

past but I respectfully submit that it should be the practice in the future.

Mr. BRODEUR. It has been done twice.

Mr. FOSTER. In connection with that I think a statement should be made out before we come to the supplementary estimates on the expenses of the House, and I should like to see a tabular statement of the officers of the House and the duties to which they are assigned. They are our officers, we pay them and as my hon. friend (Mr. R. L. Borden) has said, we seem not to have much knowledge as to what is being actually done. I think we should have the information which has been asked for by my hon. friend and a statement of the officers of the House and the duties to which they are assigned.

Mr. BELCOURT. In reference to that matter the qualifications of the officers of the House are stated in a report which was laid before the House last year. The hon. gentleman will find in the sessional papers of last year the full list of the officers of the House with their titles. I do not know that their duties are detailed, but their duties may be inferred from their offices.

Mr. FOSTER. That is the special point that I want to get at. We know that we have a lot of officers, that we pay them money, but we would like to know what their duties are and how they are distributed.

Mr. BELCOURT. There was a classification made last year and that classification appeared in the report to which I have just referred.

PRIVATE BILLS.

THE CANADIAN AGENCY.

House in committee on Bill (Bill 77) respecting the Canadian Agency.—Mr. Bickerdike.

Mr. BRODEUR. I said the other day, that it was my opinion that this Bill should not pass and for the following reasons. Some two years ago a charter was granted to this company under the name of the Canadian Agency, giving them very extensive powers and making provision that they should place a deposit in the hands of the Finance Minister, which if it were not made within a year the charter would lapse. The deposit was not made as required by the Bill and so the charter expired. They are now asking parliament to amend an expired charter, whereas the regular procedure would be to apply for a new charter. I think this Bill should be referred back to the Committee on Banking and Commerce. I move that the committee rise.

Motion agreed to, and committee rose.

Mr. BICKERDIKE moved that the said Bill be referred back to the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

Motion agreed to.

PROVIDENT FINANCIAL ASSOCIATION LIMITED.

On the motion of Mr. Gervais the amendments made by the Senate to Bill (No. 134) to incorporate the Provident Financial Association, Limited, were read a second time and agreed to.

CANADIAN NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

Consideration of amendment made by the Senate to Bill (No. 58) respecting the Canadian Northern Railway Company.—Mr. Lamont.

Mr. E. M. MACDONALD (Pictou). Perhaps the hon. gentleman (Mr. Lamont) would tell the House whether the charters referred to in this Bill carry with them land grants or not. If my recollection is right this Bill proposes to renew and extend 11 or 12 railway charters under one title. In the committee there was no discussion upon the fact that all these charters were being renewed and extended and it was not made clear as to what roads were being dealt with as a result of this legislation. The objection which this House has always shown towards extending land grants to railway companies should be remembered in this case. The House is entitled to some explanation as to what the Bill involves.

Mr. LAMONT. So far as I know there are no lands grants to any one of these branch lines to which this Bill refers. This Bill passed the Railway Committee and this House some time ago, and the Senate made an amendment to section 4, the amendment setting out the names of these branch lines in extenso.

Mr. HAGGART. Is that the only amendment?

Mr. LAMONT. Yes.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Carried.

Amendment read a second time and agreed to.

QUESTIONS.

HALF-BREED SCRIP.

Mr. STAPLES asked :

1. Have applications been made for or on behalf of the following half-breeds : Norman Ouelette, Frank Ouelette, Adeline McIvor, John Boucher, Joseph Delorme, Madame Urbain Delorme, Madame B. Gagnon, P. Ducherme, Charles Pruden, Andrew Gibouche, Miss Rosalie Lesperance ? If so, what was the result in each case ?