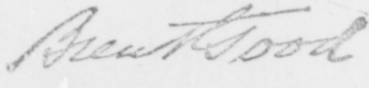


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PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Close of Debate on Address—Departmental Reports Tabled

WEDNESDAY, May 15.

Mr. John A. MacDonald, on rising to speak, said that owing to the lateness of the hour he would limit his remarks to a few minutes. He referred to the report of calling the House to order on May 15, weeks after all the other Provincial Parliaments had been prorogued. He also drew the attention of the House to the bad state of the roads, more especially the main Western Road, which was in the most wretched condition, particularly in the part of the District of Prince George. Taking up the trade question, he pointed out how the Dominion government had violated every pledge they made to the electors previous to the last Dominion election, and cited several articles, such as tariff on winter tires, and "tariffing" implements which have increased in price during the last year. We were told that when the present party would come into power we might expect to have our kerensine at a much reduced rate. Well, the government has been in power for nearly four years, and kerensine oil is as high in price as when those great men preached cheap oil previous to the election in 1897. In regard to the agricultural exhibition we are promised in the Governor's speech, he thought, local or county exhibitions would give more satisfaction to the farmers of the outlying counties, and upon the whole he thought that Prince County would be better pleased and better served should they get the privilege of holding a local or county exhibition in Summerside, the county town. Mr. MacDonald then referred to the war in South Africa and spoke in praise of our young men who went to the front to fight the battles of the Empire, and trusted that those who might be spared to return might have great honors bestowed upon them. He called the attention of the House to the different delegations which went to Ottawa during recess and which seemed, as far as we know, to have accomplished nothing only to have a good time at the expense of the province. It was different with the delegations sent by the Liberal-Conservative party while in power, who obtained for us an additional allowance of twenty thousand dollars per year which was indeed valuable to them. After thanking the House for their patient hearing he resumed his seat.

Mr. Birchden, on the statement of the Patriot that a candidate had been nominated to take the place of Mr. Pincus, said that no candidate had even been named. He thought it was very unfair for a newspaper to circulate such false news. The Liberal, he pointed out, failed to give the Conservatives credit for the measure of prosperity which Canada now enjoys. How is it that if there is such a wave of prosperity sweeping over the country the laboring men do not get more wages? Instead of there being a decrease in prices under the Liberals there has been an increase of from 10 to 200 per cent. in the price of about fifty articles. The exports for April, 1900, had fallen far short of the exports for the corresponding period of the previous year, and the price of produce had fallen very materially. After elaborating these points at considerable length Mr. Birch went on to point out the success in the dairy industry was due to the Liberal-Conservatives and the interest they took in dairying. Through the neglect of the Minister of Agriculture these using cold storage in connection with their exports this year will have to pay five shillings extra for every twenty cubic feet. He thought that the grant of \$6,000 for exhibitions should be put where it would do the most good. The farmers in the western, eastern and northern sections of the province will not be benefited. He thought that \$3,000 of the \$6,000 should be given towards the usual County exhibitions where it would do more good than if spent in a central exhibition in Charlottetown. He condemned the Government for passing a license law, and charged that they caused the defeat of the Scot. Act by bringing on the election the day after the Provincial election. He denied that the Opposition were opposed to the bill, but they thought that it should have been built without costing this country anything. Mr. Birch said he never saw such bad roads and bridges as existed now. He complained also that favoritism was shown Liberals in the matter of shipping lobster after the sea was closed. Speaking of the sending of the contingents to South Africa he gave credit to Lord Strathcona for his action. Mr. Arsenault questioned the statement made by hon. members on the other side of the House to the effect that the roads were never in so good a condition as they are at present. His experience showed that the contrary was the case. The roads west were especially bad. Referring to the cry of disloyalty he said he never saw in the Star anything charging disloyalty on the part of the French-Canadians, but he had seen articles condemning Tarte and Bourassa. The French-Canadians were just as loyal to the Irish, Scotch or English. He thought that it would have been better to have encouraged the young men of this province to take up farms in the Northwest in preference to bonusing Doukhobors and Galicians and such people. This closed the debate on the address, which was adopted after the rejection of the amendments submitted by the Opposition which have already been published.

THURSDAY, May 17.

House met at 12:35. A number of bills from the Private Bills Committee were reported and set down for second reading tomorrow. At the afternoon session, after the Speaker took the chair, the members re-

paired to the Council Chamber and presented the Lieutenant-Governor with the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

When the House re-assembled Mr. Campbell drew attention to the fact that the House the Lieutenant-Governor did not acknowledge the reply of the House to the speech with which the session was opened, and pointed out that it was a breach of courtesy on behalf of the Government to have a request to have placed a reply in the Governor's hands.

Hon. Mr. Farquharson said this duty devolved on the Governor, and the Government was not to blame.

Finally the question followed in which hon. members on both sides took

part. It was clearly shown that each a course running through the past and that the Government was deserving of censure.

Hon. Mr. Farquharson tabled the report of the Privy Council.

Hon. Mr. McLean submitted the Report of the Department of Public Works.

Hon. Mr. McLean tabled the Report of the Commissioner of Crown and Public Lands.

House then adjourned until ten o'clock on Friday.

FRIDAY, May 18.

House met at 12:10.

Hon. Mr. McLean submitted the Super-

visors' returns.

Mr. Campbell asked the Commissioner of Public Works to table a statement of all amounts expended on roads and bridges by Supervisors in road districts Nos. 1, 2 & 5 in Queen's County, without sale or tender, the nature of the work done, the name of the road or bridge on which such work was performed, the names of the parties who performed the work and the amount paid to each person.

Hon. Mr. McLean said the information asked for could be obtained in the Supervisors' returns.

Mr. Campbell asked the Commissioner of Public Works to table a statement in detail showing how the sum of twenty-nine dollars and fifty cents was expended on Montgomery's bridge in 1895, the nature of the work done, the names of the parties who performed the work and the amount paid to each person.

Hon. Mr. McLean tabled the information asked for.

Mr. Kitchin asked the Commissioner of Public Works if the Government had received a petition from the inhabitants of Rollo Bay praying that an act may be passed to prevent the hauling of sea-weed before sunrise and after sunset.

Hon. Mr. McLean said the petition had been received. But it was a question if the Government had a right to interfere.

Mr. Kitchin asked the Commissioner of Public Works if the Government had received a petition from the inhabitants of Souris River and Rollo Bay praying that a road be opened from McGowan's Road to Head of Souris Road, leading through John Sculler's line.

Hon. Mr. McLean said such petition had been received and would receive the consideration of the Government.

Hon. Mr. Farquharson, in reply to Mr. Gordon, said that the report of the Asylum Commissioners would be submitted as soon as it had been completed.

Mr. Campbell said that he was informed that the report was completed and that it had been signed three weeks ago.

The Public Schools Report and the Report of the Hospital for the Insane were tabled.

House then went into committee on the second reading of the bill incorporating the Central Christian Church of Charlottetown, with Mr. Birch in the chair. Third reading to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. Farquharson introduced the usual motion regarding a supply to Her Majesty.

Hon. Mr. Farquharson introduced a bill incorporating Fishermen's Bait Associations, which was set down for second reading to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. Farquharson submitted a bill amending the bill incorporating the Cornwall Creamery Company. It was referred to the Private Bills Committee.

House adjourned until three o'clock on Monday.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

—A writer for one of the Nova Scotia papers, remembering Sir Louis Davies' connection with the Prince Edward Island election scandals, thinks that he is admirably qualified for the job of preventing an investigation of the West Huron scandals.

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