

there is now in the cabinet a gentleman who is an expert on hay.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: Hear, hear.

Mr. PROULX: A Bill was presented last year providing different grades of hay. In conversation with an extensive buyer of hay, I was told that the grading was impracticable. I hope that the Bill to be presented this year will provide a simpler classification. In the Bill introduced last year five or six grades were provided. My informant was of the opinion that it could not be successfully operated.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: The Bill has been circulated very widely. More or less correspondence and actual conferences have taken place on the Bill as it will be brought down and so far as I can understand from the report of my Department, it has the practical consent of those who are engaged in the hay business. The House will have full opportunity of discussing the Bill and deciding as to whether it is one which ought to be put into operation or not.

Mr. BUREAU: Will hay which is not to be exported require to be pressed?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: Yes, hay that is sold in this market.

Mr. BUREAU: For all hay sold in the home market?

Mr. MICHAUD: What will be the practice in connection with the selling of either loose or pressed hay?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: This will apply to all hay that is pressed for sale under the grades which are established under the Bill. It will not prevent a man from selling a bundle of hay if he wants to sell it.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: It is to apply when a sale takes place on the market?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: Yes.

Mr. COPP: Do I understand the hon. Minister to say that the Bill has been printed and circulated to some extent? It has not been sent to any of the dealers this year.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: It has been circulated all through the country.

Mr. COPP: The proposed Bill?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: Yes.

Mr. COPP: We did not see it down in our part of the country. I would like to ask the minister if, after the Bill is introduced, time will be given for representa-

tions to be received from dealers in the Maritime Provinces if necessary?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: Certainly.

Resolution reported, and read the first time.

Mr. SPEAKER: When shall the resolution be read a second time?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: Now.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: At the next sitting of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: It being six o'clock, I now leave the Chair.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: May I suggest to the hon. Minister of Trade and Commerce—

Sir SAM HUGHES: Mr. Speaker, I must respectfully enter my protest at the low tone in which the speaking is carried on across the floor of the House. It is impossible for members to hear what is being said.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: I am suggesting to my hon. friend that we go through the Order Paper and not come back this evening.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: We have Bills to consider to-night.

At six o'clock House took recess.

After Recess.

The House resumed at eight o'clock.

VAN BUREN BRIDGE COMPANY.

House in Committee on the following proposed Resolution:

Resolved, That it is expedient to ratify and confirm an agreement dated the 8th day of March, 1918, between His Majesty the King and the Van Buren Bridge Company for a lease of certain lands situate in the parish of St. Leonards, in the County of Madawaska and Province of New Brunswick and lying between the International Railway and the National Transcontinental Railway, at the annual rental of twelve hundred dollars from the 1st day of May, 1918, until the 31st day of August, 1934, payable in half-yearly payments of six hundred dollars each on the first day of March and thirty-first day of August in each year; the first payment to be made on the 31st day of August, 1918, for the portion of the semi-annual term then expired, and the last payment to be made on the 30th day of August, 1934.

Hon. Mr. J. D. REID (Minister of Railways and Canals): The object, as the resolution itself states, is to confirm an agreement made between His Majesty the King and the Van Buren Bridge Company on the 8th March, 1918. This is a portion of the