

COMPROMISE PROPOSAL ON THE NAVAL BILL

Mr. W. F. McLean Thinks the House Should be Big Enough to Get Together on Question of Defence---Suggests a Gift of Two Dreadnoughts and Establishment of a Fleet Unit for the Pacific---Tribute of Respect to Late Hon. John Haggart

Ottawa, March 13—A short adjournment to mark the Common's reverence for the memory of Hon. John Haggart, the oldest member of the House, a further postponement of Hochelaga election charges, because of Hon. Louis Coderre's continued absence and a promise that opportunity to make the charges would be given not later than Monday, the tabling of five million dollars in supplementaries for the current year, the compromise naval proposal from the Conservative front line made by W. F. MacLean, further explanation by Premier Borden concerning the peculiar circumstances attending the production of the Churchill letters Monday night; the resumption of the naval debate on the old basis of continuous sitting, and contentious Conservative silence—these were the features marking today in parliament as somewhat different from what the days have been during the past ten days of stirring monotony.

A wreath was laid upon Hon. John Haggart's desk in the morning and thereafter each speaker made a sympathetic reference to the loss death had laid upon the House.

W. F. German of Welland, after expressing his regrets that the House would no longer see the man it had come to look upon almost as the head of the parliamentary family, took up the naval theme. The Liberals had been charged with holding up the West Indian trade agreement. The government alone was responsible for delaying the third reading of this measure. It could have its final stage any time the government desired.

"It could have it during the next half hour if the government wished," said Mr. German. "All the government had to do was to take the House out of committee on the naval bill and put the motion for third reading."

Premier Borden entered the chamber as Hon. Mr. Lemieux was expressing regrets at the death of Hon. Mr. Haggart and said the loss was a great one, for Mr. Haggart had a distinguished career.

For the English-speaking Liberals of the House Mr. Carvell paid a tribute and also suggested a short adjournment as a mark of respect.

Premier Borden agreed, crossed the chamber and after conferring with Mr. Carvell, announced that the House would rise at four and resume sitting again at eight o'clock in the evening.

SAYS CODERRE IS SICK.

Louis Gauthier called attention to the Hochelaga bye-election charges he had been prepared to make ever since Monday week but had withheld owing to the absence of Hon. Louis Coderre, the secretary of state, who was expected. Mr. Gauthier said that the situation was becoming inconvenient as newspapers were charging him with responsibility for the delay. While he did not wish to take advantage of a sick man he did not wish this impression to become general.

Premier Borden commended Mr. Gauthier for his reasonable attitude. He had a doctor's certificate that Hon. Mr. Coderre was sick but was in a fair way to recovery. He promised that an opportunity to make the charges would be given not later than Monday.

W. F. MacLean said that the Commons' loss of its oldest members gave fair occasion for a compromise of the deadlock which the difference over the naval question had brought. He suggested that \$25,000,000 be given to the admiralty for two dreadnoughts for the imperial navy and that \$10,000,000 more be voted to aid in the creation of a fleet unit for the Pacific, which would be under the joint control of Canada, Australia and New Zealand. This would give effect to the ideas both sides of the House held. He did not believe the proposed contribution would lead to a form of imperialism irksome or

objectionable to Canadians. The House should be big enough to get together on so great a question as empire defence.

Finance Minister White tabled \$5,000,000 of supplementary estimates for the current year and at four o'clock the House adjourned for four hours.

BOURASSA BOSSES BORDEN.

J. A. Robb, Huntington, Quebec, said that the French had been charged with the domination of the Liberal party and the direction of its naval policy. This was untrue as applied to the Liberals but there was basis for its application to the government. The Borden naval proposals had been shaped to placate Mr. Bourassa and his followers who were supporting Premier Borden. As an example of French Conservative-Nationalist domination it was to be noted that for the first time in history not a Quebec minister with portfolio was an English-speaking Protestant.

F. B. Carvell thought Premier Borden would do well to table in parliament the cablegrams which asked for and authorized the release of the Churchill letters.

