

VALLEY RAILWAY MOTION, IN PARLIAMENT INTENDED AS A BLUFF TO KILL THE

Dominion Government, by Insisting on Unnecessary High Standards for Road, Attempts to Block the Efforts of N. B. Legislature—A Whole Day Wasted Discussing Amendments.

Opinion is General that Yesterday's Discussion was Intended to Fill in the Time Until Congress Meets and Government Can Get Back to Discussion of Reciprocity.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Mar. 20.—Another wasted day. The government obstructed itself. All day the House debated resolution moved by the minister of railways, which provided that the government should operate on a 99 year lease a railway to be built in the St. John River valley to connect St. John with the National Transcontinental Railway at Grand Falls.

At 11.15 tonight the deputy speaker after being appealed to by the minister of railways ruled an amendment, moved by Mr. Crockett, out of order. This might have been done in the morning. The House has now moved the adjournment to the complete surprise of the Opposition.

Thus another day is lost, and there will be no reciprocity tomorrow, but a day of supply, so the premier intimated. The debate today showed that the legislature of New Brunswick had passed legislation providing for the guarantee of the principal and interest to the extent of \$25,000 per mile. A difficulty has arisen in the provincial government desiring that the standard of the road shall be the same as the I. C. R. while the federal government insists that it shall be the same as the N. T. R. The Opposition members declared that the Dominion authorities refused to co-operate with the local government but this was denied by Mr. Crockett's amendment was to the effect that the equipment should be supplied by the federal government. His amendment was out of order making the situation infinitely ridiculous. Mr. Graham as a bluff moved an amendment, almost exactly similar to Mr. Crockett's, but it went into the preamble and not into the enabling clause as Mr. Crockett desired. The opinion is general that the government will not be able to get another day in order to tide over matters until the United States congress meets to consider the reciprocity agreement.

The Valley Railway Motion. The minister of railways moved that "Whereas the New Brunswick legislature has passed legislation guaranteeing to the extent of \$25,000 per mile, any railway company which would build from Grand Falls to St. John, upon certain conditions, one of such conditions being that the guarantee could not become effective until the Dominion has entered into an agreement with the New Brunswick legislature, for the leasing of the railway when completed, with its appurtenances and rolling stock, and for the operation, maintenance, upkeep and repair by the government of Canada, as a part of the government railway system of Canada, for a period of ninety nine years, and for the payment by the government of Canada to the Province of New Brunswick, each year of forty per centum per annum of the gross earnings of the railway, the amount to be applied in payment of the interest of the bonds and the surplus, if any, to be paid to the said company:

"Now, therefore, it is expedient that the governor-in-council be authorized to enter into a contract with any such railway company, and to guarantee to the Province of New Brunswick, for the leasing of the said line of railway with its appurtenances and rolling stock, when completed and equipped with rolling stock, and for its operation, maintenance, upkeep and repair by the government of Canada, as a part of the government railway system of Canada, with the above conditions:

"Provided, however, that the railway be constructed upon plans and specifications to be approved of by the Governor-in-council upon the recommendation of the minister of railways and canals, and shall be up to the general standard of the National Transcontinental railway through the province:

"Provided further, that His Excellency the Governor-in-council shall be authorized to enter into a contract as aforesaid, for the operation of the said road in sections, when completed, and equipped as follows:

1. From Fredericton to Woodstock. 2.—From Fredericton south a distance of fifty miles. 3.—Each twenty-five miles thereafter, until the line be completed and equipped, from Grand Falls to St. John."

In a Great Hurry Now. Mr. Graham said he had moved the resolution today in order to expedite the bringing in of a bill to be based upon it. The proposed railway would be 207 miles long and would connect with the National Transcontinental. The resolution provided that the government would have power to operate

on the conclusion of the building of the railway. There had been several attempts to get the projected line through the rich St. John valley launched but so far none had been successful. It was so necessary, however, that they desired to come to an agreement with the provincial legislature to provide a railway. Mr. Graham said the railway would extend from St. John to Grand Falls, a distance of 207 miles, starting from St. John along the St. John river to Fredericton, 74 miles, thence to Woodstock 62 miles, from there to a short distance below Andover and leaving the river to run between it and the International boundary 45 miles, and then from Andover to Grand Falls, 25 miles.

Much Difference in Estimates. He said the estimates for construction ran from \$31,000 per mile to \$49,000 including bridges, but as this would form part of the Transcontinental before many years, and in order to keep the operation down to a reasonable point, it was necessary to have a fairly good standard of road. He thought there would be no difficulty in coming to terms upon this. When they said that the standard must be that of the Transcontinental, it did not mean that they must adhere strictly to a four-tenths of one per cent. on the eastbound traffic or six-tenths of one per cent. on the westbound, because that might be impossible. As to the initial equipment, he considered \$250,000 would be sufficient.

