

AGAINST A REDUCTION OF REPRESENTATION.

Addresses by Premier Tweedie and Hon. Dr. Pugsley in the House of Assembly at Fredericton Yesterday—Clear Statement of the Case.

Fredericton, March 17.—In the legislature today Hon. Mr. Tweedie laid before the house the factory commission and school reports. The premier also introduced a bill to amend the N. B. elections act, which was referred to a special committee of Hon. Messrs. Tweedie, Pugsley and Hill, and Messrs. McLatchy, Copp, Hazen and Clarke.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie presented the petition of the Restigouche Boom Company against the bill to amend their act of incorporation; Mr. Robertson the petition of the directors of the Home for Aged Females, St. John, for an amendment to their act; Mr. Copp the report of the committee on standing orders; Dr. Riddick the petition of the municipality of St. John for an amendment to the law relating to rates and taxes.

Mr. Campbell introduced a bill to amend the act incorporating Gibson village for water and fire purposes; Mr. Lantum a bill to amend the act relating to the assessment of commissioners by the city of St. John; Mr. Clarke a bill to authorize Milltown to establish water works; Mr. Hart a bill to enable the St. Andrew's school trustees to issue debentures.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie laid before the house a return of the payments made by the educational department since the close of the fiscal year.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie moved his resolution with reference to representation of which he gave notice yesterday.

In the course of his speech Hon. Mr. Tweedie said:

The decision of the privy council in the representation case, left undecided the question whether in computing the population of Canada, the population of the territories should be included.

Now, in erecting these territories into provinces, I hold that they should be dealt with so as to interfere with our rights, as was done in the case of Manitoba and British Columbia. I cannot view with indifference the prospect of the representation of New Brunswick in the parliament of Canada being reduced to two or three members as might be the case in the future.

It is a very remarkable thing that all the legislation of which we complain with regard to Manitoba, British Columbia and Quebec without the slightest opposition or protest.

The order-in-council admitting British Columbia into the union gave that province six members, which number could never be reduced, but might be increased by the growth of population. It placed British Columbia in the same position as if it had been one of the original provinces of the confederation. Its position was even better, for while its representation could not be decreased, that of the other provinces might be decreased for reason of British Columbia's increase of population.

The Manitoba act was in the same terms as that of British Columbia; when the bill was passed extending the boundaries of the province of Quebec in 1898, not a single voice was raised against it.

At the time of confederation Quebec had certain well defined boundaries. According to the census of 1871 it had an area of 198,555 square miles. In 1898 an act was passed which extended the boundaries of Quebec so that it contained 351,000 square miles, an addition of 152,000 square miles to its territory. This territory, thus added to Quebec, is that through which the G. T. & P. will pass, and which we may expect to become populous in the future. The result will be to diminish our representation in a way never contemplated by the B. N. A. act. It cannot be denied that this very seriously affects the interests of New Brunswick, and of the other maritime provinces. I do not think that we ought to have been placed in this position.

This province has an area of 27,000 square miles, and its area cannot be increased. The territory added to the province of Quebec would make six provinces like New Brunswick, and is certain in the future to contain a large population.

When the imperial act of 1871 authorizing the extension of the area of any province was passed, it provided that in enlarging any province regard should be had to the rights of the other provinces. But I may ask what consideration was given to the rights of the maritime provinces when Quebec, the key province of the dominion was thus enlarged? It seems to me that this legislature should assert itself and speak out plainly for the interests of New Brunswick; it is our duty as a government and as a legislature to deal with all matters which affect the interests of the province and to see to it that these interests are properly upheld.

Hon. Dr. Pugsley.

Hon. Dr. Pugsley, discussing the question, said:—I have never entertained the slightest doubt that the fathers of confederation, in framing their scheme of representation, intended that it should be confined to the four original provinces of Canada, and that if other provinces were admitted it should be on terms. In that view I was fortified by the statement of one of the greatest statesmen of Canada, who was himself one of the fathers of

MORNING NEWS IN BRIEF.

Local.

As a result of evidence given at the coroner's inquest into the death of John Tufts in a lumber camp, County Inspector Vincent yesterday laid information against S. H. Barker, of the Ben Leonard House, on charge of selling liquor on Sunday. The case will come before Justice J. H. Bowes on the 24th inst.

