A. & G. W. RAILWAY DEAL DEBATE CONTINUED IN

(Continued from Page One).

...s it tonight than he did ter... ...one. The attorney general had ... up a number of points but ... were others that were still not ... to him. He was elected to sup... the government but he was not ... convinced that the agreement was ... one. He did not like the clause ... for the payment of $20,000 ... per ten miles no matter what ... costs. He would like to know ... the company would give the assur... ... set out by the letter of the ... as part of the contract. The ... members had been criticized be... they allowed this agreement to ... and he as one was willing ... his share of the blame. The ... was passed because the ... had faith in the government ... he was sorry to have to say that ... he thought the premier ... broken faith with the legislature. The attorney general had not explained why the bonds were not sold by ... or why a special train was chartered to go to New York.

Mr. Cross Answers Questions.

Hon. Mr. Cross said he would be pleased to answer these questions now. Speaking of the last, the deputy attorney general and the deputy provincial treasurer had gone to New York with the bonds.

They handed them over to J. Pierpont Morgan and had taken a receipt and every term of the agreement with reference to the purchase was complied with. He (Mr. Cross), was in New York at the time but did not know that his deputy, Mr. Woods, was there till he met him in a hotel. He had gone there on a private visit to some friends. Replying to the first question he said that bonds were not usually sold by tender, they were handed over to an underwriter who disposed of them.

Mr. Holden said the government had passed much legislation but he was afraid that his confidence was slipping away from the government especially among many people of the south, as appeared by the press of that part of the province.

Junior Member for Edmonton.

John A. McDougall followed Dr. Campbell. He said he did not purpose being intimidated by any association from expressing his honest opinion. When he was elected he was elected to give a conscientious decision on every question regardless of consequences and despite race or creed. He came to the legislature for the purpose of doing his duty. He might be classed as an insurgent. Of this he was not ashamed. It was as a result of the criticism of the A. & G.W. agreement that a better proposition had been submitted by the company. He still considered further amendments might be secured. He suggested that a bond for a million dollars should be obtained from the company and held for five years after the completion of the road, as a guarantee of operation.

Dealing with the railway itself, he offered the opinion that the road should be located further east, whereby it would run through a much better country and would avoid the muskegs.

He said that while he did not desire to cast any reflection on the financial ability of the A. & G.W. Co. to carry out its undertaking, still he would have preferred to have had the C.N.R. or the G.T.P. undertake the construction of this road. He advised that delay might have been better. He said he considered a railway should have been built into the Peace River country first, for the reason that the settlers along the line of the railway to Fort McMurray were not crying out for railway facilities whereas from the Peace River country the demand for a railway was insistent.

Regarding the capital of the company, he said this question was being widely discussed. It was contended that the standing of a company with a paid up capital of $50,000 undertaking a $7,400,000 proposition was a very uncertain quantity. It looked as though the company did not desire to put any more of their money into it.

The bonds, he said, realized par but were sold for 110 by Morgan on the English market. The difference might have been retained by the province if sale had been properly made. In view of sale price of bonds it was possible the company's stock would not sell as well as the bonds. The Government might then be called upon to assist the company in the sale of its stock.

As to President Clarke's new offer, which he considered an improvement in the original proposition, he urged its acceptance and the securing of any further concessions possible.

Referring to the resolution introduced by the member for Sturgeon he said he would under no circumstance countenance the repudiation of a contract made by the province. He said the west was entering upon an era of great prosperity, an dthis was largely due to the policy of the Rutherford government and it would be disastrous to the credit of the province to repudiate a contract once entered into. He further stated that the explanation offered by the attorney general had served to clear up many incorrect impressions.

Member for Ponoka.

Dr. Campbell, of Ponoka, strongly supported the advisability of the A. & G.W. Railway and expressed the belief that its construction was but the commencement of one of the greatest railway enterprises in Canada. To the amusement of the house he referred to the special train upon which the junior member for Calgary (Mr. Bennett) was conveyed to Edmonton last Friday night. He said that he believed the member for Sturgeon had been actuated in prolonging interminably his speech by the resolve "Bennett or Midnight." He wanted the junior member from Calgary to be in the House before a vote was taken. He compared the rumors and insinuations made during the debate to a forecast of an ominous thunderstorm but which had resolved itself into a refreshing sunshower.

Member for High River.

L. M. Roberts, of High River, said he spoke from the viewpoint of a new member to the House and a new member to the Liberal Government. He said he owed his election to the record of the Rutherford Government which he had behind him, and to the Government's railway policy. He had advised himself on the principles of the Liberal party and had approved of them before he had sought election. Still he declared that he could not dare to say what the result would have been had the undertaking of the premier concerning the Alberta & Great Waterways railway been before the people. He was now pleased to know however, that the Government was approaching the question from a reasonable frame of mind, and had dropped the "nest of traitors" attitude.

What he considered as a weak point in the agreement was that the contracting company building the line for the railway company could present a report stating the road had cost such and such an amount and such a report could not be brought into question by the people of the province.

The Premier: "What of the government engineer?"

