

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. OFFICIAL SYNOPSIS OF PROCEEDINGS (Continued.)

He read extracts from the Tariff report. He said the Commission had not taken this evidence into consideration but had merely listened to it and then put forth any changes they liked. Touching the matter of the increase on hardware the member showed increases ranging from fifteen per cent up on a number of articles. We had to reduce the cost of fish production and this was not being done. The tariff, he pointed out now put a ten per cent duty on lines and twines. This was a hardship and was being done solely to further protect a local industry. This industry did not require protection. It could pay big dividends and needed no further protection. Another over-privileged industry was the tobacco factories. There was no reduction of any duties on tobacco. Furthermore a monopoly was being inaugurated by these Resolutions, by creating a factory definition as one of over ten operatives. This was placing one tobacco factory out of business. The duties on imported manufactured tobacco was increased from 6 to 13 cents a pound and this of course would permit of an increased price on local tobaccos. All this made for over-protection of local industries. He had no desire to knock any particular industry but wanted to point out the extra burdens placed on the people. He was laying no blame on the Prime Minister but he thought sufficient time had not been given to the consideration of the report. Until we could get a cheaper production of codfish we couldn't hope to compete with Norway and all these extra duties were adding to the cost of production. It would be better to keep the duty on beef, pork and flour as they were not very burdensome. The tariff was not properly adjusted. The main thing in regard to the fisheries was lost

sight of and that was the high cost of production. He regarded this increase as being inconsistent with the Government's policy. He looked upon his remarks as being fair criticism, and while realizing that an increased revenue was necessary, he ventured to state that the Government had not given mature consideration to the report of the Tariff Commission. MR. HALFYARD left it to his colleagues on his side of the House who had some Customs experience to make extended remarks on the Tariff. It came as a surprise to them to find the Government bringing in increased taxation, whereas they had been expecting, if anything, a tariff showing a decrease in duties. The Monroe Government had succeeded the late Government because the electorate of the country were prepared for a reduction in expenditure and a consequent reduction in taxation. He was sadly disappointed in this respect. Had the Government made reductions public opinion would have acclaimed the Prime Minister's action, but all such hopes are now dispersed and the public are direly disappointed. The public are not interested in the verbiage in the Budget, their whole interest was centered in the Tariff Resolutions and they were only interested in the cost of articles they had to purchase. He did not think sufficient consideration had been given the Report of the Tariff Commission. They were in no way bound to accept this report. This Commission were merely paid officials—and some of them very well paid—and were not responsible to the country for their recommendations. This proposed Tariff should have been tabled weeks before this and then the whole matter could have been thoroughly thrashed out and given all the consideration that the subject required. Mr. Halfyard made some remarks on the Railway claiming this year's business would not be so great as last year's. Referring to the report of Colonel Ross, he claimed that it was an indictment against the Post Office, as he (Colonel Ross) had found it. Certain recommendations are made in it and he hoped they would be carried out. PRIME MINISTER—Many of them have already been carried out. MR. HALFYARD then read extracts from this report and made casual references thereto, and he regretted the changes that had taken place in the Post Office after he vacated the office of Minister. The late head of that Department then made an impassioned address in defence of those officials of the Post Office whom he claimed had been unjustly accused by the Minister as reading his private correspondence. He read in toto an affidavit made by the two accused officials denying their interference with any private correspondence whatever of the Minister. The Committee rose at 6.30 reported progress and were given leave to sit again. Remaining orders were deferred. THE PRIME MINISTER tabled the report of the Select Committee on the petition of the Newfoundland Hotel Facilities, Ltd., as follows:— The Select Committee appointed to consider the petition of the Newfoundland Hotel Facilities, Ltd., have considered the matter to them referred and report that in their opinion, notwithstanding that full and sufficient notice had not been given, that the rules of the House in that respect should be suspended and that permission be granted to introduce a Bill to confirm the contract referred to in the said petition. W. S. MONROE, W. J. HIGGINS, W. J. BROWNE, W. R. WARREN, A. E. HICKMAN, THE PRIME MINISTER gave notice that he would move the House into a Committee of the Whole on the Hotel Resolutions. The House adjourned until the usual hour Friday. (To be continued.)

