

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

DURING THE

FIRST SESSION

OF THE

TWENTY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF

NEWFOUNDLAND

1909.

EVENING HERALD, LIMITED
Prescott Street, St. John's, Newfoundland.
1913

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J. W. BROWN, LTD.,
17000 Street, St. John's, Newfoundland.
1913

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OF THE

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

SESSION 1909.

MONDAY, May 31st, 1909.

His Excellency SIR WILLIAM MacGREGOR, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Doctor of Medicine, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies, by his Proclamation bearing date the Tenth Day of April last, having dissolved the late General Assembly, and by his Proclamation bearing date the Tenth Day of April last, called a new one, and by his Proclamation bearing date the Eighteenth Day of May instant, having appointed Monday, the Thirty-First Day of May instant, for the meeting of the said General Assembly for the despatch of business, the following are the names of the members returned by the returning officers of the several electoral districts to represent the said districts in the General Assembly:—

List of Members returned to serve in the House of Assembly, 1909;—

Hon. Sir Edward P. Morris, John R. Bennett and Michael E. Kennedy, Esquires—St. John's, Western Division;

James M. Kent, George Shea and

John Dwyer, Esquires—St. John's, Eastern Division;

William Woodford and John J. Murphy, Esquires—Harbor Main;

William R. Warren, Esquire—Port-de-Grave;

Archibald W. Piccott, Alfred H. Seymour and Edward Parsons, Esquires—Harbor Grace;

John R. Goodison, Esquire—Carbonear;

Hon. John Crosbie and Jesse Whiteway, Esquire—Bay de Verde;

R. Anderson Squires, Esquire, Hon. Robert Watson and Edwin G. Grant, Esquire—Trinity;

Hon. Sydney Blandford, William C. Winsor, Esquire, and Hon. Donald Morison—Bonavista;

Henry J. Earle, Esquire—Fogo;

Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Bond, J. Augustus Clift and George Roberts, Esquires—Twillingate;

William M. Clapp, Esquire—St. Barbe;

Joseph F. Downey, Esquire—St. George;

Robert Moulton, Esquire—Burgoe and LaPoile;

Hon. Charles H. Emerson—Fortune;

Henry Gear and Edward H. Davey, Esquires—Burin;

Richard J. Devereux, William R. Howley and Frank J. Morris, Esquires—Placentia;

Hon. Michael P. Cashin and Philip Moore, Esquire—Ferryland.

By virtue of a Commission under the Great Seal to the Honourable Sir Edward D. Shea, President of the Legislative Council, the Honourable George Skelton and the Honourable Robert K. Bishop, members of the said Council, which is as follows:—

*EDWARD, by the
Grace of God, of
the United Kingdom
of Great Britain
and Ireland,
and of the British
Dominions beyond
the Seas,
King, Defender of
the Faith, Emperor
of India.*

WM. MACGREGOR,
Governor,
[L. S.]

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

Know ye that we have appointed Honourable Sir Edward D. Shea, President of the Legislative Council of our Island of Newfoundland, the Honourable George Skelton and the Honourable Robert K. Bishop, members of our Legislative Council, to be Commissioners, they or either of them to administer the Oath of Allegiance to the undermentioned persons, elected to serve in the House of Assembly for the several Districts and Divisions of Districts set opposite their names, respectively, and appointed by Proclamation by our Governor of our Island of Newfoundland, to be holden in St. John's on the Thirty-first Day of this instant month:—

Hon. Sir Edward P. Morris, John R. Bennett and Michael E. Kennedy,

Esquires—St. John's, Western Division;

James M. Kent, George Shea and John Dwyer, Esquires—St. John's, Eastern Division;

William Woodford and John J. Murphy, Esquires—Harbor Main;

William R. Warren, Esquire—Port-de-Grave;

Archibald W. Piccott, Alfred H. Seymour and Edward Parsons, Esquires—Harbor Grace;

John R. Goodison, Esquire—Carbonear;

Hon. John Crosbie and Jesse Whiteway, Esquire—Bay de Verde;

R. Anderson Squires, Esquire, Hon. Robert Watson and Edwin G. Grant, Esquire—Trinity;

Hon. Sydney Blandford, William C. Winsor, Esquire, and Hon. Donald Morison—Bonavista;

Henry J. Earle, Esquire—Fogo;

Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Bond, J. Augustus Clift and George Roberts, Esquires—Twillingate;

William M. Clapp, Esquire—St. Barbe;

Joseph F. Downey, Esquire—St. George;

Robert Moulton, Esquire—Burgeon and LaPoile;

Hon. Charles H. Emerson—Fortune;

Henry Gear and Edward H. Davey, Esquires—Burin;

Richard J. Devereux, William R. Howley and Frank J. Morris, Esquires—Placentia;

Hon. Michael P. Cashin and Philip Moore, Esquire—Ferryland.

Giving to them or either of them full power and authority to perform the matters hereinbefore mentioned,

ratifying and confirming all whatsoever they or either of them shall do and perform in this behalf, and thereof they or either of them are to make due return under their hands and seals unto our Governor of our said Island with these presents annexed.

Given under the Great Seal of our aforesaid Island of Newfoundland.

Witness our trusty and well-beloved SIR WILLIAM MacGREGOR, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Doctor of Medicine, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over Our said Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies, at St. John's, in Our said Island, this Twenty-Ninth day of May, A.D. 1909, and in the Ninth year of Our Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,
R. WATSON,
Colonial Secretary.

MEMBERS ARE SWORN IN

His Excellency's Commissioners came between the hours of 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. of the clock on the said Thirty-First Day of May in the Council Chamber, Patrick T. McGrath, Esquire, Clerk of the House of Assembly, as in duty bound, attending, and the names of the members returned for the several Districts having been called over by the Clerk, they appeared and took and subscribed the Oath of Allegiance in the presence of the said Commissioners, as follows:

Hon. Sir Edward P. Morris and Michael E. Kennedy, Esquire—St. John's, Western Division;

James M. Kent, George Shea and

John Dwyer, Esquires—St. John's, Eastern Division;

William Woodford and John J. Murphy, Esquires—Harbor Main;

William R. Warren, Esquire—Port-de-Grave;

Archibald W. Piccott, Alfred H. Seymour and Edward Parsons, Esquires—Harbor Grace;

John R. Goodison, Esquire—Carbonear;

Hon. John Crosbie and Jesse Whiteway, Esquire—Bay de Verde;

R. Anderson Squires, Esquire, Hon. Robert Watson and Edwin G. Grant, Esquire—Trinity;

Hon. Sydney Blandford, William C. Winsor, Esquire, and Hon. Donald Morison—Bonavista;

Henry J. Earle, Esquire—Fogo;

J. Augustus, Clift, Esquire—Twillingate;

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Joseph F. Downey, Esquire—St. George;

Robert Moulton, Esquire—Burgeon and LaPoile;

Hon. Charles H. Emerson—Fortune;

Henry Gear and Edward H. Davey, Esquires—Burin;

Richard J. Devereux, William R. Howley and Frank J. Morris, Esquires—Placentia;

Hon. Michael P. Cashin and Philip Moore, Esquire—Ferryland.

And the said members who had taken the oath, took their seats accordingly.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

At three of the clock, the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod appeared at the Bar and said:—

"Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

"His Excellency the Governor requests your immediate attention in the Council Chamber."

Accordingly, the members of the Assembly proceeded to the Council Chamber, where the following Commission was read by the Clerk of the Legislative Council:—

WM. MACGREGOR,
Governor,
[L.S.]

*EDWARD, by the
Grace of God, of
the United King-
dom of Great Br i-
tain and Ireland
and of the Brit-
ish Dominions be-
yond the Seas,
King, Defender of
the Faith, m-
peror of India.*

To the Honourable Sir Edward D. Shea, President of the Legislative Council. the Honourable George Skelton and the Honourable Robert K. Bishop, members of the Legislative Council, Greeting:

WHEREAS I have deemed it expedient that the First Session of the Twenty-second General Assembly should be opened for the despatch of business on the Thirty-first day of this instant month, whereof I have given notice in my Proclamation, dated the Eighteenth day of this instant month; and

WHEREAS it is not expedient that the purposes for which I have called the said General Assembly together should be declared on the said day, nor until the members of the House of Assembly have proceeded to the choice of a Speaker, you, the said Honourable Sir E. D. Shea, Honourable George Skelton and Honourable

Robert K. Bishop are hereby authorized and directed to signify to the members of the House of Assembly, on the Thirty-first day of May instant, that it is my pleasure that they shall proceed to the choice of some proper person to be their Speaker, and present such person on the following day for my approbation.

Given under my Hand and Seal at the Government House, Saint John's, the Twenty-Ninth Day of May, A.D. 1909.

By His Excellency's Command,
R. WATSON
Colonial Secretary.

SPEAKER IS ELECTED

The Honourable Sir Edward D. Shea, President of the Legislative Council, then said:—

"Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly:—

"It is not convenient for His Excellency the Governor to declare the reason of his calling this General Assembly to-day and it being necessary that a Speaker of the House of Assembly should be first chosen by you; therefore, it is His Excellency's pleasure that you, Gentlemen of the House of Assembly do now repair to the place where you are to sit and there proceed to the choice of some proper person to be your Speaker, and present such person, whom you shall so choose, here to-morrow at three o'clock for His Excellency's approval."

And the members having returned to the Assembly Room, the Honourable the Prime Minister, addressing himself to the Clerk, who, standing up, pointed to him and then sat down moved "that William R. Warren, Esquire, Member elected for the District of Port de Grave, do take the Chair of this House as Speaker."

which motion was seconded by the Honourable the Acting Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Kent.

No other member being proposed as Speaker, Mr. Warren was unanimously called by the House to the Chair, and was conducted to the Chair by the members who proposed and seconded him.

Whereupon Mr. Warren, standing on the step, addressed the House, expressing his gratitude to the Honourable members for the high honour unanimously conferred upon him.

The House then adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, at half-past two of the clock in the afternoon.

TUESDAY, June 1st, 1909.

The House met at half-past two of the clock in the afternoon, pursuant to adjournment.

At three o'clock a message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, commanding the immediate attention of Mr. Speaker and the House in the Council Chamber.

Then Mr. Speaker and the House attended His Excellency in the Council Chamber; and being returned to the Assembly Room, Mr. Speaker informed the House that when in attendance upon His Excellency in the Council Chamber, His Excellency had been pleased to approve of his election as Speaker of this House; and that His Excellency had also been pleased to make a speech to both branches of the Legislature of which Speech he had obtained a copy, which he read to the House as follows:—

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. President and Honourable

Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly:

For nearly five years it has been my high privilege to represent in this Colony the great and wise King that the people of this country revere and love with such touching loyalty and devotion, and to whom they are so grateful for the substantial benefits he has conferred on them and their descendants.

I have felt that to be Governor of Newfoundland is an honor of which any man, whoever he may be, may be justly proud. To me personally, Newfoundland has been in a peculiar sense a congenial home, because, both the nature of the country and the character of the people so closely resemble my own native land and my own countrymen. I cannot, therefore, without sadness, quit Newfoundland even though it is to proceed to a great and delightful country, where I have already during many years experienced much kindness.

I shall leave this Colony full of hope for its future. In view of its splendid resources, and of its favourable geographical situation; and in the light of the character of its people for energy, perseverance, industry, and not least, their adaptability, one can clearly see before it the era of great progress which, with wise and prudent administration cannot but be in store for this land so bounteously endowed by nature. The development and prosperity of Newfoundland will always be watched by me with real affection.

Within the past seven months two general elections have taken place within this Colony, with the circumstances occasioning which you are all conversant in your individual capacities. The first was indecisive

in that it resulted in the election of eighteen members to support the Administration under whose auspices it was held, and of a similar number to support the Opposition; the second resulted in an emphatic declaration by the country endorsing the policy of my present advisers

The questions arising out of the interpretation of Article One of the Treaty of 1818, between His Majesty's Government and the Government of the United States have been submitted to the Permanent Court of Arbitration at the Hague, and the matters at issue will come up for adjudication about a year hence before the Special Court of Arbitration chosen to pass upon the points in dispute. A copy of the Special Agreement for Submission with other papers relating thereto, will be laid before you.

My late Ministers agreed to submit to the adjudication of His Majesty's Privy Council the dispute between the Province of Quebec and this Colony with regard to the boundary of their respective possessions in the Labrador Peninsula. Steps will be taken to provide that during the coming season and hereafter, reports upon the minerals, forests, and water powers of Labrador, may be obtained, so that the Government may be better informed as to the value of areas there for which applications are made, so that measures may be initiated to secure for this Colony an adequate share of the potential wealth of this region.

In the month of February last, an invitation was extended to this Colony by the President of the United States to appoint a representative to the North American Conservation Conference, which met at Washing-

ton on the 18th of that month. Advantage was taken of the President's courtesy, and a representative attended this Conference on behalf of the Colony. His report, as well as the Declaration of Principles, signed by the representatives of the different countries present, with other documents relating to the proceedings of the Conference will be laid before you.

The result of last season's fishing operations was, on the whole, as regards the catch, more than an average. Unfortunately, however, the realization of the product of the codfishery was attended by a marked decline in price. Various causes are assigned for this unfortunate condition of affairs, but there is a general agreement amongst all interested in securing the best returns from the annual prosecution by our people of this industry, that the time has arrived when the co-operation between the Government of the Colony and those who handle and market the produce of our people, should be brought about with a view to improving the cure, establishing a standard and equitable cull, introducing modern and improved methods of preparing and exporting the fish, opening up new markets, encouraging the establishment of direct communication with those countries, to which our fish might profitably be exported, applying the principles of cold storage now so generally adopted in other countries, and otherwise devising means by which the best results may be obtained by our people for the fruits of their toil.

The various agricultural operations of this Colony for the past year were fairly remunerative, but some effective encouragement is required to induce a greater number

of our people to turn their attention to the cultivation of the soil. My Ministers have in contemplation a policy by which it is hoped to attain the end, through the provision of a bounty for clearing land, the introduction for a good breed of cattle and sheep, the procuring of new seeds, and the establishment of low rates by steamer and train, in order that those producing the crops may be able to market the same with profit.

To further encourage the prosecution of our mining industry, and as an incentive to the prospector and to the introduction of capital from abroad, my Ministers propose the enactment of a measure which will give the original discoverer of a mineral deposit a greater assurance of material return for his discovery; while provision will also be made for the better housing of miners and of workmen at industrial centres, with a preferential claim for their wages, and other protection which the experience of recent years has shown to be necessary.

The steadily increasing price of coal to our people all over the Colony calls for the adoption of a measure that will decide, once and for all, whether our coal deposits are at present commercially available, and whether the extensive peat areas in different parts of the Colony can be utilized to provide the people with a cheap and satisfactory supply of fuel.

My Ministers have established a bait and fishery telegraph service which, it is hoped, will prove of great advantage in connection with our fisheries. It is intended to extend this service to Labrador at as early a date as circumstances will permit. The utilization of the tele-

graph system of the Colony in this connection, without in any way lessening the receipts of that department, will, in a measure, enable our fishermen to participate more directly in the facilities which that service affords. My Ministers have also arranged for the supplying of a daily synopsis of local and foreign news to the people of the outports. There being now one hundred and thirty-four Postal Telegraph stations throughout the Colony, and the number gradually increasing, this service should be of great advantage in apprising our people daily of what is happening in their country, as well as in the outside world.

The Anglo-American Telegraph Company and the Reid-Newfoundland Company having generously undertaken to transmit daily, free of charge, the fishery intelligence and news despatches to the localities touched by their wires, a much larger number of our people will be enabled, through this public spirited action, to avail of the advantage of the two services.

The wireless telegraph service to Labrador has, so far, not realized expectations as a convenient adjunct to the fishermen resorting there. Its improvement is absolutely necessary, seeing that some twenty thousand people annually visit that seaboard, and before the next session my Ministers hope to have perfect arrangements whereby the desired improvement may be brought about.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly:

The total revenue of the Colony for the year ending June 10th, 1908, was the largest in the history of the Island, reaching the sum of two million, eight hundred and twenty-nine thousand, and eight dollars. When

we consider that ten years ago the revenue from all sources was only one million, five hundred and fifty-one thousand, four hundred and twenty dollars, and that this in ten years has increased one million, two hundred and fifty-seven thousand, five hundred and ninety-eight dollars, it speaks volumes for what, with wise and judicious legislation in connection with our fisheries, minerals, forests and agriculture, might be accomplished for our people.

The estimate by my late advisers of the revenue of the current fiscal year, ending on the thirtieth of this month, was two million, seven hundred and ninety-four thousand dollars, and the estimated expenditure for the same period was two million, seven hundred and eighty-three thousand dollars, showing an estimated surplus of revenue over expenditure of eleven thousand dollars. The result, however, of the years' financial operations, exhibits the fact that while the revenue to date is two million, two hundred and nine thousand, eight hundred dollars, and a careful estimate shows that it is not likely to exceed two million, seven hundred and thirty-two thousand dollars, a decrease of fifty-one thousand dollars, from the estimate of my late Ministers, yet the expenditure to date is two million, four hundred and seventy-eight thousand, seven hundred and sixty-six dollars, and the obligations to meet the carrying on of the ordinary public services of the Colony to the end of the fiscal year on the thirtieth instant will increase the expenditure to two million, nine hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars, or an excess of one hundred and six thousand dollars over the estimate, involving a deficit on the 30th of June, 1909 of one hundred and fifty

seven thousand dollars. This amount together with the indebtedness on account of Hospital and Museum construction, Public Works undertaken without Legislative authority, and temporary loans amounting to one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars, will represent a floating debt on the 30th June, 1909, of three hundred and thirty thousand dollars. You will be invited to pass a measure to provide for the raising of a loan to liquidate these obligations.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council :

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly:

My Ministers have in contemplation the revising of the tariff as they recognize that the burden of taxation borne by the fishermen and working-classes of the Colony is too great and calls for such an adjustment as will lean more equitably on those who at present feel most seriously the increased cost of living in this country. During the next few months preliminary investigations with a view to this end will be undertaken.

The desirability of further increasing the grant for education has impressed itself upon my Ministers and a measure with that object in view will be introduced at an early date in which special provision will be made for augmenting teachers' salaries in addition to the vote for destitute places and an appropriation for the improvement of school buildings.

The ravages wrought amongst our people by the spread of tuberculosis commonly known as consumption, throughout the Colony, make it necessary that the State should assume the responsibility of endeavouring to

arrest its future spread. Hitherto, private philanthropy through the agency of the Society for the Prevention of Consumption has undertaken this task and their labours have been such as to merit the commendation of all who would see suffering humanity rid of this dread White Plague. My Ministers propose to appoint a Commission to deal with this subject in its larger phases and to supplement and extend the laudable work already accomplished. You will be invited to provide a sum for this purpose.

The time would appear to have arrived when the demands of certain sections of the Island for railway connection can no longer be ignored and preliminary surveys will be undertaken so that a measure dealing with this important subject may be submitted to you at the next session, which will provide for such extensions and yet be within the means of the Colony.

The question of Old Age Pensions has been before the Legislature for some time past. My late advisers in December 1907 appointed a commission to inquire into the question of improving by means of pensions, the condition of the aged poor and of those who are helpless and infirm. Up to the present time that commission has not presented any report, nor am I aware of what progress it has made in the consideration of the question. My Ministers propose to take the subject in hand without delay, so as to expedite the adoption of a measure economically possible and yet sufficiently comprehensive.

You will also be asked to make provision for maintaining a Winter Coastal Service to Northern ports, as well as an improved service for the districts of Fogo and Fortune

Bay, Bay St. George and Bay of Islands, and an additional steamer to Labrador.

In leaving you now, your deliberations, and this being, perhaps, the last opportunity I shall enjoy of meeting you as a Legislature, I earnestly hope that the spirit of harmony, born of love of country, may inspire you to such prudent and patriotic action as, under the guidance of Divine Providence, shall lead to measures fraught with good for the future of this Colony.

MOTION FOR ADDRESS IN REPLY

MR. DOWNEY—I rise, Mr. Speaker, to move the appointment of a Select Committee to draft an Address in Reply to the gracious Speech with which His Excellency the Governor has opened the present session. In doing so, I confess to a feeling of diffidence and honestly wish that the duty had devolved upon abler shoulders than mine. Never in my recollection had I the good fortune to hear in an opening speech so many features so pregnant of good to the country. The only regrettable feature in connection with the Speech was the one which foreshadowed the impending departure of His Excellency. This, I feel sure, all will regret. The country has been singularly fortunate during the past five years, and especially the past year, in having the wise counsel and ripe experience of His Excellency, acquired by so many years of successful administration, guiding its affairs. His departure we shall all regret, but still it is pleasing to know that His Excellency will be continued in other fields for the service of the Empire, and whilst regretting his loss to Newfoundland, we can congratulate our fellow subjects of Queensland on

their good fortune in having assigned to them so able an administrator as His Excellency Sir William MacGregor had proved himself to be.

In the second paragraph of the Speech from the Throne His Excellency referred to the decisive result of the recent election. It is perhaps, unnecessary for me to refer to that matter, other than hope that at the expiry of the lease of power of the present party, there may be abundant cause for mutual congratulation by the people and the Government.

We are, in the next place, told by His Excellency that the disputed features of the Treaty with the United States respecting fishery matters have been referred to the Hague Tribunal for arbitration. That, of course, rendered impossible any unfortunate outcome, but let the dispute be for our weal or woe, we can not do otherwise than accept with the best possible grace the decision of such a high Tribunal.

Another matter, Mr. Speaker, that we have the assurance of His Excellency, is being submitted for adjudication to His Majesty's Privy Council, is that of the disputed jurisdiction of Newfoundland, by the Province of Quebec, over a portion of the Labrador Coast. Its settlement, at an early date will, of course, be most desirable, and it is earnestly to be hoped that this decision will be favorable to the people of Newfoundland.

His Excellency next directs our attention to the fact that the result of last year's fisheries was not nearly so successful as it might have been, but that, so far as the financial results were concerned, they were more encouraging; and different means were suggested by which permanent stability may be

attained. Those are principally through the increase in markets and the introduction of more diversified methods of cure and the factor of cold storage. Our fishery industry is prosecuted in a most unusual manner, as far as the commercial aspect is concerned. The commercial law of demand and supply seems to be entirely eliminated from our calculations. The world over the one governs the other and reacts against the other; and it governs the result of industrial operations, but it appears as if it did no matter to us how great or how small the demand for our product might be in the foreign market, we used our utmost endeavour to make the supply as large as possible by catching all the fish we could. In making an effort to unload this upon an already glutted and disorganized market, the result inevitably must be that the price goes to pieces. A sort of commercial dyspepsia, if I might use the term, sets in which is intensified by glutting it with surplus products. Many methods are suggested for the improvement of this unfortunate condition of affairs—that of securing new markets being one.

For over a century we have been a fish-exporting people, and for that period have confined our exports to four countries in Europe and to one in South America. The European countries are,—Spain, Portugal, Greece and Italy, chiefly. These are the poorest countries in Europe, and it would appear that these markets have already been fully exploited. In South America there are eleven or twelve independent nationalities, with an aggregate population of 40,000,000, but singular to say, no endeavour has been made to sell a fish to any of

these countries, except Brazil, and the population of Brazil is comparatively limited. The people of those other countries are ethnologically the same of those of Brazil, and it is only reasonable to suppose that they would buy fish as well as the people of Brazil, if it were put in their reach. In the past there might have been urged as an excuse for want of energy in the endeavour to secure new markets that these countries were difficult of access and not come-at-able readily, but in the recent past, trade facilities have been established that should enable us to reach those countries with the greatest possible readiness in the future, or, rather, the present; and it is to be hoped that the energy of our commercial people, backed by the Governmental aid which it is intended to extend to them, will enable them to enter those markets with a most marked benefit to our fishery industries.

The next method or aid to the betterment of the present status of the fishery industry is the diversifying of methods of cure. Whilst I have said that we had no doubt fully exploited the European markets, I refer to the ordinary dry cured cod-fish, but if we varied our methods of cure, if we put up the fish in a manner to suit the requirements of the different European countries, it is my firm conviction that a very large volume of trade might profitably be done therewith.

The next beneficial feature that is in contemplation to introduce into the prosecution of the fishery industry, is that of cold storage. The phrase has become somewhat hackneyed of late years, through the unsuccessful methods hitherto attempted for giving practical ef-

fect to this innovation. I might perhaps best convey to this House a conception of what I am convinced cold storage would do for the fishery, if I stated what has been my own personal experience with regard to its operation. Some fourteen years ago I noted the wonderful success that had attended the efforts of New Zealand, Australia, and the Argentine Republic in the transporting in a fresh condition of their chief articles of export—fresh beef and mutton—to Britain, a distance of 12,000 miles, at a cost of a fraction of a cent a pound. I thought that if this could be done with such a perishable article as meat by Australia, surely the people of Newfoundland ought to be able to accomplish the transport of fish in fresh condition to the extensive markets offered by the British Isles, at a distance of only 2,000 miles. I felt so sanguine of success, indeed, that I wrote to the press concerning the subject, and later, on the completion of the railway and the initiation of the Bruce route, I felt that the time was ripe for personal experiments, and went to Port-aux-Basques and attempted to organize cold storage for fresh fish there. I found no difficulty in freezing from 1,000 to 10,000 pounds of fish without any expensive plant, but the trouble was to keep it so.

Fish must be kept in cold storage until the time that it is needed for consumption. That was the great difficulty in Port-aux-Basques. It was easy to freeze the fish there, but until there were facilities of a satisfactory kind to enable the fish to be transported in a proper manner to the market it was destined for, no practical result could be hoped for. Given that, there was no

doubt of the outcome. The profits were all that could be asked for. There was this distinct advantage in that while fish, salt cured, is sold without the head and bone, which becomes so much offal; when it is sold for the fresh fish market, the bone and head are paid for, as are the more valuable portion of the fish, and at the same rate, so that instead of being paid for 308 lbs. in each quintal, the seller is really being paid for 500 lbs. It cost 20 cents per 100 lbs. to freeze the fish, but as the whole labour incidental to the freezing and packing of the fish cost only about $1\frac{1}{4}$ cents per lb., and as the price obtained was $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound, f.o.b., it could be easily seen how great were the profits derived therefrom. The only impediment to the business at Port-aux-Basques was the fact that it was not run on a sufficiently large scale. From my experience, I feel quite confident that cold storage could be satisfactorily carried on.

I am pleased to notice that His Excellency has referred to the importance to the country of its mining interests. The future of the country depends very largely on its fishery and mining products. Our mining industry has suffered much in the past from the need of a systematic survey. The surveys that have been made are very incomplete, and, as a result, the surface has in many places only been scratched. By the extension and development of our mineral areas much employment will be provided for our laborers. The country has need of more working mines than it has at the present time. The Speech from the Throne gives the country the hope that we shall have it settled, once and for all, whether or not we possess extensive areas of

coal. Nobody can foresee what benefits can be derived to the country from the discovery of good seams of coal. There has been much development of copper and iron, but there is much room for more industrial development, and I do not think that money could be more wisely expended than for such a purpose if the House desired to better the present state of things. I am aware that there are in the country very extensive deposits of excellent peat, but that these have never been utilized by the people. In Sweden, Norway, Germany and Ireland, at the present time, highly valuable fuel is being made from peat at a cost much less than that of coal, and it seems quite possible that this method might be introduced into this country with much benefit to the people.

The members could not realize the hardships our people suffered through the lack of fuel. They have to travel miles for wood, while near at hand there are large deposits of peat. With instructions as to the appliances needed to cut it and the methods used to dry it, the people could obtain at but little cost much of this fuel, and I sincerely hope that very shortly many of the outports will be able to secure benefits from those deposits which are so bountifully spread over the country.

The Speech from the Throne draws attention to the shortage of revenue. There is at the present time a deficit, but it could not now be helped. The expenditure could not now be recalled, and it is necessary to make the best of matters as they stood. I can only hope that for a considerable period there will be no repetition of this deficit.

I am glad to learn that the Government will deal with education,

and that the grant for that purpose will be increased. There could be no more desirable way in which to spend money than in education, for in the present age only those best qualified educationally could make a decent living. I feel sure that fathers and mothers desire to see their children properly equipped for the battle of life, and there is no equipment that could compare with that of a fairly good education. At the present moment there were large sections of the country in which educational facilities were greatly lacking. Any increase in the grant should be made cheerfully, and there could be no question as to the benefits derived from it.

The Governor's Speech likewise calls attention to the highly laudable efforts of the Society recently formed to combat the scourge of Tuberculosis, which has spread to more than an ordinary extent throughout the Colony, and I am glad to know that the Government proposes to co-operate with the Society in its work. I do not intend to give the cause for the spread of this disease through the country. I have my opinions, but these might conflict with those of persons more qualified to give them. However, I feel sure that the education that has been imparted through the Association, and the work that would be done would not be in vain, if there was even but a more correct appreciation of the damage done to the country and to its people by this disease.

Another point in the Speech that I wish to refer to is the contemplated extension of the railway. The people of St. John's, and of the large centres along the trunk line,

were aware of the advantage of the road to them, and to the country at large. It would not be for them to withhold from their less fortunate fellow countrymen the advantage they have possessed for some time. Many important centres were deprived of the benefits attending railway traffic. The Government has now decided to give many of these centres the advantage of railway communication, and I have no doubt that the result will justify their action in so doing.

It was written in Holy Writ that "the poor we always have with us," and it is with a feeling of gratification that I note that Old Age Pensions are to be introduced. They should prove to be a blessing and a boon to the unfortunate ones among us, and that alone would be sufficient compensation for any expenditure that might be made. Its early introduction was something to be very much desired.

The Speech from the Throne foreshadows the extension of coastal service, and I can not too highly commend the improvement in this service in Notre Dame Bay, Fortune Bay, and also in St. George's Bay, including Bay of Islands. These districts deserve consideration at the hands of the Government, especially as they were somewhat deprived of the advantage of the railway. The district of St. George's, which I have the honour to represent, has in the past been badly treated. I do not blame any past Government or any former representative for this state of affairs, but I do not hesitate to say that it has been treated unkindly, and I am pleased to see that the present Government intends to make amends for this neglect of the past. I ap-

preciate the efforts of the Government and regard this step in the direction of better coastal service as one from which Bay St. George and Bay of Islands would derive much benefit.

The reference to the contemplated timber and mineral survey on Labrador I think is a very important feature of His Excellency's speech. We had no surveys of many of our timber areas and water powers, and before we were aware of their great value they had passed from our control. Labrador was becoming more important to us, and it therefore behoved the people of Newfoundland, in the best interests of Labrador, to make themselves familiar with the country by surveys, and to become acquainted with the value of its water power. We must take care that valuable assets do not pass from us unless benefits accrue therefrom to the country.

The closing paragraph of the Speech from the Throne was one which deserved the support of all members of the House. Nobody would deny that during the past all the members of the House had not been on the friendliest terms with one another, but it was with the present, and not with the past that the members had to deal. The kindly admonition of His Excellency that all the members work in friendly harmony, will, I feel sure, meet with the hearty support of the members, and I sincerely trust that during the session we have just entered upon, no unkindly words would be heard. I have much pleasure, therefore, in moving for a Select Committee to draft an Address in Reply to His Excellency's gracious Speech.

MR. WINSOR.—I have much

pleasure, Mr. Speaker, in rising to second the motion for the Committee to draft an Address in Reply to the gracious Speech of His Excellency the Governor.

I would first take advantage of the opportunity to congratulate His Honour the Speaker on his appointment to that high position, and am confident that at the end of His Honor's four years of office in this House the members will be able to rejoice in the impartiality of his decisions.

In reference to His Excellency's Speech I note with very sincere regret that the Governor is shortly to leave the Colony. For five or more years His Excellency has been with our people, and I feel sure that not only in St. John's, but in the outports, in fact in all parts of our Island Home, there will be genuine regret at His Excellency's departure. As a fisherman it has been my privilege to come in contact with His Excellency, and to have met him not only in St. John's but also on the distant coast of Labrador. The country had many Governors, many of whom had been excellent men, who had taken great interest in the country and the fishermen, but in my opinion and to my knowledge, the Governor who is about to leave the Colony has taken a practical interest in the life of the people unsurpassed by that of any former Governor.

During the first year I had the privilege of occupying a seat in this Honourable House, which was about four years ago, His Excellency promised that a survey of the Labrador coast would be made. I am pleased to tell the House that this had been to some extent carried out, and that many fishermen on that bleak coast have in the dark nights already

reaped the benefits of that Survey. When I met His Excellency on the Labrador coast it was not on the deck of the Fiona, but on a hill 350 feet high where His Excellency was working for the benefit of the Fishermen and not for his own personal pleasure, but making surveys to help out our fishing population. It was not generally known, but it was a fact that His Excellency went to Labrador last year and assisted Dr. Grenfell to survey the north coast of Labrador and I have before stated, the survey is of great assistance to the fishermen. Many of them, in the Northern parts of the Island especially, will be sorry to learn that very shortly he will depart from our shores.

I can tell the House that not only in Labrador, but in many other parts of the island, benefits had accrued from the work of His Excellency who had visited their homes, seen them at their work and would be able, when he went abroad, to tell of the many difficulties our fishermen had to contend with. His Excellency would be able to tell them of our fisheries not from hearsay, but from actual experience. I observe with very great pleasure that His Excellency referred to the fishermen and the labouring classes of the community as men who took a great interest in their work and performed in an able manner their daily advocacy. Such an interest as His Excellency had shown was a credit to any Governor, and I feel sure that whatever position in the British Empire His Excellency may hold in future, he will be well fitted for it and will carry with him the very best wishes of every Newfoundlander.

I also note with much pleasure that His Excellency visited during

his stay here many of our great timber limits and the towns of Grand Falls, Bishop Falls and others; in fact in everything that concerns the welfare and betterment of the fishermen and labouring classes, His Excellency has taken a practical interest and as a member of the House and as a fisherman myself, I am proud of it. Never, perhaps, since His Excellency had come to the Island, was his administrative ability more clearly demonstrated than during the past six or seven months. In November there was a political dead lock, both parties having eighteen seats, but His Excellency thought out the crisis and adopted a wise course and the course was approved of by the people of the country. How thoroughly they did approve of it is shown by the fact that whereas in November both parties had an even number of seats the Government now in power has a majority of 26 to 9 and there is yet one district to be heard from.

The next paragraph in the Speech dealt with the 1818 Treaty with the United States. The question was now before the Hague Tribunal and I have no doubt that those appointed to look after Newfoundland's welfare in this connection will accomplish all that can be done in our interest. Quite a lot had been said and done during the past five years and there was no doubt that once it was settled a lot of our fishermen would benefit. All are aware of what happened at Bay of Islands, two years ago, and it was necessary that our people should know where they stood before they began their work and not find themselves in Court houses and jails as they had been.

I notice also a clause in the Speech showing that the new Government

intend doing their utmost towards regulating the sale and development of timber limits, mineral areas, etc. on the Labrador. Some persons have gone down to the Labrador and returned with the report that there is nothing of value to be found. Such is not the case. We must admit there are great possibilities in that region, and better communication between this country and Labrador will tend to promote the welfare of both. Quite a large number of people depend entirely on the cod-fishery as a means of a support. If we could find for them other advocacy it would somewhat relieve the pressure and make it better all round. There has been a large amount of money spent by private parties in timber limits and mineral claims on the coast of Labrador. If the Government takes the matter in hand and succeeds in developing the resources of Labrador as well as those of this country, this itself at the end of four years, will return the Treasury a hundred-fold.

I am glad to see that great stress is laid on the desirability of improvement in the codfishery generally. It is time something was done, for if we get another fishery experience similar to last year, we will not only have starvation, but we will have a revolution. The failure of last year's fishery may be laid to many causes. We had a fairly good shore fishery; we had a fairly good Labrador fishery, but the fishermen fared very poorly. A large number of our fishermen had made good catches, but when it was sold it was found that it did not realize sufficient to ride them over the winter. This was due largely to the low price and strict cull. I am not here to complain of last year's particularly, but I want the same cull every year. No

one suffered as much from last year's results as the outport merchant and sharemen. It is now up to the present Government to help keep up the price of codfish, or keep the fishermen acquainted with the price in the foreign markets. The Government, for the satisfaction of the people, should get the telegraph reports of the price of fish on the other side and the condition of foreign markets, and then the fishermen would know if they were getting paid as much as the merchants could afford.

A few years ago the cry was, "Down with the Merchants," and a bad day it was for the poorer classes. The day is happily gone and the fishermen realize that instead of putting down the merchants it is more of them we want. Now that this new Government has come into power with a large majority—not "too many for comfort" they should do everything possible to maintain the price. I have gone down twice in seven months to Bonavista Bay and promised the people to do everything to maintain a regulated price and proper cull and I have every confidence that Sir E. P. Morris will do everything to keep up the main industry of this country. Eighty per cent. of the revenue comes from the fisheries and surely it is up to the Government to keep them up to the highest standard. In speaking to people of the outports and in particular those of Bonavista Bay, regarding the spending of money on Fog Free Zones, Museums, etc., it was their unanimous opinion the money could be spent to better advantage in advancing the interests of the fishermen by finding new markets and assisting them in other ways. I feel sure that the fishery policy of the present Government will be so ably carried out that at the end of four

years the people who send us back to power, won't be sorry.

I noticed also in the Speech from the Throne that the Government intends paying attention to agriculture. If more of our people were encouraged to settle on lands, cut timber, etc., it would be a great benefit. A few years ago a bounty of \$20 per acre was paid for clearing land, and why it was dropped I never could find out or understand.

Should the Government decide to re-introduce this bounty, and protect it with proper rules and regulations, compelling the people to work the land they had cleared, I will give it my unqualified support.

I notice also in the Speech from the Throne a reference to the development of our coal areas and bog lands. Regarding the price of coal it did not affect my district as it does some in other parts of the country. But we should not be selfish; and if coal could be purchased at a reasonable price it would be far better for my constituents to use it, as the time now occupied in getting wood for fuel could be spent to far greater advantage. Some money has been spent to find seams of coal, but very little, so far, has been really accomplished. Any vote asked for to develop our coal areas should receive the hearty support if this House. Then as to the manufacture of peat, we have quite a lot of bog land down north. Some people who have travelled there know this, especially the ladies, who, in going ashore from the coastal boat to the telegraph office, frequently lose their rubbers and have to pay men to pick them up. I am glad to be able to inform the House that a company is now being formed for the purpose of manufacturing peat for fuel, and I

can assure the House that any effort put forth by the Government to aid it, will receive the hearty endorsement of the people of Bonavista Bay.

I also notice a clause in the Speech from the Throne dealing with the establishment of Bait and Fisheries Intelligence Service. I believe that if hon. members took the trouble to go all over the country and come in contact with the fishermen, they would find that the fishermen considered this service as a God-send to the country.

With regard to the cold storage system, I observe that it is the intention of the Government to take this important matter up at an early date. It is needed badly. For instance, take the case of the fishermen belonging to Wesleyville during the month of August. He works from six o'clock until nearly ten at night fishing. Naturally he would be then looking for some rest, but before that could be taken he would have to go perhaps five or six miles for bait for next morning's operations. If they had a cold storage system there, this would not happen. It was time that this system was introduced, and I think it should have been done long ago.

I notice that Sir Edward Morris has taken the trouble to interview the Reid Newfoundland Company and the Anglo American Telegraph Company, in relation to the sending of local and foreign news to the outports free. For this the Government deserved great credit, and the Reid Newfoundland Company, and the Anglo American Telegraph Company deserves much praise for their laudable actions. The people in St. John's do not know of the want of a news service in the outports, some of which were as isolated as Siberia. There was no coastal service;

there was hardly any mail service. Why, it even took a fortnight for the mail to go from Wesleyville to St. John's and return during the winter. The daily synopsis of local and foreign news was received with great joy by the outport people, and it was a source of much gratification that this great boon had been brought about without any extra cost to the Colony.

I noticed that the Government intends to do all in its power to extend the telegraphs up north and also to Labrador. If there is any member who knows the needs of the system it is myself, and when I speak for myself, I speak for many fishermen who go away down north, beyond the reach even of the steamers. The North Coast of this Island has been greatly neglected in this matter. From White Bay all around this coast to Flower's Cove, a distance of 250 miles, there is not a single office, though five thousand fishermen go down to this part of the coast every summer. I hope that this Government will extend the telegraph service so as to benefit these 5,000 people, and also these poor creatures who pass the winter seasons there. Every dollar spent in improving and extending the service down to Labrador would be a dollar well spent. About the 12th day of July there would be about 12,000 down north. They would not have the benefits of a telegraph service; they would see no steamers, except those taking supplies; thus, they were shut of from nearly all communication with the outer world. The fishermen have been greatly aided by Dr. Grenfell the past few years, and they greatly appreciate all he has done for them. I hope that next year will witness the wireless sys-

tem extended to the utmost limits of Labrador.

I notice it is the intention of the present Government to reduce taxation on those that felt it most. I am very pleased to know this, as the poor people find it very hard to live in the country with such a burden of taxation. The sharemen and the fishermen found it very hard, on account of the low price of fish to secure, because of the higher price, those articles which they have to wear, and the necessary provisions. Any Government that would reduce taxation would confer a great blessing, too, and deserve well of the people.

It was the intention of the present Government to vote a certain sum of money for the purposes of education. This attracted pleased attention, and why? Because all were aware of the advantages of education. It is absolutely necessary that our children should be properly educated, in order to take their right place in the world's work.

It was my privilege some years ago to spend a short vacation in Canada, in a district near the Great Lakes. While there I came in contact with many Newfoundlanders. Some of these had left there native home ten or fifteen years ago. Chatting with some of them about different things concerning this country, they told me that what was chiefly needed here was education. They told me if they had had education they could have secured good positions instead of working with the pick and axe. Given an education, our boys could keep up the end of their plank in any part of the world. It was with the greatest pleasure, some years ago, that I cast my vote for the additional sum of \$60,000 for the cause of education, and it will

be with still greater pleasure that I will support any increase in the vote now.

I am very glad to see that endeavours are being made to try and prevent the further spread of consumption. Nearly every settlement in the country is more or less affected by it. Unfortunately, in many places there are not resident doctors, and the people have not been taught to fully appreciate its danger. The work of the Anti-Consumption Society in its crusade against this insidious disease is noted with much pleasure by the outport people, who suffer mostly from its ravages.

The extension of the railway to different sections, not now touched, is a step in the right direction. The railway would be of great benefit to the people through whose sections it is intended to pass, and not only to them, but the whole country. It would also attract an influx of tourists and pleasure-seekers, who otherwise would not have a chance to see those places.

Next with regard to the old age pension scheme, that question has been before the Legislature for some time past, and nothing has been done with it, but I feel sure that the present Government will seriously deal with it. The fisherman, after years of toil, is worn out at 65. His best days are over. Perhaps some of his sons are dead, some are married, and he is no longer able to earn his bread, and has nothing to support him. He gets a paltry \$12 or \$16 a year from the poor grant, and becomes a pauper. It is a shame, a disgrace, that such should be, and it is up to the Government to deal with the matter, so as to improve the condition of those people.

From the many good things outlined in the Governor's speech, for the benefit of the people, I believe

that a new era of prosperity is dawning for this Colony, and I accordingly have much pleasure in seconding the motion for an Address in Reply.

MR. KENT—I do not intend, Mr. Speaker, to enter into any criticism of the Speech from the Throne. I simply rise to extend the usual courtesies to the members who have proposed and seconded the Address in Reply. I also desire to congratulate the Speaker upon the high position which the House has conferred on him, as well as the Premier, on the high honor and dignity to which he has attained, though he is not there through any wish of mine.

The House has listened with considerable interest to the speeches from the hon. member for St. George's, Mr. Downey, and from Capt. Winsor, one of the members for Bonavista. I have had the honor of listening to many opening speeches of a very high standard, but I have never heard such addresses with greater interest and pleasure than those just delivered. Both dealt with their subject with considerable ability and put their views before the House clearly. The House has listened to Capt. Winsor before, and with profit; and in Mr. Downey it has acquired one who will be a strong addition to its debating force.

I do not propose to criticise the Speech at the present moment, but suppose another opportunity will be given us to review it, after we have had a chance of reading it in printed form. It is a mistake to regard the Speech from the Throne as the Speech of the Governor. It is simply a statement by the Ministry of the policy which they intend to pursue. And in the present instance it is very difficult to gather from a cursory hearing what the policy of the Government is to be, as the sentences are considerably involved. I would

describe the Speech as a remarkable product of expression of thoughts in confused language which might be interpreted to suit any policy which may be carried out.

All in this House would join in regretting that the Governor was leaving. He had taken a great interest in the welfare of our people, and had taken great pains to inform himself of their conditions, and to gather such knowledge of the country as his abode here had permitted. His Excellency would carry with him the regard of our people. We had known him as a philosopher and the closest student of arts and science that we ever had. I was sorry that in some of the Governor's decisions on matters of constitutional laws and practices I could not concur with his findings, but these were matters in which all might legally and fairly differ, and notwithstanding these differences of opinion, I regret that His Excellency is severing his connection with us, even though he is going to what is said to be a higher post. While it might be considered a promotion, I hold a different view. Financially, the change is better, but while Newfoundland is an independent colony, Queensland is a sub-colony of the Dominion of Australia.

Looking down the Speech from the Throne, I find that it covers a very large area. I observe one item, the reference to the Loan Bill, which I hoped was an item that had been laid by the heels some time ago. For eight years, instead of there being any necessity to provide a loan to defray a deficit, there had always been a surplus. It is rather remarkable that the first Speech which the new Government brings down has to announce a deficit, and I hope that the large policy which the Hon. the Leader of the Govern-

ment has laid before this country will not mean a recurrence of such bills. I have noticed that while the Hon. the Leader of the Government in the present Speech, proposes a readjustment of the tariff, he does not propose any reduction in the taxation, for he knew that if he did so it would be an absurdity.

There is one other feature in the Speech to which I would refer, namely, to the promised grants for education and tuberculosis. Education is a fair subject for which all moneys that could be reasonably afforded should be contributed. It trained young people for their future in life, and on that training depended the future of the state and of the men and women who would fill it. I think it a pity that some means has not been taken which would bring home to our young men the dignity of labor. I believe a large effort should be made to point out that the trades and mechanics are the real independent and prosperous sources of employment. There is a tendency on the part of our young men to seek clerkships in preference to these, and an effort should be made to encourage the trades and mechanical pursuits. I hope that when the Leader of the Government brings down his scheme and the House is asked to make an appropriation, the policy outlined will be such as will commend itself to the members on both sides.

Another subject to which I would refer is the anti-consumption movement. None of us can shut our eyes to the fact that this disease has been gaining ground for some time past, silently and unobserved. Recently its spread had shocked our sense of proportion. Those humane gentlemen who have identified themselves with the Anti-Consumption League deserve the applause of ev-

ery right-thinking citizen. Any assistance that could be given them would be well deserved and put to good use.

When we come to consider the Speech later we will have an opportunity of criticising at some length the various features in it. I wish again to congratulate the mover and seconder of the Address, and hope to have the pleasure of hearing both gentlemen again.

THE HON. THE PREMIER (SIR EDWARD MORRIS)—I do not intend, Mr. Speaker, to delay the time of the House. I rise merely to say a word or two in reply to the Acting Leader of the Opposition in relation to one or two points, as it is important that some of them should not be allowed to go into print without refutation. First, however, I desire to congratulate the mover and seconder of the Address. I have been present at the opening for twenty-five years or more and I have never listened to more comprehensive and more entertaining speeches or ones which have displayed so intimate an acquaintance with the subjects discussed. If congratulations are to be the order, I would also congratulate Mr. Kent on the exalted position to which he has attained and I hope that he (Mr. Kent) will hold it for many, many years. I thank Mr. Kent for his kind words to me, personally, and while I am prepared to accept the statement that Mr. Kent had nothing to do with putting me in the high position I now have the honor to occupy, I think I had a little to do with putting Mr. Kent where he is. I am sorry that the Acting Leader of the Opposition did not maintain the same fairness throughout his speech that he started with. Mr. Kent said that he considered the Speech from the Throne involved and difficult to understand,

especially as regards the policy it outlined. Of course he didn't understand it. The Speech delivered by the Governor is not intended to be understood by the Opposition, but by those whom the Opposition did not represent. The Speech was not to be tried by the Opposition, and it was not on them that the Government was depending for its tenure of office, but on the outside country, and I am satisfied to leave the merits of the Speech to be judged by those who have sent us here. I want to take exception to the remarks of my hon. friend in regard to the Loan Bill and I desire to say that the reason the Loan Bill is being introduced is because the late Government had involved the country in a floating debt of \$330,000. On the 30th of June this Colony will owe the Bank of Montreal this amount. If that is not so, as the honourable gentleman now says, let him go to the Bank and get a certified statement to that effect, and I will be glad to withdraw my statement. Failing that, however, I repeat that there is a deficit of \$150,000 on current account, added to which there is over \$170,000 overdrawn at the Bank and paid on account of the Hospital, Museum, etc., without legislative sanction. This was the reason for the Loan Bill. Not one solitary cent of this debt has been incurred by the Administration now in power. There would, I hope, be no more need for further Loan Bills. I will see there will be none for over-expenditure. Neither would there be need of increased taxation, as the public monies would not be wasted, but would be spent in the interests of the people and the country.

One other remark of Mr. Kent's calls for reference, namely, that referring to education and tuberculosis. Now that Mr. Kent finds him-

self in Opposition he awakes to facts over which he fell asleep when he was a member of the Government. Mr. Kent had enunciated a false policy with regard to the education of the children of the working classes, which would condemn them to manual labor always. Mr. Kent argued that they ought to stick more to their trades rather than take higher positions. I take a different view of the matter. I want to see the son of every mechanic able to take any gift in the public service. As to tuberculosis, I believe it is time something was done to prevent the spread of the disease. Thousands of our people are dying annually from it. If we hear of a few deaths from smallpox we become frightened about it, and take most active steps to kill it out; but, quietly and insidiously, tuberculosis is doing its work and we either do not hear of it or, if we do, we fail to take any notice of it. It is no use preaching about it. We must do something to try and stop it, to help the poor people get it out of their homes. We must aid those who are doing so much in a quiet way to end its terrible ravages amongst our people.

The motion was put and carried, and it was ordered that a Select Committee be appointed to draft an Address of Thanks to His Excellency the Governor in reply to the gracious Speech with which he has been pleased to open the present Session of the Legislature, and the following were named as a Committee—Mr. Downey, Mr. Winsor, Hon. Minister of Justice, Mr. Kent and Mr. Davey.

DESPATCH APPROVING GOVERNOR'S ATTITUDE IN ELECTION CRISIS

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER, by command of His Excellency

the Governor, laid upon the table of the House a copy of a despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, approving of the action of His Excellency the Governor, and which was read to the House, as follows:

GOVERNOR TO PREMIER.

Government House,
St. John's, Nfld.,
28th May, 1909.

Dear Sir Edward Morris—I have the honour to transmit, for the information of Ministers, copy of Despatch No. 76, of the 14th inst., from the Secretary of State, with reference to the recent political crisis.