The International Railway. Referring to the International Railway which runs from Campbellton to St. Leonard's, 12 miles from Grand Falls, he said it might be assumed that remaining rights could be secured over this line from the G. T. P. The question had also been considered of the International Railway being operated as a government railway. The government railway could then have one loop line all around New Brunswick.

Mr. Crockett Replies. O. S. Crockett, of York, said it must be apparent to anyone familiar with the facts that the adoption of this resolution would certainly amount to a refusal on the part of the federal government to co-operate with the government of New Brunswick in the effort to secure the railway facilities.

The question had been agitated amongst the people of the St. John valley and they had sent a strong delegation to Ottawa. Prior to this the provincial government had assured the delegation that the terms offered were agreed to at once. On the other hand there had been delay on the part of the federal government in answering the delegation. When the reply did come it was through the extraordinary agency of Mr. Carvell, the member for Carleton.

Mr. Pugsley interjected that the provincial government had never communicated with the Dominion government on the subject. Mr. Crockett corrected the minister of railways, saying that the proposal of the provincial government had been made to the Dominion government by means of a delegation, one of whom was Hon. J. K. Plummer.

Criticizing the quality of the road demanded, the member for York said the specification was the highest of any railway in Canada, except the National Transcontinental. It was higher than the C. P. R. between Montreal and St. John. It was to be laid with 80 pound rails and to have grades not to exceed four-tenths of one per cent.

When Mr. Pugsley was premier of New Brunswick he did not believe that such a high standard of road was necessary, for he had an act passed allowing his government to guarantee a line to be a portion of the MacKenzie and Mann through system and the railway was to have 67 pound rails, while nothing was said as to limiting grades. There was evidence, said Mr. Crockett, that it was an impossible specification and no man could be found who would undertake the construction.

Mr. Carvell declared that an offer had been made on the very terms Mr. Crockett condemned. People Grossly Deceived. Mr. Crockett contended that the people of New Brunswick had been grossly deceived when the government chose the route indicated. He noted that the average cost of the National Transcontinental through New Brunswick was \$71,923 per mile, and the Central route for the railway had been estimated at one million and a half.

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RUSSIAN PREMIER RESIGNS

Premier Stolypin Resigned Yesterday And Czar Nicholas Accepted The Resignation.

St. Petersburg, March 20.—P. A. Stolypin, premier and minister of the interior, resigned today and his resignation was promptly accepted by Emperor Nicholas. V. N. Kokovsov, minister of finance, in the Stolypin cabinet, will be the new premier, and unless unexpected circumstances intervene his appointment will be gazetted tomorrow.

The council of ministers are in session tonight with reference to the situation, and it is believed that they will decide formally to tender their resignations as an indication of solidarity and adherence to the emperor. M. Makaroff, assistant to the minister of the interior, it is stated, will receive the responsible post of minister of the interior, while M. Kokovsov desires to retain, as far as possible, his present colleagues. It is possible, however, that two or three of the ministers will retire.

Among the candidates mentioned for the portfolio of minister of affairs now held by M. Zazonoff, is ex-Premier Stolypin, who has been mentioned for foreign affairs, M. Neratoff was appointed acting minister during the illness of Zazonoff and this appointment has already been mentioned. Premier Stolypin, possessed the resignation personally to the emperor. His resignation was due to the rejection by the council of the empire, of the Zemstvo bill for self government in the nine western provinces.

St. Petersburg, Mar. 20.—It was announced from a trustworthy source, this afternoon, that the emperor had signed the appointment of Minister of Finance Kokovsov to be the new premier.

SMALLPOX IN OTTAWA

Another Case Developed Yesterday Making Five Patients Now Quarantined—Disease Of Very Mild Type.

Ottawa, Ont., March 20.—Another case of smallpox developed in the city today, making a total of five now quarantined at the Porter's Island isolation station. The disease is, however, of a very mild type, and no alarm is felt. There were four new cases of typhoid reported since Saturday. The epidemic has, it is believed, reached its height.

MEXICANS ARE USING SOFT NOSE BULLETS

Usage Of War Being Violated By Both Sides In The Mexican Insurrection — Many Soldiers Wounded.

