DOINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE

WEDNESDAY

Tuesday, March 29.

The House opened at 3.20.

THE PREMIER tabled a return in regard to education. He moved the third reading of the bill to guarantee the bonds of the Island Cold Storage Company.

MR. MATHIESON objected that the third reading was not set down on the orders of the day.

HON. MR. CUMMISKEY, the Premier and others agreed that the third reading was quite in order.

MR. SPEAKER reserved his decision on the main objection, but ruled that the third reading might be proceeded with.

The discussion was continued by Mr. Mathieson, Mr. Wyatt and Hon. Mr. Cummiskey.

MR. MATHIESON stated the objection before made that the bill should not be read a third time because it had not been recommended by message from the Governor, nor sanctioned by resolution of the House in committee of the whole. He quoted authorities showing the British and Canadian practice. No appropriation of public money could be made or public liability incurred without the double check of a resolution passed in committee and a bill making the appropriation. No greater absurdity could be perpetrated than to assume that the credit of the Province could be thus pledged without these safeguards being observed. He cited British authorities to show that the same rule applied to a guarantee as to any appropriation of money. He quoted many precedents from the action of this Legislature in the past, showing that the regular practice had been almost uniformly observed. He argued that if the bill was now put through and sanctioned by the Governor it would still be null and void.

THE PREMIER replied at some length. He asserted that there was nothing in the objections made. The bill was properly before the House. The bill only created a contingent liability. The Province was so amply secured that no liability could possibly accrue during the present fiscal year. In New Brunswick in a precisely similar case of guaranteeing bonds of a storage company there was no message from the Governor and no resolution. A further guarantee had been since given by the Hazen Government in the same way. He also quoted from May an instance showing that where the liability to be created is indirect no recommendation from the crown is necessary. He cited other precedents from our own and other Legislatures in support of his contention. He declared the amendment was out of order and ought not to be entertained. The objection should have been made at the second reading if at all. He believed the bill was entirely in order and he believed was perfectly regular and valid in every way.

MR. WYATT argued that a very real, direct and unconditional liability is created by the bill, and could only be legally incurred by observing the safeguards of a message from the Governor and resolution by the House. He made an elaborate argument, citing many authorities in the deavor to show that this bill had been irregularly introduced. The Governor's consent, if given now could not cure the defect. The message from the Governor must precede the introduction of a bill of this sort, which must also be founded on a resolution adopted by the House in committee.

MR. PALMER argued that the Order in Council read in the House was in effect a request from the crown. He held there was no direct liability being incurred, and that the Province would never be asked to pay anything, but if such should occur, the money must first be voted by this House. Hence there was no need for a resolution as the basis of this bill.

MR. ARSENAULT argued that what New Brunswick may have done in violation of proper proceedure could be no guide for us in face of the rules laid down by the last parliamentary authorities.

MR. SPEAKER ruled on the point of order raised by Mr. Mathieson, that as the bill involved no direct charge upon the public revenue the proceedings thereon so far as taken had been in order.

The third reading of the bill was then carried on straight party vote of 15 to 12, Mr. Dobie being absent.

On the motion for the third reading of the bill to amend the Charlottetown Incorporation Act, Mr. Mathieson moved an amendment to admit the right of appeal from assessments for sidewalks. This was rejected by a party vote as was a subsequent amendment by Mr. McKinnon to introduce the ballot in civic elections—15 to 12. A proposed amendment by Mr. Arsenault to section 6 shared the same fate. The bill was then read a third time and passed.

The bill to amend the Public Schools Act was read a third time and passed; as was also the bill to amend the Act incorporating the Red House Dairying Association and the bill to amend the Act relating to Assignments and Judgments.

DR. WARBURTON moved the second reading of the bill to egulate the operation of motor vehicles on the public highways—the Automobile Act. The House in committee considered the bill, Mr. McWilliams in the chair.

DR. WARBURTON said the act prohibiting the use of automobiles had come to be looked upon by many as an extreme measure, that many persons had changed their views thereon and it was now thought desirable that regulation should take the place of prohibition.

MR. PALMER argued that there was no feeling in the country that would justify admitting the motor cars to our roads. Such a change might come in time, but the country is not ready for it yet, especially the farmers and the rural districts. He did not think public sentiment had much changed since the bill was passed. He moved that the Chairman do now leave the chair.