It will be observed that the Secretary desires that this despatch shall be made a public record. No doubt Ministers will consider how this can best be done, and take any steps they deem proper under the circumstances,

I have the honour to remain,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sgd.) WM. MacGREGOR.

The Honourable
Sir Edward Morris,
K.C., LL.D., &c., &c.,
Prime Minister.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES TO GOVERNOR MacGREGOR.

(Nfld., No. 76).

Colonial Office,
Downing Street,
14th May, 1909.

Sir—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of the 12th May, reporting the result of the General Election in Newfoundland.

You will have learned from my previous despatches and telegrams that your action through the difficult political situation which was created in the Colony by the inde-

isive result of the last general election has met with my approval, but I desire to place publicly on record my high appreciation of the manner in which you have handled a situation practically unprecedented in the history of Responsible Government in the Dominions.

I may add that I consider your decision to grant a dissolution to Sir Edward Morris—which has, I observe, been adversely criticised in a section of the Newfoundland press—to have been fully in accordance with the principles of Responsible Government.

I have, etc.,

(Signed) CREWE.

Governor

Sir Wm. MacGregor,

K.C.M.G., C.B., &c., &c.

NOTICES OF MOTION

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask leave to introduce a Bill to establish a Newfoundland Board of Trade.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER gave notice that he would on to-morrow move the House into Committee of the Whole to consider Resolutions on the subject of Education.

DOCUMENTS TABLED

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table of the House Estimates of Expenditure for the Colony for the financial year 1909-10; the detailed statement of the Expenditure of the Colony for the financial year 1907-08; and the reports of the Auditor General:

(a)—On the Revenue and Appropriation Accounts for the fiscal year ended June 30th, 1908;

(b)—On the Expenditure under the 23rd Section of the Audit Act, 1899; and

(c)—On the Expenditure, not authorized by the Legislature, from December 31st, 1908, to April 30th, 1909

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS gave notice that on to-morrow he would ask leave to move that Supply be granted to His Majesty

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS gave notice that on to-morrow he would ask leave to move the House into Committee of the Whole on Supply.

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS gave notice that on to-morrow he would ask leave to move the House into Committee of the Whole to consider certain Resolutions with respect to raising sums of money by Loan for the Public Service of this Colony.

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS gave notice that he would on Friday next ask leave to move the House into Committee of the Whole on Ways and Means.

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS gave notice that on to-morrow he would ask leave to introduce a Bill to provide for certain Retiring Allowances.

NOTICE OF QUESTION

MR. KENT gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Hon. the Prime Minister to lay upon the table of the House a copy of all correspondence between His Excellency the Governor and him in regard to the assumption of the Government by him and his colleagues in the Ministry; also a copy of all correspondence between the Governor and the Prime Minister relating to the recent dissolution of the Legislature.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn till to-morrow, Wednesday, June 2nd, at

three o'clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

WEDNESDAY, June 2, 1909.

The House met at three o'clock in the afternoon, pursuant to adjournment.

DOCUMENTS TABLED

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY laid upon the table of the House :

Report of Registrar General for the year ended Dec. 31st, 1908;

Report of Newfoundland Savings Bank for the year ended Dec. 31st, 1908;

Report of Methodist Schools for year ended Dec. 31st, 1908;

Report of St. John's Municipal Council for year ended Dec. 31st, 1908.

THE HON. PRIME MINISTER, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid upon the table of the House certified copy of a Minute of the Honourable Executive Council, appointing the Commission of Internal Economy for the Session of 1909.

Certified Copy of Minute.

Under the provisions of Section 4, Chapter 1, 61 Victoria, the following gentlemen to form the Commission of Internal Economy of the Legislature—Hon. Sir E. D. Shea, Kt., President of the Legislative Council; Hon. John Harris, Hon. Geo. Skelton, His Honor the Speaker, Hon. Sir E. P. Morris, Kt., K.C., LL.D., Hon. Donald Morison, K.C., and Hon. R. Watson.

Certified true copy,

(Signed) R. WATSON,

Colonial Secretary.

PETITIONS PRESENTED

HON. MR. EMERSON—I ask leave to present a petition from J. R. Courage and others of Garnish, in the electoral district of Fortune Bay, praying that an extension to the

breakwater at that place be made, and that a telegraph office be established there as soon as possible. I inspected the breakwater last autumn and was strongly of opinion that extension of about one hundred feet was necessary to make a complete job and meet the requirements of the petitioners. A telegraph office has been promised time and again by Governments in the past, but up to a short time ago nothing has been done. The Government now had this matter under consideration, and I think I can assure the petitioners that before long the establishment of a telegraph office at Garnish will be an accomplished fact. I feel sure that the Hon. members for Burin will support this petition, for they had taken upon themselves last autumn to promise that this work would be done if they would be returned to power.

MR. DAVEY.—I have great pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition and indorsing all the Hon. member for Fortune Bay has said. I happened to be at Garnish during the late election campaign and can vouch for the necessity of the breakwater and telegraph office being established at Garnish.

The petition was received and it was ordered to be referred to the Department to which it related.

MR. MOULTON.—I ask leave to present a petition from Edward Seeley and others of Mother Lake's Brook and Port aux Basques for a light. This is very important matter and one which I hope will receive the earnest attention of the Government. This place is very much frequented by schooners during the fishing season seeking shelter, and by many belonging to the districts of Burin and Fortune also. As a matter of fact it interested the whole country, as many fishermen went there from all parts. People who did not know the coast

were not aware of the necessity for the light, but those acquainted with the place, and with the danger of getting around Cape Ray would find it very convenient and greatly appreciate it. I trust the hon. members for the other two districts interested will support the prayer of the petitioners who asked for either a lighthouse or a leading light. The decision, I suppose, would be left to the Inspector of Lighthouses. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition.

HON. MR. EMERSON—It affords me much pleasure to support the petition presented by the hon. member for Burgeo. I am acquainted with the locality of Mother Lake's Brook, and can safely say that there is no place on the South Coast where a light is more needed. A great many fishermen of Fortune Bay, Burin and other places prosecute the fishery in that neighbourhood during the winter months, and pass quite close to it on their way to the Gulf in the spring of the year. I can assure the House that the light near Mother Lake's Brook would be of great advantage to the fishermen and would be very much appreciated by them.

MR. DAVEY—I am very pleased to support the petition.

The petition was ordered to be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. CLIFT asked leave to present a petition from John Purchase and others of Pilley's Island, in the District of Twillingate, on the necessity for the introduction of legislation for the purpose of protecting miners in the payment of wages. Hon. members would remember that there was operating at Pilley's Island a very extensive mining industry and about a year or so ago the mining company got into financial difficulties, with the result that a considerable sum of

money was still owed to the miners for wages. It was found that all the available assets belonging to the company were conveyed to the bond holders, so that there was nothing left upon the premises for the miners to attach as security for wages, and consequently they have been compelled to have recourse to the law courts. I might say that I have noticed a reference in the Speech from the Throne to the subject and I feel sure that it is unnecessary for me to make any further remarks upon it, as no doubt the Hon. the Premier or some other hon. member of the Ministry will introduce the necessary legislation in order to bring about what is asked for in this petition. I have very much pleasure in supporting the petition.

HON. THE PREMIER—I would like to say, as far as the Government are concerned, that they are fully in sympathy with the prayer of the petition just presented by the hon. member for Twillingate, and at the present time the Minister of Justice is considering a measure to deal with that subject, creating a lien for the wages of miners. The Government hope to be able to go probably a little further than this because, after all, the creation of a lien on the works or machinery is not sufficient to protect the men, because that might be unavailable, or it might be impossible to realize on the articles so taken. At present the Government, through the Attorney General, is considering the best and most modern precedents in the matter and hope that, if not this session, then next session, to introduce a bill which would deal with the question as had been outlined and foreshadowed in the Speech from the Throne. The matter has been brought to their notice, not alone by the case so pertinently referred to by the in-

roduction of the petition, but also by the York Harbor and other cases where men had to wait for years endeavouring to get their wages and did not succeed. I hope that the legislation will go a little further and compel the operators at all industrial centres to pay the laborers their wages weekly. There was a time when it was difficult to get money to these centres without great inconvenience and great risk, and very often with a loss, but that difficulty is gradually disappearing with mail and trade facilities and banks in various centres, I know of no reason why people at all large industrial centres should not now be paid their wages every week, and in that way minimise to a very great extent the risk men run in the event of insolvency or shutting down of works. It was a matter of satisfaction to feel that there was such harmony between both sides of the House in relation to this necessary legislation.

MR. KENT—I strongly support the petition presented by the hon. member for Twillingate and, in doing so, am pleased to note that the Prime Minister has promised to bring down at an early date legislation bearing on that subject. In connection with any such legislation it would be well to remember that the creation of a lien in itself was a very small benefit to those whom it may intend to benefit. The easy realization or enforcing of the lien rapidly and securely, for people in this country, would have to be made under circumstances which were perhaps not paralleled in other countries, as they did not, in many places throughout the country, where it would be necessary to enforce liens of that kind, any judicial machinery which, perhaps, would have to be part of the means of enforcing liens. In order to make this enforcement beneficial,

the finding on the merits of the lien ought to be rapid and final, except in very exceptional circumstances, as otherwise they would have to have recourse from court to court, which often caused the delay referred to by the Prime Minister and by my friend, Mr Clift. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition and trust that when the Minister of Justice brings down the legislation on that point this session or next it will be such as will meet the approval of the entire House

The petition was received and ordered to be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. PARSONS—I ask leave to present a petition from Rev. J. Adams, B. B. Squires and others of Spaniard's Bay, praying for the erection of a place for the carrying on of the Postal Telegraph business there, as well as that of the Postal Department proper. This is a very necessary step. At the present time there is not sufficient room in the small place where the business is done to give even the least satisfaction. It is most important that this should be attended to at once, as it is very badly needed. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition

MR. SEYMOUR—I heartily support the petition. I was at Spaniard's Bay but a short while since, and the condition of the place where the postal work is now done claimed my attention. Not alone is the building unfit for the work, but it is located in a poor place. I hope the Government will give every consideration to the prayer of the petition.

The petition was received and ordered to be referred to the Department to which it relates.

MR. MOULTON—I ask leave to present a petition from Mr. G. Parsons and others of Burnt Island and vicinity, asking for steam connection

There are almost a thousand people in the neighbourhood, and whereas thirty years ago they had a sailing packet, now they have only an old man carrying the mail around. I have presented several other petitions on previous occasions on the same subject, but they have not been granted. I have also appealed to the Bowring Coastal Co. and to the Reid Co., but have been told they could do nothing, as the captains were not willing to call there. Burnt Island and Isle-aux-Morts are two of the most important fishing settlements in the Island. Thousands of quintals of fish were caught in the neighbourhood by people from Burin to Channel in March, April and May. The inhabitants fished there all winter and it was easy to understand the necessity of having a steamer call there and bring supplies to the fishermen, who often wanted bait brought from Bay of Islands and could not get it without losing a fine day's fishing. The captains of the coastal boats said it was too hard a place to enter, but I maintain that they could get there if they wanted to. I consider that the coastal service is not arranged as it should be. It was not at all necessary that the Portia should go around Cape Ray. It was quite sufficient for her to go to Port-aux-Basques; and if she did not go into the Gulf, there were numerous ports, not touched at all by steamer now, where she could call. Those beyond Port-aux-Basques were connected by train every day. The Home called at Bay of Islands and the people from there down the coast could get all the freight they wanted weekly. Also from May 1st up to the end of the year the Harlaw went from Port-aux-Basques weekly. The whole service should be re-arranged.

MR. DOWNEY—I am heartily in accord with that part of the petition

which asks that Burnt Island be made a port of call for the steamer, but I do not think the Portia should cease calling at the harbors of St. George's District, as if the people there could not get their freight direct in one bottom from St. John's they might get it from Halifax by the Harlaw. I have plans in course of arrangement which might reduce the time occupied by that steamer in the waters of the District of St. George's, and possibly with this reduction there might be ample time for the steamer to make Burnt Island an additional port of call. I am convinced from my own knowledge of the place that Burnt Island could easily be reached by the steamer, and I think that, if necessary, a survey should be made of the harbor. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition.

The petition was received and ordered to be referred to the department to which it relates.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I ask leave to present a petition from John Harris and others, of Seal Cove, praying for a grant for an agricultural road. After the grants are passed it is my intention to consult with my colleagues and see what can be done in the matter.

MR. SQUIRES—I rise with particular pleasure to support the prayer of the petition. It is most appropriate that the first petition to be presented from Trinity this session should be from the industrious and energetic settlement of Seal Cove. I am sure every effort will be made to coincide with the wishes of Mr. Harris and his fellow petitioners.

The petition was received and ordered to be referred to the department to which it relates.

**DRAFT OF ADDRESS IN REPLY
PRESENTED**

MR. DOWNEY, on behalf of the Select Committee appointed to draft an Address in Reply to His Excellency's Speech, presented the report of the said Committee, as follows :

"To His Excellency Sir William MacGregor, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Doctor of Medicine, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies.

"May it please Your Excellency :

"We, the Commons of Newfoundland, in Legislative Session assembled, beg leave to thank Your Excellency for the gracious Speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both Houses of the Legislature."

MR. CLIFT—I would like to ask the hon. member (Mr. Downey) if it is his intention to furnish the House with a copy of the Speech before the members are called upon to adopt the report of the Select Committee. The Speech has been delivered from the Throne and has been read in this House, but no copies of it have been placed in the hands of the members. I am prepared to facilitate the work of the House, but consider that this is undue haste. On entering the House to-day I asked the Clerk for a copy of the Speech, but I have not received it. Until it has been placed in the hands of the members I am not prepared to support the adoption of the report.

THE HON. PREMIER (SIR E. P. MORRIS)—I have no objections whatsoever to the request of the hon. member for Twillingate. I presumed that a copy of the Speech had

been given to each member. Under the circumstances, I would ask that the report be received, but not adopted. The Government have no desire to rush any matters with undue haste but, on the contrary, are very desirous to have matters discussed at full length.

The report was, on motion, received; and it was ordered that its adoption be considered to-morrow.

NOTICES OF QUESTION

MR. KENT asked the Hon. the Prime Minister to lay upon the table of the House a copy of all correspondence between His Excellency the Governor and him, prior to and relating to the assumption of the Government by him and his colleagues in the Ministry; also copy of all correspondence between His Excellency the Governor and the Prime Minister relating to the recent dissolution of the Legislature.

HON. THE PREMIER (SIR E. P. MORRIS)—In reply to the hon. member, I have to say that I have asked His Excellency for leave to table the correspondence desired.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—To move the House into Committee of the Whole to consider certain Resolutions on the subject of Education.

On motion of the Hon. the Prime Minister, this motion was deferred.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—To introduce a Bill to establish a Newfoundland Board of Trade.

On motion of the Hon. the Prime Minister, the Bill was read a first time and ordered to be printed.

**MOTION FOR SUPPLY TO BE
GRANTED TO HIS MAJESTY**

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—To move that Supply be granted to His Majesty.

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—I ask leave

to move that Supply be granted to His Majesty; in other words, that this House do formally undertake to provide the funds necessary to carry on the Public Service of this Colony for the next fiscal year. It will be remembered that the underlying issue in the late political deadlock was the fact that the Supply which was passed by the last House was only for the fiscal year, which closes at the end of the present month, and that a complete stoppage of the administrative machinery of the Colony would result unless Supply for the next fiscal year were provided before the 30th day of June. As the result of the continued deadlock, and the inability of His Excellency to secure the necessary Supply, the Legislature had to be dissolved and a new election held a month ago. The outcome of that election was that the deadlock was broken, and there was no longer any real issue on this point. I feel confident, therefore, that this House will have no hesitation in passing this formal vote. I shall presently move the House into Committee of the Whole to consider the details of Supply that is to be provided.

The motion was then adopted and it was ordered that Supply be granted to His Majesty.

MOTION FOR COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—I now ask leave to move the House into Committee of the Whole on Supply. Yesterday afternoon I laid upon the table of the House, by direction of His Excellency the Governor, the Estimates for the coming fiscal year. These Estimates, I would explain, are substantially the same as those prepared by the late Government, and which were found printed and ready for submission to the

Legislature when the present Government took office three months ago to-day. They have not been altered, except in one or two unimportant details, and these I will explain in Committee. As many of the members of this House are new to parliamentary life, and they may desire to be enlightened on any of the votes as they come up for discussion, I shall be glad to afford them any information in my power, and what details I am not familiar with the other heads of departments will be very pleased to supply.

It was ordered accordingly.

MR. SPEAKER left the Chair.

COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY

MR. EDWARD PARSONS took the Chair of Committee.

MR. PARSONS—I would like to make a few remarks before assuming this post, if permitted to do so. I am very glad that the members have placed in me the confidence which they did. I am a new member of the House, and parliamentary practice is practically unknown to me, so I ask the co-operation and indulgence of the members, assuring them that I will endeavour to carry out the duties of the office to the best of my ability, and to do my duty without fear or favor.

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—I wish to point out, at the start, that some of the printed statements are inaccurate, but I shall be glad to give the members all the information at my command. I would also draw attention to the fact that the Speech from the Throne foreshadowed that the Government would ask for a loan of \$330,000, and also that a loan would be asked, for the Municipal Council, for \$100,000. The interest on the latter loan would be paid by the Council and not by the Colony.

MR. CLIFT—I would like to ask

the Hon. Minister if it is his intention to go through the Supply votes, or to deal only with votes which were not of a contentious nature; and later to go back to those votes on which there would be some discussion. I would like to have the opportunity of making some observation on the votes, but I could not be expected to do so without having seen them. The members of the Opposition are quite willing to facilitate the work of the Government as much as possible, and I believe that the Hon. Minister himself would be relieved of much trouble if only the non-contentious matters were dealt with this afternoon.

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—The hon. gentleman must be familiar with the estimates as they were the work of the late Government, of which he (Mr. Clift) was a member. However, I am willing to accede to the request of the hon. member, as I have no intention of rushing the estimates through, and therefore I will take up only those votes which are not contentious, allowing the remainder to wait over over till tomorrow.

MR. CLIFT—I have no comment to make on the estimates which had been dealt with by the last Administration, but am only anxious to have an opportunity of discussing any new votes. It was only in reference to alterations that I asked for consideration, and I felt sure it would be granted, for it would facilitate the business of the House. While on my feet I would take the opportunity of tendering my hearty congratulations to the Chairman on his promotion to that position. The position of Chairman of Committee in this House is not an easy one,

and requires considerable judgment and ability. I feel confident that in the exercise of his duties he (Mr. Parsons) will so administer the office as to reflect credit upon himself and upon his native district which has sent him here. There was a possibility that at any moment the hon. gentleman might be elevated to a higher position. His Honor the Speaker, who so ably filled that position, might be absent for some unavoidable reason, and in that event the Chairman of Committee would have to take the Speaker's chair. Still, while such an event happened some eighteen years ago to my knowledge it had not happened before or since, so the prospects of the present Chairman securing such promotion are not very promising. In 1891 I had the honour of occupying the Speaker's chair, and that time became a victim to a prevailing complaint. During my temporary absence the Deputy Speaker, or Chairman of Committee the late Mr. Whiteley, who was also a representative of Harbor Grace took the Chair as Speaker. I hope for the sake of the Speaker, that this will not occur during the present session, but I am confident that the Hon. Chairman would carry out the duties of his office with fairness and impartiality. It is not because we, the Opposition were few in number that they did not deserve consideration or fair play. For my own part, although I have sat as a member of the House for over twelve years, and have been connected with it in another capacity for three or four years, I have never till now had the pleasure of sitting on the Opposition benches. I think it is a happy place, where members enjoy a sense of freedom which those on the other side lack. There were some trifling

inconvenience. I do not refer to the necessity of having to go down through what was generally known as the "coal hole," the real inconvenience was the lack of those emoluments which were enjoyed by the other side. I trust that this inconvenience will be only of a temporary nature. I do not envy the members on the other side, and am content to abide by the decision arrived at by the majority of the people on the 8th of May last. I am willing to serve my country to the best of my ability in what is called His Majesty's loyal Opposition. Why it was thus designated I do not know. I remember that the phrase was first used by the Hon. Mr. Greene when he was on this side of the House, but was until lately under the impression that it was used more in a sense of derision than in any other way. However, as I now find the phrase was accepted and even made use of by the Hon. Premier in his manifesto of last fall. I would assure the House that during the Committee stage the Chairman would receive at the hands of the Opposition that courtesy which belonged to him as Chairman of Committees.

MR. PARSONS—I thank the hon. member for Twillingate for his kind remarks and would only repeat that I will do my best in the position. I am glad to see the hon. member of Twillingate in the flesh, and to find that he had not fallen into the hands of my brother artizans.

MR. CLIFT—I wish to draw attention to the unsatisfactory method in which the bailiffs attending upon the Supreme Court are paid for their services.

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—We have

made no alterations from the course adopted by the late Government.

MR. CLIFT—That might be so, but nevertheless these officials were subject to a good deal of inconvenience and delay in obtaining their remuneration. These officials were capable and efficient in their work, and it was time they were put on the regular salaried list like other employees of the Government. For twenty years or more Mr. Roil had been performing the duties of bailiff in an eminently satisfactory manner, and it was time some consideration was shown him. I hope the Minister of Justice will give the matter his attention and have the existing unsatisfactory conditions rectified.

MR. KENT—I rise to ask if the Government intend to make any more satisfactory arrangements regarding the reporting of the debates of this House. This subject has been discussed for some years by members of both sides of the House, who have complained of the wrong construction placed on speeches delivered by them. It was time something was done in this matter, even if members were only given the opportunity to see their remarks before they appeared in print. In Canada they have a far more satisfactory method. The speeches of members are revised and placed on their desks for perusal before being inserted in the Hansard. If a similar system were adopted here by the Internal Economy Commission it would be conferring a great favour on members of the House.

THE HON. THE PREMIER (SIR E. P. MORRIS)—There is a great deal of truth in what the Hon. Acting Leader of the Opposition has said, concerning the system of re-

porting. Our debates were not taken down verbatim and for that reason it was only fair that the members should be allowed to revise their speeches. It was a pity that there was not some way of preserving a record of the debates. No record whatever existed of debates which had taken place in the past. If one wished to refer to a debate on an important measure, which had come up for the consideration of the House, it was often found impossible to find any record. It was true that they had been printed in the newspapers and that copies of the papers were supposed to be on file in the Legislative Library, but enquiry there always elicited the reply that the papers were either lent and had not been returned, or had been lost. In England and Ottawa, as the Hon. the Acting Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Kent, said, the speeches were taken down verbatim. They were printed and the proofs were laid on their desks for the convenience of the members on the following day. Thus the speaker had a chance to revise them before they were finally printed and passed into permanent form. I will bring the matter before the Internal Economy Committee and I can promise that it will receive every attention.

VOTE FOR EDUCATION.

THE HON. THE PREMIER (SIR E. P. MORRIS)—In relation to the Education vote, I wish to say that the vote in the Estimates is the same as last year, but it is proposed later to bring in an additional vote in Supplementary Supply, which we will ask the Legislature to endorse. The exact amount I cannot now name, but it will be somewhere in the neighbourhood of twenty-five or thirty thousand dollars. As to how this money will be spent I could not definitely say now, but the Govern-

ment is consulting with the Superintendents of Education as to the best way it could be utilized. It would perhaps, be principally devoted, first to the augmenting of teachers' salaries. The Government proposed to pass a sum that would increase the salary of every teacher in the Colony. It was also proposed to spend a sum of money to provide schools in destitute places, where at present there are no educational facilities of any kind. It was also the Government's intention to vote an amount to build new schools throughout the country on hygienic and sanitary principles. Nothing definite in connection with this vote could be said at the present time, but probably it would be used to pay the interest on \$100,000, which would cover the erection of 150 new schools at \$750 each. The money for the buildings would be provided by the different Boards of Education throughout the country and the interest be paid by the Government. The heads of all the various denominational bodies—the Council of Higher Education, the different School Boards, and the Association for the Prevention of Consumption, are all working with a view to improving the existing conditions. I have no doubt but that when the vote comes before the House it will receive the consideration it deserves.

MR. KENT—I notice a further increase of six thousand dollars in the Education Grant. What is this for?

THE HON. THE PREMIER—This amount is to cover the deficiency in the Augmentation Grant. The great impetus given to education during the past few years has resulted in many of the lower grade teachers seeking and obtaining the higher grade. This, with the increasing number of teachers throughout the country, made the demands on the

Bonus Grant so large that the regular amount was insufficient to cover them.

MR. KENT—I concur very warmly in this vote. It is necessary that the work of the teachers and their efforts to make themselves more proficient should be properly recognized.

MR. KENT—I wish to suggest to the Government an improvement in the postal accommodation at North Sydney. The Postmaster there is a Newfoundland Government official and handles a great part of the Newfoundland postal matter. I noticed during a visit I paid to the office there on my return journey from the United States last February the poor accommodation and position of the Post Office there. It is a small office, built on a wharf. I am sure that both the hon. member for Burgeo, Mr. Moulton, and the hon. member for Harbor Main, Mr. Murphy, whom I met there, will thoroughly agree with me in the matter.

MR. SEYMOUR—I also agree with Mr. Kent. The work at North Sydney is very hard. The hours are long, sometimes continuing till early morning. The accommodation and remuneration are very poor indeed.

MR. HOWLEY—I rise to ask whether the salary of the Postmaster at Placentia has been raised at the instance of the present or the late Government?

THE HON. THE PREMIER—At the instance of the late Government.

MR. HOWLEY—I thoroughly realize the impossibility of the Government dealing with all the requests from the constituencies in the present estimates. The short time in which they have been prepared will not admit of this. But I wish it to be understood by the constituencies that it is not through neglect that their immediate necessities are not at-

tended to. The Estimates were those prepared by the late Government and the present Government had not had the requisite amount of time to attend to all the applications from the various districts.

MR. KENT—I am of the opinion that the Government have adopted these Estimates, if they have not thoroughly approved of them. The excuse is put forward that they had not had the time to consider them, but this is not a justifiable excuse. The Government has now been in power three months. It has met this House on two occasions, on each of which it has said that it was prepared to proceed with the business of the House, and that included the adoption of the Estimates. These were prepared by the various departments and submitted for the consideration of the late Government, but had not been adopted by that Government, nor formally accepted by it. I admit that the conditions we have lived under during the last six months have been unusual, in fact, unique. But I think that if the Government undertook to introduce Estimates they should have the manliness to accept them as their own.

MR. F. J. MORRIS—I wish to say that there is at present under construction a fog alarm on Marticot Island, in Placentia Bay, but I see no reference to it in the Estimates. Last fall it was under construction and certain moneys were spent, the late Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Captain Dawe, having visited the place to locate the site. Surely that work has been going on under some authority from the Department of Marine and Fisheries, and if so there ought to be some place in the Estimates for the work done and further provision for its completion, which it is very necessary should be

done. I am very sorry that the Minister of Marine and Fisheries is somewhat indisposed and could not be present to-day, as I am desirous of getting some information concerning it.

MR. CLIFT—I would like to ask the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines what policy the Government intends to adopt with regard to coal boring during the present year. Last year a contract was entered into with an expert drill man for the purpose of boring the areas in the neighbourhood of Goose Brook, and that contract is not yet completed. Already a very large sum of money has been expended in our endeavours to find paying seams of coal, but anyone who will take up the reports made to this House by the Geological Surveyor, Mr Howley, will find that whatever sums of money were expended on coal boring were well spent. He will find that Mr. Howley's operations in the neighbourhood of Goose Brook have demonstrated the truth of his own theory, that the neighbourhood is the true seat of the coal. In his operations Mr. Howley has been more or less handicapped by want of proper machinery and expert assistance. Last year, however, he was provided with expert assistance and with the best possible machinery that could be procured, and his operations were most successful. Mr. Howley's reports will show that coal was struck in several places and that in one particular place he opened a seam five feet thick, and there was every possible indication of his finding further seams of the same quality of coal, which on examination was found to be all that could be desired. I hope that the present Government will still act upon the advice and reports of Mr. Howley, and continue to prosecute a search under his direction. That we have coal in this

country in large quantities I have no doubt, both from the reports that I have been able to gather from Mr. Howley and from other sources. Great care and prudence should be taken in our effort to find and develop these seams.

It has frequently been made to appear to the public that the large sums of money expended on coal boring have been squandered and, in fact, thrown away. I think it unfair to attack any Government for its endeavours to discover something which would be beneficial to the whole country. Any money expended by the late Government was expended upon the advice of the gentleman who presided at the head of the Geological Survey, and it was upon his reports that the Government was induced to pursue the policy in the neighbourhood referred to. I happen to have with me a report that was made by Mr. Howley last year, in September, when I had the honour of presiding over the department having charge of the coal boring operations. I would like to read one or two portions (Mr. Clift then read a report from Mr. Howley on the work he had done up to the 6th September last year).

I am only reading this for the purpose of showing that any money applied for this purpose has been spent well, and that it is only a question of time when substantial returns for the same will result from the development of our coal areas. I wish to impress upon the Government the great necessity of going on with the work under the direction of the gentleman who has been in charge and is carrying on the contract, viz., Mr Randell, of New York, a gentleman eminently qualified to do the work, and who contracted to do it at a figure he considered most reasonable. Last year he had

bore 3,000 feet, and if he had succeeded in completing his work before the end of the season he would have made a fair profit, but the conditions were such that he only succeeded in boring one-half of the contract, and I believe on his operations Mr. Randell was really out of pocket. I hope the Minister will be able to offer some information as to whether operations are to go on this season under the same contract as last year, and whether any new areas will be surveyed. Mr. Howley has been forced to spend too much of his time at the really mechanical part of coal boring. His presence for the last few years has always been necessary at the scene of operations. I trust that the present Government will see that in future this will not be so and that Mr. Howley will be able to spend more of his time at the actual geological survey work.

THE HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINES—In reply to the hon. gentleman, I would say that the policy of the present Government with regard to coal boring will be practically the same as that carried out by the late Administration.

MR SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

THE CHAIRMAN FROM THE COMMITTEE reported to the Speaker that the Committee of the Whole House had considered the Estimates, passed certain resolutions and begged leave to hold another sitting.

Ordered accordingly, and that the Committee have leave to sit again to-morrow.

The remaining notices of motion were deferred.

NOTICES OF QUESTION.

HON. MR. EMERSON gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the amount of Special

Grants expended in the District of Twillingate from July 1st, 1907, to December 30th, 1908.

HON. MR. EMERSON gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the amount for Marine Works expended in the District of Twillingate from July 1st, 1907, to December 30th, 1908.

MR. SQUIRES gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Hon. the Prime Minister to lay on the table of the House copies of all correspondence between His Excellency the Governor and the Right. Hon. Sir Robert Bond, between November 1st, 1908, and this date, in relation to the issues raised by the result of the General Election in November last; the continuance in office of Sir Robert Bond and his Ministers; the convening of the Legislature in February last; the resignation of office by Sir Robert Bond and his Ministers; the dissolution of the late Legislature; and the recent election of members to serve in the House of Assembly.

MR. DOWNEY gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the number of letters issued by the Colonial Secretary's Department last year, purporting to be a farewell address from Mr. Carty, the late member of St George's District, to his constituents; to say by whose authority these were sent through the Colonial Secretary's office; by whose authority they were franked by the department; and what was the amount of the postage which was lost to the Colony by their being franked.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn till to-morrow, Thursday, June 3rd, at

three o'clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

THURSDAY, June 3, 1909.

The House met at three o'clock in the afternoon, pursuant to adjournment.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

HON. MR. EMERSON—I ask leave to present a petition from John Spencer and others of Hardy's Cove, in the District of Fortune Bay, praying for a grant of \$120 to build a bridge along the cliffside of that place. The petitioners state that owing to the want of this bridge they are hindered and greatly handicapped in their business operations. I know the locality well, personally, and there is great necessity for the bridge there. The petition receives my hearty support and I trust that when the grants for the district are being allocated I will be able to meet the wishes of the petitioners.

I also beg leave to present a petition signed by Wilson Garland and others, inhabitants of Pushthrough, praying for the sum of \$400 to build a breakwater at that place. The petitioners state that a large number of crafts are continually going into Pushthrough. The harbor itself is an exposed one, being open to south and south-east winds, which make it almost impossible to protect the crafts and boats. The want of such a breakwater as asked for was badly felt and a great hindrance to the fishermen in carrying on their work. They also state that this is the first time they had asked any Government for that work to be done and, recognizing that the present Government is the People's Government, in which they had ever faith, they feel that their wishes would be complied with. I give the petition my hearty support and ask that it be referred

to the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

MR. MOULTON—I heartily support the petition. I know the place well. Very often I have had a vessel call there and, therefore, know how very urgently a breakwater is needed. I trust the prayer of the petition will be granted.

It was ordered that the petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

HON. MR. EMERSON—I ask leave to present a petition from Arthur Garland and others of Hermitage Bay, in the District of Fortune Bay, praying that the mail courier who leaves Gaultois on the arrival of the Portia, for Bay D'Espoir, should also call at the place called "Barnes." While dealing with the subject matter of this petition I would point out that the mail service at the present time in Fortune Bay District could only be regarded as a farce. The district which I have the honor to represent was sadly neglected by past Governments in many respects, and the mail service in particular stood out in a conspicuous manner as one which required immediate attention. The candidate of the late Government secured his return in 1904 in a large measure by reason of promising to place a small bay steamer on Fortune Bay and Hermitage Bay. These promises were not only left unfulfilled, but the mail service was allowed to go from bad to worse, and this in face of the fact that every bay in the Island, with the exception of this district which I have the honor to represent, has been provided with steam facilities. In Twillingate District, Bonavista Bay, Conception Bay and on to Burin, all have their bay steamers tapping the small places and making connection with the coastal boats. In the District of Twillingate alone

it will be found that the Clyde touches at thirty or forty places twice a week and, in addition to this, the coastal boat from St. John's calls at many of these same ports. The same things holds goods in other district. This Government now proposes to do the same thing for Fortune Bay and, if possible, make amends for the manner in which the district was neglected in the past. It seems to me that Fortune Bay, for some reason or other, was singled out by the past Governments as an object of neglect, and it would seem that its fishermen had more than their share of hardships to endure. But the People's Party are now in power—a Government composed of men who sympathized with the fishermen of this country and who would make a study of endeavouring to give them every facility for carrying on their perilous work. The Government has already endeavoured to do something to make up for the lack of attention which the district had received at the hands of the late and previous Governments. I am happy to say that they have not been in office many days before they have begun to fulfil the pledges which they had made. They contracted for a bay steamer to run between Garnish and McCallum, in Hermitage Bay. I feel sure that when this steamer takes up the work, the people who presented this petition will be quite satisfied with the service. Within a very few days the whaler called the Sebastian, a steamer of a speed of about ten knots, will be touching at all the important points in Fortune and Hermitage Bays. It was true that this steamer was not a large one, nor probably would it be large enough in a short time to come, when the freight and passenger traffic would increase, but I feel sure that it will meet the pre-

sent requirements. In asking that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates I would assure the House that it is not my intention, nor the intention of the Government, to pursue a passive policy with regard to Fortune Bay, but on the contrary, steps will be taken to endeavour to make up for the past neglects to which I have already referred

It was ordered that this petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. MOULTON—I beg leave to present a petition from Samuel Oxford, Philip Grouchy and others, of Rencontre, praying that the Government take steps to stop the practice of fishing with trawls within the three-mile limit along the coast between Cape Ray and Cape La Hune. I also beg leave to present a petition signed by a large number of people of New Harbor, the prayer of which is to the same effect as that of the previous petition. Most of the fishermen in these waters fish with hand-lines, but lately the practice of using trawls has come into operation and is increasing to a considerable degree. It was well known that the fish spawned every year in the deep waters of the bays and if the use of trawls was permitted to continue they would soon prove disastrous to the fisheries around the coast. The people who lived in these parts generally fished with lines, but others came from outside districts with trawls. My constituents are very sore on the matter and I have promised them that I will do my best to see that the use of trawls is prohibited in the deep waters of the great bays. I trust that the Government will give the matter its best attention and that a law will be passed which will carry into effect the

prayer of the petitions which I have the honour to present.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. SEYMOUR—I ask leave, on behalf of Mr. Speaker, to present a petition from Richard Wills and others of Salmon Cove, in the District of Port de Grave, praying that repairs be made to the public wharf of that place. It is necessary, in the interests of the public, that the prayer of the petition be acceded to; \$120 would be sufficient to cover the cost of the repairs asked for. I ask that the petition be referred to the department to which it relates. I also beg leave to present another petition from the inhabitants of Salmon Cove, asking that the public road there be repaired. I heartily support the prayer of the petition. The cost of the repairs would be \$500 and I ask that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates. I ask leave, again, to present a petition from the inhabitants of South River, in the District of Port de Grave, praying that repairs be made to the public wharf there and that further addition be made to it. The amount asked for is \$300 and I trust that the petition will be favorably considered by the authorities. I also beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Brigus, which is very largely signed, praying that the use of trawls within the three-mile limit of the coast of Labrador be stopped. This petition is one of great importance to the people of Brigus, many of whom go to Labrador every year. I trust that it will receive the most careful consideration at the hands of the Government.

It was ordered that these petitions be received and referred to the departments to which they relate.

HON. MR. EMERSON—I ask leave,

on behalf of Mr. Warren, to present a petition from Azariah Dawe and others of Cupids. The prayer of the petition is the same as that which is contained in the one last read by the hon. member for Harbor Grace, Mr. Seymour.

THE HON. THE PREMIER (SIR E. P. MORRIS)—I ask leave to support the petitions which have been presented by the hon. members for Harbor Grace and Fortune Bay. A copy of the petition was forwarded to me, signed by the people of Port de Grave. A large number of fishermen signed them and they could be expected to speak with authority on a matter of this kind. It appears to me, as a layman, that trawling is injurious to the fishermen, especially when offal is thrown overboard. It is not so bad on the Banks, where there is plenty of deep water to carry the offal away. But when we come to the narrow, circumscribed fishing grounds on the Labrador Coast, it is a different matter. When offal is thrown overboard in these places it must necessarily putrify the whole grounds and it is well known to all that fish will not frequent places where putrified matter abounds. This was illustrated in Fortune Bay in connection with the herring fishery. The herring, once so plentiful in the waters of that bay, have almost vacated it, for the reason that large quantities of these fish, which had been caught and for which there was no market, had been thrown again into the sea. The result was that the whole ground had been putrified and the fish had been driven away. The facts set forth in the petitions were a serious matter if they were true, and I am glad that there are members of this House, like the hon. member for Trinity, Mr. Grant; the hon. member for Bonavista, Capt. Winsor, the

hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and others, on both sides of the House, who could speak with authority on this important matter. All members were anxious to do what was right to help the fishermen and conserve the fisheries. They knew what had happened with regard to the salmon fishery. Now, through wise legislation, we were getting back slowly but appreciably to the original condition of affairs, but the time when the salmon were netted, regardless of principles of conservation, was one that nearly destroyed this valuable industrial and sporting fishery. The matter referred to in the petitions was a serious one to the people of Port de Grave, and when I was over there some months ago I consulted with many of the fishermen concerning it. They had to go hundreds of miles from their homes to catch their fish and often found their efforts thwarted by the unfair competition of larger bankers, which held to the edges of the fishing ground. I feel sure that if the matter is left to the Department of Marine and Fisheries it will receive every consideration. I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition and in presenting a copy signed by the inhabitants of Port de Grave.

CAPT. WINSOR—I would like to say a few words in reference to the petitions which have been presented, asking that trawls be prohibited within the three-mile limit on the coast of Labrador. I am well aware that trawls are used on the coast and also on certain portions of the coast of Newfoundland. I could tell the members of one instance which occurred some three years ago on the North-east Coast of Labrador, beyond Brand Harbor. I was fishing in that locality and for three or four days secured about from 40 to 60 quintals

of fish a day. All that time there was nobody near to interfere with my men, but when it became known to the trawlers in the Straits of Belle Isle that fish was being taken, they began to appear in large numbers; in fact, there were soon in my vicinity some 60 or 70 vessels. After trawls had been set about 24 hours the fish began to disappear from the cod traps, while the trawlers got all the fish they could stow away. The "liveryers" and "stationers," with cod traps, could not go to new grounds, but the trawlers could easily move from one place to another. Not till last year did I notice the bankers setting the trawls in shallow water. Last year I noticed bankers fishing and trawling as close as 300 yards to the coast. I had not been fishing on the northern part of the coast last year, but I have been asked by fishermen of the northern bays, and of Conception Bay in particular, to draw the attention of the House to the fact that trawls were set close to the rocks. It was true that the bankers dressed their fish on the fishing grounds. When offal was thrown overboard it annoyed the fish and they left the grounds, and in all probability returned no more during the season. In my opinion, it was high time to protect the fishermen who went to the Labrador Coast to earn their livelihood. The bankers were going further north every year; in fact, they were further north last year than they ever were before. I was told last year that owing to the trawlers and their interference the men from the ships were unable to catch any fish, and I think it is time that rules and regulations were made preventing the use of trawls within three miles of the coast of Labrador. The matter did not concern me very much, personally, or

the district I represent, but as a fisherman I am anxious that my fellow fishermen be protected. I am pleased to see that petitions are coming in from different places regarding this matter and I am glad to give these petitions my support.

MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES (Mr. Piccott)—I am more than pleased to have an opportunity of saying a few words on the matter referred to in the petitions from the people of Port de Grave and other places. Petitions of this kind on matters which deeply concern the fishermen of the country were worthy of much consideration by this hon. House, for it had to be borne in mind that the fishermen were the backbone of the Island. One hardly knew where to begin in the work of bettering the state of things which existed at the present time. Many banking vessels had been accustomed to go to the Labrador of late years. The law said that no trawls should be set before the 15th of August, but it did not state that these trawls should not be set within the three-mile limit. The petitioners complained that offal was thrown overboard by the men who caught fish from banking vessels and I have no doubt that what they said was to a certain extent correct. However, this was not correct in all cases, for many of the bankers carry on their fishing from the harbors. They generally went to fish early in the morning, about four o'clock, and set their trawls and caught fish all day till about four o'clock in the evening, when they took up their trawls and returned to the harbor to split and salt their fish. I know it is a fact that in some cases bankers split their fish on the grounds, but credit had to be given many of them for not doing so. Quite a number of these were bankers from this

Island who had every right to fish there. I am sure that the petitions will meet with much consideration, as they come from practical men who are accustomed to the coast, and I think that after due and careful consideration laws could be made that would be beneficial and deal fairly with both the bankers and the fishermen. I believe that men who went down in August in bankers should not set their trawls across the grounds on which the settlers were fishing. I have seen on parts of the coast a perfect network of trawls and there was no doubt that this was a great hindrance to hand-liners and caused a lot of friction between the captains of bankers and the men of the coast. It was certain that something had to be done in the matter and I will do my very best, with the assistance of the Fishery Board, towards having laws made that will be beneficial to all parties who are interested in the matter referred to in the petition.

MR. KENT—I think the petition one of the things on which the fishermen who were members were best fitted to inform the House. I concur in what Mr. Winsor and the Minister of Marine and Fisheries have said with reference to offal thrown on the fishing grounds inside the three-mile limit. Any action to deal with this objectionable practice will have to be taken up by the Department of Marine and Fisheries, and I have no doubt but that the department will work out practical plans to meet the conditions complained of by the petitioners. One matter in the fishery rules and regulations which would have to be dealt with at an early date was the enforcement of the law with regard to the duties of the fishery wardens along the coast. The petitions deserved the earnest consideration of the fishery department.

MR. GRANT—So far as the petitions before the House are concerned, I believe that every man should have the right to fish in the way he thought best, provided by so doing he did not injure the fishery or trespass on the rights of the others. My interest, of course, is in the Straits fishery, and I could raise no objections to the fishermen or floaters using trawls in the section where I carry on my operations, as getting down on the coast early by steamer as I do, I secure all the choice trap berths, practically cutting out all others. There was considerable objection to the practice of throwing offal on the fishing grounds, which I believe is a very injurious one. Last year a move was made in the Straits to stop these practices, but as the floaters claimed they were out of the jurisdiction of Newfoundland and perhaps, rightly so, nothing could be done. Until the boundary question is settled, and until Newfoundland's jurisdiction in the Straits is rightly defined, it would be useless to attempt to carry out any rules or regulations which might be adopted. I support the petition with very great pleasure, if it will be beneficial to the fishermen presenting it.

It was ordered that the petitions be received and referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. GOODISON—I ask leave to present a petition from residents of Carbonear and Harbor Grace who fish at Venison Island, on the subject of offal thrown in the waters from the whaling factory at Hawke's Harbor. The remarks of members regarding the codfish offal apply to this petition as well, as it was known that large chunks of the whale floated away, only to come in contact with the fishermen's nets and traps. I also present a petition from Thos.

Smith, Maurice Fleming and others at Venison Island, with reference to a land mark at that place. A flag-staff did duty on the island and served as a guide to vessels going in and out, and they were now asking that it be replaced and a stationary light fixed there as well.

It was ordered that the petitions be received and referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. GRANT—I ask leave to present a petition from the residents of Heart's Content for a sum of money to make a road at Southern Cove from the main line to the water to facilitate the shipping of timber, as there were several saw mills in that neighbourhood.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have much pleasure in supporting the petition. I know the great benefit that will accrue to the people if the petition is granted.

MR. SQUIRES—I also have great pleasure in supporting the petition. Heart's Content is chiefly known as the Cable City, but it has another claim to importance, in that it is the centre of very large fishing operations, and Southern Cove, being the fisherman's home, should receive particular consideration.

It was ordered that this petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. F. MORRIS—I ask leave to present a petition from fifty inhabitants of Branch, Cape Shore, P.B., asking for a sum of money to complete a road to the agricultural lands on the other side of the river which divides the settlement. I know no other settlement in the island where people are entitled to more consideration than those of Branch and neighbourhood, because they have made good progress in agricultural pursuits and should receive every encouragement. The

harbor of Branch, being on the straight shore, is unprotected, and the inhabitants run great risks in pursuing their avocations on the water. They have not, up to the present, received any marine facilities in the way of public wharves or piers, but I hope in the near future that the Government will see its way clear to have the Gut at Branch properly dredged and so enable the fishermen to have some harbor facilities and a place of shelter for their fishing boats in rough weather. The people of Branch are famous all over the country for their farming products and for their butter, which is looked upon as equal to the famous Bell Island product. I trust that when the special grant for the district is made it will include something for this much-needed agricultural road.

MR. DEVEREAUX—I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition. I know the locality well. It is the "garden" of St. Mary's Bay, and like unto a "model farm," for there can be found in Branch all crops grown that can be raised in Newfoundland.

MR. HOWLEY—I, too, have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition. It is very necessary, also, that a bridge be placed across the river. The natural growth of the settlement forced the younger generation across the river to settle and acquire land. A number of promising farms now exist on the north side of the river, and this number is increasing annually. These settlers are seriously inconvenienced by want of means of communication and transport across the river, and this bridge is very necessary to supply their needs. The munificent sum of \$214 was all that was left of the special grant for that district when the present Government assumed

office, and the present members will have no funds at their disposal until after July, but I feel sure that after that date an effort will be made to meet the wish of the petitioners.

It was ordered that this petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. GRANT—I ask leave to present a petition from the people of Heart's Ease, praying for a ferry boat to connect Westpoint with Heart's Ease.

MR. SQUIRES—I warmly support this petition. One not acquainted with conditions existing in this section would be surprised at the great inconvenience which the people have to put up with for so long a time. The proposed ferry would be of infinite benefit to the people, and would also greatly facilitate the handling of mails.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I know this locality very well and have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition.

It was ordered that this petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. DEVEREAUX—I ask leave to present a petition from residents of Arnold's Cove, praying for a sum of money to repair a road. The road was in bad state of repair, almost out of repair altogether, indeed, and it was almost impossible for any travelling to be accomplished over the present highway.

MR. F. J. MORRIS—I have much pleasure in supporting the petition which had just been presented by my colleague, Mr. Devereux.

MR. HOWLEY—I also, Mr. Speaker, am very pleased to support the petition. I wish to say, in connection with this petition, (although

the petition itself did not refer to it) that it was time a station was erected at the railway junction at Arnold's Cove, which was a rendezvous for the people of all the islands in the bay, when they desired to connect with the Newfoundland railway, and in winter, when the trains were very irregular and often behind schedule time, they had to wait for the train, and had absolutely no shelter or warmth from the wintry storms. The people of Arnold's Cove were not alone interested in this matter, but the people from all over the bay who wanted to connect with the railway. There was another matter to which I like to refer, namely, the present steam service in that section of the district. It was not by any means sufficient to serve the demands. Arnold's Cove was not the only important settlement in that portion of the district. There was also Spencer's Cove, St. Kyran's, Mussell Harbor Arm and other places which did not derive any benefit from the Bay service. This matter would probably be brought before the House at a later date, and I merely mention it now, so that the House may have some idea of the disadvantages under which the inhabitants of these settlements labor.

It was ordered that this petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

NOTICES OF QUESTION

HON. MR. EMERSON asked the Minister of the Public Works to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the amount of special grants expended in the district of Twillingate, from July 1st, 1907, to December 30th, 1908.

THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS—The information asked

for is being prepared, and I hope to be able to lay it on the table of the House at the next sitting.

HON. MR. EMERSON asked the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the amount for marine works expended in the district of Twillingate from July 1st, 1907, to December 31st, 1908.

THE MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES—I beg to lay on the table of the House the statement asked for by the hon. member for Fortune Bay.

MR. SQUIRES asked the Hon. the Prime Minister to lay on the table of the House copies of all correspondents between His Excellency the Governor and the Right. Hon. Sir Robert Bond, between November 1st, 1908, and this date, in relation to the issue raised by the result of the General Election in November last, the continuance in office by Sir Robert Bond and his Ministers the convening of the Legislature in February last, the resignation of office by Sir Robert Bond and his Ministers; the dissolution of the late Legislature; and the recent election of members to serve in the House of Assembly.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—I have asked His Excellency's permission to table the correspondence asked for. That permission had not yet been given.

MR. DOWNEY asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a statement showing number of letters issued by the Colonial Secretary's Department last year, purporting to be a farewell address from Mr. Carty, the late member for St. George's District, to his constituents; to say by whose author

ity these were franked by the Colonial Secretary's Department, and what was the amount of postage which was lost to the Colony by their being franked.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I table the information desired.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

The HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS, pursuant to notice moved that leave be granted for the introduction of a bill respecting certain Retiring Allowances, and it was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY.

MR. CLIFT—I wish to make one or two observations in relation to the gracious speech with which His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to open this session of the Legislature. Like all similar speeches it was but a repetition of the policy of his Ministers, and in this respect I think it would be found that His Excellency had not to any great extent departed from the regular rule. His Excellency started out by saying that his sojourn amongst us in this country, which has lasted nearly five years, is now drawing to a close. This announcement would be received by all with a large amount of regret. I think that those who have known His Excellency most intimately could only say that His Excellency does not regret leaving any more than we regret his going. It is true that questions may have arisen between His Excellency and his late Ministers over certain constitutional matters in which they were pleased to differ but, so far as I am concerned, I could not let myself be influenced by

any such differences to any other opinion than which I have just expressed. My own acquaintance with the Governor has been of the most pleasant character. For one who has taken such a lively interest, and is so skilled in the various matters which so vitally affected the best interests of the country, to leave us, was a matter of regret, that all must unite in expressing. I can only hope that he is going to a colony which would afford him as much pleasure as he has derived out of the administration of the affairs of this Colony.

I do not propose to deal with the various paragraphs in the Speech, but will content myself with a reference to one or two subjects. As is usual in a document of this nature a review is made of the fishery of the previous year, and here it is set out that while the fishery was fairly large yet the prices were such as to make it unremunerative to those engaged therein. Then follows the first of the Cabinet's promises that we find in the Speech. It should be remembered that in the manifesto which had been issued by the leader of the Government were many promises. In fact, it was characterised as a policy of promises, and amongst other things it was set forth that in the interests of the fishery and fishermen, some legislation would be introduced for the purpose of regulating the cull of fish, and also legislation which would have the effect of holding out inducements with a view of improving the cure, establishing a standard and equitable cull, effecting methods of preparing and exporting the fish, opening up new markets, etc. But notwithstanding the promises set forth in the Premier's manifesto, we found in the Speech from the Throne, that we were not to have the fulfil-

ment of any of these promises, but His Excellency contented himself with observing "that the time has come when the Government of the Colony should co-operate with the people for the purpose of bringing about measures toward this end."

All these great benefits we saw a little while ago so near are now relegated to the next session of the Legislature. Reference is also being made to our agricultural resources, and it is proposed that a bonus be given for the clearing of land, that a good breed of cattle and sheep be introduced, new seeds be produced, and that low rates by steamer and train be established, so as to enable the farmer to bring his produce to market at a price within the reach of the ordinary consumer. Nobody could take exception to any policy that would allow our agriculturalists and farmers to bring their produce into the market at the lowest possible rates. I am in accord with the policy of the Government as to giving a bonus for clearing land. I think that the last time a vote was taken for that purpose, now some ten years ago, \$200,000 was voted. That money was distributed over the period named, and I believe that beneficial results had been brought about by this expenditure. I am aware that in many cases there had been great laxity on the part of some of those who were appointed for the purpose of making surveys of the land, and when I am describing it as a laxity I am using a mild term. I would suggest that if a vote was taken this session for this purpose that it be so hedged around with laws as to make it impossible for some of the practices of the past to be repeated.

I trust, too, that the best use will be made of the gentleman who has recently taken charge of the experimental farm. I refer to Mr. Murray, who arrived in December last to take charge of the experimental station. He came with the highest possible recommendations, and with the little experience I had with him, I believed he is one likely to give the best possible returns for the work undertaken. But I want to impress upon the hon. minister in charge of the experimental station, improperly called the model farm, that the best results could only be obtained from that work by leaving it entirely in the control of this expert. If he were interfered with or hampered by these who thought they knew more of agriculture than he did, then his usefulness would be entirely destroyed. If he was not sufficiently qualified to take care of the station, then I advise the Ministers to get rid of him and appoint some other person duly qualified for the position. But when it was once placed in the hands of such a person, leave him alone to work out the salvation of the institution according to his own methods. We know that Canada to-day would not be the country she is were it not for the training that has been received by her people and her young men and farmers from these experimental stations during the past twenty five or thirty years, since first they were established. I trust that nothing will be done to hamper Mr. Murray in the carrying out of his work. I feel confident that if Mr. Murray's advice was taken and he was allowed to pursue the same course as had been pursued at Guelph and other experimental stations with which he was familiar, in due course we would see some very happy and

beneficial results from that institution

His Excellency's Speech referred to our mining regulations and some new legislation is outlined in the way of making better provisions for the original discoverers of mining locations. I do not know that better provisions could be made to protect the interests of the original discoverers than we had, but I will be only too pleased to support any measures brought down for that purpose. Still careful legislation would have to be enacted, because the tendency of those engaged in prospecting was to lock up mining areas for the purpose of placing them in the hands of the speculators. There was room for some amendment in the mining laws, but on the whole they were very fair and worked little or no injustice.

The adoption of some measures that would decide once and for all whether our coal areas were likely to be remunerative was also proposed. I am heartily in accord with this, but I cannot imagine what measures are to be introduced, as I don't know of anything that could be done more than is being done at the present moment unless to double or treble or quadruple the number of the boring machines. During last year there were two large drills and two smaller ones operated at Goose Brook and the results from them were fairly satisfactory, and unless it is the intention of the Government to set down drills in other parts of the country for the purpose of testing these places, I am unable to see that anything more could be done. It is to be hoped that during the coming season the present contractor, Mr. Randall, will succeed in demonstrating the truth of Mr. Howley's theory that the true seat of the coal measures was where they are now boring. If there was any

hurry to find the coal the best thing to be done was to increase the number of boring machines.

It would be very much appreciated by those who were not in touch with the city to receive the benefit of the transmission of the daily public news. I hope that when sending the news the compiler, whoever he might be, will be particular in giving correct and accurate views and that it will not be tinged with any partizan bearings, but a true representation of what was taking place in the political world. During the late election despatches were sent through our various districts, but they were largely composed of political news and told of the political doings of the present Government and, of course, showed up all the misdeeds of the late Government. I don't think it fair or honest or proper to make use of the public telegraph service for the purpose of sending partizan political news broadcast to the public.

In the next place, His Excellency promises us that his Ministers will consider a revision of the tariff, whereby the burdens of the poor may become less and those of the citizens who are regarded as rich may be made greater. Before any revision is made in connection with tariff great care should be exercised and the existing tariff, which I consider, on the whole, a fair and equitable one, should be gone into. The fishing classes of this country, or the laboring classes, do not pay as large a proportion of the revenue to-day as they did ten or fifteen years ago. Any changes or alterations in taxation ought to be very carefully considered and the results carefully figured out and estimated before they are made.

We are promised in the speech, as we were promised in the manifesto,

at branch railroads would be built down in Bonavista Bay, Heart's Content, Bonne Bay, Fortune Bay, Treassey and other places, and I note that although these great boons were to have been ours immediately, we are now only promised that they will be taken up next year, but in the meantime a survey will be made in order to ascertain the best possible routes. I don't see any provision in the Estimates for any survey parties, however, although I imagine that to survey these lines will require the expenditure of a very considerable sum of money. If taken up this year I trust that some person of experience and competent to make a report of the lands through which these various branch railroads are to pass will be appointed, in order that some information may be given the House as to the agricultural possibilities of the lands in these regions. I trust that the reports will also contain some information as to the possibilities of freight and passenger traffic for these lines of railroads. Careful estimates ought to be made to show what the traffic is likely to be from the various settlements it is proposed to touch. All this would be necessary in order to enable us to deal intelligently with the question when it comes before the Legislature in a practical form.

Then the question of Old Age Pensions is referred to and in touching upon that subject we are dealing with something which may be found to be much more far-reaching than we imagine. Before any legislation is brought down with reference to the providing of Old Age Pensions I hope the hon. Ministers on the other side will inform themselves as to what has been the result of similar legislation in other places, and that before we adopt measures to make pro-

vision for the aged we will have some report from the commission previously appointed to enquire into the matter. I know that this commission sat a number of times and gathered a large amount of information and I trust that every bit of data which can be gleaned will be put at our disposal, in order to enable us to base upon a sure foundation any measure we are asked to enact. If any legislation is contemplated as in England, where the old age scheme is in force, we should remember the amount allocated originally was not nearly sufficient to meet the demands, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer found himself considerably embarrassed in consequence. I hope the Minister of Finance will not allow himself to become embarrassed by reason of measures that might be introduced in this connection.

With regard to the reference made by His Excellency the Governor to the revenue and expenditure of the past year, I have only to say that in reading over this section of the address I was not a little puzzled and could not make my figures agree with those of His Excellency. Indeed, the section or paragraph was considerably involved and it was difficult to make out what it meant.

MR. F. MORRIS—I would like to say a few words in connection with the regret that we all undoubtedly have in the departure of His Excellency the Governor. I can honestly say that since we have had Responsible Government we have never had a better representative of the King or Queen, as the case may be, in this country, and we have never had one who had the interests of this country more at heart. Sir Wm. MacGregor was much interested in all our public work. He had also visit-

ed Labrador three or four times and had given a great deal of information concerning that country in his reports on these trips. I think that his departure at this particular time, when he had become versed in all our political, economical and commercial conditions, would be a serious loss to the Colony.

I am very glad that the hon. member for Twillingate, Mr. Clift, was honest enough to say, as he has said, that he was not, nor is he at the present moment, in sympathy with the bitter, untruthful, libellous and diabolical attacks made on the Governor during the recent political campaign. Of course everyone is prepared to give a certain amount of latitude to both sides in a political fight. One side and the other do their best to oust their political opponents and a great deal of truth and a great deal of untruth is said by both sides. But never in the memory of other elections (and I have been connected with political affairs for nearly twenty-five years) do I remember any attack of so vile a nature as those made in the recent campaign on His Excellency the Governor, and that in connection with the discharge of his ministerial duties.

MR. DWYER—No member of the Liberal Party had anything to do with these attacks.

MR. MORRIS—I do not accuse any member of the House. I did not mention any political party. I merely wished to congratulate my hon. friend, Mr. Clift, on disassociating himself from these attacks. His Excellency's private house was invaded. The very visitors to Government House were criticised. And why? Because the decision of His Excellency in the recent political deadlock, a decision which had been thoroughly en-

dorsed by the Imperial Government as being in accordance with all the principles of Constitutional Government, did not meet the views of the upholders of a disappointed faction. Therefore I was pleased to hear my hon. and learned friend repudiating what I consider an outrage. I am pleased to be able to say that I have known His Excellency personally, have been closely associated with him for the past few years and am glad to see my hon. friend, Mr. Clift, is honest and manly enough to state here that he was not in accord with these attacks.

MR. KENT—I wish to observe there is one matter to which I propose to refer before the address is adopted and I think it my duty to draw the attention of the members of the House to the composition of the present Government which, in my opinion, is a violation of the well-established principles of Responsible Government, by virtue of which each and every member of a Ministry is responsible to Parliament. I refer now to the position of Hon. Mr. Gibbs as a member of the Executive Council without a seat in either branch of the Legislature. I do not think that a precedent could be found for this either in the constitutional history of England or of the British colonies. It is true that one or two instances, apparently parallel, occurred in England. One was that of Mr. Gladstone, who accepted the position of President of the Board of Trade without a seat in the House of Commons. But Mr. Gladstone regarded it as his first duty to obtain a constituency on the first public occasion before the assembling of Parliament. Another instance is a more recent one, namely, that of Mr. Winston Spencer Churchill, who was defeated in one constituency and immediately obtained a seat in another.

These are not precedents for the present case, as the tenure was expressly contingent in each case. Another instance was that of myself. I had an office in the late Government without a seat in the House, but the circumstances were entirely different. The country was then on the eve of a general election. At present there is no prospect of an election for some time to come. I wish to draw attention to this principle and bring the matter before the House. I thought of dealing with it as an amendment to the Address in Reply, but now to bring the matter before the House as a principle of government that should not be violated. I hope the matter will not continue and that the Government, if they wish to retain the services of Mr. Gibbs in the Executive Council, will take immediate steps to find him a seat in one or other of the branches of the Legislature, but Mr. Gibbs has no right to the position of a Minister of the Crown without a seat in one branch or other.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—In reply to the hon. member, Mr. Kent, I wish to state that the position of Mr. Gibbs is in no way unconstitutional. When an Executive officer is appointed who has not a seat in either branch of the Legislature it is customary to give an assurance to the King, or the King's representative, that such Minister of the Crown will get a seat in one branch within a reasonable time. But there is no rule by which this time is limited. The case of Mr. Gladstone, to which Mr. Kent referred,—and Mr. Gladstone was one of the greatest authorities on Constitutional Government—very carefully defines this. I even go farther, and state that a departmental officer may hold his office without a seat, provided that the King, or the King's representative,

has an assurance that such Minister will find a seat within a reasonable time. Mr. Gladstone was Secretary of State without a seat in the House of Commons. I, myself, held office on more than one occasion for as long as four months without a seat. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition, Sir Robert Bond, has been Premier of the Colony without a seat. Sir William Whiteway is also another instance. There is abundant local precedent for the position as to Mr. Gibbs. The Legislature dissolves in July, but the elections are not usually held till November. During this interval none of the Ministers have a seat. Mr. Kent's own case is analogous with that of Mr. Gibbs. Mr. Kent held his position for nine months without a seat, and there was no reason to assume that Mr. Kent would obtain a seat. There is an even more recent instance in Canada. Mr. Templeman, the Minister of Inland Revenue in the Laurier Cabinet, was defeated at Victoria, B.C., in the election of November last. He went to the constituency under the Laurier Government with that portfolio. He was defeated, but remained as a Cabinet Minister until he found another constituency, and was elected in April. When I undertook the formation of the present Government, I submitted Mr. Gibbs' name to His Excellency as an Executive Officer. Mr. Gibbs was without a seat. But I assured His Excellency that a seat would be found for him within a reasonable time. And as to this "reasonable time," it is one that must be governed by the circumstances of each particular case. Mr. Gladstone was Secretary of State for six months without a seat. The King and his Ministers selected him for his abilities. There is abundant precedent right down to the present day of where Ministers

of the Crown with portfolio rank have had no seat in the House. There is, however, another answer to the hon member's objection to Mr. Gibbs. Mr. Gibbs is a member of a branch of the Legislature. He is a member of the Legislative Council, having received his appointment yesterday

MR. KENT—That being so, I spoke under a misapprehension of the facts. I congratulate Mr. Gibbs on his obtaining a seat in the Legislative Council; and I am glad the Prime Minister has recognized the anomaly of the case and taken means to secure a seat for Mr. Gibbs.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—I recognize no anomaly. I promised His Excellency to find a seat for Mr. Gibbs within a reasonable time, and Mr. Gibbs might have remained without a seat for four, five, six or seven months longer. If the Legislature had not met I would have felt bound to find him a seat, but I recognize no anomaly, provided that a seat was found within a reasonable time.

It was ordered that the Address in Reply to His Excellency's Speech from the Throne do pass, and that it be engrossed and presented to His Excellency by the Whole House on a day to be named.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON SUPPLY.

Pursuant to order, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on Supply.

MR. SPEAKER left the Chair.

MR. PARSONS took the Chair of Committee.

Certain votes for various public services were passed.

MR. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the

matter to them referred and made some progress, passing certain votes and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered, that this report be received and that the Committee have leave to sit again on to-morrow.

MR. SPEAKER informed the House that His Excellency would receive the House, with the Address of Thanks, at 11.30 o'clock to-morrow at Government House.

SUPPLY VOTES APPROVED.

The Chairman from the Committee of the Whole on Supply reported certain resolutions adopted yesterday which were then read, as follows :

Civil Government	\$155,561.66
Administration of Justice..	174,751.68
Agriculture and Mines ...	26,420.00
Marine and Fisheries	98,740.00
Legislation	33,015.00
Pensions	2,859.00
Public Charities	283,994.00
Education	3,800.00
Lighthouses	86,166.00
Contingencies	10,000.00
Roads, Bridges and Ferries	172,881.00
Customs	145,991.00
Coal and Water Refund ..	67,550.00

The said Resolutions being read a second time, it was moved that the House concur with the Committee therein, and the said Resolutions were agreed to.

NOTICES OF QUESTION.

MR. CLIFT gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Hon Colonial Secretary if the Government had entered into any contract for the hire of the Ss Stella Maris for the carrying of the mails, since the first day of March to date; and, if so, to lay a copy of same on the table of the House.

MR. MOULTON gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Hon

Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement, showing the amount expended on the so-called smallpox epidemic in the District of Burgeo and LaPoile last winter.

MR. SQUIRES gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of the cost of the new Museum to date, and also a detailed estimate of the cost of completing the building and furnishing the same.

On motion, the House adjourned until to-morrow, Friday, June 4th, at 11 o'clock a.m.

FRIDAY, June 4, 1909.

The House met at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, pursuant to adjournment.

MR. SPEAKER informed the House that, in accordance with the intimation received yesterday, His Excellency the Governor would receive the Address of Thanks at half-past eleven of the clock to-day.

ADDRESS OF THANKS PRESENTED

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker and the House proceeded to Government House, and being returned to the Assembly Room, Mr. Speaker informed the House that His Excellency had received the Address of Thanks, and had been pleased to reply thereto as follows:

"Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members of the Commons of Newfoundland:

"I thank you for your Address in Reply to the Speech with which your present Session was opened.

"(Sgd.) W. MacGREGOR,
"Governor."

MR. SPEAKER then left the chair until three o'clock in the afternoon.

At three o'clock in the afternoon Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY laid upon the table of the House the Annual Report of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York for the year 1908.

PETITIONS.

HON. MR. EMERSON—I ask leave to present a petition from John W. Rose and others, of Dawson's Cove, praying for the allocation of a sum of money to repair the breakwater at that place. The petitioners stated the sum of \$100 was needed for that purpose. While I am speaking on this matter I would say that the breakwaters generally throughout the district are in a bad condition and that each and every one of them needed some attention. I trust that the House will see its way clear to give this matter its consideration and make all the improvements possible. I ask that the petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

It was ordered that the petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. SQUIRES—I ask leave to present a petition from Aaron Smith and a large number of others, of Elliott's Cove, in the electoral district of Trinity, praying for the allocation of \$250 towards the construction of a public road in that place. Elliott's Cove was the home of the brick industry and was a very important locality and I am sure that the representatives of the district will do their best to obtain the allocation asked for.

It was ordered that the petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. HOWLEY—I ask leave to present a petition from Augustine James and others, of Trepassey, asking that

a sum of money be granted for the repair of the North-west Bridge of that place. The bridge was on the main line of road and was used daily by a large number of people, not only of that place, but of the neighbouring localities. The bridge has been in existence for a number of years, but is now in such a bad state of repair that it is not considered safe for use, especially for horses and wagons. I strongly support the prayer of the petition.

MR. DEVEREUX—I also support the prayer of the petition presented by my hon. colleague, Mr. Howley. I have had the opportunity of crossing the bridge referred to only a short while since, and know from personal observation the very bad condition in which the bridge really is. I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition.

It was ordered that the petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I ask leave to present petitions from Moses Currie and others of Britannia; from Hayward Burt and others of Lady Cove; from Wm. Miller and others of Foster's Point; from John P. Smith and others of Snook's Harbor; from Benjamin Martin and others of Hickman's Harbor; from Wm. J. King and others of Deer Harbor; and from about three hundred others of Random Island. The petitioners set forth that in the winter season the only way they could get from Random Island to the mainland to connect with the railway was by boat from Elliott's Cove to Clarendville, a distance of three miles. Crossing in small boats was often extremely dangerous, owing to the high winds and slob ice. The petitioners had given the matter careful consideration and had come to the

conclusion that the proper place for winter crossing was at Bar Point, at the west end of Random Island, where the distance to the mainland was only about two hundred yards. In order to reach Bar Point, the road which was cut through from Elliott's Cove about two years ago would have to be graded, so that carts or sleighs could pass over it. The distance is about six miles and the road, when completed, will be of additional value as a winter mail route for Random Island. I ask that this petition be forwarded to the Department of Public Works and I shall be glad to consult with my colleagues later on and see if we are able to provide for grading the road referred to.

MR. SQUIRES—I have much pleasure in supporting the petition presented by the Hon. Colonial Secretary. The people of Random Island are very much inconvenienced, especially in the winter season and in the early spring, and I hope that it will be possible to secure for them every facility for crossing from the island to the mainland. As I have said, the prayer of the petition has my very hearty support.

It was ordered that the petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. GEAR—I beg to present a petition from A. W. Lake and others from Fortune, in the District of Burin. The petitioners ask for a bounty on canned codfish. The late Government have given a bounty of 20 cents per case on all cases exported, but through lack of means and inability to get their fish on the market petitioners found themselves greatly hampered. They now ask that the Government give them a bounty of fifty cents on every case exported, which I think would be a good thing to do. If this was done it

would tend to help the fisheries, as well as the men themselves. It could not be expected that the canning of the fish would help very largely towards the opening up of our new markets in the Argentine Republic and other countries, but it would help towards the improvement of our fisheries in some measure, at least, and for that reason it deserved the support of the members. I strongly support the petition and ask that it be referred to the department to which it relates where, I feel sure, it will receive that consideration which is due to such an important matter.

It was ordered that the petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. GOODISON—I beg leave to present a petition from the Rev. Fr. McCarthy, Rev. Mr. Colley, Rev. Mr. Darby and a number of others of Carbonear, asking for the allocation of a sum of money for the construction of a road to connect the Valley Road with Gladstone Road, in the western part of the District of Carbonear. There are many residents in this vicinity and it is almost impossible for clergymen or doctors, as well as others, to get to them. I heartily support the prayer of the petition.

It was ordered that the petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. DOWNEY—I beg leave to present a petition of more than usual importance from the people of the District of St. George's. The petition is very largely signed and it prays that an allocation be granted for the improvement of harbor facilities and in particular for the making of a canal from Gravels to Port au Port. I feel sure that the importance of the petition will be suf-

ficient excuse for my asking permission to read it to the House. (The hon. member then read the petition). I also have by me the report of a former Government Engineer, Mr. Crowsdale, in regard to the cost of a canal from the Gravels to Port au Port, which I will also read. Bay St. George is deficient in natural harbors, and such a project, if undertaken, would not only be beneficial to the people of Bay St. George and Bay of Islands, but the whole of the West Coast. From my own personal observation I know that not only in the District of Bay St. George, but in many other districts all over Newfoundland dredging was a long-felt want, and I might instance the cases of Lamaline, Ferryland and St. John's harbor, where vessels could formerly load at low water, but now, owing to the accumulations of sand and refuse of various kinds, the bottoms were showing at low tide, occasionally, in some instances, a loss to the vessel owners. Wesleyville, Bonavista Bay, is another locality very much in need of dredging. I think that the figures quoted by Mr. Crowsdale are too high because, with up-to-date and effective machinery, the cost would not be more than five and one-half cents per cubic yard, and with this machinery 2,500 to 3,500 cubic yards could be done daily. Ours is the only country in the world with such extensive maritime interests that has not applied scientific methods to realize such very necessary projects.

THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS—I cordially support the prayer of the petition presented by Mr. Downey, although not asked to do so. But next year I and my colleague, Mr. Murphy, will probably be bringing a similar petition to the House in connection with the building of a harbor at Long Pond, Con-

ception Bay. I am certain that the canal asked for by the people of St. George's District will be a great boon to them and I hope the Government will give the petition its most earnest consideration.

It was ordered that the petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. SQUIRES—I ask leave to present a petition from Jonas Stringer and 46 others of Little Heart's Ease, District of Trinity, praying for a grant of \$150 to construct a road at that place.

The petition was ordered to be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. CLIFT—I ask leave to present a petition from Harry French and others of Birchy Cove, Twillingate District, praying that the sum of \$200 be granted in order that a bridge may be constructed across Juniper Brook. This was a very urgent work, and I hope it will receive the earnest attention of the proper department. I also ask leave to present a petition from Robert Jennings and others of Great Chance Harbor, District of Twillingate, for the sum of \$260, to build a special local road around Great Chance Harbor to connect with the main road. I have very much pleasure in giving my hearty support to the petition. Also a petition from Robert Jennings and others of the same harbor, praying that the law for the prohibition of the keeping of dogs in that locality be enforced. I trust that this petition will receive immediate consideration and that the Colonial Secretary's Department will make the necessary enquiries from the Magistrate of that district, so that the proclamations may go into effect.

It was ordered that the petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. DOWNEY—I ask leave to present two petitions from residents of St. George's District. One was from Codroy section for the completion of a breakwater begun there some time ago. Codroy was the only possible harbor on that section of the coast and owing to its present exposed position was valueless in affording protection to crafts sailing west. It would also extend facilities in reaching the agricultural lands, which were not easy of access by rail. Owing to the distance of the railroad from the seaboard our people send to Halifax for certain commodities, and therefore the volume of trade will be diverted to Halifax if something be not done. The other is from the residents of Wood's Island, Bay of Islands, on the very important matter of extending telegraph communication to that island. I am sure the petition needs no comment of mine to suggest the advisability of having the matter attended to at an early date.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—I am sorry that I was not present when the hon. member for the District of St. George's (Mr. Downey) presented the petition from residents of Port au Port in regard to the harbor facilities and canal, but I now take the opportunity to say a word in favor of the petition. I personally inspected the place and it was only necessary for one to go there and discover the advantages to be derived from the work which the people petitioned to be undertaken to be convinced of its needs. I am sorry that I missed the remarks of Mr. Downey on the matter. The work of dredging the canal could only be undertaken by a modern dredge boat, which in one season

could cut the canal through. This would not only give a harbor to Port au Port, but would save the sailing vessels a long journey out around the peninsula.

I am sure that nearly all the hon. Members had heard of the conditions at Long Pond, Conception Bay, where there was a lagoon with a depth of water sufficient to float vessels and to make a good harbor, it only required the beach to be broken through. About thirty or forty years ago a report was made on this place and a sum of money voted, but it never got any further than the House. The building of a harbor at this place would be of infinite benefit, as there was no harbor between Cape St. Francis and Holyrood, and the fishermen very often felt the need of a harbor for shelter. Freshwater Bay, just around the Southern Head of St. John's Harbor, was also admirably adapted for a harbor, and if the beach there was broken through a splendid haven could be made which would serve as a place of refuge for the fishermen fishing out of St. John's, while many a craft would be able to harbor there that might otherwise be driven to sea. The lighthouse keeper at Cape Spear often reported vessels close up to the Narrows and not being able to secure a tug or make port, they have been driven off again for many days. On one or two occasions, indeed, vessels have been driven right across the Atlantic, after being in sight of home. A harbor in Freshwater Bay would probably have obviated this.

All these very necessary works could be accomplished by the Government being owner of an up-to-date dredge boat. We have been wasting time and money on dredges which have been more or less useless and which have had to be moved around by steamers at great expense. The mod-

ern dredge has its own motive power, and does very effective work at very little cost. Here in St. John's dredging was also badly needed. Wharves and coves were being filled up with sand and waste matter, the effluvia arising from which was abominable and positively dangerous. The merchants who are owners of wharves were perfectly willing to pay the cost of the work, only asking to be allowed to avail themselves of the use of the dredger. A great many wharves were becoming perfectly valueless except at high tide, with the natural result that the owners were extending them, and the waters of the harbor were being encroached on. I am glad to be able to say that the Government is considering the whole matter of dredging, and before the House rises may be able to submit in Supplemental Supply a vote for a modern dredge boat. I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition presented by Mr. Downey.

MR. HOWLEY—I wish to say a few words on the same subject. The harbors of Little Placentia and Red Island are practically useless for vessels fishing out of Cape St. Mary's which frequented there. These two harbors mentioned were becoming valueless owing to the large amount of accumulating deposits. It was an old saying that "Cape St. Mary's paid for all." I have heard a lot about the fishermen of the country being its backbone, and as they contributed the largest share towards its prosperity, it was only fair they should receive the consideration they deserved.

HON. MR. EMERSON—I also have great pleasure in supporting the petition. I would call attention to the claims of Garnish, in Fortune Bay, where the people were very seriously handicapped owing to the lack of

dredging. The fishermen could only leave the harbor at high tide, for at low tide boats were high and dry. The odor arising from the deposits and accumulation of years was just as bad there as other places. Garnish was something like Long Pond, referred to by the Hon. Premier. There was quite a deep pond inside and it only needed a little dredging to make it a splendid and safe harbor. It was very important that this should be done, for on that portion of the coast the harbors were a long distance apart. Indeed, there was no really good harbor between Grand Bank and Bay L'Argent. The cost of dredging the harbor of Garnish would not be very much, owing to the character of the deposits and conditions prevailing there, and if it was done it would be of infinite benefit. Now that we have the assurance of the Premier that a modern dredge is to be secured, I hope Garnish will be one of the first places to receive consideration.

It was ordered that the petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary if the Government had entered into any contract or contracts for the hire of the Ss Stella Maris for the carrying of the mails, since the first day of March to date; and, if so, to lay a copy of the same on the table of the House

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table of the House particulars of a contract for two trips, which had been made since March, and which included the option of a third.

MR. MOULTON asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement, showing the amount expended on the so-called smallpox epidemic in the

District of Burgeo and LaPoile last winter.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY replied that the statement asked for was being prepared and would be furnished to-morrow.

MR. SQUIRES asked the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of the cost of the new Museum to date; also, detailed estimate of the cost of completing the building and furnishing the same.

THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS replied that the statement was in course of preparation and he hoped to be able to table it to-morrow.

COMMITTEE OF WHOLE ON LOAN RESOLUTIONS.

Pursuant to notice, and on motion of the HON MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider certain Resolutions on the subject of raising a loan upon the credit of the Colony.

THE SPEAKER left the Chair.

MR. PARSONS took the Chair of Committee.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE—The reason why it was necessary to ask the House for the endorsement of the raising of this loan will be found in the Resolutions, itemized as follows:

\$155,000 to repay Bank of Montreal for sundry advances made upon Exchequer Account. Nearly all the departments were overdrawn, and this amount would be required to straighten them up, so as to begin the new year with a clean sheet;

\$88,000 for the new Hospital wing. This amount was also a charge on Current Account, and had been obtained on loan from the Bank of Montreal;

\$60,000 to complete the construction of the new Museum. This was also a charge on Current Account which it was necessary to cover;

\$15,000 to cover advances from the Bank of Montreal for railway arbitrations. This sum extended over the years 1905 up to 1909;

\$15,000 for the Grand Bank pier. This money was lent "in globo" to the County Council of that place, having been obtained from the Bank of Montreal. Up to the present no returns have been received relating to its expenditure;

\$5,000 for Fortune Harbor improvements. This was lent similarly to the previous amount. No returns have been received from this place either.

With regard to the loan of \$100,000 to the St. John's Municipal Council, the Government intended to advance that sum to the Council at 4 per cent. interest, to pay off a loan obtained from one of the Banks, on which the Council is paying 6 per cent. The Council, of course, would pay the interest on this loan.

MR. CLIFT—In connection with the deficit of \$155,000, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister of Finance how the amount was arrived at. I could not make the figures quoted in the Speech from the Throne agree with the figures submitted by the Minister, and so I would like to get the details.

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE—The amount is the difference of expenditure over revenue. It will be difficult to supply the figures accurately until the accounts are closed.

MR. CLIFT—The answer of the Minister is an indefinite one, and not satisfactory.

THE HON. THE PREMIER—The Auditor General's statement shows that we are this much short to-day, and we are assuming that we shall be able to carry on the business of the country from now till the end of the fiscal year without any additional shortage.

MR. CLIFT—It is apparent that this amount is only an estimated one. If the revenue comes up to the amount estimated by the late Minister it will not be needed; if the revenue fails then it will be needed. I would still, however, like to have the details showing how the amount was made up. I don't say that the Minister should give the actual figures, but he ought to be able to state the various expenditures which go to make up the estimate, and I would then be able to know exactly how the anticipated shortage is arrived at. I have been trying to make up the figures from the Speech from the Throne, but I cannot make them agree with the figures of the Hon. Minister. The Speech from the Throne said that the estimated revenue would be \$2,732,000 and the estimated expenditure \$2,955,000. That would leave a deficit of \$223,000. From this I cannot see how the amount \$155,000 was reached. The estimate of expenditure made by the present Ministers of the Crown was \$2,955,000, while the estimated expenditure of the late Ministers was \$2,783,000, showing a difference of \$172,000. If we add to this the \$51,000 which it is estimated that we shall be short, it gives a deficit of \$223,000.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS—The Estimates which I am presenting are those of Mr. Jackman, the late Minister of Finance and Customs, and which were

supposed to cover the expenses. When the new Government came into office it found that many of the departments were overdrawn and there was a deficit of \$155,000, and no other course was open to us but to ask for a loan. The Government was not going to use the money for a current account. All the overdrafts were made by the late Government for political purposes, to help to elect Mr. Clift and his colleagues, and yet he came into the House with a modest face and tried to pretend he was innocent. If Mr. Clift would go to the Post Office Department he would find the account overdrawn. In the Public Works Department it was the same; it was also the same in the Marine and Fisheries Department and in the Customs Department. These accounts were all overdrawn by the late Government, of which Mr Clift was an Executive member. Let him look over the supply list and he would find the answer he needed.

MR. CLIFT—The answer made by the hon. gentleman is no answer to the questions I have put. I am prepared to take my share of responsibility for everything that has been done by the late Government, but I could not be expected, any more than any other member of that Government, to keep in my head the details of expenditure of the various departments, and it was unreasonable to expect that I would do so. On reference to the Speech from the Throne I find that the deficit on the 30th of June, 1909, would be \$157,000. This amount added to \$175,000 temporary loans, makes a total of \$332,000, and the Minister comes down here and asks for a vote of \$330,000. How a vote of \$330,000 can cover a debt of \$332,000 is more than I can imagine.

MR KENT—I would like to ask the

hon. gentleman if when this Bill is before the House again he will give the details of this \$155,000.

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS—Certainly.

MR. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred, and passed the Resolution without amendment, and recommended the introduction of a Bill to give effect thereto.

Ordered, that this report be received, whereupon the Bill entitled "An Act to provide for the raising of a sum of money by loan on the Public Service of the Colony" was read a first time and it was ordered that it be read a second time on tomorrow.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

Second reading of the Board of Trade Bill.

THE HON. THE PREMIER—I beg leave to move the second reading of this Bill. I would crave the indulgence of the House to have it read a second time without the names of the parties which are to be incorporated in the Bill, as there are some additional names yet to be recorded. This Bill is the result of a movement outside the House to establish in our midst a Board of Trade for the whole Island, upon which every industry of the Island would be represented—fishing, industrial, mechanical and agricultural. I desire to impress upon the House that this movement is not a political one; there is no politics behind it. People of all shades of political thought that we had, were connected with it, and united for the purpose of making it as effective and useful as possible. A public meeting was held in this city some time ago, and at that meeting a committee was appointed to

draft the measure which I am presenting to the House. I had some little to do with that meeting myself, and there made it clear that it was absolutely non-political. All who were at the meeting went away fully understanding this, and I want it plainly understood here and now that I am not introducing a party measure.

One very great advantage from such an institution as a Board of Trade was that this House would be able to obtain information from a source which should be able to speak with authority in relation to all fishing, industrial and commercial matters that must come up for legislation from time to time. First and foremost of our industries were, of course, the fisheries. For many years to come these must be the great source of revenue for our own people. We may have the pulp, we may have the mines, we may have the agriculture, and we may have the tourist traffic and many other sources of revenue and work for our people, but these must be all subsidiary, mere tributaries to the great stream of colonial wealth, namely, the fisheries. Fully developed, our fisheries are richer than the gold and silver mines of Peru. To-day if we want to bring in any legislation in relation to the cull of fish, in relation to the cure of fish, in relation to the marketing of fish, or our trade in the foreign markets; if we want to know something about the mesh of a trap, the size of a lobster to be canned, we have no official body in Newfoundland to whom we can go for information. We have nowhere to go for information, and these important matters are kicked around as a sort of political football, session after session.

As things are here now, anyone who wishes to have the fishery laws

or regulations amended may do so by going around and getting up a petition. They may keep the steamers from going to the ice or they may let them go. They can alter the mesh of a trap or the size of lobsters to be canned. We have no Board of Trade, no commercial body, no statistics, no information, no researches or any official data on these important matters. And "Nero fiddles while Rome burns." Whilst all this is going on the country is suffering. Last year we lost \$3,000,000 in foreign markets in exporting our fish, and none can tell us why or wherefore. We are told that our fish was slaughtered in the foreign markets. Some claimed there was fraud committed, some attributed it to the cull, others the way the fish was cured—a thousand reasons were stated; but of definite information there was none.

Whatever the precise reason may have been, the fact remains that the man who catches the fish and overhauls his bultows and his trap does not get paid for his fish as he should get paid. In a few days 20,000 fishermen will be leaving their homes for the Labrador, will be there four or five months, laboring to catch their fish, and will not have the slightest idea as to the price they will receive for their fish when they bring it to market. Last year fish was a drug on the market, and the price dropped as low as \$2.00 a quintal, and we could not tell what caused it. I heard a gentleman say the other day at a meeting that if the fish leaving this country was standardized, or if every barrel had a brand on it—Merchantable, Madeira and West India—just as flour is standardized; in other words, if those who are buying fish knew what they were buying, and did not find ten different

kinds in one cask, it would mean \$1,000,000 right off for our fishermen in increased prices.

I do not know, myself, how true this statement is, but if we had a Board of Trade that could speak with authority it would tell us whether this was an important matter or not. Here was one of the advantages that might come from the Board of Trade. Then the Board of Trade could advise us about the cull of fish. Some tell us that buying fish talqual destroys all incentive for the proper curing of fish. What advantage was there in properly curing fish if the man with bad, slimy fish could realize as much as the man with good, hard, well-cured fish? We need advice on this point. We want to know whether fish should be culled, and then paid for, according to cull. Again, should fish be sent away as bought; that is, fish bought as Merchantable, should it be exported as Merchantable, and fish bought as Madeira should it be sent as Madeira, West India as West India, etc., and not be sent to a higher grade, to the detriment of the article in the foreign market? There are some articles which would come under the regulation and supervision of the Board of Trade, which could advise this House from time to time as to laws and regulations to be made in the interests of the various manufactures of the country.

This Government has a policy which is defined in that much abused production of mine, the Manifesto which I addressed to the country, a policy endorsed by the people of the country, and which we are anxious to carry out; but in doing so we must work in harmony with the people of the country and the trade of the country. We want to look before we leap. We want to find out and develop new markets. We want to

know what markets have been tried and in what places we have been selling successfully. We want to know everything about every new method for putting up and curing fish, for we are still following in the old rut of fifty years ago. We send away nothing but salt cod, while in Gloucester and Lunenburg shippers sold codfish in fifty different ways, put up in the most attractive and palatable form to suit the tastes of everyone. We must get advice. We must try and get information as to the best way to move in these matters.

It is hoped to accomplish that policy without any additional expense to the Colony, to carry out every pledge in the Manifesto without increasing the taxation one cent. Every member of the Government party on this side of the House believes that for a long time to come we will need no more taxation to meet the needs of current revenue. The revenue of the Colony is now nearly \$3,000,000. This year \$2,800,000 would likely be collected, and next year over \$3,000,000. Ten years ago it was half that amount. The same people to-day pay three million dollars that ten years ago paid one and one-half million dollars. I hope they are getting good returns for this double taxation. The Government has resolved that there are to be no fresh burdens placed on the backs of the people, but from the increase of revenue likely to follow natural development it is hoped to be able to accomplish all that has been outlined in the Manifesto.

It is a serious matter as to whether all is being done that could be done for the man who took the fish out of the water, who worked with the fish and line, but had no say in the making of the price. He had to sell whether the price was one

dollar or ten dollars a quintal. The responsibility for the price rested with the exporter, and we must do all we can to aid that man, because if the exporter was facilitated and given new markets, new methods for curing and better facilities for shipping, etc., the returns would be larger, and the man who caught the fish and all branches of our trade would be benefitted. In introducing this Board of Trade Bill we shall make haste slowly and only as the body develops should we invest it with higher powers and greater duties. All important fishery questions, such as the cull, the making of standards and other matters should still remain with the Legislature. No authority affecting the rights of the fishermen should be given away except with their sanction and approval, expressed through their representatives in this House.

Some people told us it was impossible to have a cull on Labrador. I could not speak with authority, but there may be men in the House who may be able to throw light upon the subject. My own view is that we should take the planters and fishermen into our confidence, and have conferences of fishermen and planters from all over the Island. The results of such conferences must be to lead to permanent good in relation to this industry. I hope the House will receive this Bill in the spirit in which it is intended. An honest, bona fide attempt should be made to systematize that which at present has no system or method. The question of cull became acute last autumn. Feeling was very bitter and strong all over Newfoundland. I came in contact with fishermen here and in the outports, and the feeling was widespread. I did not know who was right or who was wrong, but the fact remains that the man

who the year before got \$5, \$6 or \$7 for his fish only got half that amount last year. Why should this be? No man got his flour or butter or meat or anything else for half price. These commodities did not reduce to half their value. Why was it, then, that the poor man's fish should drop to half what it was worth and that the foreign consumer should get his fish for half price?

It was now fully time that the handling of our fish was systematized, and I believe this could be done by the Board of Trade. That the Board would be a success I have no doubt. The whole trade is united and to-morrow night a public meeting will be held, at which the representatives of trade and all branches of commercial, industrial and mechanical pursuits will be present. I am quite satisfied myself of the outcome of our Board of Trade and feel sure it will have a beneficial effect upon our exports, not alone in the sending away from this country of fish properly branded, but in encouraging our people here to put up every fish taken from the sea, as if it were the only fish caught for the season. If greater attention was paid to the cure of fish, proper instructions given the fishermen, rules and regulations laid down and carried out to the smallest detail, and the same attention paid to the cure of fish as to the cure of everything else, those engaged in the pursuit would be rewarded in getting a good price for a good article. The fish should be properly standardized, and no quintal of fish should be allowed to leave Newfoundland without a Government stamp or Board of Trade brand on it. Then the dealers on the other side would not be able to throw cargo after cargo of fish on the hands of the shippers, giving as an excuse that it was not up to the

standard and not what it was represented to be.

Summarized, the actual position is this: Have we in the past been just to the man who takes the fish out of the water, the man who labors in the "standing room?" He cannot help himself. He has to sell his catch to the trader, or merchant, or supplier for whatever he is given. The man who catches the fish does not ship it. He is at the mercy of the shipper. We can best help the fisherman by helping the shipper. The great thing that all must realize is that codfish is an article of food, and that the world to-day is crying out for care and cleanliness and the strictest regulations in relation to the manner in which it is cured and put up. Inattention to this for a time promised to wreck the great canning industry of the Western States. Our fishermen are the most willing in the world to do what is right. The fullest instructions should be given them to guide and help them in the cure of fish and they should be encouraged to turn out every fish a picture. If fish is purchased talqual and the indifferent man is paid the same price for slimy and West India and dun fish as the man whose whole catch is Merchantable and Madeira, then there is no incentive to our people to have a good cure. Then you want to standardize every fish that leaves the shipper's store. As I have said, all these things must come slowly and gradually and the legislation that creates them must be the outcome of the joint representation of the man who catches the fish and the man who ships it. I beg to move the second reading of this Bill.

MR. KENT—I have much pleasure in supporting the second reading of this Bill. I think that the principle at the bottom of it is one which

should receive the endorsement of every person in the country. I am not familiar with the details of the Bill, but will have a better opportunity of discussing it when it goes into Committee. The principle of co-operation amongst those engaged in the trade for the expansion and betterment of trade conditions generally is a most useful and universally accepted one. We are moving away from former times in the method of handling the trade and commerce of the country, which formerly was more or less a national affair confined within narrow limits.

With the economic development resulting from rapid transit and inter-communication of nations, the trade of all countries is being reduced to a unit and each country is looking for the market most suitable to sell its produce and purchase its requirements. This is one of the results of development of the 19th and 20th centuries. This can only be done with the knowledge which it will be the business of the Board of Trade to seek, and we have never had the proper means of informing ourselves as to the proper markets and their conditions and the means of getting and keeping in touch with the whole trade of the world, and what was going on in connection with the business. We in this country are most concerned with the fish markets and the means of opening them up. I hope the Board of Trade will have the effect of bringing our trade in touch with all improved methods and that with more mutual knowledge of trade and its conditions greater good will result to all our people from the operation of this body. Besides the external trade of this Colony, great benefit will accrue from the internal trade.

With regard to the fishery, we all

low that last year the cull was most unfair, due to the condition of the fish market and the want of some proper standard by which cull could be carried on. There is a law present dealing with this subject, but it is entirely inadequate. If there was a standard cull the fishermen would know the price of every fish, and would be able to estimate what the voyage would realize. No person could estimate or approximate the price he would realize for his fish until he had it passed through the hands of the culler. This ought not to be. If there was a standard all each fish would be rated and the price rated accordingly. The market price would, of course, depend upon the state at the time of supply and demand.

The undisputable benefits of a properly formed Board of Trade applied equally to our other resources, the pulp, lumbering and mining industries. We want to know what are our resources. We have no proper statements of the nature and extent of the natural resources of the country, and there are no means of obtaining such knowledge as exists. The Board of Trade would take an interest in this matter and I hope publish information which would be of value and interest to the people. Another matter which I hope they will consider is that of reducing to uniformity the laws of the Colony relating to trade and commerce and keeping those responsible for making laws informed of improvements in matters relating to insurance companies and other similar matters of legislation. I hope the Board of Trade will attain the results in this country which it has in other countries. The great object and the great advantage of a Board of Trade is that it gives a focus to our business people and

concentrates their energies towards a general development of the trade of the Colony. It enables them to work as a unit. The various branches of trade and, more especially, the fisheries, will be able to get exact and reliable information as to the value of their work. I hope that when this Board of Trade is an accomplished fact it will give to our trade an impetus which would show a great increase in our revenue and that such information as was collected regarding matters within its powers would be made easily accessible to the public. There is one matter to which the Hon. the Prime Minister referred, to which I would like to reply before taking my seat. Sir Edward Morris said that during recent years taxation had increased almost 100 per cent.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—I did not say that. What I said was that the revenue had increased twofold.

MR. KENT—I am glad that the Hon. Prime Minister has made the distinction; he certainly used the word taxation.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—Articles which were taxed at the Custom House ad valorem had increased in price abroad, almost doubled in value. Especially was this so of textile articles, so that a person who paid 40 per cent. on the price of an article ten years ago practically had to pay 80 per cent. now. Taxation had not increased, but the great increase in prices abroad doubled the burden of our people.

MR. KENT—I thought the Hon. Prime Minister referred to necessities of life, upon which now absolutely no duties are paid.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—I could not be making any such reference, considering that I was instrumental in having these

placed on the free list. I was the first who brought the matter up in the Bond Executive Council.

MR. KENT—I can say nothing regarding this. I was not in the Executive Council at the time. The fact remains that the necessities of life are free from duty. Taxation has not increased, but exports and imports have increased and this has increased the revenue. I understood the Prime Minister to say increased taxation, and not to distinguish between revenue and taxation. I hope that the present Government will place more articles on the free list, that the country would benefit by increased trade, and that the Bill which is before the House will prove a material factor in the increase of trade and commerce. If the principle underlying this Bill be properly applied and properly worked out, there is no reason why the result looked for should not come about. A Board of Trade meant knowledge, and knowledge means better machinery for the carrying on of trade. I therefore have the greatest pleasure in supporting the Bill for the establishing of a Board of Trade.

MR. MOULTON—I am particularly glad to see this Bill being introduced. We have wanted a Board of Trade for a long time. Some years ago there was what was known as the "Commercial Chamber," which was a kind of Board of Trade. But for some reason or other it did not seem to work well. Every other country in the world had a Board of Trade. In the United States and Canada there were Boards of Trade in every city and in towns much smaller than St. John's. These Boards had committees for each and every branch of

trade in which the country or town was interested, and from these information on any matter could be obtained. In this country we were absolutely without any centre from which information of any value could be secured.

If the proposed Board of Trade were properly established here I believe it would be a great boon, especially to those with large business interests in this country. To those handling fish it would be particularly so. In the export of fish local shippers often found themselves at great disadvantage, especially when exporting to European countries. It was very difficult to deal satisfactorily there, and there seemed to be no person before whom grievances could be stated and redress obtained. In Italy and Spain I have known cases where local merchants have been usually robbed, cases which had occurred in recent years. Fish would be shipped on a minimum guarantee, but on reaching the market it would be refused by the purchaser or condemned as not up to the standard, and there was not one to apply to so as to obtain redress. The fish had been unloaded from the ship in apparent good condition, but it was then put in storehouses which were damp and leaky and unfit for the storage of such a perishable article. After remaining there for a short time it, of course, became bad, and then the value was questioned and an arbitration followed. The shipper was wired an offer of five or ten shillings a quintal, which, of course, he generally had to accept.

What was very badly needed was agents at the principal European ports who would act in conjunction with the Consul and strive

protect the interests of the shippers on this side. That this was proved was proved by the fact that last year one shipper had received the munificent price of 32 cts. per lb. The fish shipped was of a very good quality, and sold later for the many times the price paid for it. The correctness of this statement was proved in a court of law, but generally the legal process was very slow and very difficult to work. The case with which I was familiar had taken two years to settle, but it subsequently resulted in favor of the shipper.

Yet another way in which the Board of Trade would be useful was in finding new markets. There is, I believe, a large market in Southern Brazil. Years ago, we had practically a monopoly of the trade there, but through some reason we lost it, and it is now entirely controlled by the Halifax merchants. I think the reason was we did not dry our fish sufficiently to stand the extreme heat of the Southern climate; but I still believe that these markets could be won back again. Other markets could be looked up by the Board of Trade which would have proper agents for this work. With regard to standardizing and culling fish, I think this would not be a difficult matter. It may be somewhat hard to cull the fish into different grades, but any man acquainted with the business could tell good fish from bad. Fish well washed and dried and salted could always be distinguished from the badly cured fish.

I strongly believe a good market could be secured in South America, also in Western Canada, where our fish was wanted, and where last winter they were paying

\$7 per quintal for it. Again our fish could be exported in a fresh condition to Canada and the United States. Especially could this be done in the winter with little or no expense, and it would perhaps, to some extent, relieve the pressure on the salt fish market. I have much pleasure in supporting the Bill for the promotion of the Board of Trade, as if properly worked it would be of great benefit to the country.

MR. DEVEREUX—I desire to congratulate the Premier on the introduction of this Bill. I am of opinion that the country would be greatly benefitted if this Bill were allowed to pass. I think it would remove the country from the state of poverty, so to speak, which has been witnessed among all classes for the last year or so. My impressions come from years of experience amongst those who are making fish; and a great measure of blame is due to ourselves for the way in which we handle it. We have forgotten in the last twenty-five years, at least, that our fish is used as an article of food, used by the most highly civilized people of the world.

That was one of the first reasons why many cargoes of fish are refused because they are unfit for food. It is not the fault of the buyers or of the stores. The stores are perfectly fit to contain fish and are built purely on scientific principles. In Genoa the Municipality itself owns the fish stores, so that fish that has to remain there for two or three months may not be committed to refuse. The same is the case in certain cities of Spain, so that although there may be dishonest merchants, it is hardly fair to condemn

the whole country on that account, especially when the greater part of the blame lies with ourselves. Take the Labrador fish. There is no cull. Everything is loaded up talqual.

