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TORONTO



in the brokerage business, and therefore intimately connected with the banks, has been in the forefront for reform; Emmerson of Westmount; Sharpe, of North Ontario; Turfiff, of Assiniboia; Thompson, of Qu'Appelle; McNutt, of Salteoats; McCraney, of

Saskatoon; Douglas, of Stratheona; Aikins, of Brandon; Rainville, of Chambly-Vercheres; Thompson, of the Yukon; Maclean, of South York; Sexsmith, of East Peterboro; Warnock, of Macleod; Buchanan, of Lethbridge, and others less prominent in discussion

### Good Roads Bill

Apart from the committee on banking and commerce, and a discussion on western freight rates, the proceedings at the capital this week have not been of very great importance from the political standpoint. Owing to the fact

that Ascension Day (Thursday) was a parliamentary holiday the government decided not to take up the consideration of the Naval Bill. Much headway was made with some of the important legislation and several of the minor bills. There was a repetition of the fight which occurred last year when the measure to provide aid for the construction of highways was taken up. The opposition moved by way of amendment that it should be stated in the bill that the money to be voted by the Dominion house is divided amongst the various provinces on the basis of population. Hon. Frank Cochrane, who had charge of the bill, and Premier Borden both declared that such was the intention of the government but declined to accept the amendment on the ground that the Dominion must maintain control over its own monies. The opposition reply to this argument was that a system of inspection of roads built by provincial governments with federal money would be quite sufficient and that there was no reason why the rights of the provincial governments to control the construction of highways should be interfered with. Liberals again expressed the fear that back of the government's proposal lies a plan to build up a political machine which will be used to the advantage of the government on the eve of a general election. Last year, the Senate amended this bill and the government declined to accept the changes made, with the result that it was killed. There is a suspicion abroad that the same thing will happen again this year.

### South African Scrip

When the bill which once more extends the time during which holders of volunteer scrip may locate on western lands was under consideration on Friday night the definite assurance was given by Hon. Robt. Rogers that this would be positively the last renewal of this privilege. The extension is not for a full year as on previous occasions but until the end of next October. Hon. Frank Oliver complained that when the last previous extension was made opportunity had been given for those on "the inside" to profit while a number of legitimate settlers had been harshly dealt with. Mr. Rogers admitted that an amendment which was aimed at speculators had really hit some deserving people. He said that the government had acted in good faith, however.

### A CORRECTION

In John Kennedy's letter in the Mail Bag of last issue he was, by a misprint, made to say in regard to the Minneapolis sample market that "not 15 per cent. of the grain is sold on sample" instead of "only 15 per cent. of the grain is not sold on sample," as it should have read.

### FOSTER ARRANGING RECIPROCITY WITH AUSTRALIA

London, May 3.—The Daily Telegraph's Melbourne correspondent says: "A provisional reciprocity trade agreement has been concluded by Hon. Mr. Fisher, the New Zealand, and Hon. F. G. Tudor, the Australian trade ministers, subject to the approval of their parliaments which, it is fully anticipated, will be readily obtained."

"The schedule of articles included is much smaller than that covered by the British preference arrangement but it follows the general principle of the latter by providing that some articles shall be duty free and some subject to reduction."

"The negotiations for reciprocity between Canada and Australia are proceeding between Hon. Geo. Foster and the Commonwealth government. The general principles have been accepted and the ministers authorize me to state that the arrangement will undoubtedly mature shortly."

### CHEAP MONEY FOR FARMERS

Saskatoon, Sask., May 2.—Premier Scott announced here today that the next sitting of the Saskatchewan legislature would take place either in November or January. He stated that some action would then be taken regarding cheap money for farmers.

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