

Mr. TEMPLEMAN. I shall bring down all that information on the third reading.

Mr. SPROULE. From the time we began to pay the bounty.

Bill reported.

SALE OF BABY FARM.

Bill (No. 181) to authorize the sale or other disposal of certain public lands, and the acquisition of certain other lands, in or in the vicinity of the cities of Toronto and Winnipeg, respectively.—Sir Frederick Borden—read the second time, and House went into committee thereon.

On section 1,

Mr. MACDONELL. Will the hon. minister explain the reason for this section, and tell us the story of this land transaction?

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. This Bill is founded on a resolution which passed the 21st of March last, and was very fully discussed at the time. I may repeat shortly now the reasons. The Baby farm was found rather small for our requirements. It was also ascertained that the land could be sold at a very large profit, and that the amount realized could be used to purchase more than three times as much land in the vicinity of Toronto at a point even more convenient.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. What is the acreage?

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. About 160 acres, and it can be sold for \$1,000 or more per acre. A precisely similar course was pursued a couple of years ago in the sale of land in Toronto and Montreal, and I think it is entirely in the public interest, as well as in the interest of the militia, that this farm should be sold and other land acquired.

Mr. MACDONELL. According to the hon. minister then the Baby farm has been abandoned and is to be sold. How will that affect the construction of the barracks?

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. That will in no way delay the construction of the barracks.

Mr. MACDONELL. Would the hon. minister have any objection to stating where the government have decided to locate the barracks—what property they have selected?

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. I think it would be undesirable at present to state even the locality except to say that it will be quite as convenient to the city of Toronto as the Baby farm. It is probable that we may have to resort to expropriation, but that may not be the case, and in

any event I think it undesirable that I should state now the exact locality. But I may say that the site has been selected by Colonel Otter and other officers who know exactly where they wish to locate.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. Will the hon. minister state what direction it is from the city?

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. I would rather not say.

Mr. J. A. CURRIE. The government has made a speculation apparently out of the Baby farm. The city of Toronto wished to get the use of the Stanley barracks, and so agreed to purchase another property for the government, for which they paid \$20,000. The government has been using the Stanley barracks all this time and have made a profit of over \$100,000 on the whole transaction. I think that the \$20,000 should be paid back to the city of Toronto, and the Stanley barracks be given to that city as a gift.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. I think the city got a very good bargain when it accepted the Stanley barracks, because it got them at really below the actual value.

Mr. MACDONELL. I think the party aggrieved, if any one is, is the militia corps. The government bought the Baby farm some five years ago. At that time the barracks could not afford sufficient accommodation and it was expected that a new barracks would be built on the Baby farm. As far back as two years ago, considerable sums were put in the estimates for that purpose, but so far the government have done nothing except hold this land, which has greatly appreciated in value. I understand that they are making \$100,000 out of the transaction. The militia are no further advanced than they were five years ago, and the government are about to embark in a new property transaction, which they may hold for speculation another five years. What assurance will the minister give, if any, with regard to acquiring this site and immediately commencing the construction of the barracks which are so badly needed for the accommodation of the militia in the Toronto district?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. As the discussion may last some time, I move that the committee rise, report progress, and ask leave to sit again.

Progress reported.

WAYS AND MEANS—TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

Hon. W. S. FIELDING (Minister of Finance) moved that the House go into Committee of Ways and Means. He said: