

LEGISLATURE CONTINUED

(Continued from page 7.) debts while the Liberals had splendid assets in public works and buildings to balance any debt they had incurred. He held it unfair and unpatriotic to speak of the Province as heavily in debt. Our financial position, he claimed compared favorably with other Provinces that were over-cars in debt. He concluded by a reference to the Opposition's many inquiries and read a series of humorous questions asked in the Nova Scotia Legislature, about cats at Government House. He ended amid

laughter and cheers. MR. DEWAR followed at 10.10 o'clock. He remarked that the Opposition were said to be hungry. Well, he thought they were pretty well fed, by their looks. Anyway hunger was no sign of disease. The Government were surfeited with the sweets of office and had now become paralysed. He attacked the expenditure on Government House, where they spent enough in repairs to build a handsome residence. He proceeded to review other alleged extravagance, and unwarranted expenditure. Capital account he declared to be a fraud. The Mother of Parliaments had no capital account. He proceeded to criticize a number of road and bridge ex-

penditures which he alleged were made without tender and for political purposes. He spoke for over an hour and wound up with a review of the Canadian election. MR. McPHEE rose at 11 o'clock to move the adjournment of the debate. Carried. The House adjourned till tomorrow forenoon at 11. FRIDAY. Thursday, April 6. The House opened to the public at 11.35. HON. MR. McINNIS presented the petition of D. A. McDonald and others praying for the incorporation of the Peaks Station Dairying Company. He introduced a bill to the like effect. MR. KENNEDY, Kensington, asked for further information itemised as to the sale of imported stock, which the Commissioner of Agriculture said he would endeavor to bring down. THE PREMIER submitted correspondence with the Chief Health Officer, Dr. H.D. Johnson, with regard to the outbreak of smallpox at Murray Harbor. MR. MATHIESON inquired as to the amount of money on interest at the banks to the credit of the Government, with names of banks. THE PREMIER hoped to lay the information on the table tomorrow. HON. MR. CUMMISKEY in reply to Mr. Mathieson said he had returns from the road inspectors with regard to the road purchases but not opened, and the return submitted contained the information. MR. MATHIESON said the return was not complete, and instanced some rights of way in the Georgetown district which he said had been omitted. He alleged that some persons had voluntarily given their land but were afterward paid for it by the department. HON. MR. CUMMISKEY had no knowledge of any such cases. He submitted the letters from road inspectors, and all the information in his possession. MR. WYATT resumed the adjourned debate on the motion for an address to the Governor General requesting the appointment of a Senator in place of Hon. D. Ferguson deceased. He referred to the importance attached to the Senate and its representation in Parliament at the time of Confederation. The time might come when our only representation would be that in the Senate. How could we urge our claim to have our lost representation in the Commons restored if we consent to that in the Senate being cut down as it has been. Taxation without representation lost Britain the thirteen colonies. As the Premier said in Montreal, if we are to be taxed and our representation taken away there might be an insurrection. On the Government side they were asked to possess their souls in patience. It was said the Senate appointment was now in the pocket of a member of the Commons awaiting his convenience. The public interest should not be sacrificed in this way. He cited the case of Mr. Laird and that of Mr. Laird to show how eager the Government was to have vacancies in the Legislature filled when it suited the party interest. In Mr. Laird's case the resignation was closely followed by the writ of election. But in the matter of the Senatorship they were resisting a resolution for immediate appointment. He read from The Pioneer, in the speech of J. H. Bell, that we are poor in influence at Ottawa and growing poorer. And yet Hon. Mr. Gallant had said we have a great power at Ottawa. This power was not apparent in getting our claims paid. If our influence is waning we should strengthen our representation at Ottawa and insist upon our full rights in that regard which are now being denied us. MR. McPHEE said the Legislature had nothing to do with the vacancy in the Senate. That was a matter for our federal representatives. The crops had been good (laughter) and business was prosperous. The Opposition were evidently growing inwardly to think that another Liberal would soon be appointed to the Senate, but professed great zeal to have the appointment made. MR. MATHIESON moved, seconded by Mr. McNeill, an amendment to the amendment. He explained the object was to restore the application to the Governor General who was the proper appointing power. He contended that the House had the right and the duty to deal with this matter, being one of the parties to the union compact. He felt it was humiliating, a