El Paso, Texas, March 20.—Soft nose bullets, forbidden by the rules of war, are being used by both sides in the Mexican campaign. Colonel Cuellar, who commanded the Mexican troops at the battle of Casas Grandes reports officially that nearly all of the wounded men received their injuries from soft-nosed bullets. The report also comes from Aguas Prietas that almost every federal soldier wounded there was shot with a soft-nosed bullet.

The Herald correspondent wires today from Hermosillo, Sonora, that he saw the Federals march out from there on Saturday with their belts full of soft-nosed bullets. He says there were no hospital appliances and no doctors with the Federals.

BUBONIC PLAGUE IN TRINIDAD.

Kingston, Jam., March 20.—Kingston has quarantined against Trinidad, where the bubonic plague has reappeared. There have been two fatal cases at Trinidad in the last two weeks.

MAY FORCE AN ELECTION VERY SOON

Much Excitement In Political Circles In Ottawa Over Prospect Of Clash—The Conservatives Are Ready.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Ont., March 20.—There is considerable excitement in political circles today as the result of the insistent refusal by the Toronto Globe and other Liberal newspapers, that in the event of the opposition refusing to vote supply or otherwise block the business of the House, there may be an appeal to the country by the government.

The Canadian fiscal year concludes on March 31st, then the government will require funds to carry on the business of the country. With the object of getting the money voted and assented to by the House, the object of the opposition in regard to supply, the Globe says that the estimates will be considered almost continuously for the next two weeks, the reciprocity debate occupying the attention of the House only one day in each week.

In the event of obstructive tactics being adopted by the opposition it is said that the government will force the opposition to sit night and day in an effort to push supply through. Only in the event of the government making a concession would there be an appeal to the country.

Conservative Opinion. R. L. Borden, the opposition leader, who questioned as to the attitude of the opposition to this challenge, refused to discuss the matter publicly, saying that when the government makes a concession in the House he would be ready with his reply.

One of the responsible Conservatives when asked for an opinion, said: "I do not see how the government can be successful in getting out a supply bill, to introduce the subject by a column of blather in the Globe. If, however, the government considers that these tactics are likely to be successful, they are at perfect liberty to go on, and I hope they will be satisfied with the result." Hon. Robert Rogers, had not the slightest hesitation in giving his answers. "An election cannot come too soon in Manitoba for me on the reciprocity issue. I am in favour of an election against the agreement and I am ready to declare my opinion at any time it is given an opportunity."

H. B. Crosby, of Halifax, Mr. Borden's colleague from Halifax, said he was delighted with the challenge. "We are ready in Nova Scotia," he said, "to present our case before when unrestricted reciprocity was the issue, and sent an overwhelming majority against it. Now we are ready to present our case before and will do the same when given an opportunity to vote upon it."

A. S. Goodwin, of Kootenay, the Conservative leader for British Columbia, was very emphatic as to his position in the matter. "Our attitude is this," he said: "We are prepared to vote the supply necessary to carry on the government until the census return, when we demand that a special session of the house be called in order to pass the redistribution bill. The government, until the census return, will be nearly 90 per cent. This must have a voice in the reciprocity agreement. After redistribution then let the government appeal to the people on the question. To do so without redistribution would not obtain the correct opinion of the people."

IN DEFENCE OF HER HONOR

Young Italian Girl, Charged With Murder, Discharged By Vermont Jury After Telling Her Own Story.

Poultney, Vt., March 20.—Accepting the girl's statement that she had shot Luigi Vermillo in defence of her honor, Judge F. G. Swinerton, of the Rutland Municipal Court, today declined to hold Camilla Rovino on a charge of murder and discharged her from custody.

Before a crowded courtroom, the young Italian girl took the stand and admitted that she shot Vermillo, a fellow countryman, 45 years old, who was a boarder at her parents' home in this town, on the morning of February 16 last.

She said that Vermillo entered her room before she had arisen, insulted her, and attempted to drag her upstairs into another room. She managed to break away from him, and ran back to her room, where she secured a shot gun. Then going into the hall, she fired, the girl testified, she shot Vermillo.

MR. MAXWELL CONCLUDES HIS ABLE AND ELOQUENT ADDRESS ON THE BUDGET

MOREHOUSE THE CHOICE OF YORK CO.

Hazen Government Party Candidate a Sure Winner In Approaching By-election—Only Question Of Majority.

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, Mar. 20.—The by-election campaign in York county could not go along with any better results than attained so far by the Hazen government party, and it is generally acknowledged on all sides that it is only a case of "what majority will Dr. Morehouse be elected on March 30th."

