

Figures Adduced By Mr. Halfyard From Customs Returns for the Year Ended June 30th, 1913

Showing the Value and Duties on Imports of Wines and Spirits

Home Consumption.	Value.	Duty.
Ale, Beer, Port, etc.	\$14,565.00	\$5,930.95
Cider	415.00	107.20
Spirits, Alcohol, Spirits of Wine, etc.	82.00	311.50
Spirits, Cordials	596.00	361.40
" Brandy	9,844.00	22,862.00
" Whisky	16,659.99	89,291.29
" Gin	2,866.00	9,586.20
" Rum	27,576.00	180,861.60
Malt	419.00	419.00
Wines, Champagne	2,658.00	1,269.49
Wines, Port and Madeira	9,677.00	7,524.99
Wines, Sherry, Manzanilla, Malaga, Montilla, Hock, Burgundy, etc., Claret, Spanish, Red, Sicilian, Denia, Cape, and Common		
Lisbon	5,979.00	3,278.48

Additional duty collected if same quantity imported since the taxes were increased by \$1.00 per gallon on the following:

Brandy	\$6,532.00
Whisky	28,452.00
Gin	3,687.00
Rum	75,359.00
Wines Champagnes	274.00

Amount collected under old tariff \$114,304.00

10 per cent Surtax \$325,007.79

Total Revenue \$478,508.72

Value when landed \$125,107.00

\$603,615.72

Allowing 150 per cent. on \$603,615.72 as retained, to be added to cost and duty, equals \$1,509,039.30 spent by the people in this Colony on alcoholic beverages. If that amount of money was spent on available goods, for which 40 per cent. would be paid, a revenue of \$603,615.72 would be derived, whereas we now get a revenue of \$478,508.72, a difference in favour of the Colony of \$125,107.00.

Railway Extras Paid The Reid Mtd. Co.

In reply to Mr. Stone's question

re extras paid the Reid Mtd. Co. in connection with the Branch

Railways, the Government tabled a statement showing that Reid

had claimed \$604,047, and had been paid \$604,047. It further

states that the prices claimed by the Company are not admitted,

but will be adjusted later.

The statement shows that the Government has paid \$18,000 for

rotary plough and \$6,000 for

three snow ploughs, & locomotives

at \$17,500 each, \$73,000 for

material for cars, \$75,000 for

buildings and machinery.

We ask why Reid has been paid

for material, why should the Gov-

ernment pay him for anything not

completed and in use? The rotary

plough is not yet completed, yet

it is paid for. Why pay \$75,000

for buildings and machinery?

The public will be amazed to

find that Reid has billed the Col-

ony for \$73,000 as outlay on

material for cars. Surely they are

not so poor as to require payment

for rotary ploughs and for car

material in advance of the com-

pleted construction. If the Gov-

ernment paid Reid only for what

they had completed and if the

amount paid for material and an

uncompleted rotary plough is de-

ducted it will be found that they

have allowed Reid to overdraw

\$6,000, beside paying him \$75,000

for buildings and machinery

which may not be allowable under

the contract.

Where then do the Government

stand in reference to their state-

ment that they do not admit all of

Reid's claim? It will probably be

found that the Reid's were allow-

ed to draw what they wish on ac-

count and having drawn on this

account \$604,047, and the Govern-

ment being asked for a statement

of the payments, it was found ne-

cessary to put in some such state-

ment in order to balance the ac-

count in order to make it look

presentable.

It proves at any rate that \$700,

000 has been claimed on account

of the extras, which would enable

them to make good profits and

scoop in on the mileage cost, which

gave up on the mileage cost, which

the public believed was the Col-

ony's compensation for paying in

gold instead of in bonds.

Who is to know whether the lo-

comotives are worth \$17,500 each,

or whether second class cars cost

\$14,500 each or box cars cost

\$1,550? How will the claim be

when the contract is completed

if \$700,000 has been expended

on extras on four partly uncom-

pleted branches, while two branches re-

main to be completed?

It will be easy to estimate that

the total claim will reach \$1,000,

000 if \$700,000 has already been

spent.

The following is the statement

tabled referred to above:

In Reply to Question asked by Mr.

J. Stone, M.H.A., in the House

of Assembly on Order Form

dated 20th April, 1915.

The following is a list of loco-

motives and other appurtenances

which the Reid Newfoundland

Company have and are providing

for the Branch Railways under

the Contract of 1909 with the

prices which they claim:

8 Locomotives at \$17,

500, \$140,000.00

Other Appurtenances.

