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## HOUSE RUSHED BUSINESS THROUGH AT FRIDAY SESSION

Continued from Page Two.

Yea—Hon. Mr. Foster, Hon. Mr. Smith, Hon. Mr. Veniot, Hon. Mr. Dugal, Mr. Tilley, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Carson, Mr. Magee, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Dysart, Mr. LeBlanc, Mr. Michaud, Mr. Leger (Glou.), Mr. Mercereau, Mr. Smith (Sunbury), Mr. Melanson, Mr. Boudage, Mr. Robichaud, Mr. Leger (West), Mr. Sweeney, Mr. Crockett—22.

Nay—Hon. Mr. Byrne, Hon. Mr. Murray, Hon. Mr. Tweeddale, Hon. Mr. Roberts, Mr. Burchill, Mr. King, Mr. Young, Mr. Baxter, Mr. Potts, Mr. Peck, Mr. Smith (Albert), Mr. Pinder, Mr. Sutton, Mr. Grimmer, Mr. Smith

(Charlotte), Mr. Jones, Mr. Dickson, Mr. Hunter—18.

HON. MR. SPEAKER declared the resolution carried as amended.

HON. MR. ROBINSO said that he had not voted on the amendment because he was paired with Mr. Murray (Kings) for the remainder of the Session. Possibly that did not interfere with his right to vote but as he did not know what attitude Mr. Murray would have taken on the question he thought it only fair that he should refrain from voting.

HON. MR. VENIOT said that the fact that an hon. member was paired did not interfere with his right to vote on a private question.

MR. POTTS said that it had always been customary for hon. members when paired to refrain from voting on any question. He was not inclined to accept the opinion of the Hon. Minister of Public Works on the question but would like a ruling from the chair.

HON. MR. VENIOT said that when two hon. members paired it only meant that they were to abstain from voting on questions which concerned the Government. It was absurd to say that they did not have the right to vote on other matters.

MR. BAXTER said that when hon. members on opposite sides were paired it meant that they would abstain from voting on questions which involved the downfall of the ministry. If the agreement were extended to private questions it would be impossible for a member to cast a vote on a private bill. He thought the Minister of Public Works was absolutely correct.

MR. BURCHILL presented the report of the Committee on Standing Rules.

HON. MR. SPEAKER referring to the question raised by the Hon. member for St. John (Potts) said that the hon. member for St. John County had expressed his views much better than he could have done himself.

HON. MR. BYRNE presented the final report of the Law Committee.

MR. KING presented the report of the Committee on Contingencies.

MR. MAGEE presented the following report from the Committee on Public Accounts.

"Your Committee to whom were referred the Public Accounts of the Province for the year ending October 31st 1919, beg leave to submit the following Report:

"Your Committee has met from time to time and have gone into the accounts as carefully as was possible in the time at their disposal.

"The Premier, the Comptroller-General, Deputy Minister of Public Works and Chief Road Engineer have appeared before the Committee and explained the details of expenditures

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by their several departments.

"Your Committee find that the accounts are in proper order and show that there has been a very material increase in the cost of labor and materials in 1919 over 1918.

"The matter of Immigration was carefully considered and in the opinion of your Committee the Province of New Brunswick should be more adequately represented in London and adequate publicity throughout Europe should be given our industries and natural resources; also the Departments should send public reports and public literature to the Federal Immigration Office in Paris, as well as to London.

"Your Committee recommend that

the Members of the Public Accounts Committee shall not be Members of other Standing Committees.

"Your Committee recommend the payment of Fifty dollars to Mr. J. B. Dickson, the Secretary."

HON. MR. FOSTER moved that the order for third reading of the bill to provide for the distribution of electrical power be discharged and the bill referred back to the committee of the whole House.

MR. SWEENEY rose to a question of privilege. He said the hon. member for St. John no doubt had reference to him when he questioned the right of those who were paired to vote on the prohibition resolution. He (Sweeney) was paired with Mr. Guptill and he did not want the insinuation thrown across the floor that he was taking advantage of Mr. Guptill by voting in his absence. He had attempted to make an explanation when the matter was under discussion but had been ruled out of order.

HON. MR. SPEAKER said that the hon. member had been ruled out of order for the time being because the chairman of the Corporations Committee had the floor.

MR. POTTS said that the hon. member for Westmorland was paired for the season and he did not think he had the right to vote. With all due reference to the hon. member for St. John County he did not agree with the opinion he had expressed.

The House then went into Committee with Mr. Leger (West.) in the chair and took up consideration of a Bill relating to the taxation of certain incorporated companies and associations.

HON. MR. BYRNE submitted some amendments, which he had prepared and briefly explained the same.

MR. PINDER thought it was bad business to tax banks and other institutions named in the bill. It simply meant that the taxes would have to be paid by the people. He thought the Government should find some other way of raising a revenue and keep away from direct taxation as long as possible. If the banks were taxed they would charge the public a profit on it.

