

several others, I think it is rather a late hour to commence such a discussion.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Go on, go on; adjourn, adjourn.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. If the hon. gentleman says there will be a discussion—

Mr. BLAKE. I have said it.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Well, if the hon. gentleman says it in that kind of tone, perhaps we had better go on.

Mr. BLAKE. I am willing that it should go on, if it suits the convenience of the House. I said that my hon. friend was going to speak at some length, and that some others would speak, and upon that ground I suggested that this was not an hour to begin the discussion.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Well, I got up as gracefully as I could to accede to the suggestion, and then the hon. gentleman—as is his habit—made that remark in a very curt way.

Mr. BLAKE. I am sure I am very sorry, for I can assure the hon. gentleman I did not intend to apply it in that way.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. All right. I move the House do now adjourn.

Motion agreed to, and House adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIDAY, 6th May, 1887.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

FIRST READINGS.

Bill (No. 55) to incorporate the Eastern Canada Savings and Loan Company.—(Mr. Kenny.)

Bill (No. 56) to incorporate the Alberta and British Columbia Junction Railway Company.—(Mr. Shanly.)

Bill (No. 57) to incorporate the Prescott County Railway Company.—(Mr. Scriver.)

Bill (No. 58) to terminate the trust respecting the South-Eastern Railway, to authorise its sale, and to incorporate the South-Eastern Railway Junction Company.—(Mr. Hall.)

Bill (No. 59) to amend the Act incorporating the Alberta and Athabasca Railway Company.—(Mr. Hall.)

Bill (No. 60) to further amend the Act incorporating the Western Assurance Company, and other Acts affecting the same.—(Mr. Cockburn.)

Bill (No. 61) to amend the Acts incorporating and relating to the British Canadian Loan and Investment Company (Limited).—(Mr. Small.)

Bill (No. 62) to reduce the stock of the Ontario and Qu'Appelle Land Company (Limited), and for other purposes.—(Mr. Sutherland.)

Bill (No. 63) to incorporate the Kingston, Smith's Falls and Ottawa Railway Company.—(Mr. Kirkpatrick.)

THE BUDGET.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. In the absence of the Minister of Finance, I beg to say that the Estimates will be laid on the Table on Monday night, and that the Minister

Mr. BLAKE.

has communicated with the hon. member for Marquette (Mr. Watson), who has consented to waive his motion, which is the first Order on Thursday, and, with the consent of the House, the Minister of Finance will deliver the Budget Speech on that day—Thursday.

PROPOSED ADJOURNMENT ON THE 18TH INST.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I desire also to say that I have received a memorandum from a member of Parliament, handing me the names of a number of hon. members on both sides of the House, I believe some fifty-eight on the other side and a large number on this side, the two together composing a majority of the members I think, asking that when the House adjourns on Wednesday, the 18th, it shall stand adjourned until the following Wednesday. Thursday is a holiday—Ascension Day—and the House cannot sit. Friday it can sit. Saturday and Sunday we do not sit. Monday we can sit. Tuesday is the anniversary of Her Majesty's birthday, when we do not usually sit; and it has been suggested that as there are only two days, Friday and Monday, on which the House can sit, unless by being over-zealous, the House, when it adjourns on the Wednesday, should stand over until the following Wednesday. I throw this out now for the consideration of the House. I think the majority of the members have presented this proposition to the Government.

CANADA TEMPERANCE ACT REPEAL.

Mr. CARGILL moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 64) to repeal the Canada Temperance Act.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Explain.

Mr. CARGILL. As I am a new member of this House I hope hon. gentlemen will pardon me if I commit any breach of parliamentary etiquette. I may give a few reasons why I propose asking for leave to introduce this Bill. My riding, the east riding of Bruce, opposed the introduction of the Scott Act. In the whole county it was carried by a considerable majority. The east riding of Bruce was opposed to it, but had to submit, owing to the majority of the whole county being in its favor. Now, these people feel aggrieved, and my own convictions are that the beneficial results anticipated from the introduction of the Scott Act have not been realised, and, therefore, the general interests of the county would be advanced by its repeal. I know that municipalities which formerly derived a revenue from hotels now get no revenue from that source. In consequence of the passage of the Act, municipalities have had to reduce the assessed value on hotel property about one-half, and when this is the case in municipalities where the people are opposed to the Act, it is a very serious grievance. I, therefore, ask for the repeal of the Scott Act. Some people, of course, consider that the Act will ultimately bring about beneficial results in the interests of temperance. For myself, I do not think that legislation of this kind is at all conducive to temperance—moral suasion is much better. I know that, in driving through municipalities where beer is very largely used, I find the agricultural population in a much better condition, financially and otherwise, than in municipalities where they have adopted the Scott Act, and accept this as evidence that the use of beer is no obstruction to the progress of the agricultural or any other class of the community. As I have introduced this Bill at the request of my constituents, and in accordance with my own convictions, at present I have nothing further to say, but hope the House will give it their serious consideration, and at a further stage of the discussion, after hearing the *pros* and *cons*, I may be able to give the House some more information on this subject.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.