PREFERENTIAL TRADE.

Dr. Stockton Continues His Speech in Reply to That of Governor.

Members of the Government Endeavor to Make Light of the Amendment.

Dr. Alward, Mr. Hill and H. H. Pitts Speak—Hon. Mr. Tweedie Had the Floor at Adjournment.

FREDERICTON, N. B., Feb. 11.—On the opening of the house this afternoon, Mr. Chipman rose to a question of privilege. He quoted from the St. John Record of last evening a statement expressing surprise that he (Chipman) had neither moved nor seconded the address and adding that it was not because he had not been asked. Mr. Chipman said this statement was untrue. He had not been asked to move or second the address in reply to the speech from the throne, and any party who attempted to draw inferences from the fact of his not doing so was entirely wrong.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie submitted the report of the contingent committee. He also submitted a return of the indebtedness of the municipality of Northumberland; return of assessed value of property, etc., of the municipality of Kings, and return of indebtedness of the town of Woodstock.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie moved, seconded by Mr. Stockton:

Whereas, It has been represented to this house that Mr. Martin, a member for the county of Madawaska, is ill and unable to attend the meetings of this house the present session, and desires to be excused from such attendance; therefore

Resolved, That Mr. Martin be excused from attendance for the meeting of this house during the present session.

The resolution was passed by unanimous consent of the house.

Mr. Black gave notice of a resolution for Monday, asking that this honor be asked to lay before this house a statement in detail of all amounts paid by the government by warrant, cheque or otherwise, between the 31st of October, 1897 and the 10th day of February, 1898, together with statement of all expenditures incurred, but not paid on the 31st of October, 1897; also, a statement of all revenue received between the said dates.

Dr. Alward gave notice of resolution for the production of a detailed statement of the banking operations of the government during the fiscal year.

Mr. Black gave notice of a resolution calling for the production of a statement in detail showing what public works are now under construction or under contract and not appearing in the accounts of the fiscal year, and of the amounts paid upon such works down to the 10th of February, with particulars as to tenders.

Upon the order of the day being reached, Dr. Stockton resumed his speech upon the reply to the speech from the throne. He said that before taking up the thread of his remarks he wished to draw the attention of the government and the house to an existing evil that should be remedied, namely, that officers of this house were editors or contributors of newspapers and were here apparently for the purpose of abusing members of the opposition. During the recess he had frequently had mailed to him marked copies of newspapers by one gentleman especially, who was one of the engrossing clerks of the house. In the public interest when a gentleman became a public official he should cease to be a partizan. Last session at Ottawa the government had dismissed two or more of the officials connected witht the Hansard staff because they had written some letters to the newspapers during the political campaign against the party now in power. How long would an official or the house be permitted to hold his position if he devoted himself to attacking the government?

Hon. Mr. Tweedie—Do you mean the official reporter?

Dr. Stockton—Oh, no. Passing on, Dr. Stockton said it would be remembered that when he was discussing yesterday the methods of the government in dealing with the proposed sale of provincial debentures, the provincial secretary had stepped over and spoken to the official reporter, to which he (Stockton) had objected, saying that he wanted everything taken down, whereupon the provincial secretary said that he had gone over for the very purpose of impressing that upon the reporter. Yet in the St. John government organ of this morning not one word appeared of his remarks upon that subject, and the Sun only contained seven lines. Was the house a huge committee for the purpose of suppressing information? Were the government afraid to have his remarks appear?

Hon. Mr. Tweedie—I hold in my hand the report of the official reporter that was telegraphed in full to the two morning papers, and the hon. member knows that that is the fact, for the reporter told him so. The official reporter is not responsible for the newspapers. It is his duty to make such a report as his contract calls for and to telegraph the same to the papers, but he cannot ensure its publication. Gentlemen of both sides of the house had frequently felt grieved because matters that they wished to appear were not published. The hon. member apparently desired to leave an impression that the official reporter had done something wrong when he knew such was not the case.

Dr. Stockton—I admit that one of the reporters told me that he had sent down a full report.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson—We have no control over the Telegraph.

Dr. Stockton—Well, you give hundreds and thousands of dollars to it.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson—Because you get $300 a session have we any control over you? (Laughter.)