HON. MR. BYRNE, in answer to Mr. Baxter said that section 13 was practically the same as in the old act, with some exceptions. He would offer amendments to some features of the section as it stood in the bill, for the purpose of making the tax on express companies a lump sum instead of a percentage of their volume of business, and also to provide for the taxation of mutual insurance companies and insurance companies which had no offices nor agencies in the province but which carried on business here, by mail or otherwise.

MR. BAXTER said he knew that increased revenue must be obtained and that with increasing demands it was difficult to tell where it was to come from. He was speaking as a user of a telephone. As it was well known the New Brunswick Telephone Co., has an application before the Public Utilities Commission for an upward revision of its rates to meet increasing expenses. It was presumed that permission would be given to increase the rates to some extent. To the expenses of operation must be added sufficient to pay eight per cent on the stock and interest on the bond. Those who had invested in the company would get eight per cent, and no more. The tax which it was proposed to impose under this bill would come out of the public and not out of the shareholders. He was a stockholder in the New Brunswick Telephone Co. to some extent and a user of the telephone also. In his opinion it would be fair to tax the stock but not to increase the cost of using a telephone to every member of the public. A great deal of truth lay in what had been said by his old friend from York (Pinder). Would it not be better to resort to direct taxation which would be equally felt than to impose indirect taxation which would be unequally felt.

HON. MR. BYRNE said that last year \$9,880 had been received from the tax on Telephone Companies. Necessity had arisen to make a readjustment in the tax.

MR. BAXTER said that the statement could be briefly made in the words "we just have to do it."

HON. MR. BYRNE said the people wanted expenditure of all most every kind and money had to be provided. He was a strong advocate of that correct principle of Government that expenditure must be kept within revenue. However, the people of New Brunswick seemed to be passing through a period of extravagance. If the people wanted improvements they must be willing to pay the piper. No doubt there was considerable force to what the hon. acting leader of the opposition had just said but the same objection could be applied to all taxation of this kind. There appeared to be no other way of working this out. It would not be fair to oppose a fixed tax for the revenue would fluctuate from year to year. The speaker went on to discuss taxation of insurance companies and in response to Mr. Tilley outlined the amendments to be submitted.

MR. BAXTER asked if there was anything in the Act which would interfere with the right of towns and cities to impose local taxation upon these companies.

HON. MR. BYRNE said there was not but that the desirability of having such a provision had been impressed upon the attention of the Government. Nova Scotia already had adopted the principle of a provincial tax covering everything.

MR. BAXTER said that he did not think the remarks he was about to make to be taken as unduly critical. Here was a bill which called for presentation early in the Session. There had been a considerable time during which right sessions had not been held. That was when this measure should have been discussed. He had at one time the other side of the House and knew the difficulties which always arose but he hoped that his hon. friends would strive to bring about a change. The same applied to the bill to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act. Proper consideration of that require extensive reading yet

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he had not had time to look into the statutes. He hoped his hon. friends would consider his remarks made in all charity and friendliness.

HON. MR. FOSTER said that the bills had been prepared early in the session, but there had been no end of delegations which had come to see the government about this particular bill; there were delegations from telephone, telegraph, and express companies. Time had slipped by rapidly.

Progress was reported. The Committee took up the consideration of the bill to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act.

MR. BAXTER asked for a statement of the salient points. Hearings to delegations late in the session might very well, he thought, become interviews in the next session. There was not time to have a proper consideration.

(Continued on Page Five.)

Church conventions ought not to be held at house cleaning time.

WANTED—By May 1st, girl for general housework. Address Mrs. W. T. Whitehead, care Mrs. D. Richards, Brunswick street.

WANTED—About May 1st, a small house or lower flat, furnished or unfurnished. Phone 753.

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FOR SALE—Double tenement on King street, near Smythe, earning \$28 per month, gross. This leasehold conveniently located. If not disposed of by April 30th inst., will be sold at public auction to close an estate. Slipp & Hanson.



MAIL CONTRACT.

Sealed tenders, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon on Friday, the 21st May 1920, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails, on a proposed Contract for four years, 12 and 6 times per week on the route Fredericton, Nashwaakisis and North Devon, commencing at the pleasure of the Postmaster General.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Offices of Fredericton and North Devon, and at the office of the Post Office Inspector:

St. John, N. B., April 7th, 1920.

Post Office Inspector's Office,

H. W. WOODS,

Post Office Inspector.

### NOTICE

Fredericton Co-operative, Ltd.

NOTICE OF SHAREHOLDERS' MEETING.

TAKE NOTICE, that the first general meeting of the shareholders of Fredericton Co-operative, Limited, will be held in Union Hall, Regent street in the City of Fredericton, on THURSDAY, the 29th day of April instant, at eight o'clock p.m., for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors, passing by laws and transacting all such other business of a special or general nature as may be brought before the meeting and which the shareholders may be empowered by law to deal with.

Dated at the City of Fredericton, this 15th day of April, A. D. 1920.

E. C. BARRY,

Provisional President.

G. C. CRAWFORD,

Provisional Secretary-Treasurer.

tu-thur-sat



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