

The Important News of the Week for the Saturday Subscribers

Legislature

MONDAY

The House opened its doors at 12 o'clock.

The usual weekly message from the Lieutenant Governor authorising the usual adjournment till Tuesday was read.

After routine on Premier Hazard's motion to go into committee of supply.

MR. McLEAN asked that supply should stand over as the Leader of the Opposition was unavoidably absent.

PREMIER HAZARD consented and the Noxious Weeds bill was read a second time and referred to committee.

HON. MR. RICHARDS explained the bill, remarking that weeds old and new were increasing, and proving a source of trouble and loss. It was important to take steps to have them eradicated, to prevent their spread and especially to preserve our seed grain trade, which was being endangered.

The principal provision of the bill is to make it the duty of every occupant of the land, and of the owner of unoccupied land to cut down and destroy all Ragwort, Wild Tansy, Orange Hawkweed, Black Ely Susan, Sow Thistle and all other noxious weeds growing on his land, as often as is sufficient to prevent the ripening of the seed, but so as not to interfere with the destruction of the growing grain. All road inspectors are to notify owners or occupants not later than 10th July to cut weeds on lands within their road divisions, where found growing, which must be done within ten days, and if not done the road inspector may enter upon the land and cause the weeds to be destroyed, or may lay information before a justice of the peace, and the owner or occupant will become liable to a fine of not less than one dollar nor more than five dollars. If weeds are found growing on unoccupied lands the road inspector need not give notice, but may enter on the land and have the weeds destroyed. The inspector must keep an account of the expense incurred and present it to the owner or occupant, requiring payment within thirty days. If the owner or occupant neglects or refuses to pay the claim a notice is presented to the Commissioner of Public Works, who shall, if approved order it paid in the same way as moneys expended on the roads are allowed and paid. The Commissioner shall cause all such sum of money to be assessed against the land upon which such expenses were incurred.

MR. McLEAN thought some of these provisions might prove burdensome. The object of the bill was undoubtedly good. He would like to be informed how far the farmers would be responsible for weeds outside the cultivated fields, among stumps and in the woodlands.

MR. IRVING thought the bill of great importance and a step in the right direction. In passing through the country it was common to see farms quite overrun with weeds. Farms of great value were in some cases practically destroyed from this cause, and spread the weeds among adjoining farms. The evil was growing one, and it had become imperative to deal with it. It was doubly important in view of Island seed grain being more and more in demand abroad, and its value must depend upon being exempt from weed seed.

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of them was worth three immigrants imported from abroad (cheers)

MR. McLEAN inquired of the Commissioner of Agriculture how the proposed deal with the weeds growing along the railway track. He found ragwort growing on a considerable stretch of the railway and also in the back lands. Was there any provision for cleaning these up?

HON. MR. RICHARDS said it was the duty of the railway authorities to do that. They are supposed to do it, but have not always attended to it very well.

HON. JOSEPH READ thought there would be little difficulty in getting the section men to attend to it if this Act were passed. They were along the line all the time. He spoke of our seed grain sent to the North-west. The only noxious weed objected to was the wild oat, which they said destroyed the value of the crop for milking purposes. There was no wild mustard, only some chickweed and other comparatively harmless seeds in what we sent to the west. He regarded the bill as of great importance. It was alarming to note how some farms were over-run with weeds. The good farmer is known by the absence of weeds on his farm. The act would be educational. In reply to Mr. McLean he said those who sold seed grain for export should provide themselves with separators which would remove all weed seeds. Some farmers by so treating their grain sold at high prices, up to 65 cents for oats. A separator plant costs from \$300 to \$500 and is operated by a gasoline engine.

MR. A. J. McDONALD said there were tracts of wild lands in his section which he feared would be rendered valueless if this act were passed and enforced. And yet in many cases these weeds were where they would not spread—in patches by the seashore, or in the woods. The whole forest would have to be cut down to get rid of them. Some weeds mentioned in the bill, among them wild mustard. There were seven varieties of this not kill anything. He did not see how this bill could be enforced. As the ragwort and other weeds growing on the roadsides, ask the farmer to kill these and he will say "I have enough to do to kill the weeds on my farm." He would object to being taxed to take the public ought to do. Wild tansy was a very prevalent weed, but like many others disappears where there is careful cultivation.

HON. MR. McINNIS thought the bill of great importance and value. It was fairly well guarded and he did not think it would be so enforced as to create any great hardship. It did not require to disturb growing crops. The trouble was that one slovenly farmer seeds another farmer's lands and the fences and roads. Surely the time spent in killing weeds was well spent. The bill was a good one and ought to be passed and he thought there need be no trouble in its working.

DR. WARBURTON thought the farmers would hardly object to a bill which would for its sole object to benefit them. It was important to check and as far as possible get rid of the weeds now have and to prevent other weeds being brought in from abroad.

MR. McKINNON remarked upon the great importance of the bill. He thought it attempted too much and could not be enforced. They should have begun more gradually and with a bill they would stand by and enforce. What would a fine of one to five dollars do to move a farmer who would not move to kill the weeds which he common sense would tell him are costing him \$100 a year? But no farmer could strictly comply with this bill. It would be hard on an occupant for a short term to compel him to kill all the weeds on a weedy farm, and the owner get all the benefit. It was said they need not go into the growing crops, but if this were not done they would destroy the weeds.