A steamer is chartered and an agent sent down with it. The message that is being sent across the telegraph lines is; "Hurry up." Every sort of fish is loaded without and reference to the size or quality. In some cases demurrage may set in, so the order is: "Load up quickly." The agent has no chance to discriminate. Consequently our trade is very much injured. This is the reason why our cargoes of fish are sometimes condemned on the other side. This will always be the case while fish is exported as it is at present. We must send cullers to Labrador and we must have various grades or standards of fish. Our trade must be No. 1, No. 2, No. 3 and so on. Cullers we must have. Cullers or inspectors, call them what you will; and they must be independent of the buyer and seller.

This, I think, is quite possible in this country. The existence of a standard is absolutely necessary, a standard set up by a number or society of cullers or inspectors. If this had been done years ago the trade of the Colony would have been 25 per cent. better. Place your culler or inspector in a position of independence. Make him independent of the shipper and the buyer. Let him know no master save the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and you will see your fisheries in a condition far superior to anything you have seen for twenty years. Let your fish be properly culled and labelled No. 1 Labrador fish. Then, when you get it to the other side you will find it in the condition and

fetch the price you wish. At present the loading is done by night as day, simply because, probably, of the short charter, demurrage is feared and for the sake of saving £2 or £3 you make a practical loss of a whole cargo. The losses on the other side are, as Mr. Moulton has said, due in some cases to dishonesty. But in most cases this is found out and punished. The fish must be packed and exported properly. The fish must be sold according to size and quality, the 10, 16, 18 inch fish, as the case may be. If any of the members had seen as I have seen, cargoes of fish from other countries, all graded, and if photographs had been taken of such fish one would be hardly able to find any difference.

I have spoken to Italian and other Mediterranean fish merchants, and they all told me that there is no fish equal to the No. 1 Newfoundland fish. But it was very difficult to get it graded as No. 1. It was not salted properly nor was enough attention paid to the spreading of it, or to the making of it, and the consequence was that one of the finest articles of food consumption in the world was condemned because of inattention, and in many cases inefficiency; but with the bringing of this Bill, which would incorporate a Board of Trade and give it certain powers, I believe and trust that we would have, in the course of a year or two, rules and regulations and laws come into operation, and be so effective as to make it an article of much greater value to the fishermen themselves, to the merchant who buys it here, and a much better article of food to the man who bought it on the other side. If this was done, it must assuredly bring prosperity in a greater measure than ever before, because, as the Premier

said, no matter what other things may be utilized, if the fishery failed, nothing could be done for them as prosperous as a successful fishery.

Surely it was time for a strong effort to protect that industry, which would foreshadow and make it possible for this country to have a population of one and a half to two millions instead of a paltry two hundred and thirty-five thousand as it has to-day. I hope that within the next six months the Board of Trade will be in operation, or at least before the September shipments of fish are commenced, and if it was they would find that there would not be so many complaints, such as the Member for Burgeo has told of. There would not be, because men on the other side would not dare to do so. If the Government mark—No. 1, 2 or 3, as the case might be—was placed on the casks here, no individual merchant on the other side would dare to infringe upon that, unless the fish were so damaged that it was impossible to accept the Government standard. I will not detain the House any longer, but hope to have an opportunity later on of discussing this matter further.

MR. DOWNEY—I have very much pleasure in supporting this motion. There could not be any two opinions as to the desirability of this legislation, and the advantages that might and must accrue to the country from the formation of a Board of Trade and would, I think, be fully apparent. I am quite convinced that we are the only Colony, and possibly the only country, doing the volume of foreign trade which we do, that are without a Board of Trade at the present time, and I am surprised that its formation has not

been engineered long ago. A great deal might be said of the details of such an institution and the work it might do, and what it might hope to attain for the Colony, but, as brevity is the standing order of the session, I will not take up time discussing it just now. One or two features have cropped up in the discussion, however, that I will say a word on.

The member for Burgeo had referred incidentally to the possibility of developing a market in Western Canada. I might say that while I was experimenting with the fresh fish business on the West Coast, I had foreseen the possibilities there might be in that country and made some experimental shipments thereto and was very pleased with the result. With the marked increase in population in Western Canada I have no doubt a very extensive market could be found there for our product in the near future. There seemed to be a slight difference of opinion between the members for Placentia and Burgeo as to the probable cause of the deterioration of our fish on the other side of the Atlantic, and a great deal pertained to the conditions that the member for Placentia said attached to fish shipped from Labrador. I am absolutely certain these conditions did not apply to the fish shipped from the West Coast, as this fish was to my knowledge perfect in all features which went to make a good article. It was well salted, well washed, well dried, and shipped under conditions that made it absolutely impossible for fish of inferior quality to go into the cargo; yet I have known such fish to have met very unsatisfactory results on the other side.

With regard to the possible development of new markets in South America, I might say that I had been incidentally connected with trade in South America, merely in the capacity of an employee. I had been connected with shipments of lumber cargoes to the Argentine Republic and Valparaiso and Buenos Ayres, and had often thought it a pity that our commercial community did not take advantage of vessels leaving for those markets to make experimental shipments there.

MOTIONS ADOPTED.

The Bill entitled "An Act to Incorporate the Newfoundland Board of Trade and for other purposes," was then read a second time, and it was ordered that it be referred to Committee of the Whole House on to-morrow.

Pursuant to order, and on motion of the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, the Bill entitled, "An Act respecting certain Retiring Allowances," was read a second time, and it was ordered that it be referred to Committee of the House to-morrow.

The Chairman from the Whole on Supply, reported certain resolutions adopted by that Committee yesterday, which were read a first time, as follows:—

Public Debt (premium and management, and additional interest), \$27,200.00.

Postal and Telegraphs, \$460,994.00.

Supplementary Supply (1907-8), \$154,137.81.

The resolutions being read a second time, it was moved that the House agree with the Committee therein, and the said resolutions were concurred in.

The remaining Orders of the Day were deferred.

RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCE.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—Before the House rises I would like to propose two resolutions in relation to two men, both of whom, in their day, had occupied seats in this branch of the Legislature and very prominent places in the public life of the Colony, and there, indeed, were well known, while one of them at least was also very extensively known in the Empire. I refer to the late Sir William Whiteway and the late Captain Charles Dawe.

It is hardly necessary for me to deal at any great length with the life-work of Sir William Whiteway, for the reason that it has already been done, both in the press and in the pulpit, and in other spheres of public life where opportunity was afforded those who knew him, of putting his life-work before the country in connection with his passing away. But I think that the members of this House would like that they should also leave behind in their annals and in their journals a record of one who, in his time, filled a very large place in the political life of the country. Sir William Whiteway commenced life here nearly seventy years ago, as a young man just out from England. He took a very prominent place in his profession, entirely unaided, relying solely on his own work and merits. The keynote of his character was industry, whether in his professional, social or public work. Those closely associated with him, I feel sure, would agree that that was his prominent characteristic—industry. Possessing many other attractive characteristics, he was of all things an industrious, indefatigable man, and it was by his in-

dustry that as a young man he won an assured place in his profession, and built up a very lucrative practice.

Passing away from his professional career, it is his political life that gives him his special prominence. He has left his mark upon the public life of Newfoundland, and the future Pedley or Prowse will devote a considerable chapter in Newfoundland history to the life and work of Sir William Whiteway and the part he played in the politics of Newfoundland. It was hard to say just now by which special feature of his public career he would be best known. I think that it is by the progressive policy that he inaugurated and was largely instrumental in carrying out. I had the advantage of being associated with him in the carrying out of the policy. In 1885, when I had come into the House, Sir William was not a member of the Legislature, having retired that year, but he came back in 1889, and having formed a Cabinet, I having become a member of that Ministry, with Sir William Whiteway and his colleagues, participated in the building of the railway from St. John's to Port aux Basques. During those eight years I had been very intimately associated and connected with Sir William Whiteway, and there was hardly a week during that long time that I was not with him when he was in the Colony. I have had the advantage of knowing him well and intimately and, I think, understanding him thoroughly, and I am glad to be able to pay a small tribute to his sterling worth. He was, of course, a man of varied attainments; not alone was he first in his professional and political career, but he was also a man who was identified more or less with a great many of our social and philanthropic institutions. He

had been the head of the Masonic body for a great number of years, a society that had done much for charity and education; and its successful position in the community to-day, its splendid building, its flourishing work, was, to a very large extent, due to the status and assistance given to it by Sir William. He was also a great church worker, and was identified with all the educational work of the Church of which he was a member, and when the House was asked to record a resolution of sympathy there was no doubt that all would join in doing so. The country had done its duty by him and, when he passed away, the late Government did the proper thing in giving him a public funeral. The country mourned his loss, and felt that a man had passed away who had given his years of his life to the development of Newfoundland, and in the interests of the people of the country.

Passing away from Sir Wm. Whiteway, I would like to propose a resolution in relation to the late Capt. Charles Dawe. Everyone knew the sad circumstances under which Capt. Charles Dawe had met his death. Inasmuch as he had not attained a great age, there was no reason in the world, except for the fell disease which attacked him, why he should not be with us to-day, taking part in the public life of the Colony, which for twenty years he had done so much to adorn. But it was not to be. Captain Dawe was, as I have already said of Sir Wm. Whiteway, a man of varied attainments. In some respects he was unique.

In his own sphere, as a business man, he was easily first. He had carried on a very extensive supplying business at Bay Roberts, and it was only through his great tenacity

and determination not to be put down that years upon years ago he did not go out of business. Year after year he had faced the hardest luck. Bad years on the Labrador, one following the other, came to him, but nevertheless he never gave away, not even under circumstances which would have killed any other man. They only seemed to nerve him to greater efforts. Last year when I was over to Bay Roberts attending the funeral obsequies, not only myself, but everyone who went there, noticed the great respect in which he was held, and when they listened, in the little church at Bay Roberts, to the splendid testimony given to his life and work by the Rev. C. V. Cogan, there were few dry eyes. Everyone felt that a great man had passed away from amongst them. Rev. Mr. Cogan, on that occasion, told them facts and circumstances known only to himself in his relations with the deceased. They were told of his really generous character, how for years he had given large sums of money to charity, and had done it entirely anonymously. He was not alone a successful business man, but as a sealing master he was also at the head of his profession. He was an admiral in the business, and for years he was regarded as one of Newfoundland's great vikings, who had brought in many bumper trips of seals.

When I came into the House some twenty-five years ago, Captain Dawe came in also the same session. We were not in the same party, but for the whole twenty-five years it was one of the most pleasing phases of my public life to have been associated with the late Captain Dawe. He was truly a fine specimen of Newfoundlander. He was more than an average man in many respects, and I am sure that the House has

sustained a real permanent loss in his death. If he had been here to-day there was hardly anyone in the country who could give more pertinent and useful advice on the matters which we have been discussing. Captain Dawe knew everything in relation to the fisheries of the country—the cod, seal and all the other fisheries; he had had considerable acquaintance with the foreign trade, and probably knew more about the Labrador fishery than any other person in the country.

If they went to Bay Roberts and saw the comfortable homes, the fine crafts and schooners, and the general prosperity that surrounded that settlement, nine out of every ten would say it was entirely due to the fine speculative element in the character of Captain Dawe. If he made money he was prepared to risk it in the fisheries of the country, and in aiding other people to obtain a living, and a great many men working to-day out at Grand Falls or on Bell Island would now be getting ready for the fishery on the Labrador if the late Captain Dawe were alive. Under these circumstances, I think that we are doing only what is just to ourselves and just to the memory of our late colleague to put on record this resolution, and to express our sympathy to his widow and family in their loss, as well as in our own. I beg leave to move the following resolution :

“RESOLVED—That this House desires to place itself on record and give expression to its sense of the loss sustained by Newfoundland in the death of the Rt. Hon. Sir W. V. Whiteway, for many years a member of the Legislature and Prime Minister of Newfoundland. His successful career in his adopted profession and afterwards in the wider field of

Newfoundland and Imperial politics, won the admiration and respect of all classes. We join in expressing to Lady Whiteway and her family our sympathy in their great loss, which was felt not only in Newfoundland but in the Empire as well.

“RESOLVED—That this House desires to place upon record an expression of its regret at the death of Hon. Charles Dawe, one of the members of the last House of Assembly, representing the District of Port de Grave, by which the House lost a valuable member and the Colony a most estimable and enterprising citizen. This House tenders to the widow and relatives of the deceased gentleman its sympathy with them in their bereavement.”

Ordered, that a copy of these Resolutions be transmitted to the relatives of the deceased gentleman.

MR. KENT—I have much pleasure in seconding the motion proposed by the Prime Minister, and I thoroughly agree that this House should place on record its appreciation of the gentlemen to whom the Resolutions referred. Both had spent many years in the House, doing their best to advance the best interests of the country. Sir William Whiteway was a leader in the political life of the country for years, a leader who had established for himself a place in the hearts of the people, both by his gentlemanly and kindly nature, as well as by the great and humane services he had rendered the country. Men of all shades of political opinion would join in expressing regret to his demise, and in tendering sympathy to the widow and family. I had not had the pleasure and honour of being a member of the House during Sir William's time, but I had an opportunity of watching his work from outside, and

learning from those older than myself how all through his career Sir William had devoted himself to the promotion of the best interests of the country. He was a man with a great grasp of public affairs, a man whose every effort was to further the welfare of the country, a man with great compassion for the poor man and who strove as best he could to better the poor man's lot. His policy all through was one of progress, tending to the development of the country's industries and of all and every department of business. I think it right and just the House should put on record its appreciation of the services that Sir William Whiteway had rendered the country.

It has been my privilege to occupy a seat in this House with the late Captain Charles Dawe. When they saw the late captain here at work they realized the great knowledge and insight he had in the affairs of the Colony. When the late Captain Dawe spoke on matters pertaining to the fishery and trade of the Colony, he spoke as one familiar with every phase of it and as one who had spent his life in the development of the fisheries, through the instrumentality of his own large interests in it. It was a matter of great regret that Capt. Dawe did not live to a much older age, for at the time of his demise he was far from being an old man; and he had been taken away from us under circumstances that drew out for his widow and family the sincere sympathy of all in the community. Both Capt. Dawe and Sir William Whiteway were men that would take many years to replace. I know well that the sympathy of all will go out to the widows and families of both the deceased gentlemen.

MR. SEYMOUR—I cannot allow this occasion to pass without adding a few remarks in supporting the resolution before the House. It had been my privilege to be intimately acquainted with the late Sir Wm. Whiteway and I had many opportunities of seeing that he was a man in every sense of the word. Twenty years ago I entered this House as a clerk, through the kind effort and good will of the late Sir Wm. Whiteway, and since that time I have occupied other responsible official positions, for all of which I have to thank the late statesman. Words could not express the regret I felt at the loss of such a true and sincere friend, not only of myself, but also of the country. Sir William had been proud of his adopted country, and its progress in recent years was due to him and his political followers. The country would never forget his work. Nor would the fishermen, for he was always a good friend, and there were none whom he met, however poor or rough-coated, whom he would pass without at the least a friendly "Good day." It would be many a day before this country would have an abler or wiser statesman than the late Sir Wm. Whiteway.

As an intimate, long-time friend and as his private secretary, I had found him to be kind-hearted and sincere in all he undertook and, as I stated before, a man in every sense of the word. I could not help feeling that in his later days the deceased gentleman did not receive from those who had formerly worked with him the treatment which he deserved. Many of them had turned away from their former leader and had adopted new policies. However, I have great faith in the policy of Sir William Whiteway and the principal

reason why I am in politics now and in the House to-day is that I felt that in the present Premier, Sir Edward Morris, the country had a man who would take up the mantle of Sir William Whiteway and who would carry out the policy which had been inaugurated by him.

I likewise knew intimately the late Captain Charles Dawe for more than thirty years. Evidence of the life-work of the gentleman and the great interest he had in the Colony is shown by the surroundings and well-to-do people of Bay Roberts. No man was more in touch with the fisheries and the trade of the Island. The late captain was a man "of the people and for the people," and I am proud of an opportunity to voice my quota of praise of one who was much above the ordinary man. I had been intimately acquainted with the late captain and had often seen him in the district. The hon member for Harbor Grace, Mr. Parsons, who had been a colleague of both Captain Dawe and Sir Wm. Whiteway, would be able to tell the House of the many good qualities which characterized both gentlemen. I am sure the sympathy of the members will be extended to the widows and family of both gentlemen and I give the resolutions my sincere support.

MR. PARSONS—I have no intention of taking up the time of the House, but would consider it a neglect of duty if I allowed the resolution to pass without expressing my sincere regret at the death of the two gentlemen who five years ago had been my colleagues. At the time I was a novice in politics, but found in the late Sir Wm. Whiteway a gentleman thoroughly acquainted with everything pertaining to the business of the Colony. I found in him a good friend and a loyal colleague,

and it was with very much regret that I heard of his death. As to the late Capt. Charles Dawe, a man had only to be acquainted with him to know his great ability and worth. There were few men who were more valuable to their country than was the late Captain Charles Dawe. I heartily endorse the resolutions.

The resolutions were then passed unanimously.

NOTICES OF QUESTION.

MR. CLIFT gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Hon. the Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the total amount expended on account of shipwrecked crews from June 30th, 1908, to March 1st, 1909; also, a detailed statement of the expenditure on same account from March 1st to present date.

MR. CLIFT gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of the amount expended by the Department of Marine and Fisheries for telegraph messages from March 1st to May 1st, 1909; also, to lay on the table of the House a copy of all such messages.

MR. CLIFT gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of all monies expended on public works in the District of Hr. Main from March 1st to the present date; also, a detailed statement of monies expended on the public road at Bay Roberts, in the electoral district of Harbor Grace, between the said dates and the date on which the work, if any, was performed.

MR. CLIFT gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines

for a detailed statement of all monies paid by him, from the first day of March to the present date, out of the vote of \$20,000 made for the Experimental Farm, and what salaries are paid; also, if it is the intention of the said Minister to engage the services of any persons other than Mr. Murray, the Superintendent, in connection with the work of the said farm.

MR. CLIFT gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of the expenses in connection with the recent election in the electoral district of Twillingate.

MR. CLIFT gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs for a detailed statement of the expenditure made and charged to General Contingencies from the first day of March last to the present date.

On motion, the House then adjourned till to-morrow, Saturday, June 5th, at 3 p.m.

SATURDAY, June 5, 1909.

The House met at 3 p.m., pursuant to adjournment.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

MR. CLIFT—I ask leave to present a petition from Samuel Keefe and others of Trump Island, Friday's Bay, in the District of Twillingate, praying for a sum of money to construct a bridge. The sum asked for was \$300. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition.

Also, from Cornelius Hornett and others, of Campbellton, asking for the sum of \$500 to repair the road between that place and Michael's Harbor. I might say that during the recent election campaign I had oc-

casian to go over the road connecting these places and found it to be in very bad condition.

Also, from John Williams and others, of Great and Little Troytown, asking for the sum of \$200 for the purpose of making a road in that locality. I have much pleasure in supporting the previous and this petition.

Also, one from A. J. Harvey and others, of Botwoodville, asking for the sum of \$100 to construct a road in that place. This would also receive my hearty support.

Also, one from Titus Perry and others, of Samson's Island, in the District of Twillingate, asking for the sum of \$100 for a public wharf. I would ask that these several petitions be referred to the departments to which they relate and that the Minister in charge give them the consideration which their importance justify. I might say that these petitions were received just after the close of the last session of the Legislature, consequently they were too late for presentation. I take the opportunity of presenting them to this House.

It was ordered that these petitions be received and referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. DOWNEY—I ask leave to present several petitions from St. George's. Although some of these petitions are for meagre amounts, yet the subjects of them are of vital importance to that agricultural district. In my opinion, the District of St. George's, not alone as regards its area and extent, but in the fertility of its soil, could not be surpassed by any other district in the whole Island. I have very much pleasure in presenting these petitions to the House. One is from the inhabitants of Stephenville and Seal Cove, for

\$100 for the purpose of building a road. One is from Robinson's for a railway station; one is from residents of Centre Deer Lake, praying for a road to connect the main road with their farms; one is from the inhabitants of Bay of Islands, on the subject of a road; one is from the inhabitants of Grand River and Little River, for a road to the Back Lands, one of the best agricultural lands in the district; also to connect with McHune's Road, leading to great agricultural lands; also, one from Doyle's, asking for the construction of a station and telegraph office there; one is from Stephenville and Little River, in regard to a road; one is from Port-au-Port, for a bridge; one is from the inhabitants of Sandy Point, in regard to the construction of a breakwater. This petition is so important that I would ask the permission of the House to read it. (Mr. Downey then read the petition). In my opinion, the people of St. George's set an example to the whole Island, in that, as the petition sets forth, they are prepared to help out the grant considerably by giving free labor. I think that this petition should receive the serious consideration of the House, as those acquainted with the district know how important it is that the settlement of Sandy Point should be preserved.

It was ordered that these petitions be referred to the department to which it relates.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I ask leave to present a petition from Miles Bailey and others, of Seal Cove, in the District of Trinity, in relation to a local road. This road runs along the face of a cliff, and it is very difficult to keep in repair, the sea continually breaking on it, causing it to fall away. I beg

to refer it to the department to which it relates, and give the petition my hearty support.

MR. SQUIRES—I have much pleasure in supporting the petition presented by the Hon. Colonial Secretary. I might say that road-making at Seal Cove is particularly expensive. This road, as has been said, ran along the face of a cliff, which fell away every year, owing to the action of the sea. When the grants for the district are voted I and my colleagues will see if some small allocation can not be made for this road.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. KENT—I ask leave to present a petition from the Rev. J. T. Netten, William Bryan and from the members of the S.U.F., Pouch Cove, asking that a bridge be built along by the S.U.F. Hall, and that the road there be graded and gravelled. The hall is in the centre of Pouch Cove and was greatly resorted to by the inhabitants of that place. If the work were done it would be of great benefit to the people. I ask that when the petition is referred to the Department of Public Works the Minister would give it his consideration. I have much pleasure in supporting it.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. SQUIRES—I ask leave to present a petition from Capt. Charles Woodman, S. A. and others of the Salvation Army, at Blaketown, on the subject of a road to the Salvation Army Barracks and cemetery. There was so much enthusiasm that the people were willing to give free labour, for the building of the road. I would ask that it be referred to the Depart-

ment of Public Works and I would also give it my support. I also present one from William G. Hodder and others of Ireland's Eye, Trinity Bay. This was not an ordinary petition. In fact, it asked more from the Legislature than would be asked in an ordinary petition. It was in relation to sheep-raising in that settlement. I would refer it to the Department of Agriculture and Mines for the consideration of the head of that Department.

It was ordered that these petitions be referred to the departments to which they relate.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I ask leave to present a petition from Charles Kelly, jr. and others at Black Duck Cove, Trinity Bay, on the subject of a breakwater which I desire to have referred to the Marine and Fisheries Department, and I hope the Minister in charge will give it his attention.

MR. SQUIRES—I have much pleasure in supporting the petition.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

Mr. CLIFT—I ask leave to present a petition from M. C. Alcock and others of Leading Tickle, Twillingate district, praying for the sum of \$40 to make a road from the public wharf to the main road, also \$25 for a ring bolt for hoisting material on the wharf. Also \$250 to build a bridge along the road, leading to the light station. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition and ask that it be referred to the Department of Public Works.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

QUESTIONS

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. the Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the house a statement showing the total amount expended on account of shipwrecked crews from June 30th 1908 to March 1st, 1909; also a detailed statement of the expenditure on same account from 1st March to present date.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY in reply stated that the statement asked for was in course of preparation.

MR. CLIFT asked the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of the amount expended by the Department of Marine and Fisheries for Telegraph messages from 1st of March to 1st of May, 1909; also to lay on the table of the House a copy of all such messages.

HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINES intimated that the Minister of Marine and Fisheries had asked him to state in reply to the Hon. member that the statements were being prepared.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of all the monies expended on public works in the District of Harbor Main from 1st of March to the present date; also a detailed statement of monies expended on the public roads at Bay Roberts. in the electoral district of Harbor Grace, between the said dates, and the date on which the work (if any) was performed.

THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS replied that the statement would be tabled as soon as prepared.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. the Minister of Agriculture and Mines for

a detailed statement of all monies paid by him, from 1st day of March to the present date, out of the vote of \$20,000 made for the Experimental Farm, also for the names of the officials now in the employ of the Department in connection with the Experimental Farm, and what salaries are paid to each; also if it is the intention of the said Minister to engage the services of any persons other than Mr. Murray, the Superintendent in connection with the work of the said Farm.

THE HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINES had much pleasure in tabling information asked for. With regard to the last portion of the question he would say that it was not the intention to employ the services of any additional person in connection with the work of the Experimental Farm.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance and Customs to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of the expenses in connection with the recent election in the Electoral District of Twillingate.

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS replied that the subject did not come under his department, but under that of the Colonial Secretary.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY stated that the information would be tabled on Monday.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs for a detailed statement of the expenditures made and charged to General Contingencies from the first day of March last, to the present date.

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS tabled the information required.

ORDER OF THE DAY

Pursuant to order and on motion of the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, the Bill entitled "An Act for raising by loan a sum of money for the Public Services of the Colony," was read a second time; and it was ordered that it be referred to Committee to the Whole House on to-morrow.

Pursuant to order, and on motion of the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the Bill entitled, "An Act respecting certain Retiring Allowances."

MR. SPEAKER left the Chair.

MR. PARSONS took the Chair of Committee.

MR. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred and passed the said Bill without amendment. Ordered that this report be received and that the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

The remaining orders for the day were referred.

NOTICES OF QUESTION

MR. CLIFT gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Minister of Agriculture and Mines if any cattle or horses have been imported for use at the Experimental Farm, and, if so, (1) To lay upon the table of the House a statement showing the cost of each animal; (2) The cost of transportation of such animals; (3) The name of the person or persons who selected the animals; (4) From whom they were purchased; (5) A statement of the expenses incurred by and remuneration paid to the person or persons who purchased said animals; and (6) If any monies are

now due or payable on account of said purchases, or in connection therewith.

MR. CLIFT gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask Hon. the Premier the name of the person who now compiles the synopsis of public messages which are sent to the various telegraph offices throughout the Colony, and what remuneration is paid to such person for said services; also, if any other person was previously employed in said work, and what remuneration, (if any) was paid to him.

MR. KENT gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Minister of Justice whether the subject of the exercise of prerogative of mercy in the case of A. W. Bishop, of Western Bay, recently convicted of assault case upon Sir Robert Bond, was considered by his department, whether he obtained a report from the convicting magistrate, and to lay upon the table of the House a copy of all papers relating thereto, including petition, report of magistrate, and notes of evidence taken by the magistrate, and of the report (if any) of his department on same.

MR. KENT gave notice that he would, on Monday, ask the Hon. the Colonial Secretary whether the subject of the exercise of the prerogative of mercy in the case of A. W. Bishop, of Western Bay, recently convicted of assault upon Sir Robert Bond, was considered by the Hon. the Executive Council, and, if so, whether the said Council reached any decision thereon, and what that decision was, and whether any Minute of Council was made on the subject, and, if so, to table the copy of such minute.

On motion the House then adjourned until Monday next, June 7th, at 3 o'clock.

MONDAY, June 7th.

The House met at 3 p.m. pursuant to adjournment.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

HON. MR. EMERSON—I ask leave to present a petition from John R. Cluett and others of Belleoram, Fortune Bay, asking for the sum of \$400 to repair the main road at that place. Petitioners stated that this work was very important and necessary. Four of the principal business firms were situated along this road, and it was almost impossible to go to and from the public wharf. I have much pleasure in supporting this petition and referring it to the Department of Public Works. I also beg to present a petition from Eli Parsons and others of Bay L'Argent, Fortune Bay, on the subject of a road. This road connected the South Side with Main's Cove, a place near Bay de L'Argent. The petitioners stated that it was badly in need of repair. I would also refer this petition to the Department of Public Works.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. SQUIRES—I ask leave to present a petition from Richard Fowlow and others, of Trinity East, for an allocation of \$40 for the construction of a bridge known as Lawlor's bridge. The road in this vicinity was used by a large number of people, and it was important to have this bridge. Also, a petition from Richard Regular and others for an allocation of \$60 for the building of a road. I have a great deal of pleasure in supporting these petitions.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have great pleasure in supporting the prayer of these petitions.

It was ordered that these petitions be referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. KENT—I ask leave to present a petition from Joseph King and others of Bauline, District of St. John's East, on the subject of a road. This road leading into Bauline, was very rocky and narrow, while projecting boulders made it almost impassable, and the inhabitants could hardly bring their fish to town. A small grant of money to move these rocks and improve the road, would do much good.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

CAPT. WINSOR—I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Pool's Island, in regard to a public wharf. A petition somewhat similar to this one was presented last year from the same place, but so far as I am aware, very little attention had been given to it. In connection with this petition I might say that there was not any place in this island which needed a public wharf so badly as did Pool's Island in the district of Bonavista Bay. I have no doubt but that many of the members of this House, as well as my colleagues, the Hons. Sydney Blandford and Donald Morison, were aware of the condition of affairs in this settlement. During the last five or six years, Pool's Island and the places surrounding it, have increased greatly in population, and yet there is no public wharf there. The people have to go down to Wesleyville, where the Prospero called, for their freight. At times, when the weather was bad, they were unable to call down and then their goods were thrown out on the public wharf and occasionally remained

there for three or four days. Three years ago the people of Pool's Island applied for a grant of \$1,500; and I now think it my duty to see that a public wharf be placed there. For lack of it the business people of Pool's Island were considerably hampered and could not compete with those at neighboring places. They had to go five or six miles for their freight, leave their own work for a day, or pay two or three men for the hire of a boat when they do not own one themselves. Not only is it unfair to those business people, but also to any individuals who wish to board the mail boat. To be forced to row out in a small boat when the sea is rough and the wind blowing is decidedly dangerous. I have known women to go two and three miles in an open boat during rough weather to catch and board the mail boat, and in such a prosperous and growing place as Pool's Island this should not be. I think such a request from such a place should not have to be made twice, and I believe it is the Government's duty to see that the wharf is erected. I would refer the petition to the Fisheries Department, and would ask that it receive immediate consideration.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. SQUIRES—I ask leave to present a petition from Samuel Harris and 14 other inhabitants of New Melbourne, praying for the allocation of the sum of \$50 for repairs to a bridge and a road. Not only were these used by the inhabitants of New Melbourne, but also by those of Old Perlican, Red Head Cove, Bay de Verd, Island Cove and other places.

It was ordered that the petition be referred to the Department to which it related.

HON. MR. EMERSON—I ask leave to present a petition from W. R. Parsons and others of Combs Cove, in the district of Fortune Bay, for the construction of a new road in the vicinity of the Harbor about one-third of a mile in length. This work was very necessary, and later on when the monies would be allocated I will endeavour to meet the requirements of petitioners. Also, one from Philip Elford and others of Little Bay West, asking for the appointment for a separate Road Board for that place.

It was ordered that these petitions be referred to the Department of Public Works.

CAPT. WINSOR—I ask leave to present a petition from the residents of Cape Cove for a grant of \$50 for a road. At present there is nothing but a footpath. I feel sure that this petition is worthy of attention, as I myself had had an experience of this place.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

CAPT. WINSOR—I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Upper Hammer's Cove, for an allocation of a sum of money to repair a road in the western part of that cove. This road was built by the late Capt. Samuel Blandford when he first represented that district. Since that time practically no repairs had been done to that road. I am sure that my colleagues, Mr. Blandford and Mr. Morison, will second my statement in regard to this, as they and I had occasion to use it during the recent campaign.

I hope the matter will be attended to by the department to which it is referred.

I also present a petition from fishermen of Bonavista Bay, Notre Dame Bay, Trinity Bay and of many other parts of the Island of Newfoundland, for a small steamer to be placed on the extreme northern part of Labrador coast. I think this petition well worthy the consideration of all the members of the House. In my opinion it ought to have been placed there five or six years ago. The year before last I had been asked by hundreds of fishermen to use my influence with the Government to have this steamer placed there. I received a petition before leaving my home, signed by 4,000 persons, but I am sorry to say that in the hurry and bustle of getting away I forgot it and have been forced to get a new petition up and have it signed by many fishermen who are now in St. John's who, though not so numerous as those who had petitioned before, were still a representative body of all the districts in the Island.

From the middle of July to the end of September there are nearly 10,000 fishermen on that part of the coast. There is absolutely no communication of any sort with Newfoundland. They have practically no mail and no medical help, or help of any kind. The loss of a schooner means the loss of every cent of the summer's wages. The men and the skipper, if they are lucky enough to be saved from death, are stranded on the coast for the rest of the season, until their brother fishermen are returning from the fishery, and by whose kindness they get a passage home. Hon. members of the House have no conception whatever of the conditions under which these 10,000 fishermen labor during the

summer. In St. John's here there are all the comforts necessary and unnecessary. On the Northern Labrador there are absolutely no comforts of any kind.

The expense to the Colony of this boat would not be great. One of the numerous small whalers which are lying up here in St. John's could be hired at small cost and would do all the work that was necessary. The expenditure of four or five thousand dollars only would cover the cost. I think it the duty of every member of the House to see that a steamer is placed on that part of the coast during the coming summer. The fishermen of Northern Labrador were as much entitled to this steamer as those of the southern part. It might be said that those on the Southern Labrador were shore fishers. That was quite true. But was not the danger and the need of assistance greater when the fishery was prosecuted miles from the shore? One sick man in this region would often mean the loss of a summer's voyage. The skippers have to go anywhere from 50 to 200 miles in search of a doctor. The time taken to do this distance was hard to estimate; it depended on the wind and weather. The skipper and his ten men in most cases lose the whole value of the cruise owing to their inability to make headway against contrary winds.

Last year I entered a small port one evening and saw a man on the deck of his schooner looking as if he was in trouble. I boarded the schooner and the captain told me that he had a sick man. This man had taken ill just as they had begun to get fish. He had not caught any for the summer and just as he began to make a haul the man had taken ill and they had to leave the

ing grounds in search of a doc-
 It had taken them a fortnight
 go a hundred miles. The cap-
 had a large family to support
 owing to that one sick man he
 to lose his whole summer's fish-
 If a steamer had been on the
 st with a doctor that sick man
 ild have been attended to and, if
 ecessary, taken home, and the cap-
 of the schooner, with his ten
 n, would not be left without sup-
 t for the winter. I think that
 000 to accommodate these men
 ould be money well spent and I
 pe that the Department of Marine
 Fisheries will do everything in
 ir power to render this little as-
 tance to the fishermen of the
 ntry. I am sorry I have not the
 ginal petition with me to present,
 I believe it was the largest-signed
 ition presented for many years.

THE MINISTER OF MARINE &
 FISHERIES—I have the greatest
 pleasure in supporting the petition
 my hon. friend, Capt. Winsor.
 om experience I know that ever
 ce the fishermen have gone to the
 brador they have suffered from
 eat neglect. I am sure the people
 ve made a wise choice in placing
 is Government in power, a Govern-
 ent of the people, and that now
 eir wants and necessities will be
 tended to. Capt. Winsor has spok-
 as a man who has travelled the
 ast for some years and has seen
 nd experienced the sufferings inci-
 ental to the lives of the fishermen
 of the country. He was perfectly
 ight in saying that the fishermen
 ere neglected by those whose duty
 was to look after their interests.
 hese 10,000 men who every year
 rosecute the fishery on the Northern
 abrador were the backbone and the
 mainstay of the country and they had
 o put up with hardships and suffer-
 ng which no one else was able to

endure, and the time had come when
 their interests would be attended to.
 Mr. Winsor had mentioned the cost
 of this steam service. If the past
 Government has considered the cost
 of all the fads and fakes and fog
 free zone schemes which had been
 thrust upon the country of late years,
 the country would not be now in its
 present state. If the members had
 seen and experienced the hardships
 of the fishermen on the Labrador
 coast they would not consider the
 expense but send the steamer at all
 costs. I have great pleasure in sup-
 porting this petition and am prepar-
 ed to use my influence to see that
 the prayer of this petition is ac-
 ceded to, and that the extra steamer,
 so badly needed, is put on this
 coast. The people's money could not
 be spent in a wiser and better way
 than by providing for the fishermen
 some of those comforts which they
 had been badly in need of for years.

MR. SQUIRES—I am very pleased
 to give my support to this petition, so
 ably presented by Capt. Winsor. The
 cod fishery is the great water-wheel
 which has kept the machinery of
 governments of Newfoundland in mo-
 tion. I feel sure that any movement
 to improve the fishermen's lot, and
 to add ease and convenience to their
 hardy and dangerous career, would
 be well worthy the consideration and
 help from all parties in every part
 of Newfoundland.

MR. CLIFT—I am also very pleased
 to give my support to this petition.
 I am sorry Capt. Winsor has forgot-
 ten the original petition, which con-
 tained a very large number of
 names, and amongst them some of
 the constituents I have the honor to
 represent, and consequently I must
 support the petition, coming as it
 did from such a large number of
 people of Twillingate district. I do

not remember any similar petition within the last few years coming before the House, and it seems strange to me that if this great need has been felt for so long a petition has not found its way into the House before. If, as the hon. member said, there was a population of 10,000 fishermen north of Nain and no communication whatever during the summer, I think this should be remedied and steps taken to do whatever was necessary in the way of steamer accommodation, and in the way of affording the fishermen means of communication with their homes from the middle of June to the end of the season. I am surprised to hear the hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries speaking of money having been wasted upon what he was pleased to call the Fog Free Zone. I have heard a great deal about it during the last election. In my district, during the last two elections, everywhere I found the Opposition candidates speaking of extravagance, and of large sums of money having been expended in connection with the Fog Free Zone. Would the hon. member be surprised to know that, so far as I am aware, no monies have been expended by the late Government on the so-called Fog Free Zone. Everywhere I went in the district I was met with the reports that were circulated by opponents that the Bond Government had spent from \$75,000 to \$100,000 on the Fog Free Zone. I do not think the members could have informed themselves on the subject. The hon. member for St. John's West, the Prime Minister, could not substantiate such a statement. He was a member of the Government that had brought in the "Short Line Route," which received his support, and nobody knew better than he did that no money had been spent by the late Government on the Short

Line Route or the Fog Free Zone, and when the Minister of Marine and Fisheries rose in his place and solemnly stated that money has been expended on the Fog Free Zone he was making a statement which he must have known was incorrect. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition, and I hope that something will be done to meet the wishes and demands of the petitioners.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—I would like to say a word in supporting the petition before the House, presented by Capt. Winsor, in relation to the procuring of steam service north of Nain for the Labrador fishermen. I support the petition for the reason that such a service would be of great benefit to the fishermen and to the trade also. I might say for the information of the House that within the last week I discussed the question with Captain Winsor and had the benefit of his ripe experience in relation to the proposition. Following on that discussion it was decided to put the matter in the hands of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Mr. Piccott, as he was well acquainted with Labrador and the needs of the fishermen, and only last summer he was on the Labrador steamer, and therefore had an opportunity of observing and studying what the fishermen needed. Long ago the Government decided to have two boats in the Labrador service, and it was part of its policy, as outlined in the Manifesto and later in the Speech from the Throne. My learned friend, Mr. Clift, incidentally referred to the Fog Free Zone scheme, and as he appealed to me, it is only fair that I should not allow him to go uncorrected. Mr. Clift complained of Mr. Piccott's reference to this and other fakes, but Sir

Robert Bond's policy always led to ill-o'-the-wisp schemes. Mr. Piccott went too far, however, when he said money had been wasted on the Bog Free Zone scheme, but I do not believe that Mr. Piccott meant that money was actually disbursed; rather he meant that the Bond Government had wasted much time and energy on these fake matters which might have been devoted to bettering the conditions of the fishermen. It is true that no money has been spent, but this House was pledged to a contract which guaranteed a subsidy of \$5,000 for twenty years, should the scheme materialize. I did not oppose the contract when it was before the House, but I did state that I believed it was too good to be true. My statement is on record. I did not oppose it when it was introduced four years ago, because I considered it would not be fair to the country to oppose any scheme that might benefit the country. I hope the day will come when we will have a 25-knot mail service with England, a railway across the country in the north, and 25-knot boats from the other side of the Island to Gaspe, and trains waiting there to take people to all parts of America; and when the day came to tunnel across the straits of Belle Isle, and all the other things were accomplished that have been promised, I would be glad to vote \$75,000 towards the carrying out of the object and, as far as the Government was concerned, it would be carried out. It would not interfere with Mr. Thomson or Ochs and others in carrying out their scheme, but rather would give it support. That the Minister of Marine and Fisheries meant to say was that the country was pledged to spend, and not that the country had spent, money on this project. I have seen references to it in the newspapers, if

I am not mistaken, and heard statements made, but it is too late now to bring them up. During the excitement of an election campaign statements are published in the news papers and made on the platforms which could not be called exactly correct, and which in other and quieter times would not be said. I would call the attention of the House to a statement in to-day's Telegram, which was an illustration of this and which I will read. It is as follows:

"SIR E. P. MORRIS—

"A RETRACTION.

"In the Evening Telegram newspaper of April 23rd, 1909, we published a fictitious interview between Mr. W. D. Reid and a reporter of an imaginary paper, called the Montreal Octopus, in the course of which we charged that Sir Edward Morris, when a member of the Executive Council of this Colony, corruptly and dishonestly acted in the preparation of the Railway Contract of 1901 against the interests of the Government, and so as to give improper advantages to the Reids; and also as counsel for the Government in the Telegraph Arbitration he corruptly and dishonestly acted in the interest of the Reids, against those of his client the Government; and also that he was committing bribery for the purpose of winning the election then pending, and intended to plunge the Colony into debt, with the object of driving it into Confederation and other similar scandalous charges.

"In consequence to the publication of the defamatory matter, and of another libelous attack on him, contained in the same issue, Sir Edward Morris has instituted pro-

“ceedings at law for libel against
“the proprietor of this paper.

“We desire to make most ample
“apology for the publication of these
“charges, and to state that the
“said charges were absolutely base-
“less, and were made without any
“shadow of justification whatever,
“except such as may be found in the
“heated passion of a political cam-
“paign. We unreservedly withdraw
“all the imputations contained in the
“said publication upon Sir Edward
“Morris, and we undertake to pub-
“lish this apology, and to pay his
“costs of both actions as between
“solicitor and client in consideration
“of the proceedings being with-
“drawn.”

My only object in reading this article is to show how things will appear in the papers during election campaigns.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I ask leave to present a petition from the Rev. John Reay and the Rev. Father Battcock, of Whitbourne, and from the inhabitants of Bellevue and Collier's Bay Cove. The petitioners point out that a new piece of road, about three miles in length, is badly needed between Collier's Bay Cove and the Norman's Cove Road, as the old path, which was cut many years since, is now overgrown with vegetation, and the bridges are in a very bad condition, making travelling both wearisome and dangerous. The proposed new piece of road, by taking a direct course, will reduce the distance between the places referred to, from seven to five and one-half miles. It would also form part of the main line around the head of Trinity Bay,

and would, when the proposed bridge was built at Bellevue, make horse-back and wheeled traffic possible, without interruption as far as Chance Cove and Rantem. The old road, bad as it was, was much used, especially when boating was impracticable. Petitioners ask for a sum of money for the construction of the new piece of road, which would include a bridge of considerable size over Collier's Bay Brook. I ask for this petition to be referred to the Department of Public Works and I hope that the Government may be able, ere long, to meet the views of the petitioners. The prayer of this petition has my warm support.

MR. SQUIRES—I also support the petition. Those who have had an opportunity of travelling the road referred to, on foot, will realize that a few dollars well spent would be a great boon to the people.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the total amount expended on account of shipwrecked crews from June 30th, 1908, to March 1st, 1909; also a detailed statement of the expenditure on same account from March 1st to present date.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY replied that this report is still in course of preparation.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of the expenses in connection with the recent election in the electoral district of Twillingate.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY tabled the statement asked for.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Minister of Justice whether the subject of the exercise of the prerogative of mercy in the case of A. W. Bishop, of Western Bay, recently convicted of assault on Sir Robert Bond, was considered by his department; whether he obtained a report from the convicting Magistrate; and to lay upon the table of the House copy of all papers relating thereto, including petition, report of Magistrate, and notes of evidence taken by the Magistrate; and of the report, if any, of his department on said case.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE replied that the petition was considered by the Department of Justice, the report was obtained from the Magistrate, and he laid on the table all papers in connection with the case.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary whether the subject of the exercise of the prerogative of mercy in the case of A. W. Bishop, of Western Bay, recently convicted of assault upon Sir Robert Bond, was considered by the Hon. the Executive Council, whether the said Council reached any decision thereon, and what said decision was; and whether any Minute of Council was made on the subject; and, if so, to table copy of such Minute.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—The answer to the first part of hon. member's question is in the affirmative. The Council considered the petition, which was signed by some hundreds of residents of Bay de Verde; also the report of the Magistrate who convicted the prisoner; also the report of the Attorney General, together with the fact that the prisoner had served one month, has a wife and three young child-

ren, and was a Labrador fisherman, and if kept longer in gaol would lose his summer; also, the fact that the prisoner was denied the advantage of counsel at his trial, and that the sentence was out of all proportion to the offence. The decision reached was to liberate the prisoner. The Minute of Council is herewith tabled.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. the Premier the name of the person who compiles the synopsis of public messages which are sent to the various telegraph offices throughout the Colony, and what remuneration is paid to such person for said services; also, if any other person was previously employed in said work and what remuneration, if any, was paid to him.

THE HON. THE PREMIER—Mr. P. T. McGrath, Editor of the Chronicle, is the compiler; no amount had yet been paid him, though he will receive a trifling sum for his services. No other person had at any time been employed in this work.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines if any horses or cattle have been imported for use at the Experimental Farm; and, if so, (1) to lay upon the table of the House a statement showing the cost of each animal; (2) the cost of transportation of such animals; (3) the name of the person or persons who selected the animals; (4) from whom they were purchased; (5) a statement of the expenses incurred and the remuneration paid to the person or persons who purchased said animals; and (6) if any monies are now due or payable on account of said purchases or expenses in connection therewith.

THE HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINES tabled the information asked for.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the statement of the expenses in connection with the smallpox epidemic on West Coast, as desired by Mr. Moulton, and asked that it be forwarded to the hon. member.

MR. CLIFT asked the Minister of Public Works if the information in reference to the expenditure in Harbor Main was ready yet.

THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS replied that the statements were being prepared and he would lay them on the table when completed.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Premier if the permission of the Governor had been received to table the correspondence he had asked for.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER replied that no permission was yet received. He had written the Governor, but had received no reply.

COMMITTEE OF WHOLE ON EDUCATION RESOLUTIONS.

Pursuant to notice, and on motion of the Hon. the Prime Minister, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the subject of Resolutions regarding Education.

MR. SPEAKER left the Chair.

MR. PARSONS took the Chair of Committee.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—In submitting these Resolutions on Education to the House, I merely desire the Committee to get an idea to-day of what was meant, as there would be an opportunity for a fuller discussion later. There were three resolutions, involving \$30,000 as an additional vote for Education. That was not to be regarded in any way as a measure of the desire of the Government to augment the present

vote for Education. The Government were compelled to "cut their garment according to their cloth," and bright as the prospects for future revenues might be, they did not consider themselves warranted in asking the House for a larger sum than \$30,000 at the present time. They had had representations and memorials from many of the educational bodies in the country, and had had the advantage and benefit of discussing the whole Education question with the Superintendents of Education and, as at present advised, they offered these Resolutions to the House, believing that they would meet the approval of the House and the approval of the whole country. Between now and next session the Government would still further consider the important question of Education, and when they met again next year, it was hoped that a still larger vote, or if not a larger vote, at least a sum quite equal to that given at present, if warranted by the revenue, would be voted for Education.

The present \$30,000, as you will see from the three resolutions, was to be spent under three heads. First, there was a sum of \$6,000 for what was termed destitute places; that is, places where there were no schools. At present, under the Education vote of \$260,000, there was a vote of \$20,000 for these destitute places, places where there were no schools at all, where the children were running wild without Education, without schooling. It was hoped that by means of the additional \$6,000 placed in the hands of the various religious bodies of the country, and under the directions of the various Superintendents of Education, the blessings and advantages of Education would be brought home, to some extent at least, to those at

present suffering from that want. They should remember that very important fact that every child in Newfoundland was entitled to be educated, no matter how poor the child was, no matter how remote the settlement might be from St. John's. It was quite true that no Government would be expected to follow every child or every parent of every child out on every rock or cape or into the interior where he might choose to settle but wherever there was a settlement, wherever there were communities to justify the establishment of a school, that school ought to be there. Strong as I am in favor of Higher Education and the Council of Higher Education, and the splendid work that body was doing, we have to be just before we are generous and we want to be able to say at least before the present Parliament expires, that we have placed within the reach of every child in Newfoundland, whose parents were to-day paying for Education, the blessings and advantages of going to school. We do not claim that the present grant is going to put a school in every settlement where there is not one to-day, or that it would enable every child to go to school; we only claim that it is a recognition of what was due to them and what they were entitled to and in that way we have allocated \$6,000, which would enable \$26,000 to be spent in that direction.

The next amount voted by the resolutions was \$20,000 to augment or increase teachers' salaries. That whole sum would go to the increasing of the teachers' salaries according to their grades. The method would be settled by the superintendents and under Section 6 of the Education Act, and it would be an addition to the sum of \$52,000 already voted for that purpose. The object of the Government was to raise gradually teachers' salaries to such an

extent that they would regard themselves as being fairly and justly dealt with and given a living wage for the work they performed. If we take up the school reports from all the Inspectors every year we see the same story about the awful drain that is going on from the teachers' ranks; they could not keep the men or the ladies in the profession, as they left the schools and went into offices as clerks or typewriters, for the reason that they were better paid for the work they performed. Those in the House who had an opportunity of meeting the teachers when here to the convention last summer must have been struck with the splendid army, both of gentlemen and ladies, in the profession in Newfoundland, all highly intelligent, of splendid moral character, and only too willing and ready to devote their lives to the teaching profession if given sufficient salary to keep body and soul together. When we know that to teachers who have been thirty years in the profession, the Legislature seriously voted \$150 to \$160 a year, and in some cases less, we can understand how difficult it is to induce such teachers to remain in the profession and not to seek other callings where their work is better remunerated. We hope, gradually, by giving a small amount every year and by the knowledge that the teachers would have that such was going to be done, to retain them in the profession, so that they would not merely go into the training schools and serve an apprenticeship for several years at learning to teach and then only serve two years or so teaching, but would take it up as a lasting profession. In other words, when a person went to Bishop Feild College, Methodist College or St. Bonaventure's College, and when the Col-

ony paid for their education there for two or three years, that they would become teachers in the true sense of the word, they were not taxing themselves to pay for these persons' education and have them teachers for a year or two and then become lawyers, doctors or anything else, nor to have them go to Canada or to the United States; but if they were not paid well they could not be expected to remain in the profession. In what way could the taxes of the Colony be spent more equitably or justly than in paying the teachers? It was not as if they were keeping up a standing army or a navy, where the advantage or benefit to be derived was remote and only direct, but here the people got the benefit.