6 1st Class Passenger

Cars at \$15,000, 90,000.00

5 2nd Class Passenger

Cars at \$14,500, 54,000.00

6 Mail and Baggage

Cars at \$9,000, 54,000.00

20 Box Cars at \$1,500, 30,000.00

2 Tool Cars at \$1,500, 3,000.00

1 Derrick Car at

\$1,500, 1,500.00

4 Caboose at \$3,000, 12,000.00

7 Flat Cars at \$1,150, 8,050.00

3 Snow Ploughs at

\$2,000, 6,000.00

1 Rotary Plough in

course of construc-

tion, 18,000.00

20 Hand Cars at \$70, 1,400.00

30 Push Cars at \$40, 1,200.00

Material for 8 Passen-

ger Cars at \$6,000, 48,000.00

Material for 1 Bag-

gage Cars at \$4,000, 4,000.00

Material for 30 Box

Cars at \$700, 21,000.00

Buildings and Machi-

nery, 75,000.00

Total \$689,050.00

Payments on account aggregat-

ing \$604,047.50 have been made

by the Government Engineer part

ly under Clauses 34, 36, and 37 of

the Contract and partly under the

Construction Contract. The prices

claimed by the Company are not

admitted and pending final valua-

tion, the Government's interests

are fully conserved by the reten-

tion of \$85,602.50.

Proceedings at the House of Assembly

FRIDAY, April 23rd., 1915

House met at 3.15 p.m.

Mr. Morine presented a petition

from inhabitants of Pool's Island and

neighbourhood requesting the sum of

\$250.00 for a local hospital at Valley-

field. This request was supported by

Mr. Winsor.

Mr. Young presented a petition

from Spaniard's Bay for a road grant.

The petition was supported by Messrs.

Parsons and Piccott.

Mr. Morine presented a petition

from Somerville, on the question of

Telegraph Extension.

Mr. Stone presented a petition from

Catalina, relating to cod traps.

Mr. Jennings presented a petition a

petition ament a road and wharf in

the district of Twillingate.

Mr. Cliff presented a petition from

King's Point, Rattling Brook, and

other places on the subject of ap-

pointing a mail courier for the dis-

trict.

Mr. Abbott presented a petition from

Bonavista requesting \$100.00 for a

road.

Mr. Targett presented a petition

from Sheppard's Cove and Lead Cove,

for a breakwater, and was supported

by Mr. Stone.

The Prime Minister tabled various

reports and data bearing on the Fer-

tilizer Project.

The Minister of Finance tabled re-

ply to Mr. Jennings.

Mr. Morine gave notice of questions

bearing on water powers in connec-

tion with the Newfoundland Products

Corporation and other matters.

Messrs Targett and Abbott tabled

questions on various matters and the

questions on the Order Paper were

then considered.

The act relating to the estates of

deceased persons passed its third

reading and was sent to Legislative

Council for concurrence.

House then went into Committee of

the Whole on Supply, Mr. Parsons,

chairman.

The Finance Minister said that he

had nothing more to add in connec-

tion with the Estimates to what he

had previously said, and purposed

proceeding with the House.

Mr. Morine who had previously

suggested that information should

have been furnished regarding the

financial position of the Colony, hav-

ing due regard to the large acce-

war loans, etc., with which we are

now faced, again suggested that we

should adjourn the consideration of

the estimates until the Finance Min-

ister give the House some indication

of how we are situated as to the ne-

cessary findings for them.

Mr. Cashin didn't see that he could

comply or deviate from the usual

course of procedure. The Hon Mem-

ber, Mr. Morine seemed to foresee

something unusual that was going to

happen, but he (Mr. Cashin) didn't

know of anything. He was only do-

ing what had been done all through.

All the statements asked for were on

the table.

Mr. Morine said that what he had

done was perhaps unusual, well, we

were face to face with unusual cir-

cumstances—a big deficit and pres-

ent taxation the highest on record.

He thanked the Hon Member for

remininding him of the unusual cir-

cumstances and he would go on

spending as we have been without re-

gard to how we are to meet our ob-

ligations or by knowledge of our fi-

nancial standing practice the economy

in all matters.

The Committee rose, reported some

progress and asked for leave to sit

again on Monday.

The Bill dealing with the manage-

ment of the General Hospital was

read for the first time and comes up

for a second reading on Monday.

House then went into Committee

of the Whole on the subject of Stamp

Duties, as follows:

adopted. The time is now ripe for us

that the circumstances call for.

Mr. Kent, Leader of the Opposition,

wanted the estimates deferred. A

number of the members of the House