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APPENDIX
TO THE
THIRTY-FIRST VOLUME
OF THE
JOURNALS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
DOMINION OF CANADA

FIRST SESSION, EIGHTH PARLIAMENT, 1896.



O T T A W A
PRINTED BY S. E. DAWSON, PRINTER TO THE QUEEN'S MOST
EXCELLENT MAJESTY
1896

VOLUME XXXI

APPENDIX

LIST OF APPENDICES.

First Session, Eighth Parliament, 1896.

- No. 1.—REPORT of the Select Standing Committee appointed to supervise the Official Report of the Debates of the House of Commons with reference to complaints against Messrs. Lucien Lasalle, Joseph Bouchard, Peter McLeod and J. B. Vanasse. *Printed herein.*
- No. 2.—REPORT of the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture and Colonization. *Printed herein.*

Debates Committee.

SECOND REPORT

OF

THE DEBATES COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 17th September, 1896.

The Select Committee appointed to supervise the Official Report of the Debates of this House during the present session, beg leave to submit the following resolution as their Second Report :—

That a complaint was lodged with your Committee by Mr. D. Monet, M.P., against Messrs Lucien Lasalle, Joseph Bouchard, Peter McLeod and J. B. Vanasse, four translators of the Debates of the House of Commons, that they, while in office, took a prominent part in active political strife since 1891.

That notice of said complaint was sent to the above named translators with the request that they furnish your Committee with an explanation. That the four translators appeared before your Committee, and were examined in connection with the said charge.

That Joseph Bouchard admitted he attended three public political meetings during the last election, having a seat on the platform, and that he addressed one of these meetings at Larose's Hall in the city of Ottawa.

That the report of the said meeting, as published in the *Ottawa Daily Citizen* of the 12th June last, and filed with your Committee, stated that Joseph Bouchard addressed the meeting in French and indicated that he strongly supported the fiscal policy of the late Government as well as its policy with regard to the Manitoba school question.

That the said Joseph Bouchard, although he contended that the report of the *Citizen* eulogized too highly his speech, admitted that he advocated the return of the Government's candidate and endorsed the trade policy of the Government as well as its course with regard to the Manitoba school question.

That Peter McLeod admitted that all the parliamentary correspondence which appeared in *Le Trifluvien* over the *nom de plume* of "E. Liane" was written by him.

That a portion of this correspondence was translated and filed with your Committee. That in this correspondence one honourable member of the House of Commons was referred to as a young blockhead, and the Leader of the then Opposition "as the leader of the traitors who had pocketed his honour and dignity, &c., &c."

That J. B. Vanasse admitted the accuracy of the charge made against him of having, on the public platform, referred to the then Leader of the Opposition, and to one of the candidates in the county of Richelieu, as renegades and traitors to their race and religion.

In view of the above related facts, which, in the opinion of your Committee, convict the said Joseph Bouchard, Peter McLeod and J. B. Vanasse of having improperly interfered in politics, your Committee recommend their dismissal from the staff of translators of the debates.

With regard to the case of Lucien Lasalle, a majority of your Committee are not in favour of recommending his dismissal.

Your Committee beg to submit the minutes of proceedings and all documents produced in connection with this case.

All which is respectfully submitted.

P. A. CHOQUETTE,
Chairman.

Debates Committee.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Of the Special Committee Appointed by the House to supervise
the Official Report of the Debates.

FRIDAY, 28th August, 1896.

The Committee met at 9.45 a.m.

Present:—Mr. Choquette in the chair; Messrs. Beausoleil, Bergeron, Davin, Earle, Ellis, Haley, LaRivière, Monet, Richardson, Scriver, Somerville and Taylor.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Chairman submitted for consideration letters, &c., marked "A," addressed to him by Mr. Monet, M.P., and Mr. Bruneau, M.P., complaining of the conduct, during the late general elections, of three of the official translators of the Debates, viz.: Messrs. J. B. Vanasse, P. McLeod and L. Lasalle.

On motion of Mr. Beausoleil it was

Resolved, That copies of the foregoing letters be sent to each of the above-named translators, with a request to attend, if they think fit, the next meeting of the Committee, when an opportunity will be afforded them of making required explanation.

The Committee then adjourned till Wednesday next, 2nd prox., at 9.45 a.m.

Attest.

L. C. PANET,
Clerk of the Committee.

P. A. CHOQUETTE,
Chairman.

WEDNESDAY, 2nd September, 1896.

The Committee met at 9.45 a.m.

Present:—Messrs. Choquette (Chairman), Beausoleil, Bergeron, Craig, Davin, Earle, Ellis, Haley, LaRivière, Monet, Richardson, Scriver, Somerville and Taylor.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The question of the conduct of certain of the translators, during the late electoral campaign, was further considered.

The Clerk informed the Committee that he had, in accordance with the resolution adopted at the last meeting, duly forwarded to Messrs. Lasalle, Vanasse and McLeod, copies of letters, &c., marked "A," accusing them of having taken an active part in politics; and also requested the above named parties to attend the next meeting of the Committee.

Letters received from Messrs. McLeod and Lasalle were read. (Marked "B" and "C.")

On motion of Mr. Monet, Mr. Vanasse was called and questioned as to the correctness of the statement contained in Mr. Bruneau's letter, and annexed affidavit ("A"), and admitted that the same was correct.

Messrs. McLeod and Lasalle were, on motion of Mr. Somerville, also called and questioned respecting the complaint laid against them, but, upon objection being taken by several members of the Committee, as to the propriety of establishing the charges, by questioning the said parties, it was, after deliberation, on motion of Mr. Davin

Resolved. That the further consideration of the charge made against Messrs. Lasalle and McLeod, be postponed till the next meeting of the Committee so as to afford Mr. Monet an opportunity of proving the charge made by him against the parties in question.

Mr. Monet submitted a letter (marked "D") accusing Mr. Joseph Bouchard, a member of the staff of translators of the debates, of having taken an active part in politics.

On motion of Mr. Scriver, it was

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing letter be sent to Mr. Bouchard with a request to furnish the Committee with a written explanation respecting the complaint laid against him, and that he be requested to attend the next meeting of the Committee.

On motion of Mr. Davin, it was

Resolved, That the Committee be adjourned till Wednesday next, the 9th instant, at 10 a.m., and that Messrs. McLeod and Lasalle be notified to attend the said meeting.

Attest.

L. C. PANET,
Clerk.

P. A. CHOQUETTE,
Chairman.

WEDNESDAY, September 9th, 1896.

At the request of several members of the Committee, and with the consent of the Chairman, the meeting called for this day was postponed till to-morrow.

Attest.

L. C. PANET,
Clerk.

THURSDAY, 10th, September 1896.

The Committee met at 10 a.m.

Present: Messrs. Choquette (Chairman), Beausoleil, Bergeron, Craig, Davin, Earle, Ellis, Haley, LaRivière, Monet, Richardson, Scriver, Somerville and Taylor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The question of the conduct of certain of the translators during the late electoral campaign was further considered.

The clerk informed the Committee that he had, as instructed, sent Joseph Bouchard, of the staff of translators, copy of Mr. Monet's letter, marked "D," charging him with having taken an active part in politics, and also requested the above named gentleman to attend the next meeting of the Committee.

Mr. Bouchard's letter (marked "E") stating that he had not interfered in politics in the manner alleged in the charge made against him, was read.

The advisability of obtaining a verbatim report of the evidence to be submitted was discussed, and it was moved by Mr. Somerville, "That the clerk of the Committee be instructed to take down the evidence adduced." After further discussion the foregoing motion was, with leave of the Committee, withdrawn.

Debates Committee.

Mr. Bouchard was then called, and upon being questioned as to whether he had attended political meetings and made stump speeches thereat, admitted he had attended, as a spectator, three political meetings, held in the city of Ottawa, in the interests of the Conservative candidates, at only one of which he had spoken, but had not either on that or any other occasion made use of any offensive language.