Premier Borden said that there had been comments on the fact that the government's naval policy had been formulated before the resignation of Hon. F. D. Monk on October 18, while the admiralty memoranda, on which the naval policy was supposed to have formulated, was dated October 20. The deduction was that the policy had been decided upon before the memoranda had been received. The fact was that the first information was early received by the government in complete form, but was confidential. It was in the hands of the government before the policy was formulated and the memoranda for publication came later.

As to the production of the Churchill letters on Monday, he would say that he had Sunday received cable authority to make the letters public.

SEEK TO EXTEND CANADIAN TRADE

Ottawa, March 14—Richard Grigg, Canadian commissioner of commerce, departed from the capital today en route to the Far East. Mr. Grigg's mission is regarded as one of extraordinary importance in connection with the plans for the extension of Canadian commerce abroad. He will visit Yokohama, Hong Kong, Shanghai and other important commercial centres of Japan and China and make a close study of the field. He will make a report of his observations to Hon. G. E. Foster, the Dominion minister of trade and commerce, who is to visit China and Japan on his way home from Australia where he is now attending the sessions of the Imperial trade commission.

FOR EASTER SUNDAY

Edgecombes are showing a beautiful range of Easter Dry Goods, and just six days to do your shopping in. Next week will be the Glove week at the Big Store, Dents and Perkins kid and silk gloves just imported for Easter and at seventy-nine cents, every pair a bargain.

PLEASANTLY ENTERTAINED

Mrs. Wood, wife of the Lieutenant Governor pleasantly entertained a number of friends at bridge at the Queen Hotel last evening. The guests included the Earl and Countess of Ashburnham.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. VanBuskirk are enjoying a trip to New York. Mr. A. M. O'Mally of Toronto is a guest at Windsor Hall.

New Crown Land Policy Brought Down in House

Premier Flemming is Hopeful and Optimistic in Regard to the Future of the Lumbering Industry in This Province---Lease Holders are Granted an Extension---Protection Promised for Small Operators---Pulp and Paper Industry to be Encouraged---Many Important Changes

Premier Flemming made an excellent and optimistic speech Thursday afternoon, when he introduced the government bill respecting the crown timber lands of the province. He prophesied that there would be great industrial development and that a new era of prosperity in certain sections of New Brunswick because of the passage of this measure.

There was a large attendance of members and a number of interested spectators who listened with intense interest while the minister of lands and mines explained the provisions of the bill which have been awaited by the whole province with so much eagerness.

The House met on Thursday at three o'clock.

Mr. Munro presented the report of the Municipalities Committee.

Mr. Dickson, Albert, presented the report of the Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. Baxter, on behalf of Hon. Mr. Murray, presented the report of the Standing Rules Committee.

Hon. Mr. Flemming gave notice of motion for Monday next in regard to the establishing of a shipbuilding plant in St. John City, expressing the approval of the House of any reasonable assistance that the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may give towards the establishing of the ship yards and building plant.

Hon. Mr. Flemming submitted the annual report of the commissioners of the New Brunswick Coal and Railway Co. for 1912.

THE CROWN LANDS.

Hon. Mr. Flemming introduced a bill respecting the crown timber lands of the province. He said that he would like to ask the attention of hon. members for a few minutes while he indicated the important provisions of this bill, which he thought the members of the Legislature would recognize as one of the most important measures introduced in this Legislature for many years. It was a measure of the very greatest importance because it deals with the public domain of the country which public domain embraced an area of land of about 11,000 square miles or more than one-third of the whole area of the province. It was the province's great heritage and the common property of all the people. It was not only of the utmost importance because of the fact that from this great territory the Province of New Brunswick received its greatest revenue but also because of the fact that the public domain furnished the timber to maintain that great industry of the province in which millions of dollars of capital were invested, and which afforded employment to a very large portion of the people of New Brunswick. Outside of the agricultural industry, which was of the first and paramount importance, the lumbering industry stood next in the Province of New Brunswick. He was satisfied that any measure which proposed to deal with such a large industry that so vitally affected such a large portion of the people of the province, must appeal to all hon. members as deserving of their most careful and thoughtful attention, so that it may be worked out in the best interest of the people of the province.

A GREAT DOMAIN.