MR. LAIRD argued against the bill, that what was proposed as an amendment was really to reverse the principle of the bill, and that the petitions received in its favor are not sufficient to warrant the change. He set forth eloquently the danger of allowing motor cars on our narrow public highways. The farmers made the roads and really built up the cities. As well try to regulate the wind as to regulate the speed of these machines and their reckless drivers. The only thing to do was to keep them out, now that we have them out. He argued that with a railway from one end of the Island to the other, with roads, carriages and horses everywhere motor cars are not at all needed. The bill had come up suddenly. Had it been known that such a bill would be introduced thousands would have petitioned against it. He seconded Mr. Palmer's amendment, which if carried would kill the bill.

MR. McKINNON thought it too late in the session to bring up a matter of this kind. The country did not know its provisions. He thought they should have some expression of opinion from the Government.

THE PREMIER said the promoters of the bill appeared to think the Opposition were in favor of it. He thought there had been little or no change in public opinion on the subject. He believed the time would come when a regulation bill might be called for, but thought the time was not yet. No regulation act would satisfy the people now. He thought public opinion on the question might be learned through the Farmers' Institutes. He intended to vote for the amendment.

MR. CROSBY did not believe there were a dozen people in his district who wanted the regulation act. They all wanted the law to remain as it is. He had many letters on the subject which was attracting far more interest than cold storage.

HON. MR. HUGHES thought the automobiles when allowed to run had been a great injury to trade in Charlottetown. In other Provinces the tendency was all toward great restrictions and higher penalties against this motor nuisance. He did not believe the law against them here would ever be repealed.

MR. McKINNON thought the bill might be allowed to go along and see what reasonable regulations could be made.

MR. McLEAN did not think it fair, to kill the bill on its first clause. There was a feeling of danger when these vehicles were allowed to run without regulation. Now there was a willingness in many minds to see what regulations could be made.

MR. PROWSE was inclined to fav. or a good regulation bill. He thought the time would come when we should have such an act.

House met at eight forty-five and resumed committee to consider the Automobile Act amendments.

MR. ARSENAULT continued saying he did not think the country was ready for an act of this kind. He said the country people were most affected by the proposed amendment. He thought many were now favorable to the running of Automobiles provided stringent regulating measures were taken as to days for running etc. In its present shape the amending bill is objectionable to many.

HON. MR. RICHARDS was not prejudiced against autos. He would not predict that they would never run in this province. He had not noticed any change of sentiment among his constituents regarding the prohibition of motor vehicles. He thought the matter might be placed before the farmers of the province.

The motion that the Chairman vacate the chair was carried and further consideration of the bill was cut off.

MR. MATHIESON in continuing the debate on the budget said the nineteen years of deficits was something unusual. He said the Liberals promised to make revenue and expenditure meet and that they would obtain financial support from the Dominion Government. They were were not going to impose taxation. These and other promises have all been broken. Teacher's salaries have decreased by $10,000 and the public roads have entailed an enormous expenditure in the past. The only way out of the present difficulty was to tax the farms. The methods of the valuation of farms which the Premier spoke of was a system introduced by a Liberal Government. P. E. Island farmers except those of British Columbia are the only farmers who pay a direct taxation on farm lands. He made reference to the system pursued by Nova Scotia in connection with public roads showing that much more was paid there for public roads without any increase in taxation. He referred to the Fishery award and to the action taken on the province's claims in this respect. He said further that unless an adjustment of the provinces claims against the Dominion were made it was a question as to the future. Other provinces have succeeded in obtaining from the Dominion aid to enable them to conduct their affairs without resort to direct taxation. He referred to the increased subsidies of other provinces and also to the special grants of lands. This province has slept upon its rights for the past nineteen years. Manitoba was bounding forward while this province is retrogressive on account of the neglect of the local Government to properly prepare discuss and present the claims of the province against the Dominion. The subsidy received in 1909 was the same as that of 1874. Manitoba is now claiming another increase of territory. The Maritime Provinces have too long been subservient tools in the hands of the Dominion. He claimed the situation of the province is desperate. The educational question was referred to and he said the educational commission was appointed only to delay the matter. The report—a voluminous one—which had cost over $3,000 should be printed and placed before the House. There had been plenty of time. The only outlook now was more taxation.