Extracts from the *Ottawa Citizen* marked "E 2" and from the *Spectateur*, Hull, were also read, being a report of a speech purporting to have been delivered by him, the accuracy of which he denied. Being further questioned as to the authorship of certain articles published in *Le Spectateur* on the following dates viz., 6th, 10th and 24th March last, also on the 1st and 8th May ulto., he produced an affidavit marked "F" dated 4th inst. and signed by N. Pagé, manager and editor of the newspaper in question, declaring that Mr. Bouchard had, two years ago, ceased to be a contributor to the said paper.

Mr. P. McLeod was next called and asked whether he was the author of parliamentary letters dated Ottawa, 5th, 9th, 16th and 19th March last, marked "G," written over the nom de plume "E. Liane," which were published in *Le Trilluvien* of Three Rivers; and he admitted, after the same had been read, that the said letters were written by him.

Mr. Lasalle on being called and questioned as to whether the circular letters marked "H" had been signed by him, replied that his name had been printed thereon without his knowledge and consent.

He further stated that he had, in his capacity as attorney, attended to the revision of the lists in the county of Verchères, in the interest of the Conservative party.

During Mr. Lasalle's examination two affidavits marked "I" were produced.

Mr. Ste. Marie was called and stated that Mr. Lasalle had attended to the revision of the lists in the county of Verchères in the interest of the Conservative party.

A communication marked "J" from Mr. J. B. Vanasse was read and ordered to be filed.

On motion of Mr. Earle the Committee adjourned till Tuesday next the 15th instant at 10 a.m.

Attest.

L. C. PANET,
Clerk.

P. A. CHOQUETTE,
Chairman

TUESDAY, 15th September, 1896.

The Committee met at 10 a.m.

Present :—Messrs. Choquette, (Chairman), Beausoleil, Craig, LaRivière, Monet, Richardson, Scriver, Somerville and Taylor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Chairman submitted a communication (marked "K") addressed him by Mr. François Benoit, inclosing an affidavit, &c., disproving the statement made by L. Lasalle that his name had been placed on circular letters without his knowledge and consent.

On motion of Mr. Scriver it was, at the request of several members present, who were desirous of attending another meeting,

Resolved, That the Committee be adjourned till to-morrow, Wednesday, at 10 a.m.

Attest.

L. C. PANET,
Clerk of the Committee.

P. A. CHOQUETTE,
Chairman.

WEDNESDAY, 16th September, 1896.

The Committee met at 10 a.m.

Present :—Messrs. Choquette, (Chairman), Beausoleil, Bergeron, Charlton, Craig, Davin, Earle, Ellis, Haley, LaRivière, Monet, Richardson, Sriver, Somerville and Taylor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The question of the conduct of certain of the translators of the Debates during the late electoral campaign was further considered.

The Chairman submitted a telegram marked "L," received by him from Mr. F. Benoit of Montreal authorizing him to say that Mr. L. Lasalle received \$15 per week for work performed by him in connection with the revision of the electoral lists.

Mr. Lasalle was then called and further questioned in reference to certain letters, etc., (marked "K") which he acknowledged as having been written by him. He further stated he had not, since the year 1891, acted as secretary of the association, nor had he been at the office of the said association after he had quarreled with Mr. Benoit, the president.

Mr. Monet moved: That a report be made to the House as follows, viz. :—

That a complaint was lodged with this Committee by Mr. D. Monet, M.P., against Messrs. Lucien Lasalle, Joseph Bouchard, Peter McLeod and J. B. Vanasse, four translators of the Official Report of the Debates of the House of Commons, that they, while in office, took a prominent part in active political strife since 1891.

That notice of said complaint was sent to the above named translators with the request that they furnish the Committee with an explanation.

That the four translators appeared before the Committee and were examined in connection with the said charge.

That Joseph Bouchard admitted that he had attended three public political meetings during the last election, having a seat upon the platform, and that he addressed one of those meetings, the same being held in Larose's Hall, in the city of Ottawa.

That a report of the said meeting, as published in the *Ottawa Citizen* of the 12th June last, was produced and filed with the Committee: said report stating that Joseph Bouchard addressed the meeting in French, and indicating that he strongly supported the fiscal policy of the late Government, as well as its policy with regard to the Manitoba school question.

That the said Joseph Bouchard admitted, in his speech, that he advocated the return of the Government's candidate, and endorsed the trade policy of the Government, as well as its course with regard to the Manitoba school question.

That Peter McLeod admitted that all the parliamentary correspondence which appeared in *Le Trifluvien*, during the last session of Parliament, over the *nom de plume* of "E. Liane," was written by him.

That a portion of this correspondence was translated and filed with the Committee.

That, in this correspondence, one honourable member of the House of Commons was referred to as "a young blockhead," and the Leader of the then Opposition as "the leader of the traitors, who had pocketed his honour and dignity," etc.

That J. B. Vanasse admitted the accuracy of the charge made against him, of having on the public platform referred to the Leader of the then Opposition, and to one of the candidates in the county of Richelieu as "renegades and traitors to their race and religion."

That Lucien Lasalle, being examined by the Committee, denied having acted as secretary of the Conservative Association of Montreal since 1891, and assured the Committee that his name was attached to political circulars issued in 1894 without his authority, and against his instructions. Since the meeting of the Committee, when Mr. Lasalle made the above mentioned denial, statements, a letter and affidavit, and certain inclosures were received from François Benoit, President of the Conservative Association of Montreal. The letter and affidavit state that the political circulars, which Mr. La-

Debates Committee.

salle informed the Committee bore his name against his protest and without his knowledge, were not only signed by him in the original, but were drafted by the said Lasalle, and sent to Benoit for approval. Letters written by Mr. Lasalle himself are amongst the inclosures; one dated 30th August, 1894, expressed the hope that he would be able to submit a draft of a circular calling a meeting of Conservatives in Montreal. Another letter, in the handwriting of Mr. Lasalle, and dated in 1894, urges Mr. Benoit to procure certain books which would facilitate the revision of the voters' lists. Mr. Lasalle is, therefore, convicted of having attempted to deceive the Committee.

In consequence of the above related facts, the Committee, having in view the preservation of the integrity and impartiality of the translation of the Debates, recommend the dismissal of Messrs. Joseph Bouchard, Lucien Lasalle, Peter McLeod and J. B. Vanasse from the staff of the official translators of the Debates.

Mr. Davin moved, in amendment, That the said motion be not ordered to be reported to the House, but that it be printed, and another meeting called to consider the same. And a debate arising thereupon; and the question on the amendment being proposed; Mr. Scriver moved, in amendment to the said proposed amendment, That the report be amended by striking out therefrom the name of Lucien Lasalle, and all that relates to him, appearing in the said report.

And the question being put on the amendment to the amendment, the Committee divided and the names being called for, they were taken down as follows:

Yeas: Messrs. Bergeron, Craig, Davin, Earle, LaRivière, Scriver and Taylor (7).

Nays: Messrs. Beausoleil, Charlton, Ellis, Haley, Monet, Richardson and Somerville (7).

There being an equality of voices the chairman voted nay. So the motion passed in the negative.

And the question being put on the amendment the Committee divided as follows:

Yeas: Messrs. Bergeron, Craig, Davin, Earle, LaRivière and Taylor (6).

Nays: Messrs. Beausoleil, Charlton, Ellis, Haley, Monet, Richardson, Scriver and Somerville (8).

So it passed in the negative.

And the question on the main motion being proposed, Mr. Davin moved in amendment, That the main motion be amended by omitting therefrom anything having reference to circumstances having occurred before the elections of 1896—and the said motion being declared out of order by the Chairman, the question on the main motion being again proposed, Mr. Taylor moved in amendment, that the main motion be amended by adding the words “and that the minutes of proceedings and all the letters, &c., produced in connection with this matter be submitted to the House,” and the said amendment being agreed to, The question on the main motion as amended was then proposed, and a debate arising thereupon, Mr. Davin moved that the Committee adjourn till tomorrow, the 17th instant, at 10 a.m.

Motion agreed to.

Attest.

L. C. PANET,
Clerk of the Committee.

P. A. CHOQUETTE,
Chairman.

THURSDAY, 17th September, 1896.

