

in our fisheries and for the purpose which they get the benefit of by procuring a license.

**HON. MR. ABBOTT**—As far as the subject of Newfoundland legislation goes, we are not yet satisfied that any provision has been made that will affect our fishermen. We are in communication now with both Newfoundland and the Imperial Government on that subject, but it takes time to learn what is going on. As a matter of course, we shall be guided by the facts as we learn them, and if it should turn out to be as reported, and as is supposed, that Newfoundland has imposed a tax on our fishermen which would place us at a disadvantage—we shall hope to be able to meet the situation properly when it arises.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time, and referred to a Committee of the Whole House, under a suspension of the Rules.

**HON. MR. VIDAL**, from the committee, reported the Bill without amendment.

**HON. MR. ABBOTT** moved the third reading of the Bill.

**HON. MR. POWER**—I think the hon. leader of the House more or less misapprehended my position at an earlier stage. However, I shall not dwell on that subject now. I wish to refer to this one point: the hon. gentleman thinks that we should now hold out the olive branch to the United States—that we should show the greatest good feeling towards them. Now, supposing that I were to agree with the hon. gentleman as to that point, what has been the line of conduct adopted in another place by another Minister of the Crown, the head of a very important Department? Did not that hon. gentleman, just at the time when those negotiations were going on, introduce a measure to tax American products coming into Canada—a measure of the most obnoxious character, calculated to annoy the United States much more than the course that I suggest? This Parliament made a statutory offer of reciprocity in natural products, and while these negotiations were going on the Ministry in the other House withdrew that offer, and put the most vexatious taxes upon articles of commerce covered by that offer of reciprocity. I think the Government should be a little consistent: if we are to have peace, good will and harmony, let us

have it, but do not let the peace, good will and harmony be all on one side, and not amongst the people on the other side.

**HON. MR. KAULBACH**—I do not see what the two things have to do with each other. The tariff is quite different from this, and I am sure our policy has not been retaliatory, but a policy quite adapted to our own people.

**HON. MR. ABBOTT**—I think my hon. friend misunderstood me. When I advocated the passing of this Bill I did not state any general principle with regard to cultivating good feeling with the United States. I merely asked that this particular Bill should be passed. Of course, every sensible man will be in favor of cultivating good feeling with our neighbors, and I arrogate to myself in a small degree the qualities which go to make up what is described as a sensible man. I should like to point out to my hon. friend that in making our fiscal arrangements and in arranging our Customs duties this Government studies the interest of its people. It is not guided by any feeling either of amity or enmity to any people or nation on the face of the globe, much less towards our neighbors, with whom we have endeavored to live in peace and friendship. When we impose or reduce a duty we do it in the interest of our people, and not for the purpose either of pleasing our neighbors or displeasing them. That does not enter into our consideration at all. The consideration which guides us in a measure of that kind is the welfare of our own people.

**HON. MR. POWER**—There is quite a difference in the interests of manufacturers and fishermen—that is all.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the third time, and passed.

#### BILLS INTRODUCED.

Bill (141) "An Act to facilitate the purchase by the Pontiac Pacific Junction Railway Company from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company of the branch line of Railway between Hull and Aylmer." (Mr. Ogilvie.)

Bill (123) "An Act respecting the Ontario Pacific Railway Company" (Mr. Vidal.)