HON. MR. HUGHES in justifying the actions of the Governor referred, among other things, to the outstanding debt on the province when the Liberals attained power. He showed that the cost of the Infirmary—a charge to capital account—exceeded the actual surplus. He said the past year was the best in the history of the Province. He showed by quoting the blue book what had been done with the money, expenditure on public buildings, roads, bridges, ferries, etc. He thought strict economy had been practiced by the present Government. He mentioned the proposed expenditure for the coming year including the cost of the new jail, repairs to the Asylum, the Experimental Farm and other public works. He spoke of the proposed increase in the teachers' salaries and said the people were not averse to taxation for this purpose on an equitable basis. The amount expended on permanent works had been doing much towards keeping up a deficit. He said that Provincial claims would be settled by conference of the provincial premiers. He referred to the past year's roads and showed that, owing to the particularly wet season, money spent on roads would have been wasted. Speaking of education he said the people of the province would be satisfied with the report of the commission when it was printed. He commended the candour of the Premier in his Budget Speech.

MR. McKINNON said the last Speaker referred to ancient history and wondered how the Government was going to wrestle with the present debt if they experienced great difficulty with debt of twenty years ago. He criticized the economy and business methods of the government as set forth by the former speaker. He spoke of the Budget speech as delivered and compared it to that of former years. He referred to the Education Commission, Public Roads addition to subsidy, increased taxation and valuation of farm lands. He moved the adjournment of the debate at ten thirty to meet again at eleven o'clock this morning.

THURSDAY

Wednesday, March 30.

The House opened at 11.30 o'clock.

MR. J. A. MACDONALD asked the Commissioner of Public Works if he has received a petition from certain residents of St. Teresas in King's County praying that a road be opened from Stanhope Road to St Teresas Church a distance of about twenty-five chains, and if so, what action does the Government intend to take regarding same?

HON. MR. CUMMISKEY said the petition had been received, no action had been yet taken but the matter would be further considered.

MR. A. J. MACDONALD asked the Commissioner of Public Works (1) When was the right of way acquired by the Government for a road leading from Sturgeon Line Road to St. Mary's Road (still unopened)? (2) What did it cost and what expenditure has been made upon it? (3) Why has the said road not been completed and opened for traffic? (4) What does the Government propose to do in the matter?

HON. MR. CUMMISKEY said the right of way had been obtained, the road partly opened, and to open it fully would cost four or five hundred dollars. The matter would be further considered.

THE PREMIER in reply to Mr. McKinnon said the reports of the Stipendiary Magistrates for Prince and King's County would be laid on the table.

MR. MATHIESON called attention to the vacancy in Cardigan.

THE PREMIER thought notice of inquiry should be given and promised an answer tomorrow.

MR. McKINNON resumed the adjourned debate on the budget. He thought the exhibitions held 25 or 30 years ago were of more value to the country than those in recent years. He thought Hon. Mr. Hughes easily satisfied with the public works and buildings, which were in several cases two or three times the price of the first contract. He instanced the Prince of Wales College, Vernon River and Cardigan bridges, the Summerside jail. He referred to some alleged statements of the Premier in regard to farmers making false declarations in regard to the value of their farms.

THE PREMIER denied the statement, and demanded its withdrawal. The Speaker ruled that the words objected to must be withdrawn.

MR. MATHIESON appealed from the decision of the Speaker. The vote on the appeal stood 12 to 12, but the motion was declared lost by the Speaker casting vote.

MR. McKINNON in withdrawing the offensive words to which objection had been taken insisted that the effect of the Premier's words had been that the farmers were delinquents and perjurers. Proceeding to discuss the finances he took exception to the debt statements and various expenditures, the payments to a Road Inspector while he was a candidate for the Legislature.

Some statements with regard to Mr Lovers and the Cardigan bridge brought a point of order from Hon. Mr. Cummiskey who said the matter had been investigated under oath. He said the member for Cardigan might have been there and given testimony, had he so desired.

MR. McKINNON said the inquiry was all over before they heard of it. Where was it held?

HON. MR. CUMMISKEY—in the Legislative Library.

MR. McKINNON proceeded to discuss the provincial claims which nothing had been done to collect. He reviewed at length the operations of boring for coal at Earnscliffe and Wood Islands. He quoted from a speech of Mr. Irving, M. L. A., to show that there was cause for distrust in the way the operations were managed. He argued that the work done was practically useless because it had not gone deep enough. It stopped at 1900 feet and should have gone 600 feet further. The Premier had pledged himself to see the test completed, but had not done so. He concluded by claiming that the public business of the Province had been generally mismanaged and neglected.