The Committee met at 10 a.m.

PRESENT:—Messrs. Choquette (Chairman), Beausoleil, Charlton, Craig, Davin, Earle, Ellis, Haley, LaRivière, Monet, Richardson, Scriver, Somerville and Taylor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The order of the day being read for resuming the debate on the question respecting the conduct of certain translators of the Debates during the late electoral campaign.

Mr. LaRivière moved “That after hearing the charges and the evidence in the cases of Messrs. Vanasse, McLeod, Lasalle and Bouchard, this Committee is of the

opinion that no charge or complaint having been made against any of the above named officials in regard to the proper and impartial discharge of their duties, as official translators of the Debates, during the session, and that the charges brought against them being purely of a political character, and not of such a nature as would justify the interference of this Committee, acting impartially, be it resolved that the order be discharged and the business of the Committee be proceeded with." Mr. Ellis moved, in amendment that the following resolution be submitted to the House as the report of the Committee, viz., "That a complaint was lodged with this Committee by Mr. D. Monet, M. P., against Messrs. Lucien Lasalle, Joseph Bouchard, Peter McLeod and J. B. Vanasse, four translators of the Debates of the House of Commons, that they, while in office took a prominent part in active political strife since 1891 :

That notice of said complaint was sent to the above named translators with the request that they furnish the Committee with an explanation. That the four translators appeared before the Committee and were examined in connection with said charge :

That Joseph Bouchard admitted he attended three public political meetings during the last election, having a seat on the platform, and that he addressed one of those meetings at Larose's Hall in the city of Ottawa :

That the report of the said meeting, as published in the *Ottawa Daily Citizen* of 12th June last and filed with the Committee, stated that Joseph Bouchard addressed the meeting in French, and indicated that he strongly supported the fiscal policy of the late Government, as well as its policy with regard to the Manitoba school question.

That the said Joseph Bouchard, although he contended that the report of the *Citizen* eulogized too highly his speech, admitted that he advocated the return of the Government's candidate, and endorsed the trade policy of the Government, as well as its course with regard to the Manitoba school question.

That Peter McLeod admitted that all the parliamentary correspondence which appeared in *Le Trifluvien* over the *nom de plume* of "E. Liane" was written by him.

That a portion of this correspondence was translated and filed with the Committee.

That in this correspondence one honourable member of the House of Commons was referred to as 'a young blockhead' and the Leader of the then Opposition as the 'leader of the traitors, who had pocketed his honour and dignity,' etc.

That J. B. Vanasse admitted the accuracy of the charge made against him, of having, on the public platform, referred to the Leader of the then Opposition, and to one of the candidates in the county of Richelieu, as 'renegades and traitors to their race and religion.'

In view of the above related facts, which, in the opinion of your Committee, convict the said J. B. Vanasse, Joseph Bouchard and Peter McLeod of having improperly interfered in politics, your committee recommend their dismissal from the staff of the translators of the Debates.

With regard to the case of Mr. Lasalle a majority of the Committee are not in favour of recommending his dismissal."

And the question being put on the said amendment, it was agreed to on a division, and the main motion as amended being put, it was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. LaRivière, it was

Resolved, That the minutes of proceedings, together with all letters, etc., produced before the Committee in connection with this matter, be submitted to the House.

On motion of Mr. Ellis, the Committee adjourned to the call of the chair.

Attest.

L. C. PANET,
Clerk of Committee.

P. A. CHOQUETTE,
Chairman.

Debates Committee.

(A.)

HOUSE OF COMMONS, 28th August, 1896.

To the Committee of the "Debates."

I beg to make the following statement :—

That I have been informed on reliable authority that :—

Jean Baptiste Vanasse, Peter McLeod and Lucien Lasalle, three translators of the "Debates" of the House of Commons of Canada, have taken a prominent part in organizing political strife since 1891, when in office.

An opportunity to prove the statement is humbly requested.

D. MONET.

(Translation.)

HOUSE OF COMMONS, OTTAWA, 27th August, 1896.

P. A. CHOQUETTE, Esq., M.P.,
Chairman "Debates Committee."

MY DEAR COLLEAGUE,—I desire to direct your attention to the active part taken in the last general elections by Mr. J. B. Vanasse of Sorel, a member of the staff of translators of the Debates. His interference in politics has been so public and notorious that he could not disprove the charge. You may, by way of convincing yourself as to the correctness of the statement I make, refer to the newspaper *Le Sorelois* containing his speeches denouncing the Hon. Mr. Laurier and your humble servant as traitors to their faith and their nationality. I also inclose you an affidavit substantiating said charge, which being true, I cannot see why Mr. Vanasse should not receive the same treatment as was meted out to Messrs. Poirier and Tremblay who were dismissed for having meddled in politics. Mr. Vanasse certainly deserves it for many more reasons than one and his dismissal will satisfy the people of the district of Richelieu.

Yours truly,

A. A. BRUNEAU.

(Translation.)

Canada, }
Province of Quebec, } I, Arthur Moisan, shoemaker, of the town of Sorel, do solemnly
County of Richelieu. } declare that :

Mr. J. B. Vanasse, of the town of Sorel, translator of the Debates of the House of Commons of Canada, has publicly interfered in politics in the interests of the Conservative party. That the said J. B. Vanasse has, in numerous public assemblies, held during the last general elections in the several parishes in the county of Richelieu, at which I attended, made speeches in public in favour of the Conservative candidate in which he violently denounced the Liberal candidate, Mr. Bruneau, and his chief, Mr. Laurier, Premier of Canada.

I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of "The Canada Evidence Act, 1893."

Declared before me at the town of Sorel, this }
eighteenth day of August, A.D. 1896. }
J. R. F. A. GARDIN, }
Notary.

ARTHUR MOISAN.

(B.)

(Translation.)

OTTAWA, 1st September, 1896.

Mr. L. C. PANET,
 Clerk Debates Committee,
 House of Commons.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your note of the 28th ult., inclosing copy of a certain complaint laid against me before the Committee of Debates by Mr. D. Monet, M.P., and beg that you will kindly lay before the Committee the annexed memorandum.

I have the honour to be, yours, &c.,

P. McLEOD,
Translator of Debates.

To the Committee of Debates, House of Commons :

The undersigned begs to state that Mr. D. Monet, M.P., has laid before your Committee a complaint, under date 25th ultimo, stating in effect that "he has been informed on reliable authority that Jean Baptiste Vanasse, Peter McLeod and Lucien Lasalle, three translators of the "Debates" of the House of Commons of Canada, have taken a prominent part in organizing political strife since 1891 when in office."

So far as I am concerned, I meet this charge with a general and positive denial, qualified by the following statements:—

I had agreed to be and I was in fact the responsible editor of the newspaper *Le Trifluvien* during one year (1893). For the last ten months or so, I have been a contributor to the same paper.

I beg to further state that the question raised in connection with the complaint hereinbefore referred to merely comes to a question of inadequate salary. When the salary of the official reporters was raised to \$2,000 per annum, and that of the translators of the "Debates" to \$1,000 per session, although the latter are doing a work at least equal in value to that of the former, it was with the formal understanding that the reporters would be at the disposal of the Government the whole year round, while the services of the translators would only be required during session time. The translators were left the liberty to engage in other work outside the sessions and thus supplement a remuneration which would not enable them to adequately provide for their own and family wants.

Availing myself of that liberty, I did some journalistic work, as stated above, but I deny having indulged in strictly personal polemics or used any abusive language towards my opponents, and I challenge any one to substantiate a charge of that kind.

I think I can confidently appeal to the testimony of my chief as regards my competency, the honourability of my conduct and the perfect impartiality of my translations.

Respectfully submitted,

P. McLEOD,
Translator of Debates.

OTTAWA, 1st September, 1896.

Debates Committee.

(C.)

HOUSE OF COMMONS,
OTTAWA, 1st September, 1896.

To the Chairman and Members of the "Debates Committee."

GENTLEMEN,—I have been notified by your Secretary that D. Monet, Esq., M. P., has made a statement in which I am accused of having taken a "prominent part in organizing political strife since 1891, when in office," and I am further requested by your Secretary to "make an explanation of the said charges."

