

Mr. EMMERSON. A steam railway. It starts from Cape Tourmente and goes to Murray Bay.

Mr. SPROULE. I do not know whether the Minister of Railways is desirous of giving information or not, but certainly he gives us very little. There must have been some applications made to him and some representations, showing why these people desire this bonus. I think the House ought to be put in possession of that. Whenever a company applies to the government for a railway subsidy, they are expected to show that, with the subsidy, they will be able to build a railway or to organize some financial institution which would result in getting a railway. Now the government must be in possession of that information, otherwise they must have granted the request on insufficient data. If the government have this data, could the minister not lay it on the table of the House.

Mr. EMMERSON. I will furnish my hon. friend with all the information that is in the possession of the department.

Mr. MORIN. I rise to say to the Minister of Railways that if there is a place in the province of Quebec where a railway is needed, it is in this place which the minister has just mentioned. I know that locality perfectly well. If you start from Cape Tormentie you strike, not far below, the Petite Rivière, then you strike Baie St. Paul, quite a large town, then you strike several towns below that. Undoubtedly this road will not stop at Murray Bay; I believe it will be built northward towards a place called L'Anse St. Jean on the Saguenay river, from there it will connect with the Lake St. John river, at a place called Baie Ha Ha, where a railway is very much needed. We all know that that country has been inhabited for a hundred years, and is still without communication of any kind. I know the people in that locality years ago had to use dogs to travel in the winter. Whether Senator Forget or anybody else desires to build a railway there, I know very well that the people living sixty or seventy miles from a railway deserve to be accommodated as well as anybody else.

Mr. SPROULE. I am not objecting; I am only asking for information.

Mr. MORIN. I don't say you are, but I think the minister ought to be assisted in getting this resolution passed.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Perhaps I can give the hon. gentleman (Mr. Sproule) the information he wants. This railway is to be built from Cape Tourmente towards Murray Bay. This year we simply propose to renew the subsidy. There is now a railway in operation from the city of Quebec along the banks of the St. Lawrence to near Cape Tourmente, and this is the extension of that railway. The name of the com-

pany is the Quebec and Saguenay Railway Company, and it intends to build the railway towards Murray Bay this year and to commence operations at once. I have reasonable information, not only reasonable information, but positive information, that the work will be commenced immediately. As has been said by my hon. friend from Dorchester (Mr. Morin) there is no community which is in so much need of a railway. The Laurentian mountains in this section run quite close to the St. Lawrence river and there are several parishes on the river: Baie St. Paul, Les Eboulements, St. Irénée, and Murray Bay, besides several villages back of these parishes. In the winter these people have no communication whatever.

Mr. SPROULE. I am perfectly satisfied as to the wisdom of granting the money to get the railway; I merely ask what evidence has the government that this railway will be built?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. The only evidence I have now is that which was given ten years ago, and since then the railway has been built from Quebec to Cape Tormentine. There is now every probability that it will be continued.

Mr. BERGERON. For the information of my hon. friend (Mr. Sproule) I may say that when these subsidies were first voted nothing was done, but now the company is in the hands of men of high financial standing and I have not the slightest doubt that the building of the road will be proceeded with rapidly. This vote is in connection with another resolution which will come before us shortly and which provides for a further extension of this railway. When this railway is built it will be of great advantage to the people of the parishes living on the north shore of the St. Lawrence below Quebec.

To the Atlantic, Quebec and Western Railway Company for a line of railway from Gaspé to a point at or near Causapsca on the Intercolonial Railway and from that point to Edmundston, not exceeding 260 miles; and for a line of railway from Paspebiac to Gaspé as near the shore as practicable not exceeding 102 miles; in lieu of the subsidies granted by chapter 57 of 1903, section 2, item 51.

Mr. EMMERSON. This railway is under construction between Paspebiac and Gaspé. The section from Gaspé to Causapsca has not been started but they are pushing the work very vigorously on the shore line below Paspebiac.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. How many miles are under construction?

Mr. EMMERSON. Thirty miles to Port Daniel.

To the Nipigon Railway Company, for the following lines of railway:

(a) From a point at or near Nipigon station on the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway to Nipigon Lake, not exceeding 30 miles.