

people itself have clearly shown their dislike of the Bill opposed by the Liberals, in vain did Lord Churchill state that his memorandum had been supplied only at the request of the Prime Minister of Canada; in vain did Mr. Asquith state that the British Government was unwilling to meddle with Dominion politics, thus giving clearly to understand that he never had applied for dreadnoughts or millions; in vain, on the other hand, did one half of the political press and nearly all the economic publications in Canada raise their voice against the proposal of the Government; in vain did numerous voices make themselves heard in protest against the Nationalist vote which gives the Government its majority, when the Government knows full well that these same Nationalists—some of whom are ministers and bear the title of honourable—have been returned in their constituencies on the formal pledge they gave to fight any proposal for a contribution or for the establishment of a navy; in vain did all that give the Liberals the right to oppose with all their might that contribution scheme—I was going to say that alms scheme—the Government has been unwilling to open its eyes, Mr. Speaker, and when it found that it could achieve success by brute force only, it did not hesitate to have recourse to that means.

Let rather freedom of speech perish! Let rather the constitution be violated! But that resolution must be passed. Well, Sir, freedom of speech will be sacrificed tomorrow. Of course, it will. The Government majority will then carry through their famous bill; and honourable gentlemen on the other side will make the welkin ring with their cheers. Very well, they will have succeeded; for when numbers are intent on scoring a victory over justice and right, they always begin by strangling liberty.

They will have scored a victory, and what then? The people will always be there. The people will always be there to decide finally. And it is that decision, which they are in so great fear of, that we on this side of the House will await with firmness and impatience. For they have resolved to kill liberty, but they have forgotten that liberty cannot die.

Motion (Mr. Kay) withdrawn.

On motion of Mr. Carroll, the debate was adjourned.

On motion of Mr. Rogers, House adjourned at 12.55 a.m. Wednesday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WEDNESDAY, April 23, 1913.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at three o'clock.

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QUESTIONS.

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

HOMESTEAD ENTRIES.

Mr. OLIVER:

1. What was the total number of homestead entries made during the year ending March 31, 1913?
2. What was the total number of pre-emption entries made during the year ending March 31, 1913?

Mr. CROTHERS:

1. 33,611, not including entries made in Grande Prairie and Peace River agencies during the last week of March, as returns for that period have not been received.
2. 8,577.

PICTOU MAIL CARRIER.

Mr. MACDONALD:

1. Who is the mail carrier between Pictou post office and the railway station there?
2. What amount is being paid per trip?
3. Is there any amount due contractor? If so, how much?

Mr. PELLETIER:

1. Peter F. Foley.
2. Twenty-five cents per double trip, i.e. a trip from the post office to the railway station and return to the post office, or vice versa.
3. Nothing is due the contractor. By a mistake in the inspector's office the contractor was paid at the rate of twenty-five cents per single trip which was not in accordance with his tender, with the notice inviting tenders or with the contract sent to him for execution. There is still a small balance due the department.

GOVERNMENT BOATS AT PICTOU.

Mr. MACDONALD:

1. What amount was paid at Pictou during each of the months the winter boats were on duty during the past season for the handling of freight?
2. What amount was paid in each of said months on said service for the placing of coal on board at Pictou?
3. What amount was paid in each of said months for placing coal on board at Charlottetown and Georgetown, respectively?

Mr. HAZEN:

1. December, \$219.73; January, \$1,434.84; February, \$1,019.47; March, \$1,355.19.
2. January, \$505; February, \$912; March, \$888.03; April, \$232.80.
3. None.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

Mr. MACDONALD:

Does the Government intend to introduce any legislation to carry out the pledge contained in the platform of the Conservative party in 1908, in the following words:—