I humbly submit to your Committee that in the absence of any particulars in the said charges, I can hardly make any other explanation than the following:

1. I have taken no part in the last election, active or otherwise.
2. I have never taken part in any electoral contest for or against any member of this House since 1891, and I have never used any aggressive nor abusive language against either of the political parties.
3. I have been a permanent translator of the "Debates" since 1884, and I am not aware of a single complaint having been made against me, up to this date, as to my competency as a translator, my conduct during and between the sessions, or my political opinions.

Yours truly,

L. LASALLE,
Translator of the "Debates."

(D.)

HOUSE OF COMMONS,
OTTAWA, 2nd September, 1896.

To the Committee of the "Debates."

I beg to make the following statement:—

That I am informed on reliable authority that Joseph Bouchard, one of the translators of the Debates of the House of Commons of Canada, has taken a prominent part in organizing political strife and making stump speeches during the last contest 1896 in the Dominion, when in office since 1891.

An opportunity to prove the statement is humbly requested.

D. MONET, M. P.

(E.)

(*Translation.*)

OTTAWA, 8th September, 1896.

To the Chairman and Members of the Debates Committee:

GENTLEMEN,

Your Committee has had communicated to me a complaint charging me with having "taken a prominent part in organizing political strife in the Dominion when in office since 1891 and of making stump speeches during the last contest 1896" I beg to say in reply that I did not meddle in politics in the manner above stated and I hope to be able to answer satisfactorily all questions which may be put to me.

Respectfully

Your obedient servant,

JOS. BOUCHARD.

(E.)

Daily "Citizen," Friday, June 12, 1896.

THE LOCAL CAMPAIGN—AN ADDRESS IN FRENCH.

Mr. Joseph Bouchard followed in French. He contrasted the policy expounded by Laurier in 1893 on the school question, when he pledged himself to even the Orange lodges, and to proceed to Manitoba to defend the rights of his countrymen before Greenway, and that followed by the same leader in 1896.

Mr. Bouchard supported his able argument by an array of quotations and figures which convinced his hearers and drew forth unstinted applause. The talented speaker next touched upon the fiscal policy as affecting the workingman, demonstrating by incontrovertible evidence that protection was the best safeguard that the toiler could wish, and resumed his chair amidst applause.

Quoted in the *Citizen* of June 12th, 1896.

(F.)

(Translation)

HULL, 4th September, 1896.

I, the undersigned, Napoleon Pagé, manager and editor of the newspaper *Le Spectateur*, of Hull, in the province of Quebec, do solemnly declare that Mr. Joseph Bouchard contributed, during 1893 and 1894, to aforesaid journal, but has, since about two years, discontinued doing so. I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of "The Canada Evidence Act, 1893."

Declared before me at the City of Hull
this 4th day of September, 1896.

TETREAU, J.P.
District of Ottawa.

NAP. PAGÉ.

(G.)

Parliamentary Letter.

OTTAWA, 5th March, 1896.

To this, what has Mr. Laurier answered? My God! what a pity to see a man well gifted, a leader of a party supposed to be deeply impressed with the feeling of his responsibility and even making a show of it, a compatriot in a word, trying to endanger, in one hour, six years of struggle and of unspeakable sacrifices, to strive miserably in some evident contradictions, to defy the religious authority which has been of all times, for our French Canadians, the supreme bulwark of the nationality, to kill himself and his party for twenty years to come!

He found the means of committing in a one hour speech enough of cowardice, of treachery, of infamy, to deserve on the part of Dalton McCarthy, the man from whose shoulders has fallen the mantle of George Brown, the man that the withheld angers of ours are pursuing since years; the man who, since years, wages against us a war of privateer which has kept him a place apart in the maledictions with which we overwhelm the inveterate and irreconcilable enemy of our language, of our institutions, of our laws and above all of our religious convictions; to deserve, I say, on the part of Dalton McCarthy, this word, at the same time, cruel and vindictive: "He has not only robbed me of my motion, he has taken away from me the title of champion of

Debates Committee.

Protestants." And the word is true. What a moral ruin is the leader of the Liberal party in this country, who calls himself French and Catholic? Then what is left standing in him; what is left of his national and religious convictions? What has he done with the national feelings of honour, of patriotic pride, of the ideas of duty and of responsibility which they tried to inculcate on him in one of those humble houses, the character of which he is ready to lay bare, out of complaisance for English surroundings?

We are lost in conjectures to find the motive of a determination just as silly as shameful. Has he acted by calculation, by interest? The event will prove that he has very badly worked his plans. Is it irritation against an authority to which he has to obey as the humblest of his followers? In this case, some diplomatic sense would have made him understand that at least he should have dissembled his dissatisfaction and not provoked such a big influence. Was he pressed by the desire of not losing a command which was threatening to escape him? But while appearing to rule, he has known, up to the present, but the weight of chains and the livery of servitude. He was only commanding on condition of obeying. Strange situation, if you will, but which is not the less real.

What he has said of the clergy means this "In politics, there is neither faith nor morality," a word dear to the school of l'Enfant terrible. In politics should we discuss about a question in which the rights of conscience are concerned? I have as much authority as the Pope and the Bishops. I grant them the right to speak, a right equal to mine. I do not concede them the right of dictating. He adds "I am here the representative of not only the Catholics but of Protestants as well and I must put aside my own religious convictions. I am the defender of the Protestants as well as of the Catholics."

It is cowardly, it is unworthy, and you will see that it will be the sentence that the country will pronounce when you will present yourself before it.

E. LIANE.

Parliamentary Letter.

OTTAWA, 9th March, 1896.

..... And a strange thing among all in this debate, already fertile in strange things of all kinds, is in taking the reverse of the position which permitted Mr. Laurier to betray his own with the composure that we know: that they (the Liberals) have found the way of betraying not less surely and not less irremediably.

There is in that something shocking to reason, but still more shocking for national honour.

Parliamentary Letter.

OTTAWA, 16th March.

Rumours are conflicting. I am told, for instance, that it would have been much better for the leader of the traitors to have the vote taken on Friday. It appears that the Liberal members are receiving from their respective counties, letters little encouraging for the attitude they were preparing to take, and that, for several among them, the fear might well be the beginning of wisdom.

I am told, on the other side, that Mr. Laurier is forcing the hand of his followers, and that he threatens to leave them at the eve of the election, if they do not range with docility under his baton of Marshal Bazaine. To forfeit or see vanishing in the future, the sweetness of power. They could not be offered a more embarrassing alternative.

Of course, I give you all this for what it is worth. I do not believe Mr. Laurier capable of putting his threat into execution. He will pocket it as he pocketed his political honour and dignity as a party leader. When one has submitted to the pressure of the Grits to the extent of doing what he did, one can endure anything else.

E. LIANE.

Parliamentary Letter.

OTTAWA, 19th March, 1896.

A presumptuous blockhead like the young member for Richelieu, could annoy the House during five mortal hours, without precisely knowing what he was saying.

E. LIANE.

(H.)

(Translation.)

MONTREAL, September, 1894.

SIR,—I am requested by the Executive Committee of the Conservative Association to ask you to furnish us with the name and address of an active and devoted supporter in each parish of your county, with whom we may correspond in relation to the revision of the voters' lists.

An immediate reply will greatly oblige the Committee, for time presses.

Truly yours,

L. LASALLE,
Sec. Conservative Association, Montreal.

(Translation.)

MONTREAL, September, 1894.

SIR,—We rely on having the honour of your presence at a meeting of the Conservative Association which is to be held on Wednesday, Sept. 5th instant, at 2.30 p. m., in the Government Offices, No. 76 St. Gabriel Street.

You will meet there the Hon. Minister of Public Works and some of his colleagues.

The object of the meeting is, amongst other things, to deal with the revision of the Voters' Lists in the District of Montreal.

Your obedient servant,

L. LASALLE,
Sec. Conservative Association, Montreal.

(Translation.)

CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION, MONTREAL,
POST OFFICE, FIRST STORY, ROOM NO. 1.

