

MANY BILLS ARE CONSIDERED BY LEGISLATURE

Including the Water Power Bill Which Was Agreed to.

TEACHERS' SALARIES

Also Came up, and Premier Foster Introduced Bill to Provide for the Additional Asked for.

(Continued from Page 1.)
The Water Power Bill

The House then went into Committee on the Water Power Bill. The committee reported that the bill was passed by the House and that the Premier had introduced a bill to provide for the additional asked for.

Mr. Tilley said that he wished to see the bill passed. He said that the bill was a very important one and that it was one that the House should pass. He said that the bill was a very important one and that it was one that the House should pass.

Motor Vehicle Fees

The committee next went into consideration of a bill to provide for the funding of motor vehicle fees. The committee reported that the bill was passed by the House and that the Premier had introduced a bill to provide for the additional asked for.

The Highways

The committee next went into consideration of a bill to provide for the funding of highways. The committee reported that the bill was passed by the House and that the Premier had introduced a bill to provide for the additional asked for.

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York County Roads

York County was deserving of more generous treatment as the capital of the Province was located there. At the present time some of the roads leading into Fredericton were not up to the standard. He had particular reference to that leading to Oromocto and another leading in a southerly direction. He noticed that the county of Westmorland had been well treated in the past. He noticed that the county of Westmorland had been well treated in the past.

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the boundaries of the city. That certain piece of road leading from Oromocto was in the city of Fredericton, and the Department of Public Works had nothing to do with it. It was the worst in the Province, and last year the Fredericton City Council became an advocate of the fact that it was an excellent piece of highway in the county of Sunbury that a certain sum of money was spent on it. The same was true west of the city. The poor road was within the city limits and the good road outside.

Of the new Maryland road, three miles lay in the city and was in such condition that farmers could not get over it. Last year the condition was such that the (Veniot) made a special arrangement whereby the province made an expenditure of \$800 on that road because of the fact that provincial property to a considerable value was situated within the city and paid no taxes. It was true that there were bad roads in the province, but the hon. member must remember that under the present Government there had been only twelve and a half months of actual work put on the roads and that was under very conditions. The Department had been guided and would continue to be guided to a considerable extent by the Federal Highway Aid Board. As far as possible contracts would be let under Federal regulation but where advisable the province could perform work directly under Federal engineers. Distribution among the counties could not be by mileage for the Dominion grant was determined by the classification of the roads. Albert County had been completely excluded from participation in Federal aid because it did not contain a road which the Federal authorities would classify as a great road. That had been modified on representation by the provincial department and the county would participate. Queens County had been in a similar position as far as the north bank of the St. John river was concerned, and a change had also been made there. Much had been made by hon. gentlemen opposite of the fact that more than \$200,000 had been spent in Westmorland County in three years, while York County had received considerably less. The mileage was about the same in the two counties but Westmorland had a greater mileage of roads of high classification.

Mr. Smith (Carleton) said the provincial department of engineers had the power of classification and could make the roads what they liked. Hon. Mr. Veniot said they could not. Mr. Smith said that in York County the roads on both sides of the St. John river and up the Nashwaak should be of highest classification. Hon. Mr. Veniot said that Westmorland county possessed similar roads. However, he had increased the amount expended in York County and it had been found impossible to do all the work intended. Surveys had been made for work between Fredericton and Woodstock and also on the road toward Nashwaak via Harrison Lake.

Mr. Baker asked if Dominion Aid were to be given only on contract work. Hon. Mr. Veniot said not entirely. Surveys already had been undertaken on which calls for tenders would be made. If the tenders proved too high and the Federal engineers could be done more cheaply by the province, the grant would be paid to the latter.

Mr. Young said that York County should have expenditure on roads other than trunk roads. There were many farmers who never got on the trunk roads. They owned the majority of the cars in the county and so were contributing to the motor vehicle fund tax.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said that it was only by considering York County apart from the city of Fredericton that it could be said that farmers owned the majority of the cars. He thought that the hon. member was wrong in saying that the majority of the cars were owned by farmers. He thought that the majority of the cars were owned by farmers.

