

OUR OTTAWA LETTER.

The greater portion of the supplementary estimates were passed by the Commons last week. Considerable discussion arose however, over the item of \$245,000 for dredging throughout the Maritime Provinces. The Opposition claimed this to be an awful waste of public money. Mr. Pugsley moved to reduce the amount by \$25,000, owing to several contracts that had not been adjusted, among them being A. & R. Loggie's contract at Dalhousie, Bathurst and Carleton Place, amounting to over \$50,000. The item was finally allowed to pass.

By agreeing to table the plans of damming the St. Lawrence river near Cornwall, Ont. Dr. Pugsley and Mr. R. L. Borden so effected a compromise, that the committee considering the bill rose and reported progress after a session of 20 hours constant sittings in the House last week. The Opposition claimed that the bill was a direct interference with provincial rights and that it was entirely subsidized by American Capitalists in an effort to control and divert Canadian water power to the American side.

The House of Commons will adjourn for one week for the Easter holidays from Wednesday 23rd to 30th.

Hon. Sydney Fisher stated in the House last week that Canada was to have a trade agency in Germany, probably at Hamburg.

The Opposition criticized the government for subsidizing the William Thompson Steamship service between St. John and Cuba. The amount of the subsidy is \$15,000 and Mr. Fielding explained that the object was to facilitate the shipment of potatoes from New Brunswick to Cuba.

Hon. Clifford Sifton, chairman of the Commission on Conservation strongly objects to both the Connaught power bill and the St. Lawrence Power Transmission Co.'s power bill. The measures are of no benefit to the public, but simply gigantic plans for the gobbling up of water powers declared Mr. Sifton, and I am opposed to giving a franchise to any private company to build canals and waterways.

Further supplementary estimates amounting in all to \$2,302,

117.65 have been passed by parliament. The extra amount required for Civil Government is \$52,657 and for the House of Commons expenses \$45,430.50. Repairs of the breakwater on the Sault Ste. Marie Canal will cost \$150,000. For dredging in the Maritime Provinces and dredging vessels repairs \$245,000. To encourage better transportation and conservation of fresh fish and Fisheries Protection service, \$30,000. For the further relief medical attendance and medicine for Indians in New Brunswick, \$800.

Repairs to the St. John Quarantine station \$3,000; breakwater at Great Salmon River, N. B. \$1,500, and Grand Manan breakwater, North Head, N. B. out of \$300,000 is required for the outside mail service.

No changes will be made in the present regulations governing the lobster fishing industry this season, whatever changes the year 1911 may see. Nothing definite can be said until the committee investigating files its report with the department. This will not likely be done for another six months. It is known, however, no set law will be made which will govern all districts and conditions in a like manner. Two separate lobster fishing districts or grounds will be formed on the Atlantic coast, where no similarity of conditions exist, therefore the necessity of framing such regulations as will consistently meet with the different conditions as they are found, will be a difficult proposition.

The committee has made Halifax the divisional point and the fishing grounds have been determined east and west of these. The Eastern division takes in the waters adjacent to Cape Breton, Prince Edward Island and the north shores of New Brunswick. The western division covers the South West coast of Nova Scotia, both shores of the Bay of Fundy and along the coast to the international boundary. The necessity for new regulations was first brought about in 1903 when the fisheries department issued an order that no new licenses were to be granted to canning factories. Later on, however, this regulation was amended that in the event of 15 bona fide fishermen petitioning the government for a license the

same would be granted. Further complaints then followed, owing to these licenses being too frequently and carelessly issued, therefore something had to be done in the way of further protection.

In recent years however, owing to the continued rise in price and the apparent scarcity of the fish it was thought that the supply of this delicious sea food would soon become extinct and as a consequence Commander Wakeham was selected upon by the committee to make a thorough and exhaustive investigation of the matter and make a report. His report was to include suggestions and recommendations, with the view of protecting the industry and immediately advising the department in the framing of new regulations. This report has evidently not met with the approval of the committee and it has caused such a storm of trouble between the fishermen and the factory owners, that the committee has been very busy examining the report and trying to devise some speedy remedy to that will meet with general approval.