SIR,—Your name has been communicated to the committee of the association as that of the person in your parish best fitted to deal actively with the revision of the lists of voters now being effected.

Trusting that you will be good enough to undertake this work in the interest of the Conservative party, we mail you a copy of the old list, together with a certain number of printed forms.

The work to be done consists chiefly in ascertaining, by the help of the old list of voters and of the assessment roll now in force, who are the persons who are to be placed on the new list.

As to those of our friends who are already on the old list, there is no occasion to deal with them, except in case their qualification has changed since the last revision.

If you know in your parish Conservatives who are not on the list and who have a right to be there, whether as proprietors, tenants, occupants, sons of farmers, fishermen,

Debates Committee.

annuitants or otherwise, in pursuance of section 3 of the Electoral Franchise Act, enter their full name, qualification and residence on form No. 1, sign it before a J. P. and send the forms filled up to the revising officer of your county before the 1st October next.

If on the old list of voters you find the names of one or more electors belonging to the opposite party who have no right to be there, or who have ceased to be electors, who have died, left the country, &c., you enter the names on form No. 2, carefully giving the number which the elector who is to be struck off had on the old list. This form is to be signed and sworn to as in the preceding case.

If on the assessment roll you find the name of an opponent who, for one reason or another, is not entitled to be placed on the list of voters, you must notify the revising officer of the fact, so that the name may not be entered on the new electoral list.

All this work must be done before the 1st October, the date when the preliminary revision closes.

We shall send other forms and other instructions when the time comes for the second revision.

You might facilitate your work, by associating with yourself two or three friends, and if, for any reason, you should be unable to undertake it, we hope you will confide it some trusty person and that you will notify us of the fact.

The Revising Officer is bound to visit all parishes of the county, to cause a copy to be made of the assessment roll of each municipality, to receive all applications made to him for the adding or striking-off of names, and to take cognizance of all information furnished to him.

For the Conservative Association.

FRS. BENOIT,
President.

L. LASALLE,
Secretary.

For the organization of the Electoral district of St. Jean and Iberville.

P. D. BILANDEAU,
Secretary.

To JOHN BLACK, Esq.,
Ex Candidate and General President,
St. Jean, Que.

(I.)

(Translation)

I, the undersigned, A. Raza, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, do solemnly declare:—

That I was Treasurer of the Conservative Association of the District of Montreal in 1896.

That to my knowledge Mr. Lucien Lasalle has neither taken part in politics nor set foot in the rooms of the association since 1894, and was not secretary of said association.

That he has, to my knowledge, been the editor of *Le Canard*, and that we complained that he wrote articles favouring the Liberal party.

Sworn before me this 8th Sept., '96. }
GEO. DOWSLEY, }
Com. C.D. Montreal. }

A. RAZA.

(Translation)

I, Joseph Ulric Emard, Advocate of the city and district of Montreal, do solemnly declare :—

That some months previous to the late general elections I met Mr. Lucien Lasalle, a member of staff of Translators of the Debates of the House of Commons, and asked him whether the Committee of the Association, which was to be organized to look after the interests of the Conservative party, could count on securing his services as secretary of the said Association. Mr. Lasalle stated in reply he could not undertake to discharge the duties of said office as he preferred not taking part in the campaign, and that the committee would have to engage some one else as such.

I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of "The Canada Evidence Act, 1893."

Declared before me at the City of Montreal }
 this 5th day of Sept., A.D. 1896. }
 WM. K. HARWOOD, }
Supr. Cour. of the }
District of Montreal. }

J. U. EMARD.

(J.)

OFFICIAL DEBATES OFFICE,

September 10th, 1896.

To the Chairman and Members of the Debates Committee, House of Commons.

DEAR SIRS,—If the Committee will kindly allow me, I wish to add a few remarks to the verbal explanations I have already given to your Committee at its last meeting, as regards my conduct in the late Dominion election.

1. During that contest I have taken part in no political meeting outside the county of Richelieu, where I live, although strongly urged to do so.

2. I have not written a single line in any newspaper for several years past.

3. As I stated to your Committee last week, I took the course I did in June last because I thought my right to do so had been clearly acknowledged in the House of Commons, as shown by the following quotations from speeches delivered by several members. In 1884, Mr. Charlton, then a member of your Committee, made this statement :—"I felt myself that there was no justification for granting an advance to the translators, most of whom are here acting as newspaper correspondents, and would be here whether they held translators' situations or not."

In April, 1888, the Hon. Laurier spoke as follows :—

"It may probably be said that there is no fault found with their taking part in politics if they chose to do so, but they must use polite language. Well, Mr. Speaker, it was the House of Commons which gave the translators permission to engage in politics, but the House could scarcely be expected to hope that they never would be guilty of using abusive language. Hon. members must remember that the translators of the Debates, for three or four months of the year, do nothing else but translate the Debates of the House; they become saturated with abusive language, and to expect that they would act differently was to suppose they were different flesh and blood from ourselves."

* * * * *

"The translators are appointed to translate the Debates and nothing else, and no one knows better than the hon. gentleman who is Chairman of the Debates Committee, that it was always understood that during a part of the session they could engage in any other work they chose to engage in."

Debates Committee.

Mr. Mills (Bothwell) used the following language :—

“ * * * So far as those translators are concerned, it was said at the time of their appointment that the House gave employment to them but for a very small portion of the year, and that their salaries were less than the ordinary reporters upon the Official Debates, and that they were to be at liberty to engage in ordinary avocations whenever they were not employed here. It was well known at the time they were appointed that some of them were on the political press of one side and some on the political press on the other side, and it was expressly stated by the Committee at whose instance they were appointed that they were not to be interfered with in their political freedom or independence.”

In July, 1894, the Honourable Mr. Laurier said :—

“Some years ago, in 1882 or 1883, when the late Minister of the Interior—the late Hon. Thomas White—was Chairman of the Committee, a report was adopted by this House, and at that time it was understood that the shorthand writers should receive \$2,000 a year, and that their services might be taken advantage of by the Government at any time during the recess, and the translators were to receive \$1,000, and were to be free to take up any occupation they liked during the recess * * * After the session they are free to go into journalism or anything else they like * * * The rule has always been that during the session they are to devote their whole time to the work for which they are paid by this House; outside the session they can do what they please.”

In conclusion, I beg to submit to your Committee that the above quotations show clearly that the translators of the Debates are not to be considered as members of the civil service; that their right to engage in any pursuit they choose between the sessions, when not employed in translating the Debates has been repeatedly acknowledged in the House of Commons; and that in taking a certain part in the late election I was violating no rule to which I might be subjected. But should your Committee declare that in the future we are not to interfere in any way in politics, I am quite willing to abide by that decision, doing my work faithfully as I have done for the past thirteen years.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. VANASSE,
Assistant Translator of Debates.

(K.)

(*Translation.*)

NOTRE DAME DES NEIGES, 14th September, 1896.

MR. CHAIRMAN,—I ascertained from the reports of the proceedings of the Debates Committee published by the newspapers on the 10th inst. that two statements have been made by Mr. Lucien Lasalle, translator, to the effect: 1st. That he did not authorize the president to have his name placed on the circular letters sent out in 1894 in reference to the revision of the electoral lists. 2nd. That he protested against the same being done as soon as apprized.

As I was president during the above mentioned period, I find myself under the painful necessity of protesting against such statements being made, especially as the same involves a serious charge against me, a charge which is not only baseless, but utterly false. I therefore beg to ask that you will accept my affidavit, herewith enclosed, which I send you with a view of establishing the truth in regard to this matter. And by way of further proving my statements, I also send you five documents marked I, II, III, IV and V. The two first, viz., I and II, are original papers received

by me directly, while the three last, viz., III, IV and V are copies of originals which were approved of by me.

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,
FRANÇOIS BENOIT.

