

In the Provincial Legislature

Resolution Regretting the Death of Major Belyea—Houses for St. John Workmen—Many Important Matters Brought Up

Fredericton, March 21—The House of Assembly met at 8.30 p. m.

Mr. Black received an ovation. Mr. Dugal gave notice of inquiries respecting the persons who did work on the Lamèque roads; and also as to the action, if any, contemplated by the Government in connection with the false entries on pay sheets in connection with work on Gloucester County bridges and also as to work on Caribou Creek bridge.

Hon. Mr. Baxter presented a petition of Miss Ada M. Burns and others in favor of a bill to establish a Society of Graduate Nurses.

Houses for Working Men. Mr. Lockhart presented a petition of the City of St. John in favor of a bill to provide for the erection of houses for working men.

Mr. Swin presented the petition of John Maloney in favor of a bill to fix the valuation of Mr. Maloney's sawmill property in the Parish of Chatham.

The Introduction of Private Bills. Hon. Mr. Murray said that time for introduction of private bills expired ten days after the opening of the Session, but he thought the rule was capable of a little expansion and it might be interpreted to mean ten days actual sitting. In that case the time would expire on Friday next.

He desired to say that after Friday all bills introduced would have to pay the double fee as provided by the rule.

Hon. Mr. Baxter introduced a bill to amend the act respecting County Courts; also a bill to amend the Judicature Act.

The Conscription Resolution. Lieut. Colonel Guthrie gave notice of motion for Tuesday next as follows: "That in the opinion of this House in order that the five hundred thousand men promised by Canada to the Empire may be speedily raised, Parliament should pass an Act calling to the colors all physically fit single men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years." The motion was seconded by Captain Tilley.

The House then went into Committee with Mr. Munro in the chair, and took up the further consideration of a bill to amend the Act respecting rates and taxes. Hon. Mr. Baxter said the principal object of the bill was to assimilate the general law to the provisions of the assessment act of some of the leading cities and towns. It was his intention to take up the first four sections of the bill which were of a non-contentious nature and to then ask the Committee to report progress until a later date when the sections referring to the sale for taxes of properties could be considered. These sections provided a strong automatic procedure, as in the Act under which they operated in St. John. It was felt that it would be well to have similar provisions in the general Act, but first of all he would like to have the honorable members of the House consider the sections and give their individual opinions as to the advisability of their adoption.

The Committee agreed to the first four sections of the bill and reported progress.

House adjourned at 10. Fredericton, N. B., March 22—The House met at three o'clock.

Mr. Swin gave notice of enquiry as to amount of money spent by the Public Works Department upon the highway at St. Mary's, York County.

Mr. Dugal gave notice of motion to bring down papers relating to the purchase of potatoes for patriotic gift.

Mr. Lockhart introduced a bill to enable the City of St. John to provide houses for working men.

Mr. Grannen presented a petition of the city of St. John in favor of a bill to permit the closing up of buildings unfit for human habitation.

Mr. Grimmer presented a petition in favor of a bill to incorporate the St. Croix Power Company.

Hon. Mr. Morrissey presented a petition in favor of a bill to incorporate the Miramichi Hospital.

Hon. Mr. Morrissey introduced a bill relating to the Southwest Boom Company.

Dr. Price introduced a bill to amend the N. B. Dental Act.

The House went into committee, with Dr. Price in the chair and took up consideration of a bill to enable residents of the city of St. John who were members of overseas forces, to exercise their franchise during the present year.

The House took recess at 4.30, until 8 o'clock.

House resumed at 8.15. Mr. White (Victoria) moved following resolution:

"That in the opinion of this House it is advisable that an annual tax of from one to two cents per acre be imposed for educational purposes upon all granted land in the province situated outside of the established school districts."

Mr. White supported the resolution in an able speech. Referring to the question of Mantral Training, he said that no greater impetus could in his opinion be given to the cause of education than to have established in every Superior and Grammar school of the province a manual training department. In Lewiston, Me., where there was such a department, the Principal told him he had little or no difficulty in keeping the scholars at school.

Mr. Carter seconded the resolution.

