

A BILL TO AMEND THE MOTOR VEHICLE LAW

Be it enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor and Legislative Assembly as follows:

1. Sub-section (e) of Section 4 of the Motor Vehicle Law, 1915, is hereby repealed and the following substituted in lieu thereof:

(e) "Dealer" shall include every person, firm or corporation who is engaged in the business of buying, selling or exchanging motor vehicles and the representative of any non-resident firm.

2. Sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Motor Vehicle Law 1915 is hereby repealed and the following substituted in lieu thereof:

(6) A dealer in Motor Vehicles shall pay an annual fee of \$10.00 for each make of motor vehicle which he sells, and if he sells any more than two makes he shall pay \$25.00, such fees to be paid for doing business in each county or part of a county, and such dealer shall register on or before the first day of January in each year one vehicle of each make dealt in by him for each county in which he does business. Upon such registration he shall be entitled to receive one set of tags for each make dealt in by him and such additional sets of tags as the Minister of Public Works may deem proper, on payment of \$1.00 for each additional set. If the dealer's set of tags is thereafter affixed and displayed on every vehicle of such style or make as in this section provided, while such vehicle is being operated on the public highways, it shall be deemed a sufficient compliance with sub-sections (1), (3), (5) and (8) of this section, until such vehicle shall be sold or let for hire. Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to a motor vehicle employed by a manufacturer or dealer for private use or for hire.

3. Section 8 of the Motor Vehicle Law is hereby amended by adding to the end thereof the following words:

"The said Provincial Secretary-Treasurer shall pay to the town, city or municipality in which such violations have taken place, one-half of the fines collected and remitted to him."

4. Section 10 of the Act 8 George V., 1918, is hereby amended as follows:

In sub-section (a) in lieu of "sixty" insert the word "eighty." In sub-section (a) in lieu of the word "ten" insert the word "thirteen," and in sub-section (b) in lieu of the word "ten" insert the word "thirteen," and in sub-section (c) in lieu of the word "three" in the first line insert the word "five." This section to be effective from the first day of January, 1920.

5. Every owner of a motor vehicle desiring to operate such motor vehicle for the purpose of carrying on the business of transporting passengers or freight for hire, shall be required to take out a chauffeur's license as provided for in section 6 of the Motor Vehicle Law, but no license fee shall be required to be paid by such owner or owners of motor vehicles for such purpose; to be effective on and after the first day of January, 1920.

6. Sub-section (4) of section 6 of the Motor Vehicle Law, 1917, is hereby repealed and the following substituted in lieu thereof:

(4) The Department of Public Works shall forthwith, upon such registration, deliver to such chauffeur a badge of aluminum or other suitable material, and such badge shall have stamped thereon "Registered Chauffeur, License, N. B.," with the registration number and year inserted therein, which badge shall thereafter be worn by such chauffeur upon his clothing in a conspicuous place at all times while he is operating a motor vehicle upon the public highways; to be effective on and after the first day of January, 1920.

SOME VIGOROUS SPEECHES ON THE POTATO ENQUIRY

(Continued from Page Two)

o'clock. He did not wish to place himself on a high pedestal and pose as the embodiment of purity and of truth. He had done things which he had been sorry for afterwards, but the constituency, on the matter before the house, looked to him to uphold the honor and dignity of the public life of the province.

MR. DYSART'S VIEWS.

Young Member for Kent States His Position Clearly.

MR. DYSART said he wished to place himself on record in regard to the important matter before the House. He had been returned as a representative of Kent at the election of 1917. During that campaign he had pledged himself along with his colleagues to do what they could to purify the public life of the province. As one of the spokesmen of the County of Kent, he therefore felt it his duty to support the resolution. During the election in 1917 to which he had referred, the Flemming investigation had been a live issue. He had been asked many questions about it and to many people with whom he had conversed it seemed strange that hon. members of the House had the temerity to whitewash Flemming. He wished to den the statement that the supporters of the government were seeking to make political capital out of the McQueen report. The gentlemen concerned were personal friends of his and he had no wish to do them any injustice. He regarded Mr. Murray as one of the most gentlemanly members of the House. In view of what had happened, however, he could not allow himself in reaching a decision to be actuated by sympathy. He had followed the evidence closely in the potato enquiry, and had formed an opinion regarding it. Under the circumstances there was nothing for him to do but support the resolution.

HON. MR. MURRAY

Provincial Secretary Treasurer Contributes Vigorous Speech on the debate.