Mr. Roberts: "The government engineer can be made to say anything the government wants him to. If he doesn't he can be dismissed. That is placing too much responsibility on the goverment."

Continuing, he said he intended to avail himself of the right which the attorney general stated the act gave him, namely to obtain any information he desired concerning the A. & G.W. Co. by applying to the Minister of Railways.

"I am not aware there is such a minister," interjected E. H. Riley, member for Gleichen.

"If you don't know it you should," said Hon. Mr. Cross. "It doesn't say much for your perusal of the railway act if you have not advised yourself on this fact."

Mr. Roberts declared that the province of Alberta would not stand for the perpetration of any of the Clarke's get-rich-quick schemes, and further that no other political institution on the continent, with the exception of Tammany Hall in New York city, could put through a deal like that which the government had negotiated.

Mr. Roberts at this point brought into question the right of Deputy Attorney General Woods sitting n the floor of the House and advising the attorney-general during the debate.

The Speaker held that the deputy attorney general had a perfect right by custom to advise his chief.

Mr. Robert's concluding statement was to the effect that there had been a great beating around the bush, and an effort of the deputy attorney general, Mr. Woods, to becloud the issue by his advice to his chief. Of the beating around the bush he was not surprised in view of the fact that Mr. Woods lived in Edmonton.

FATEFUL DAY IN THE HISTORY OF BRITAIN

What Will Happen to the Asquith Ministry Depends on the Premier's Statement—All Parties Are Desirous of Avoiding Another General Election.

London, Feb. 26—The session of the House of Commons today may prove fateful for the Liberal government. Premier Asquith's ministry may be defeated by the adverse vote of the Radicals and Nationalists.

It may survive, only to be plunged into the throes of a ministerial crisis and disruption owing to the divergent views of the ministers on the question of the reform of the House of Lords or it may even be saved from extinction by the votes of the Unionists.

Everything, it is believed, will depend on the nature of the statement of the government policy which Premier Asquith will present to the House as a result of last week's cabinet councils, and the prime minister's interview with the King on Sunday.

To a great extent the situation still is dominated by the fact that everybody concerned is more or less desirous of avoiding a general election.

The Nationalists will hod a meeting before the Parliament assembles to decide their course of action, and if, as now seems certain, the premier has decided to postpone the attempt to reform the House of Lords and confine his immediate policy to an attempt to limit or abolish the power of veto held by the Lords, there is a probability that the government will survive at least for a few months.

In reference to the suggested referendum on the question of the veto power of the House of Lords, Asquith is quoted as having replied to a heckler in the recent campaign regarding the referendum as a general principle:

"There is a great fascination in the idea. I was bitten by it at one time but the more one thinks of it, and the more one sees of it in other countries, the more impracticable and inapplicable to British conditions it seems."

Chancellor Lloyd-George, John Burns and Winston Spencer Churchill, along with others, were the guests of the King at a dinner Saturday night. Premier Asquith dined with the King tonight as the guest of the Austro-Hungarian embassador.

102,200 CATTLE EXPORTED IN 1910

Rapid Growth of Alberta Shown in Report of Department of Agriculture Tabled in House.

The annual report of the Provincial Department of Agriculture was tabled in the Legislature on Friday by Hon. Duncan Marshall. It is a voluminous document and contains a great deal of valuable information about the agricultural development of Alberta during the past year. In its opening remarks, reference is made to the growth of the department since the late minister, Hon. W. T. Finlay, took charge. In the four years' development the staff had grown from three members to over fifty in number, with all the branches thoroughly organized. Reference is made to the appointment of the new minister and the death of the late T. B. R. Henderson, chief inspector of noxious weeds.

One of the most important statements in the report is that there were 102,200 head of cattle shipped in 1910 from Alberta, making a considerable increase over the former year.

A General Increase.

Turning to the general work of the department, the report shows that there has been a steady increase in the general correspondence of the department, and in fact in the work of all the branches thereof. The enrollment of stalions each year shows a slight increase in the percentage of pure-bred animals enrolled as against the grades. It is a sad commentary on the horse industry of the province to note that there are two grade stallions standing for service to every pure-bred one.

Stock inspection returns show that approximately 10,000 head of horses were exported from the province, while in the neighborhood of 13,000 head were shipped from one part of the province to another. In all, over 79,200 head of cattle were shipped east out of the province, and over 23,000 west as export cattle. In all, making a grand total for export stock of something over 102,200 head. This shows a considerable increase in the number of animals exported, and on the face of it does not justify the report of the large cattle dealers of the country to the effect that the industry is on the decline. It is true that large ranches are being broken up, but the great number of small farmers making homes for themselves in all parts of the province is going to steadily counteract any diminution in the number of animals available for export. On the contrary, and in consequence there will be a steadily increasing number of animals available for export and of a higher quality because handled in small bunches under more careful supervision.

No Disease in Stock.