Dr. Stockton said the complaint he was making was against the subsidized organ of the government for withholding information. It was well known that the editor of the Telegraph was here yesterday and perhaps had been communicated with by the members of the government.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie—You are sparring for wind now.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson—He don't have to spar for wind; he has plenty of that.

Dr. Stockton—I do not think that such observations add to the dignity of the deliberations of this house. Let me say, however, that the wind mills are on the other side of the house. Dr. Stockton then quoted at length from Mr. Laurier's Liverpool speech, which, he said, did not voice the sentiment of the people of the country. While Canada has made concessions to the British manufacturer, it was only fair and right that we should express an opinion that it would be in the interest of Canada to be enabled to put upon the markets of the mother country our products in a position more favorable than those of other nations.

The opening clause of the amendment he had moved yesterday was: "We hail with pleasure all tendencies and efforts towards the unity and consolidation of the empire." Would any gentleman say that was not a reasonable proposition? Then the amendment went on to say: "We desire to assure your honor that we think it would tend to that happy consummation, as well as directly to stimulate the agricultural and other interests of this country, if Canada, in common with the other colonies, had preferential trade concessions in the markets of the mother country over foreign nations." Would any gentleman on the floors of this house say that that was not correct? Would they not say it would have a tendency to bind closer the ties between the mother country and Canada if England would admit our products upon conditions more favorable than those granted to other countries? He thought the government should accept the amendment, especially as he would assure them that he would not regard its passage as in any sense a vote of want of confidence. It was of the utmost importance that public opinion should be educated on this subject by the passing of this amendment. The question was one that rose far higher than any party associations or affiliations that could be imported upon the floors of this legislature. It was of the utmost importance that the government of the mother country should understand that we desired a preference in our agricultural and other products over those of foreign nations. The Hon. Mr. Ross, a prominent member of the Ontario government, had not thought it derogatory to his position to speak out strongly in favor of preferential trade and so endeavor to educate the public opinion of the great province of Ontario. He knew that a concession of that kind would be of immense advantage to the people of that province. It was true that Lord Rosebery thought that a commercial federation of the empire would imperil its relations with other nations, but what did Hon. Mr. Balfour, the leader of the house of commons, say? He said: "If the commercial federation of the empire has a justification at all that justification is found in the fact that it will draw closer the various distant and far separated members of this great community. If it does that, I say it is no affair of any foreign nation what we do in the matter. They do not consult our conveniences in the formation of their tariff, and I am not aware of any reason why we should consult their conveniences in the formation of our tariff.'

Continuing, Dr. Stockton said that if the colonies wanted closer commercial unity with the mother country the only way to realize that desire was to tell the mother country that it would be acceptable to them to be allowed to enter her markets on terms more favorable than those accorded to foreign countries.

Dr. Stockton said he noticed that it was stated in the report this morning that he had stated he gave due credit to the government for the importation of stock last year. He was not aware that he had used those words. What he said was that he thought it desirable that thoroughbred stock should be distributed among our farmers, but that if our own stock raisers had the proper quality of stock they should have been given a preference by the government over the farmers of Quebec or Ontario. It would be all right if our own raisers had not the stock required, but when they could supply the demand—

Mr. Smith—They could not do it.

Dr. Stockton—They could raise Jerseys without tuberculosis any way, and it was not necessary to send my friend to Quebec and Ontario to bring down diseased cattle. Why did not the hon. member ask our stock raisers if they could supply the stock?

Mr. Smith—I will tell you why. We have as good a quality of stock in the county of Carleton as anywhere in the province, and there was none there to be supplied.

Dr. Stockton—My hon. friend from Westmorland (Mr. Sumner) says they had plenty there.

Mr. Smith—I don't think so.

Dr. Stockton—Did you go to see,

Mr. Smith—I knew without going.

Dr. Stockton—Without ever inquiring of the stock raisers of this country my hon. friend knew by intuition that they had not any stock fit to buy.

Mr. Smith—A gentleman whom I could depend upon, Mr. Tilley, told me the stock could not be found.

Dr. Stockton—Did he ever visit the counties of Westmorland and Kings?

Mr. Smith—Yes.