Mr. Peck asked concerning the road from Moncton to Hillsborough. Hon. Mr. Veniot said that road would be finished as it had been accepted by the Federal engineers.

Dominion Interference. Mr. Michaud said he had no objection to the bill other than a general objection to the tendency of the Federal authorities to interfere in provincial affairs. The Maritime Provinces did not receive a proper hearing at Ottawa, and he believed that they had too long sanctioned Federal interference in provincial matters. Federal grants were received by New Brunswick in aid of agriculture, public health, technical education and roads, but there was a sting attached and a direction as to how the money was to be expended. This was in direct violation of the principles of Confederation. If those principles were adhered to, the views of the provinces would be received with greater respect at Ottawa. He hoped that that would be remembered when the next conference of provincial premiers was held.

Mr. Tilley asked if the Hon. Minister of Public Works could give a statement of the total expenditure per annum for interest on the bonded indebtedness, for which the Motor Vehicle Tax was being used; also a statement of how much the interest charges for permanent roads over the receipts from the Motor Vehicle Tax.

The committee took up consideration of the bill to amend the Act respecting the protection of persons employed in factories. Mr. Robinson pointed out that the bill placed the onus on the employer if boys or girls below the ages specified in the Act were employed. Mr. Baxter said that such a provision would be unfair unless it was shown that the employer was cognizant of the fact that the boys or girls were under age. Parents frequently sent children to work in factories who were under age, but who were able to impose upon their employers and who frequently would sign false certificates as to age. If an employer should take reasonable precautions to prevent persons under age being employed, it would not be fair to penalize him.

Hon. Mr. Robinson said that he agreed with the statement just made. In some of its provisions the bill was most drastic. The section might stand. Mr. Burchill said he agreed with the hon. member for St. John County. He believed that the employers of the province tried to keep within the letter of the law as far as age was concerned.

Mr. Tilley said that provision might be made that an employer require a declaration as to age and that such declaration be taken as correct. He believed that the employers of the province tried to keep within the letter of the law as far as age was concerned.

Canning Factories. Mr. Burchill enquired why the county of Westmorland must be treated always as though on a pedestal. When the proposal was made to increase stampage, the statement was made also that the fisheries should not be taxed. He noticed that the bill contained a section to the effect that its provisions would not apply to lobster and fish canning establishments outside of cities or towns.

Mr. Magee said that it would be impossible to operate a fish or lobster canning plant without violation of the Act unless such exception were made. Lobster and lobster came in catches and must be handled on arrival, irrespective of the time. Employers in such factories sometimes worked twenty-four hours at a stretch. If they did not the fish would spoil.

Hon. Mr. Robinson said that uniformity of labor legislation was desirable, there was to be a conference on the 28th instant as to many matters of this kind would be discussed and changes in existing legislation should be avoided, the main purpose of the bill was to place the Factory Inspector under the Workmen's Compensation Board. The only other changes from the former act had been the striking out of sections having to do with health, as they properly came under the Health Act.

Mr. Potts asked why there should be any exception made in favor of lobster, fish and fruit canneries, outside of cities and towns. St. John had a sardine factory which had been established at a comparatively recent time, and yet it would not have the same advantage that a similar factory would have if it were located in the county district. He asked for an amendment.

Mr. Campbell said that he was opposed to any discrimination. The necessity of handling an enormous catch of lobsters or fish might arise in St. John as well as any other place. Mr. Tilley said the point was well taken. St. Andrews also had a sardine factory. There should be no distinction between factories in towns and cities and those outside.

