

Dominion Parliament.

OTTAWA, May 28.—In the house to-day in answer to Mr. Forbes, Sir John Thompson said the government did not know as Forbes intimated that the collector of customs at Louisburg was conducting a general store and supply business, but would instruct the inspector of customs to ascertain and report the facts.

The notices of motion were all gone through in about two hours, the only noteworthy debate occurring on the motion of Mr. Mills of Rothwell, "that it is highly desirable that steps should be taken by the Canadian government to introduce the fur seal into Hudson's bay and other waters upon the eastern coast of Canada."

The minister of marine took issue with the member for Bothwell, and contended that the cost of the experiment would be very great, and that as the fur seal was a great consumer of fish the introduction into the North Atlantic might prove prejudicial to our fisheries.

Mr. Mills, in reply, thought that fur seals from the Falkland Islands could be transferred to Hudson Bay at a small cost, and that if their presence in the North Atlantic were found by experience to be injurious to our fisheries, they could easily be exterminated by killing them on their breeding grounds.

Mr. Stairs agreed with the minister of marine that the proposed experiment might result in more injury than good. He instanced the introduction of the rabbit into Australia, of the mongooses into Jamaica, and of the English sparrow into America as cases where men by attempting to improve on the arrangements of nature had taken nothing but loss by the motion. The debate was adjourned.

Public bills and orders being reached, Dr. Weldon's bill for disfranchising voters who have taken bribes standing first, the house went into committee on it and passed two sections, but on section 16, which provides for the deposit, being reached, a debate arose, and Sir John Thompson, in the absence of Dr. Weldon, moved that the committee rise and report progress, which was done.

The succeeding ten orders were then called, including Charlton's Sunday bill and McCarthy's Northwest bill, but the promoters being absent they were allowed to stand.

Mr. Mulock's bill to amend the Railway act by providing for adequate protection for conductors and motor-men on electric railways was read a second time in committee and a third time and passed. Then the house adjourned till to-morrow.

OTTAWA, May 29.—Sir John Thompson introduced a bill to shorten the time between nomination and polling day at Dominion elections in certain constituencies which he did not name.

The tariff was taken up. The duty on cocoa and cocoa shells was changed from 25 to 20 per cent, and on straw-board from 40 to 30 per cent. The word "medicated" was struck out of it, imposing a duty upon cod liver oil, and the rate on silvered glass was changed from 30 to 27½ per cent. A number of changes were made in the classification of iron and leather goods. The duty on emery wheels was fixed at 25 per cent.

blast furnace slag, rough marble and ingot mould were added to the free list.

Sir Richard Cartwright pointed out that the duty on yarns used in making carpets was over 60 per cent., but Mr. Foster defended the duty as necessary to protect these engaged in spinning coarse yarns.

When Mr. Foster moved that the committee rise, Mr. Mulock moved that the government reconsider the duty on rice, which was now full 100 per cent.

Mr. Foster said the matter had been fully discussed, and he saw no reason to reconsider the decision reached.

The tariff resolutions were reported. The House then went into committee on supply and passed service estimates for judges' salaries.

A sharp discussion took place regarding the absence of Controller of Customs Wallace, who is away attending the Grand Orange Lodge.

Mr. Foster gave notice of the following proposed resolution:

That it is expedient to provide that the governor-in-council may enter into a contract for a term not exceeding ten years with any individual or company for the performance of a fast weekly steamship service between Canada and the United Kingdom, making connection with a French port, on such conditions as to the carriage of mails and otherwise as the governor-in-council deems expedient, for a subsidy not exceeding \$750,000 per annum.

OTTAWA, May 30.—In the house to-day Sir John Thompson said in reply to Mr. Laurier that the government bill amending the Franchise Act would probably be ready within a week. It was proposed to make the provincial franchises the basis of new electoral lists, adding thereto persons disqualified. The time for making revision would be shortened probably by making it commence later in the year. Revision officers would still be required.