MR. PALMER followed and had the floor at recess.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 1.30 Mr. Palmer resumed the budget debate. He commended the Government for the close estimate made of the expenditure of the past year, which had not been exceeded in any department. He defended the charges of permanent improvements to capital account. He believed the Opposition, if they were returned to power, would adopt the same system, and would not, as their predecessors did, starve our public works. He contended that the public services were well maintained and were not "run down," as the Opposition contended. He went over the departments one by one, arguing that the Attorney General's department had been well conducted, the Department of Agriculture most usefully and efficiently managed, and the Public Works Department carried on with energy and prudence. Coming to the matter of our finances in the future, he asked the Opposition how he would increase the revenue to make ends meet without increasing the taxes on lands. He was glad the Government had prepared a bill to deal with that matter. There had been a great fault in regard to the valuation—it was not equal, and ought to be equalized. It had been stated that this Province was the only one where the Government laid a tax on farm lands. The fact was that farms are taxed in every Province, and much higher than here, but the rates were laid on and collected by the county councils. It was not fair to make such misleading statements, as had been made, for political effect. It was absurd to say that the terms of Confederation were intended to relieve us from taxation for all time to come. He claimed the people got good value for the taxes they paid. As to the cost of education, the school system must be improved and the teachers better paid whether our Federal claims are paid or delayed. More money was also needed for roads and bridges, but we had not the money. As to our claims, he commended the frank and candid statement in regard thereto. Some of our claims, at least, are good, but we cannot stand still, whether they are paid or not. The Federal Government was naturally reluctant to open up the matter, because of affording an opening for all the Provinces to come in with new demands. Our claims should be pressed, but at an opportune time. We are now to have cheaper and better school-books. This was impossible until the Ontario Government had broken down the school-book ring. As to boring for coal, he thought an honest effort had been made. He complained of the unfair criticism from the Opposition. The Government courted fair criticism for all their acts and had nothing to fear from it.

MR. McLEAN said all had commended the frank statement of the Premier. His back was against the wall and he had to face a deficit of $12,000. But how had the money been spent? Of $28,000 spent on the roads, $12,000 was spent just before the election. Little was done when it ought to be. The much-praised road machines were left to lie and rust by the roadside. He warned the Premier that he must make a better showing or he would be left in a minority. Hon. Mr. Hughes had to admit that the party in power had added $774,000. But he omitted to state that they had at the same time taken $1,022,000 out of the people's pockets by additional taxation. All this time they were promising to make ends meet. And now they were estimating a deficit of $38,000 for the current year. In every department the cost is increasing, and now resort is to be had to new taxes on the farmers. He admitted that the system of valuation is wrong and had been wrong for all these years. Almost any change would be for the better. He contended that the management of public works was not satisfactory to the country. He promised fair criticism for the new valuation bill if it is a fair measure. The Opposition had advised the Government year after year to get better school books. Now, after long delay, the advice is being acted upon. He affirmed that the two spending departments, Agriculture and Public Works are run down. He denied that we need wait for co-operation of other Provinces in regard to our claims, notably our claim on account of the P. E. Island Railway. This claim is clear and must be paid if clearly presented. The Government claimed they would do many things if they had the money. Was our claim of seven millions against the Dominion a mere bluff? It would be no use to send a delegation till our claims were properly prepared. This had not been done. Take our fishery claim. It dated before we were in the Union while New Brunswick and Nova Scotia were in. The cases were entirely different. We can never get co-operation with Nova Scotia. That Province is too well satisfied with the lion's share of the bounty it received. In regard to education the people were not satisfied. They felt that the Government had deceived them for nineteen years. They were willing to pay more for education under a proper system, but they could not trust the Government. In like manner the expenditure on the roads was believed to be squandered for political purposes. It was not thus in the other Provinces where the expenditure was made by the county councils, honestly and without favoritism.

The House went into committee of supply, Dr Warburton in the chair.

On the item $22,018 for the Administration of justice Mr. Mathieson said the cost had been increased by $7000 within a few years, although crime had not increased, nor had litigation, nor were witnesses or jurors paid any more. He inquired as to the reason for $200 increase for inspectors under Prohibition.