Dr. Stockton said he could give the names of stock raisers in Kings county who could at least have supplied better stock than was brought here. Dr. Stockton again referred to the manner in which the government had recently sought to float provincial debentures. In consequence of the way in which that business had been managed there had grown up a feeling in the minds of some investors, at all events, that everything was not bona fide on the part of the government in their attempts to place that loan. The fact that the provincial secretary had failed to float the loan was rather a striking commentary upon the statement in the speech that the financial condition of the country was better than it ever was before.

Passing on, Dr. Stockton said that judging from the remarks of the hon. member for Victoria yesterday it was the intention of the government to issue greenbacks. If this was not his meaning what did the hon. member mean when he said: "If this government can do anything to furnish our farmers with more capital or cheaper money, I believe they will be great benefactors to the agriculturists of this province of ours." How could it be possible for this government to increase the currency or make money cheap unless the government intended to do something in the line of a credit business, or, as it were, endorse the paper of the farmers of the province? He hoped that no such scheme as that was contemplated.

Mr. Porter—Have not the governments of other countries assisted the farming industry by aiding to establish co-operative institutions?

Dr. Stockton said the government had assisted the agricultural interest in the past by giving bonuses to creameries and cheese factories. That was a very different thing from proposing to expand the currency and make money cheap.

Mr. Porter—I would explain to the leader of the opposition that that would be along the same line as preferential trade. (Laughter).

Dr. Stockton said that if hon. members thought that preferential trade could be laughed down in that way they were greatly mistaken. In conclusion Dr. Stockton said that he was not moving his resolution from any party standpoint at all, but from the standpoint of what he thought was in the best interests of the province, and he asked hon. members to give it that serious consideration which its importance demanded. If there was any phraseology in the resolution that could be improved upon he would be happy to accept any suggestion from the leader of the government in that direction. He felt at all events that he had done his duty in bringing to the attention of the house a proposition that if crystallized into law would prove more advantageous to the agricultural interests of our province than any that had been placed upon the statute book for the last twenty years. (Applause).

Premier Emmerson said he believed he would be pardoned if under the circumstances he felt called upon to begin his remarks with a personal reference. No member felt more regret than himself because of the changes wrought since last session. Since then the strings of public sympathy had been touched by the death of the then leader of the government. Figuratively speaking, he might say that badges of mourning shroud the columns of this room and overhang the arches of this building. Manifestations of respect and gratitude universally pervaded the land. The country had met with a great loss in the death of the man who was their honored leader last year. (Applause.) The government has sustained a serious loss in the death—which sad event had placed him (Emmerson) in his present position. While he appreciated the high honor paid him in being selected for the important post of leader of the government, he did not overlook the fact that the position carried with it grave responsibility. That responsibility he felt all the more in view of the names of the honored men who had preceded him. He thought, however, that the work would be made lighter by the knowledge that he would be upheld by the members of the government who surrounded him and by the other members of the legislature supporting the government. These honorable members would prove true to the interests of their respective counties and true to themselves as representatives of the country at large. He desired to join with the leader of the opposition in his splendid tribute to the leader of the government and also with him in his reference to the hon. member for Gloucester (Sivewright), a man whose classic attainments, whose kindly nature, whose high character made him a favorite with members whether they sat on the right or the left of Mr. Speaker. (Hear, hear.) These changes, however, had to come. They were but the forerunner of what is to come and when a member of the assembly dies we think of him without regard to his political affinity and remember him only because of his work and worth as a representative and a man. He joined with the leader of the opposition in his reference to the manner in which the mover and seconder of the address had discharged their duty. Last year it was his (Emmerson's) privilege to hear his colleague from Albert (Osman) make a splendid speech in moving the address in reply to the speech from the throne. He was particularly delighted with that speech because the mover (Osman) had come from the county which he (Emmerson) represented. The fact that he (Emmerson) lived in Westmorland county made him rejoice that Westmorland had this session sent as a successor to Mr. Killam, whose loss the house deplored, a gentleman of such great ability as his friend the mover of the address yesterday (Robinson) had shown himself to be. The hon. member for Victoria (Porter) had been called at the last moment because of the unavoidable absence of the gentleman who had been selected for that duty and the manner in which that gentleman (Porter) had discharged his important duty showed that his experience as a legislator had not been lost upon him. He most heartily congratulated both mover and seconder of the address, and also the country upon the fact of having such able representatives from their respective counties.

