

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The Local Legislatures can always prevent that.

Mr. DENISON. These points brought up by the hon. member for Bothwell (Mr. Mills) have already been considered in the committee, and passed upon; and when we bear in mind the fact that a Bill on the same lines as this Bill has been passed by this House, I do not think this House will object to the present Bill.

Bill reported.

On motion for third reading,

Mr. DAVIES. I object, as I entertain some doubts with respect to this Bill, and I desire to look into some of its provisions.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. You must repeal the other Act if you do not pass this Bill.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I do not see how this is any excuse for hasty legislation. There have been many cases in which acts of a very dubious character have passed through committee, and we would now be very glad if they had been more carefully considered.

SECOND READINGS.

Bill (No. 99) respecting the Ottawa and Gatineau Valley Railway Company.—(Mr. Wright.)

Bill (No. 109) respecting the Manitoba and North-Western Railway Company of Canada.—(Mr. Scarth.)

Bill (No. 106) to incorporate the *Standard* Printing and Publishing Company.—(Mr. McCarthy.)

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD moved the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to, and House adjourned at 11:40 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

TUESDAY, 31st May, 1887.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

NEW MEMBER INTRODUCED.

The following member having taken the oath, and subscribed the roll, took his seat:

GEORGE MOFFAT, Esq., member-elect for the county of Restigouche—introduced by Sir John A. Macdonald and Mr. Burns.

FIRST READINGS.

Bill (No. 117) respecting the Western Counties Railway Company. (Mr. Mills, Annapolis.)

Bill (No 118) respecting the Guelph Junction Railway Company. (Mr. Innes.)

Bill (No. 119) to confer certain powers upon the St. Johns and Iberville Hydraulic and Manufacturing Company. (Mr. Coursol.)

Bill (No. 120) respecting the New Brunswick Railway Company. (Mr. Skinner.)

RULES RESPECTING PRIVATE BILLS.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN moved:

That in accordance with the recommendation of the Select Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines in their fifth report, a Special Committee be appointed to assist Mr. Speaker in revising the rules respecting Private Bills, in so far as they relate to the incorporation of and amendment of Acts incorporating railway companies; the said Committee to be composed of Messrs. Kirkpatrick, Weldon (St. John), Hall, Edgar, and the mover.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell.)

CANNED GOODS.

Mr. BOWELL, in the absence of Mr. COSTIGAN, moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 121) to amend the Act respecting canned goods. He said: This Bill simply provides that the word "soaked" shall be legibly printed in sufficiently large letters to be seen on packages of canned goods when sold. The present law provides that all packages of fruit and vegetables that are canned shall bear the word "soaked" upon them. It has been ascertained that this word has been placed upon packages in such small letters that it is not observed by the purchaser, thereby imposing upon him an inferior quality of goods, and this Bill simply provides that the word "soaked" shall be printed in letters of at least three-eighths of an inch in width and one half an inch in height.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

CONVEYANCE OF LIQUORS ON BOARD HER MAJESTY'S SHIPS.

Mr. FOSTER moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 122) respecting the conveyance of liquors on board Her Majesty's ships in Canadian waters. He said: By an Act of the British Parliament, passed in 1853, for maintaining better discipline on board Her Majesty's ships, it was provided by section 12 that spirituous or fermented liquors were not to be carried aboard such ships without the master's consent. The substance of this Bill was communicated to the Canadian Government last year, as also to the Governments of the Colonies, with a request that similar legislation to section 12 of that Act should be embodied in the laws of the different colonies and the laws of Canada; and it is in accordance with that request that this Bill is introduced. It provides that every person who, without the previous consent of the chief officer, conveys spirituous or fermented liquors on board Her Majesty's ships, or who sells or gives such liquors to any person on board Her Majesty's ships, is guilty of a misdemeanor and is liable, on summary conviction before two justices of the peace, to a fine of \$50 for each offence.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

COUNTERFEIT AND IMITATION NOTES.

Mr. THOMPSON moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 123) respecting the defacing of counterfeit notes and the use of imitations of notes. He said: The provision of the first section is that any person having the receipt or disbursement of public money, receiving a counterfeit note, shall have power to obliterate or deface it. The second section makes it penal to make or circulate any imitation of a bank note.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

QUEEN'S COUNTY, N.B., ELECTION.

Mr. WELDON (St. John). Before the Orders of the Day are called, I rise to make a motion with respect to the Queen's County election return. Yesterday the returning officer in that election was examined at the Bar of this House. Although he stated that he had acted on the advice of counsel, I think it must be clear to every member of this House that he committed a gross violation of the law. While the law was clear and plain that he should return the man who had the majority of votes, he clearly did not do so; and he also did what—even if he had the right to exercise judicial powers, which I question—no judge in the land has the power to do, and that is, to reverse his own judgment. He accepted the nomination of the parties; he had given the receipt as required by law, as evidence of that fact; he had declared a poll, and appointed the deputy returning