Mr. Tilley said that he did not object to the resolution and that it was one which was worthy of close attention of the House. He noticed that lessees of Crown timber lands were not included and holders of these lands he felt were as able to pay as others. There were also other features in connection with the subject which he had in mind but which he would not now refer to, but he thought it would be well to have the whole question taken up by a committee. He thereupon moved the following amendment:

"That a committee of ten members of this House be appointed by Mr. Speaker to take into consideration the matter of assessing private owned wilderness lands together with Crown wilderness lands under lease in the province as suggested in the resolution moved by the honorable member for Victoria and that the said committee submit its report to the House during the present session."

Mr. Lockhart seconded the amendment.

The amendment carried without division.

Mr. Speaker appointed Messrs. White, Carter, Mahoney, Jones, Culligan, Woods, Hachey, Tilley, Lockhart and Slipp as the committee.

House went into committee, Lt.-Col. Black in the chair, and took up for consideration the bill relating to joint stock companies.

Hon. Mr. Baxter said that down to last session the mode of incorporation of companies in this province had been chiefly remarkable for the length of time it took to get the matter put through.

The bill was drawn largely on the lines of the Dominion Act except in such few cases as that Act was not applicable. One feature of the Provincial Act was that the borrowing powers of a company were limited to 75 per cent. of their paid up capital. The new Act followed the Dominion law, which extends the borrowing powers to the same amount as the capital. He thought there was no objection to this at all, because people who bought company's bonds would take good care to find out what they were buying.

There was another matter to which he would like to draw attention in which this province would be the gainer. For some time until recently there had been a conflict between Dominion and Provincial jurisdictions in the matter of incorporated companies. Several cases had occurred where companies incorporated in any of the provinces had extended their business into other provinces and the Exchequer Court and also the Supreme Court of Canada had held that a company had no legal powers whatever to do business outside the province in which it was incorporated. (This decision was contrary to the views of the legal profession the country over, who had always recognized that a company as a corporate body had certain privileges which should be generally recognized, wherever the company wished to do business. However, the decision of the Court was, companies had no powers outside of their own province.)

Mr. Slipp thought the section requiring five applicants to form a company were too many.

Hon. Mr. Baxter said that a company must have a president and a secretary and a treasurer, although two latter officers might be combined and it was usually desirable to have one or two extra for directors. A business consisting of more than one person must either be incorporated or a simple partnership and the latter entailed unlimited liability. Incorporation did away with that

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unlimited liability. A man might use it that he had put into the company but when he had done that he knew the extent of his loss. Personally he did not see why they should make the incorporation of a company any easier than it was, for it seemed easy enough now.

Mr. Slipp objected to clause empowering a provincial secretary to change nature of business on application of company.

Hon. Mr. Baxter said that the minority could protest and provincial secretary could not accede to application, unless he was satisfied that it was in company's interest. However, he would amend the section to meet to some extent the views of the honorable member for Queens.

Mr. Tilley referred to another matter which he said required a change in law. Some companies had their head office in some small town or village where, of course, they were taxed but they really transacted the business in one or more of the larger cities, where as the head office was not in the latter place, they escaped taxation.

Hon. Mr. Baxter said that was a matter that would have to be dealt with under the Assessment Act. A lumber company might have its head office in the woods and the same thing transact practically the whole of its business at the port of St. John or the Miramichi River.

House adjourned at 10 o'clock. Fredericton, March 23—The House met at 3 o'clock.

Hon. Dr. Landry in reply to Mr. Pelletier's inquiry, said that the bonded debt of the Province at this date is \$10,894,646.66. This included \$1,700,000 St. John and Quebec Railway bonds.

In reply to Mr. Dugal's questions, Hon. Dr. Landry gave following information re N. B. Coal and Railway Matters:

1. The C. P. R. spent \$87,413.53 on that railway up to Dec. 31, 1914.

2. Auditor J. R. Bruce having died, Thos. V. Williams was appointed on Jan. 3, 1916, to audit the accounts of said railway. He has not finished his audit.

3. Briefly stated, the main condition of the lease of the railway to the C. P. R. Co. are that said line is leased to the company for 999 years to date from Oct. 24, 1914 at an annual rental of 50 per cent. of net earnings, the province to bear one-twenty-fifth of expenditure for betterments, etc., and pay interest at the rate of five per centum per annum on such expenditure, said one-twenty-fifth in interest to be deducted from net earnings before rental is calculated.