Continuing, the premier said: Dr. Stockton asks the house to accept the amendment. He (Emmerson) would not say that the amendment should be treated lightly if it came up at a proper time and in a proper way. He did not, however, think that the legislature should be asked to arrest the business of the province in order to express an opinion on preferential trade or on other matters especially of imperial or federal concern. If the leader of the opposition was sincere he would bring his matter up as a substantive resolution, as a separate resolution for discussion on its merits. This legislature had no jurisdiction on the question of imperial federation.

Dr. Stockton—I said nothing about imperial federation.

Mr. Emmerson read the amendment and said that the question involved was not an issue concerning this legislature. If it was of vital importance this was not the proper time to discuss it, and we should not be asked to stop everything else in order to deal with this matter. If we adopted this amendment what would it amount to? In bringing it forward the leader of the opposition was showing himself to be insincere, impracticable and trifling with the legislature. The leader of the opposition has suggested an amendment to the fisheries act. That hon. gentleman had as much to do with that act as the government had. He was at the time of its passage in 1884 and for many years afterwards a warm friend and defender of the government.

Dr. Stockton—I will tell the hon. member what my position in 1884 was on that question.

Premier Emmerson—If the hon. gentleman will possess his soul in patience I will state his position correctly, as given in page 78 of the reports of 1884.

Dr. Stockton—If I am not allowed to make an explanation only one conclusion can be drawn.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson—You shall have every opportunity of making any explanation you may require. In the meantime I will proceed to read from the official debates of 1884 just exactly what the hon. gentleman said in his support of the fishery act which he now condemns:

"Mr. Stockton believed the principle of the bill was a correct one and a step in the right direction, for if some protection be not afforded to the fisheries they will be destroyed in a few years. The bill does not say that the government will grant a 5 years' lease. It merely provides that they shall not give a lease for a longer period than five years. It seemed to him that under the bill the rights of the province and the rights of the lessees would be identical. Every effort would be made to maintain the provincial rights——"

Dr. Stockton—That does not mean that I advocated the locking up of those privileges in the hands of monopolists.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson—Just wait a minute. I will finish what you said on that occasion. "Gentlemen come in and take out grants of those valuable rights, and if the government do not step in and take the matter in their own hands, how long will it be before they have passed into the hands of private individuals, only a few years. The bill was to prevent further grants, to protect the fisheries and place them in such a position that they may bring funds into the exchequer."

Hon. Mr. Emmerson, continuing, said what he had read showed exactly the position at that time of the leader of the opposition, and placed him in a most insincere position of condemning now what he had then assisted to bring to pass. These fishery laws were passed, as he had stated, as far back as 1884, when very few of the present members of the assembly were here.

The debate was continued by Dr. Alward, who was followed by Mr. Hill, the latter having the floor at six o'clock.

After recess Mr. Hill resumed his speech.

Mr. Pitts followed, the next speaker being Hon. Mr. Tweedie, who after speaking until 10.15 o'clock moved the adjournment of the debate.

The house adjourned.

FREDERICTON, Feb. 12.—Hon. Mr. Emmerson, from the committee appointed to nominate standing and other committees, reported, recommending that committees be constituted as follows:

Contingencies — Tweedie, Porter, Chipman, Wells, Farris, Scovil, O'Brien (Northumberland), Veniot, Mott, McLeod, Smith, Martin, Barnes, Morrow, Pitts, Shaw, Osman.

Public accounts—Fowler, Dibblee, Robinson, Osman, Tweedie, Pinder, Sumner.

Agriculture—Russell, Martin, Porter, Smith, O'Brien (Northumberland), Legere, Farris, Morrow, Scovil, LaBillois, Paulin, Johnson, Shaw, McLeod, Howe, Carpenter.

Municipalities — Wells, Emmerson, LaBillois, Carpenter, Stockton, Tweedie, O'Brien (Northumberland), Russell, Chipman, Veniot, Farris, Sumner, McLeod, Scovil, Martin, Porter, Barnes, Dibblee, Howe, Black, Shaw, Alward, Smith.

Library—Hill, Emmerson, White, Richard, Stockton, Pitts.

Privileges—Tweedie, White, Emmerson, Wells, Stockton.

Corporations—Mott, White, Tweedie, Dunn, Beveridge, O'Brien (Charlotte), McCain, Morrow, Legere, Richard, Robinson, Bertrand, Scovil, Osman, Hill, Dibblee, Davidson, Stockton, Pitts, Pinder, Lockhart, Emmerson.

