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NUMBER OF BILLS PUT THROUGH COMMITTEE STAGE

The Town of Devon Given Authority to Acquire Water Systems--St. John River Log Driving Company Seeking Amend- ment to Its Act--The Motor Vehicle Act Amended.

The Legislature met at 8.30 p.m. Monday evening, and after disposing of considerable business, an amendment to the Motor Vehicle Law was passed requiring that in future chauffeurs must undergo an examination. A bill to enable the Town of Devon to acquire the water systems of the villages of Gibson and St. Marys was also passed. Mr. Pinder presented the petition of the St. John River Log Driving Company for the passage of a bill to amend the Company's act. Following is the official report of the proceedings:

Assembly Chamber, April 8, 1918.
The House met at 8.30 p.m.

Bills to amend the act relating to the collecting and levying of taxes in the City of Moncton, to amend acts relating to the Town of Moncton; to fix the valuation of Humphrey's Glass, Limited, in the City of Moncton, and to authorize the City of Moncton to issue debentures, were read a third time and passed.

MR. PINDER, with the unanimous consent of the House, moved for the suspension of the rule to permit the introduction of a bill to amend the act relating to the St. John River Log Driving Company.

HON. MR. BYRNE introduced a bill to amend the act relating to witnesses and evidence. He explained that under the bill it was proposed to allow provincial statutes to be proved in court on the certificate of the King's Printer.

HON. MR. BYRNE introduced a bill to amend the act relating to shorthand reporting in certain courts. He explained that under the bill special court stenographers would be able to assignments in the same manner as the official stenographers, and it was proposed to have the registrar of the Supreme Court to assign stenographers for duty at the Chancery and King's Bench courts. There would be not less than four stenographers assigned to the Court of King's Bench and one for duty at Chambers. It was also proposed to amend the act to make it the duty of the stenographer to attend a judge in court matters heard by him, without a jury, or in chambers. He said the judiciary and bar favored the changes and it was expected to simplify the mode of trying cases.

MR. PINDER presented the petition of the St. John River Log Driving Co. for the passage of a bill to amend the

act relating to said company.

MR. MURRAY (Kings) gave notice of motion that he would move on Thursday next, seconded by Mr. Tilley, "Resolved, that leave be granted for the introduction of a bill intituled 'An Act to confer the electoral franchise upon women, and in amendment of the Act 6 George V., Chapter 15, 'An Act respecting the elections to the Legislative Assembly.'"

The House went into committee with Mr. Dickson in the chair, and agreed to a bill to enable the Town of Devon to acquire the Gibson and St. Marys water systems and to provide for the taxation of certain persons.

The committee considered a bill to amend the act incorporating the Town of Sussex.

MR. MURRAY (Kings) explained that the bill was to remedy a difficulty arising from the fact that Sussex was incorporated partly under a special act and partly under the Towns' Incorporation Act. It also provided for the election of aldermen in rotation and representation in the municipal council by two members instead of one. Since the introduction of the bill the warden of Kings County, by letter, had protested to him against increasing representation of the town of Sussex in the municipal council. He believed that the town was entitled to increased membership, as it had 655 voters, whereas the largest parish, Studholm, had 667, and its payment of one-sixth of the Patriotic Fund assessment was greater than that of any parish.

The bill was reported as amended. The House went into committee with Mr. King in the chair, and considered a bill to amend the Motor Vehicles Act.

MR. BAXTER asked if the examiners of chauffeurs would go about the province conducting examinations.

HON. MR. VENIOT replied that it was the intention to hold these examinations in the larger centres, suitable notice of time and place being given in advance.

MR. YOUNG asked what changes had been made with regard to fees.

HON. MR. VENIOT said they were the same as in the old act.

MR. TILLEY asked if any provision had been made for an age limit for chauffeurs.

HON. MR. VENIOT replied that provision had been made.

MR. POTTS asked if those now licensed as chauffeurs would continue.

HON. MR. VENIOT replied that they would. He said further that his attention had been called to the fact that owners of motor vehicles, which were hired for the transportation of passengers, were attempting to have them classed the same as motor trucks for the purpose of being licensed. During the past week he had been notified that several owners had refused to take out automobile licenses, but had offered to take out motor truck licenses. They based their claim upon the words in the act "used exclusively for commercial purposes." He did not believe they were correct in this claim and asked the committee to consider the matter and give interpretation.

MR. PECK asked if motor tractors purchased by farmers would be taxed under this act.

HON. MR. VENIOT said that this question brought in a new feature. He supposed tractors would come under this section if they made use of the roads. If they were used exclusively on farms, they could not be taxed.

MR. MERSEREAU said that he had been informed by several hotel men who used cars to transport guests, that they believed that they need pay only the tax required for motor trucks, claiming that their cars were used exclusively for commercial purposes. He considered their claim correct.

HON. MR. VENIOT replied that it was not the intention under the act to permit them to make this classification.

MR. BAXTER said that according to his interpretation of the act, commercial purposes meant the transportation of goods, but other members thought differently. He believed, with the Minister, that the intention under the act was to class vehicles used for transportation of passengers as automobiles, but thought that on that point the wording of the bill should be made definite.

The bill was amended to meet his views.

MR. MURRAY (Kings) asked if the Minister had had his attention drawn to the matter of headlights on cars. Under existing legislation dimmers had to be used since January 1st of the present year. His own experience had shown him that the use of dimmers did not amount to much. He believed that New Brunswick should adopt measures similar to those in force in the State of Maine, which required that the light be diffused or cast a beam not more than a certain height from the ground.