MR. WYATT thought it would be better to give the Government all the power from time to time to destroy what weeds are noxious. He would like to see an amendment already prepared.

MR. WYATT said weeds, whether on the lands occupied by the owner or another were equally obnoxious.

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If there is an ailment in the throat or chest, it is surely essential that the remedy be conveyed direct to the affected part. It is because the healing vapor of Catarrhose is breathed into the sore, irritated throat and bronchial tubes, because its balsamic fume kills the germs and destroys the cause of the trouble. These are the reasons why Catarrhose never yet failed to cure a genuine case of Catarrh, Asthma, Bronchitis or Throat Trouble.

The wonderfully soothing vapor before the farmers recognized what Catarrhose instantly reaches the furthest recesses of the lungs, produces a healing, curative effect, that is impossible with a tablet or liquid, which goes merely to the stomach, and fails entirely to help the throat or lungs.

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MR. McLEAN said it was well known that a purchaser of 1,000 tons or more at the mines got a reduction of 30 cents per ton below what smaller buyers pay. The Government, which uses over a thousand tons should buy direct and save \$300.

HON. MR. CUMMISKEY produced the cheque payable to Mr. Grady, showing that the cheque endorsed by Joseph Read & Co. was not in 1907, but last summer, when it was claimed Mr. Grady was not in the employ of Joseph Read & Co.

The discussion was continued by Mr. Mathieson, Hon. Joseph Read and Mr. M. Kennedy. The item then passed.

On the item of Education Mr. Arsenault inquired why there was a discrimination against the Inspector of French schools who was only allowed \$900.

MR. MATHIESON said that Prince Georges College should be an institution whose chief function was to prepare our teachers for their duties. It is the head of our educational system. He believed the course of study could be adapted to the needs of the Province more closely than it now is. Ten years ago the teachers received \$118,000 and last year \$105,000, a decrease of \$13,000. The College then cost \$9,113. Last year it was \$20,913. The teachers of schools get \$13,000 less while the cost of administration and the College is \$11,000 more. He enquired of the Principal and assessors, who were good men as could be proved, ought to be in a position to spend more on the College, and far more on the common schools. This ought to have been looked after before the subsidies conference. He called attention to the large expense for new floors in the College and other repairs which ought not to be necessary for a new building. Why had the school enrolment fallen off 1,000 last year? It was the smallest enrolment in 30 years. Is it that population is decreasing, or that children are not attending school? He believed the School Act is better than its enforcement. He quoted from the Superintendent's report which recommends a reduction of the Government allowance if the supplement fell off. This was on the principle of taking away from him that hath not. He argued that after the loss of many good teachers this would tend to drive away the few who remain. He held that every Province had applied a portion of the increased subsidy to improve the schools.

PREMIER HAZARD inquired whether any Province was paying more for education more than we?

MR. MATHIESON said Alberta and Saskatchewan were paying more. He read from the schools report that

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HON. MR. CUMMISKEY in reply to Mr. Mathieson said he believed all correspondence with regard to the Old Ferry Road had been submitted.

MR. MATHIESON inquired as to the writ for election in the First District of Queens. If issued, when is it returnable?

PREMIER HAZARD said the writ had been issued. He could not now, but would state the date fixed for its return tomorrow morning. He moved that the House resume consideration of Supply. Some items for the administration of justice which had been held over were taken up and passed. In regard to the outlay for maintenance of Queen's County Jail Hon. Mr. Cummiskey said all the large items such as coal were called for by tender. He read a number of items that were tendered for.

MR. MATHIESON said that about one half of the \$1892 was expended by tender, and one half without tender. He estimated was \$900. He thought the Premier should explain why the estimate had been doubled.

HON. MR. CUMMISKEY explained he difficulty of making an exact estimate, and the expenditure depended largely upon the number of prisoners, amount of sickness, and so forth, which no man could forecast. He claimed that no coal was charged in 901 and last year's account contained 50 years coal.

MR. McLEAN inquired why in making his estimates for last year the Commissioner had not asked for enough to pay for two years' coal?

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PREMIER HAZARD believed that the accounts were all paid up. He had one into the accounts himself and believed the estimate for this year would be sufficient.

The items for Queen's and King's County Jails were then passed. As to coal for Prince County Jail Hon. Mr. Cummiskey explained that in 1906 the Jail was burned and the coal with it. The new Jail was occupied in February of last year and coal was wanted. They inquired the prices current there and bought of John Grady, at the current rates. John Grady did not endorse the cheque to Joseph Read & Co. He read a list of names of residents of Summerside who at that time bought round soft coal at \$5 per ton and 30 cents cartage, some of them having bought from Joseph Read & Co.

HON. JOS. READ said that as to the hard coal it was tendered for by Mr. Grady who bought it of Joseph Read & Co. and he brought the cheque to them for payment. Mr. Grady was doing business on his own account. What Mr. Grady made out of the coal was nothing to him or his firm. He had never made a dollar out of the Government, but rather a loss, while working for the good of the Province.

MR. COX suggested that the Government should buy all the coal they want direct from the mines. (Opposition cheers)

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