

a road incorporated by a provincial legislature. The Quebec legislature could give this company power to lease its road to the Canadian Pacific railway and after that was done it might very properly be brought under the Dominion jurisdiction.

Mr. MONK. I am informed that the arrangements are practically completed, but the Canadian Pacific Railway Company would not complete them until this empowering clause was passed.

Mr. PUGSLEY. If we declare this small road, without any amalgamation, to be for the general advantage of Canada, how can we refuse in the future to make a similar declaration with regard to any branch line that connects with the Canadian Pacific railway, the Grand Trunk Pacific or the Canadian Northern?

Mr. MONK. I think that each case should be appreciated on its merits, and where the promoters of a Bill and those who know the local conditions state what the object of the legislation is and the circumstances which render that legislation necessary, that is to my mind sufficient evidence for the House that it is a project for the general advantage of Canada. During the years that I have been in parliament such a statement has been regarded as sufficient.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE—THIRD READINGS.

Bill (No. 12) respecting the Erie, London and Tillsonburg Railway Company.—Mr. Clarke (Essex).

Bill (No. 34) respecting the Algoma Eastern Railway Company.—Mr. Boyce.

Bill (No. 51) respecting the Pacific and Atlantic Railway Company.—Mr. Boyce.

Bill (No. 22) respecting the Dominion Atlantic Railway Company.—Mr. Jameson.

Bill (No. 25) respecting the Ottawa, Northern and Western Railway Company.—Mr. Fripp.

Bill (No. 28) respecting the West Ontario Pacific Railway Company.—Mr. Nesbitt.

Bill (No. 33) respecting the Alberta Electric Railway Company, and to change its name to 'The Alberta Interurban Railway Company.'—Mr. Bennett (Calgary).

Bill (No. 37) respecting the Calgary and Fernie Railway Company.—Mr. Goodeve.

Bill (No. 45) respecting La Compagnie du Chemin de fer de Colonisation du Nord.—Mr. Achim.

SUPPLY.

House in Committee of Supply.

Mr. PELLETIER. I am informed that before 6 o'clock my hon. friend from Rouville (Mr. Lemieux), made some further

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statements about my department. I was not in the House and of course his remarks were not answered because they were made in my absence.

Mr. CHISHOLM. (Inverness). The minister intimated the other evening that he would give me some information with reference to a public building at Port Hawkesbury in the county of Inverness. Is it the intention of the government to buy a site for a public building there?

Mr. MONK. There were negotiations for the purchase of a site but the item has been left out of the main estimates and I think those negotiations will have to be suspended under these circumstances.

Mr. CHISHOLM. (Inverness). Would it not be possible for the minister to purchase a site before the 31st March? The grant will not expire before then.

Mr. MONK. It might be done.

Mr. CHISHOLM. (Inverness). An engineer of the department was there last year, he looked over several sites and got prices and, I understand, reported in favour of purchasing a site owned by Mr. Bain. This engineer was not influenced by myself or any one else in making that selection. The selection was acceptable to the community and the price reasonable, the lowest price at which you could buy property of the importance of this property. It is the best site for this purpose in the town. Port Hawkesbury is a thriving town with a fine fishing industry with a most promising future in store for it. It now has a prosperous population of 2,000 and prospects of a large increase in the near future. I trust, therefore, that the minister will see that this site is purchased, if the Bain site is not eligible for any reason, better known to the minister, let him select another site, and let the property be bought. Since the appropriation is there, provided by the late government, it is too bad not to go on and buy a site and erect that public building with as little delay as possible. I ask the minister to take it into consideration and, if possible, purchase a site before March 31, and have included in the supplementary estimates an item sufficient to erect a respectable building.

Mr. MONK. I would be glad to take the matter up at any time with my hon. friend. I cannot give him an absolute promise—that the site will be purchased. I understand there is no absolute agreement as to the site, but I am not very sure about that. As soon as these estimates are disposed of I will be glad to take the matter up with the hon. gentleman, but I cannot give an absolute promise because, of course, I alone cannot conclude a transaction. I shall give every consideration to what my hon. friend has said.