THE PREMIER said it was to pay an additional inspector for King's County. He explained that the cost of the Supreme Court sittings was beyond the control of the Government and varied in different years and in different counties. The new inspector for Kings had been very strongly urged by the temperance people. The court stenographer's salary had been formerly charged to the Public Library, but was now one half charged to the Administration of justice where it belonged.

MR. LAIRD made a lengthy and forcible commendation of the Government and dealing especially with educational matters, but it had little connection with the item before the House.

MR. MATHIESON asked to revise his earlier statement as to the cost of the administration of justice, which he now claimed had increased 30 per cent. Dealing with the returns from Stipendiary Magistrate, whose convictions in many cases were marked "not enforced by request," he asked who made these requests?

THE PREMIER—Name any case and we will give you all the information you want. If cases were cited, and any conviction was suspended by his request he would say so.

MR. MATHIESON held he was not bound to give names. Here was a wrong crying out for a remedy.

MR. McKINNON had heard for years that an inspector for Kings was not doing his duty. Now another is to be appointed. Why was not the useless inspector removed?

HON MR. McINNIS said the Temperance Alliance had asked for the appointment.

EVENING SESSION.

The House resumed sitting at 8.30.

THE PREMIER submitted the reports of the Stipendiary Magistrate of King's, Queen's and Prince Counties. The House then resumed committee of Supply, Dr. Warburton in the chair.

THE PREMIER spoke of the prohibition convictions in King's County which had been suspended by request. In one case where time was extended, no authority had been or could be given and he suspended the salary of the prosecutor until it was made right. Another case was that of a woman in Souris, who was leaving the place and he had given consent to the suspension. In Joseph Acorn's case, he knew nothing about it further than that the conviction was made on slight evidence. He made no order to suspend the conviction. In the case of Margaret McDonald, Georgetown royalty, he was informed that an agreement had been made on request of a clergyman that nothing would be done if she would quit. He had not authorised any suspension. In no case had he interfered. His instructions were in every case of conviction that the warrant should issue and be executed. This applied to all three counties. He had never relaxed that order. A new inspector was appointed on the recommendation of the Temperance Alliance. They had not asked that a prosecutor be dismissed, but if it were found that his services were not needed, he would be dispensed with.

MR. MATHIESON inquired how the salaries would be distributed.

THE PREMIER stated what the salaries would be in each case; Mr Jenkins receiving $950, and the new inspector $300, the whole making a total of $2,350. All the Stipendiaries receive $250 each and upwards. There was no intention to appoint a second Stipendiary for Prince. The principal part of the item for administration of justice then passed.

The items, Boards of Health and Coroner's inquests passed without discussion. When the Agriculture vote came up Mr. Mathieson inquired what had been done with the act for destroying noxious weeds?

HON. MR. RICHARDS said he thought the act was working fairly well, and doing good.

MR. MATHIESON inquired of the Commissioner of Public Works, in whose hands the carrying out of the act was placed, what had been done.

HON. MR. CUMMISKEY said a copy of the act had been sent to each Overseer, with instructions to carry it out. So far the Department had done its duty.

HON. MR. RICHARDS said that it had been thought more short courses at Truro would be of advantage and that in consequence the long course had been dropped. The item then passed, and after a brief discussion the vote for the Executive Council was passed.

When the Education vote was under consideration the Premier explained that one of the Inspectors for Queens and the Inspector of French schools had been ill and the latter had died. Another would in the time be appointed, without increase of salary this year. Some provision would be made to have the schools in Queens inspected by another Inspector during Mr. Kielly's illness.

MR. MATHIESON severely arraigned the growing expenses of printing and stationery, which is three times what it was ten years ago, while repairs and fuel for P. W. College, are costing $4,000, an amount that formerly paid the entire yearly cost of the institution. He contended that the essentials of the system were neglected while expenditure upon other parts of the work had doubled. He read a letter from the Superintendent of Education to the Premier of recent date showing that seven teachers with third-class license were receiving second-class pay. He declared this a gross breach of the law and an outrage on justice. He spoke for more than an hour down to 10.35 o'clock.