The people were asked for taxes, and the taxes were given to the teachers to teach the people's children, and the taxes could not be better spent. The man or the girl who went into the world without education went into it maimed; they might just as well have lost an eye or a limb. We are going to make an honest effort, and I feel that the whole Legislature will combine with the Government year after year in augmenting the present salaries paid to the teachers.

The other resolution covers a vote of \$4,000 to pay the interest on the sum of \$100,000 which it is proposed to expend or to enable the boards to expend in the building of public school houses all over the Island. We propose to vote \$4,000 annually, as an interest charge on the sum of \$100,000. The boards could borrow \$100,000 and put up 150 new schools in Newfoundland immediately; let them burn many of the hovels in which the children now go to school; burn those shacks which keep out

neither the rain nor the snow, and put up well-ventilated and well-lighted schools, built on proper hygienic principles. That was the way to fight tuberculosis and make the children strong and healthy. \$100,000 would enable the boards all over the island to put up 150 new schools at about \$700 each, and I am satisfied from my knowledge of the people of the country, especially in the out-ports, that there will be subscriptions and contributions which will enable the boards to put up not 150, but 200, new schools for that sum.

There are many other votes I would like to see in the resolutions for the other departments of education, which were calling out for more grants and starving for the need of those, but the Government did not feel warranted at present, in view of the Colony's financial position, in asking the Legislature for a larger sum. As I have said at the opening of this speech, this is not the measure of what we would like to do, but it is the most we could do, and we have applied it to the three heads which we considered in most need. I do not need to dwell further on the matter, and would ask the Committee to pass the resolutions now; and afterwards, when they came before the House in the form of a bill, if it was desirable, we could have a further discussion of the matter.

MR. KENT—I would like to know if it is intended to vote the resolutions through then.

HON. THE PREMIER—No.

MR. SPEAKER left the Chair.

MR. PARSONS took the Chair of Committee.

MR. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the

matter to them referred and made some progress, and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered, that the report be received and that the Committee have leave to sit again on to-morrow.

On motion, the Bill respecting certain Retiring Allowances was read a third time and ordered to be engrossed and sent to the Legislative Council for concurrence.

COMMITTEE OF WHOLE ON BOARD OF TRADE BILL.

Pursuant to order, and on motion of the Hon. the Prime Minister, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the Bill entitled "An Act to Incorporate the Newfoundland Board of Trade, and for other purposes."

MR. SPEAKER left the Chair.

MR. PARSONS took the Chair of Committee.

MR. CLIFT—Before the Bill passes the Committee stage I would like to make a few remarks in relation to its general principles. I am heartily in accord with the measure and think it is a great pity that the mercantile men and others in the community, interested so largely in the price of the commercial products of the country, have not been able to bring about such a measure before. We all remember the days of what was called the old "Commercial Room." That was intended to be a sort of a Board of Trade, but from my recollection of it, it never performed many of the real duties which appertained to a regular Board of Trade and I have often wondered why those interested in the commerce of the country have not endeavoured to establish a Board of Trade on the basis of which it would be established under the new Act. I hope that it will in its usefulness

exceed the anticipations of those interested in its formation. The very smallest towns in Canada and the States had their Board of Trade meetings at regular periods, for the purpose of acquiring information and knowledge, statistical and otherwise, in order to improve the conditions and surroundings, and supply those engaged in trade with everything possible to be ascertained in connection with the various industries from which they earned their livelihood. There was great scope in this country for a Board of Trade. Outside of the staple industry—the fisheries—there were in operation several large industries which would benefit to a great extent by reason of the information such a body could gather together. I hope that when the Board of Trade assemble they will make such rules and regulations for its governance as would put its doings beyond peradventure and make it the success we all expect it would be. They would require an official to act as secretary, who should be well posted in the work he has to perform. I think that whoever is appointed in the office of Secretary of the Board of Trade should be sent away for a time, say to Montreal, where he could get in touch with the Secretary of the Board at that place and where he would be initiated, so to speak, into the work of the management of such an organization as this promised to be. The members know what the Board of Trade of Montreal has done for that city and they are also aware of the fact that it is one of the most up-to-date in the world. The proposed Secretary could not do better than to get in touch with its Secretary and find out exactly what his duties were and benefit by his experience.

I was pleased when it was stated by the Hon. the Premier a

few days ago, when he introduced the Bill, that it was free entirely from any political tinge. I was more than pleased, because I remembered that when the Hon. the Premier first started this movement the meeting was held in the Executive Chamber and the Premier and his colleagues in the Executive were present at it. By reason of it being held there, many thought that there was a political move at the bottom of it. A political tinge would most certainly be detrimental to the future usefulness of the Board, and while it might appear that it was baptized in political waters, I hope that in the future it would be looked upon as a Board of Trade composed of persons not influenced by party politics.

I was pleased to notice that all shades of politics were represented in the list of those persons whose names were to be incorporated in the Bill and I am confident that the House might rest assured that in the future operations of the Board, party politics would play no part. Once party politics enter into it, its usefulness, to a large extent, would be destroyed. I wish it every success and hope that it will realize all that was anticipated of it and that it will bring about all the good that the House desired to be. I trust that its management would fall into the hands of some energetic Secretary, for on his efforts and the efforts of the President the success of the Board largely depends. The Secretary would be the man most responsible for the success of the Board and I hope that in the selection of a man to fill that office they would choose one who would not only do justice and honour to the Board, but would also bring about that success that all hoped for.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER
—I rise merely to say a word or two in reply to the remarks of the hon. member for Twillingate and to congratulate him on the proper way in which he had reviewed the Bill. It was a matter of congratulation that the Bill had met with the unanimous support of all, not only in the House, but also outside of it. It was a matter of congratulation that there was no party politics brought into the Bill. So far as the Government was concerned, it did not claim any credit. As to the initial meeting which the hon. member for Twillingate had referred to, I convened it to add prestige to the movement and to give it that support which was in the power of the Government to give. I was anxious at that time that those who had taken the matter up could feel that the Government was behind them and would help them out. The future operation of the Board was entirely for the gentlemen in it to decide upon. There were as many people on one side of politics in the Board as there were on the other, and it would certainly be a misfortune if the Board were tinged with party politics. There had been persons who had refrained from attending the first meetings because they had thought that it was a political dodge. I could speak with authority on that point, because I interviewed many of them and told them that there was no politics in the matter at all. Why I had moved in the matter was that, with the policy which it was the intention of the Government to carry out, it was absolutely necessary that there should be some Board or advisory body of some kind to whom the Government could go for advice on the fisheries, the import trade and export trade of the Colony, and on

many other matters. At the present time there was nobody to whom the Government could look for assistance or advice. One said we should have a cull on the Labrador; another said it would be impossible to have it. It was so impossible to obtain an agreement, that this Board had been started. I feel sure that its work will result in much good to the whole country and especially to the fishermen, whose product should, in my opinion, be on a more certain basis like the produce of other countries. As I have said, I am sure that great good would result from the Board and I am pleased that the Bill has met with such unanimous favor.

MR. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred and passed the same with some amendments.

Ordered, that this report be received, and that the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

COMMITTEE OF WHOLE ON LOAN BILL.

Pursuant to order, and on motion of the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the Bill entitled, "An Act for raising a sum of money by loan for the Public Services of the Colony."

MR. SPEAKER left the Chair.

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS—For the information of the members of the Opposition, I have drawn up the following statement, which I will read to the House :

Supplemental Supply	\$154,000.00
Less Education Augmentation	6,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$148,000.00
Add Audit Act, Sec. 33 (b) expenditure not required to go into Supplemental, represented by overdraft on General Contingencies, \$15,000; Roads, \$5,000	20,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$168,000.00
Add \$2,000 for Musgrave Hr. breakwater promised the Commissioner in Sept., 1908, and consequently a liability on the Colony	2,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$170,000.00
Deduct dropped balances, say	15,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$155,000.00

MR. SHEA—Might I ask if the \$100,000 loan for the Municipal Council is to pay back a loan already made or is it a new loan?

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS—The loan is for the payment of an amount due to the Royal Bank of Canada.

MR. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred and passed the Bill without amendment.

Ordered, that this report be received and that the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

The remaining orders of the day were deferred.

DOCUMENTS TABLED.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER laid upon the table of the House:

Copy of the agreement with the United States for submitting to arbitration the question of the North Atlantic Fisheries, signed at Washington, January, 1909;

Report of the Commission of Internal Economy of the Legislature for the present session.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER gave notice that he would on to-morrow move the suspension of the Rules of the House in relation to all matters now before the House.

NOTICE OF QUESTIONS.

MR. WINSOR gave notice that on to-morrow he would ask the Hon. Minister of Justice to lay on the table of the House the report of Mail and Passenger Service on Labrador and other matters submitted by the late Inspector General McCowen to the Governor in Council in the year 1906 or 1907.

MR. KENT gave notice that on to-morrow he would ask the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs to lay upon the table of the House a statement showing the total Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony for the eight months, beginning July 1, 1908, and ending February 28, 1909, both inclusive.

MR. CLIFT gave notice that on to-morrow he would ask the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines if Mr. J. B. Sclater had been removed from the office held by him in the Department of Agriculture and Mines; and also to state fully what duties have been assigned to Mr. Simms, his successor in said office.

MR. CLIFT gave notice that on to-morrow he would ask the Hon. Colonial Secretary if any contract has been made or entered into for an additional steamer for the Labrador ser-

vice; if so, to state what steamer has been chartered, and at what subsidy per trip.

MR. CLIFT gave notice that on to-morrow he would ask the Hon. Colonial Secretary if the Lighthouse Keeper at White Point, Indian Tickle, Labrador, has been removed from his office; and, if so, to state the reason why he has been so removed, and who has been appointed in his place.

MR. CLIFT gave notice that on to-morrow he would ask the Hon. Colonial Secretary if all the pamphlets forwarded to the constituencies during the recent campaign by the present party in power were stamped before being posted; and, if so, to lay on the table of the House a certificate from the Postmaster General to that effect.

MR. GEAR gave notice that on to-morrow he would ask the Hon. the Leader of the Government if it is the intention of the Government to continue the County Council system in Burin District.

On motion, the House adjourned till to-morrow, Tuesday, June 8th, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

TUESDAY, June 8th, 1909.

The House met at three o'clock in the afternoon, pursuant to adjournment.

Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Bond, one of the members returned for the District of Twillingate, and John R. Bennett, Esq., one of the members returned for the District of St. John's West, having made and subscribed the Oath of Allegiance before Hon. Sir E. D. Shea, one of His Excellency's Commissioners appointed for the purpose of administering the same, took their seats.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND—I ask leave to present a petition from Joshua Mills and others, of Lewisporte, on the subject of the protection of the interests of those engaged in mining and lumbering in this Colony. The petition pointed out the very great hardships endured by men on Pilley's Island and asked that some means may be devised by which miners may be protected in their work. I would be sorry to see any legislation enacted to restrict the enterprise on the part of those engaged in mining and lumbering, but it was entirely proper that some well-thought-out scheme should be introduced for the protection of our laborers, especially in the case of foreign companies coming into the country. I suppose it is too late to move in the matter now. I hear that the Hon. the Prime Minister is going to move the suspension of the Rules of the House and take it that it is not his intention to introduce new legislation this session. I hope the Premier and his colleagues will take this matter into their consideration during the recess and be able to devise some legislation to meet the just complaints as set forth by the petition.

I also ask leave, now, to present a petition from Samuel Parsons and others, of Lush's Bight, upon the same subject. Also, a petition from the residents of Springdale upon the same subject. Also, a petition from John G. Wheeler and others, of Bear's Cove and Jacksonville, on the same subject.

I also ask leave to present a petition from the residents of Pilley's Island, praying for a grant of \$1,000 for the purpose of completing a wharf. I and my colleagues had the pleasure some three years ago of

allocating a sum of \$500 for this work. The money was creditably expended and the site was suitable, but owing to the shallowness of the water it was found that a large sum was required to complete it. I trust that out of such money as may be allocated by the House for the District of Twillingate a sum will be put aside for the purpose of continuing the work. If it were impossible to spend the whole sum in one year, then \$250 could be devoted to this work, and if continued for four years the required extension would be made.

I also present a petition from Malcolm Simms and others, of Sunnyside, Herring Neck, asking for the allocation of \$100 for the sinking of a well. At present there is no public water supply and the inhabitants are dependent on the graciousness of their neighbours. Also, a petition from Thomas Wells and others, of Little Bay and St. Patrick's, for the allocation of \$400 for repairs to the public wharf, which is at present in a deplorable state. Also, one from James Fudge, of Great Troytown, for the sum of \$500 for the purpose of erecting a public wharf. There is no wharf at the place and at present the public are at the mercy of private owners of wharves. Also, one from Samuel White and others, of Indian Burying Place, for an allocation for the erection of two bridges that are badly needed in that place. Also, one from Robert Young and others, of Wild Bight, on the subject of mining. Also, a petition from Francis Fudge and others, of Dark Tickle, for a grant of \$40 for the purpose of erecting a set of steps up from the shore. I know the locality very well and can assure the House of the absolute necessity for carrying out this work. Also, a petition from John Roberts and others, of Card's

Harbor, for an allocation of \$400 for the completion of the road between Card's Harbor and Pilley's Island. The inhabitants of Card's Harbor have for some years past found employment at Pilley's Island, and the connecting road or path passed through a very rocky stretch of country. The representatives had done what was in their power to facilitate the means of transit, but it was very necessary to provide money to finish the road.

I ask leave to present another petition from Joshua Barnes and others, of Southern Arm, District of Twillingate, for the allocation of \$100 to construct a road between Southern Arm and Wild Bight. This would connect the school and the church and would probably become part of the great northern mail route. I have another petition from John Batts and others, of Western Arm, praying to have the name of Bear's Cove changed to Silverdale. This name would be appropriate, as there was a silver mine in operation at Bear's Cove for the last two years. It is one of the most picturesque places in the district. The locality was as thrifty as any in the district and the people took great interest in their surroundings. I hope that there will be no objection to the change. Also, a petition from Ambrose Hill, of Kite Cove, for an allocation of \$200 for the construction of a landing place in that locality. Also, a petition from J. A. Wheeler and others, of Farmer's Arm, for a grant of \$500 for the construction of a bridge at Shoal Tickle. This is an important place, as it connects Lewisporte and Twillingate and is the highway between these two important centres.

I trust that these petitions will be referred to the various departments to which they relate.

MR. CLIFT—I have great pleasure in supporting the petitions presented by my hon. friend and colleague, Sir Robert Bond. I am personally acquainted with the various localities mentioned in the petitions and endorse their claims for consideration.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—I wish to say a word or two in regard to the petition relating to the mines. At the beginning of the session a petition much to the same effect was brought forward by Mr. Clift and received the unanimous support of the whole House. It is the intention of the Government to take up the question during the recess. Not only would the question of a lien on the wage be considered, but also some scheme would be devised by which miners would be paid their wages weekly. I am glad to see that the Government is to have the support of the members on the opposite side of the House in this matter.

It was ordered that the petitions be received and referred to the departments to which they relate.

CAPT. WINSOR—I ask leave to present a petition from William Griffin and others, near Bonavista, for an allocation of \$100 for the building of a road from the main line to their farms. I know the locality very well. I was there last spring. There are from 15 to 20 families farming in the locality. The distance to the main line is about a quarter of a mile. The road would be a great benefit to the inhabitants. I also present a petition from South West Island, Pool's Island for an allocation of \$200 to build a bridge to connect with the main land. There are some 12 to 15 families residing there and they are greatly handicapped for the want of this means of communication with the mainland. There is no school on

the Island and the children have to be rowed across to the mainland every day. This is a heavy task, and sometimes a very dangerous one, while there are many days they are unable to cross at all. The building of the bridge asked for would be a great blessing. I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition.

It was ordered that the petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. MORRIS—I beg leave to present a petition from Point Verde, Placentia, asking for \$100 to continue the road leading to the main line. The road has already been partially built. It is a road which, when done would be a great advantage to Point Verde, connecting as it did, with some fine agricultural land. The people of Point Verde are strictly agricultural people. Their main support is farming. They have some very fine farms and grow very fine produce, and the road, when finished, will be a great service to them. Point Verde is only one and one-half miles from Placentia, and yet with regard to road, telegraph or train it might be fifty miles away. I hope that this money will be allocated.

MR. DEVEREUX—I heartily support the petition. I think the road very necessary.

MR. HOWLEY—I also support the petition and think that when the road is completed it will be a decided boon to the people.

It was ordered that the petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

HON. MR. EMERSON—I ask leave to present a petition from Thomas Garland and others, of Gaultois, praying for a sum of money to repair a road. The necessity for granting this

money is very urgent, and an allocation of a sum of about \$200 will do all that is necessary at the present time. I beg to support the prayer of the petition.

It was ordered that the petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. KENT—I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Flatrock, for an allocation to construct a launchway. This is very necessary. The means of landing are very poor at present. A well-built launchway would be a great boon. For some time it has been the custom to build a temporary launchway each year, and this meant an annual output from the allocations. I think that a permanent one would save considerable expense. I wish the petition to be referred to the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

MR. DWYER—I support the petition.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I ask leave to present a petition from Samuel Martin and others, of Little Heart's Ease, District of Trinity, asking that a ferry be placed on the harbor for the convenience of the residents. Little Heart's Ease is a very beautiful and picturesque settlement, the houses being dotted around a long arm of water, and anyone who has visited the place can well understand how greatly a ferry service would be appreciated. I give the petition my hearty support and ask that it be referred to the Department of Public Works.

MR. SQUIRES—I warmly support the petition. I am well acquainted with Little Heart's Ease and this

ferry is an immediate necessity. I hope the department will consider the petition and that something will be done.

It was ordered that the petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

DOCUMENTS TABLED.

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS laid upon the table of the House—

Statement of Customs Revenue collected in the Colony during the year ended June, 1908;

Statement of the Imports and Exports of the Colony for the year ended June 30th, 1908;

Comparative statement of goods, wares and merchandise imported into the Colony during the years ended June 30th, 1907, and June 30th, 1908, showing increase and decrease for year 1907-08;

Comparative statement of Revenue received at each of the outports for the year 1906-07 and 1907-08;

Return of the Bank Fishery for the year ended June 30th, 1908;

Statement showing the revenue collected on goods, wares and merchandise imported through the Post Office;

Statement showing the movements of shipping during the year ended June 30th, 1908;

Abstract of shipping for the year ended December 31st, 1908

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

MR. WINSOR asked the Hon. Minister of Justice to lay on the table of the House the report of mail and passenger service on Labrador, and other matters submitted by the late

Inspector General McCowen to the Governor in Council, in the year 1906 or 1907.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER, in the absence of the Hon. Minister of Justice, stated that the report would be laid on the table tomorrow.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Minister of Finance to lay upon the table of the House a statement showing the total Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony for the eight months beginning July 1st, 1908, and ending February 28th, 1909, both inclusive.

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE replied that the statement was in course of preparation.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines why Mr. J. B. Sclater had been removed from the office held by him in the Department of Agriculture and Mines; also to state fully what duties have been assigned to Mr. Simms, his successor in said office.

THE HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINES—It is not usual to state why Government officials are removed from office. Mr. Simms has the same duties to perform as Mr. Sclater.

MR. CLIFT—That does not answer my question. The Hon. Minister has not told what duties Mr. Simms has to perform.

THE HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINES—I am of the opinion that Mr. Clift, as the last Minister of Agriculture and Mines, ought to be better acquainted with these duties than I am.

MR. CLIFT—My private knowledge has nothing to do with the matter. I wish Mr. Blandford to tell the House what these duties are.

THE HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINES—Mr. Simms' duties are those of Secretary to the Board of Agriculture.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary if any contract has been made or entered into for an additional steamer for the Labrador service; if so, to state what steamer has been chartered and of what subsidy per trip.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—There is no contract. The Ss Labrador has been chartered at \$110 per day.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary if the Lighthouse Keeper at White Point, Indian Tickle, Labrador, had been removed from office; and, if so, to state the reason why he has been so removed and who has been appointed in his place.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—The Lighthouse Keeper has been removed. It is not usual to state the reason for removal. Mr. Samuel Watson has been appointed to the vacancy.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary if all the pamphlets forwarded to the constituencies during the recent campaign by the present party in power were stamped before being posted; and, if so, to lay on the table of the House a certificate from the Postmaster General to that effect.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—There have been no pamphlets sent by the party now in power, consequently there were none stamped.

MR. GEAR asked the Hon. Leader of the Government if it is the intention of the Government to continue the County Council system in Burin District.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—I have had no intimation that there is going to be any change.

BILLS PASSED.

Pursuant to order, and on motion of the Hon. the Prime Minister, the Bill entitled "An Act to Incorporate the Newfoundland Board of Trade and for other purposes" was read a third time and passed, and it was ordered that it be engrossed, being entitled as above, and sent to the Legislative Council, with a message requesting the concurrence of that body in its provisions.

Pursuant to order, and on motion of the Hon. the Prime Minister, the Bill entitled "An Act to provide for the raising of a sum of money by loan for the Public Services of the Colony" was read a third time and passed, and it was ordered that it be engrossed, being entitled as above, and that it be sent to the Legislative Council, with a message requesting the concurrence of that body in its provisions.

SUSPENSION OF RULES.

Pursuant to notice, and on motion of the Hon. the Prime Minister, it was ordered that the Rules be suspended in relation to all matters now before the House.

BUDGET SPEECH.

Motion for Committee of Whole on Ways and Means.

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—Mr. Speaker, pursuant to notice given, I beg leave to move that this House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the Ways and Means for raising the Supply to be granted to His Majesty. In doing so I bespeak the indulgence of the House, always generously extended

to one making his first financial pronouncement, while I lay before it the statement of the Colony's fiscal affairs.

This first Budget of mine is not as full and complete as I could desire it to be. It suffers from the fact that, since our assumption of office, we have been faced with conditions which have made it impossible to give to the study of our financial situation that full attention which it calls for. As the House and the country will remember, the present Ministry assumed office on the 3rd of March. During that month we had to deal with the problems arising out of the deadlock then existing, and which brought about frequent prorogations of the Legislature elected in November, and such uncertainty and political instability as made impossible any continued consideration of the problems of Government. Early in April that Legislature was dissolved and a new general election ordered. This sent us into the field in our various districts for another month and, since our return, the multitude of duties pressing upon a new Ministry have encroached heavily on our time. After this session has closed, however, there will, I trust, be a cessation from political excitement; and when next the House meets I hope to lay before it a more complete and enlightening statement of how the Colony stands financially.

As our fiscal year now expires at mid-summer, or on the 30th of June, annually, the presentation of the Budget each session calls for a consideration of the financial operations of three annual periods, namely, a complete review of the year that has ended, an approximately complete statement for the year that is in progress, and an estimate for the year that is to come, and for which ap-

propriations and supplies are to be invited from the Legislature at the session then in progress.

I propose to first deal briefly with the facts of each year and then to analyze the details at greater length.

For the fiscal year which ended on the 30th day of June last, or practically twelve months ago, the revenue was \$2,829,018.79, while the expenditure was \$2,785,835.34, leaving a surplus of \$43,183.45. This surplus, though, was more apparent than real, because, while it would appear to have been realized, the late Government had undertaken large expenditures in the completion of the Museum and the Hospital, which would more than swallow up this surplus and a substantial sum in addition. We propose to utilize this surplus to pay the cost of the second general election, estimated at \$35,000, and to add the balance, some \$8,000, to the Surplus Trust Fund, for the carrying out of various public works throughout the country.

For the current fiscal year, which will end on the 30th of the present month, a revised estimate of the revenue, made yesterday in the light of the figures of the Customs receipts, swollen by the duties paid on the most recent importations, shows \$2,808,689. The estimated expenditure is \$2,963,600, and the estimate deficit \$154,911.

The present Government are not responsible for one dollar of this deficit. All the expenditures which go to make it up were caused by the late Administration. These expenditures are represented by the overdrafts, for which Supplemental Supply was obtained last week from this House. They were made by our predecessors, without any legislative authority, without any vote or enact-

ment, and were initiated between July last and polling day in November.

The items of Supplemental Supply are already before you, in printed form, so I shall not trouble to read them to you.

For the coming fiscal year, beginning on July 1st, I estimate the revenue to be \$3,000,000, and the expenditure to be \$2,972,000, which will include not alone the regular estimates, but supplementary estimates of \$30,000 for Education, \$4,000 for Tuberculosis, \$3,000 for Preliminary Surveys for the proposed new Branch Railways and \$15,000 towards Harbor Grace Public Building, leaving a surplus of \$28,000. Seeing that, in spite of the depression from which the Colony has suffered the past twelve months, the Customs Revenue has almost maintained itself, and looking at the fact that for the past decade the total revenue has shown an average annual increase of \$120,000, I consider myself justified in concluding that the natural rebound after a period of depression, stimulated as it has been by a good seal fishery and the prospect of a better price for cod, will bring about a very large increase during the coming twelve months.

The outgoing Administration left us a legacy of financial obligation, involved in the expenditure by them of large sums on various public works and services, on what is known as Executive Responsibility. As they had undertaken to provide for the liquidating of these obligations by means of a Loan Bill, by placing in the printed estimates which they had prepared for the Legislature, a sum to pay the interest on the same, though they had apparently shrunk from taking this step in the session before the election; and

as they added to the extent of these obligations during the past twelve months, when legislative knowledge or criticism of the amounts was not possible, it is easy to imagine the surprise with which we learned, on taking office, that these very large obligations had been incurred, a surprise in which we feel the whole country will share, as the impression had been given to the electorate, and that as recently as March last, that when the late Government went out of office there was a sum of \$718,000 to the credit of the Colony in the Bank of Montreal. The impression sought to be conveyed by this declaration was that this amount was there as a real and substantial credit, over and above all claims against the Colony and practically an enlargement of the reserve of \$500,000, which was well known to be there; but as a matter of fact the remaining \$218,000 was simply the unexpended portion of legislative grants voted in this House last session, and every cent of which has either been absorbed since or will be absorbed before the 30th of this month in carrying on the regular public services.

In addition, though, to all the money legitimately voted and properly expended, the late Administration raised large sums by loans from the Bank of Montreal and the Royal Bank of Canada, the latter for the Municipal Council, and this money has now to be repaid. We have no alternative, much as we regret that we are compelled to take this step, but to raise a loan to liquidate these amounts. We did not incur them; we are not responsible for them. We found them, as it has been graphically described, "I.O.U.'s" in the Bank of Montreal and the Royal Bank of Canada, for \$400,000.

To pay off these amounts, a Loan Bill has been brought in and passed by this House, by raising the amount of which we will be able to meet the sums due these banks. These sums are as follows :

New Wing to Hospital, to complete	\$80,000	
Museum, to complete construction	60,000	
To repay Temporary Loans from Banks, viz. :		
Railway Awards..	\$15,000.00	
Grand Bank, (pier, etc.)	15,000.00	
Fortune (Hr. improvements) ..	5,000.00	35,000
For Municipal Council	100,000	
Deficit Current Account 1908-1909, estimated	155,000	
		\$430,000

It is deplorable that this unpleasant task should be imposed upon us and the burdens of the people increased at this juncture in their affairs, but there is no alternative left for us. We must wipe the slate clean and must put the Colony on an even keel again.

It is important also to remember that in addition to all these expenditures by the Administration which preceded us—the Legislative votes amounting to \$2,848,579, the disbursing of the most of the \$140,000 of the amount required to complete the Hospital and the Museum, and the spending of \$150,000 on Executive Responsibility by overdrafts, as shown in Supplementary Supply—they also expended \$70,000 of the surplus of 1906-07, voted for Roads and Marine Works, a total expenditure of, say, three million, two hundred thousand dollars, or nearly \$420,000 over their estimated revenue, and \$431,000 over their estimated expenditure.

Having thus laid before the House the principal features of the fiscal situation as briefly as possible, I now propose to undertake a somewhat more extended review of the financial condition of Newfoundland. Nine years ago the Bond party assumed control of public affairs. They did so in much the same fashion as this Administration entered into office a few months ago. In February, 1900, the Winter Ministry was defeated by an adverse vote of the Assembly and resigned soon afterwards. Sir Robert Bond was called upon to form a government and was entrusted with the conduct of affairs without appealing to the country, taking office in March. In his Budget Speech, delivered on April 25th, 1900, the Receiver General of that time, Mr. Cowan, stated that the revenue for the previous financial year had been \$1,753,735.42, and the expenditure \$1,789,824.06, and that there was deducted from payments made by the late Sir R. G. Reid on account of purchase money for the dry dock the sum of \$36,088.64, to meet the deficit and square the current account. There remained, then, from the purchase money of the dry dock the sum of \$58,092.23, which forms the first item in the reserve fund of half a million dollars (\$500,000) now lying to the country's credit in the Bank of Montreal, and which sum of \$58,092 had been placed there by the Winter Administration. Nearly nine months of the fiscal year 1899-1900 had transpired when the Bond Ministry took office. The Winter Ministry's tariff was in operation. The Winter Ministry's estimates and votes were continued by the Bond Ministry almost without change, and for the success of the Colony's financial operations during these twelve months the Winter Ministry deserve the credit, as they have had to bear the blame for

other acts of their administration. That tariff will be best remembered by the fact that it embraced the feature which has since been known as the "iniquitous ten per cent.," of which Mr. Cowan, in his Budget Speech, remarked that "I hope when I next meet the House on this question of the tariff I shall be able to present for its acceptance one from which existing anomalies will have disappeared and the ten per cent. additional, which is regarded by the trade as a particularly objectionable feature, will have given place to a readjustment more acceptable and more fair to all parties concerned."

Largely through the agency of this "iniquitous ten per cent.," a surplus of \$258,603.55 was realized for that financial year and this sum must likewise be credited as a merit to the Winter Administration. It will, therefore, be seen that of the \$500,000 lying to the Colony's credit in the Bank of Montreal as a reserve fund, nearly \$317,000 was put up by the Winter Ministry and only \$183,000 by the Bond Ministry in the eight

years they held office. The following were the amounts set aside in the years indicated for the reserve fund, viz.:

1899	\$58,092.23
1900	258,603.55
From Winter Government	
Revenues	\$316,695.78
1901	\$35,629.07
1902	
1903	7,835.70
1904	40,000.00
1905	40,000.00
1906	9,839.45
1907	50,000.00
From Bond Government	
Revenues	\$183,304.22
Total	\$500,000.00

Mr. Cowan, in his Budget Speech in 1900, gave the Public Debt on that day as \$17,572,163.25. I have obtained from Hon. W. J. S. Donnelly, who has charge of the Public Debt Accounts in the Treasury, the following statement of the increase in the Public Debt since then:

INCREASE OF PUBLIC DEBT SINCE 1900.

Lighthouses and Alarms	\$45,000.00
Rebuilding Acts	51,796.99
Public Buildings	154,000.00
Municipal Loans	153,616.00
Hr. Grace Water Stock (Purchased)	13,700.00
Railway Awards, etc.	2,962,652.73
Telegraph Extension and Awards	1,964,433.33
	<hr/>
	\$5,345,199.05
Account General Revenue	35,697.46
	<hr/>
	\$5,380,896.51
	<hr/>
Total Debt 31st December, 1900	\$17,376,576.34
Additions as above	5,380,896.51
	<hr/>
Total Debt on 31st March, 1900	\$22,757,472.85

The last two items in the statement showing the increase in the debt represent the repurchase of the railway from Contractor Reid, for one million dollars, and 6 per cent. interest on the time we had his money, say, \$200,000 more; the Lyttelton Railway Award of nearly \$900,000; the repurchase of the lands for \$850,000; the Telegraph Award of \$1,500,000; the laying of new cable between Canso and Channel, and the extension of the telegraph lines throughout the Island. These two items amount to \$4,927,085.00, or a round sum of five million dollars added to our public debt on account of the Railway Contract of 1901, a sum which entails an annual interest charge upon the Colony of \$175,000.

This is not the time to enter into an exhaustive discussion of the merits or demerits of the Railway Amendment Contract of 1901; that instrument has been tried in the crucible of experience during eight years and the public have been able to arrive at their own conclusions with regard to the fruits that have been reaped from that undertaking. The essential facts with which we are concerned to-day are an examination of the effect which the operation of the several features of this policy have had upon the financial affairs of the Colony. This Colony recovered from Sir Robert Reid the reversion of the ownership of the railroad and paid him \$1,200,000 therefor, involving an annual interest charge upon this Colony of over \$40,000; but the Colony has derived absolutely nothing in the way of return for that expenditure, in a practical sense. Not a new industry has been set on foot, which could be clearly claimed as a result of that policy; not an additional man has secured employment; not an industrial enterprise has taken form or shape as a result

of it, although eight years have passed since its adoption.

The Lyttelton Arbitration, as it is known, or the arbitration on Contractor Reid's claim for additional rolling stock, etc., resulted in the Colony's having to pay nearly \$900,000 as damages. Every year, moreover, we are having large sums charged up against us, to be paid at the end of fifty years, for improvements to the railroad system, and the amount of these bills no man can now estimate, further than to say they will probably run into millions.

The Telegraph policy of the late Government, we now find, has had unexpected and altogether disastrous results. The Auditor General, in his last report, deals with this subject as follows:

"The revenue from Telegraphs, compared with that for 1906-7, shows a slight decrease (\$131.61). It may be gathered from this that this source of revenue has touched, for a time at least, its highest point. This view is strengthened by the fact that the revenue for the current year, as compared with the revenue in 1907-8, is but very little in excess of the latter year, notwithstanding abnormally large receipts during the election period. The hope which I at one time entertained that the Telegraph revenue would at least equal its expenditure does not seem to be in the way of being realised. On the one hand, we find a stationary revenue; on the other, a constantly increasing expenditure. For 1907-8 the latter amounted to \$78,113.74, exclusive of the Marconi Royalties—an increase of \$16,184.12. For the current year it will be at least \$4,000 in excess of what it was in 1907-8."

Broadly speaking, then, the position is this: The yearly outlay for Telegraphs is now about \$82,000; the Colony receives in revenue therefrom about \$50,000, leaving a deficit of \$32,000; in other words, it costs the Colony over \$1.64 for every \$1 worth of Telegraph business it does. Nor does this include the interest on the cost of acquiring the Telegraphs from Contractor Reid. As we already know, the arbitration thereon resulted in an award to Contractor Reid of \$1,500,000, and the contingent costs amounted to about another \$150,000. In addition to that, a cable was laid between Canso and Port aux Basques, at a cost of \$150,000, and the Telegraph System has been extended to various parts of the country at an additional cost. At a rough estimate, therefore, our Telegraph System cost us \$2,000,000, which means that the people of this Colony are taxed \$70,000 every year as interest on that amount. Besides this, there is now an annual deficit of \$32,000 in the operation of the system, so that the Colony is throwing away \$102,000 every year on this unfortunate experiment. Perhaps the severest indictment against the Bond Telegraph policy is the fact that the Commercial Cable Company is now laying a cable to St. John's, connecting this city and Colony with New York and London direct, and giving us the benefit of this connection without cost to the Colony, within three or four years after we have submerged a cable of our own, which now represents the sum of \$150,000 of the money of the people of this Colony thrown into the sea and utterly wasted.

I shall anticipate the criticism which may come from the Opposition benches with regard to my view of this Telegraph experiment. It will

be said that if these figures, as stated by me, are correct, the award given to Contractor Reid was an excessive one. In reply to that contention, I would point out, in the first place, that the award was a unanimous one, and that the Colony's arbitrator, Hon. Edward Blake, chosen by Sir Robert Bond himself, concurred therein. I would point out, in the second place, that this award was justified and endorsed by Sir Robert Bond himself in the House, two or three years ago, when he introduced legislation to pay the amount of that award, lay the cable and extend the telegraphs. I have had a statement made showing the cost of maintenance of every Government office last year, and also the receipts, and it shows that in numerous instances officials are being paid salaries many times in excess of the earnings or the commercial value of the stations. It is not difficult to understand, therefore, how it comes that a loss of \$32,000 is met every year in the Telegraphs, and why the people of the Colony are groaning under the burden of this unnecessary expense and this evidence of political misjudgment. My predecessor in office, in the Budget Speech of 1905, also justified this Telegraph Award in the following words:

"From the completion of the Telegraph System throughout the Island, its extension to Labrador and the connection with the American continent by a cable across the Gulf, it is anticipated that in a few years it will largely augment the revenue of the Colony. The interest charges on account of the award and the extension of the system by wire and cable will amount to about \$70,000."

Instead of the Telegraph System augmenting our revenue, it is, on the contrary, now proving a drain on us to the tune of another \$32,000 a year, in loss on operation, besides the \$70,000 per year of interest, and if we had not interfered with the Telegraph System at all we would, as a Colony, be now nearly \$160,000 a year better off, a sum which represents the interest on four and one-half million dollars; that is to say, that if we had not gone into this Telegraph experiment we would be more than able to pay the interest on all the branch railways we propose to build. It is important to remember, also, that the reason assigned for taking these Telegraphs from Contractor Reid was that he would be able to read everybody's messages and learn all about their business affairs. The following facts show what little real value there was in this argument :

Out of 116 Postal Telegraph Offices in operation on June 30th last, there were only 27 earning enough to pay expenses. Of the others, 42 were earning less than \$100 a year; 30 more were earning less than \$200. Assuming that the Telegraph business done is virtually all in the form of ten-word messages, costing 20 cents each, it is evident that these 42 offices handle less than 500 messages a year, or less than two per working day, and that the other 30 handle under 1,000 a year, or slightly over three per working day.

What is true of the Telegraph System is, unfortunately, equally true of the Land Policy of the late Administration. With respect to this, I would quote from the last report of the Auditor General, in which he points out the very decided decline in the receipts of the Department of Agriculture and Mines :

“ As compared with the revenue “ for 1906-7, a very large decrease “ will be noted in Crown Lands Re- “ ceipts. This is largely due to the “ failure of persons holding timber “ limits on lease to pay the rental on “ the said limits. On the 30th of “ June, 1908, the sum of \$15,141.64 “ was owed to the Department of “ Agriculture and Mines on account “ of rent of timber limits and roy- “ alty on timber cut. During the “ year 1907-8 the sum of \$17,447.18 “ was paid into the Department for “ rents and royalties, so that a little “ more than half the amount was col- “ lected.” (Some \$5,000 of the \$15,- 000 has since been paid).

It will be remembered that one of the features of the 1901 Contract was the regaining from Contractor Reid of 2,550,000 acres of Crown Lands, which he had acquired under the 1898 Contract, we paying him 30 cents an acre therefor, or \$850,000 in all. Allowing for the loss in the floating of bonds required to meet this payment, this experiment represented an expenditure of practically \$1,000,000, and an annual interest charge thereon of \$35,000. I have obtained from the Department of Agriculture and Mines a statement showing the amount of revenue that Department has derived each year from the particular lands so recovered from Contractor Reid, and I find that the amount is :

1902	\$1,300.00
1903	2,359.00
1904	3,517.00
1905	2,938.00
1906	4,963.00
1907	4,120.00
1908	3,432.00

It will be seen from this exhibit that in no year of the seven has the

Colony got back much more than about one-tenth of the amount that it has to pay every year as interest on the cost of these lands.

In other words, just as the Telegraph Department expends \$1.64 for every \$1 worth of business, so the Land Experiment costs the Colony \$35,000 a year as interest on the purchase from Reid, and gives back an earning from these lands of \$3,400. It is apparent, therefore, that the annual loss to the Colony from this transaction 's \$30,000. My predecessor, in the Department of Finance, was equally emphatic on more than one occasion in his declaration in favor of the Land Policy of the late Administration. I quote one of these statements which, in the light of the facts I present to-day, will be seen to be singularly ill-founded. As these lands have been in the possession of the Colony now for seven years, it is only fair to assume that their capabilities have been fairly tested, and when it is seen that the amount they yield annually is only one-tenth of the interest on what they cost, it must be admitted by everybody that in making this purchase the Colony bought a "white elephant." During what may be called the lumber boom period in our history, there was a considerable expansion in the revenue of the Crown Lands Office because of the royalty imposed upon lumber cut. But now that the cut of lumber is declining, the revenue is failing also; and in this connection it must be remembered that very little lumber has been cut upon the lands we purchased from Contractor Reid, so that, consciously or unconsciously, the Bond Government was conferring a benefit of no small magnitude upon Contractor Reid in paying him a

fair figure for a lot of apparently worthless lands.

Yet here is what Mr. Jackman said in this House in making the Budget Speech of 1904 :

"Probably no feature of the Government's Policy has been the subject of so much misrepresentation as the purchase from Contractor Reid of the lands conveyed to him by the Winter Government, under the now famous Order-in-Council dated 5th March, 1900. When the Bond Ministry assumed office they found that millions of acres of the best and selected lands of the Colony had been granted Contractor Reid, and that in many cases the areas granted did not protect the equitable rights of mill owners, squatters and others. The Government agreed to pay Reid \$850,000 for the lands; on payment of the money they were re-assigned to the Colony; the Government then passed the amended Crown Lands Act, 1901, which imposes a bonus on timber areas of \$2 per square mile, \$2 a year rental, and 50 cents royalty per 1,000 feet board measure, on all lumber cut on these areas. The repurchase of these lands and the introduction of the new Land Act was a master stroke of policy."

The public can now see for themselves what sort of a master stroke this policy was, which entails our bearing a burden of \$35,000 a year in interest, but yields us only \$3,300 a year towards meeting that heavy obligation. We have practically all these lands yet on our hands, and nobody is so poor as to have anything to do with them, but still we must continue to pay for all time \$35,000 a year as interest thereon. My predecessor claimed that the

lands were repurchased to protect lumbermen, mining men and others, and to regain areas of valuable land. Their small value is now proved, and Reid has good cause to congratulate himself; while it should not be forgotten that at the very time my predecessor was making this statement, in 1904, that "this policy was a master stroke," the receipts from these particular lands, bought back from Reid, were only \$2,350.

In judging the merits of these three items, which represent so large a proportion of the increase in the public debt of this Colony, it is important to remember the declaration the late Prime Minister, Sir Robert Bond, made in this House in 1901, in which he claimed that this Contract was wholly and solely his work; that the making of it had been left to him by his colleagues, and that for its merits or demerits he was alone responsible. His exact words I shall now quote, because this is the first time that it has been possible to get the data from the Crown Lands Office which would enable us to form an estimate of the value of his policy in re-purchasing the lands, while the landing of the Commercial Cable Company's new cable at St. John's attracts public interest to his Telegraph policy, and enables us to see wherein a large sum of money might have been saved to this Colony had no cable been laid.

He said: "The working out of this measure was left entirely in my hands by my Executive colleagues, entailing an amount of labor and anxiety that has placed my very ordinary resources to a severe test. I have done my best for the Colony and I trust it will be acceptable to the people. It must be remembered that this is

"not forced legislation, but it is the
 "result of negotiations that have
 "extended over some months. These
 "modifications have not been forced
 "from the Contractor by threats
 "they have resulted from prolonged
 "discussion. What I have kept be-
 "fore the eyes of the contractor and
 "his learned adviser was this posi-
 "tion, that in making a demand for
 "the modification of the Railway
 "Contract of 1898 the Government
 "were not actuated by any feelings
 "save those of a desire to conserve
 "the public interest; that the modi-
 "fications are for the sole purpose
 "of bringing them into harmony
 "with him, and thus enabling the
 "Government to actively co-operate
 "in promoting his enterprises, in
 "the success of which the whole
 "Colony will necessarily participate.
 "This, I take it, is the end that we
 "all have in view. I believe, sir,
 "that if this Bill becomes law it
 "will ensure mutual confidence, co-
 "operation and a blending of inter-
 "ests as between Government and
 "Contractor. I look to this measure
 "as removing all cause for friction
 "between the people of this Colony
 "and the Contractor, and as calcu-
 "lated to result in a steadier trade,
 "a steadier increase of prosperity,
 "and a steadier wage for our work-
 "ing people. The Contract of 1898
 "aroused the bitterest animosities
 "between politicians as well as be-
 "tween the people and Mr. Reid.
 "This Bill, I earnestly hope, will re-
 "move that feeling. It shall be
 "my endeavour, at any rate, to cul-
 "tivate this feeling—justice to each
 "other, kindness to each other, re-
 "spect and honor for each other.
 "Mr. Reid has met the public de-
 "mand in a manly manner; he has
 "respected the vox populi; he, there-
 "fore, is entitled to justice, respect
 "and honor at the hands of the

“public. He relinquishes his title
 “to the railway for what he paid
 “for it; he might have insisted up-
 “on compensation for the loss of its
 “prospective value. He hands back
 “the lands obtained under the 1898
 “Contract for the value of the lands;
 “he might have insisted upon their
 “value being fixed by arbitration.
 “He does this in the interest of
 “peace and good will, in order to
 “secure the co-operation of the Gov-
 “ernment and of the people of this
 “Colony in making his enterprise a
 “success. Unless I am mistaken as
 “to the character of the people of
 “Newfoundland, he shall receive
 “that co-operation; and if the spirit
 “of the sentiment that I have just
 “expressed is caught up by this
 “House and applied, we may look
 “forward to a great and striking
 “and permanent improvement in this
 “Colony before many years have
 “rolled away.”

I make no criticism of this ex-
 tract, but merely ask this House and
 this country what has been the out-
 come? Has what Sir Robert Bond
 promised been realized? On the
 contrary, have not the relations be-
 tween the Government and the Con-
 tractor been such as to put the
 hands of the clock back, to stop the
 wheels of progress, and to convert a
 great institution which might have
 been made of immense service in de-
 veloping the country into a mere
 political football.

The amount of revenue collected
 for the past fiscal year was :

**ACTUAL REVENUE FOR FISCAL
 YEAR 1907-8, WHICH ENDED
 ON 30TH JUNE, 1908.**

Customs	\$2,472,074
Postal	78,426
Telegraphs	50,542
Crown Lands	46,593
Fines and Forfeitures	7,167
Inland Licenses	5,438
Inland Revenue Stamps ..	13,497
Municipal Council	59,335
Express Companies Tax ..	2,000
Broom Dept., Penitentiary.	8,371
Fees, Public Institutions ..	2,718
Whaling Licenses	405
Profit on Silver and Bronze Coins	16,291
Interest on Govt. Credit Balances	20,257
Bank Tax	10,000
Cable and Telephone Tax.	22,426
Miscellaneous	13,478
	<hr/>
	\$2,829,018

**ESTIMATED REVENUE FOR FISCAL
 YEAR 1908-9, WHICH EXPIRES
 ON 30TH OF THIS MONTH.**

Customs (not including duty on coal and water rates)	\$2,380,577
Postal	80,043
Telegraphs	60,210
Inland Revenue Stamps ..	13,160
Crown Lands	49,553
Liquor Licenses	5,372
Fines and Forfeitures	4,012
Broom Dept., Penitentiary.	10,036
Fees, Public Institutions ..	1,647
Interest Municipal Debt ..	47,335
Miscellaneous	90,441
	<hr/>
	\$2,742,389
Coal and Water Rates	66,300
	<hr/>
	\$2,808,689

**ESTIMATED REVENUE FOR FISCAL
YEAR 1909-10, WHICH BEGINS
ON JULY 1ST.**

Customs (not including coal duties and water rates)	\$2,516,000
Postal	85,000
Telegraphs	65,000
Inland Revenue Stamps	15,000
Crown Lands	55,000
Liquor Licenses	6,000
Fines and Forfeitures	5,000
Broom Dept., Penitentiary.	10,000
Fees, Public Institutions	2,500
Interest Municipal Debt	55,000
Miscellaneous	120,000
	<hr/>
	\$2,931,000
Coal and Water Rates	69,000
	<hr/>
	\$3,000,000

I estimate an unusual sum for Miscellaneous, because we propose to take steps to collect all outstanding amounts due to the Colony.

It will be seen from these figures that the actual revenue obtained in 1907-8 was \$2,829,018, which was an increase of \$78,000 over that obtained in 1906-7. For the current year the figures will probably be \$2,808,689. Under normal conditions a similar increase should be shown, but the depression of the past year has arrested this. I believe that all of this leeway will be made up during the next twelve months and that a similar advance will also be made; therefore, I estimate the total revenue for 1909-10 at \$3,000,000. The Harmsworth enterprise is steadily expanding, the Albert Reed Company's enterprise is following in the same direction, the Hearst enterprise promises to attain as large dimensions, and other projects of similar character are now being brought into existence.

A well informed writer, who contributed a series of articles to the Evening Telegram newspaper at the New Year estimated that the Customs revenue for the current year would show a deficit of \$250,000, and when we find that no such deficit has taken place but, on the whole, that the revenue has nearly maintained itself, we are justified in concluding that, with the resumption of prosperous conditions which may be anticipated during the coming season, the revenue for the fiscal year now about to open will be largely augmented, and we are hopeful that when next a financial presentation has to be made to the House a much more encouraging condition of affairs will be revealed.

The revenue and imports for the fiscal year which ended on the 30th of June, 1908, were each the largest on record. For virtually nine years now there has been almost an unbroken augmentation in those figures year after year, and though the current fiscal year will probably show a decline in the value of the exports, yet everybody understands the circumstances which have brought about this result, and from present appearances this condition of things will be remedied very shortly and the Colony return to the conditions which were previously indicated. Only three times in the history of the Colony have the exports of codfish of 1907-8—1,509,269 quintals—been exceeded, but there seems reason to believe that when the figures of the current fiscal year are made up it will be found that the export for 1908-9 has been the greatest by far that has ever been known. Our catch last year was so large that the congestion in the foreign markets made its sale difficult. New conditions are now arising and we look

forward hopefully to a substantial betterment this year. This is a matter for congratulation, because the most striking fact in our financial progress is that the prosperity of

the Colony the past ten years is due mainly to the increased value of our codfish. The following table gives the value of our fishery exports and the value of the other exports :

Year	Total Exports	Fishery Exports	Other Exports
1899-00	8,627,576	7,015,964	1,611,611
1900-01	8,359,978	6,907,949	1,452,029
1901-02	9,552,525	7,356,881	2,195,643
1902-03	9,976,504	7,807,971	2,168,533
1903-04	10,381,987	8,535,087	1,846,810
1904-05	10,669,342	8,724,275	1,945,067
1905-06	12,086,276	10,117,951	1,969,325
1906-07	12,101,161	10,058,052	2,043,169
1907-08	11,815,769	7,798,350	2,017,419

The Foreign Trade of the Colony for 1907-8 was as follows :

Imports	\$11,516,111
Exports	11,815,769
Total	\$23,331,880

In the preceding year the figures were as follows :

Imports	\$10,426,040
Exports	12,101,161
Total	\$22,527,201

This shows a total increase of \$804,679. It will be noted, of course, that this statement applies to the fiscal year which ended twelve months ago, and when it is remembered that the first mutterings of the storm of financial and economic depression which beset the Colony during last fall and winter were then being heard, it is gratifying to note that the imports into the Colony increased from \$10,426,040 in 1906-7 to \$11,516,111 in 1907-8—an increase of \$1,090,071. The imports represent the purchasing power

of a people and, therefore, the fact that we imported \$1,000,000 worth of goods more up to June, 1908, than we had the previous twelve months, must be taken as an evidence of the assured financial position of the trade and the people, and of the progressiveness and enterprise of those engaged in carrying on the business of the country in its various aspects. The exports, on the other hand, as will be seen, declined from \$12,101,161 to \$11,815,769—a decrease of \$285,392.