The house then went into committee on Dr. Weldon's bill which was still under consideration at six o'clock. Several important amendments were made. One making the deposit one thousand dollars instead of five hundred, another giving an appeal to a Superior court, to any voter found guilty of accepting a bribe and others to prevent the use of the bill by parties wishing to file election petitions.

No proceedings can be taken under this bill while an election petition is pending.

After recess Dr. Weldon's bill was passed through committee with a rider that no proceedings under it could be instituted after a year from the date of the election.

Mr. Charlton's Sunday observance bill was next taken up, and took up the remainder of the sitting, debating the first section which relates to Sunday newspapers. The bill was vigorously opposed by Messrs Amyot, Langelier, McLean (of East York), Davin and others. It was eventually amended by the consent of the mover so as to only refer to the sale of newspapers, but on motion to adopt the first section as amended it was moved in amendment that the committee rise and report progress, which was carried, 59 to 40.

Mr. Davies intends to bring up the Ellis case to-morrow.

As the duty on nuts and bolts stands it is, on those less than three eighths of an inch in diameter, one cent per pound and 25 per cent ad valorem. On those of greater diameter, one cent per pound and 20 per cent. Manufacturers of the smaller kind are pressing for more protection and made a hard kick in the House yesterday, but so far without avail.

A deputation from Springhill mines seeking through Intercolonial railway connection with the town presented the citizens' petition to-day to Sir John Thompson and Hon. Mr. Haggart, minister of railways.

Sir John promised to give favorable consideration to the petition and remove if practicable the difficulty.

Mr. Haggart promised the most thorough investigation into the merits of the proposals made by the petitioners and stated that a determined effort would be made by the government to meet the difficulties fairly. Messrs Haggart and Dickey would study the information now in the possession of the railway department and decide what further course could be taken to supplement the same. The deputation so far has been eminently successful.

OTTAWA, May 31.—In the House to-day Sir John Thompson's motion to give government business precedence on Wednesday was after some debate adopted.

On motion to go into supply, Mr. Davies announced that he would take up the Ellis case on some future day.

Mr. Martin then made a lengthy speech about the grant of 150,000 acres of land which by agreement with Manitoba Government in 1885 the Dominion Government had agreed to make to the Manitoba minority. He read at considerable length from the correspondence, which showed that when in 1889 the patent was about to issue, Archbishop Tache, on behalf of St. Boniface College, protested against the patent issuing, except with provisions protecting the rights of his college. The archbishop's reasons for this protest were that the original agreement by which the university was founded provided that it was to be an examining university solely and it is now proposed to make it a teaching university and use the grant of land for that purpose. He explained that in that event the Catholic population would derive no advantage from it, as they could unite in a teaching university. Following this protest the dominion government forwarded the archbishop's letter to university authorities with a draft patent containing provisions to the effect that the university should remain as constituted. This the university refused to accept and demanded a patent without conditions. The correspondence closed in 1891, and Mr. Martin contended that the Dominion government had decided in favor of the archbishop and proceeded to renounce them for doing so, arguing that they had no right to interfere in the matter.

Sir John Thompson complained that Mr. Martin had brought up the matter without notice and therefore the government was not prepared to discuss the question except from memory. He stated his recollection of the facts and said the government, having heard nothing further about the issue of the patents since 1891 had done nothing in the matter hoping that an amicable settlement would be made between the colleges comprising the university.

Mr. Laurier denounced the government for not deciding the dispute.

Hon. Mr. Daly replied and was followed by Mr. McCarthy, who endorsed Mr. Martin's contention that the government had decided the dispute in favor of the archbishop, who, he argued was all wrong both in his facts and conclusions.

After recess the house went into committee of supply and passed items under the head of legislation.

On the estimates for railways and canals Mr. Campbell of Kent objected to the L. C. R. rates on flour to P. E. I. He explained that all the flour shipped by Ontario millers to that province went by way of Boston.