Law practice and procedure—White, Mott, Fowler, Emmerson, Richard, Alward, Black.

Standing rules—Hill, Wells, White, Veniot, Davidson, Alward, Black.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Emmerson, seconded by Hon. Mr. Tweedie, further consideration of the address in reply to the speech from the throne was made the order of the day for Monday.

Dr. Stockton suggested that some steps be taken, or some announcement made by the leader of the government, so as to hurry along the introduction of private bills, in order that it might not be necessary, unless in some very exceptional case, to suspend the rules, which declare that private bills shall not be received after the twentieth day of the session. The work of the house was often delayed waiting for private bills; and some such action as he suggested would have the effect of shortening the session.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson said he was pleased to hear this suggestion from the leader of the opposition. Last session his hon. friend, the provincial secretary (Tweedie) had proposed to move a resolution, which at the time required the unanimous consent of the house, and which resolution he thought would have met the difficulty complained of. The opposition, or at least one of them, had objected, and so the matter dropped. He was glad to have the co-operation of the leader of the opposition in seeing that the rules of the house be carried out as far as possible.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie said a reference to page 159 of the official debates of last year would show his position on the question. The hon. member who had objected was Mr. Lockhart of St. John. He (Tweedie) now read from the debates of last year as follows:

"After recess Hon. Mr. Tweedie said that with the unanimous consent of the house he would move amendments to rules 79 and 84, so that in future private bills would have to be filed with the clerk of the house the day before the opening of the session. If not so filed, such bills could only be introduced by the unanimous consent of the house, and by the payment of double fees. The proposed change would have the effect of shortening the sessions considerably."

"Mr. Lockhart objecting, the matter dropped."

Hon. Mr. Tweedie said perhaps the leader of the opposition would consent to having the motion carried now.

Dr. Stockton said he thought the motion was a little drastic, but he would be willing to confer with the provincial secretary, so that a motion that would pass unanimously might be agreed upon between them.

It was then agreed between the leader of the government and the leader of the opposition that there would be no departure this year from the rules requiring private bills to be introduced not later than the twentieth day of the session.

Adjourned.

Hon. Mr. Hill resumed the debate on the address, speaking to the amendment and dealing at some length with the question of preferential trade.

H. H. Pitts said that as regards the wheat question, he did not think our farmers could successfully compete with the rich prairie land of Manitoba even though the latter had the railway haul against it. Mr. Pitts paid a high tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Sivewright. It was often difficult to tell which side the hon. gentleman was on, but he generally voted all right—voted for the government.

Mr. Pitts said he had some little personal knowledge of the manner in which the recent bond transaction was carried on by the government. He did not blame the provincial secretary for calling those bonds in, for he believed a better price could be got for them, but he thought the hon. gentleman should adopt a new method of putting bonds on the market, or at least of opening them. There was a degree of uncertainty and dissatisfaction with regard to the manner in which the bond business was conducted in this town by the government. In matters of such importance as the floating of $1,000,000 of bonds there ought to be no chance for criticism with regard to the government's method of opening the tenders. He knew that people who came here from Ontario were open and above board in saying that there was conniving going on and that the highest tenderer did not receive it.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie—That is entirely so, for none were given at all.

Mr. Pitts—But I am speaking of your methods of tender. I say for the good credit of the country everything should be done openly and above board and there ought to be no secrecy.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie—Do you claim the tenders should all be opened before the parties tendering? Do you claim that any tenderer should see what the other parties tendered?

Mr. Pitts—I think so. In the city of Toronto the other day, when the council opened tenders for over $1,000,000 of bonds, they did so right in public meeting.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie—That is not correct.

Mr. Pitts said in St. John and Chatham no such secrecy was observed.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie—Do you claim that the tenders should be opened before the tenderers?

Mr. Pitts—Yes, I say they should be opened before the responsible people, so that the tenderers would have knowledge that there was no conniving going on.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie—I would ask the hon. gentleman to inform the house how there could be any conniving in the sale of bonds. Every man knows his own tender, doesn't he?

Mr. Pitts—Yes.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie—Take, for instance, the $35,000 issue of bonds at 4 per cent that brought 1.04. That was brought to the knowledge of the whole country through the press. Now, if any man had tendered higher than that would he not have made it known at once.