In the division classed as No. 1, which applies to points west of Halifax, where there are but few factories, and where the lobster industry is chiefly carried on, owing to a ready market in the United States, Commander Wakeham recommended a size limit to 10 1/2 inches, but at all points east of Halifax he advocated practically a no size limit, but suggested the adoption of a standard trap so that all small lobsters under 6 1/2 or 7 inches in length, be allowed to get away, also to fish in deeper water, and to shorten the season by 10 days.

Of course his recommendations that applied to points west of Halifax, at once raised a terrific protest from the factory owners and fishermen, for if such a regulation became law it would completely drive the factories out of business. The fishermen then would be forced to allow the smaller fish to escape, catching only the larger ones, skin them alive to the market, and realize a greater profit than by dealing with the factories. On the other hand, east of Halifax it was the fishermen who would suffer. With their traps so regulated as to allow the smaller fish to get away, their catch in weight, as a consequence, would be considerably reduced and disposing

of their fish as they do, to the factories, by the hundred pounds it would mean a big loss in the season's work. Now the committee have disapproved of the 10 1/2 inch size limit and have decided to throw out such a suggestion entirely. In regard to the adoption of the standard trap they do not agree that such a regulation would be sufficient to give adequate protection to the industry in the waters east of Halifax.

Hon. Frank P. Oliver's Immigration Bill caused the fur to fly in the Commons last week. Several Conservative members from the West thought it a fitting occasion to sail for the Minister of the Interior on the Doukhobor question. Glen Campbell from Dauphin, Man., was pointing out to the minister the necessity that not only Doukhobors but all immigrants entering Canada, immediately take the oath of allegiance and asked if this bill applied to the Doukhobors. Mr. Oliver said it applied to all the friends of my honorable friend. This aroused the ire of the western member, and he retorted with resentment 'The Doukhobors are no friends of mine and I ask the Minister to withdraw the statement.' Mr. Oliver said he had nothing to withdraw but would apologize to the Doukhobors. Mr. Campbell grew raving mad and said he never took back water from any man and that if he had the Minister outside the House he would answer his insult in language which would not be parliamentary. Mr. Oliver finally withdrew the remark and the storm subsided.

The purport of the bill is chiefly to deal with undesirable if they should happen to enter on Canadian soil.

If any of the immigrants are found to be fanatics within three years from the time they land, the department reserves the power to have them deported.

Several of the members are of the opinion that no immigrants should be allowed to enter Canada merely by passing a physical examination, but that they should be required to possess credentials from the authorities from whence they came, guaranteeing their moral qualifications.

Mr. Clarence Jamieson, Digby, N. S. said he could not find any fault with the young people for leaving the Maritime Provinces and going to the Northwest. But the government was to blame, he said, for not providing some means whereby such a loss of population in these provinces would be replaced. During the debate some doubts were expressed as to the population of Canada reaching the figures predicted, after the next census is taken. M. C. A. Magrath expected to find it much less. He complimented Mr. Oliver on his staff of immigration officials in Canada, saying they were quite efficient and satisfactory.

A bill has been introduced in parliament by Mr. Beaupre to amend the civil service act. In explanation of his measure he claimed that all employees of the government throughout the Dominion should be held liable for debts contracted by them and further that their salaries may be legally attached in order that their creditors may be in a position to collect same.

King Edward remains in his apartments whenever he catches cold. He is never docked for failing to show up at the works.

It is reported that the maple sugar crop will be very small this year. This will give the dealers an early chance to increase the price.

A woman who has tried advises girls not to marry any man to reform him. Those women who have entered upon the experiment and succeeded are not saying a word. They think the man who doesn't need reforming doesn't exist.

Roosevelt will remain in Rome only one day, thus diminishing his chances of getting into trouble.

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This is to inform you that I have been a sufferer for the last fourteen years from Kidney and Stomach trouble, brought on by severe colds, having been laid up every winter during that time. Last year I was laid up seven months so that I could not go out of the house. Dropsy set in and my stomach swelled so that I was six inches larger than my usual size, had two doctors in attendance but I grew worse and they were going to lap me. My friends despaired of my life. At this time I was recommended to use **GATES' LIFE OF MAN BITTERS and INVIGORATING SYRUP**

and in one week after commencing their use my size was reduced two inches, and in four weeks was reduced to usual size so that I went to work in my mill, and have been able to continue it ever since. By continuing the use of your **BITTERS and SYRUP** I hope to get a cure of the kidney and stomach trouble so far as it is possible as it always helps me when I take it. You may make these truths known for the benefit of sufferers.
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