THE PREMIER replied. The Leader of the Opposition seemed to think no one knew anything about education but himself. Taken at his own estimate he ought to lead the great Conservative party in Canada. But the country did not estimate him so highly. He (the Premier) would be glad to increase the salaries of teachers, but if that were done it would not stop the exodus when the teacher and once caught the western fever. Some would return, some had returned already. He claimed our teachers were fairly capable and the system working reasonably well. The Superintendent of Education had done good service. He read Dr. Anderson's letter about third-class teachers receiving second-class pay. They are now only getting the pay of their class. They had been given the higher pay temporarily, under promise to qualify for the higher class, but had not done so. He denied that any had got the increased pay through political favor. He moved the adjournment of the debate.

MR. MATHIESON replied. The Premier interjected—"That statement is not true." Mr. Matheson asked that the words be taken down. The committee rose at 11 o'clock.

THE SPEAKER took the chair and progress was reported. A discussion arose on the point whether the words objected to should be withdrawn.

THE SPEAKER ruled that as the statement made by Mr. Mathieson was not within his personal knowledge, the Premier was not obliged to withdraw it.

MR. MATHIESON appealed from the decision, which was sustained by a vote of 14 to 12. The House adjourned till 11 o'clock tomorrow.

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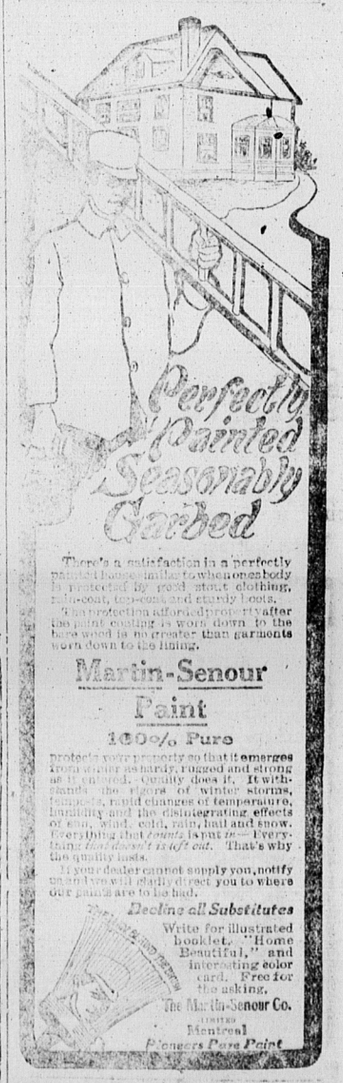

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Stops Pain in the Bladder, Kidneys and Back

Wouldn't it be nice within a week or so to be rid to say goodby forever to the scalding dribbling straining or too frequent passage of urine the forehead and the back, dull head ache the stitches and pains in the back the growing muscle weakness spots before the eyes yellow skin sluggish bowels, swollen eyelids or ankles leg cramps unnatural short breath sleeplessness and the despondency?

Have a recipe for these troubles that you can depend on, if you want it, make a QUICK RECOVERY, you ought to write and get a copy of it. Many a doctor would charge you $3.50 just for writing this prescription, but I have it and will be glad to send it to you entirely free. Just drop me a line like this: Dr. A. E. Robinson, E. 1801 Luck Building Detroit Mich., and I will be glad to send it by return mail in a plain envelope. As you will see when you get it, this recipe contains only pure, harmless remedies, but it is great healing and pain conquering power.

It will quickly show its power once you use it and things you feel better see what it is without delay. I will send you a copy free you can use it and cure yourself at home.

HORSE NOTES.

The beautiful stallion Oakley Baron will be sold at auction at the horse show in Amherst, N. S., on Thursday April 7th. He is one of the best stock on P. E. I., an ideal specimen of the American trotter, handsome, richly bred and a game race horse.

The owners of Tom Medium, John Muttart, Albany, and John P. Shields Bedeque, were in the City yesterday returning from a successful trip through King's and part of Queen's County, picking stands for their celebrated stallion for the coming season. They passed through the following places:—Kinkora, Rose Valley Springton, Hampshire, Charlottetown, Pownal, Vernon River Bridge, Vernon River, Valleyfield, Montague, Cardigan, Peake's, Avondale, Auburn, Webster's Corner. The owners received great encouragement from stockmen generally as Tom Medium Jr is one of Prince County's best stallions and has no equal on P. E. I. as a stock getter. Further particular as to route and pedigree will appear latter.