This was, of course, due to the downward tendency in the price of our staple product, and I think the House will agree with me that it is a matter of congratulation that the decline was not greater. It is impossible, in view of our Customs outposts being in many cases so remote and the computations having to be undertaken afterwards, to supply even an approximate estimate of what the value of the imports and exports for the current twelve months will be, but there is reason to hope, in view of the manner in which the revenue maintained itself, that the fears of a very marked decline in

both branches of our commerce will fortunately not be realized and that while the price of codfish declined considerably last fall and the exports may show a falling off thereby, the value of the imports will be maintained. All the facts augur well for a rebound to the condition of increasing revenue which had been the experience for nearly ten years previously, and I hope that when next I am called upon to address the House on financial questions I may find myself in a position to assure the representatives of the people that Newfoundland has regained her old position in this respect.

I have already shown that out of the \$500,000 to the credit of the Colony, which is held as a reserve in the Bank of Montreal, \$317,000 is attributable to the Winter Government, and that only \$183,000 is attributable to the Bond Government. In other words, the Bond Government over-expended during the current fiscal year a sum in excess of all the money that they put to the credit of the Colony's Reserve Fund during their eight years in office. This \$500,000 has been described in this House more than once as a nest egg. If a demand were made upon it to-morrow to respond to the indebtedness directly caused by our predecessors during the past year or two, the greater portion of it would be dissipated, and practically nothing would remain as a safeguard to the Colony against any financial calamities. As an example of financing, it is important to remember that, while this \$500,000 only brings the Colony in 3 per cent. per annum, the temporary loans raised by the late Government have carried 4 3-4 per cent., so that the Colony has been losing 1 3-4 per cent. on all the money our predecessors have

raised by temporary loans in this manner. It is regrettable to find the Colony faced with this situation, particularly when we reflect what might have been done with all the abounding revenues which have been received of late years, and what measures of economic value might have been inaugurated for our people with the funds at the disposal of our predecessors, instead of which enormous sums have been frittered away on projects that have come to nothing and on visionaries to set on foot schemes fore-ordained to collapse. It must be remembered, also, that the increased revenue obtained of late years have not been derived in any degree from anything our predecessors did to promote the material or industrial welfare of our people, because it is impossible to point to a single undertaking directly attributable to them, which has resulted in increasing any industrial development whereby our people as a class have benefitted.

Our prosperity has been due chiefly to the steadily increasing price for our fishery products, as the value of our other exports has not increased in proportion, and the increased revenues have been effected by the constantly increasing price of woollens, textiles and other fabrics, which enter largely into use amongst our people, and which pay an ad-valorem duty, so that the doubling in price which these commodities underwent in the English, Canadian and American markets has resulted in their contributing to the revenue of the Colony nearly twice the amount formerly obtained for them. The increased purchasing power of our people, through the better returns secured for fish and fishery products, has likewise materially contributed to enlarge the revenue.

A gratifying feature of the present situation of the Colony is the increased prosperity of our people, as evidenced by their savings. The amount on deposit in the Newfoundland Savings Bank on the 31st of December last was \$2,631,450.48, which was an increase of \$203,520.31 over the previous year. The amount in the Savings Departments of the three Canadian banks doing business here was \$2,547,420.31. In addition to this there were also lodged in these banks deposits bearing interest and payable after notice, which may properly be regarded as savings or investments of our people of the sum of \$3,273,697.02. This makes an aggregate of amounts, fairly describable as the savings of our people, of \$8,452,467. Of the Public Debt of the Colony, moreover, debentures to the amount of \$2,924,259 are held by local investors, while the reserve valuation on life insurance policies is \$1,014,000. This makes a total amount held by our people of \$12,390,726 in the shape of reserves, investments and savings, and is, I think, an evidence of the stability of our economic and financial fabric. It may be of interest to remark that the amount in the Savings Bank is now closely approaching to that which was there before the Crash, and that there is besides virtually as much more in the Canadian banks doing business here, while the ordinary business transactions of these banks would probably represent nearly three times the amount of those undertaken by the Commercial and Union Banks in the heyday of their prosperity.

Another circumstance worthy of note is the fact that the Post Office Department during the past fiscal year issued and paid money orders to the value of nearly one million dollars.

Still another encouraging fact is that ninety-three vessels of 3,338 tons were built in the Colony during 1908 and that twenty-two other vessels of 2,185 tons were purchased abroad for the purposes of our trade and registered in the Colony, exclusive of the new sealing steamers. Of these there were four—the Florizel, the Beothic, the Bellaventure and the Bonaventure—and they represent an investment of almost three-quarters of a million dollars (\$750,000), the greater portion of which is held in the Colony.

From all of these facts it is very evident that there is nothing in the economic or financial situation of the Colony at present to cause any apprehension. The country has been prospering, and will, I hope and believe, still continue to prosper.

Our business men are showing no hesitation at venturing into new undertakings; our local investors are as keen as ever; outside capitalists are readier than before to embark in large projects amongst us. It is with the confidence born of these facts that I invite the House now, sir, to address itself to the consideration of the question of finalizing our fiscal proposals.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker, and the House for the patient and indulgent hearing you have given me; and I trust that I have satisfied you and them with this presentation of our financial affairs. The printed statements of the public accounts are on your desks, so I shall not trespass on your time by reading them, contenting myself with renewing my opening motion, that the House now resolve itself into Committee of the Whole on Ways and Means.

Dr. Statement of Current Account of the Government

Customs Duties, St. John's and Outports	\$2,436,937.56	
Light Dues, St. John's and Outports	25,699.15	
Miscellaneous	9,437.88	
	<hr/>	
Total Customs Revenue ..		\$2,472,074.59
Postal Revenue	\$78,426.19	
Telegraph Revenue	50,542.19	
Crown Lands	46,593.37	
Stamp Revenue	13,497.17	
Liquor Licenses	5,438.30	
Fines and Forfeitures	7,167.10	
Broom Department	8,731.57	
Fees, Institutions	2,718.65	
Municipal Tax	47,335.64	
A. A. Telegraph Tax	22,466.23	
Interest on Credit Balances ..	20,257.97	
Imported Silver	15,914.36	
Municipal Council's Contribution to Fire Dept.	12,000.00	
Bank Tax	10,000.00	
Reid Nfld. Express Tax	2,000.00	
Carbonear Water Co.	1,260.80	
Harbor Grace Water Co.	548.00	
Imported Copper	377.23	
Life Insurance Assessment ..	313.53	
Insurance Co's Tax	250.00	
Grand Bank for Interest	209.10	
Special Loan Account Museum and Hospital	64,354.00	
Sundry Miscellaneous Receipts	10,896.80	421,298.20
		<hr/>
Total Current Revenue ..		\$2,893,372.79
Repayment on Account Surplus Trust	92,894.04	
Repayment on Account Agricultural Bonus	3,171.77	96,065.81
		<hr/>
		\$2,989,438.60

Examined by me and found correct.
F. C. BERTEAU, C. & A. G.

of Newfoundland for the Financial Year 1907-8. Cr.

Expenditure under the following Heads :		
Head I.—Interest, etc., Public Debt	\$870,497.12	
Head II.—Civil Government ..	162,000.21	
Head III.—Pensions	11,941.02	
Head IV.—Administration of Justice	188,280.66	
Head V.—Legislation	34,415.77	
Head VI.—Education	250,870.55	
Head VII.—Public Charities ..	242,719.68	
Head VIII.—Lighthouses	68,080.06	
Head IX.—Agriculture & Mines	19,709.66	
Head X.—Marine and Fisheries	82,510.57	
Head XI.—Roads, Bridges and Ferries	180,508.35	
Head XII.—Postal and Telegraph Departments	431,985.80	
Head XIII.—Customs	146,554.93	
Head XIV.—General Contingencies	30,565.19	
Head XVI.—Coal and Water Refunds	65,195.77	
	<hr/>	
Audit Act Account Museum and Hospital	64,354.00	
		\$2,850,189.34
Surplus—Revenue in Excess of Expenditure		43,183.45
		<hr/>
		\$2,893,372.79
Expenditure on Account of Agricultural Bonus	3,171.77	
Expenditure on Account of Surplus Trust	92,894.04	
		<hr/>
		96,065.81
		<hr/>
		\$2,989,438.60

E. M. JACKMAN,
Ministe. of Finance and Customs.

Dr.

Balance Sheet Treasury

Revenue, viz. :

On Current Account	\$2,893,372.79	
On Loan and Trust Accounts	96,065.81	
		<u>\$2,989,438.60</u>

Loan 5th, Edward VII., Cap. I.	272,000.00	
Temporary Loans, Bank of Montreal	217,354.00	
Bank of Montreal General Accounts	2,998.52	
Bank of Montreal Trust Accounts	662,105.28	
Harbor Grace Water Co. Loan	13,700.00	

Public Debt, viz :

4 per cent. Loans	8,015,729.53	
3 1-2 per cent. Loans	13,065,546.66	
3 per cent. Loans	1,581,666.66	
		<u>22,662,942.85</u>
		<u>\$23,831,100.65</u>

Examined by me and found correct.

F. C. BERTEAU, C. & A. G.

Account 1907-1908.

Cr.

Expenditure, viz. :

On Current Account	\$2,785,835.34	
On Loans, Surplus, Trust and Audit Act	160,419.81	
Revenue in excess of Expenditure	43,183.45	
		<u>\$2,989,438.60</u>

Redemption Temporary Loan from Bank of Montreal under Loan 5th Ed. VII., Cap. I.		272,000.00
Temporary Loan, Bank of Montreal		217,354.00
Loan 5th, Edward VII., Cap. I. Loan and Trust Accounts :		2,998.52
Agriculture Bonus	\$12,596.13	
Loan 61 Vic., Cap. I.	10,000.00	
Surplus Trust	139,109.13	
Redemption Debentures	400.02	
Reserve Fund	500,000.00	
		<u>662,105.28</u>

Govt. Investment Hr. Grace Water Co.		13,700.00
Loan under Sundry Acts		22,662,942.85
		<u>\$23,831,100.65</u>

E. M. JACKMAN,

Minister of Finance and Customs.

MR. SPEAKER left the Chair.

MR. PARSONS took the Chair of the Committee.

MR. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred, passed certain resolutions, recommended the introduction of a Bill to give effect thereto, and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that this report be received, whereupon the Bill, entitled. "An Act to amend the Revenue Act, 1905," was introduced and read a first time, referred to Committee of the Whole and adopted with amendment, read a third time and passed; and it was ordered that it be engrossed, being entitled as above, and sent to the Legislative Council with a message requesting their concurrence in its provisions.

COMMITTEE OF WHOLE ON SUPPLY.

Pursuant to order, and on motion of the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on Supply.

MR. SPEAKER left the Chair.

MR. PARSONS took the Chair of Committee.

THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE—We are asking the House for the sum of \$4,000 to be handed over to the Society for the Prevention of Consumption; also the sum of \$3,000 for certain preliminary surveys in connection with the building of a certain branch railway; also the sum of \$15,000 for a public building at Harbor Grace. The building is to be used, I understand, for a Court

House. The building erected by the Administration was considered too inadequate and the present Government promised to erect a building there that would be a credit to the Colony and the people of Harbor Grace as well.

MR. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

The Chairman, from the Committee, reported that they had considered the matter to them referred and adopted certain resolutions.

Ordered that this report be adopted.

The said resolutions were then read a first time.

The said resolutions being read a second time and it was moved that the House concur with the Committee therein, and the said resolutions were agreed to.

COMMITTEE OF WHOLE ON EDUCATION RESOLUTIONS.

Pursuant to order and on motion of the Hon. the Prime Minister, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the Education Resolutions.

MR. SPEAKER left the Chair.

MR. PARSONS took the Chair of Committee.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—The resolutions before the Committee ask for an increase of \$30,000 for educational purposes, as follows:

1. \$6,000 additional to the grant for what is known as "destitute localities."

2. \$20,000 additional for the augmentation of the salaries of teachers.

3. \$4,000 to guarantee the interest of \$10,000 which sum would be expended by the Boards in the erection of hygienic school buildings.

MR. CLIFT—I am entirely in accord with the additional vote for educational purposes. As has already been explained by the hon. introducer of the Bill, it is chiefly with the object of supplying money for destitute places and for that reason it has my warmest support. It is only those of us who visited those destitute places who know the needs. I could name numbers of places in my own constituency of Twillingate where the need for Education is very great. In certain parts of this district the people were utterly without any educational advantages whatever, and whilst I am not opposed to grants for Higher Education I would not support any further vote for Higher Education until all the smaller settlements were equipped with up-to-date schools and teachers. There should be elementary schools established in all these localities, before one dollar was expended on Higher Education. I am pleased that the resolutions have this object in view, and that better provision is to be made for the teachers in addition to the \$6,000 for destitute places. I hope that the Inspectors will see that this money is expended to the best advantage; and I have no doubt they will. Education is the crying need of the moment, and I recognize that the House is voting as large a sum as it was justified in doing. The vote for Education is now up to a very considerable amount, and this House would not be justified in increasing it further at the present time. I am still strongly of the opinion that before moneys are voted for Higher Education all elementary

schools should be equipped and supplied with teachers. I had much pleasure in supporting the resolution.

MR. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

The Chairman, from the Committee, reported that they had considered the matter to them referred and adopted certain resolutions; and recommended the introduction of a bill to give effect thereto.

Ordered that this report be received, whereupon the bill entitled, "An Act further to amend the Education Act, 1903," was introduced and read a first and second time, referred to Committee of the Whole and adopted without amendment, read a third time and passed; and it was ordered that it be engrossed, being entitled as above, and that it be sent to the Legislative Council with a message requesting their concurrence in its provisions.

DOCUMENTS TABLED

THE HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINES laid upon the table of the House:

Report of Department of Agriculture and Mines.

Report of Board of Agriculture.

Report of C. A. Zavitz on Experimental Farm.

Report of Thomas Howe, Chief Fire Warden.

Report of James P. Howley, F.G.S., Director Geological Surveys, with plan.

Return of Crown Lands Grants issued.

Return of Timber Licenses issued.

Return of Mining Licenses issued.

Return of 99-Year Leases issued.

Return of Fee Simple Mining Grants issued.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED

THE HON. PRIME MINISTER—
In reply to the hon. member of St. John's East, Mr. Kent, I would say that I have received permission to table the correspondence asked for by him, but it will take some time to be copied, and will probably not be tabled before Thursday afternoon.

MR. CLIFT—I beg to call attention to the fact that I have not yet received any answer to my request for statements from either the Minister of Public Works or the Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS—In reply I beg to say that the clerks in my department are overworked at present, but that the statement asked for will be ready in a few days, and will be laid on the table of the House.

MR. CLIFT—I am anxious for certain statements, and the Minister of Public Works told me at the time when I asked for the statement that it was none of my business. It is my business and the business of any member of this House to get any information which may be asked for.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn till to-morrow, Wednesday, June 9th, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

WEDNESDAY, June 9th.

The House met at three of the clock in the afternoon, pursuant to adjournment.

MEMBERS SWORN IN.

George Roberts, Esq., one of the members returned for the district of Twillingate; and Henry J. Earle, Esq., member returned for the district of Fogo, having made and subscribed the oath of allegiance before Hon. Geo. Skelton, one of His Excellency's Commissioners appointed for the purpose of administering the same, took their seats accordingly.

PETITIONS PRESENTED

HON. MR. EMERSON—I ask leave to present a petition from the Rev. M. G. Sears and others of Hermitage Bay and Bay d'Espoir, praying that this House amend the law passed during the session of 1906 in connection with the Crown Land of this Colony. The Act referred to was known as the Saw Mill Restriction Act and was passed for the purpose of preventing unauthorized persons from erecting saw mills on reserved lands and cutting timber from the said areas to the disadvantage of the fishermen of the country. The first section of that Act provided that any person who had in operation a saw mill for the purpose of manufacturing material for the making of barrels for the fishery requirements, such as staves or headings, or for the making of shingles, lobster laths or lobster boxes prior to the 31st day of March, 1906, and whose whole cut of timber for other purposes did not exceed ten thousand feet, board measure, in any one year, obtain a license under the Act subject to certain conditions. These conditions were: (1) that the application must be made by a bona fide fisherman, who would be entitled to an annual license upon his application containing such facts as the situation and capacity of his mill; (2) that re-

urns should be made to the Department of Agriculture and Mines, as required, showing the quantities of lumber sawn and disposed of; (3) the prevention by the licensee of all unnecessary destruction of growing timber and the exercise by him of a supervision to prevent the spread of fires; (4) the right of the licensee to cut timber for his mill on an unoccupied Crown land free from rent or royalty; and (5) the right of the licensee to purchase logs or junks cut upon ungranted or unlicensed Crown lands and to manufacture the same into shingles, lobster laths, or lobster boxes, upon payment of a royalty of ten cents per thousand on all shingles manufactured in or by his mill. The second section of this restriction Act prevented any person from cutting any timber or purchasing timber on an ungranted or Crown lands under a penalty of twenty dollars for every tree so cut unless the person was acting under the authority of section one of the Act or the holder of a timber license. This restriction law was regarded by the petitioners who live in all parts of Hermitage Bay and Bay d'Espoir as a great hardship, for not only did it prevent competition, which was so desirable in those cases, but it placed them in the position of obtaining for their labor a lesser sum than they thought they were entitled to. I am informed that the reasons which led to the enactment of this restriction law were, that some parties had been in the habit of placing large portable mills on ungranted and reserved lands, which, of course, must have the effect of denuding the three-mile limit of every stick of its timber, within a very short time, and without any return to the Colony, be-

sides being unfair to those operating under legal title. This, of course, was very undesirable, but there was no reason whatever why small licenses on the three mile limit should not be granted, with certain restrictions, such as the providing for furnishing statistics and, if necessary, the imposing of a small royalty. I feel sure that the House will see the injustice of this position, and amend the law in such a manner as to meet the requirements of the petitioners. I could not too strongly urge upon the House the position taken by the petitioners, who did not go so far as to ask to be put in the same position as they were prior to the passing of the 1906 Act, but they respectfully asked the Legislature to amend the second section of the Restriction Act, and to allow them the right to obtain small licenses subject to limitations and restrictions such as he had already mentioned. I beg to move that this petition be referred to the Department of Agriculture and Mines for consideration.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—There is a great deal in what the hon. member has said as regards that part of the country in which those fishermen reside. The law, however, which was enacted in 1906, was a valuable one, especially for the northern bays, and it was for the purpose of preventing the three mile area from being entirely denuded of its wealth of forest that that Act was passed. It had become a regular danger to the people residing in the northern districts, the fear of having all this wood cut out by parties who had timber limits of their own under Crown grants, but who preferred to cut on the three mile

limit and other areas rather than on their own. The first amendment to the law was in making a penalty for any person who bought timber cut on Crown land, if holding grants from the Crown himself. That had at first seemed a very peculiar enactment, but it had been one way of stopping cutting on the three-mile limit. This three mile limit was kept for the fishermen and liviers around the coast, but, unfortunately, every day made it of less value, owing to the quantity of wood which was being cut. No one had a right at common law to cut timber there; it was a prescriptive right that the people could go in, without right or license and cut on Crown lands, but that a bona fide farmer who wanted material for domestic purposes should be hindered by it in any way was a different thing. The region whence the petition came was one where the operations of the Act might work more seriously than expected by the introducers. I think the introducer of the measure has done wisely in referring it to the Department of Agriculture and Mines, and an enquiry could be made as to how that legislation affected the people of Fortune Bay. There they did not depend as much on wood for domestic purposes as they did in the north, where cutting fire wood not alone for themselves, but also for sale in St. John's, had become an industry in itself. The department would be well employed in making an enquiry so that the grievance complained of would be remedied, if it could be, at the next session of the House.

It was ordered that the petition be received and referred to Department of Agriculture and Mines.

MR. PARSONS—I beg leave to present a petition from His Lordship

Bishop March, Rev. Canon Noel and residents of Bryants' Cove, on the subject of a road. The necessity of this work is very great, as the road which at one place runs by the side of a cliff, is very dangerous. The cost of doing the work required, principally the widening of the road, would not be very large, probably not more than \$120, as I think it would be possible to purchase the necessary land for widening for \$50, while the labor would not call for a very large expenditure. I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition.

MR. SEYMOUR—I heartily support the petition. The road is an important one, and during the winter is very dangerous. It is the connecting road to the cemetery and the people, to get there, had to leave the road, owing to its dangerous condition, and trespass on private land.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. SQUIRES—I ask leave to present a petition from Josiah Drodge and others, of Trinity Bay, in connection with road matters there. I have much pleasure in supporting it.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. SEYMOUR—I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Harbor Grace, on the subject of widening a lane which leads from Garland Street to Water Street. This leads to the cemetery and railway station, and is very much used, and it is very necessary that it should be improved.

MR. PARSONS—I am in hearty accord with the prayer of the petition.

The road is now too narrow for comfort, and it is advisable, for the sake of the safety of the town, to make a good fire-break there.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Chapel Arm, Norman's Cove and Long Cove, on the subject of mail and telegraph communication. This is an important locality, now more or less isolated, and the extension of the service would be of great benefit to the people. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition.

MR. SQUIRES—I, also, strongly support the petition.

MR. HOWLEY—I have much pleasure in supporting the petition and do so in recognition of the desirability of extending the telegraph service. Although there are some offices which are not paying, it seems to me that some of the most important settlements in the Island have no telegraphic communication. In Placentia Bay several large settlements, where considerable business is carried on, are utterly cut off in this way. There are two settlements I have in mind where a large business is done and 20,000 to 30,000 quintals of fish is exported to the European markets every year. One gentleman told me that his firm had offered to pay the interest on the cost of telegraph communication to connect their harbor with the service, if the Government would carry out the work and provide an operator. In the district there were several large settlements, entirely isolated, owing to their geographical position, like Barren Islands, Merasheen and Haystack, where a lot of business is done and where the necessity for

the system is great. The main line passes down to the westward of Barren Islands, about 200 yards, and to put an office there would mean very little expense.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. KENT—I ask leave to present a petition from Michael Malone and others, of Middle Cove, in St. John's East, asking for a sum of money to repair a road leading from the main road to their farms. Also, a petition from Michael Finn and others, of Torbay, on the subject of the construction of a road to their fishing room in Torbay North. Also, a petition from Patrick Roche and others, of Middle Cove, on the subject of a road being repaired there. I warmly commend these petitions to the consideration of the authorities.

It was ordered that these petitions be referred to the departments to which they relate

MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL RE DAY-LIGHT BILL.

MR. SPEAKER informed the House that he had received a message from the Legislative Council, acquainting the House of Assembly that they had appointed a Select Committee, consisting of the Hon. Messrs. Anderson, Harris, Greene, Harvey and Bishop upon the subject of a Bill respecting certain changes in the hours of the day and night, now before the Council, to take evidence and consider the same, with power to sit out of session and to report thereon at the next session of the Legislature; and they request that the House of Assembly will be pleased to appoint a Committee of their body to co-operate with the Committee of the Council upon the said subject.

MR. KENT—I am under the impression that it is not possible for the House to appoint a Committee to sit out of session.

MR. CLIFT—I would like to raise the point that before the House is called upon to appoint a Committee to sit with a Committee appointed by the Legislative Council, the nature and contents of the Bill in question should be submitted to the House. The House should know something about the Bill before a Committee is appointed. In the message from the Legislative Council the Bill is entitled "A Bill to Change the Hours of Day and Night," or to that effect. It was commonly known as "The Daylight Bill." The House did not know what this Bill proposed to carry into effect and it was necessary that the House should know this, in order to appoint members most capable of dealing with the subject.

HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—I am quite aware of the fact that the Committee has no power to sit out of session, but this would not prevent a Committee of the House from informally meeting. What that Committee would do would not be binding and might not be enforced. There was nothing to prevent the House from appointing this Committee, but if the House did not appoint a Committee it might possibly be regarded, though not in any way meant, as an act of discourtesy to the Upper House. This House was jealous of its rights and would not appoint a committee if there was anything in the objection raised by the hon. member for Twillingate. The rule was to appoint a committee without having the Bill before the House, for each branch of the Legislature was supposed to be cognizant of what was taking place in the other. The Bill under consideration was more or

less misnamed, as it was not to change the hours of day and night, but more for the purpose of altering the hours used by the people. I am sure that there would be no objection to the appointing of the committee.

MR. KENT—I have no objection to the appointment of the committee. I thought it would be best for the committee to be appointed and allowed to do its work without putting the resolutions through the House.

On motion of the Hon. Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Hon. Minister of Justice, it was ordered that a committee be appointed to co-operate with the committee of the Legislative Council upon the subject of the Bill introduced into the Legislative Council "respecting certain changes in the hours of day and night," and that the Committee consist of the Hon. Colonial Secretary, the Hon. Minister of Justice, Mr. Morris, Mr. Kent and Mr. Clift.

Ordered, that a message be sent to the Legislative Council acquainting them with the appointment of the said Committee.

MR. EARLE—I rise to present several petitions, but before doing so would avail of the opportunity of congratulating the Hon. Speaker on his attainment to that high office. It affords me very much pleasure to see the chair occupied by such an able gentleman and I feel sure that if the choice of a Speaker had been left in my hands I would have chosen Mr. Warren in preference to all the members on the other side of the House. I feel convinced that members on both sides of the House will be well treated by the Speaker and am also sure that I will offer no obstruction whatever, but will do my best to work in harmony with those on the other side of the House.

I would now ask leave to present a petition from Eli Steele and others, of Carmanville, praying that telegraphic communication be established at that place. The residents complain that they have been deprived of the advantage which telegraphic communication would give for so long a time. I sincerely hope that the prayer of the petition will be granted, as the locality is such that the material for poles could easily be secured.

I also ask leave to present another petition from the residents of Carmanville, praying that the sum of \$100 be allocated towards the cost of building a road on the south side of that settlement; also for the allocation of a sum of money for repairs to the road to the cemetery on the south side of the harbor; also, for the allocation of a small sum towards the completion of a road to the school house. I support the prayer of the petition.

I also beg leave to present a petition from J. W. Webb and other residents of Victoria Cove, Gander Bay, asking for a sum of money towards the building of a landing place. The petitioners do not want a costly landing place erected, but as the residents of the settlement had much difficulty in getting ashore, something should be done to assist him in the matter. I, therefore, ask that the petition receive the best consideration

I also ask leave to present a petition from William Hill and others, of Joe Batt's Arm, asking for the allocation of a small sum of money for the building of a road towards the houses of William Hill and others. Also, a petition from William Pierce and others of the same place asking for the allocation of \$20 towards the building of a road towards the houses of William Pierce and other

residents. All these petitions have my best support and I hope that they will meet with the careful consideration of the different departments.

It was ordered that these petitions be referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. CLIFT—I beg leave to present a petition which has been handed to me by the Hon. Colonial Secretary. It is from the residents of Nipper's Harbor, and asks for the allocation of the sum of \$1,000 to enable them to repair the wharf at that place. I thank the Hon. Colonial Secretary for having placed it in my hands. The petitioners probably thought that by sending it direct to the hon. gentleman they would be more likely to receive a speedier compliance with their request, and I hope they will not be mistaken in this and that the hon. gentleman will see that something is done to effect the necessary repairs to the wharf in question. In connection with the petition, I have received several communications from Nipper's Harbor, asking me to give it my support. I now avail of the opportunity of supporting the prayer of the petition. I know something of the work in question and of the necessity of effecting the repairs asked for. I hope that the Hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries, to whom it will be referred, will give it his earliest attention and mete out to it such portion of the grant for marine works as its importance would demand.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. SQUIRES—I beg leave to present a petition from William Harris and about seventy other residents of Elliston, in the electoral district of Trinity, asking for the grant of \$50 for the improvement of a well at

that place. The petition sets forth that the water of the well is the only water supply for half the people resident on the south side of Elliston. The petition has been handed to me by my colleague, the Hon. Colonial Secretary, and I ask that it be received and referred to the proper department.

I beg leave to present another petition, which has also been handed to me through the courtesy of the Hon. Colonial Secretary. The petition is a unique one, in that it is signed by Ellen Butler and some thirty-six lady residents of Robin Hood, asking for the allocation of a sum of money for the building of a public well at that place. I trust that my colleagues and myself may be able to secure for these ladies what they prayed for in the petition, and that their advocacy of pure water would meet with the support it deserved. I ask that the petition be referred to the department to which it belonged.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have much pleasure in supporting the petitions presented by my learned colleague, Mr. Squires.

It was ordered that these petitions be referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. SQUIRES—I beg leave to present a petition from certain residents of Britannia Cove and Smith Sound, asking for the allocation of a sum of money for the erection of a lighthouse on Ragged Island. Hundreds of vessels pass through the Sound between April and September in each year, and it is often necessary for them to stay outside because of the danger of entering the Sound, through the lack of a lighthouse. I am glad to know that already something has been done to carry into effect the prayer of the petition, and

that during the year a lighthouse will be erected on Ragged Island. I ask that the petition be referred to the department to which it belongs.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I may say that the petition which has just been presented by my hon. colleague is now what might be called a hardy annual. It was about twelve years ago that I first presented a petition to the same effect as the one just handed in. I am very pleased to be able to say that arrangements have already been made whereby the lighthouse asked for would be erected during the present year.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

SUSPENSION OF RULES.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER gave notice that he would on to-morrow move the suspension of the rules of the House on all matters to be submitted to the House.

COMMITTEE OF WHOLE ON SUPPLY.

Pursuant to order, and on motion of the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on Supply.

MR. SPEAKER left the Chair.

MR. PARSONS took the Chair of Committee.

MR. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred, and adopted a certain resolution.

Ordered, that this report be adopted.

The said resolution was then read a first time, as follows:

**DISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUS,
1907-1908.**

Election Expenses, 1908-	
1909	\$35,000.00
Surplus Trust Account..	8,183.45
	<hr/>
	\$43,183.45

The said resolution being read a second time, it was moved that the House concur with the Committee therein, and the said resolution was agreed to.

**COMMITTEE OF WHOLE ON WAYS
AND MEANS.**

Pursuant to order, and on motion of the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on Ways and Means.

MR. SPEAKER left the Chair.

MR. PARSONS took the Chair of Committee.

MR. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had passed certain resolutions, which were read a first time, as follows :

“RESOLVED—That towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty on account of certain expenses of the public service for the financial year ending June 30th, 1908, the sum of \$187,174.26 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony.

“RESOLVED—That towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty on account of certain expenses of the public service for the financial year ending June 30th., 1910, the sum of \$1,727,174.00 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony.

“RESOLVED—That notwithstanding anything in any law to the contrary, it shall be lawful for the Governor in Council, in case of the districts or neighborhoods having Local Boards or Councils, to authorize the payment at any time after the 30th day of June, 1909, to such Local Boards or Councils of all the moneys voted in respect of such districts or neighborhoods for public charities and for roads, bridges and ferries in Schedule 8, and all such moneys when paid them, as aforesaid, may be expended by such Boards or Councils for such local needs and requirements as the Boards or Councils may determine.

“RESOLVED—That the moneys hereby appropriated shall be paid by the Minister of Finance and Customs in discharge of such warrants as may from time to time be drawn by the Governor for the purpose.

“RESOLVED—That a Bill be introduced to give effect to those resolutions.”

PUBLIC SERVICE BILL PASSED.

The said resolutions were then read a second time and agreed to, and the Public Service Bill was introduced, read a first and second time, referred to Committee of the Whole, and adopted without amendment, read a third time and passed, and it was ordered that it be engrossed, being entitled “An Act for the granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for defraying certain expenses of the Public Service for the financial year ending respectively the 30th day of June, 1909, and the 30th day of June, 1910, and for other purposes relating to the Public Service,” and that it be sent to the Legislative Council, with a message requesting their concurrence in its provisions.

NOTICE OF QUESTION.

MR. BENNETT gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Minister of Public Works if any steps had been taken by his department under the late administration, to improve the condition of the Poor Asylum in St. John's in the way of remodelling the present building, or by building an entirely new institution; and, if such steps were taken or contemplated, to lay a full statement of particulars on the table of the House.

On motion, the House adjourned till to-morrow, Thursday, June 10th, at three o'clock.

THURSDAY, June 10th, 1909.

The House met at three o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Seal Cove, in the District of Trinity, asking for a grant for an agricultural road there, along the main land to agricultural land on the south side of the cove. I hope it will be possible to do something for this road.

The petition was received and referred to the Department of Public Works.

THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS—I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Colliers, in Harbor Main District, in reference to trawlers on the Labrador coast. This is a very important matter and the petitioners contend that if some laws are not put into force to prevent trawlers from fishing inside the three mile limit and from polluting the waters with offal, they would be obliged to leave that section of the coast. Consequently, it

is a very serious matter to them. Last week Capt. Winsor, supported by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, spoke strongly on the same subject and I am certain some new laws will have to be made and enforced, to prevent that practice. The fishermen hoped and trusted and had every confidence in the Government's meeting the prayer of the petition.

MR. DOWNEY—I rise to support the petition just presented by the hon. member for Harbor Main, to the effect that fouling the bottom of fishery waters is detrimental to the best interests of our fishery industry. This fouling is principally occasioned by the dumping overboard of offal from crafts that split their fish at anchor on the fishing grounds. That fouling on the bottom was generally admitted, but the process through which the injuries result was not so apparent to many of us. All animals, marine as well as terrestrial, required to breathe atmospheric air, though the process through which fishes acquired a supply of oxygen was different from that of terrestrial animals. All waters must contain a certain percentage of atmospheric air, to enable them to support life. This air was held in mechanical suspension in the form of very minute globules, and these globules were absorbed by the fishes, and thus they derived their supply of oxygen. When fish offal was thrown overboard it sunk to the bottom, as in the case of all other animal matter, and it soon entered the putrefactive state. In the process of putrefaction large volumes of obnoxious gases were given off. These gases combined with the air globules and were absorbed by the fish and, of course, were as injurious to fish life as such impure air would be to any other form of life, with the result that the fish abandoned waters thus contam-

inated. All animals, whether fishes or the terrestrial type, under natural conditions, were cleanly in their habits and would not remain in contact with undesirable surroundings. Thus it followed that fishes always forsook grounds polluted by offal. That water must contain a considerable percentage of atmospheric air to render it palatable was proven by the fact that boiled water for drinking purposes was flat and insipid, owing to the atmospheric air having been driven off in the process of boiling. But water that had been boiled and cooled may be re-aerated by churning it rapidly about in an open vessel, when it would be found to have re-acquired the requisite quantity of air and so again be rendered palatable. Storms exercise the same beneficial effect in re-imparting to the waters of the seas a supply of atmospheric air, that the churning process did in the case of the boiled water, and thus the waters of the oceans were kept sweet and fit for the support of animal life. I am not prepared to offer a definite opinion with regard to any injurious effects arising from the trawling so practised in our fisheries, particularly on the Labrador coast. On the western coasts, with which I am most familiar, this practice was looked upon with a jealous eye, and there were fishery board regulations prohibiting the practice of this method of fishing within the three mile limit. Undoubtedly our method of trawling was infinitely less injurious than the beam or otter trawling, so universally used in the British fisheries. These resulted in the entire depletion of the once prolific fisheries of the North Sea, and to-day their evil results were being recognized in the Icelandic fishery, where they had of late years been introduced. It was earnestly to be hoped that such

methods of fishing may never be introduced into the fisheries of Newfoundland. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition to the extent of enforcing stringent regulations to prevent the fouling of the bottom.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. GOODISON—I ask leave to present a petition from the people of Carbonear, identical with that presented by Mr. Woodford. These people do not wish to interfere with trawlers, except that they should be shut out from the three-mile limit and not be allowed to throw offal overboard, a practice which was ruining the fishery for the inshore fishermen.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates

MR. SEYMOUR—I ask leave to present a petition on behalf of the inhabitants of Bear's Cove, praying for repairs to the public wharf there. It was an important matter and I have much pleasure in supporting the petition.

MR. PARSONS—I also have much pleasure in supporting the petition.

THE MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES—I know the necessity of having such a wharf there and on account of the ice being around so late this spring a lot of damage has been done to the wharf now there. Consequently it is necessary that a sum of money should be allocated for the purpose.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. DOWNEY—I ask leave to present a petition from Bay of Islands

on the subject of a public wharf. The District of St. George's is in a bad condition in the matter of public utilities. It has never shared like the other districts in the distribution of public monies for these purposes, although it is one of the largest and most important fishing districts in the Island.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates

THE HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINES—I ask leave to present several petitions from the District of Bonavista; one from Loo Cove, asking for the sum of \$80 for agricultural purposes; one from Amherst Ccve, asking for the sum of \$50 for the building of a road; one from Safe Harbour, asking for the sum of \$200 for the construction of a road; one from Loo Cove asking for the sum of \$300 for a bridge; one from Stock Cove: one from Indian Arm: one from Squid Tickle: one from Sweet Bay: and one from Salvage Bay, all asking for allocations for roads. The District of Bonavista has been sadly neglected of late years in regard to roads and bridges, and I feel sure that my hon. colleague, Mr Morison, will agree with me in this, for we walked over some of the worst roads in the district in the late election campaigns. If the Department of Public Works could at all see their way clear to grant the prayer of the petitioners, I hope they will do so. The people of Salvage asked that a pond there be fenced and I know that this is absolutely necessary. I have much pleasure in presenting the petitions and asked that they be referred to the proper departments.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR KENT—I beg leave to present a petition from Geoffrey Healey, of St. John's. It sets forth that Mr. Healey was for a number of years in the employ of the House of Assembly, as fireman and general caretaker. The petitioner is now an old man and for a number of years had done his work in what he considered to be a satisfactory and efficient way. Up to this session he was employed and he knew of no reason or cause for his dismissal. Under the circumstances and owing to the fact that he was now an old man and it would be exceedingly difficult for him to secure work whereby to provide for his family and himself, so he asked that he be granted a retiring allowance for the remainder of his life.

It is not necessary for me to say much of the services which had been rendered by Mr. Healey. Those members who had occupied a seat in the former Legislatures would agree that he was always at his post and did his duty; and was most agreeable and obliging to all the members who had requests to make. Now that he was an old man, it would be an act of kindness to allow him a retiring allowance. When he first assumed the duties of fireman and caretaker he undertook them under peculiar difficulties and always performed them with satisfaction to both branches of the Legislature. I ask that the petition be referred to the Commission of Internal Economy, who would, I feel sure, give the matter every consideration.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—I have but one or two words to say in reference to the petition which has been presented by the hon. member for St. John's East. There was evidently some misunderstanding in the matter of Mr. Healey's position. Mr. Healey had not been dis-

missed, but he had gone out of office on the dissolution of the Legislature. Nobody who had held an office in the Legislature was dismissed, and I would not like it to go abroad that Mr. Healey had been dismissed from his position. With the death of the Legislature, all officials and servants went out, with the exception of those who held office under commission. These held office, although the Legislature had been dissolved, but all others went out with the dissolution of Parliament.

MR. CLIFT—I wish to say a word in support of the petition which has been presented by the hon. member for St. John's East. Mr. Healey was a former servant of the Legislature, who had always performed his services with satisfaction to all. I appreciate the remarks of the Hon. the Prime Minister and, to some extent, agree with him in the rules which he has laid down, but I maintain that it has not been the practice of this House that the rule should be applied to the fireman. If I remember rightly, one of the officials who had formerly held that position had been so regarded as a permanent official that, on his being unable to perform his duties, he was annually voted a small sum by the way of compensation. It had not come under the pension list, but one Contingency Committee after another seemed to realize the fact that he was entitled to consideration and annually voted him a small sum. I think that in consideration of the long and faithful services of Mr. Healey his case should also be taken into consideration. He had performed his duties faithfully and well during the time he had occupied the position. While technically his office might be lost on the dissolution of the Legislature, yet in reality it did not, because he continued to perform his duties while

the House was dissolved up to a short time before the present session met. The Commission of Internal Economy would do an act of justice if they took his case into consideration and made the same provision for him as was made for his predecessor. I hope the Committee will deal with the matter and take into consideration the long and faithful services of the petitioner.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. EARLE—Through the kindness of the Hon. the Premier, I have been handed a petition from the residents of Tilting, which I beg leave to present to the House. The petition is so important that I feel sure I would be justified in reading it to the House. (The hon. member then read the petition). It would be seen from the petition that the residents were desirous that each householder should be permitted to have one dog, which they should not allow to stray, under a penalty. I feel sure that it is unnecessary for me to say anything further on the matter referred to in the petition, beyond the fact that the petition has my support. I ask that the petition be referred to the department to which it belonged, and I trust that the department would give it careful consideration.

It was ordered that the petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. EARLE—I also beg leave to present a petition from the Orange Society of Fogo. The petition sets forth that the society has built a large hall at that place, some distance from the main road, and they ask for the sum of \$60 to build a road to the said hall. The hall is

a large one and would be used, not for society meetings alone, but for other meetings, soirees, bazaars, etc., held by the general public. I heartily support the prayer of the petition and ask that it be referred to the department to which it belongs.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. EARLE—I also beg leave to present a petition from the people of Hare Bay, asking for the allocation of a sum of money for the construction of a well. On two or three times I have presented petitions of this kind and consider them of great importance. The people of Hare Bay had never had a well, other than a small hole scooped out in the marsh. This was very poor water and it was certainly desirable that this House should do all in its power to give them proper water for drinking purposes. I give the prayer of the petition my very cordial support, and ask that it be referred to its proper department.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. EARLE—I also beg leave to present a petition from Lorenzo Collins and others, of Indian Island, asking for the sum of \$100 for the building of a road on the west end of the island. The residents of that place needed the road to enable them to get to their gardens, for the ground near the gardens was very marshy, and almost impassable. I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition and ask that it be referred to the department to which it belongs.

It was ordered that these petitions be referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. EARLE—I also beg leave to present a petition from the residents of Joe Batt's Arm asking for the grant of \$100 for the completion of a road leading from the public road to the residences of several of the people of that settlement. I support the prayer of the petition and ask that it be referred to the department to which it belongs.

It was ordered that these petitions be referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. MOORE—I beg leave to present a petition from Bernard Meaney and others, of Caplin Bay, in the electoral district of Ferryland, on the subject of trawls. The law at the present time is that trawls could be used from May 1st to August 10th, and that the petitioners wished the season to be altered to from June 1st to September 1st, along that part of the coast from Blow-me-Down Head to Goose Island. They wanted this law enacted so that they could use trawls in deep waters. A number of the people were subject to much hardship, and some had been brought before the Magistrate of Ferryland, for catching fish to help to make a living for themselves and their families. They were fined \$20 each by the Magistrate and had to pay it. These men were industrious and hard-working men, but those who had informed on them were too lazy to catch fish. The people were law-abiding and wanted the law altered as set forth in the petition. I hope it will receive the attention that was due to it when it is sent to the proper department, and that it will not be pigeon-holed or thrown in the waste-paper basket like many other petitions from the fishermen had been in recent years.

It was ordered that these petitions be referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. GOODISON—I beg leave to present a petition from James Moore, John Duff, James Howell and others, of Carbonear, all members of the Carbonear Fire Brigade, praying for a grant towards repairs to the fire hall and for the purchase of necessary equipment. I have great pleasure in strongly supporting the prayer of the petition, and in pointing out that the members of the Brigade give their services without remuneration, and so deserve every encouragement in such work. The requests made were entirely reasonable; in fact the brigade could not be expected to perform services such as they would be called upon to do without the equipment for which they were asked. It was obvious that a petition for such articles as hose, carriages, fire bells, extension ladders, and electrical fire alarm connections for a brigade which was entirely a voluntary organization, should demand and receive prompt attention. I have pleasure in calling attention to the cheap rates at which electrical communication can be obtained in Carbonear, and trust that this feature would not escape the attention of the departments to which I ask that the petition be now referred.

It was ordered that these petitions be referred to the departments to which they relate.

A PERSONAL EXPLANATION.

MR. CLIFT—I wish to call the attention of the House to a personal matter. On Thursday, June 3rd, I made some remarks in this House on the Address in Reply to the gracious speech of His Excellency the

Governor. In those remarks I stated that I shared in the regret expressed by other members that His Excellency was about to leave the Colony. The hon. member for Placentia, Mr. Morris, followed him, and made the following remarks:

“He (Mr. M.) was glad the hon. member for Twillingate was honest enough to say, as he had said, that he was not in sympathy with the bitter, untruthful, libelous, and diabolical attacks on the Governor during the recent political campaign.”

Possibly the hon. gentlemen in making their observations misunderstood what I had said when speaking in reference to His Excellency. I wish to state that I made no such remarks as the hon. gentlemen thought I made. The only remarks I made were those which were correctly reported in the official reports in the opening part of my speech. I made no reference to the attacks of The Evening Telegram. I am constrained to make these observations in view of the fact that I feel that I was misrepresented, and also because of the fact that a despatch had been sent from this Colony to St. John, N.B. to the St. John Sun, in which the following words were used:

“Several members of the Bond Party, in their addresses, declared that they deprecated the attacks which had been made on His Excellency the Governor for dissolving the last Legislature.”

I never made use of such observations nor did I hear them used by any of the members on this side of the House. I call the attention of the House to this because I consider

that it is an untruthful report of the proceedings of this House.

MR. F. J. MORRIS—As the hon. member for Twillingate associated my name with the personal explanation he has just made to the House, I wish to say that my observations were called forth by the expression which I had understood my hon. and learned friend had made in reference to his regret that the Governor was leaving the Colony. I understood him to say that while these differences of opinion had existed, he had not taken any part in the attacks made on His Excellency, and had no connection with them whatsoever. I made my observations perfectly clear to the House, and congratulated my hon. and learned friend in disclaiming any connection with those attacks. If I had misrepresented or misunderstood the observations the hon. member had made, surely at the time when the hon. member had given utterance to his ideas, when the words had just fallen from my lips, was the time for him to make objection and to state before the House that he had been misunderstood or misrepresented. This, the hon. member did not do, but allowed me to continue in the same strain and finish my remarks without the slightest objection being raised or correction interjected. However, I have no fault to find with the remarks accredited to him, and reported in the official records, as to the incident under consideration. I feel sure that I understood very clearly that the hon. member had said, and it would be in the memory of the hon. members present on the occasion, who, I feel sure, must have understood the hon. member's remarks in the same light as I had done. It was now rather

late in the day for the hon. gentlemen to attribute to me misquoting or a misrepresentation in connection with an incident which had taken place some days ago. On the occasion alluded to by the hon. member, and whilst I was speaking, the hon. member for St. John's East, Mr. Dwyer, had interjected some remarks to the effect that he (Mr. Dwyer) had been in no way connected with the newspapers attacks upon His Excellency the Governor, and I then stated that I was very pleased to hear Mr. Dwyer disassociate himself from any connection therewith, and I feel sure that no hon. member of the present Assembly wrote these attacks or had any connection with them. This was a strong point in favor of my not having misunderstood or misquoted the remarks of the hon. member for Twillingate.

The position that I had taken, and the point I was then making was, I feel certain, fully understood and appreciated by all the hon. members present at the time, both Opposition and Government, and must have been fully understood by the hon. member for Twillingate, and must have been fully concurred in, because no word of protest had been raised. Of course, I could not blame the hon. gentlemen for what he had just said, as to what had been printed in the local papers, or sent in special despatches to the Canadian press. I am in no way concerned with this phase of the question, but I made my observations to the House, first, because I understood that the hon. member had used the words in reference to the same, and that he had expressed himself as not being in sympathy with these attacks upon His Excellency the Governor, and had taken

that opportunity of placing himself in a right position. I have no desire to enter into a discussion on the position now taken by my hon. and learned friend, the member for Twillingate, and I merely rise to put myself right with the House in connection with the matter.

MR. CLIFT—I wish to say, in explanation, that the observations made by me were correctly given in the official reports.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED

MR. BENNETT asked the Minister of Public Works if any steps had been taken by his department under the late Administration, to improve the condition of the Poor Asylum in St. John's in the way of remodelling the present building, or by building an entirely new institution and, if such steps were taken or contemplated, to lay a full statement of particulars on the table of the House.

THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS—My department has no knowledge of anything having been done by the late Administration in the way of remodelling the present building, or of building an entirely new institution.

MR. CLIFT—I have three notices on the question paper for several days, but have received no information yet. One was for the Colonial Secretary's Department, another for the Department of Marine and Fisheries, and one for the Public Works Department. The delay was explained by saying the clerks in these departments were very busy, but I think clerks should not be too busy to prepare information in response to questions put in this

House. The clerks should drop every other work in order to meet the request of members of this House. I think it a lack of courtesy to members of this House for matters of this nature to be treated in such a manner, and I hope the information will be speedily forthcoming.

THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS—I have no desire whatever to be discourteous to hon. members or to this House. I am willing to give any information desired by hon. members, but owing to the clerks in my department being very busy I have not as yet been able to secure the information asked for by the House. If they don't hurry in their work I think he shall have to dismiss certain officials in my department and probably then Mr. Clift will come forward with friends of his as applicants for these vacant positions.

MR. CLIFT—This is adding insult to injury.

THE MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES—I remember quite well the hon. gentleman asking for the information, but thought the information required was of a different nature from that apparently desired. I think it a pleasure to give any information from my department to the House. I do not wish to act discourteously to the House and will try and get the information by to-morrow.

MR. CLIFT—I will be quite satisfied if the hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries will say he will do it to-morrow.

MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES—I will have the information to-morrow.

RULES SUSPENDED

Pursuant to notice, and on motion of the Hon. the Prime Minister it was ordered that the rules be suspended in relation to all matters to come before the House during the present session.

MESSAGES FROM COUNCIL

MR. SPEAKER informed the House that he had received a message from the Legislative Council acquainting the House of Assembly that they had passed the Bill sent up entitled "An Act further to amend the Education Act, 1903." with some amendments in which they requested the concurrence of the House of Assembly.

HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—For the information of the House I may say that the amendments made by the Legislative Council only tended to make the original Bill more clear and did not in any way change the principle.

On motion of the HON. THE PRIME MINISTER the said amendments were read a first and second time and agreed to, and it was ordered that a message be sent to the Legislative Council, acquainting it of the concurrence of the House of Assembly therein.

MR. SPEAKER informed the House that he had received a message from the Legislative Council acquainting the House of Assembly that they had passed the Bill sent up, entitled "An Act to incorporate the Newfoundland Board of Trade and for other purposes", with an amendment in which they requested the concurrence of the House of Assembly.

On motion of the HON. THE PRIME MINISTER said amendment was read a first and second time and

agreed to, and it was ordered that a message be sent to the Legislative Council acquainting them of the concurrence of the House of Assembly therein.

BILLS PASSED

MR. SPEAKER informed the House that he had received a message from the Legislative Council acquainting the House of Assembly that they had passed the Bill sent up entitled, "An Act respecting certain Retiring Allowances", without amendment; also they had passed the Bill entitled "An Act for raising by loan a sum of money for the Public Service of the Colony," without amendment.