P. A. CHOQUETTE, Esq., M.P.,
Chairman Debates Committee,
House of Commons.

(*Translation.*)

I François Benoit, do solemnly declare that I did not place the name of Mr. Lucien Lasalle at the end of any circular letters sent out in 1894 in connection with the revision of the electoral lists, but on the contrary during the whole of the time the said Lucien Lasalle was at the office of the association, he himself drew up and signed his name thereto as secretary of the Conservative Association, a title which he had a right to use.

That the statement made by him of having protested, immediately upon being made aware of the use made of his signature, is entirely false.

That the documents marked I and II are originals received directly, and those marked III, IV and V are copies of originals which were approved of by me.

I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of "The Canada Evidence Act, 1893."

Declared before me at the City of Montreal, this }
fourteenth day of September, A. D. 1896. } FRANÇOIS BENOIT.
EUSEBE LALIBERTÉ.

Commissioner of the Superior Court of the District of Montreal.

(I)

(*Translation*)

MONTREAL, 30th August, 1894.

MY DEAR SIR,—It has been agreed to convene a meeting of the association for the purpose of securing the services of parties to look after the revision of the electoral lists—the date fixed being Friday of next week, at 2.30 p.m., at the government offices, St. Gabriel St.

A preliminary meeting, composed of a few persons, will take place Tuesday at about 12 o'clock at the above place. Notices for said meeting will have to be sent, and it would greatly facilitate my work if I had the books containing the names and addresses. Will you therefore be good enough to inform me whether these books are in your possession or at the government offices? I also hope to be able to see you before above date to submit, for your approval, the forms of invitations which I have prepared. If you will fix a date convenient to you for me to meet you at the government offices or elsewhere, I will be there.

Yours faithfully,

L. LASALLE,
1205 Mignonne St., Montreal.

Debates Committee.

(II)

(*Translation*)

MONTREAL, 1st September, 1894.

DEAR SIR,—A preliminary meeting of the Conservative Association has, at the request of the Hon. Mr. Ouimet, Minister of Public Works, been called for Tuesday, 4th September inst., at 2.30 p.m., to be held at the government offices, No. 76 St. Gabriel street, at which questions connected with the revision of the electoral lists of the district of Montreal and other matters will be considered.

Yours faithfully,

L. LASALLE,
Sec'y Con. Assn.

Nos. III, IV and V are the three documents printed on pages 14 and 15 under the letter (H.)

(*Telegram*)

(L)

MONTREAL, 16th Sept., 1896.

P. A. CHOQUETTE, M.P.,
Commons, Ottawa.

Authorized to say Lasalle's salary fifteen dollars per week, during revision only.
Letter.

FRANCOIS BENOIT.

60 Victoria.

Appendix (No. 2.)

A. 1896 (2)

REPORT

OF THE

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

AGRICULTURE AND COLONIZATION

FIRST SESSION, EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

1896—(SECOND SESSION)

PRINTED BY ORDER OF PARLIAMENT



OTTAWA

PRINTED BY S. E. DAWSON, PRINTER TO THE QUEEN'S MOST
EXCELLENT MAJESTY

1896

Agriculture and Colonization.

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Agriculture and Colonization.

THE COMMITTEE.

(THOMAS BAIN, Esq., *Chairman.*)

Messieurs :

Bain,
Bazinet,
Beith,
Bell (*Addington*),
Bell (*Pictou*),
Bergeron,
Bernier,
Blanchard,
Boisvert,
Bostock,
Bourassa,
Bourbonnais,
Boyd,
Broder,
Burnett,
Calvert,
Campbell,
Cargill,
Casey,
Christie,
Clancy,
Cochrane,
Davin,
Dechene,
Dimock,
Douglas,
Dugas,
Dupont,
Dupré,
Dyment,
Edwards,
Erb,
Fauvel,
Featherston,
Ferguson,
Fisher,
Frost,
Gauthier,
Gibson,
Gilmour,
Godbout,
Guay,
Guillet,
Haley,
Harwood,
Henderson,
Hodgins,
Hughes,
Hurley,
Hutchison,
Ingram,
Joly de Lotbinière (*Sir Henri*),
Lang,
LaRivière,

Légris,
Lewis,
Macdonald (*King's*),
Macdonald (*Selkirk*),
Mackie,
MacLaren,
McCormick,
McGillivray,
McGregor,
McGugan,
McHugh,
McInnes,
McLennan (*Glengarry*),
McLennan (*Inverness*),
McMillan,
McMullen,
McNeill,
Marcotte,
Martin,
Maxwell,
Meigs,
Montague,
Moore,
Morrison,
Mulock,
Oliver,
Parmalee,
Pettet,
Pope,
Poupore,
Proulx,
Ratz,
Richardson,
Rinfret,
Robinson,
Roche,
Roddick,
Rogers,
Rosamond,
Seagram,
Semple,
Sproule,
Stenson,
Stubbs,
Sutherland,
Talbot,
Taylor,
Tolmie,
Tucker,
Turcot,
Tyrwhitt
Wilson,
Yeo.

Agriculture and Colonization.

REPORT.

The Select Standing Committee on Agriculture and Colonization present the following as their second and final report :—

SUBJECTS CONSIDERED.

The Committee have had before them statements in evidence relating to agriculture, namely : 1. The admission of Canadian thoroughbred stock into the United States without American registration, and on this head recommend,—That the Minister of Agriculture be requested to correspond with the Secretary of State for the United States to obtain a withdrawal of the order requiring that Canadian stock should first be entered in the American register and that they accept Canadian registration.

The Committee have also had under consideration the following :—

2. Cold storage for aid to export of perishable farm products.
3. Modification of quarantine regulations in the import of thoroughbred horses and cattle.
4. An extension of the privilege of cattle shipment to England by United States ports.
5. Railway freight rates and what seems unfair discrimination therein.

In relation to the last four named heads the following report was submitted by a sub-committee and adopted by this Committee as a part of their report :—

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ADOPTED.

The sub-committee beg leave to report that they have considered the papers submitted to them, by your order, prepared by Messrs. Douglas, McCarthy, McMillan, Tolmie, Talbot and Rogers, which were the result of an informal meeting early this session of a number of members of Parliament interested in the welfare of the farmers of the Dominion by considering what could be done to place their surplus products on the English markets in the best condition, and at the lowest cost for transportation.

The following appear to be of such a nature as may be favourably pressed upon the attention of the government for early consideration :

1st. Cold storage transport for butter, cheese, meats, fruit, eggs and other perishable products of the farm.

2nd. Such modification of quarantine regulations as, without endangering our herds to disease, will better facilitate the importation of thoroughbred horses and cattle to improve our stock.

3rd. An extension of the privilege for cattle shipments to England by Boston and other American ports, thereby reducing ocean freights.

4th. The question of railway freight rates, including what seems to be an unfair system of discrimination, is one of great magnitude and of vital importance to the farmers of Canada, and should receive the most careful consideration.

PROVISION FOR COLD STORAGE.

The Committee would recommend that the Government be requested to make provision in the estimates for a sum of money sufficient to secure an efficient system of cold storage, and transportation to place our dairy and perishable farm products on the English markets in good condition, thereby saving to the farmer a heavy loss from depreciation during transit, which, once successfully established, they hope would soon become self sustaining.

APPENDICES TO REPORT.

The Committee append extracts from the papers referred to, which they recommend to be printed as an appendix (A) to this report, as they deal with important questions and are the result of much inquiry, also a concise statement prepared by Mr. James W. Robertson, Agricultural and Dairy Commissioner, at the request of the Committee (Appendix B) showing the efforts made and the expenditure incurred by Australasia and Denmark, to place their dairy products on the English markets in prime condition. Also the importation of butter by Great Britain from Canada in 1895.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. BAIN,

Chairman.

COMMITTEE ROOM 46,

HOUSE OF COMMONS, 29th September, 1896.

Agriculture and Colonization.

APPENDICES

TO

REPORT

Agriculture and Colonization.

APPENDIX A.

CAUSES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO LOWERING VALUES OF FARM PRODUCTS FOR EXPORT.