sad and sickening thing, that when our rights were being taken away the Government were not only consenting parties thereto but excused and defended the act of wrong-doing. Our grandfathers would not have submitted to such things. Could nothing arouse the Government to a sense of their duty. The Dominion Government, but look after their side of the contract very well. Here the Government hastened to endorse the action by which our rights are taken away. He read from The Patriot that when the Ottawa Government is good and ready these appointments will be made. Any one adopting that doctrine had lost the spirit of a freeman and sunk to the level of a coward and a slave. MR. COX protested against the words "cowards and slaves." There were no cowards on that side of the House. MR. MATHIESON explained he had not applied it to the members, who, he hoped, would not subscribe to that doctrine. MR. COX did not approve of the words "when it is good and ready." Those words were not in the motion moved by the leader of the Government. He thought the leader of the Opposition had shown a bad example in the use of strong language. MR. ARSENAULT recalled that he had moved the original resolution, and had followed the exact terms of the B. N. A. Act. The Government sought to apply this by an amendment, to which the second amendment was now moved by Mr. Mathieson. MR. McLEAN pointed out that the Government amendment was to send the address, not to the Governor General, but to the Government at Ottawa who are the parties at fault. The member for West River took it for granted that the Ottawa Government would only appoint some one that was no good. They would find they could only get the support of the country by a decent regard for our rights. MR. DOBIE insisted that the Governor General was the official appointing power. Earl Grey had an interest in the Province and a sense of right. There were plenty of men who could render good service in the Senate, but appointing any one should be appointed at once. The question was then taken on the amendment to the amendment which was lost 14 to 13 and the amendment then adopted on the same vote reversed. Adjourned till 3 o'clock. AFTERNOON SESSION. The House resumed its sitting at 4.20. THE PREMIER in reply to Mr. Mathieson said the vacancy in the Executive Council would be filled shortly. MR. McLEAN moved the House into Committee on the bill to amend the Sours Incorporation Act, Mr. McKinnon in the chair. The bill was agreed to with amendments. A number of bills were advanced a stage and several passed a third reading, including the bill to establish the Central Farmers' Institute for P. E. Island. THE PREMIER introduced a bill to amend the Land Assessment Act. MR. McPHEE resumed the debate on the motion that the House go into committee of supply. He insisted at some length on the arguments to show that the Conservative party were largely responsible for the debt and taxation of the Province and contrasted the merits and policies of the opposing parties. His fluent speech was applauded on the ministerial side. MR. DELANEY charged the Government with handling the public moneys loosely and spending too much. He was for economy, and believed a public man should handle the public money as he would his own. It was too bad to think that we had a deficit of \$30,000 to \$40,000 after all the taxes laid on. If they kept on the debt would not be one million but two millions. He thought there must be graft somewhere. He reviewed the transportation question, coal storage and Government House outfit, and criticised Mr. Cox pretty sharply. MR. MATHIESON followed, reciting the amendment which asserts the right of the House to grant or withhold supplies. He traced how this right was won till no money could be expended unless first voted by the people's representatives. Now we are in danger of losing this priceless boon. The Government set this principle at naught. If they could spend \$3,500 on Government House without a vote of the House they could spend the entire revenue that way. It was a waste of time to vote money, the way things are going. He denied that the Public Works Act gave power to spend money which had not been voted, except in emergencies. The \$450 paid for boring for coal, and the giving away of the jail site were other cases in point. Did members on the other side want the Opposition to follow the same course when they came to power? In Ottawa not even the salaries of the civil servants could be paid till the money was voted by Parliament. As to the accounts of the Rocky Point Ferry for 1908 only appeared for the first time this year. Other accounts were cited which had been held over for one, two or three years. There was nothing to show that many of these bills, had ever been checked, or supervised, or that the goods were received, or were applied to the purpose for which they were ordered. And there were no vouchers to show that the money had been paid. He showed that there were like delays in accounts for expenditures on Falconwood Hospital and other cases in point. Did members of coal supply it was impossible to tell how much went to one institution or the other. He argued that by the delayed accounts no one could tell what the present liabilities of the Province are. Such loose methods favored waste and graft. He showed that the accounts of J. H. Myrick, Prowse Brothers and other firms dealing largely with the Government, the latest entries were for April last year. He believed that other accounts totalling many thousands were held back in like manner. At 6 o'clock the House adjourned till tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

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