HON. MR. VENIOT said his attention had not been called to this matter. That portion of the act had been in force only since January 1st, and public attention had not been generally directed to the matter.

MR. BAXTER said that in his experience diffused light meant less light and on most country roads the driver of the car required all the light he could get. He considered that the use of dimmers, when a car met another vehicle, would meet all requirements.

MR. MURRAY (Kings) said that a general thing the dimmers were not used.

MR. BAXTER—"Then someone should be punished."

MR. MERSEREAU asked if there was any speed limit except within the limits of towns and cities. Motorists from Fredericton and St. John made a practice of running on the good roads in and near the village of Fredericton Junction, where he lived, at very high rates of speed. He knew of cars running at a rate of 40, 45 and even 50 miles an hour. On one Sunday an old man driving a wagon had been struck by a powerful car and knocked clear off the road. The driver did not even stop to see if the man were killed. He personally had tried to get satisfaction from the owner of the car, but had failed.

HON. MR. VENIOT quoted sections of the Act which set the speed limit. He also moved that a new section be added providing that all expenditure for administration of the act be charged against the fees from licenses.

The bill was agreed to as amended. The committee took up the consideration of a bill to invest the title of the wharves of the province of New Brunswick in the Dominion of Canada.

MR. McGRATH said that an arrange-

(Continued on page 7.)

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which we struggle may be advanced, have thought fit, by and with the advice of our Executive Council for our Province of New Brunswick, to appoint, and do hereby appoint a week of Dedication and Preparation for the period of production approaching, beginning on the fifteenth April instant.

And we do hereby urge and request that the County Council of each and every County of Our Province of New Brunswick be convened in special Session on Saturday, the thirteenth April instant, to consider ways and means to stimulate or assist in the maximum production of essential foodstuffs in the respective Counties.

And We do hereby further urge and request that each and every Clergyman in Our Province of New Brunswick shall, from his pulpit on Sunday, the fourteenth of April instant, set forth the facts of the food situation as it affects the Allied cause, emphasizing the responsibility resting on this favored land, and invoking the blessing of Almighty God on the human efforts put forth towards production, that they may be blessed by Him who alone giveth the increase.

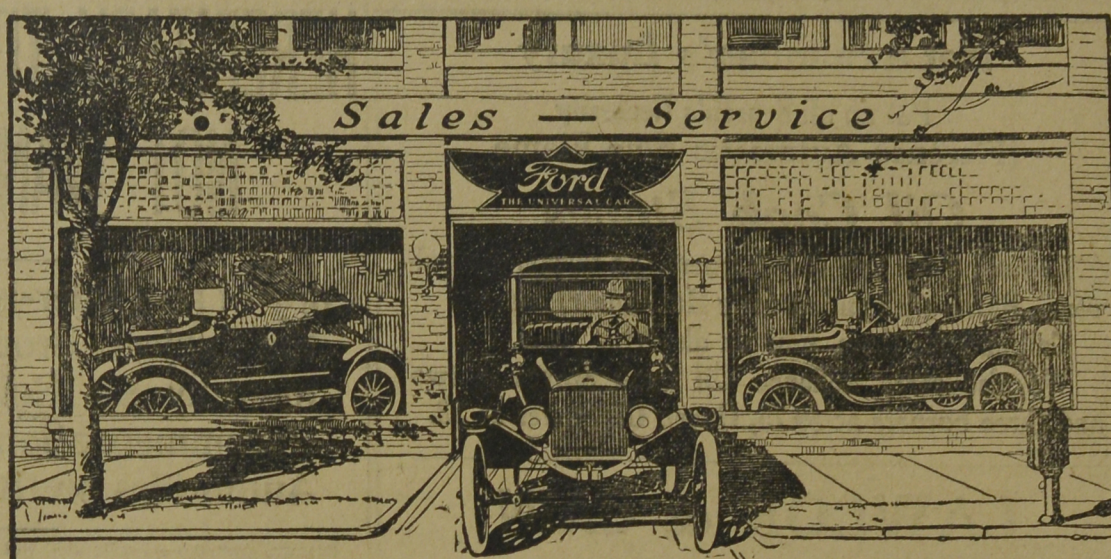
And We do hereby still further urge and request the careful consideration and patriotic co-operation of all Our people in the matters herein set forth.

All of which premises all Our loving subjects and all others whom it doth or may in anywise concern, are hereby required to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

In Testimony Whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of Our Province of New Brunswick to be hereunto affixed.

Witness, His Honour William Pugsley, D. C. L., K. C., One of Our Privy Council for Canada, Lieutenant-Governor of Our Province of New Brunswick, this second day of April, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and eighteen, and in the eighth year of Our Reign.

By Command,
ROBERT MURRAY,
Provincial Secretary-Treasurer.



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CANADA.

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GEORGE THE FIFTH, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, KING, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

WILLIAM PUGSLEY

To All to Whom These Presents Shall Come, or Whom the Same may Concern—Greeting:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, it has been made clear that an adequate supply of foodstuffs to Great Britain and her Allies is now one of the most critical and essential problems in connection with carrying the war to a triumph;

And Whereas, Our Province of New Brunswick, by virtue of its geographical situation in comparative proximity to the Motherland, occupies a position of special responsibility and opportunity.

And Whereas, the season approaches which shall determine for another year the amount of foodstuffs which this Province shall produce.

We, therefore, believing it to be the aspiration of our people to discharge every responsibility as in the past, and confident of their willingness to take advantage of the opportunity involved, to the end that the cause of righteousness for