Mr. Pitts said this was not the point. If the tenders were opened before the tenderers the man who made the highest tender would have a pretty good chance to get the bonds, but if the thing was done secretly tenderers who had not put in the highest figure might be told what the highest tender was, and then would offer to go higher, so the highest tenderer would be fooled out of it. He was glad, however, for the credit of the country that the government had withdrawn the bonds, for he thought they ought to bring a higher price than either 92 for the currency bonds or 94 for the sterling bonds. Provincial bonds ought to sell at least as high as those of Toronto city.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie—The Toronto bonds were 3 1-2 per cent.

Mr. Pitts—Yes, but they brought about 3 per cent. Continuing, Mr. Pitts said he had witnessed the jubilee demonstration in London last June and a marvellous exhibition of energy and enthusiasm it was. He was satisfied that no more loyal supporters of the British flag could be found anywhere than in New Brunswick. In the address of last year the government had given the house to understand that they proposed to spend some large sum of money to commemorate the jubilee in some fitting way. Where had this grant been expended? Was it like the rest of the government promises—all wind?

Referring to the matter of immigration, Mr. Pitts said that there was not to be found in England at present, not even in the office of the New Brunswick agent, any literature whatever with reference to New Brunswick and the facilities it had to offer for settlers. The only move the government had made for years was to give a grant to Mr. Boyce to go to the old country and talk to the farmers, and that had been a failure. If the government would supply the numerous steamship lines now running between Canada and England with suitable literature something might be accomplished. The hand-books issued by the dominion government under both political parties practically ignored New Brunswick. The Grand Trunk and C. P. R. were of course more interested in attracting settlers to the west than to the maritime provinces.

Mr. Pitts said he observed that the government were holding out to the people of St. John the possibility of getting a grant if they behaved themselves. (Laughter.) He supposed the grant would be quite liberal if St. John could only guarantee the government four supporters at the next election. The government could not help the province better than by helping St. John, and he hoped the government would not continue the small, mean policy they had pursued in the past of drawing all the money they could out of St. John and giving very grudgingly in return.

According to the address the province was prosperous and had bright prospects in store. He did not think this was the case. He thought most of the tradesmen and farmers would say that they were going through pretty hard times. There was one old chestnut in the address, and that was with regard to the Eastern Extension claim. If the late leader of the government (Mr. Blair) was at all sincere in his professions, the question of the equitable claims of this province in this regard ought to culminate in something tangible at an early date.

Mr. Pitts said there had been a change of leader on the other side of the house, and as usual the provincial secretary had shown the white feather and humbly taken his position in the rear of the procession. It was said during the recess that if that gentleman was not selected for the leadership his friends would kick over everything. If the hon. member stepped out now how many would he take with him. Just Tweedie. He wasn't in it. He had no backbone. He was a kicker but not a sticker. He was no good. He had squawked every time when it came to an emergency. The government as now constituted reminded him of a great big man who had once pompously exclaimed: "I want you to understand I am a self-made man." "Well," said the other fellow, "you made a blamed poor job of it. If I had been you I would have let it out by tender." (Laughter.)

Mr. Pitts said preferential trade was no idle dream. He believed it was the thought of the statesmen of the old country that the free trade policy of Great Britain would have to be changed. Free trade was not the source of Britain's greatness. The secret of her commanding position today was that she had had a long period of peace; that she was mistress of the ocean; that she owned three-quarters of the ocean tonnage of the world; that her foreign diplomatic policy had been magnificent; that her people had been honest, industrious, intelligent and enterprising, and that her government was founded upon principles that had fought down those of every other nation in the world. (Applause.) It was idle to look upon the United States as a friend of England. The American press and the utterances of American politicians teemed with insults towards Great Britain and Canada. The time had gone by for these cringing, sway-back delegations to Washington from Ottawa. The true policy of Canada was to cultivate closer relations with the mother land rather than truckling any longer to the United States. (Applause.)

Hon. Mr. Tweedie spoke at some length on the bond tenders, justifying his course in not awarding the bonds to the highest tenderer a few weeks ago. He claimed that the opposition should not find fault, especially as the time had been extended, and their fault-finding might interfere with the tenders to be received next Monday.

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