HON. MR. MURRAY said that he was on friendly terms with all four gentlemen named in the McQueen report and he regretted being called upon to render a verdict against them. The amendment only acknowledged the error but that was not sufficient. They were acting as a jury and should decide fairly and honorably and without partisanship. Hon. members opposite had utterly failed to show where in the charges were not supported by the evidence. They talked of party funds and their press had declared that the gentlemen could not be guilty because there was no monetary benefit. He wished to say that there was no party fund until the Valley Railway contract was let. His hon. friends should have been honest with the people of the province, but instead of that they had acted like children. They had manipulated the Valley Railway in such a way as to get from it a party fund. To do that they changed the contract from a unit to a mileage basis, and he held that change cost the province \$234,000. Tennant's Company was given the contract without competition and as a consideration he provided the party fund and could well afford to do so. The money had been distributed among the different Counties.

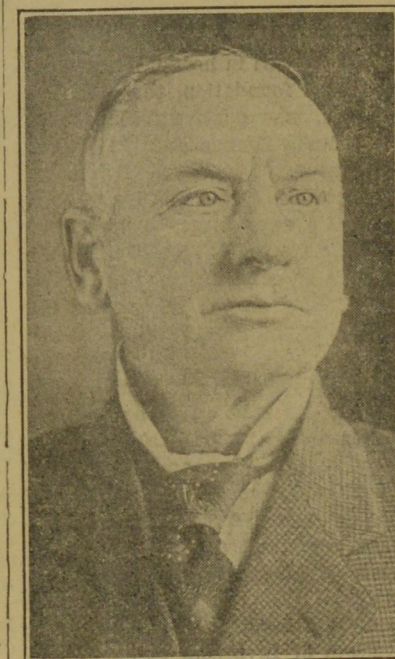
MR. TILLEY—How much did you have?

HON. MR. MURRAY—"We did not have a dollar. We did not need it, although \$2300 was sent to Chatham to help my opponents. My individual election expenses were only \$368 and the total cost was less than \$1500. The men who got the \$2300 from the party fund almost lost their deposits."

Continuing, he said that hon. members opposite claimed they did not get the money. That might be true but they had got the benefit of it indirectly. If somebody had paid he \$386 which his (Murray's) election had cost he would feel just as well as if he had the money in his jeans. Hon. members talked about the responsible govt. He wished to say that it was the head of

the Department who was responsible to the people and as the former Minister of Agriculture had allowed things to drift he must take the responsibility.

One of the hon. members condemned by the McQueen report had preferred the charges against Hon. Mr. Currie. He had said that if Mr. Currie has misrepresented the amount of his stumpage dues he was not fit to sit in the House. If Mr. Currie was guilty the four guilty gentlemen involved in the McQueen report were equally guilty and had no more right to sit in the House. They had talked about the Central Railway investigation. They had appointed a commission to make an investigation but when the report was brought down in 1909 the Govt. of that day was too cowardly to take action. Why had they not stood up in their place like the present Govt. was doing. He wished to remark that the Government responsible for the Central Railway irregularities was coal-



HON. ROBERT MURRAY.

tion and the Conservative party must take its share of the blame. He did not propose to whitewash anybody, and he wanted to say that one of the reasons for the defeat of the old Govt. was its action in whitewashing J. K. Flemming. He hoped hon. members opposite would come out and vote squarely and not respond to the crack of the party whip. Hon. members on his side of the House were prepared to accept the responsibility for that action; they were not afraid of the people. He was sorry for the hon. members on personal grounds but the time had arrived for house-cleaning.

MR. PINDER

Veteran From York Has Sympathy for Royal Commission Heroes

MR. PINDER said that in all his experience he never knew a Liberal Government to go out except for stealing. Knowing hon. members on the other side he felt sure they would all get in the deal if they could. The hon. Premier had bought a railway for \$12,000 and it was rumored that he was to sell it for \$65,000. Another man on that side had got something out of a railway. It was customary for contractors to contribute to campaign funds and he knew of men getting contracts in an underhand way. He could go into details but the hour was too late. The government talked about honesty, but look at the way they were squandering the money on the roads. He thought hon. members opposite were the last persons in the House who should talk of honesty. He thought the only thing that would save them was women franchise as they would not have to pay for their votes. He had been surprised at the attitude of the hon. member for Northumberland. One would almost have thought that he did not know the meaning of a campaign fund. He knew that the hon. member had long

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ago repented and perhaps it was time that he (Pinder) was doing the same thing, although he did not have much to repent of, as he had kept about straight. Did the hon. member forget the time that the Blair government was defeated at the polls? Mr. Blair had gone to Northumberland and had secured the support of its four members who had been returned in opposition. One of those members was the gentleman who had last spoken. Two contractors had been interested in the matter. Soon afterwards a bridge span blew down and they were paid \$10,000 for expenses. Those things had happened under the Liberal party and they were now trying to make it appear that they were a different breed. He intended to vote for the amendment.