The very fact that the province had such a great domain, which had produced in the last two years more than a half million dollars of revenue and the further realization of the fact that if these vast areas were properly husbanded that the revenue would go on from year to year would emphasize more particularly the responsibility of hon. members dealing with this great subject in a way that will be a lasting benefit and good to the people of New Brunswick. It was the duty and responsibility of hon. members to so administer this great public domain that the province would receive a reasonable amount of revenue but it was the bounden duty of every hon. member that this great heritage shall be so administered that the government shall hand it over to the next generation.

much and affording as much employment to the people of the province as when they received it.

He next wished to speak of the necessity of dealing with this subject at the present time, and would point out to the House that it was both in the interest of the great lumbering industry of the Province of New Brunswick as well as in the interest of the proper conservation of New Brunswick's great public domain that the future policy of administration should be announced at the present time. In 1893 in this Legislature a resolution was passed, approving of the granting of licenses to cut timber from the Crown Lands of the province, and which licenses could be renewed from year to year for a period of twenty-five years. That marked the inauguration of long leases in the Province of New Brunswick, and in the natural course of events these licenses which were renewed from year to year would continue to be renewed until 1916, and would then expire.

The very nature of the lumber industry made it necessary to deal with this question on the period in advance of the expiration of the leases. The lumber operators in carrying on their operations had to put thousands of dollars worth of supplies in the woods the year before their crews were sent in to cut the logs, and they were preparing for their next season's work practically a year before the logs were manufactured. They had to make large expenditures, therefore, twelve months before they received any returns therefrom. Should the Legislature say that no action ought to be taken until the time of the expiration of these leases, in 1913, it would be very difficult for the lumbermen too keep on with their operations.

A GREAT PROBLEM

He next wished to refer to the method to be employed by the government in dealing with this great problem, and in so doing, he would refer to provisions contained in the bill which he was introducing. It was proposed to issue two kinds of licenses, viz., (a) the Pulp and Paper License, (b) the Saw Mill License. It was proposed to issue these licenses on August 1st, 1913. The government did not propose to say to the present license holders that they must surrender their licenses on that date, but they would be given an opportunity to in the meantime decide and notify the Surveyor General whether they would continue under their existing licenses or take out new licenses under this bill.

PERPETUAL LEASES

Hon. members would remember that the government had been asked by a delegation representing the large limit holders to give perpetual leases as existed in British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec, and the speakers for that delegation had been able to point out that the government would be able to still control the crown lands even after giving leases in perpetuity, because they would still control the mileage rate as well as the stumpage charges. In his judgment, and in the opinion of the government, it was not a wise policy to resort to perpetual leases and to say to those limit holders that because they hold the leases at the present time, they can have them for all times. There should be a limitation and he did not believe that it was for the government of today to thus dispose of the crown land and the public domain of the province for all time. The government under this bill has undertaken to say what shall be paid for the right to cut on the crown lands for thirty years under the Pulp and Paper Licenses, and for twenty years under the Saw Mill Licenses, and provide that at the expiration of these periods these leases of both kinds may be further renewed but that the Lieutenant Governor in Council of that day, who shall know what lumber is then worth and who shall know the conditions that shall exist, shall determine what bonus shall be paid for the period of the extension of the leases after the

expiration of the first period.

If New Brunswick was to have the benefit of the introduction into the province of the large amounts of capital which would be invested in the establishment of pulp and paper industries, it was necessary that there should be a provision for reasonably long leases and this was exactly what this bill provided. The establishment of pulp and paper mills meant that large sums of money would be expended, and the way taken for the securing of such money was the issuing of bonds, which would run for a period of thirty or forty years. The project would be impossible if the leases under which the company was to operate expired before the bonds matured. The investing public would not put their money into any such scheme as that and the necessity of reasonably long leases for the pulp and paper industry was therefore apparent and would doubtless meet with approval of the house and country.

If it had been set out in this bill that the payment of the full amount of the bonus for the thirty and twenty year periods for which leases were to be given, under the new licenses, had to be made by August 1st next, it might be difficult for present holders of leases in some cases to raise the necessary funds. It was for that reason that provision was made that in the case of the pulp and paper licenses the bonus should be paid one-third in advance and the remainder of the amount one-third every succeeding ten years, while in the case of the saw mill licenses, which were renewable for each year for twenty years, one-half of the amount of the bonus was to be paid in advance on August 1st, 1913 and the other half ten years later on August 1st, 1923.

