Leader of the Government, consideration was resumed in committee, of the cold storage guarantee bill. Hon. Mr. Hughes resumed the debate.

Mr. John A. McDonald, considered after hearing all the arguments, that it was proper he should put himself on record. He was firmly convinced the Government certainly should not grant this favor to Davies & Fraser. According to the discourses of Mr. Sinclair every abattoir in Denmark, where hogs are slaughtered, had its own cold storage. This company contemplates going into various branches of industry, and they want this guarantee principally for their own advantage.

Mr. James Kennedy expressed his surprise at the peculiar expressions he had heard from different speakers on this matter. He pointed out how losses on butter had been sustained in the autumn of 1908. These losses were caused, not for want of cold storage, but because heavy stocks were in the hands of dealers when the price went down, and the dealers were obliged to sell at whatever they could get.

Mr. Mathieson, referring to the Premier's statement that there were only 13 on the opposition side, said the Leader of the Government was responsible for this, as he deliberately kept another opposition member out of the House, by keeping the Cardigan seat vacant. He pointed out the difference between life insurance and investment in an annuity. The most beneficial form of life insurance is that which is paid after death, while the investment in an annuity is in favor of the man who takes it out.

Mr. McKinnon said he had expressed himself on this matter early in the debate. Since then he had heard a great many extraordinary opinions expressed. It was remarkable to see so many members telling what wondrous things this cold storage

was going to do for the farmers. This was all nonsense. When the farmer has his products ready for sale, he wants to move them and sell them. He was a farmer himself and knew where of he spoke. He would like to know from the Hon. L. McDonald who had sent cheese to the cold storage plant for purposes of experiment, what the results of the experiment were. The only answer he elicited was that the cold storage gave out. Mr. McKinnon retorted that it was the cheese that gave out. No one on the Opposition side was opposed to cold storage. The trouble in this case was that the cold storage was confined to one place and was not a system of continued cold storage. If this was such a grand thing for the farmers, why did the Government not place it before them during the by-elections? The only opinions the Government wish to have are the opinions of a few merchants and dealers in Charlottetown.

Mr. Dobie referred to all the nonsense spoken on this matter. Especially all the Government members had said about the farmers. The farmers know what they are doing and do not require all the coaching voluntarily tendered them in this connection. He reiterated the statement that there was no opposition to cold storage; but he wanted a continuous system of cold storage. He considered it very improper to single out any particular company for special favors. The opposition were told they were standing up for two penny halfpenny traders. Was that a proper and dignified manner in which to conduct debate? The people have not asked for this, and the members of the Government are in fear and trembling about what they are doing in this case. Why did not the Government give the people a chance to vote on this matter in the by-elections? There was not sufficient information before the House or before the country in this connection. This was treading on dangerous ground. Did Davis & Fraser come to the rescue of this Island, as had been said by the Government?

After routine on Tuesday afternoon 22nd. several bills were cleared from the order paper. On the motion by the Leader of the Government, for the third reading, of the bill relative to Government annuities, Mr. Mathieson moved, in amendment, that the bill be read six months hence. The amendment was lost on a strict party vote 15 to 13. The third reading of the bill was then carried on the same division reversed.

The committee stage of the Cold Storage bill was again taken up, and Mr. Dobie resumed the debate. He considered care and deliberation should be exercised in this matter. The whole country, he said, was watching the course of the Legislature. He did not think there was any need for a rush. It would be better, he thought, to delay the matter, so that the people might have ample opportunity of thoroughly looking into it. There was no reason why this Province should be liable for \$25,000. The Dominion Government are granting a bonus; that ought to be sufficient. There is no assurance that the Government may not have to pay this money. What is the good of the promises made on this and kindred questions? The Premier has hitherto

more than once told the public we were to receive large grants of money from the Dominion Government; but now he is obliged to confess that no hopes of this kind can be held out. This cold storage in the limited plan here laid down is of little value. It is out of place, that the Premier should say that Davies & Fraser have come to the rescue of this Province. Is it, he asked, for the benefit of the Province in general or for their own benefit Davies & Fraser are seeking this guarantee. He thought it was time to stop and consider. We should be careful not to get too much into the American fashion of doing things. He read from a report of an investigation of the condition of meat and oysters in cold storage in Montreal. This report showed what large quantities of food were rendered unfit for human use by reason of remaining too long in cold storage. There was too much pushing of legislation of this kind by some members of the Government.

Mr. Mathieson said that, as the discussion had been pretty well protracted perhaps it would not be necessary to continue the debate further. The bill, he considered, was wrong in principle, and in every other respect. Except the reserving of the right to move such amendments as might be thought proper, he did not purpose continuing the debate further. The Government were bound to push the bill through in spite of the best arguments presented against it, not only by the Opposition; but by the Government's own friends. Therefore, let the Government take the responsibility. Regarding the appointment of the Commissioner of Agriculture as a director of the Cold Storage Company, Mr. Mathieson pointed out that, in his opinion, this could not be done according to the act. Even were he admitted to the meetings of the board of directors, he would be powerless.