The ultimate market at which the agricultural products are disposed of, is that of the United Kingdom, and it is plain that nothing that can be done in Canada can increase the price or value of commodities in that market. But the products of the Canadian farmer, when fit for that English market, are reduced in value by two causes: (1) By the deterioration in the quality which, owing to the distance separating the producer from the consumer, lowers the value of the Canadian article almost to the verge of extinction before it reaches its destination, and on many articles of a perishable nature is so great as to be prohibitive; and (2) the freight rates by land and sea, which, in parts inland from the seaboard, are so excessive as to almost eat up the value of the article in its cost of transportation.

RAILWAY DISCRIMINATION.

The minor question is dealt with first. Your Committee does not doubt, although not pretending to give exact data for the conclusion at which it has arrived, but, speaking from what may not unfairly be considered common knowledge, that the great railways of Canada discriminate in several ways, all of which bear heavily upon the agricultural classes. There is, firstly, discrimination in favour of the foreign and against Canadian products, excused by the companies on the ground that it is only by carrying the American products at a reduced rate that they can secure any part of the carrying trade of the American great west. While this may be true, it is, nevertheless, unjust to the Canadian farmers and injurious to Canadian interests, as thereby giving to the American farmer alongside our own people a higher price for the crops of like kind produced by the farmers in both countries. This is especially unfair on the part of railway companies that have been largely constructed at the expense of Canadians. Then, there is discrimination against localities, and it is not an unknown thing that a freight rate for goods carried between local and non-competitive points is double, nay, treble, the rate for carrying the same class of goods twice the distance and covering in part the same mileage of the road where the terminal points are subject to competition. And, lastly, there is a discrimination in favour of individuals, chiefly the larger dealer against his smaller competitor, which in the end leads to the ruin of the poorer man, and this does away with the competition between buyers, to the manifest injury of the farmer, who has to sell his cereal grains, or cattle, or whatever he may have to dispose of, to the favoured individual who by railway discrimination is alone left to carry on the business, whatever it may be. There is much complaint also at the arbitrary and preposterous rule by which a fictitious weight is placed on young cattle carried between the eastern provinces and Manitoba and the North-west, which makes it impossible for the farmer in the west to improve his herd by purchasing young thoroughbred animals in the east. This is a matter of great practical importance, as it operates as a prohibition against the improvement of stock in Manitoba and the North-west, and to that extent postpones the carrying on of that mixed farming which it is believed is so essential to the prosperity of that part of the Dominion. Finally, there is a great loss inflicted on the shippers of goods in bulk, a large portion of the commodity shipped being useless, and consequently unremunerative, on which, however, freight has to be paid. For this, of course, the carriers are not responsible, but it is an important factor to be kept in mind when an attempt is being made to suggest a remedy for the improvement of the farmer's condition.

OCEAN FREIGHTS.

The freight, too, by sea, more especially in the carriage of live stock, is higher from Canada than from American seaports, and while the best remedy that suggests itself is the encouragement of trade with the mother country, there would undoubtedly be a lowering of rates if the shipper of live stock had permission to send his cattle *via* Boston or other American ports. The Committee learns with pleasure that the concession of sending cattle to Boston has recently been obtained from the United States authorities, and exporters are already satisfied that this choice of an alternative route will tend to equalize freight rates on ocean shipments to the great advantage of the Canadian shipper. It is hoped that other arrangements of a mutually advantageous character may be made with our American neighbours.

RAILWAY CONTROL.

The Committee knows of no means by which the railway companies are to be forced to obey the law which forbids discrimination except the appointment of a railway commission or other tribunal with powers such as the railway commissioners in England or the Interstate Commerce Committee of the United States have. It is a fact worthy of notice that, although Canada has over sixteen thousand miles of railway, she stands alone in English-speaking communities in having practically no governmental control to insure by the universal carriers of modern times the fulfilling of the conditions on which the important and practically exclusive franchises they hold were granted to them. By some such means the cost of transportation might be reduced, and the selling value of the products thereby so much increased. But perhaps the most important question which the Committee has considered yet remains to be elucidated.

COLD STORAGE.

How are Canadian farm products to be laid down in the English market in prime condition equal to that in which they are offered for sale at home? To this question one solution alone appears satisfactory, and that is by the adoption of a system of cold storage which will keep the article stored in the condition in which it is deposited in the storehouse for a time sufficiently long to cover that required for its transportation. This it must be understood means (*a*) warehouses to receive and store the goods until shipped by rail, (*b*) cold storage cars to carry the goods to the port of export, (*c*) warehouses with cold storage appliances at the port to hold the goods until shipped by sea, (*d*) ships provided with cold storage accommodation to carry to the port of destination, and (*e*) cold storage warehouses to receive the goods in Great Britain until they are disposed of. If these means are attainable, the only question being one of cost, the first inquiry is, to what extent would the producer be benefitted thereby? In the opinion of the Committee it is not too much to say, taking one thing with another, articles which, from their perishable character cannot be shipped, and articles which, although now sold for export, suffer much from climatic causes and natural decay, whereby their value is reduced fully one-half (which cold storage would avoid), that the value of the farm products, including in this term the widest signification of animals and goods produced on the farm, would be increased fully 25 per cent. The Committee have been led to adopt this conclusion by the reflection that meats, cheese, fruit, poultry, butter and eggs would benefit to an extent that is difficult to exaggerate. For such a result a reasonable expenditure is surely warranted and on public grounds can be fully justified. The scheme to be a success involves the establishment of cold storage warehouses in central parts of the provinces and of the Northwest, and what may be considered a cold storage chain of communication reaching therefrom to the important centres where food products are in demand and command the highest prices in the motherland. The Committee has arrived at the conclusion that these facilities cannot be secured within any reasonable period, and unless within

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a comparatively short time, the encouragement which the farmer needs may be of but little avail to the present generation without governmental aid in some form or other. No doubt there are objections to which the committee is fully alive against what is denominated paternalism, and to a past generation of political economists such an expenditure as suggested was one that the government had no concern with. But however that view may have prevailed, it is believed to be fast giving way to the necessities and condition of modern times.

Thus we find England legislating under the most conservative of administrations in the advancement of the social welfare of the people, while many of the Australian colonies, the direct competitors of the Canadian farmer, are spending large sums of public money in encouraging the exports of farm products and in other ways building up an export trade with Great Britain ; while Denmark, which has obtained the practical control of the import butter business of Great Britain, has attained and maintains that position by government aid and supervision extended to the dairying interests in various ways. The Committee, therefore, do not hesitate to advocate the wise and judicious expenditure of public money in the promotion of the cold storage scheme which is suggested in this report.

TWO PROPOSITIONS.

How that should be done is perhaps more for the Government to determine than for this Committee to suggest ; but two schemes have been brought under its notice, which, while in some respects in agreement, differ in what may be termed details. It is common to both propositions that the railway companies should be induced to provide cold storage cars and to run the same from points where warehouses are established, at regular intervals, by such subventions as is fair under all the circumstances, the government retaining control over rates of freight, and that in a like manner the steamship lines should be subsidized for providing cold storage accommodation, the government retaining, as a consideration for such aid, control over the shipping conditions and freight rates. By this means, and without unduly burdening the treasury, weekly or fortnightly lines of steamships, trading to all the great centres of population, such as London, Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow and Bristol, might be secured, and the different provinces in such a scheme would be fairly and equitably provided for. The Committee are convinced that the attainment of these results is quite within the resources of Canada, but would recommend that government aid should be granted but for a limited period, and to establish the business, trusting that in the not distant future private enterprise would without subventions be enabled to maintain it. There remains, however, the manner of providing warehouses. One plan is to leave this to private enterprise, paying as an encouragement, as well to the warehousemen as to the depositor of goods, a certain proportion of the storage charges. This would be a direct bonus to the man who had sufficient enterprise to collect and store the goods, but seems objectionable for many obvious reasons ; while the other scheme is the one adopted by the Legislature of New Brunswick at its last session, to provide a fund to guarantee for a limited term of years interest at a moderate rate of the cost of erecting cold storage warehouses so long as they are kept open, and being at the same time under certain government control. In this way, as the Committee has been informed, for the annual sum of \$7,500 for seven years New Brunswick is negotiating for the establishment of four cold storage houses at St. John, Woodstock, Chatham and Sussex, which, it is thought, may end in securing their construction. The Committee prefer the latter plan as being one more certain to result in the speedy carrying out of the cold storage system, to which they attach so much importance, and as being one fairer to the community at large. And attached to the cold storage warehouses in some places there should be slaughter houses, where animals unsuitable for export alive might be properly prepared for transportation as dead meat.