CONSERVATION

The fifth section of the bill he believed above mentioned shall concern, and to the people of this country as being a wise and prudent one, as it had for its object the conservation of the forests.

The section provided that the regulations above mentioned shall contain the provision that if any licenses shall at least twelve years before the expiration of the twenty and thirty year periods notify the Crown Land Department of his or their intention to set aside and not operate on certain portions of their area, but to allow the same to reproduce for a period of twelve years and it appears to the Surveyor General that no cutting on such area has taken place during such period the said licenses shall have the privilege of cutting upon such lands for the further period of ten years without the payment of any bonus, but subject to such mileage and stumpage rates as may be imposed.

Section six of the bill was perhaps the most important of the entire measure, as it provided for a survey examination and classification of the crown land areas of the province. He read the section as follows:

"The surveyor general is hereby authorized to employ the necessary number of competent men who will be charged with the following duties:

(1) To make a survey, examination and classification of the crown land areas of the province.

(2) To report with as much detail as possible upon the character and quality of the lumber, to estimate the quantity of timber and the reproductive capabilities of the various areas, estimating as accurately as may be the annual growth of the timber upon each tract or area, and to report upon the accessibility of the timber in each section estimating as nearly as possible the cost of logging the different areas and the cost of stream driving to the point of manufacture, to report the location of the lands deemed suitable for agricultural purposes, distinguishing them from other lands that might be regarded as specially suitable for the growth and reproduction of timber. Such survey, examination and classification of the lands shall be completed not later than the first of August, 1917."

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CANADA CAN BUILD SHIPS

At Least That Seems to be the Opinion of Premier Flemming

Government Will Encourage the Establishment of a Ship Building Plant at St. John

There is evidently a disposition on the part of the government to give reasonable encouragement to the establishment of a shipbuilding plant in St. John. On Thursday afternoon Premier Flemming gave notice of the following resolution for Monday next:

"Whereas it is understood that a proposition is under consideration for the establishment of a shipbuilding plant and yards at the harbor of St. John, in this province on a large scale which will involve the expenditure of large sums of money in work of construction thereof; and

"Whereas the operation of such proposed works, when constructed, will add very materially to the trade of the said port of St. John and to its importance as an industrial centre and will also prove of undoubted advantage and benefit to the province at large, in that it will afford a large amount of employment to our laborers and artisans, and a greatly enlarged market for the products of our mine forests and farms be it therefore

"Resolved that in the opinion of this house the construction and establishment of the said shipyards and shipbuilding plant as above referred to, and as proposed is most desirable in the public interest and this house recommends and will heartily support such reasonable encouragement of the said proposition as to his honor the lieutenant governor-in-council may seem proper and calculated to ensure the construction and operation of the said works."

HIGH COURT I. O. F. TO MEET IN MONCTON

July 15th and 16th the Dates Selected by the High Standing Committee

Meeting of High Standing Committee of High Court of I.O.O.F. for New Brunswick was held last night at the Barker House. There was present the H.C.R., M. N. Cockburn, K.C., of St. Andrews; P.H.C.R. G. W. Messereau of Doaktown; H.V.C.R. Mr. E. Grass of St. John; H. Coun. E. A. McKay of this City.

A conference was had with Mr. P. W. F. Brewster who had lately been appointed Superintendent of organization work in the Province, and the H. S. Committee were much encouraged by his report of the work.

The dates of meeting of the High Court which will be held this year at Moncton were fixed for Tuesday and Wednesday the 15th and 16th of July.

STREETS IN BAD CONDITION

The gutter in many streets have not been opened and the recent mild weather and today's rain have resulted in overflows upon the sidewalks.

NARROW ESCAPES

There have been some narrow escapes from injury by ice falling from roofs. The recent mild weather has loosened ice from sloping roofs and the result has been that much has fallen into the streets.

FIVE SCOTT ACT CASES

Five charges of violation of the Canada Temperance Act were acknowledged before police court this morning. Fines of fifty dollars were imposed in each case. Four hotels were included in the number.

Henry W. Savage has bought the American rights to a new Viennese success entitled "The Gypsy Chief." It is to be given a production in September.