On the motion to adopt the report of the committee, Mr. Mathieson moved the following amendment: That the report of the committee be not adopted but that it be resolved that no system of cold storage will meet the requirements of this Province unless it provides for cold storage warehouses at Georgetown and Summerside as well as in Charlottetown and such other central shipping points as may be necessary in the public interest for a continuous system of cold storage of perishable goods from the place of origin to the destination; and further that it is unjust and contrary to the public interest that any particular corporation should be given by the Government special advantages not open to all competitors. The amendment was lost on a strict party vote 15 to 13 and the report was adopted on the same division reversed.

Mr. McLean was glad to hear the speech of the member for Charlottetown. So far as the Steam Navigation Company is concerned, it should be remembered that their steamers have the main highway of freight and passenger traffic from this Province; consequently their rates should be lower than the rates of steamers on routes along outer ports, where freight and passenger patronage is small in comparison. We had no commodity rates in this Province. It was outrageous to separate the P. E. Island Railway from the Intercolonial. We are charged with everything; but get no credit for anything. We will never get relief, he said, in this matter until we put our claims in proper form and then press these claims home. The management on the P. E. I. Railway he said was very bad. Now even when we have three freights a week, the trains on express days, as on Saturday last, pick up all the way freight. Our claims must be properly presented and reiterated again and again

why it had been substituted for the resolution moved by Mr. Kennedy. In the main, he had no objection to the amendment; but Mr. Kennedy's resolution refers to a resolution of the House unanimously passed in 1906. This resolution had been forwarded to the Governor General, and the only track we could find of it was a bill for \$400. In this way the Government manage to kill, by inaction, every effort made in behalf of our Provincial rights. This is what has been done by the Government in the matter of our claims against the Dominion Government, and with regard to the school book question. In all these cases the Government adopt the same course; they move an amendment, and there the matter ends. He was very much pleased to hear Mr. Hughes come out boldly in advocacy of our claims against Canada. This was in such direct contrast to the course pursued by other members of the Government, and especially by the Patriot, which had scandalously misrepresented our case during the last year. The Premier, in his election platform in 1908, set forth that our claims against Canada were to be vigorously pressed. But the Patriot proclaimed broadcast that the Federal Government were treating us fairly and justly. He quoted from the Patriot's articles, so damaging to our rights and claims. The Patriot charged against this Province the whole expense of the winter steamers. This is most unjust, for at most the services of the steamers benefit us only during the winter months. Of that expense we should be charged with only one half. But these steamers are engaged during the summer, as Mr. Hughes says in junketing trips for ministers and other favorites of the Government, and the Patriot charges all these expenses to this Province. So on regarding all the public departments, the Patriot charges against the Province all receipts; but makes no mention at all of what we pay in into the Dominion treasury. That is the unfair way the chief Government organ puts forth our case against Canada. About \$134,000 were spent on the railway wharf at Charlottetown, but several times it threatened to go out to sea. It was bolted together and piles were driven around, and still there is no assurance that it may not go out to sea. When all is done, the Government steamers cannot load thereat, because no slips were put in the wharf. The amendment recited that the Provincial Government have frequently brought the grievances complained of to the attention of the Federal authorities. The Opposition could not vote for this proposition, because there was no evidence that our Government has done any such thing. If this amendment is only intended for the purpose of another junketing trip to Ottawa, we would only be losing our time in discussing these propositions. Why had not the railway claim been pressed; why was not our claim pressed for compensation for the express expenditure on railways on the mainland, over what was anticipated at confederation? Mr. Mathieson did not believe the Leader of the Government had ever seen the statement of claims against the Federal Government prepared by his officials. Had he studied it he would have discovered that it was short one year on one side, and two years short on the other side. He would like to hear what the Government would do if this resolution were put through before going any further. Would they do as they have been doing all along?

Debate on the resolution re transportation was resumed by Hon. Mr. Hughes, who had previously adjourned the debate. In concluding his speech, Mr. Hughes moved an amendment to the resolution previously moved by Mr. James Kennedy. The amendment was little more than several verbal changes, and was not as detailed and specific as the original motion. It came from the Government side, however, and afforded the supporters of the administration an avenue of escape from voting squarely against Mr. Kennedy's resolution. That evidently was all that the Government and their followers wanted.

Mr. Mathieson thought it quite proper that both sides of the House should agree on this question of transportation. Had the members on the Government side accepted the resolution moved by Mr. Kennedy, they would have shown a better disposition towards unity, than by moving an alternative resolution, substantially of the same nature. A joint resolution on this matter had been unanimously passed in this Legislature in 1906; but owing to the inertia of the Government, who have steadily refused to move, nothing absolutely has been accomplished.