The Committee have also had an opportunity of hearing from Professor Robertson, the Dairy Commissioner, a statement of the system on which he has succeeded in establishing creameries in the North-west, and the Committee think that, under the circum-

stances, government aid might well be extended to such other places in the North-west for the like purposes where the local circumstances requisite to ensure their success can be obtained.

QUARANTINE REGULATIONS.

Another matter by no means unimportant from a practical point of view has been under the consideration of the Committee. It is the onerous cattle quarantine regulations which are now in force. Nothing can be more important for the agricultural interests of Canada than that our herds should be able to maintain and increase the reputation now enjoyed by them in some parts of the Dominion as being equal to the best description of cattle in any part of the world. That this excellence is only to be preserved by the constant infusion of the blood of the highest class of thoroughbred stock is certain, yet such are the regulations that the cost of the importation of live stock, owing to their detention in quarantine, makes their importation at present prices well-nigh impossible. Surely animals imported from countries where no epidemic exists might be allowed through our ports on it, being shown that the animal itself was free from disease when shipped, and was in condition on arrival to pass a veterinary examination as to its condition of health. Such changes in the law and regulations as may be required to effect this end should, the Committee think, be made with the least possible delay, the government retaining in its hands ample power by Order in Council to re-enact the present or some other effective means to prevent the introduction of cattle, without the most complete security as to their freedom from latent disease from countries where any cattle epidemic exists.

ABATTOIRS.

A matter of no inconsiderable moment has been under consideration by the Committee, viz., the establishment of abattoirs in different parts of the Dominion. The benefits which would accrue from them would be the utilization of every part of the animal when slaughtered, some of which now goes to waste, the canning of meats, which in parts of the United States has become a great industry, and the encouragement this would give the farmers to increase their herds, and to abandon a practice, now too prevalent, of killing their young stock because found unprofitable to bring to maturity. The Committee has been impressed by the great value that such enterprises would be to the community, but, thinking it wiser in seeking government aid to err on the side of safety, has not felt warranted in doing more than drawing attention to the subject, in the hope that if the cold storage system should prove to be successful, means would not be wanting to aid what may be considered a sister undertaking.

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APPENDIX B.

ASSISTANCE GIVEN BY GOVERNMENTS IN AUSTRALASIA AND EUROPE, TO STIMULATE THE MANUFACTURE AND EXPORT OF DAIRY PRODUCTS.

Professor Fjord, of Copenhagen, began refrigeration experiments in 1885-86 to discover the best methods for the delivery of butter from Denmark to Great Britain by cold storage.

Denmark.—Comparisons were made between the quality of different samples of butter made in the same way, but in one case kept in chilled rooms at temperatures from 35 to 43 degrees Fahr., and in the other case in ordinary cellars at a temperature of 59 degrees Fahr. After the butter had been kept for from 30 to 38 days, a comparison was made of the quality, first, at Copenhagen, and also at Newcastle and London, England. The tests showed that the butter kept in the refrigerated rooms compared with the butter kept in ordinary cellars was

119 times, better,
5 times equal,
and 1 time inferior.

Export.—The quantity of butter exported from Denmark to Great Britain in 1885 was 42,289,632 pounds; the quantity exported in 1895 was 130,230,240 pounds.

AUSTRALASIA.

Victoria.—The Government of the colony of Victoria provided for the payment of bonuses for a term of six years, on butter which was exported outside the Australasian colonies. The amount of the bonus was based upon the price at which the butter was sold in Great Britain. The bonus was one penny per pound on butter selling between sevenpence and eightpence, twopence per pound on butter selling between tenpence and elevenpence, and threepence per pound on butter selling at one shilling and over.

Legislative Appropriation.—In 1892-93, the sum voted in that colony for giving bonuses for dairy produce and fruit exported to foreign markets, to be expended under regulations to be approved by the Governor in Council, was £40,000, or nearly \$200,000.

Government Bonuses.—In the colony of Victoria, the government also gave assistance in the form of bonuses for the erection of cheese factories and creameries during six years from June 30th, 1889 to 1895. During the six years, 1889 to 1895, bonuses to the amount to \$51,919 were paid to 42 cheese factories, and bonuses to the amount of \$95,170 were paid to 124 creameries. The bonuses were granted for a specific period of six years only.

In several of the Australasian colonies the government employs graders, to grade or classify the butter at the point of shipment.

Government Expenditure for Cold Storage.—In the colony of Victoria in 1894, the sum of \$9,781 was paid to the Melbourne Corporation for storing and freezing butter. Storage for three months free of charge has been given by the government in the government Refrigerator Works, at the port of Newport. All expenses for receiving and storing butter for export and working the refrigerator machines are paid by the government out of a grant made for promoting exports of dairy produce, etc. In 1894-95, the grant was \$48,667.

New Zealand.—The government of the colony of New Zealand pays the expense of freezing the butter and chilling the cheese at certain ports where cool store-rooms are erected. During 1895, the cost to the government for freezing the butter and chilling the cheese was £5,000 sterling, costing about one-half cent per lb. of butter.

GOVERNMENTS AS SHIPPING AGENTS.

In several of the colonies the government has acted as shipping agents.

In Victoria.—Acting as shipping agents, the government charged $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound from the original point of shipment to stores in London, England.

In Western Australia.—The government took charge of shipments of butter and made agreements with the mail steamship companies to carry it in cold storage compartments at $1\frac{3}{4}$ cents per pound.

Employment of Experts.—A special trade expert or dairy produce agent is employed to watch the marketing of Danish products in Great Britain, to prosecute merchants for selling products from other countries under the brand of Danish, and to make suggestions through the official channels in Denmark of any methods that might be adopted to cause the Danish products to obtain the highest possible place and price in the British markets.

The governments of the colonies of New Zealand and Victoria also employed a special expert in Great Britain for periods at different times.

Australasian Butter Export Collectively.—The total quantity of butter imported from the Australasian colonies into Great Britain in 1890, was 4,535,776 pounds.

In 1895, it was 35,083,664 pounds.

BRITISH IMPORTATION OF CANADIAN BUTTER.

The quantity of butter imported into Great Britain from Canada during the calendar year 1895 was 4,362,288 pounds.

J. W. ROBERTSON,
Agricultural and Dairy Commissioner

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RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE COMMITTEE.

The following resolutions were adopted by the Committee as recommendations for the promotion of the agricultural interests referred to in each :—

No. 1.—In reference to obtaining acceptance by the United States, of Canadian registration of thoroughbred stock,

Moved by Mr. Featherston, seconded by Mr. McGillivray :—

“That the Minister of Agriculture be requested to correspond with the Secretary of State for the United States, to obtain a withdrawal of the order requiring that Canadian stock should first be entered in the American register, and that they accept Canadian registration.”—*Adopted.*

COMMITTEE ROOM 46,
29th September, 1896.

No. 2.—Resolution in reference to papers submitted to the Committee, *vide* sub-committee's report as adopted, in preceding final report, p. 5.

Moved by Mr. Sproule, seconded by Mr. Davin :—

“That the report just read be referred to a sub-committee composed of Messrs. Clancy, Sproule, Dupont, Douglas, McMillan, Rogers, McLennan (Inverness), Martin and the Chairman.”—*Adopted.*

COMMITTEE ROOM 46,
24th September, 1896.

No. 3.—Complimentary vote to the Chairman.

Moved by Mr. Sproule, seconded by Mr. Featherston,—“That the thanks of this Committee be now tendered to Mr. Bain, for the judicious and painstaking energy with which he has discharged the incumbency of the Chairmanship of the Committee in the current session of Parliament.”—*Adopted.*

COMMITTEE ROOM 46,
29th September, 1896.