

on the subject, and I hope the House will agree with me in thinking that it covers every possible case, and is not of undue severity in its provisions. It has no other object than what I have stated. It appears to be somewhat long, but it is necessary to specify every particular offence that can be committed within the purview of the Act.

HON. MR. POWER—The Bill is all right in principle, but as the details are numerous, and are such as require rather careful looking into, I hope the leader of the House will not ask for committee before Tuesday.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

### SUMMERSIDE BANK BILL.

#### SECOND READING.

HON. MR. HOWLAN moved the second reading of Bill (72) "An Act respecting the Summerside Bank." He said: This Bill is for the purpose of enabling the Summerside Bank, whose charter expires on the 1st of May coming, to extend its operations until the 1st of July, 1891, so that by that time it may come under the new banking law.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

The Senate adjourned at 5.10 p.m.

### THE SENATE.

*Ottawa, Friday, March 7th, 1890.*

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at 3 o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

### WELLAND CANAL INVESTIGATION.

#### ENQUIRY.

HON. MR. McCALLUM rose to—

Enquire of the Government if A. F. Wood, Esq., Commissioner on the Welland Canal Investigation, has made a further report, and, if so, will the Government lay the same on the Table of this House?

He said: I gave notice of this enquiry on the 4th of this month. Hon. gentlemen will recollect that on the 3rd instant there was a report laid on the Table of this

House, made by A. F. Wood, Esq., Commissioner on the Welland Canal Investigation. I am led to believe there was a further report, and that is why I make this enquiry of the Government. If there is a second report, I want to ask that it be laid on the Table of this House. To my great surprise I found, on the evening of the 4th, in one of the newspapers published in Toronto, what purported to be a report made by Mr. Wood. I hold it in my hand, and, to my mind, it is surprising that the press of the country should get such a document before it is laid on the Table of this House. Of course, there was one report laid before Parliament, but not this one, and, with the permission of the House, I shall read it:

"OTTAWA, March 3.—The report of Commissioner A. F. Wood, who was appointed to investigate into the management of the Welland Canal last summer, was presented to the Senate to-day."

This report was not "presented to the Senate to-day."

"The evidence is very voluminous, and the report bears indications that Mr. Wood has made a searching and painstaking enquiry. He makes the following suggestions as to changes in the present management of the canal, which he considers essential, not only in the interests of the public service, but in the interests of economy:

"The investigation disclosed an unnecessary multiplication of offices. In my opinion, there are too many 'overseers'; more foremen than necessary; no use for the harbor masters, and the office of store-keeper, as now utilised, unnecessary.

"A report, ordered by me, from the canal office, and forming part of the evidence, gives four overseers to the 'new' canal, and two to the 'old'—six in all. It gives sixteen foremen.

"One superintendent is enough for a canal twenty-seven miles long, if he confines himself to the duties of that office."

I don't think my friend, the commissioner, knows the length of the Welland Canal, or he would not have put it at that. When he makes such a report to the Government he is endeavoring to teach ducks how to swim. I can tell the length of the Welland Canal as well as I can tell the number of fingers on my hand. Instead of the Welland Canal being twenty-seven miles long, it is more than fifty miles long, taking all its branches.

"As the system is being operated on the Welland Canal, Mr. Ellis occupies very much the position of the head of a department, with six superintendents under him; each over a division, of which there are four on the 'new canal,' and two on the 'old.'

"These superintendents, called 'overseers,' look after the 'divisions,' and communicate with the 'head' superintendent, at his office, in the canal office buildings, and are often brought there on very trivial business. His office hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.