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Mr. Morine's Brilliant Speech

(Continued from page 4)

been done, but it is not customary to ask for such, because the promoters had to offer inducements to capitalists to invest. They therefore asked for concessions in order to get the subscribers in any way they couldn't get it. He (the Premier) spoke of his predecessors who had put through contracts on the same lines, and attempted to clear himself of Mr. Morine's charge that he (the Premier) had made against certain other promoters as land grabbers, by stating that these so-called promoters had done nothing at all in the way of developing the properties they held. The Premier reiterated his previous statements about the labor to be engaged in connection with this project, enlarging on the poor men of the Labrador that were going to be made comfortable and happy, as well as the thousands in Nova Scotia who would be glad to return to reap the great benefits to be derived from working at Fertilizer Industry at Bay of Islands in their native land, etc.

In summing up, the Premier said that it was not without the fullest consideration that the Government had brought in the measure, admitting however, that the Government might have had all the necessary plans brought in, showing clearly the concessions they were giving, but which could only have been produced at an enormous expense. All the information possible was now in their possession, and he thought the measure was one that they should have no hesitation in occupying.

MR. KENT followed the Premier and started in by saying that in the absence of necessary information, we are not in a position to approach such a subject as the one before us. As Leader of the Opposition, and as a member of the House, it was his desire to see the industry established, but he wanted to know just what the concessions were and what returns we were to get for such. When we come to deal with the matter, said Mr. Kent in all its phases, we find first of all, that there was an absence altogether of scientific information. It was no answer to say that we would have to employ engineers and so forth, and at such expense. We were in duty bound as trustees of the people to grapple with this question only after such information had been derived from all possible sources.

Mr. Kent was dealing with the question and the utility of our vast water powers as applied to our various industries when recess was taken at 6.30 p.m.

Notice of Question

MR. COAKER—To give notice that on to-morrow I will ask the Minister of Marine & Fisheries to lay on the table of the House a statement giving the names of the crew of the dredge "Priestman," the wages paid each month; the number of days the dredge was in operation during the years 1913 and 1914. The total cost during 1914 for (a) wages, (b) food supplies, (c) coal, (d) insurance.

MR. COAKER—To give notice that on to-morrow, I will ask the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs to lay upon the table of the House a statement showing what amount was lost by the Colony, by the failure of Messrs. T. Smyth & Co., to pay their Customs Bonds, and why the Bondsmen were not called upon to pay?

Also, to ask the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs to lay on the table of the House a statement showing what it cost to operate the Smyth Warehouse Building, what insurance is paid? what amounts has been paid for repairs to said building? and what the receipts for the last twelve months amount to?

MR. COAKER—I beg leave to give notice on to-morrow, I will ask the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay upon the table of the House a statement showing whose tender was accepted for the Day of Islands Mail Service, and what amount is to be paid per week for the said service.

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The Loggers Bill Goes to Select Committee of the Dumping Chamber

The discussion on the Logging Bill as presented to the House by the House of Assembly, occupied the time of the meeting.

HON. MR. GIBBS moved for a second reading of this Bill, warmly advocating the just claims of the Bill now in its second reading, would at the same time deny one or two of its amendments. He did not see the necessity of the Bill being as sectional. It was wholly unnecessary. He saw in the Bill, a demanding enquiry for proper and just legislation. It was a matter, a consideration, and an enquiry which concerned the interests of too many to allow of loose legislation. It was true we all erred, he (Mr. Gibbs) would even go so far as to declare that that Hon. House had often erred, but he felt that this was due to no lack of desire or intention on the parts of any of the Honorable Members.

The first consideration of any legislature in making its laws, is in duty bound, to the health of the workman, to protect the life and limb of the working man. There were sections of that Bill to accept it in its present form which would almost forbid such provision. What were the conditions of the logger ten or twelve years ago. Something which he (Mr. Gibbs) thought the actions of cruelty and brutality on the parts of those in charge.

Men wet through, and miserable, having to dry their clothes, eat and sleep in a place so horrible that he (Mr. G.) would not further explain to that house. Failing to accede to the claims of that Bill, would be an actual going back to the consideration of the Bill will pass this house. If seeks—and must seek—into the future, must grapple with those things which go to make better future conditions.

Mr. Gibbs ably reviewed the whole situation as presented by the Bill. He was of the opinion that the Government's operating of such passages in the Bill which he took exception to, had never been successful. Every advantage and opportunity and help had been tendered the operators of those large concerns, and ample concessions given, whilst the welfare of the workman had hardly as yet received a consideration.

Of vital interest to this whole question are points of feeding, housing and otherwise looking after the interests of the worker, for no company has any right to steal health of employee, by having him so placed and exposed to this very result. The Legislatures of other countries have

provided against this. They have enacted certain governing laws that men have certain rest, certain temperature to work in. The state but performs its duty in passing such legislation and seeing it acted up to.

The Bill will pass this house. If it does not pass this year it will pass next year. He (Mr. Gibbs) remembered the Workman's Compensation Act which was at first defeated, but passed after five years. It would be the same with the Bill now before the Honorable Gentlemen. Mr. Gibbs did not approve of the Bill being referred to a Select Committee as had been moved by Mr. Bishop. He did not see that legislative had the power or right to give the measure to such a committee. 'Tis not a Bill to the benefiting of a few. It was against all principles to hand its further discussion over to a select committee.

MR. HARVEY thought that a select committee was permissible as in the Lower House, and Mr. McGrath pointed out that the Sealing Bill had been referred to such a committee. Mr. Gibbs in reply gave certain reasons where other measures differed from the one now before the house, and that they could be given over to a select committee. He intimated that according to procedure the Bill in the case of having been passed over to a select committee, might be considered as having being lost, and in this explanation was supported by Mr. Robinson.

MR. BISHOP let amendment be withdrawn. MR. McGRATH would suggest a slight error and misunderstanding on the parts of both gentlemen (Messrs Gibbs and Robinson). He had no objection to the second reading of the Bill, nor to its discussion by the committee on the whole, but he thought that a select committee could report on it without the injury suspected.

MR. SQUIRES was desirous to see the Bill take regular course, and did not think Mr. Bishop's movement feasible.

MR. GIBBS moved to pass the Bill to a committee of the whole.

MR. BISHOP here reviewed his movement to bring the measure before a select committee.

MR. HARVEY objecting on the grounds that the Bill might be lost on division of such a committee. A select committee was finally appointed, Messrs Bishop, Knowling, Harvey, Anderson and Winter being appointed.

After deferring some business 'till the morrow, the House arose at 6.10 p.m. to meet again this afternoon.

Bornch Josselte, a Jewish woman, 110 years of age, who arrived at Warsaw, whither she had fled from the advancing Russian army, had already once before taken refuge in the same city, when in the year 1812 she was a fugitive from the troops of Napoleon.

According to the "Kreuzzeitung" of Berlin the cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris, that of Troyes, the National Library, the Invalides, the Louvre, the Guildhall, London, the Crystal Palace, and St. Paul's Cathedral are filled

with machine guns, wireless installations, and other military details.

From letters which have reached the "Daily Express" it seems that it is not generally known that by the Bishop of London's decree, soldiers desiring to marry and able to plead urgency can obtain a two guinea special marriage licence at Doctors' Commons for half a guinea, and can thus avert the customary three weeks' delay.

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April 1915.