

April 1st, 1874

place both himself and the Committee in a false position.

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) said he had perfect confidence in the hon. gentleman that he would perform his duties on the Committee faithfully, notwithstanding the objection he had taken; but in deference to his wish he would substitute the name of the Hon. Mr. Abbott (Argenteuil).

The motion, with this alteration, was then carried.

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APPOINTMENTS AND DISMISSALS

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD moved for a return of all appointments made, or offices conferred, by the Government from the 1st day of August last until the 26th day of March instant; also, of all Orders in Council recommending any such appointments, with copies of the same; also, of all increases of salary made, or recommended to be made, between above dates; also, of all dismissals or removals from office, between above dates; also, of all dismissals or removals from office, between the above dates.

He said he made this motion because the most exaggerated accounts had gone to the country as to the number of appointments made immediately anterior to the retirement of the late Government. It had been said something like 300 appointments were then made, and he desired the return to show exactly the state of the facts.

The motion was carried.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA TERMS OF UNION

Mr. DEWDNEY moved for copies of all correspondence with the British Columbia Government relative to the alteration of clauses 10 and 12 of the Terms of Union with Canada, or generally with reference to any relaxation of the Terms of Union. He said that the representatives of British Columbia were sent to this House for the purpose of supporting any Government that would carry out the original terms upon which that Province came into the Union, and he desired to know the intention of the Government with regard to this matter.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: There is no such correspondence as the hon. gentleman moves for between this Government and the Government of British Columbia.

Mr. DEWDNEY then withdrew his motion.

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STANDING COMMITTEES

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE presented the report of the Committee appointed to strike the Standing Committees of the House.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE proposed that the following gentlemen be on a Select Committee to assist the Speaker in the management of the Library:—Messrs. Abbott, Baby, Brouse, Cartwright, Cameron (Cardwell), Cauchon, Dorion, Fréchette, Holton, Laflamme, Mills, Macdonald (Right Hon. Sir John A.), Smith

(Westmorland), Tupper, Young, and the mover.—Carried.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT BUDGET

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said that before the orders of the day were called he would like to enquire of his hon. friend the Minister of Finance (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) whether he was in a position to state, before the House adjourned for recess, about what time he would be prepared to make his financial statement.

He made this enquiry because he knew that considerable interest was felt throughout the country on the subject. Numerous enquiries had been addressed to members of this House regarding it, and perhaps his hon. friend would enable them to reply to those enquiries in the most comprehensive way—that was to say if he were in a position to make any statement whatever. He disclaimed any desire to press for any statement if the hon. gentleman was unable to give it; but if merely an approximate estimate of the time were given, it would be gratifying to the House and to the country to receive the information.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said he hoped the estimates would be in the hands of hon. members of this House immediately upon their return on Wednesday next. (*Hear, hear.*) Of course the hon. member was aware that a little depended upon the printer, but if he succeeded as well as he expected, he thought it probable he should be able to make his financial statement upon the succeeding Friday. He wished his hon. friend to understand that he did not pledge himself absolutely to this; but he thought it probable matters would be so far advanced that he might make his financial statement on Friday week. (*Hear, hear.*)

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AN ANOMALOUS POSITION

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON rose to a question of privilege. The Hon. Mr. Stanislaus F. Perry, Speaker of the Legislature of Prince Edward Island, has been elected to represent one of the Counties of that Province (Prince) in this House. The Statute said any member of the Local House before becoming a candidate for the Dominion House must first place his resignation in the hands of the Speaker, or if the Speaker was absent, in the hands of the Lieutenant-Governor; but Mr. Perry was the Speaker himself, and therefore could not place his resignation in the hands of the Speaker, and not being absent, he could not place his resignation in the hands of the Lieutenant-Governor.

He referred to the case of the Hon. Mr. Currie, in the Ontario Legislature, where the resignation had been placed in the hands of the Clerk of the House, but the legality of the course had been doubted by some of the hon. gentleman's own friends. In the case, the member had not yet taken his seat, and it was possible that he might have trouble when the case came before the Court.

He brought the matter under the notice of the Government so that proceedings should be immediately taken so that the hon. member might have his seat and the country its representative. A Committee should be appointed to enquire into the matter, and if necessary a