In his section of the report, the Live Stock Commissioner points out the very valuable fact that the province was practically free during the past year from any epidemics of diseases in live stock, that thus the health of animals was excellent and that the climatic conditions were favorable for the saving of a very large percentage of the natural increase. The live stock commissioner's report shows a busy season's work in assisting farmers in marketing their stock, in arranging for transportation facilities for some, in visiting the various stock yards n connection with the officials of the Railway Commission, and in insisting upon improvements in these yards in accordance with what is necessary to meet the present requirements. His report also shows that under the auspices of the department, assistance was given to the importation of nine car loads of pure bred dairy stock, which was distributed fairly well throughout the province.

The usual crop statistics are included, and although the threshers' returns are not quite complete it is shown that the following will be a very close estimate of the grain crops for 1909:

	Crop area in acres.	Average yield in bushels.	Total yield per acre.
Spring Wheat	289,781	5,877,486	20.2
Winter wheat	86,627	2,079,639	20.0
Oats	603,736	23,967,998	39.7
Barley	110,249	2,596,939	23.5
Flax	9,807	99,197	10.1

Total area in crop in 1909, 1,101,481 acre, giving a total crop of approximately 34,646,440 bushels of grain. The total value of the crop to the farmer is estimated at about $13,500,000.00.

The vital statistics report shows 6126 births have been reported for the year. These figures are likely to be augmented some as delayed reports are still to be received. The number of deaths during the year were 2,547 while the number of marriages were 2,313.

The Dairy Commissioner gives the usual statistics regarding the creameries operating under government supervision. These show that there are fifty-four creameries in the province, twenty-one of them being under the supervision of the department and popularly known as government creameries and thirty-three being known as private creameries. In addition to these there are eleven cheese factories. The output of all the creameries of the province is estimated at 2,550,000 pounds of butter with a selling value of $600,000 as egainst 2,100,000 pounds manufactured from fifty-one creameries in 1908 and showing a selling value of $526,000. The dairy commissioner also points out that the butter output of the creameries in the province has increased 70 per cent. during the past two years. Allowing for the butter made in the private dairies throughout the province, for the value of the cheese made in the cheese factories and the value of the butter made in the creameries, the value of the total dairy products of the province amounts to $903,000.00.

The Noxious Weeds.

The report in connection with the enforcement of the Noxious Weeds Act shows that the new plan followed during the year of appointing a limited number of weed inspectors to cover a larger territory and to spend a longer time in the field has worked out to much greater advantage than the old system of employing a large number of inspectors for a limited period. The weed question is shown to be one of the most important problems the farmers of the province have to deal with, and unless every farmer co-operates with the department intelligently in the destruction of weeds the province is bound to become over run with them and the land depreciate in value accordingly.

The chief game guardian's report shows that approximately $5,000 was collected in fees for licenses in one form and another in connection with game. The facts is brought out that the province has a great asset in its game preserves and were there properly protected there would be game for all time in the province for the sportsman, and that a revenue might be derived from it that will at least meet the cost of enforcing the provisions of the act.

The recorder of brands shows that the number of brands issued in the province is steadily increasing. So long as the ownership of an animal depends upon the brand upon it this will be the case as with increasing settlement every settler must have a brand. This means a steady increase in the number of brands allotted and brings up the question of the necessity of cancelling and clearing the brand book of all unused brands.

The Educational Work.

The usual statistics are given in connection with the work of the Agricultural societies showing the amount paid out in prize money, the number of fairs held throughout the province, the poultry and dairy meetings as well as those on soil cultivation and forestry. The stock judging schools held along the C.N.R. line during the winter proved a great success as well as the Short Course school held for two weeks at Lacombe last March. A new departure of the work of the superintendent of fairs and institutes was the running of excursions to the Experimental farms at Lethbridge and Lacombe. It is hoped that these will be continued as an annual event as it is only by bringing the people in touch with the work of these farms that they can fully realize all the benefit that is to be obtained from them.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 12

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Cows now milking and fat steers, etc.

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WANTED TEACHER— FOR EAGLE Butte school, No. 1820, first or second class certificate, male or female; 10 to 15 children for term of 1910. Duties to commence about 1st April ,1910. Apply stating qualifications and salary, to F. Stovell, Secy., Nunebor, Sask.

WANTED TEACHER — FOR THE Sollman school district, No. 821, first or second class, Alberta teacher preferred, stating reference and salary wanted; six month's duties to commence May 1st. Apply to Luther Joneson, Chipman, Alta.

WANTED — FEMALE TEACHER. for Lake Alice S.D., No. 1886, second class certificate, duties to commence April 1st, 1910. Apply stating salary expected to B. L. Willis, Sec.-Treas., Innisfree, Alberta.

WANTED TEACHER— FOR PAGE S.D. No. 1626, Chipman, Alta., at a salary of $50 per month, 2nd or 3rd class certificate. School to cofmence April 1st, for seven months. Apply O. F. Page, Chipman, Alta.

WANTED TEACHER— FOR KALUZ S.D. No. 1631, Chipman, Alta., at a salary of $50 per month, 2nd or 3rd class certificate; school to commence April 1st and to continue 7 months. Apply O. F. Page, Chipman, Alta.

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