

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: The remedy should then be to expropriate the land and to compensate the patentee. If you permit this man to start a farm or settlement in the reserve, you may thereby very materially affect the value of the reserve. These forest reserves are of the greatest importance and should be carefully preserved. Many thousands of acres of the most valuable timber land have been set aside in this reserve and you are permitting somebody to settle upon a quarter-section in it, and there is all the risk of fire which will arise and which might destroy that property altogether. If a mistake has been made, unless this man has a very valuable settlement, it would be far better to compensate him generously rather than to have him on the reserve. I think everybody will agree to that.

Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: My right hon. friend's argument would have considerable force if this were a quarter-section within the reserve and not on the boundary of the reserve. But this is a quarter-section right on the end of it, and his own farm is right across the road. The two quarter-sections are the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 13-13-3 W. 5-M and the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 24-13-3 W. 5-M. My right hon. friend's remarks would have more force if the danger of fire were at all increased by his ownership of this land, but the fact is he has land right across the way, so there is virtually no change in this regard. I do not think it would be wisdom to expropriate. We have the power to do so under the Forest Reserve Act. If the land were enclosed far in the reserve it would be advisable to expropriate, but the recommendation of the head of the branch, who has all the facts, is that we should simply leave him undisturbed. In this same connection, many lands have been reserved for inclusion in forest reserves, and that the minister has power himself to remove those lands from such inclusion if it is found that it is not in the public interest that they be continued. He has not the power here, for the reason that these were lands that were not held for inclusion or were actually included in the first place. I am afraid we will pay pretty dearly for it. I think the officer who examined the ground probably knows that no serious detriment to the reserve is probable by the removal of this quarter-section.

Mr. MURPHY: Has he reported to that effect?

Mr. MEIGHEN: Yes.

[Mr. Meighen.]

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: I will not dispute the facts because my hon. friend is familiar with them and I am not. I must say, however, that the principle seems to be a very vicious one. It would be far better under the circumstances to adhere to the policy of expropriation.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I understand there is no other case of entry within the forest reserve.

Bill reported.

#### INSPECTION AND SALES ACT AMENDMENT.

##### REGULATIONS GOVERNING SALE OF CERTAIN COMMODITIES.

Resolution in respect to the weights and measures of certain human food and other commodities read a second time and concurred in.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 19, to Amend the Inspection and Sale Act, (vegetables, eggs, food containers, firewood and cement).

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

##### INSPECTION AND GRADING OF HAY.

Resolution in respect to the Inspection and Grading of Hay, read a second time and concurred in.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 20, entitled An Act to Amend the Inspection and Sale Act, (Hay and Straw Inspection).

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

##### RE-ARRANGEMENTS AND TRANSFERS OF DUTIES IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE.

On the motion of Sir Robert Borden Bill No. 2, to authorize re-arrangement and transfer of duties in the public service was read a third time and passed.

##### WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

##### BILL TO CONFER ELECTORAL FRANCHISE ON WOMEN.

Rt. Hon. Sir ROBERT BORDEN moved the second reading of Bill No. 3, to confer the electoral franchise upon women.

He said: Before the Bill is read a second time, it is proper that I should give some explanation to the House. Hon. gentlemen are aware that in five provinces of the Dominion at the present time women have