The government party held a fine series of meetings again this evening in different sections of the county and that at Marysville provided an apt illustration of the enthusiastic spirit with which the government party's campaign is being carried on, as compared with the half-hearted way the Opposition party in York county have taken up the fight into which they have been drawn by a few electors who have caused a great split in a once great party.

At Marysville last Friday night, Leader Robinson of the Opposition, and other speakers, including his candidate, spoke to 40 electors almost half of whom are supporters of the Hazen administration. This evening Premier Hazen and D. P. MacLachlan, M. P. P., were welcomed at a hall by an audience including over 300 electors, who gave them a most enthusiastic welcome and made a record majority in Marysville, Dr. Morehouse on the 30th, evident.

MCGILL MEN IN WILD TIME

Reciprocity Sympathizers Are Among Students And Overturn Mr. Sifton's Carriage And Set Fire To It.

Montreal, March 20.—The introduction of the McGill students into the anti-reciprocity demonstration tonight was hardly the success the promoters looked for. At 7:30 Mr. Sifton addressed the McGill men in the Union. His speech was not a success, a gathering of about forty reciprocity men having encircled themselves in the gallery from which they continually interrupted. Then Mr. Sifton and Prof. Leacock were placed in a carriage drawn by students and the route to the Windsor Hall taken up. Half way to the hall there was an organized rush of the reciprocity men, the carriage was overturned and Mr. Sifton and the Professor were compelled to walk the remaining distance.

The carriage was speedily recaptured, and taken up to the McGill grounds. Here it was filled with wood and set ablaze. The fire brigade was called out and extinguished the fire. Once more gaining possession of the remains of the vehicle, the students drew it through the principal streets, adding to the hilarity of the occasion by breaking car windows and a few store windows. The police so far had not interfered to any great extent, but when the procession returned to the McGill grounds they made up their minds that it was time for the students to disperse. A rush was made and there was some clubbing. Some of the students beat a retreat to the Y. M. C. A. pursued by the police. The students got out the hose of the building, and turned it on the bluecoats, whom they also assailed with snowballs. The police finally won out and the students were dispersed. Several arrests were made.

"BILL" MINER MUST SERVE OUT SENTENCE.

Ottawa, Ont., March 20.—"Bill" Miner will have to serve out the twenty years sentence meted out to him by the American courts for train robbery at White Sulphur, Georgia, in an American prison. The request made by the Canadian government for the return of the noted desperado to Canada has been refused by the American state department.

EARTHQUAKE SHOCK FELT IN CALAIS.

Calais, Maine, March 20.—A slight earth tremor was felt in this city today, but no damage was done.

Provincial House Spent Entire Afternoon on Consideration of Bills—Opposition Members Realizing That They Cannot Fairly Criticize Government, Lose Interest in Debate.

Overwhelmed by Deadly and Truthful Comparisons, They Sulk in Their Seats While Government Speaker Shows what Mr. Hazen and His Colleagues Have Accomplished.

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, N. B., March 20.—The House today carried on business with such a small number of members on hand that at times they were painfully near falling below the necessary quorum.

At one time when the bills were being taken up in committee of the whole, this afternoon, the number on the opposition side became so small that Mr. Bentley of St. John county was moved to refer to their absence.

Tonight Mr. Robinson, the opposition leader, showed up, and he took such a deep interest in affairs that when Mr. Byrne, the opposition member, who was endeavoring to produce some reply to Hon. Robert Maxwell's speech in the budget debate asked his leader to corroborate a statement he had made regarding the revenue of the province it took some moments for the opposition leader to realize that he was being addressed and to get the drift of what Mr. Byrne was talking about.

Mr. Byrne had not concluded his reply tonight when the House adjourned and will continue tomorrow afternoon. Hon. Robert Maxwell concluded his able contribution to the budget debate this evening, the entire afternoon being taken up with routine business. An effort will be made to have the budget debate concluded this week.

Fredericton, March 20.—The House met at 3 o'clock. Hon. Robert Maxwell arose to a question of privilege regarding errors in the synoptic report which he desired corrected. In his speech on the report of the Attorney General of the late government he wished all struck out and the following substituted, but he had an open account running from year to year against which he had checks drawn for advances of money as he wanted it.

Hon. Mr. Hazen introduced a bill to amend the bills of sale act. Mr. Wilson presented the petition of the city of St. John in favor of a bill to amend an act relating to the temporary closing up of streets in that city.

Mr. Munro presented a petition in favor of a bill relating to the will of the late Lewis P. Fisher. Hon. Mr. Hazen introduced a bill to amend the act respecting assignments.