Dr. McGrath

MR. McGRATH said that he was sorry to be obliged to vote on a question such as that before the House. Hon. members opposite had spoken of potatoes as if they were the cleanest side of the scandal. There was a railway mixed up in it and in connection with that railway there had been graft. They had expended \$150,000 on a special warrant and all they had to show for it was 50,000 barrels of potatoes shipped to England. The men involved had been playing with funds as a football. Had they been four school-boys playing marbles in the back yard nothing would have been thought of it but they were men of intelligence and business ability who enjoyed the confidence of the people. Hon. members might seek to belittle the potato enquiry by abusing Mr. McQueen but they could not get away from the sworn evidence. No sane man reading that evidence could have arrived at a different conclusion. The people expected the legislature to do its duty in the matter.

A Charlotte Member

MR. SMITH (Charlotte) said that he had not previously said anything about the position he intended to take in regard to the McQueen report. Hon. members opposite thought the stand they were taking was the only one that could be right but he was inclined to think that they were prejudiced. He took second place to nobody in his desire to purify the public life of the Country. He regretted that the Government had advertised political scandals from one end of the country to the other and he felt sure that it had given the Province an unsavory reputation which was not desirable. He would not act according to the dictates of his own conscience and he hardly thought that any man should base his stand on the report of a partisan commissioner. He believed he was taking the correct attitude in supporting the amendment.

Mr. Melanson

MR. MELANSON said he felt that he must vote according to the dictates of his conscience. During the campaign of 1917 in order to get the support of the people he had solemnly promised to serve them faithfully and do all he could to secure better Govt. He had also said that he would not countenance wrong doing in the ranks of his own party. For that reason he intended to cast his vote for the original resolution. Should occasion arise when one of his colleagues would be in the wrong he would take the same stand. They could not lose sight of the fact that most of the criticism of the gentlemen accused was directed against the Commissioner. Mr.

he tried hard to expose the transaction which the House was now being asked to condemn. Hon. members now on the other side of the House had tried their best to prevent him from exposing the transaction of the late Govt. They had always claimed that that Government was above reproach and had nothing to conceal. He (Michaud) would be recreant in his duty if he did not support the stand taken by his hon. leader. Hon. members opposite sought to have the House believe that the potato transaction was clean but had been mismanaged. He could not believe that the transaction was an honest one and the evidence certainly did not support that view. It was on record that the government had refused to buy potatoes from dealers who offered to supply them without a commission, but the Government preferred to patronize their political friends.

MR. TILLEY—"I advocated the calling of tenders."

MR. MICHAUD said he was satisfied that political favoritism had been shown in the whole transaction. With regard to the contribution made from Valley Railway funds to cover up the transaction he did not see how any hon. member could condone that. Personally he would sooner resign his seat than vote to condemn the four hon. members who had been named but he could only justify his conscience by supporting the resolution.

An Albert Member
MR. SMITH (Albert) said that he felt it his duty to support the amendment. He knew Commissioner McQueen to be an active liberal worker and a bitter partisan, and not a proper man to adjudge the case. In casting his vote he wished to say that he disapproved of the manner in which the potatoes had been purchased. He agreed with the amendment that the efforts made to conceal the loss on the transaction should be deprecated. It had not met with his approval and he did not approve of it now, but he could not go to the length of endorsing the McQueen report. He had long known Mr. Jones and did not believe there was a more truthful man in the Province and he could not say by his vote that he had committed perjury. He regretted the condition of affairs that had been disclosed and considered it an important matter for the good name of the province. He hoped that every hon. member would vote as he deemed right.

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SERIES MAY CLOSE TONIGHT

Seattle, March 28—The hardest fought series in hockey history may come to a close tonight when Seattle and Canadiens resume their struggle for the world's championship. While stiff from their record breaking performance of Wednesday night, the rival players last night pronounced themselves perfectly fit and eager to renew the fray.

Tonight will either see the Metro-politans emerge champions or the Canadiens tie the series, and despite the determination of the home club to clinch the big honors, Montreal

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Montreal, March 29—The "Montreal Herald", recently in liquidation, made its first appearance under the new management today with a signed announcement by Alfred Leithead, the president of the company publishing it, that it will henceforth be independent of party politics and devoted to the best interests of Montreal, Quebec and the Dominion.

will have the advantage when the two teams face off and close followers of the game are favoring the visitors to win.

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