AN ANCIENT RIDDLE. Many years ago a prominent merchant in Taunton, Mass., is said to have promised an eccentric old woman, named Lucy King, that if, taking her subject from the Bible, she would compose a riddle which he could not guess, he would give her a prize. The riddle is given below. Who can answer it? Adam, God made out of dust, But thought it best to make me first; So I was made before the man, To answer His most holy plan. My body, He did make complete, But without arms, or legs, or feet; My ways and acts he did control, But to my body gave no soul. A living being I became, And Adam gave to me a name, I from his presence then withdrew, And more of Adam never knew. I did my Maker's law obey, Nor from it ever went astray; Thousands of miles I go in fear, But seldom on the earth appear. For purpose wise which God did see, He put a living soul in me; A soul from me my God did claim, And took from me the soul again. For when from me that soul had fled, I was the same as when first made; And without hands or feet or soul I travel on from pole to pole. I labor hard by day and night, To fallen man I give great light; Thousands of people, young and old, Do by my death great light behold. No right or wrong can I conceive The Scriptures I cannot believe; Although my name therein is found, They are to met but empty sound. No fear of death doth trouble me, Real happiness I ne'er shall see; To heaven I shall never go, Nor to the grave, nor hell below. Now, when these lines you closely read, Go search your bible, with all speed; For that my name's recorded there I honestly to you declare. EDITOR'S NOTE: The above verses were handed to us by a gentleman who had them given to him by an old lady residing in Labrador. She has had them in her possession for over thirty years. We will publish the answer in the "Guardian" two weeks from this date. SUPREME COURT. The fall term of the Supreme Court opened at St. John's on October 1st. Some very important cases are to be tried at this

session among which is a case of bigamy. The accused, whose maiden name was Shute, is alleged to have married W. H. Vokey at Whitbourne in May, 1920, and in May, 1925, under the name of Violet Travers to have gone through a marriage service at Coley's Point with a man named Morgan. The accused was sentenced to 6 months' imprisonment with hard labour.

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NEWFOUNDLAND NOTICE TO MARINERS No. 5, 1925. South Head Fog Alarm Established, Lat. 49° 09' 00" N. Lon. 58° 22' 00" W. POSITION—On South Head, on Southern Point, at the entrance to Bay of Islands. DESCRIPTION—A 3 inch Diaphone Fog Alarm operated by Compressed Air by Oil Engine. PERIOD—One blast 2 1-2 seconds duration in every 60 seconds thus: BLAST SILENT BLAST SILENT 2 1/2 57 1/2 2 1/4 57 1/2 STRUCTURES—Engine house, dwelling house and store house, each a one storey building with a flat roof, painted white. REMARKS—This Fog Alarm will go in operation on November 10, 1925. W. C. WINSOR, Minister of Marine & Fisheries, Department of Marine & Fisheries, St. John's, Newfoundland, September 24, 1925. oct9,31

NEWFOUNDLAND NOTICE TO MARINERS No. 6, 1925. LIGHT ESTABLISHED. South Head--On Southern Point, AT THE ENTRANCE TO BAY OF ISLANDS. Lat. 49° 09' 00" N. Lon. 58° 22' 00" W. POSITION—On South Head, at the entrance to Bay of Islands. CHARACTER—A double Flashing WHITE ACETYLENE GAS Light, giving 15 flashes per minute. ELEVATION—Height from high water to focal plane—104 feet. STRUCTURE—An Octagonal wooden structure, painted white, lantern red. REMARKS—This light will be put in operation on November 10, 1925. W. C. WINSOR, Minister of Marine & Fisheries, Department of Marine & Fisheries, St. John's, Newfoundland, September 24, 1925. oct9,31

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