The annual meeting of the Y. W. G. of the women's auxiliary of Trinity church was held last evening. Rev. Canon Richardson occupied the chair. The reports showed the guild to be in a most satisfactory condition, and votes of thanks to Miss G. Patton, C. T. U. An excellent programme was given, at the close of which fifteen men signed the pledge.

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The quotation social, held last evening in the basement of the Carleton Free Baptist church, proved a very enjoyable affair, an excellent programme was carried out, including vocal solos by Fred Belyea, Murray Long and little Miss Burchill; readings by E. R. W. Ingraham and Miss Nellie Lynch; little Blanche Coes gave a recitation, and a vocal quartette composed of Thos. Rippey, Wm. Lanyon, Harry Lingley, and Murray Long was heard to advantage. Rev. R. W. Ferguson presided.

The associate members of the Natural History Society, listened to a very interesting address by Mrs. G. U. Hay, on Bird Life, yesterday afternoon.

Mrs. Hay showed herself to be very well acquainted with the habits of birds, and her address was very instructive.

Provincial.

The Charitable Irish Society banquet, at the Halifax Hotel, last night, was a grand affair, about 200 being present, including many distinguished guests. The speeches were of the highest order. During the dinner, St. Patrick's Band played an excellent programme. Some of the best vocal talent in the city was also present, and contributed largely to the evening's enjoyment.

A peculiar intercolonial railway case came up Wednesday in the Kent circuit court, Chief Justice Tuck presiding. Robert Gallant, during the recent hold-up on the railway, due to snow, stole from the I. C. R. car, a barrel of flour, his family being on the verge of starvation, and Gallant being out of work. In view of the circumstances, Chief Justice Tuck allowed Gallant to go, on suspended sentence, depending on his future good conduct.

Mrs. Winifred McLaren Jones, wife of F. A. Jones, died very suddenly of heart failure, on March 8, in Parkersburg, West Virginia. She formerly lived in Moncton, and Mr. Jones conducted a lumbering business at Paines Junction. Fred C. Jones, Lewisville, Moncton, is a brother.

Pain Across the Kidneys For Three Years.

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DOAN'S KIDNEY PILLS. will put the patient right; in old or chronic cases, the treatment should be persisted in.

Mr. Michael A. McInnis, Woodbine, Marion Bridge, N. S., tells of his experience: "For the last three years I suffered great agony with pain across my kidneys, and was so bad that I could not stoop or bend. I consulted, and had several doctors treat me, but I got none the better. On the advice of a friend I procured a box of that valuable life-giving remedy, Doan's Kidney Pills, and to my surprise and benefit I immediately became better. In my opinion Doan's Kidney Pills have no equal as a cure for any form of kidney disease.

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ISLAND SERVICE.

New Route To Be Tried Between Georgetown And Cape George.

In parliament yesterday, there was a vigorous debate on the winter service to P. E. Island. The whole story was told over again, and one new feature developed.

Colin McIsaac (Antigonish), after referring to the necessity of having a continuous service between P. E. Island and the mainland, said that there was a proposition, which he had been pressing upon the minister, and the department, for the past few years, which would remedy the existing state of affairs. At present the boats ran between Pictou and Georgetown. He suggested that a new route be selected, between Georgetown and Cape George. There was not a day this winter, notwithstanding the severity of the winter, that the boats could not have crossed between Georgetown and Cape George. He suggested that the minister have an experiment made, and it would be seen that what he said was perfectly accurate. Cape George was in his constituency, and he was familiar with what he had suggested. A branch railway of about fifteen miles, connecting with the I. C. R., would be required.

Mr. Prefontaine said that he had given orders on Wednesday, to carry out the experiment, suggested by Mr. McIsaac. He asked that a test of the route be made. He had not yet got a report.

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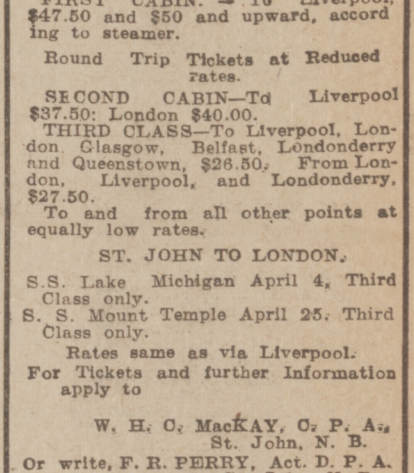
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