FAREWELL ADDRESS TO GOVERNOR

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—I beg leave to move the adoption of the following address, in the presenting of which I feel sure that this branch of the Legislature will be glad to co-operate with the other branch. I now ask the Clerk to read the address.

Here the Clerk read the address, as follows:—

"To His Excellency Sir William MacGregor, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Doctor of Medicine, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies.

"We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the members of both branches of the General Assembly, in Legislative Session convened, respectfully approach Your Excellency with an expression of our profound regret at your approaching depart-

ure from this Colony, whereby Newfoundland will lose the valuable and highly-appreciative services of one who, as His Majesty's representative, has filled that position in a manner to earn the esteem and regard of the whole people.

"During Your Excellency's stay in this Colony you have endeared yourself to all classes and sections of our people. To the performance of your official duties you have always brought an unswerving devotion and an unselfish fidelity. You have striven zealously to promote the interests of the Colony in other respects. Your reports on our trade and commerce will always stand as a monument to your industry and researches. Your historical and scientific investigations on Labrador have added greatly to our knowledge of that important portion of our Colony. Your visits to different parts of the Island, whereby you have come in touch with our people in their ordinary pursuits, your work in the causes of education and charity, and the active identification of yourself with all philanthropic and moral organizations, have made your name a household word, and greatly contributed to stimulate popular interest in the activities of these very deserving institutions.

"We feel that we can certainly voice the feelings of the whole people of Newfoundland in thanking Your Excellency for the evident desire you have thus shown to promote the welfare of this Colony, and we hope that the blessings of Divine Providence may attend you in the great Province of the Commonwealth of Australia, to which His Majesty has been pleased to appoint you.

HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—
I am too near His Excellency the

Governor in my public capacity, as one of his advisers, to freely give utterance to the feelings of regard and respect and admiration which I hold for him. To do so might lay me open to a misconception which I would be loath to cause. In the few observations which I am about to make, I merely wish to remind those present that the proposed address, which I have no doubt will be carried, is not an ordinary one, and the recipient of the address is well worthy of it. I have had the advantage, as a member of the Executive of this Colony, to advise six Governors and three Administrators, and I can honestly testify, and that without any way detracting from the merits of his predecessors in office, that no man has ever brought to the performance of his duties as Governor of Newfoundland such industry in official work and such widespread interest in all that affects the people as Governor MacGregor. The keynote of his character, and I say it as one who has had opportunity of observing him, is thoroughness. He did nothing by halves, believing that what was worth doing was worth doing well. Added to this was a fine sense of justice. He was always ready to hear the other side, and never approached the consideration of even the most trivial matter with a mind made up. His work amongst us has not only been that of ordinary administration, as the representative of His Majesty the King, but he has been the leader in philanthropic, social and religious undertakings, and by his sympathy, has done much to aid and assist all such movements. He was not merely the Governor in St. John's but of the whole Island, not of one class but of all people. His life-work in the far outposts of the Empire, amongst the savage peoples over whom he ruled yearly, taught him

that all were alike to the King and this lesson on hand stood him in good stead in this country. His annual visits to the Esquimaux of the Labrador, as well as the Indians of Fortune Bay, were the natural outcome of the correct conception of his position. On the whole, he has been a busy man. During the last seven months his whole time has been occupied in the disentangling of almost difficult unprecedented constitutional question, and for years previous to this, great drafts have been made on his time and energy in connection with the American and other foreign questions; but, notwithstanding this, he has found ample time to make up and deal with large questions in which this country is interested, and his reports on the trade, on the Labrador boundary dispute and on other matters entitled him to the lasting respect and regard of the people of this Colony. As regards to his work as Governor, that had been marked in the most signal manner by his Sovereign, as well as by the right Hon. the Secretary of State for Colonies, to whom may be some in this country did not see eye to eye with the Governor. For all that, he had, in the exercise of his office, to exercise his judgment and practically assume the personal responsibility for his acts and decisions, but I am perfectly satisfied that when the effacing hand of time has removed those reasons, which often mark our judgments, when unaffected by personal consideration, we are able to place ourselves in the Governor's position, and all narrow-mindedness has passed away, the verdict will be that, all things considered, the Governor did what was right.

Nor can we pass over the fact that much of his success as a Governor, in social and philanthropic work, is due to the sympathy and

support of his partner, Lady MacGregor, whose simple home life and habits and sympathy with our people in all their work and movements has been an inspiration alike to all. I have much pleasure in moving this Address of Farewell to His Excellency the Governor.

THE HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE
—I have great pleasure in seconding the address proposed by the Hon. the Prime Minister. I hope that my hon. friends on the other side of the House will concur in the motion. We have had a great number of Governors here, but in all my experience and in my memory of the past fifty years I have not known one who took such practical interest in the welfare of the Island. Of course, as a representative of His Most Gracious Majesty, one would expect him to act in an impartial manner and to hold the balance evenly between the parties. This, as we have seen, he had done during the course of a most complicated political crisis which we had gone through during the past six months. In other matters, as well as this, His Excellency had shown great interest and more especially those relating to the fishermen. Not content with hearing about them, he had gone amongst them himself and learned exactly their condition and everything relating to them. He recognized and rewarded the bravery of the fishermen. I know of two cases in which he had personally worked to gain recognition for bravery. One was the case of some men of Bonavista, who had risked their lives to save some Norwegian fishermen two years ago. The other was in the case of residents of Burin. He had gone personally and decorated these with the medals sent out by the Humane Society. Nor could we pass over the work of His

Excellency in the extinction of tuberculosis. A great deal of the vigor given to this movement resulted from the practical interest taken in it by His Excellency. The American question and the Labrador boundary question were other matters in which Sir William MacGregor had taken a keen interest. On one occasion he had said that one of his greatest regrets in leaving Newfoundland was that he would not be here for the final settlement of the Labrador boundary question, which he considered of the most vital importance. He has also interested himself in our trade and commerce. The outcome of his work in this matter was a pamphlet which for exact and exhaustive matter was superior to anything ever yet produced here. But I think that our regret for his leaving is tempered by the knowledge that the Governor is going to take up a post far more important in the eyes of the Empire and the Crown, where his great abilities will be of greater use in the interests of the Empire, of which this Island forms a rather insignificant part. I have great pleasure in seconding the proposal made by the Hon. the Premier.

MR. BENNETT—I desire to say a few words in support of the proposal made by the Hon. the Premier. Some four years ago I had the honor of being one of those to propose an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne. It was the first Speech from the Throne read by His Excellency Sir William MacGregor. I had thus the honor of welcoming the Governor to our shores and it is with feelings of great regret that I now rise to speak of his departure. The proposal made by the Premier deserves the approbation of every member of the House. Both sides must certainly admit that ever since

the Governor had undertaken his administrative duties here he had fulfilled them to the great benefit of the people generally. I am sure that what has already been said is only in a small measure the expression of what the people thought of Sir Wm. MacGregor, who is now going to reap the reward of long service to the Crown. He came here decorated with the medal of the Humane Society. He came here with the reputation of a brave man and this reputation he had fully sustained since he had taken our administrative system under his control. I feel sure that the departure of His Excellency will be a loss to the Colony and I only hope that the success which has attended him here will go with him to his new post. I have, therefore, great pleasure in supporting the proposal made by the Hon. the Premier.

MR. DEVEREUX—I rise to say a few words on the motion. I am sorry to say that I have not had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with His Excellency, still, as one outside the House, I can speak highly of the appreciation felt for Sir William MacGregor. He is the people's Governor. As Governor he had to maintain the dignity of his position, but despite this he had gone among the people, studied their habits and learnt everything that related to their lives. It is a matter of regret that he is about to depart, even though he is going to take a position of greater importance in the Empire. His visits to Labrador had been of great importance to the country and in other matters his practical interest made his departure a greater loss to the Colony. Nevertheless, he was going to take a very high position in the Empire and I am glad that his administrative abilities have received this recognition from the

Imperial Government. I have, therefore, great pleasure in supporting this address.

MR. SPEAKER having put the motion, a division was called, whereupon the House divided and there appeared for the motion the Hon. the Premier, Hon. Minister of Justice, Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines, Hon. Mr. Emerson, Minister of Public Works, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Messrs. Bennett, Devereux, Downey, Goodison, Kennedy, Moore, Murphy, Parsons and Squires (16); and against it Messrs. Kent, Clift, Clapp, Earle and Roberts (5).

On motion of the Hon. the Prime Minister, it was ordered that a message be sent to the Legislative Council acquainting them that the House had passed the said Address, and requesting their concurrence therein.

MR. SPEAKER informed the House that he had received a message from the Legislative Council acquainting the House of Assembly that they had passed the Address to His Excellency the Governor, sent up from the House of Assembly; also, that they had passed the Bill entitled, "An Act to amend the Revenue Act, 1905," without amendment.

NOTICES OF QUESTION.

MR. EARLE gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Hon. Colonial Secretary as to whether any arrangement or contract had been made for the Fogo District mail service; and, if so, what steamer had been engaged, at what subsidy, and at what time said service would begin.

MR. KENT gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Hon. the Prime Minister whether any arrange-

ment had been made between the Imperial Government and the Government of the United States for the adjudication of the pecuniary claims made by certain firms and individuals, inhabitants of the United States, through the Government of that country, against the Government of Newfoundland; and, if so, to lay a copy thereof on the table of this House and state whether the Government of Newfoundland consented to such arrangement.

MR. CLIFT gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Hon. Colonial Secretary if any expenditure of road money had been made at Tilton, in the District of Hr. Grace, within the last month; and, if so, was said money expended by the Road Board; also, to ask the Hon. Colonial Secretary and the Reid Nfld. Co., in reference to the placing of a second steamer on the Labrador service in May last; also, the correspondence from the Department of Marine and Fisheries on the same subject; also, a statement from the Postal Department showing the dates that the Virginia Lake left St. John's and returned during last season.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn till to-morrow, Friday, June 11th, at 5.30 o'clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

FRIDAY, June 11th, 1909.

The House met at 5.30 p.m., pursuant to adjournment.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

MR. CLAPP—I beg leave to present a petition from the residents of South-west Arm, in the District of St. Barbe, which I have the honor to represent, asking for the allocation of a sum of money for the building of

a bridge at that place. I know the great need there is for the bridge, as it is impossible to reach the other side except by boat, and I trust that the department to which the petition will be referred will give it their most careful attention.

I also beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Harbor Round, Bent's Cove and West Country Cove, praying that Harbor Round be made a port of call by the coastal boat. The nearest ports of call were La Scie on the south, and Pacquet on the north. The fishermen ran great risk to life and property in taking their freight from these places in open boat. There are quite a number of inhabitants in the vicinity and I know that coastal boat communication would be a great advantage to the people. I think the boat could conveniently call there, as the harbor is a bold one and the anchorage good, and I ask that it be referred to the department to which it belongs, where I hope the prayer of the petition will receive the careful attention that is due it.

I also beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Bonne Bay, in reference to the ferry boat at that place. The inhabitants wish to have a motor boat, instead of the open boat now in use at the present time. People travelling in an open ferry boat from Bonne Bay to Norris' Point suffer great inconvenience and exposure in stormy weather, whereas if the motor boat was substituted the time would be shortened and inconvenience avoided. I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition and I recommend that a motor boat be substituted for the open boat that is now used.

I also beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Horse Island. The petitioners pray that

the coastal boat call there once a month, going and coming. I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition, for a large number of people frequent the place during the fishing season. The anchorage at what is called "Western Harbor" could accommodate the Prospero, or even a larger steamer. I trust that it will receive the consideration of the department to which it is referred.

I also beg leave to present a petition from Fleur de Lys, asking that the coastal boat call there. I support this petition, also, and recommend it to the careful consideration of the department. Fleur de Lys had grown to be a place of some importance. The Prospero made one trip there last year and considered the place unfit to call at. The petition sets out: "We had the pleasure of a visit from the steamer Prospero last fall and we thought she would continue to call here, but we learn since that Capt. Kean says it is no fit place for the ship, a statement that all the residents of this harbor can deny. We have surveyed the harbor and can prove that it is safe for a much larger ship than the Ss Prospero." I could say nothing stronger than the above quotation from the petition, in support of the steamer's calling at Fleur de Lys. The depth of water in the outside harbor is from six to ten fathoms, and inside, where the man-of-war used to anchor, the harbor is much larger and the shoalest water in the narrowest part of the Tickle is twenty feet.

I also beg leave to present a petition from the residents of Port Saunders and other places in its vicinity, asking for telegraphic communication from Bonne Bay to Port Saunders. Several sessions ago I presented a

mass petition, asking for telegraph communication at the principal centres along the coast. I was successful in having communication established at La Scie, Western Cove and Seal Cove, and I hope that before long telegraphic communication will be established at all the important settlements of the district. In seconding the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne a few days ago my hon. friend, Capt. Winsor, member for Bonavista Bay, mentioned the absolute necessity for telegraphic communication on that coast. He said that during the fishing season, on the North-east Coast, there were over 5,000 men in that vicinity, and telegraphic communication was needed in case of loss of traps and other damage, whereby the fishermen would be able to telegraph their orders direct to St. John's, instead of, as now, being obliged to wait for the mail boat, which meant loss of time and money. There might be a severe storm, as was experienced some twelve years ago, and no communication could be sent to bring a steamer there in case of necessity. Port Saunders is a place that is bound to come to the front. There are large timber areas at Hawke's Bay, where it is said there will shortly be mills erected, and I am sure the hon. member for Harbor Main, Mr. Murphy, who is interested in the Hawke's Bay mills, will agree that telegraphic communication along that coast will be a great benefit to the people there. It is a level country and little difficulty will be experienced in laying down the line. What the Government will receive from the messages sent would pay for the outlay on it. I am determined that although I am on the Opposition side of the House I will do all in my power for my constituents. I have always done my best in their interests and they have

rewarded me by returning me to this House three times with good majorities. I hope that the Leader of the Government, Sir Edward Morris, will not stay his hand in advancing the interests of St. Barbe all he can during his term of office. I not only refer to telegraph communication in the district, but to the absolute necessity of a steamer being put on which would ply between Griquet, the terminus of the Prospero, and Cape Norman. This would be of untold advantage to the fishermen of that part of the coast. I ask that all the petitions be referred to the proper departments, where I hope they will receive careful and prompt attention.

MR. SQUIRES—I have very much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition just presented by the hon. member for St. Barbe, concerning the possibility of making Pacquet an alternative port of call by the steamer. There was much business done there, not only by the residents of the place, but also by visitors. I feel convinced that if it could be arranged for the coastal boat to call there great advantage would be derived by the inhabitants of that vicinity. Anybody who had ever visited Pacquet or had done business there would know the great need there was for coastal boat communication and I have therefore great pleasure in giving the prayer of the petition my support.

It was ordered that these petitions be referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. MORRIS—I beg leave to present to the House a petition from residents of Argentia, Fox Harbor and Long Harbor on the subject of having the coastal steamer Argyle call at these places on her northern

trip. The petition was signed by most of the residents of these localities. The petition set out, among other things, that Argentia, Fox Harbor and Long Harbor were three of the most populous and most important places on the east side of Placentia Bay. The population was about 1,800, and they had forty or more large western boats fishing at Cape St. Mary's, besides a large number of smaller crafts. There were a considerable number of men who prosecuted the fisheries inshore. The people were consequently very anxious that the steamer should call at these places and I can see no good reason why they should be deprived of the advantages which the more fortunate settlements of the district enjoyed. I understand that this matter has been agitated for some years. There has been a petition to the Legislature before on the subject and members of the House have been requisitioned by the inhabitants on previous occasion. Certain representations were made to the last Government by the former Minister of Finance, Mr. Jackman, and by his colleague, Capt. Bonia. The latter had gone so far as to draw up a schedule to show that these ports could be visited without any loss of time. There could be no doubt as to the necessity of making these places a port of call and now that the inhabitants have come to the House I trust that the Government would see their way clear to make the necessary arrangements with the contractors to have the prayer of these people granted. There is no question about the importance of the settlements and the right of the people there to participate in the advantages of the coastal service. Fox Harbor is a very large fishing centre, perhaps the largest in Placentia Bay. The settlement sent

ninety large western boats to Cape St. Mary's every year and I have great pleasure in presenting the petition, although the petitioners have not been very enthusiastic in their reception of the People's Party candidates, last fall or in the spring. However, that would not affect me in my duty to my constituents. I now ask that the petition be received and sent to the Department of the Colonial Secretary. I intend to follow it up when presented and would ask the Colonial Secretary to forward it to the contractors. I have great hopes that very shortly the prayer of the petition will be granted and that the improvement in the service asked for will be brought about.

MR. DEVEREUX—I beg to give the petition which has just been presented by my hon. colleague, Mr. Morris, my support. The matter in question is one of universal interest to the people of the settlements of Argentia, Fox Harbor and Long Harbor during last fall and this spring. There were many places in the district which needed the steamer and none more than the places from which the present petition came. As my hon. colleague has said, Fox Harbor was a large centre, from which many fishing boats went to Cape St. Mary's. Satisfactory communication was, therefore, much needed. I trust that the Government will interest themselves in the matter and that the petitioners will soon have the advantages which are derived from the coastal boat making regular calls.

MR. HOWLEY—I wish to say a few words in reference to the petition which has been presented by my hon. colleague, Mr. Morris. I do not wish to be considered as opposing the prayer of the petition, for I

heartily support it, but I wish to point out that there is more immediate necessity for the coastal steamer to call at the island ports of Placentia Bay. These ports that I speak for differ from the ports on the mainland, in that the only way by which they could communicate with the outside world is by the coastal steamer. Railways, roads and bridges could be built to help the people on the mainland, but as far as the people on the islands were concerned they could only be helped by the steamer calling at them. As I have said, I am in no way whatever opposed to the prayer of the petition under consideration, but I think that the more isolated places should be considered first.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. HOWLEY—I beg leave to present a petition which the hon. member for St. George's, Mr. Downey, who is unavoidably absent, has asked me to take care of. On behalf of the hon. gentleman, I have much pleasure in presenting a petition from the inhabitants of Grand River and Little River, Codroy, asking for a grant to build a road from Grand River to Little River. I have personal knowledge of this district, which is one of the most promising farming settlements in the Island. All the inhabitants there participate in farming, and not in the fisheries. What wharves, lighthouses, etc., were to the fishermen, roads were to them. I heartily support the prayer of the petition and trust that the department to which it is referred will see its way clear to grant the prayer of the petitioners.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I ask leave to present a petition from Caleb Tuck and other residents of Shoal Harbor, Clarenville, George's Brook and vicinity. The petitioners state that the present road between Shoal Harbor and Clarenville is impassable from November until May. It passes over a very high hill and along a steep, rocky hillside, from which the water is constantly coming in winter weather, forming into a mass of ice, which covers the road completely for a distance of more than one hundred yards. In attempting to pass over this road many people had met with serious accidents and had to retreat with lamed horses and broken outfits. At present a person in winter season could not take a horse from Shoal Bay or Clarenville without going over the railway track, which was both dangerous and contrary to law. To get over the difficulty of the ice-barrier, the petitioners stated that part of the road must be condemned altogether and a branch road cut towards the seashore for a short distance connecting with the present road, at a point at the west side of the hill. The petitioners considered the proposed location along the water side very convenient as material was at hand for filling in and building up the wall required along the landwash; further that the proposed location where it touched the landwash was the deepest water around Shoal Harbor and a very convenient landing place could be built there later at a very small cost. The petitioners therefore prayed for a grant to complete this road which they stated would be a boon not only to the people of Shoal Hr., George's Brook, Random Island, Clarenville and vicinity but also to the people of Goose Bay and other parts

of Bonavista Bay who in winter had business with Clarendville railway station. I ask that this petition be referred to the Department of Public Works and I trust that it will be possible to do something later on to meet the views of the petitioners.

MR. SQUIRES—I have very much pleasure in supporting the petition introduced by my colleague, the Hon Colonial Secretary. I had the fortune or misfortune, to travel over the road and I found it to be in a very bad condition; in fact I found that it was unspeakably bad. It is absolutely necessary that the road should be changed, as set forth in the petition, or that the present road should be made respectable.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the Department to which it relates.

MR. EARLE—I beg to present a petition from Island Harbor, asking that that place be made a port of call for the mail steamer. The people there were of a very intelligent class and it was a great inconvenience to them that their mail communication was so very limited. They had to avail of the services of a courier during the past twelve months. There would not be much difficulty in the making of arrangements for the steamer to call there, as she went to Change Islands and consequently had to go near Island Harbour.

I also beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Ladle Cove asking for the allocation of \$200 to improve the wharf there. I know the wharf very well and I myself experienced great difficulty in landing. On one visit, not for electioneering purposes, I had the misfortune to fall into the water when trying to reach

the stage head. The people have great difficulty in getting to and from their boats and I hope the small amount which the petitioners ask for will be granted them.

I also beg leave to present a petition from the residents of Joe Batt's Arm asking for the grant of a small sum of money for a well for drinking water. I have spoken several times in this House on the important subject of wells and the great necessity there is for the relief of every settlement, where typhoid fever has developed owing to the lack of good water I ask that these petitions be referred to their proper departments, where I hope they will receive careful attention.

It was ordered that these petitions be referred to the Departments to which they relate.

MR. CLIFT—I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Harry's Hr., Twillingate District, asking that the place be made a port of call for the steamer Clyde when making her regular weekly trips. The petition was handed me by the Premier. Similar petitions have been made by the people of Harry's Hr. before to-day in regard to this matter but owing to the fact that the Clyde has so many ports of call to make, the request could not be granted. I ask now that the matter be taken up by the Colonial Secretary with the Reid Newfoundland Co., to see if arrangements could be made and the prayer of the petition granted.

MR. ROBERTS—I strongly support the prayer of the petition. For four or five years the people of Harry's Harbor have been asking for this service but the Clyde has had great difficulty in making this place a port

of call. I think the people of Harry's Harbor deserve a call from the Clyde, and I trust that in the very near future, before the present Government goes out of power, the petition will be granted. I believe there should be two boats on this route, to include Twillingate, Fogo, and a portion of St. Barbe District, and I am glad to know that the Government intend taking steps to supply the need. The two boats could, I think, create sufficient traffic to induce the contractor to put on the extra boat. There should be an increased subsidy, if necessary, granted in order that the fishing industries of the country might be served and other advantages derived. I hope that in the near future an additional boat will be put on the route to serve the section from Lewisporte to Conche, and also making Harry's Hr. a port of call.

It was ordered that these petitions be referred to the Departments to which they relate.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I ask leave to present a petition from James T. Walters and others of Smith's Arm, Trinity District, asking for a small sum of money towards building a road.

MR. SQUIRES—I warmly support the prayer of the petitioners of Smith's Sound, Random. The people generally of this section are very industrious. They not only put in their summer fishing, but in the winter season they are kept busy logging, etc., and I hope the prayer of the petition will be granted.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED

THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS laid on the table a state-

ment of expenditure on public works in the district of Hr. Grace and on roads in the District of Hr. Main.

THE MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES tabled a statement of the amount expended by his department on account of messages sent, from March 1st to May 1st, 1909; also copies of the messages asked for by Mr. Clift.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. the Prime Minister whether any arrangement had been made between the Imperial Government and the United States of America for the adjustment of the pecuniary claims made by certain firms and individuals, inhabitants of the United States, through the government of that country, against the Government of Newfoundland, and if so, to lay a copy thereof on the table of the House, and state whether the Government of Newfoundland consented to such arrangement.

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—The Government had not consented to any arrangement.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. the Colonial Secretary if any expenditure of road money had been made at Tilton, in the district of Hr. Grace, within the last month, and if so, was said money expended by the Road Board.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY tabled statement.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. the Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a copy of the correspondence between the Colonial Secretary and the Reid-Newfoundland Company, in reference to the placing of a second steamer on the Labrador service, in the month of May or June last. Also the corre-

spondence from the Department of Marine and Fisheries in reference to the same subject. Also, a statement from the Postal Department, showing the dates that the Virginia Lake left St. John's and returned during last season.

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY tabled a copy of correspondence, also a statement from the Postal Department, showing the dates that the Virginia Lake left St. John's and returned last season.

MR. EARLE asked the Hon. the Colonial Secretary if any arrangement or contract has been made for the Fogo District mail service; and if so, what steamer has been engaged, at what rate of subsidy, and at what time did the said service begin.

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY stated that no contract had been made for the service, and that the matter was still engaging the attention of the Government.

MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL

MR. SPEAKER informed the House that he had received a message from the Legislative Council, acquainting the House of Assembly that they had passed the Bill sent up, entitled, 'An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money towards defraying certain expenses of the public service for the financial years, ending, respectively, the thirtieth day of June, 1908, and the thirtieth day of June, 1910, and for other purposes relating to the public service,' without amendment.

DOCUMENTS TABLED.

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY tabled the Report of the Postmaster-General for the year ending June 30th, 1908; also the returns from the Reid Nfld. Co.,

made in accordance with schedule 3 of Railway Contract of 1901; also a copy of the Rules and Regulations, and a return of accidents for the year 1908.

PROROGATION ANNOUNCED.

MR. SPEAKER informed the House that His Excellency the Governor would prorogue the present session on to-morrow (Saturday) at three o'clock.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourns till to-morrow (Saturday) June the 12th, at half-past two of the clock.

The House adjourned then accordingly.

SATURDAY, June 12th, 1909

The House met at 2.30 p.m., pursuant to adjournment.

PETITIONS PRESENTED

MR. EARLE—I beg leave to present a petition from Walter Watten and 259 residents, members of the Fishermen's Protective Union, of Change Islands, asking for a beacon to be placed on Tickle Point, Change Islands, District of Fogo. This light was very badly needed. I give it my hearty support and refer it to the department to which it relates.

It was ordered that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

DOCUMENTS TABLED

THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER laid on the table of the House, as asked for by the member of St. John's East (Mr. Kent) a copy of the correspondence between the Governor and himself, relating to the dissolution; also a copy of the correspondence asked for by Mr.

Squires in relation to the same matter; and regretted he was not able to table it before, as it had taken some time to copy.

HON. MR. EMERSON—I beg leave to present a petition from Levi McCuish and others of Belleoram, asking for a sum of money to repair a bridge at that place. As this petition, I think, would probably be the last one of the session, I hope it will have the consideration of the House.

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE stated that as the report of the late Inspector-General McCowen, on Labrador, was not yet ready, he would put it in the hands of the Clerk on Monday.

CLOSING PROCEEDINGS

At three of the clock, the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod appeared at the Bar of the House with a message from His Excellency the Governor, commanding the attendance of the House in the Council Chamber.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker and the House attended upon His Excellency in the Council Chamber.

Mr. Speaker, at the Bar of the Council Chamber, presented His Excellency with a farewell address to him, adopted by both Houses, as follows:

(See text of address on Page 148).

His Excellency the Governor was then pleased to make the following reply:

“Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

“Mr Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly:

“The address that has been read to me as Governor of this Colony I accept as another proof of your whole-hearted and dutiful devotion to the Throne and person of His Majesty the King. You are the representatives of a people that are conscious of the dignity that belongs to them as citizens of the British Empire—the humblest man of which recognizes that he has a duty towards this great bulwark of liberty, of freedom, of justice, loyalty to the throne, and love of country, have hitherto been among the chief characteristics of Newfoundland—yet these sentiments have never been more clearly reflected than in the address now presented to the King's representative by this Legislature.

“I shall leave this Colony in the firm conviction, which I am proud to hold, that no daughter of the United Kingdom looks towards the Motherland with greater confidence and affection than the eldest of her family.

“I cannot but deeply feel and highly appreciate the kind and indulgent expressions you have used with regard to myself personally as the servant of the King, and for these I beg to thank you heartily and sincerely. For nearly five years I have lived and thought as a Newfoundlander, and it will take some time to learn to think differently, for I have no care, no interests, outside of this Colony, while I have been its Governor.

“This was my duty as a public servant, for the performance of which, to the best of my ability, I

deserve no praise, but should, had it been otherwise, have merited just censure. I am not unconscious of the fact that I should have often done things better; that I may at times have done what I should have left alone; and that perhaps I have occasionally not tried to do what I should at least have attempted. We all know from experience how much easier it is to see this after, rather than before the event. I can, however, say in truth and sincerity, that I have not knowingly been unjust to or injured any man; and that I have at all times honestly endeavoured to do the best I could in the interests of Newfoundland as a Dominion of the Empire of which we form a party.

"Your kind and comforting words form a very pleasant conclusion to an interesting and eventful chapter in the history of this Colony, and in my own life. I leave this with feelings of affection for the warm-hearted and generous people of the country, in the prosperous future of which I have the greatest confidence. Of the welfare of Newfoundland, and of the many true and faithful friends I leave behind, I shall always hear with real and sincere pleasure."

BILLS ASSENTED TO

MR. SPEAKER then addressed His Excellency as follows:

"May it Please Your Excellency,—

"The House of Assembly have voted the Supply required to enable the Government to defray the expenses of the Public Service.

"In the name of the House of Assembly I present the following Bills for Your Excellency's assent:

"An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money towards defraying certain expenses of the Public Service for the financial years ending, respectively, the 30th day of June. One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nine, and the 30th day of June, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ten, and for other purposes connected with the Public Service.

An Act to Amend the Revenue Act, 1905.

An Act further to Amend the Education Act, 1903.

An Act for raising by loan a sum of money for the Public Service of the Colony.

An Act respecting certain Retiring Allowances.

An Act to Incorporate the Newfoundland Board of Trade and for other purposes..

His Excellency signified his assent to these measures

After which His Excellency was pleased to speak as follows:

"Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly:

"In proroguing this General Assembly and relieving you from further attendance, it gives me great pleasure to observe the assiduity and earnestness with which you applied yourself to the despatch of business, and the spirit of concord and harmony which marked your deliberations.

"I am sure it must be a great relief to you and to the country at large that the unexampled political conditions which have prevailed here for so many months are now at an end, and that with the closing of this session all classes of the community may confidently look forward to a restoration of conditions of political tranquility.

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly:

"I thank you for the Supplies that you have voted for the Public Service. The addition to the grant for education will be greatly appreciated, and the providing of a sum in aid of the prevention of the spread of tuberculosis will, I trust, prove of great benefit.

"Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly:

"I heartily join in the feeling of hope which prevails in the community at the prospect of a substantial increase in the price of our staple product, and the assurance which

this represents of a return to the conditions of widespread prosperity which this Colony has so long enjoyed.

"In these, my last words to the Legislature of the Colony, I desire to testify the great pleasure that it has been to me during the past five years to assist in promoting the best interests of the people of Newfoundland. I shall ever retain the most agreeable recollections of this Colony and its people, and follow its onward march towards an ever brightening future.

"In bidding you farwell I trust that Providence may ever guide you to wise decisions and endow your country with all-lasting good.

After which the Hon. the President of the Legislative Council, by command of His Excellency the Governor, said:—

"It is His Excellency the Governor's will and pleasure that this General Assembly be prorogued till Thursday, the nineteenth day of August next then and here to be holden and the General Assembly stands prorogued accordingly."

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

DURING THE

FIRST SESSION

OF THE

TWENTY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF

NEWFOUNDLAND

1909.

EVENING HERALD, LIMITED
Prescott Street, St. John's, Newfoundland.
1913

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

SESSION 1909.

MONDAY, May 31st, 1909.

OPENING OF SESSION.

This being the day appointed by Proclamation for the meeting of the Legislature—

At five minutes to three o'clock the House met.

At three o'clock, p.m., the Honourable Sir Edward D. Shea, President of the Legislative Council, the Honourable George Skelton and the Honourable Robert K. Bishop, members of the Legislative Council, nominated and appointed by His Excellency the Governor as Commissioners, having taken their seats, the Honourable the President commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, Attendant on the Council, to proceed to the Honourable House of Assembly, and inform the members thereof that His Excellency the Governor's Commissioners desired their immediate attendance in the Council Chamber, to hear the Commission read, and they being come thereto, the following Commission was read by the Clerk of the Legislative Council :

"By His Excellency Sir William MacGregor, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Companion of the Most Honourable

Order of the Bath, Doctor of Medicine, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies :

"To the Honourable Sir Edward D. Shea, Knight, President of the Legislative Council; the Honourable George Skelton and the Honourable Robert K. Bishop, Members of the Legislative Council, Greeting :

"WHEREAS—I have deemed it expedient that the First Session of the Twenty-Second General Assembly should be opened for the despatch of business on Monday, the Thirty-first day of this instant month, whereof I have given notice in my Proclamation, dated the 18th day of this instant month;

"AND WHEREAS—It is not convenient that the purposes for which I have called the said General Assembly together should be declared on the said day, nor until the members of the House of Assembly have proceeded to the Choice of a Speaker, you, the said Honourable Sir Edward D. Shea, Honourable George Skelton and Honourable Robert K. Bishop, are hereby authorized and directed to signify to the members of the said House of Assembly, on the Thirty-first day of May, instant, that it is

my pleasure that they should proceed to the choice of some proper person to be their Speaker, and present such person on the following day for my approbation.

“ Given under my Hand and Seal, at the Government House, St. John's, this 29th day of May, A.D., 1909.

“ By His Excellency's Command,
“ R. WATSON,
“ Colonial Secretary.”

NOTICE TO ELECT SPEAKER.

The Honourable Sir Edward D. Shea, President of the Legislative Council, addressing both Houses of the Legislature, then said :

“ Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council :

“ Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly :

“ It is not convenient for His Excellency the Governor to declare the reasons of his calling this General Assembly on this day, and it being necessary that a Speaker of the House of Assembly should be first chosen;

“ You, Gentlemen of the House of Assembly, repair to the place where you are to sit, and there proceed to the appointment of some proper person to be your Speaker, and present such person whom you shall so choose here to-morrow at three o'clock for His Excellency's approbation.”

The House of Assembly then withdrew.

On motion made, the House adjourned until to-morrow, Tuesday, June 1st, at half-past two o'clock, p.m.

TUESDAY, June 1st, 1909.

The House met, pursuant to adjournment.

SPEAKER IS PRESENTED.

At three o'clock, p.m., His Excellency the Governor, Sir William MacGregor, G.C.M.G., C.B., M.D., having arrived at the Council Chamber and being seated on the Throne, commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, through the Honourable the President of the Legislative Council, to let the Commons House of Assembly know—

“ It is His Excellency the Governor's pleasure they attend him immediately in this House.”

Who being come thereto.

William R. Warren, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law, Member for the District of Port-de-Grave, having been presented by the Honourable Sir Edward P. Morris, Premier, as Speaker-elect, and the choice approved and the usual privileges claimed and granted, His Excellency the Governor was pleased to speak as follows :

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

(For text of Speech see page 21.)

MOTION FOR COMMITTEE TO DRAFT ADDRESS IN REPLY.

HON. MR. HARRIS—I rise, Mr. President, to move the appointment of a Select Committee to draft an Address in Reply to the gracious Speech with which His Excellency has been pleased to open the present session. The speech is lengthy and contains many important and far-reaching items; consequently one needed to thoroughly digest it, which I had not had time to do, before venturing to discuss it before this Hon. House.

I will, however, as is customary, refer briefly to some of the most important matters outlined, but I regret my inability to do justice to such weighty matters as the Speech contains.

In the opening paragraph His Excellency referred to his contemplated departure from Newfoundland to assume the duties of the more important position to which he had been recently appointed. When I say that I regret that His Excellency is soon to leave our shores I feel that I am voicing the sentiment of the whole country. By his practical as well as humane efforts to advance the interests of this Colony, His Excellency has earned the respect and admiration of the whole people. There has been no movement of general interest or national character with which he has not been associated and which has not been helped by his advice and sympathy. The many delicate questions of diplomacy with which he has had to deal were handled with true diplomatic instinct.

Whilst we regretted that His Excellency was leaving us, we, at the same time, rejoiced that he had been called to a more important part of the Empire. From our experience of his rule during his official life in Newfoundland I feel sure that on his arrival at his new scene of labor he will meet the good will of the people he has been selected to govern, as he will carry with him that of the people he is leaving.

The facts relating to the two appeals to the electorate are so fresh in the memory of all that no extended reference to them is necessary. I would wish, however, to take this opportunity of congratulating Sir Edward Morris and the People's Party on the great victory they won at the polls. The fight had been a fair and

manly one, and but for one regrettable incident would have been proof against any hostile criticism.

With regard to the question of the interpretation of Article I. of the Treaty of 1818, which has been submitted to The Hague Tribunal, it was to be hoped that this Colony would not come off second best. It would, I believe, have been better for the country if the question had never been raised. We were doing a satisfactory business on that coast and a spirit of harmony prevailed between our people and the Americans, but all this had been upset, with the possibility of the result of the arbitration being unfavourable to us.

As to the dispute between the Province of Quebec and this Colony over the Labrador boundary question, the merits of the case were not very well known to the public, but I have full confidence that the Government will leave nothing undone to strengthen our case, which has been left to the Privy Council for settlement.

The paragraph relating to last season's fishing operations provides very gloomy reading. The sudden decline in the price of our staple export has had a most serious effect on the business of the country. When an industry does not pay the cost of the outlay in returns something serious has to happen. This was true last season, particularly in our Labrador operations. Cases were not rare where fishermen returned to St. John's with full loads of codfish and hardly paid for their outfits here, I think the time has arrived when the Government and the merchants should co-operate in an attempt to ensure more stability in the price of our codfish, in order that the present uncertainty in marketing it may be removed. The proposed Board of Trade,

if formed, ought to be a great help in bringing about this result.

The attention which the Government promises to give to the agricultural and mining industries is very much needed, and I hope the Government will succeed in their efforts along these lines.

I feel quiet sure that all will wish the Government God-speed in their attempt to discover once and for all whether we have coal deposits in this Colony that could be of commercial value. There should be no tinkering with this matter. If the Government could see their way clear to vote the necessary sum to make the discovery it should be voted. There should, however, be no further expenditure made in a half-hearted manner.

The establishing of a bait and fishery intelligence service should prove of great advantage to the fishermen. The thanks of the country are due to the Anglo-American Telegraph Co. and the Reid Newfoundland Co. for co-operating with the Government in transmitting this news free of charge. I hope that the wireless telegraph system to Labrador will be improved, as this service has not been at all satisfactory in the past.

From the financial statement outlined in the Speech it appears that there will be a deficit at the end of the financial year of \$157,000, together with a further indebtedness for Hospital and Museum construction and Temporary Loans of \$175,000, making in all a floating debt of \$330,000, for which immediate provision will have to be made. It is quite true that our revenue has increased in ten years by \$1,277,598, the revenue of ten years ago being \$1,551,420, against \$2,829,618 for the year ending June, 1908, but at the same time our expenditure has gone

on increasing year by year, until now it seems little less than appalling for this not-too-wealthy Colony. The serious aspect of this expenditure is that we do not seem to have received any commensurate return for it. I feel quite sure our present rulers will husband the resources of the Colony. They are young and energetic men, and I believe we can look without apprehension to the future.

The remaining portion of the Speech is devoted to outlining such improvements as Revision of the Tariff, Increase in Education Grants, Railway Extension, etc., the necessity for which is so apparent that everyone will wish the Government success in dealing with them.

The programme which the Government have outlined is a large one and I feel sure that they will have the support of this Honourable House in their efforts to enact any measures that would seem to advance the interests of the country.

In conclusion, I have much pleasure in proposing the appointment of a Select Committee to draft an Address in Reply to the gracious Speech of His Excellency the Governor.

HON. MR. AYRE—I rise, Mr. President, to second the motion so ably proposed by Hon. Mr. Harris, that a Select Committee of this House be appointed to prepare an Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency, to which we have listened with so much interest. I am constrained at the outset to emphasize the general regret that this is the last occasion on which this House will be privileged to listen to His Excellency on the occasion of opening the sessions of the local Legislature.

Nearly five years ago it was my happy fortune to be travelling from

the Old Country on the same boat which brought Sir William MacGregor and his family to our shores, and the impressions then made upon me of Sir William's kindness, ability and experience, have increased with the passing years. During his tenure of office in this Colony the Governor has displayed energy and interest that are rarely found in combination. He had evinced a genuine desire to promote the best interests of the Colony by obtaining a personal knowledge of its people, whilst the works that had come from his pen had been, not alone valuable additions to the literatures of the Colony, but would for many long years be regarded in the Motherland and here as standards.

Knowing how a Scotchman's heart warmed when memory turned to the land of the heather, Newfoundland could not but accept as an honor his generous appreciation of her, which Newfoundlanders cordially reciprocated. Scotchmen had done much for the Empire and civilization, and prominent amongst their most successful sons and Empire-builders must ever stand the name of William MacGregor, whose work in the eastern ocean was a matter of honourable record.

To the sunny Pacific land he was now about to return, but not the most earnest welcome from our brothers in Australia could excel the affection and esteem in which Sir William was held in this land. We could not as a people grudge him the promotion which his splendid record had so justly merited, but we fully realized that Queensland's gain was Newfoundland's loss. The words of cheerful optimism with which he has greeted us to-day could not fail to serve as an inspiration

and an incentive to greater endeavors, and it would be a source of pleasurable pride to us, as a people, to know that the development and prosperity of Newfoundland would always be watched by him with great interest and real affection.

The deadlock which resulted from the November election having been unprecedented in the history of constitutional government, gave rise to questions and problems that were necessarily difficult to solve; but throughout that anxious and trying time Sir William maintained an attitude of strict devotion to constitutional usage, and had been permitted to see the ship of state once more floating securely in the harbor of Constitutionalism, with a Government strongly sustained by the public will, as expressed at the polls a few weeks ago. He would leave for his new sphere of useful labor with the gratitude and admiration of the people of Britain's oldest Colony, who would watch his future career with pride and confidence.

The prospect that is held out of a satisfactory solution of the vexed international fishery question would be hailed with general satisfaction, and it is gratifying to know that His Excellency's Ministers are taking the necessary steps to terminate the doubts which apparently exist, however recently they might have arisen, concerning the Quebec-Labrador boundary question. As things now were in that quarter, many enterprises of much importance to the industrial progress of the Colony were being suspended, pending that guarantee of title, without which no capitalists would be induced to invest their money in labour giving concerns.

Newfoundland is essentially a fishing country and upon the success of the fisheries depends her prosperity. Efforts put forth in the past to hasten the Colony's progress had been crowned with results more or less satisfactory, but in the attempt to exploit new industries the great fishing industry has, it appears to me, been somewhat overlooked. I therefore hail with pleasure and satisfaction that paragraph in His Excellency's Speech which foreshadows a serious and determined effort to open up new markets for our staple. We have been too long content to move in the same paths that our fathers moved in, and as a result other countries have secured the trade to which our commercial conservatism refused to cater. As to Cold Storage, it was enough to say that the possibilities in connection therewith were far-reaching. Unfortunately, past experiences has made us somewhat skeptical. Yet, I am in no sense hopeless of a successful solution of a problem which, once solved, will mean as much to the fisheries as new markets, which, indeed, must of itself ensure new markets.

Newfoundland might not be a farming country in the full meaning of the term, but as an auxiliary to the fisheries, farming could not fail to prove invaluable. In some parts stock-raising was already carried on with advantage, and an extension in this direction was most desirable. The large duties annually paid for imported root crops, beef, pork, mutton, and poultry, butter, cheese and vegetables, made an exhausting drain on the income of the consumer. There was no adequate reason why the bulk of these necessaries should not be raised within our own borders, and any policy which would tend in this

direction could not but be hailed with approval.

Our mining laws are far from satisfactory and prospector and capitalist alike are handicapped in their efforts. The legislation foreshadowed in this connection gives promise of an improved condition of affairs; whilst the protection of those engaged in the mining industries will not alone popularize the work, but tend to minimize the accidents and casualties which have been too general in the past.

The coal question is a serious one, and if the solution lies in local production the sooner it is reached the better. I am pleased to observe that His Excellency's Ministers propose to decide, as far as the experience of practical scientists will permit, whether our large peat areas have any real commercial value.

The establishment of a bait and weather service has already justified its existence. The spread of general information on current events is desirable, and the assistance of the Anglo-American Telegraph Co., and of the Reid Newfoundland Co., in these directions merited appreciation. As to the wireless system, its lack of successful operation on Labrador has been a matter of notoriety, and considerable improvement is necessary if any good results are to follow.

An increase in the Education grant is in accordance with the spirit of the age. Apart from this it is absolutely necessary, as no one could deny that our teachers are most inadequately paid, as a rule, and the accommodation for the scholars is very far short of what it should be. In this connection I would express my appreciation of the efforts of the Association for the Prevention of Consumption, in the

truly educational humanitarian work they had done during the past year or so. It is a matter of thankfulness that their efforts are now receiving the endorsement of the Government.

In these days Railway Extension is almost as necessary as road building and, with improved coastal facilities, called for the thoughtful consideration of the Legislature. The railway is the pioneer and in its track increased revenues, in most cases, followed.

In conclusion I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution that a Select Committee be appointed to prepare an Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency.

SELECT COMMITTEE APPOINTED.

The motion was then put and carried. Hons. John Harris, J. B. Ayre, Jas. Baird, S. Milley and D. J. Greene were appointed as a Committee to draft the Address in Reply.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, the House adjourned until Thursday next at 4.30 p.m.

Thursday, June 2, 1909.

The House met at 4.30 o'clock p.m. pursuant to adjournment, the President in the Chair.

INTERNAL ECONOMY COMMISSION

The President read a communication from His Excellency the Governor enclosing a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Council, held on May 26th, 1909, stating that the following gentlemen had been appointed a Commission of Internal Economy of the Legislature—Hon. Sir E. D. Shea, Kt., President of the Legislative Council; Hon. J. Harris, Hon. G. Skelton, His Honor the Speaker of the House of Assembly, Hon. Sir E. P. Morris, Kt., K.C., Hon. D. Morison, Hon. R. Watson.

RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCE.

HON. MR. BISHOP—I rise to propose the following resolutions of condolence to the family of the late Hon. Capt. S. Blandford, and to move that they be recorded in the minutes of the Council:

RESOLVED—That this House desires to record the sense of the loss it has sustained by the decease of the late Hon. Samuel Blandford, who for many years filled a seat in this Council with credit to himself and advantage to this Body, of which he was ever a zealous and efficient member.

RESOLVED—That a copy of the foregoing resolution be sent to Mrs. Blandford, at the same time, expressing the sympathy of the Council with her and the family of the late brother member in the bereavement they have sustained.

HON. MR. BISHOP—I was associated with Capt. Blandford in this House for some years, and found him a gentleman of more than average ability, one whose judgment and sound advice in matters relating to the country's welfare could always be relied upon. The late captain was a working son of the soil, a genuine Newfoundlander, and during his fifteen years in the House had proved himself a wise legislator, and won a deservedly high place in the community. He took an active interest in all beneficial legislation, especially in all relating to fishery matters. The Legislature and country lost much in the death of Captain Blandford, and no words of mine would be able to do his memory justice.

The resolutions were carried unanimously, and ordered to be recorded in the minutes of the House.

DRAFT ADDRESS IN REPLY.

HON. MR. HARRIS—I present the draft of the Address in Reply to His Excellency's Speech from the Throne, and move that it be read a first and second time.

HON. MR. GREENE—I think it is not customary to have it read the second time on the day of presentation, but on the subsequent day.

HON. MR. HARRIS—I will not move the second reading if the House desires to have it deferred, but I understood that arrangements had been made to present the Address to His Excellency to-morrow.

HON. MR. GREENE—I will raise no objection if such arrangements have been made.

On motion of HON. MR. HARRIS, the following Address in Reply was read a second time:-

“To His Excellency Sir William MacGregor, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Doctor of Medicine, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies.

“May it please Your Excellency :

“We, the Legislative Council of Newfoundland, in session convened, beg leave to thank Your Excellency for the gracious speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both Houses of the Legislature .

“The important matters contained in Your Excellency's speech shall have our careful consideration.

“We sincerely reciprocate the regret expressed by Your Excellency in reference to your departure from the

country. The earnest and practical interest you have ever evinced in its well being and progress has earned the lasting gratitude of our people, and their cordial hope is that success and happiness are to be your portion of Your Excellency's future career.”

HON. MR. HARRIS moved that the Address be engrossed and that it be presented to His Excellency by a deputation of the whole House.

It was ordered accordingly.

HON. THE PRESIDENT announced that His Excellency would receive the Address in Reply at 11 a.m. to-morrow.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

HON. MR. ANDERSON gave notice that he would, on to-morrow, introduce a Bill for the Saving of Daylight.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, the House adjourned at 5.25 p.m. till to-morrow, Friday, at 10.30 a.m.

FRIDAY, June 4th, 1909.

The House met at 10.30 a.m., pursuant to adjournment.

ADDRESS IN REPLY PRESENTED.

At eleven o'clock the House proceeded to Government House with the Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor.

At half past eleven, the House having returned, the Hon. the President reported that His Excellency had been pleased to receive the said Address and to return an answer thereto in the following words :

“Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council :

“I thank you for your Address in Reply to the Speech with which your present Session was opened.

"I am deeply touched by your personal reference to myself, which will always be remembered by me with much pleasure and satisfaction.

"WM. MacGREGOR."

Pursuant to notice, and on motion of HON. MR. ANDERSON, the Bill for the Saving of Daylight was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, the House adjourned until Monday, June 4th, at 4|30 p.m.

MONDAY, June 7th, 1909.

The House met at half-past four o'clock in the afternoon, pursuant to adjournment.

APPOINTMENT OF HON. MR. GIBBS

THE HON. THE PRESIDENT announced that, His Excellency the Governor had been pleased to appoint the Hon. Michael P. Gibbs to be a member of this Council provisionally. He then asked the Clerk to read His Excellency's Commission, which was done.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

Second reading of the Daylight Bill.

HON. JOHN ANDERSON—I move that the second reading of this Bill be deferred until to-morrow.

It was ordered accordingly.

DOCUMENTS TABLED.

HON. MR. BISHOP—I ask leave to lay on the table the annual statement of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York.

HON. MR. HARRIS—I ask leave to present the report of the Internal Economy Committee, and that it be read by the Clerk.

It was ordered accordingly.

PETITION PRESENTED.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—I ask leave to present a petition from Robert Pittman, late reporter of this Council, asking that he be given a pension or that some provision be made for him in his declining years. Mr. Pittman has been reporting in this House for twenty years, and as far as I can learn there has never been any complaint as to the way in which he has conducted his work. He has always been a faithful servant and has reported the speeches in the Council in a most satisfactory manner. Mr. Pittman had looked upon his position as a permanency, but now he found himself thrown out without any reason, and superseded by other and younger men. It was quite possible that the younger men might be more efficient, or more up-to-date, but it must be borne in mind that up to the present the work was done satisfactorily by two men only, Mr. Pittman and Mr. Higgins. Now, I understand, these two men have been dismissed and their places filled by four men. It might be all right enough, and I am not raising any objection to the fact of four men doing two men's work, if it expedites the work of the Council, but it comes very hard on a man who for twenty years, under all the different Governments, has given thorough satisfaction, to be dismissed when he has practically one foot in the grave, without any provision being made for him in his few remaining years. I would strongly beg the hon. gentlemen who hear me to give this matter their best consideration, and I ask that they recommend that provision be made for Mr. Pittman for the remainder of his life. In the case of Mr. Howley, who had served before Mr. Pittman, he received a pension of \$400. This was sufficient proof that if an allowance was made

for Mr. Pittman it would not be without a precedent and would be quite justifiable. As a principle, I think that if a man serves a number of years, as Mr. Pittman has done, and has given satisfaction all the time, nobody would be censured for voting him a reasonable amount. I know it is not within the grounds of this House to deal with money matters, but it is perfectly within its sphere to have sympathy for a man in his misfortune, and the only way to show it in this instance is to recommend as a body that this case might receive the consideration of the Government. I do not know what particular crime or misdemeanor Mr. Pittman has committed. If he has done anything wrong it has never been brought before the Council. In conclusion I would again ask that the hon. members give the petition their best consideration.