When enquiries had all been disposed of, Hon. Mr. Clarke addressed the House briefly and just as he was concluding his remarks, his voice broke down entirely. This and the premier's general condition was ample evidence that he is far from being in his usual good health. It was said this evening, that he will leave again in a day or two to return to Clifton Springs, N. Y., for further treatment and to recuperate.

Mr. Dugal gave notice of motion to bring down copies of correspondence between the Miramichi Lumber Company, Dalhousie Lumber Co., and Crown Land office; regarding export of roamed pulp wood; also reports of Auditor Dunlop.

Mr. Grannen introduced a bill to permit the closing up of buildings unfit for human habitation.

Hon. Mr. Baxter introduced a bill to incorporate the New Brunswick Association of Graduate Nurses.

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Grand Orange Lodge of N. B.

Endorses Prohibition of Manufacture, Sale and Importation of Liquors—Favors Conscription--Reports 700 Brethren Enlisted

The Orange Grand Lodge of New Brunswick was opened in St. Stephen on the 21st inst. in the Oddfellows hall, with Grand Master W. B. Wallace presiding. The other grand officers were all present, and about 125 members were in attendance.

Grand Master's Address. In his address the Grand master said that the order has to mourn the loss of two grand lodge officers, R. W. Bro. Nathaniel J. Smith and Bro. Geo. S. Gray.

Concerning prohibition the grand master said that nobody wants to have anything to do with a drunken person, he is a nuisance, he disgusts the friend who tries to assist him and the officer who arrests or questions him. Society shuns him, employers of labor do not want him, excessive drinking and effective work do not belong together. He makes his home unhappy and his family is often deprived of the necessities and comforts of life. It is no use arguing with such a person, for he is like a man convinced against his will, and determined to wreck his opportunities, and undermine and destroy his constitution.

Early in the last century opposition to the drink evil was manifested, and this opposition has been and is increasing in its intensity.

The habit of drinking intoxicants to excess, whether arising from atavistic tendencies, or acquired from social associations and use, is increasing and moral suasion does not seem to do any good.

The social and economic conditions on this continent have convinced many that something drastic must be done as an assistant to sobriety and opposition to this drink evil has risen until it is now at a very high temperature.

The great object is to annihilate the evils resulting from alcoholism, and it is assumed that great moderation throughout the land will be attained by national prohibition, but it is to be regretted that temperance seems so fragile a virtue and the drink habit so unmanageable and virile as to require the straight jacket of legislation.

Our association has always upheld and advocated temperance, and our constitution not only prohibits the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage during or at the close of its meetings, but also forbids the use of tobacco, and as we are all quite alive to the exigency of the hour, I feel confident that a fitting resolution on this subject will be introduced at this session.

The War. Speaking of the war Grand Master Wallace said that since our last session the sombre war cloud still hangs like a curtain over the European part of the world. As a part of the empire, Canada has cheerfully responded when called upon to help the motherland in this great struggle, and those who are unable to enlist should endeavor to do what they can for those who are endangering life and limb to protect them.

According to the resolution of our last session, \$1,550 of the money collected for patriotic purposes was handed over to the general Patriotic Fund, and I am informed by the grand treasurer that he has on hand a small amount since then received.

I had hoped it might have been larger, but it may be well for grand lodge or its members to augment the amount and have it paid over to the Red Cross workers who are doing so much for the relief and comfort of the sick and wounded.

Our dominion is gradually getting to be quite a large military field and the gallantry and efficiency of our units has elicited great praise and favorable comment.

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Capital Paid-up.....	11,560,000
Reserve and Undivided Profits.....	13,174,000
Total Assets.....	180,000,000

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meetings of the grand lodge be made was endorsed. The celebration of last year enhanced greatly the order in the minds of all observers. In order to successfully carry out the work of propagation the committee in accordance with the suggestion of the grand master recommends that overtures be made to the grand lodges of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island looking to the united employment of a suitable man who can give his whole time, to the work.

Prohibition Endorsed. In the matter of prohibition the following resolution was passed: That whereas there is a strong movement in favor of the principle of prohibition of the manufacture, sale and importation of intoxicating liquors, therefore be it resolved that this Grand Lodge of New Brunswick now assembled place itself on record as being in favor of the said prohibition and emphatically endorse the

(Continued on page 6)

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