Mr. Munro presented a petition in favor of the bill to incorporate the Eel River Heat, Light and Power Co. Hon. Mr. Hazen introduced a bill to amend the act respecting the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Mr. Lablillais gave notice of enquiry regarding the erection of a new flour mill in Restigouche County.

The House went into committee of the whole, with Mr. Munro in the chair, and agreed to the bill to increase the salaries of school inspectors. The bill to amend the act respecting rates and taxes was then taken up, its purposes being to repeal section 2 of the act passed at the last session of the House exempting from taxes property used for water purposes for another municipality.

Hon. Mr. Maxwell explained that schools and other necessary undertakings in the parishes outside St. John city had been interfered with and declared that the amendment to the act was necessary. Hon. Mr. Hazen moved an amendment to safeguard the interests of communities taking properties for water purposes hereafter. Hon. Mr. Grimmer explained that the act as it stood wrought hardship in Charlotte county where the town of St. Stephen had expended about \$100,000 in water system improvements and the parish of St. David was unable to accept taxes on an assessment of \$5,000 which had been agreed upon. The bill was agreed to with amendments.

Bills to provide increased aid for the University of New Brunswick, and to provide for two cancellors being elected by the ratepayers of the town of Marysville as members of the York County Council, were agreed to. Hon. Mr. Hazen moved that the time for the introduction of private bills be extended for one week. Some St. John Bills. The House went into committee with Mr. Dickson in the chair. The bill to fix the assessment of the James Pender Co., Ltd., was, on Mr. Wilson's motion, stood over until the St. John bills were taken up. He thought the bill should specify that it fixed the assessment on prop-

erty used for manufacturing purposes only. The bill respecting the levying of rates and taxes in the city of St. John was agreed to and the bill to amend the act for supplying the town of Grand Falls with water was amended so as to provide for a sinking fund.

Bills to authorize the city and county of St. John to issue debentures to pay for the installation of a water supply service for fire protection purposes at the general public hospital and to incorporate the St. Leonard's Electric Company and incorporate the Carleton county hospital, were agreed to.

The bill to incorporate the town of Edmundston for light and power purposes was considered. Hon. Mr. Maxwell suggested in connection with the issue of bonds, that some provision might be made for the guarantee of insurance of the town's bonds so that there would be no possibility of danger to bondholders and no legislation would not then be called upon to guarantee the bonds and see that they were paid in case of a misfortune, such as occurred at Campbellton.

After agreeing to several sections as amended, progress was reported. The committee adjourned till tomorrow. The House took recess.

Mr. Maxwell Resumes Debate. On resuming the budget debate after recess, Hon. Mr. Maxwell said that the hon. gentleman from Northumberland had criticized the government for spending so much money on the report of the royal commission of inquiry into the affairs of the New Brunswick Coal and Railway and rather called on the government to take some action to recover the money which, according to the report, had been misappropriated.

He (Maxwell) considered the report of the royal commission a valuable acquisition of the history of political life in this province, ever placed before any legislature. The report was signed by three honorable men, one of whom was a supreme court judge of this province, proved that never before in the history of Canada were there such dealings in carrying on public business. It was a history of "Frenzied Finance" without a parallel.

Juggling With the Bonds. It proved that hundreds of thousands of dollars of bonds guaranteed by the province were tossed about from one end of the country to the other as small boys would toss a football from one side of the street to the other.

Those who were charged with handling the public business did not know where these bonds were and in one case \$450,000 of bonds were guaranteed and the cash drawn, and for two years there was no record of them in the office of the receiver general and the government in no place had any record that the bonds had been guaranteed. In fact the first knowledge the receiver general's office had was when they were called upon to pay the third or fourth installment of interest due on the bonds.

Large blocks of these bonds were hypothecated in different places for monies advanced and as high as from 6 1/2 per cent. to 7 per cent. interest paid thereon.

It also showed that accumulated interest amounting to \$68,000 had been bonded, a case which possibly had no equal in any country under heaven. Issued Bonds for Running Expenses. It proved that the reports which were handed out under the old administration were incorrect, and that the running expenses were paid from the bonds, while liabilities were concealed and did not come to light until the old government were driven from power.

The honorable gentleman from Westmorland had criticized the present administration for the deficit of \$16,000, which, he declared, existed last year. Under the old commissioners there was only a trifling deficit of \$10,000. Ed. VII. passed the last session of the legislature to show that bonds had to be issued to the extent of \$48,919.05 to pay for the running expenses of the road, accounts having been contracted with the Dominion government's Intercolonial Railway system. Thus confirmed by an act of legislature in proof positive that the running expenses of the railway were charged to capital expenditure, and not paid out of the receipts of the road.

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