

isting telephone, telegraph and express companies so as to make their business profitable. I am very sorry that I am not intimately acquainted with the work which this company have for many years been doing in the Northwest. I think the hon. members from that part of the Dominion will bear me out, however, when I say that they have spent a great deal of money that they are men of capital, that this capital is foreign capital brought into the country for the purpose of carrying on their business in the west, and it would be a pity if we restrict their business to the unorganized territories because they claim that, in case we do this, their business would be entirely destroyed.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Perhaps before considering the amendments to which my hon. friend refers, we had better dispose of the amendment made in committee. And I may just say here that the statement that the Bill would be useless to them if the amendments to which I have given notice were made, is very extreme, when I only touched on two clauses of the Bill by introducing the word unorganized. However we will discuss that later on.

Hon. Mr. COFFEY moved concurrence in the amendments.

The motion was agreed to.

Hon. Mr. POWER—The hon. gentleman has not given any notice of the motion for third reading.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—There is no objection taken to it.

The SPEAKER — The third reading can take place, because rule 70 only prohibits the third reading of the Bill on the same day that it is reported from committee. This Bill was not reported from the committee to-day.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—The concurrence in the amendment did not take place owing to the notice given by the hon. Secretary of State. He asked for delay, and then he gave notice of certain amendments which he would make, as I understood, on the motion for the third reading of the Bill.

Hon. Mr. POWER—I withdraw the objection.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I have no desire in the slightest degree to weaken the force of the

Bill, but the Bill ought to express what the parties themselves expect to realize by it. The first clause in which I introduced the word 'unorganized' reads in this way:

1. Revillon Brothers, Limited, hereinafter called 'the Company,' may make contracts with any government, corporation or person, for the carriage of the mails in any portion of the territory in which its fur and trading posts are now or hereafter may be established.

There is only one government with which they can make a contract for the carriage of mails. The mails are carried in the settled parts of Canada largely by our railway companies, and I ask the House to introduce before the word territory the word 'unorganized.' I cannot see why any objection should be taken to that. If the attention of the House of Commons had been called to the point, the Bill would not have passed in its present form. The territory, as there expressed, covers any part of Canada, because the Act applies all over Canada. The company have their head office in the city of Montreal. The unorganized territories are the portions of the country where there are no municipal institutions.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Regina)—What about the new provinces?

Hon. Mr. TALBOT—Most of the trading posts of the company are in the northern parts of Alberta and Saskatchewan. They are organized provinces.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Yes, but the municipalities are not organized. My amendment simply makes it clear where they are to operate.

Under clause three, we find that the company may construct and operate telegraph and telephone lines. Did parliament ever give to any other company a similar power unless they defined where they were going to build their line? It was quite unprecedented. All I ask is that it should be limited to the unorganized portions of the country. It is practically a blanket charter that is granted to them under the Bill as it stands. The company first got a charter under the Joint Stock Companies Act. It gave them very large and liberal powers, but I could not give them power to build a railway or to construct telegraph and telephone lines. The Companies Act did not permit of that. They come to parliament for that power, but if any other company