Mr. Smith (Carleton) pointed out that the bill provided that no woman or girl should work before six a.m. and after six p.m. It was necessary for employees to be at work before six a.m. Mr. Tilley said he would draft an amendment.

ed that penalties be higher. An amendment was passed making the maximum \$50. Another amendment was passed reducing the fines which might be imposed upon employees from \$10 to \$5, to \$5 and \$10. Mr. Magee pointed out that certified men were required for the operation of steam boilers. Many fish factories had small steam boilers; it would be impossible to have men without certificates to operate them.

Mr. Robinson said that section did not apply to fish factories. Hon. Mr. Byrne said he had doubts concerning that. Mr. Burchill said that power was given the Factory Inspector to allow temporary certificates. Mr. Tilley moved an amendment which places lobster, fish and fruit canneries in the same position relative to the act, irrespective of their location.

Mr. LeBlanc said that there must have been a reason for making a distinction between cities and towns and the rest of the province, as far as these factories were concerned. He was surprised that so redoubtable a defender of labor as the hon. member for St. John City (Potts) should advocate what would permit the sweating of labor. According to that hon. member if the one cent amusement tax were imposed the props of empire were falling, but this was different. Unless the hon. gentleman from St. John City knew of some complaint on the part of employers the section should be allowed to remain as it was.

Mr. Potts said he wanted no discrimination against St. John in favor of a little place in Westmorland County, in which all the regulations of health, age and time are violated. The sardine factory in St. John was a new enterprise, and should have the same treatment as factories in any other part of the province.

Mr. Tilley said he was sorry this feeling against St. John was being displayed. It was time that this sectional feeling was stopped. St. John did not display feeling against other parts of the province. There was nothing but admiration in that city for the progress which Moncton had displayed in recent years. He had moved this amendment because there was discrimination against factories located in St. John, St. Andrews and other towns. The time of working in fish factories was a matter of the catch.

Hon. Mr. Byrne said that there was danger of allowing lobster, fish and fruit canneries to escape liabilities under the act of care was not taken in regard to this amendment. Mr. Campbell said that exception was made of the factories named in the bill because the handling of the catch, but there was no reason for making a distinction on account of the location of the factories.

Mr. Magee said that the point taken by the hon. members for St. John City was correct. Factories of the classes named should be on the same basis in all parts of the province. As far as the remarks of the Hon. Attorney General were concerned there should be a ruling by the province of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Byrne said if the principle were adopted it should be general. If an age limit of sixteen and fourteen years for the two sections were adopted, canning factories should not be excepted. If Mr. Tilley's amendment were adopted there would be such exceptions. He could not see why there should be any distinction between factories in cities and towns and those outside.

Mr. Tilley said that all he wanted was uniform legislation. He would be willing to strike out the section. The Inspector might be given power to permit fish factories to operate so as to take advantage of the catch. Mr. Robichaud said that lobster and fish factories should not be included under the act. He was in accord with hon. members for St. John City. In all such factories children were needed to handle big catches. Much of the work was light and could easily be done by them. Lobster factories were regulated directly from Ottawa.

and were under right inspection. If it being six o'clock the Speaker left the chair to resume at eight o'clock. Progress was reported on the bill. Hon. Mr. Foster introduced a bill to amend the Consolidated Statutes relating to school inspectors, and explained that under the bill it was proposed to fix the salary of school inspectors at \$2,000 and allow \$500 per year for expenses. Hon. Mr. Foster said that he had arranged for hon. members to meet the Chief Superintendent tomorrow afternoon and hear his view on the subject of teachers' salaries.

Superannuation. Hon. Mr. Foster, on the House resuming after recess introduced a bill to provide for the superannuation of George W. Mersereau and L. Bellevue. He said that Mr. Mersereau had been in the educational department for over forty years, while Mr. Bellevue had for thirty years been on the staff of the Provincial Normal School. The bill was to enable the Government to superannuate. He moved that on the ground of urgency it be read a second time.

Hon. Mr. Foster answered that the remaining items of supply would be taken up tomorrow. Adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

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