Hon. Mr. Haggart explained that the Grand Trunk had fixed these flour rates. All the L. C. R. did was to collect a mileage rate equal per mile to that charged by the Grand Trunk.

On the item \$198,000 for the Dartmouth branch, Mr. McMullen made a speech objecting to any more expenditure on the Intercolonial or any of its branches. He said the company had spent fifty-three million dollars on these roads and never got a farthing out of them.

The item of \$2,000 for railway accommodation at Ferrona, N. S., was allowed to stand at the request of the opposition.

House adjourned at midnight.

Mr. Davis announces his intention of taking up the Ellis case to-morrow and moving a resolution condemning the action of the Supreme Court of New Brunswick.

OTTAWA, June 1.—Mr. Davis did not move his resolution in the case of Mr. Ellis to-day as we reported, and the house proceeded with consideration of the government bills. Sir Hubert Tupper's bill to amend the inspection of the ships act, Mr. Daly's bill for the preservation of game in the Northwest and Mr. Wood's bill to further amend the general inspection act were read in Committee and passed.

Sir John Thompson then moved the following resolution:

That it is expedient to provide that salaries of judges of the county courts of Cariboo, New Westminster, Yale, Nanaimo and Kootenay, shall be \$2400 each per annum.

On this resolution a general discussion arose, Messrs Fraser and Mills (Annapolis) strongly urging the claims of the county court judges of Nova Scotia, especially Judge Johnson, of Halifax, to an increase of salary.

Mr. McMullen vigorously opposed this suggestion, and said that judges were all getting enough. If they were not let them resign and there would be no difficulty about filling their places. He said lawyers in the House of both parties were always kicking about judges being underpaid and intimated that they did this to curry favor with judges before whom they practiced.

Mr. Fraser resented the imputation. He pointed out that neither he nor Mr. Mills practiced before Judge Johnston and said it was not true that lawyers equal in ability to any of the county court judges of Nova Scotia could be got to fill their places at the salaries now voted.

The subject was still under consideration at six o'clock.

After recess the debate on Sir John Thompson's resolution was continued.

Mr. Forbes spoke in favor of larger salaries to Nova Scotia county court judges, but said that the supreme court judges of the province were not over-worked and that some of them at least were no better than they should be.

He was replied to by Mr. McMullen who again urged his plea that if judges were not satisfied with their pay they could resign.

The House then went into committee on the tariff and passed tariff changes of which notice was given yesterday and some other items.

When the item of coal was reached Mr. McMillan protested strongly against this duty. He said that he knew strong pressure had been brought to bear on the government by railways and the manufacturing interests to remove this duty in whole or in part, but he was sorry to see the coal miners of Nova Scotia had been too strong for these Ontario interests. This duty was for the benefit of the Nova Scotia coal miners, and for them alone.

He was followed by Messrs. Charlton and Campbell of Kent in the same strain. The item was adopted.

Hon. Mr. Foster then moved that duties collected since 29th March under tariff then proposed and subsequent amendments stand, and that there be no refunds in cases of reductions and no additional duties demanded in cases of increase.

This passed and the House then went into supply, whereupon Mr. Charlton moved in amendment a resolution demanding that lands of the Northwest should be sold to settlers. He made a lengthy speech in favor of this policy.

When finished Hon. Mr. Daly moved the adjournment of the debate and the house adjourned at 11 o'clock.

It is understood the Ellis case will not come up until Tuesday.

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No, sir, responded the boy, looking the boss straight in the face.

Oh, you're not, ain't you? Well, we want a boy that is.

They ain't any, said the boy doggedly.

Oh, yes, there are; we have had a half dozen of that kind here this morning to take the place we have.

How do you know they are? asked the boy.

They told me so.

So could I if I was like them; but I'm different; I ain't a liar, and the boy said it with such an air of convincing energy that he got the place.

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