Mr. Mathieson resumed the debate at the evening sitting of the House. He said he was less able than he was before recess, to agree with the amendment made by Hon. Mr. Hughes. As a matter of fact he could not understand

before we can have any hope of success. The amendment was then put and carried on a straight party vote 15 to 13. After the usual routine on Thursday March 24th. Mr. Mathieson asked the Leader of the Government if he had any statement to give the House relative to a meeting of Provincial Premier's proposed to be held at Ottawa on March 29th. Premier Haszard said he had knowledge of the proposed meeting; but for obvious reasons, it would be impossible for him to attend; nor did he feel justified in asking anyone to represent him. Mr. Mathieson thought this matter of such importance that something should have been done in regard thereto, especially as the letter from the State Department read by the Premier was dated the 7th of February. Mr. McKinnon considered this matter was of sufficient importance to have been attended to by the Government of this Province, and he thought the Premier should have taken more interest in it.

On the motion for the third reading of the Cold Storage guarantee bill Mr. Prowse moved, seconded by Mr. Kennedy: That the order for the third reading of said bill be discharged, and the said bill be recommitted for the purpose of being amended so as to provide: That in case the Company shall at any time during the continuance of the said guarantee fail or neglect to supply to the people of this Province proper cold storage accommodation at reasonable rates in conformity with the terms of said agreement then the Governor in council shall have power to declare the said mortgage due and payable and may proceed to realize upon the security of the said mortgage in the same manner as if default had been made in payment of the interest secured by said mortgage or any part thereof. That in case of default of the company to perform its part of the said agreement penalties should be provided and actions therefor given to the parties aggrieved. The Leader of the Government intimated to Mr. Speaker that the amendment was out of order. Hon. Mr. Speaker placed between the Leader of the Government and the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Mathieson quoted from the Journals of the House and from authorities on Parliamentary procedure to show that the amendment was properly in order, and that such a procedure had never before been questioned. Mr. Speaker ruled in favor of the Opposition contention. The division on the amendment was then taken when it was declared lost on a strict party vote 15 to 11.

On the main motion being put by Mr. Speaker, Mr. Mathieson moved by Mr. Wyart the following amendment: That the order for the third reading of the said bill be cancelled upon the following grounds: That the said bill provides by way of guarantee for a contingent or prospective charge upon the public revenue of the Province. That the said bill should have been introduced on the recommendation of the Lieutenant Governor on behalf of the Crown sanctioned by a resolution of the House in committee of the whole. That no such leave has been granted and no such resolution passed and in the absence thereof the proceedings on the said bill are unconstitutional and void. The Leader of the Opposition supported his amendment with a strong speech. He showed that a guarantee of this nature when the expenditure of public money, was involved was of the same nature as the vote for supply, and the bill under consideration similar to the supply bill. He quoted at length from Bournicot and May and other authorities on Procedure to show that this bill should have been introduced by a recommendation of the Crown, followed by a resolution. He showed that the fact effect in the bill that it had not been introduced by a resolution of the House. He continued his speech till almost one o'clock and then moved the adjournment of the debate. The House then adjourned till yesterday.

Mortgage Sale. There will be sold at public Auction in front of the Court House in Summerside, on Monday, the 2nd day of May next, A. D. 1910, at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon, under the power of sale in a mortgage dated the 8th day of February, A. D. 1896, made between Robert W. McDonald and Robert H. McDonald and Dorcas Ann McDonald, of the one part, and Dorothea Lefurgey and J. Egrain Lefurgey, of the other part. All that tract of land at St. Eleanor's, bounded as follows: Commencing at a stake driven in the north boundary line of land formerly in the possession of Benjamin Darby, senior; thence south thirty degrees west four chains and sixty-three links; thence east thirty degrees north one hundred and eighty chains; thence north thirty degrees west four chains and sixty-three links; thence along the line of land formerly occupied by George Tustion, junior, to the place of commencement, containing fifty acres of land more or less, with the appurtenances. For further particulars apply at the office of J. Edmund Wyats, Barrister-at-Law, Summerside, on Monday, the 22nd day of March, 1910. DOROTHEA LEFURGEY, J. EGRAIN LEFURGEY, Mortgagees.

Muscular Rheumatism. Mr. H. Wilkinson, Stratford, Ont., says:—It affords me much pleasure to say that I experienced great relief from Muscular Rheumatism by using two boxes of Milburn's Rheumatism Pills. Price a box 50c.

MODERN BUILDING PLANT! The undersigned intends to establish at MONTAGUE BRIDGE Early in the coming spring, an up-to-date Building Plant for the manufacture From Concrete Of all manner of material for building purposes. The building material here manufactured will include brick and all kinds of Concrete Building Stone, Monuments, Coffin Vaults, Steps, Drain Tiles, Caps, Lintels, Cellar Walls and Floors, Veranda Columns and Floors, and Veranda Walls of all descriptions; all requirements for Concrete Side-Walks, etc., etc. In connection with the establishment there will be a Builders' Supply Store Where the requirements for all kinds of buildings may be obtained. Contracts will be entered into for the erection of Concrete Buildings in any part of the Province. Enquiries regarding buildings and material will receive careful attention and prompt replies. CHARLES LUND, 48 Brook Road, Quincy, Mass. Jan. 5, 1910—41

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