HON. MR. GREENE—I wish to support the application of Mr. Pitman, and in doing so would like to refer back to a few years ago when the introduction of the Internal Economy Bill was before the House, and when I pointed out that this Council was foregoing many of its privileges, many of its rights and a great deal of its dignity should such a measure be passed. I pointed out that the Internal Economy Committee, as represented in this House, was a very small minority as compared with the House of Assembly, and no matter what we might think of it, we would be unable to do what we might wish. I recognize the right of the Government to appoint the high officers of this Chamber, but I claim the right for this Chamber to appoint the lower officials and the reporters. I was not listened to then, and now we had an example of the bad results. I do not believe for one moment that any member of this House, if he had

a say in the appointment of the reporters, would have dismissed either Mr. Higgins or Mr. Pittman without at least a recommendation of some sort for their future provision. Hon. Mr. Knowling had spoken of Mr. Pittman, after twenty years' service, regarding his position as a permanency. One would regard this as a natural conclusion. This Chamber will at all events, I hope, recognize the wisdom of maintaining stability based upon good conduct and efficiency, not like the Lower House, where they have to give way more or less to public opinion and outside influences. Mr. Howley remained here through every change of government; so did Mr. Pittman. I should be sorry to think that every time the Government changes, the personnel of the officials should change with it. From the lowest messenger, right up, I would like to think that so long as they perform their duties efficiently they could look upon a Legislative Council position as a permanency and not subject to the shifting winds or party politics. Though we all had our feelings and could not get over them, we should not do a wrong.

HON. MR. HARVEY—I would like to add a word or two to what has already been said. My personal experience is that since the reporters have been changed the contrast between the reports of the work of the Chamber has been most marked. Mr. Higgins and Mr. Pittman had given every satisfaction, and in any case I think it very hard lines for a man who has served twenty years to be turned off in his old age, with no possibility of getting any other work. I do not know what crime Mr. Pitman has committed, or why he has been shelved, but would like to add my sympathy to what has already been expressed in favor of the petition.

HON. MR. ANGEL—I also desire to support the prayer of the petition. I agree with the Hon. Mr. Greene in all that he has said in relation to the withdrawal of the power of appointing officials of this House, and placing it in the hands of the Internal Economy Committee. As Mr. Greene has stated, we are in a very small minority on that Committee, and even though we want to do justice in this case, we are unable to do so. I think that after a service of twenty years a gentleman who had performed his work in that period as satisfactorily as Mr. Pittman was deserving of our consideration, and I think it unfair that a gentleman doing the work that he did for such a long period should be dismissed when he was beyond his labor and unable to provide for himself or get any other work. If Mr. Pittman had been a young man he would have to submit to the fortune of war, and would be able to provide for himself elsewhere, but he was not now able to do so in any other way. Under these circumstances, I have much pleasure in supporting the petition asking that Mr. Pittman be granted a retiring allowance.

HON. MR. ANDERSON—I wish also to support the petition. By looking over the Internal Economy Committee's report, I find that while previously the Council had had only two reporters, and the cost had been \$700, now there were four at \$750, or only an increase of \$50. I hope that the Committee will see their way clear to at least give Mr. Pittman two-thirds of the \$350 he had received while reporter of this House. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition.

HON. MR. HARRIS—I wish to refer to one point, the remark made by

Hon. Mr. Knowling that Mr. Pittman had been dismissed without cause. The Government did not think so, but felt that they had good reason for doing so. I will not say anything further, because I sympathize to a large extent with Mr. Pittman, and will convey to the Committee at its next meeting the opinion of the Council on the matter.

HON. MR. McLOUGHLIN—I have much pleasure in supporting the petition.

It was ordered that the petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

BILL RECEIVED.

THE HON. THE PRESIDENT then read a message from the House of Assembly acquainting the Legislative Council that they had passed the accompanying Bill, entitled "An Act respecting certain Retiring Allowances," and requesting the concurrence of the Council therewith.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be read a first time.

The Bill was then read a first time and, upon motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, it was ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, the House then adjourned until to-morrow, Tuesday, at 4.30 o'clock.

TUESDAY, June 8th, 1909.

Pursuant to adjournment, the House met at 4.30 p.m., the President in the Chair.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

Second reading of Daylight Bill.

HON. MR. ANDERSON—I beg leave to move the second reading of "A Bill for the Saving of Daylight." I might explain that I do not propose to go further with the measure this year,

but merely ask that a Select Committee be appointed to collect information bearing on the Bill during the intervening months and report at the Session of 1910. The same procedure has been adopted by the English House of Commons during the last session. During my recent visit to England I was one of the Colonial guests in the House of Commons in March last, when the Daylight Bill was introduced. I heard the speeches made by the Hon. Winston Churchill and others on the matter. The Daylight Saving Bill, 1909, proposed to advance clock time by two hours, at nine o'clock p.m. on the first Sunday in July, and by a counter motion at nine o'clock on the second Sunday in September in each year to revert to Standard time. As such a change would cause the hours for social and commercial life to commence at a uniform hour, the result of the change would be that for a period of seventy days an increase of two hours of beautiful sun in the early morning, or 280 hours, half of which would be devoted to business and 140 hours to healthful exercise in the beautiful fresh air would be available to the people of St. John's, Harbor Grace, Carbonear, Brigus and, in fact, the people of the whole Island, at no cost to themselves or to the Government of the country.

The bill provides for the change on the first Sunday in July, which was the fourth of the month, leaving twenty-seven days; thirty-one days in August and twelve days in September. It was only necessary to divide the remaining portion of July into two dates, showing the rising and the setting of the sun. On Monday, the 5th of July, the sun rises at 4.15 a.m. and sets at 7.53 p.m. On the 19th the sun rises at 4.28 a.m. and sets at 7.44 p.m. On the 20th of

August the sun rises at 4.43 a.m. and sets at 7.29 p.m. On the 16th the sun rises at 5.01 a.m. and sets at 7.07 p.m. On the 30th the sun rises at 5.20 a.m. and sets at 6.41 p.m. On the date which the Bill provided that all clocks be put back—Sunday evening, the 12th of September—the sun rises at 5.37 a.m. and sets at 6.16 p.m.

There was no body of men that would benefit more by the passing of this Bill than the workingmen. For the great majority of the population of this city the only part of the day which was really their own consisted of the very few half-hours which remained between the termination of work and bedtime. The object of the Bill is to give them two hours in the most beneficial and attractive form that Nature would permit, and I believe this end can only be attained effectively by moving forward the hands of the clock. If it were brought about in any other way the times mentioned in a great number of Acts of the House of Assembly, Rules, Orders, Regulations and Bye-Laws made by Government Departments, Municipal Councils or other local authorities and public bodies in the exercise of powers vested in them by statute would have to be altered. This manifestly would be inconvenient, if not impossible, and as for mutual agreement, without changing the clocks, it was out of the question.

The success of the proposed operation entirely depended on its initiation being brought about by legislative action. Without such action a great deal of confusion and failure must result, for our business, social and political arrangements were so inter-related that a change in any one part alone would involve considerable difficulty and loss through the dislo-

on of its relations with other parts effect our trade with England, United States, Canada and other countries with which we do business. I will now read the following extracts referring to the working of the Bill in Britain and Canada :

Daylight Saving Progress.

Two British Government Departments have already adopted the principle of the Daylight Saving Bill without waiting for it to be passed into law. Their respective staffs now begin and finish the day's duty an hour earlier than heretofore.

One of these is the Scottish Education Department and the other the General Post Office. In the Secretaries and Accountant General's Departments, of the latter 843 men began a trial of the daylight saving principle on May 1st.

It was stated at the General Post Office that all the regular hour men were circularized on the question and asked whether they would prefer to work from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., instead of from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from May 1st to September 30th.

The great majority decided at once in favour of the earlier hours, and consequently the daylight saving scheme was officially adopted. So far it has worked to the satisfaction of everyone concerned."

The Daylight Act in Canada.

Whereas it is desirable to adopt standard time in advance of the object of promoting a more extended and enjoyment of daylight during the summer months, therefore His Majesty, by and with advice of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows :

1.—This Act may be cited as the Daylight Saving Bill.

" 2.—This Act shall not apply to the Yukon Territory.

" 3.—From and after two o'clock in the morning of the first Sunday in April in each year until two o'clock in the morning of the first Sunday in November in each year the Standard time shall be one hour in advance of the Standard time now in use.

" 4.—The time hereby established shall be known as Standard time, and when any period of that time is mentioned in any Act of Parliament, deed or other legal instrument, the time mentioned or referred to shall, unless it is otherwise specifically stated, be held to be Standard time under this Act.

" 5.—Greenwich means time, as used for the purposes of astronomy and navigation, shall not be affected by this Act.

" 6.—This Act shall come into force on the first day of January, one thousand nine hundred and ten."

In the "more daylight" movement Newfoundland should lead. We prided ourselves that we were the Oldest Colony in the British Empire. Then why should we wait for any other country to lead the way? We ought to be the first to adopt the daylight scheme by Act of Parliament. By doing so we would provide the greatest and best advertisement this Colony had ever had.

We would be leading the way for others to follow. Although our people, as a rule, were not over-gushing about anything new, I have met with hundreds who supported the "More Daylight Bill," because it was a cost to no one. What is time? Time is only what we make it, and we should certainly make it to suit ourselves, if it did not in any way affect the trade and commerce of the Colony.

It was necessary to consider what effect such a measure would have on our business relations with the various countries with which we did business by cable, but I do not think that the change would be any disadvantage whatever.

Governments could make time, but Acts of Parliament could not change time of the local meridians of the sun, nor the latitude or any country against Greenwich time, which took that standard. But Governments could make a local time. When it was twelve o'clock noon in Greenwich, other time was as follows:

Amsterdam	12.20	p.m.
Auckland, N. Z. .. .	11.39	"
Berlin	1.53	"
Bombay	4.51	"
Calcutta	5.53	"
Cape Town	1.14	"
Constantinople .. .	1.56	"
Dublin	11.25	a.m.
Edinburgh	11.47	"
Lisbon	11.24	"
Madrid	11.45	"
Melbourne	9.40	p.m.
Naples	12.57	"
New York	7.04	"
Paris	12.09	"
Pekin	7.46	"
Quebec	7.15	a.m.
Rome	12.50	p.m.
St. Petersburg .. .	2.01	"
San Francisco .. .	4.23	a.m.
Sydney	10.05	p.m.
Trieste	12.55	"
Venice	12.50	"
Vienna	1.06	"

The difference was at the rate of four minutes for one degree of longitude or one hour for 15 degrees. Time was earlier or later than Greenwich, according to the locality was east or west of Greenwich. Places lying close together, but on differ-

ent side of the longitude line of 180 degrees, would differ nominally by a whole day in time. All countries were gradually adopting Standard time. This differed from Greenwich mean time by whole hours. The globe was divided into zones of 15 degrees, or one hour breadth, the Greenwich meridian being in the centre of the zero zone. Thus Belgium and Holland kept Greenwich time; Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland, Australia and Germany (Prussia temporarily excepted) kept the time of Mid-Europe, or of Longitude 15 deg. E., that was one hour earlier than Greenwich mean time. In our own country, Newfoundland, the longitude was 52 deg., 48 min., or 3 hours, 29 minutes behind Greenwich mean time. Take Queensland, the youngest of our colonies, 138 deg. E., 9 hours, 12 minutes forward of Greenwich mean time, or at that moment 5 o'clock p.m. at St. John's, was forty-two minutes past five o'clock the next morning in Queensland, so that His Excellency the Governor, while he was still with us and at that moment attending to his official duties, would, if he were in Queensland, be probably sleeping in bed or, if he were a very early riser, might be just getting up to begin his day's work. In North America, again, five zones are distinguished; Halifax falls within the zone of 75 deg. W. long., or four hours later than Greenwich; Montreal and New York fall within the zone of 75 deg., or five hours west of Greenwich; and so on across the entire continent. New York, Chicago, Denver and San Francisco may be mentioned as places whose time changes by one hour as we pass from one to the next succeeding. The corresponding times are distinguished as Eastern, Central, Mountain and Pacific. What is time? Time is only what we make it, and

here in Newfoundland we should certainly make it two hours nearer sunrise to begin our daily life and finish two hours earlier before sunset.

I would draw the attention of hon. members to the principal places with which we did business, and to the difference of time between these countries and Newfoundland, should this Bill become law, for the two months, July and August. England, mean time, 12 o'clock noon. Newfoundland (at present) 8.30 a.m., or until such time as England adopted the daylight saving. We should (under the new arrangement) be nearer the time of the Old Country by two hours, the difference of time being only one hour and a half, instead of three and a half at present. The change of time would be in favor with such countries as Spain, Portugal, Italy and Greece. With Spain our present time was 3 hours, 45 minutes behind. We were 2 hours, 33 minutes behind that of Italy and there was very little difference between that of Italy and Greece. There was a very large business done in this Colony with the United States, particularly with the cities—New York, Boston, Chicago and Philadelphia, and with Canada, more especially with Montreal. At the present time there was a difference of one and a half hours between the States, Canada and ourselves, Newfoundland being that length of time ahead, so that the changing of clock time two hours ahead would mean that at six o'clock Colonial time—the hour for closing business in St. John's—it would be 2.30 in New York and Montreal; but that need not in any way interfere with receiving or sending cables. Cables as a rule were, if not delivered at business places, either delivered at private houses or clubs. Late evening cables would be to our advantage in the early morning.

The Colony's civil service would not in any way be disturbed by the passing of this Bill, no disorganization of any kind whatever would result, at even the Post Office or the Custom House, but it would be a distinct advantage to all officials employed in the civil service of this Colony. The whole machinery required to set this great blessing in motion was simply the putting of your clocks and watches two hours forward. Clerks employed in the Custom House, instead of beginning work as at present at 10 o'clock and leaving at 4 o'clock, would begin work at 8 o'clock and leave at 2 o'clock, but still their watches would show 10 o'clock and 4 o'clock. The bill was not a bill to compel any one to go to bed, or get out of bed. People, as at present, could go when they liked and do just as they liked. It was not a bill that would in any way interfere with the work of the fisherman or the farmer, as both of these were practising the real principle of the bill every day of their lives, and they would continue to do just as they thought best suited their business.

This was not a bill to compel cows to give milk two hours earlier or to compel hens to lay eggs two hours sooner, but simply a bill that would make it practicable for every man to enjoy these products for breakfast two hours earlier than he usually did, and I hope this House will pass the bill and at least give it a trial for July and August

I feel proud that there is a member of this House—Hon Mr. Harvey—who has been for some time and is still doing his very best in a fight against the spread of the Great White Plague, and I am further pleased to learn that the Government is going to assist him in his noble work. I will read the following extract from

the Speech of His Excellency the Governor at the opening of the House on Tuesday last :

"The ravages wrought amongst our people by the spread of tuberculosis, commonly known as consumption, throughout the Colony, make it necessary that the State should assume the responsibility of endeavoring to arrest its future spread. Hitherto private philanthropy, through the agency of the Society for the Prevention of Consumption, had undertaken this task, and their labours have been such as to merit the commendation of all who would see suffering humanity rid of this dread White Plague. My Ministers propose to appoint a Commission to deal with this subject in its larger phases, and to supplement and extend the laudable work already accomplished. You will be invited to provide a sum for this purpose.' "

To prevent Consumption there is nothing better than fresh air—the Daylight Saving Bill would help very materially to assist in this work. I am going to help in every way I can to support my hon. friend in his herculean task of trying to prevent the spread of consumption in this Colony. In England and Wales there are over 70,000 deaths from consumption and other forms of tuberculosis every year. In Newfoundland, although it is impossible to get at a correct idea of the number of deaths from consumption, the death rate must be appalling. This loss of life which exceeded that from all other forms of infectious disease put together, was all the more serious from the fact that consumption was most prevalent from the age of 15 onwards to 45 or 50—the working and wage earning period of life—when a man ought to be at his best and of greatest service to the community in

which he lives. I am glad the Government is taking this matter up in earnest. The cost to the country will be as nothing compared to the great good that must come. Prevention is possible, and I wish Mr. Harvey all success in his work. Anything that could be done by the public to prevent infection and to remove the conditions under which it was likely to take place ought to be done. Under certain conditions consumption was a communicable disease and the cause of it and of other tuberculous affections was a microbe which was in countless millions in the expectoration on floors, walls, furniture, carpets, clothing, etc. The chief problem under the Government and other public bodies, therefore, was the destruction of the expectoration and the providing of plenty of fresh air for the patients.

A trial of the Daylight Saving Bill will convince them that it was the remedy needed. On this subject I have occupied more of the time of the House than I intended, but both questions are so closely related to each other that I am glad of the opportunity to express my approval of the work of my hon. friend, Mr. Harvey.

By this passing of this Bill, opportunities for recreation and the gain of health by extended opportunities for being out of doors in sunshine, to all who spend day after day working in the factory would be assured. The objection has been put to me by several tradesmen that employers would seize the opportunity to use evening daylight for extended overtime. I think this is not likely. When a man had worked a full day in the Colonial time it is uneconomical to an employer to retain him for overtime, and particularly so when he has to pay an increased rate per

hour for what must be less vigorous labor. Shop assistants and office hands would certainly gain the advantage under the Bill, though some expressed a fear that shops might be kept open later. I have discussed this question with several merchants and I believe all will fall in line with the new conditions, as it is only for July and August.

I have not yet heard of any merchant who has advanced a good substantial reason against the Bill, as the benefits to the employer and the employees are mutual. I have also discussed the bill with some of the dry goods and grocery merchants doing business in all parts of the town, and there is only one opinion, which is that all should fall in line and make a success of the Daylight Bill for Newfoundland and give it a fair trial, if only for one year. The position would be this, so far as it related to the business houses on Water Street, and those in the other streets, they would be sure to fall in with the new order of things. Shops open at present at 8.30. All hands are down with breakfast. Dinner, first party, at 1 o'clock, second party at 2 o'clock, or whatever hours suited the various establishments best; closing their places of business at 6 o'clock. The above is an outline of the present arrangements. Coming into force Monday, the 7th inst., under the Bill, and commencing Monday, the 5th of July, by putting forward clocks and watches on Sunday evening at nine o'clock; shops would open at 6.30 Standard time, but by the clock at 8.30 Colonial time. The first party would go to dinner at 11 o'clock Standard time, which would be 1 o'clock Colonial time. The second party would go to dinner at 12 o'clock Standard time or 2 o'clock Colonial time. At 4 o'clock Standard

time the shops and business places would close, but still by one's watch the time would be 6 o'clock. This would give everybody a long evening in the lovely summer nights, and it would properly divide the day's work for our men who were employed on the wharves drying fish and the laborers who were working 10 hours per day. During July and August they would begin at 5 o'clock Standard time with breakfast, which by the clock would be 7 o'clock. Dinner at 10 o'clock standard time, or 12 o'clock Colonial time. All work would stop at 4 o'clock Standard time, which would be 6 o'clock by watches and clocks. After one day the workmen and mechanics of St. John's would fully understand the Bill and the great benefits they and their families would derive from it. This might safely be called a Bill for the workingmen and their families, on whom the effect of two hours more sunlight daily for seventy days must lead to an improvement in health and consequent advantage to children. Young women of the wage-earning class, for whom exercise in the fresh air was specially desirable, had at present but few facilities for other forms of exercise than walking. Older people desired to spend their evening leisure in summer in gardens, fishing or in the parks. The parks could be kept open every night until 10 o'clock and it would be still broad daylight. The encouragement given by a longer period of freedom in daylight to people to live in the country, would be of special benefit to families which every season went to the country houses either near the city or in Topsail or other places.

I have in the past few days made very careful inquiries into the question of drying codfish, whether two hours of the early sun would help, and I found there was a differ-

ence of opinion, but whatever was right, that argument need not in any affect the Bill, because during the months of July and August then they could do so by Colonial time. Starting work at 9 o'clock, which would be 7 o'clock Standard time, they could have dinner at 2 o'clock Colonial time, which would be 12 o'clock Standard time, and they would finish work at 8 o'clock Colonial time or 6 o'clock Standard time. Banks and banking would continue the same as usual; the Bill would not materially affect them. Bills of exchange and notes due would go on as if nothing had happened, with this exception—banks would open for business at 8 o'clock Colonial time (still 10) and close at 1 o'clock Colonial time, still 3 o'clock by watches and clocks—while our friends the bankers would more than reap a special benefit by this Bill. The population of St. John's, consisting about one-eighth of the population of the whole Island, would greatly benefit by the proposed change. This alteration of time would utilize morning air and daylight and enable all to spend an additional two hours of their leisure out of doors at the end of the day during 27 days in July, 31 in August and 5 in September. I believe that this must materially increase the health, happiness and moral well-being of every individual, and more especially of those workers in our factories, shops and offices, who at present got so little time for open air recreation. In conclusion, I beg to move the second reading of the Daylight Saving Bill.

HON. MR. GREENE—I rise to second this motion, and I think the passing of the Bill would be a much-called-for benefit. I am of opinion that the supporters of the Bill need not exert themselves strenuously to advocate its merits, but they could

afford to simply ask what could be said against it and wait for the answer, feeling sure that no serious objection to it could be raised. I admit that a few little difficulties might attend the working of the measure, but these for the most part are only sectional and personal. It was right that we should deal with the measure carefully and that due regard should be given to the circumstances and mode of life we are used to, before making a change, but these are details that can be worked out, though perhaps it would take a little time. The business man would need to consider how such a measure would affect him and his employees, and whether he could afford to have it introduced, but I think that when all the objections are analysed, they will not provide any insurmountable difficulty. It is not proposed to rush the Bill, and there would be ample time in Committee to adjust the details to suit the majority, which I believe will be done eventually.

The proposed saving of daylight could not apply better in any part of the Empire than in Newfoundland, as many of the difficulties encountered in other countries were altogether unknown here, and I hope the day is not far distant when the principle would be applied, not only during the months of July and August, but all the year round. The longest day of the year is practically unknown to us except by the calendar, and light, the gift of nature, passes us by, without our being aware of it. We should take advantage of the hours of July, and August, and September, as the month of June—a beautiful summer month in neighboring countries—very rarely showed summer weather here. The weather of the past eight or nine days is an illustration of this. There were

many reasons why such a bill should be passed. I would refer to the lowest—the extra time it provided for amusement. It was unnecessary to dwell on this; a great deal more time could be taken for pleasure and enjoyment and many would be able to indulge in healthful pastimes that they were now neglecting. Nature made day and night and distinguished them by light and darkness. We created for ourselves fictitious days and nights, until we had gradually got into the habit of keeping later hours every year, every month and even every day. Tom Moore said :

“The best of all ways,
To lengthen our days,
Is to steal a few hours from the
night.”

For many years we had been stealing hours from the night, and I would point out that this custom was not a “borrowing” or “taking” a few hours, but “robbing” them. If this Bill were passed it would not necessarily mean that people would be compelled to get up earlier or go to bed earlier. If they might gradually get into the habit of doing so, all the better. Such a change in customs could not be brought about suddenly or coercively, but if attempted gradually the people would soon fall into line and would soon feel the advantage of it. Everything in the animal and vegetable kingdom went to sleep at dark and began life anew with the dawn. There was no reason why man should not do the same, and I would like to see the measure get a fair test. I support the Bill on broad principles and feel confident the results will prove all the benefits I claim for it. There are many other reasons why we should adopt this measure—among them the great saving in light bills, but I will not de-

lay the House to point them out. On the other hand, there were the interests of others to be considered and conserved and these should receive careful attention. In conclusion, I have much pleasure in seconding the motion that the Bill be read a second time.

HON. MR. HARVEY—I rise to support the Bill. I believe in the maxim, “Early to bed early to rise, etc.,” but I think that a great difficulty in the way of our putting this into practice more is the fact of our being bound and limited by the customs of the day. I have been speaking to another person who has pointed out that one difficulty in the way of the Bill is that shop clerks and other employees would stay up just as late as they did now, but would have to get up earlier and consequently would not be as fit for work next day. I do not think that this objection will prove real and I believe that people will soon fall into the habit of going by the clock no matter what the real time is. I deplore the fact that we have abandoned all common sense in our habits of keeping late hours, and sleeping in bed during the hours of sunlight and I would be very glad to welcome any measure that would help us to get nearer a natural state of things and help us to practice a more sensible custom.

All are aware that the more highly civilized a nation is the more complicated is its social system, and it is in its complications that one of the difficulties in the way of this Bill would be found, but yet I do not see any interest that would be materially affected by this Bill, except the Electric Light Co., and I feel sure that the passenger traffic on the railway lines of that company would more than compensate them. I think

the saving of artificial light will be a great advantage to the poorer classes. It is estimated that the saving in England, if such a measure were adopted, would be two and a half million pounds sterling, and I am sure the amount, for even our small city, will be considerable. With regard to the objection re the curing of fish, I think the difficulty more or less imaginary, as very little fish that needs drying comes to St. John's before the latter part of August. I would point out that it will make absolutely no difference to the discharging, packing and loading of the product. Even if there were fish to be dried, that was merely a detail that could be arranged.

I have noticed in my experience that, especially during the early summer, there is a tendency for the evenings to become cold, dull and even foggy, thus being unpleasant for picnics, etc., by the time we are free from work, and this, I think, is a strong reason why we should take advantage of the morning hours and get up earlier. I am not so sure that the Public Service would not be at all disturbed by the measure. I think the Post Office officials will have to work two hours longer, as they could not alter their hours, since the mails have to be closed or opened according to the trains, and it is extremely unlikely that the railway company will alter their time. However, I think the officials should, as they are working for the benefit of the public, suit the public convenience, and I do not see that the difficulty is a very serious one. The advantage to schools would be the greatest. Children are required to spend too large a portion of the day in close, stuffy rooms. The passing of this Bill will give them an opportunity to spend more time in the sunlight and thus fortify them against disease and

keep them in better health and spirits.

The motion was then put and carried.

SELECT COMMITTEE NAMED.

HON. MR. ANDERSON—I now move that a Select Committee of both Houses be appointed to take evidence relating to the Bill, and report at the Session of 1910.

The motion was carried and the following gentlemen appointed from the Legislative Council—Hons. John Anderson, J. Harris, D. J. Greene, J. Harvey and R. K. Bishop.

PROGRESS ON BILLS.

HON. MR. BISHOP then moved the second reading of the Pension Bill, which was carried, and the Bill was read by the Clerk.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved the Pension Bill be submitted to Committee to-morrow. Motion carried.

THE HON. THE PRESIDENT then announced that he had received a message from the House of Assembly acquainting the Legislative Council that they had passed the following Bills and requested the Council's concurrence :

“An Act to Provide for the Raising of a Sum of Money by Loan.”

“An Act to Incorporate the Newfoundland Board of Trade.”

“An Act to Amend the Revenue Act, 1905.”

“An Act to Amend the Education Act, 1903.”

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, the Loan Bill was read a first time and was ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, the Revenue Bill was read a first

time and was ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, the Education Bill was read a first time, and was ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, the Board of Trade Bill was read a first time, and was ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, the House adjourned till to-morrow, Wednesday, June 9th, at 4.30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, June 9th, 1909.

Pursuant to adjournment, the House opened at 4.40 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF WHOLE ON PENSION BILL.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, the House went into Committee of the Whole to consider the Pension Bill.

HON. DR. SKELTON took the Chair.

After the reading of the Bill by the Clerk—

HON. MR. ANDERSON—I rise to make a few observations. I have no doubt the several persons referred to have rendered the Colony good service and are well deserving of the pensions which the Government proposes to allow them, but I wish to make special reference to the case of Rev. Dr. Pilot. He came to this country in 1867 and for forty-two years has rendered faithful service to both Church and State. From 1867 to 1874 he was Vice-President of the Theological College. In the performance of his ministerial duties he showed marked ability and received the love and respect of all who knew him. In 1874 he was appointed to inquire into the state of edu-

cation in the Colony and in 1875 was gazetted Inspector of Church of England Schools. No pension that could be granted by the Government would be more appropriate or more deserving than this one and I hope the Rev. gentleman will be spared many years to enjoy this fitting recognition of his thirty-four years of educational work. During this time, besides his regular work, he has rendered many valuable services to the cause of education without receiving any returns for them. I have much pleasure in supporting this Bill, as I am convinced that all the pensions are well earned.

The Committee rose and reported that the Bill had been passed without amendment.

On motion of HON. DR. SKELTON, the Report was received.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, it was ordered that the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

SECOND READING OF LOAN BILL.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Loan Bill be read a second time.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—I rise to ask the Hon. the Leader of the Government if it is proposed to use any of the surplus of \$500,000 lying to the credit of the Colony.

HON. MR. BISHOP replied that the Government had no such intention.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—I would point out that this reserve is only bearing interest at three per cent., while it is proposed to pay four per cent. on a new loan and leave this money undisturbed. I think this is poor economy on the part of the Government.

HON. MR. BISHOP—I might reply that the late Government had been paying six per cent. to the Royal Bank of Canada on the debts for

which this Bill provided. The present policy might be poor economy, but it was better economy than the example set by the late Government.

The motion was then put and carried.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be referred to a Committee of the Whole on to-morrow.

SECOND READING OF REVENUE BILL.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved the second reading of the Revenue Bill.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—I cannot let this Bill pass without passing a few remarks on it. I understood from His Excellency's speech that the burden of taxation on the poor man would be lightened and the weight placed on the shoulders of those who are better able to bear it. If that is the end aimed at in the alteration, then I wish to point out that the alteration would operate in exactly the opposite direction. The Bill provided for a duty of one and one-half cents per pound on soap, instead of forty per cent. ad val. The larger portion of the soap imported into this country was of a strong, cheap quality, extensively used amongst the laboring classes. This cost from fourteen to sixteen shillings per cwt. in England and the new rate would bring the duty up to 50 per cent., or an increase of ten per cent. over the present rate. The finer costs from twenty-seven to twenty-eight shillings per cwt., the duty on which, according to the new rate, would be only twenty-five per cent., or a reduction of fifteen per cent. This was making the articles cheaper to those who could afford to buy the finer quality and dearer to those who were compelled to buy the poorer. I am consequently at a loss to see where the advantage will come

to the poorer classes. I am pleased to note that the Government intends to help the movement for the Prevention of Consumption, but I think they are a bit inconsistent since this "Tariff Reform" would make it harder for the poor workingmen to buy the soap that was so necessary to him in the "more cleanliness" movement that was being advocated. The Government, if they were sincere, should be placing facilities at his disposal, rather than putting them farther out of his reach. I would like to ask if the Government are prepared to reconsider this measure; if not, I feel in duty bound, in the interests of the working class, to oppose the Bill as it now stands.

HON. MR. BISHOP—I would point out that in the hon. member's own words, the Bill justified itself, since it lowered the price of the finer article and thus placed it within the poor man's reach, as the better article, even if it were a little dearer at first, would prove cheaper in the end. I think it unnecessary to say any more, as that fact alone should commend the Bill to favorable consideration.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—I might reply that the result would not be what my hon. friend, Mr. Bishop, anticipated. The strong carbolic soap that was used for years would continue to be used. The people had got so used to it and they found it so well adapted for washing and cleaning purposes that they would have it, even if the cost were greater. This policy would probably result in the exclusion of the imported article from the market and the local product would take its place. I think this unfair to the large number of importers, as the few men who had an interest in the factories here would control the market.

HON. MR. ANGEL—Might I ask if the new duty on the soap referred to will amount to fifty per cent.?

HON. MR. ANDERSON—I did not see the Bill before, but I gather from what Hon. Mr. Knowling has said that the change would result as follows: The soap largely used by the fishermen and laboring men cost usually about fourteen shillings, or \$3.40 per cwt. The present duty at forty per cent. was \$1.36. The new duty of one and one-half cents per pound would be \$1.68, or an increase of twenty-two and one-half per cent. I think this a rather cute way of getting a local protection. This would have the effect of shutting out the imported article and placing the merchants at the mercy of the few people here who controlled the factories. It would give all the big buyers all the benefit and shut out the small dealer. I am aware that this House is powerless to do anything in the matter, but I hope the Government will reconsider this Bill and not be too hasty with a measure that obviously would not lighten the burden of taxation on the poor man.

The motion was then put and the House divided, when there appeared for the motion Hon. Messrs. Bishop, Harris, Ayre, Skelton, Harvey, Gibbs, Angel, Milley, Anderson and Baird; and against it Hon. Messrs. Knowling and McLoughlan.

So it passed in the affirmative, and on motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, the Bill was ordered to be referred to Committee of the Whole on to-morrow.

SECOND READING OF EDUCATION BILL.

HON. MR. BISHOP—I rise to move the second reading of the Education Bill. I feel that every member is

well aware of the need there is for an improvement in the education of the country, and I am convinced that any movement towards that end will receive the support of the whole House. It is unnecessary to dwell at length on the merits of this Bill, as they are plain to everyone. The first section provides for an increase in what is termed the Poor District Grant. It is the duty of the Government to place a common education within the reach of every child, if possible, and this Government intends to do all in its power to carry out that duty. The second clause provides for an increase in the teachers' salaries. No one denies that our teachers are poorly paid. Every member of the House is aware of the responsibility that rests on the teacher in the educational standing of the country; everyone looks to them to keep up the standard and to improve it, but they could not be expected to give their time and talents to the work without being properly compensated, and I feel sure this clause will meet with the approval of the whole House.

With regard to the last clause, it is well known that many of the school buildings of the country are unfit for children to attend. School boards wished to improve them, but were unable to do so through lack of funds. The Government proposes by this Bill to place a fund at the disposal of boards who wish to build now, up-to-date and sanitary school rooms, and pay the interest on that sum to the amount of four thousand dollars. Boards availing themselves of this plan will be required to pay back five per cent. of the amount borrowed annually. This, I think, will result in great improvement in schools all over the Island, as I am convinced there is a growing sentiment in favour of providing cleaner

and more healthy surroundings for school children. All that is needed is the money to carry out the idea.

HON. MR. HARVEY—I do not intend to delay the work of the session now, and am particularly anxious not to make any unnecessary criticism of the work of the Government, for they have certainly had a hard problem. They have come into power on very short notice, the time they have had at their disposal to work out legislation has been necessarily short, and it is the wish of every member to facilitate their work in every possible way. I can not, however, let this Bill pass through its second reading without calling the attention of hon. members, and particularly representatives of the Government here, to certain matters in connection with it, which I think need consideration. As far as I know, the Bill went through the House of Assembly with very little or no discussion which, I confess, surprises me, unless it was for the reason which I expressed, namely, the necessity and desirability of facilitating the work of the session. I heartily appreciate the action of the Government in taking up the question of education and increasing the grant in the face of the fact that the outlook, financially, for the Colony is not good, and the need there is for economy in the public service. Still, I look upon education and public health as matters standing by themselves, which justified an increased grant, but it was the more important, when we were poor and likely to be short of money, that what was spent should be spent in the most intelligent and advantageous way. Notwithstanding my appreciation, already expressed, of the Government's admirable idea of increasing the grant, the Bill appears

to me as being hurried and ill-considered.

I am a member of the Committee appointed by the Church of England Synod to consider the question of education. The Committee was a good one, and worked hard and discussed the whole question from beginning to end, and certainly admirable suggestions were submitted to the Government. They then waited upon the Government, and were received in the kindest possible way. The recommendations which they made were promised proper consideration. This had been done, but I cannot help feeling that if the recommendations of that Committee had been carried out the result would have been very much better.

The increased grant was \$26,000, and \$4,000 for interest, totalling \$30,000. The recommendations of the Committee required \$44,000, but I find no fault with the reduction of the amount. Economy was a matter which the Government had to consider, and I do not criticize it in any way; in fact, it was more than we expected. The finances of the Colony at present could not stand such a large sum as \$44,000. The criticism I have to make is purely on the allocation of the money.

The first section of the Bill provides an increase grant of \$6,000 for destitute localities. I think there should be some clause in that section by which the expenditure could be checked. We have heard a great deal lately about having proper school buildings properly equipped. I have only read the first clause hurriedly, but as I read it there is no proviso as to the sort of buildings which are to be erected out of this \$100,000.

The second section of the Bill increases the grant for teachers by

\$20,000. In looking over the references in this clause it seems to me that the verbiage needs overhauling. It reads: "There shall be annually appropriated the sum of \$20,000, as a further augmentation, which said last-mentioned sum shall be expended in the manner and subject to the terms and conditions in the said section provided." The section calls for the payment of different sums—\$67, \$37, \$112, and so on. How, then, was this \$20,000 going to be distributed according to the terms and conditions of this section? It was impossible and could not be done, and I call the attention and ask the consideration of the Government to that section which, as it stood, was not workable.

One of the recommendations of the Synod Committee, I think, should receive serious consideration. The Committee had asked for \$43,000 for the augmentation grant and the Government had given \$20,000. The Committee had put in a suggestion that any increase in the grant for teachers should be differently allocated from what it is at present. It was pointed out that about 150 teachers annually left the profession and they desired, not a grant for the teachers employed one, two or three years, but for those in the higher grades and with experience. It did not matter so much if we lost teachers of only one or two years' experience, but when a man or woman had been in the service for ten or fifteen years, and had learnt his or her business thoroughly, they should be kept there and these were the ones whose salaries should be raised. I submit that this increased augmentation, or the greater part of it, should be allocated to the better class of teachers. At the Teachers' Convention last year it was noticeable that the majority of the teachers were

very young. As soon as they were a year or two employed they left for other work. What was really needed was some prize or prizes at the top of the tree and to increase the salaries of the lower grades of teachers would not bring the best results.

Another thing asked for by the Convention was the sum of \$6,000 for the training of teachers. As everybody knew, education amounted to nothing without the teacher. He was the beginning and the end, and what was badly needed was a properly trained staff of teachers. We have not got these to-day, and I believe the small sum of five or six thousand dollars so spent would do much good than perhaps \$20,000 in any other way. I certainly think that this augmentation grant should be distributed in some other way than is provided in this Bill.

The third section had to do with buildings. "There shall be annually appropriated and apportioned amongst the several religious denominations of this Colony the sum of \$4,000 for the payment of interest upon such monies as may, with the approval of the Governor in Council, be raised by the Boards of Education of the several religious denominations of the Colony in places outside the city of St. John's for the purpose of the erection of school buildings."

I want to call the Government's attention to this. As I read it, it is illegal to take any of the money for repairing the school buildings now in use. The erection of school buildings was a necessary and desirable thing, but there was nothing for improving the disgraceful condition of the schools in the country to-day. A grant to improve that condition was first needed. Some of those now in use were only cow-sheds and the

children were simply herded into them. The Synod Committee had thrashed this question out at great length and had suggested a small vote of \$6,000, roughly, \$2,000 for each of the leading denominations, to be spent in equipping and improving the worst classes of schools that we had. In addition to that, the Government should raise a loan of \$30,000, or \$10,000 for each denomination. In the case of the Church of England, this money would have been controlled by a Committee and loaned to school boards in small amounts, but only to those who would make good use of it. It was to be paid back in small amounts. The \$10,000 for each denomination became a perpetual loan. The original demand was for a loan of \$100,000, but I am opposed to it, because if the amount were taken and spent on schools this year it would be thrown away. We needed to go slowly and I think the control of the money should be vested in a board in St. John's, who would oversee the kind of buildings put up and who could recover it and utilize it again. Under this clause, the Board of Education had a right to come and ask for a loan, and I do not see how it was workable. I think a central authority is necessary to distribute this money and to get the most good from it. I think that \$100,000 spent on schools by school boards without any supervision is going to be wasted and thrown away. I have no wish to make any unnecessary criticism, but I think the Bill ill-considered as it stands. I do not blame the Government, however, as I know they are rushed, but would like some explanation on those points.

HON. MR. ANDERSON—I rise with pleasure to support the second reading of this Bill, because no Bill coming before the House this or any

other year deserved more consideration, and however small the grant at the present time might be, the increase of \$6,000 for poor districts was a help. The increase of \$20,000 in the augmentation was, further, very valuable, but the third section, in my opinion, was the most important of all. In the poorer districts of the country, if a loan were to be raised, was it not better for the Government to raise the loan themselves, because they could always raise such loans at four per cent., whereas private parties might have to pay five or six per cent. With this \$4,000 it would thus be far better for the Government to negotiate a specified loan at four per cent., for if private parties were to attempt to raise a loan they might be charged five per cent. and thus only raise \$80,000 of six per cent., and thereby only secure \$67,000, or \$33,000 less. In the interests of the country, the Government should provide the loan and the people the interest, and then we would get good schools, well equipped in every detail. I hope that something of this nature will be accomplished.

Upon motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, the Bill was then read a second time and ordered to be referred to Committee of the Whole on to-morrow.

SECOND READING OF BOARD OF TRADE BILL.

HON. MR. BISHOP—As every member is well aware, we have long felt in this community the necessity for a Board of Trade or some trade organization. In fact, when we consider that no city of half the size of St. John's or one with one-quarter of its trade could be found elsewhere without a Board, we begin to wonder how it was we had got along as well as we had. The matter is not a new

ne. It has been apparent for many years that it is a matter of vital necessity in the interests of the Colony, and indeed efforts have from time to time been made. They were, however, more or less spasmodic, and not taken up with sufficient energy, so that nothing was accomplished. More recently, however, it has become the subject of more interest and discussion, with the result that there appears to be now a unity of feeling that a Board of Trade should now be established. Matters had reached this stage when the present Government came into power and one of the first actions of the Premier was to call a public meeting, at which he explained that the desire of the Government was that a Board of Trade should be established.

It was recognized that it would be a source of assistance and strength to the Government, and that the Government, by assistance of some kind or other, would also be a great help to the Board of Trade. At that meeting several gentlemen expressed their opinions regarding it, and all being favorably disposed, a Committee was formed to take the matter into fuller consideration. The Secretary of the Committee, Mr. W. G. Gosling, and Mr. G. C. Fearn, have been engaged during the past two or three months devoting a very great deal of their time gathering up information, getting the constitutions of Boards of Trade in other cities and collecting matter which might be made use of in the formation of a Board of Trade here. The result of their labours was the Bill which had been presented in the House of Assembly, asking for the incorporation of the Newfoundland Board of Trade.

This Board of Trade was to be a Newfoundland and not a St. John's

Board, as it was felt that there was a great desirability of there being closer connection between the people trading in the outports and the merchants and traders in St. John's. Up to the present, I am sorry to say, that unity has not been conspicuous, but it is hoped to have this Board of Trade established very soon, and I believe very many advantages will result, provided it is properly organized and officered. I have much pleasure in moving the second reading of the Bill.

HON. MR. HARRIS—I rise to second the motion of the Hon. Mr. Bishop. I think, however, that one section of the Bill at least is a little loosely constructed. I refer to Section 6. As the previous speaker has already said, great praise is due Messrs. G. C. Fearn and W. G. Gosling, who played such a part in the formation of the Newfoundland Board of Trade. They deserve the thanks of the commercial community for the zealous and unselfish manner in which they have worked. Many others are on the list of names before me, who were actively identified with the movement, but none more so than the two gentlemen named. The part of Section 6 to which I would refer is: "The whole of the members then present shall proceed to elect a president, two vice-presidents and eight others. The said eleven members so elected shall, within three days, meet, select and nominate four other members of the Board, and thereupon the said fourteen members and officers so elected and chosen shall constitute 'The Council of the Newfoundland Board of Trade,' and hereafter in this Act shall be called and described as 'The Council.' "

If eleven men were elected and had the appointing of four to form

a Council of fifteen, it would simply mean that the Council would be ruled by six, who could nominate their own men, who would virtually be of same party as the six who elected them by their majority vote. It would be possible that such a thing would occur, though I do not say it ever would so happen.

Personally, I am a great believer in a Board of Trade and some time ago made several attempts to induce others to join with me in forming one. The time was not ripe then, but now that a Board has been started, it needed only to be firmly established for its benefits to become general. Up to the present foreign governments had no reliable source from which to secure information of Newfoundland and its resources, but this would soon be remedied. The local Board at present knew nothing outside of the trade in St. John's but with a body such as it was hoped the new Board of Trade would become, with representation from all parts of the Island and of all business persuasions, difference would follow forthwith.

Not the least beneficial result would be the establishing of an arbitration committee, instead of rushing into court, at great expense of time and money. Such a committee would be able to settle matters economically and speedily. Such a committee would ensure a saving of thousands of dollars and expedite the settlement of affairs that otherwise would occupy months, perhaps, in the law courts.

A committee to deal with handling fish in foreign markets would also have a valuable work to perform, but in this matter I only spoke as a layman. A committee to deal with the cull of fish would likewise be an

important branch of the Board. Last year I understand that certain merchants bought fish from merchants in the outports, but when landed in St. John's it was not much better than West India. It was impossible for a merchant to know what kind of fish he was paying for when purchased in a far-away outport. Such a committee would be able to create a standard for fish. Then all would know what they were buying and selling.

Another branch would be a Statistical Board. Under existing conditions, we had a statistical office in the Customs, but something more was needed and would have to be brought about by the Board of Trade. It is difficult for one to consider how we got along so many years in the old rut. The introduction and passing of a measure to incorporate the new body would put it on a sound basis before the public, and if the confidence of the commercial community were given the board, its work would soon become easy. I have great pleasure in supporting the motion presented by the Hon. Mr. Bishop.

The motion being carried, HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be sent to Committee to-morrow, and it was ordered accordingly.

BILL RECEIVED.

THE HON. THE PRESIDENT acquainted the House that he had received a message from the House of Assembly acquainting the Legislative Council that they had passed a Bill granting Supply to His Majesty to defray expenses from June 30th, 1909, to June 30th, 1910, and requested the concurrence of the Legislature.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, it was ordered that the Public Ser-

ce Bill be read a first time and that it be read a second time on to-morrow.

SUSPENSION OF RULES.

HON. MR. BISHOP gave notice that he would move the suspension of rule 33 of the House on to-morrow.

HON. MR. ANDERSON read a message from Mr. Willett to the effect that the Daylight Bill Committee of the British House of Commons was hard at work and that opposition to the Bill was growing weaker.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved an adjournment at 5.55 until to-morrow. The House adjourned accordingly.

THURSDAY, June 10th, 1909.

The Council met at 4.55 p.m., the Hon. the President in the Chair.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR HON. MR. RYAN.

THE HON. THE PRESIDENT read communication from His Excellency the Governor notifying the Council that he had granted permission to the Hon. Mr. Ryan, a member of the Legislative Council, to be absent for the remainder of the present session.

RULES SUSPENDED.

HON. MR. BISHOP—With the consent of the Council, I would like to ask for the suspension of Rule 33 of the House in regard to all Bills and all matters now before the House. I do so simply for the purpose of expediting the business of the session, and for that reason move it now instead of after the regular business of the day.

The motion being adopted, it was ordered accordingly.

PROGRESS ON BILLS.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the

Retiring Allowances Bill be now read a third time, and it was done accordingly.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill do now pass and that a message be sent to the House of Assembly to that effect.

It was ordered accordingly.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved the House into Committee on the Loan Bill.

THE HON. THE PRESIDENT left the Chair.

HON. MR. AYRE took the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred and had passed the Bill without amendment; and on his motion his report was received.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved the third reading of this Bill, and it was ordered accordingly; and on motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop it was ordered that the Bill do pass and that a message be sent to the House of Assembly to that effect.

COMMITTEE OF WHOLE ON EDUCATION BILL.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the House resolve itself into Committee on the Education Bill.

THE HON. THE PRESIDENT left the Chair.

HON. MR. ANGEL took the Chair of the Committee.

HON. MR. BISHOP—I wish to move an amendment to the second section. The Act, as it stood, fixed the proportions to be paid to the different grade teachers from the Augmentation Grant already provided, and it did not appear that power was there given to divide any in-

crease. It provided for the payment of the sum voted in 1905, but not for an increased grant, and I move that the section be changed, and after the words "further augmentation" the rest of the paragraph be stricken out and these words substituted, "to the teachers' salaries which last mentioned sum shall be expended in such proportion as may be fixed by the Governor in Council on the recommendations of the Superintendents of Education." This would also provide for further consideration of the matter mentioned by Hon. Mr. Harvey yesterday, and it might possibly be that the Superintendents of Education would agree that the increased sum which was now provided in the grant should not be paid as before, but more to some places and less to others as might be required. I think this will meet the objection raised by the hon. gentlemen. I propose the changing of the sections as stated above.

HON. MR. ANDERSON—While I propose to vote for Section 3, at the same time I should like to have inserted in this clause that the amount be raised by the Government and loaned to the Boards of Education. It was plainly to be seen here that the Government had no power beyond the raising and the paying of the interest. I would like to ask the gentleman in charge of the Bill if it was the intention of the Government to take up any portion of this loan. If so, then I quite agree, and I think it will be better to have it inserted in the clause. As I pointed out yesterday, I am quite sure the Government could raise the loan at four per cent., but if it was to be raised by the school boards and private individuals throughout the Colony I think it would not be raised under five or six per cent. The result would be that only \$80,000 or

\$67,000 could be raised, whereas if the Government were to take the responsibility of raising the whole loan at four per cent., \$33,000 more could be obtained. If the Government was prepared to provide \$4,000 per year they should also be prepared to take part of the loan.

HON. MR. BISHOP—In answer to the hon. member, I would say that if necessary the Government will provide the money, but in many places it is quite possible that some person in the locality would prefer having a Government guarantee at four per cent. to finding the money. It was not intended that the whole cost of the school house should be given, except in extreme cases, and the Boards would have to provide some part of the money. In this connection the Government was going to prepare plans of school houses of two or three sizes, which would be lithographed and sent around. These buildings would be modelled after those in use in Canada and elsewhere. The plans would be put in the hands of the school boards and help provided up to the amount of \$100,000. It is not at all likely that the whole of this money will be expended during the present year, but the intention of the Government is that they should get to work in all needy localities as soon as possible, and abolish, burn or destroy the buildings not fit for use of the children. At all events they should have proper surroundings at an early date.

HON. MR. ANDERSON—The explanation is perfectly satisfactory and it has my hearty support, but we must remember that the Bill does not provide for any specific amount. I think the Government has not taken this matter into consideration and if the money is necessary to put up

these schools in the outports they should have done so. There are splendid schools in many of the outports near St. John's and at other places, but in many outports there are buildings which need money to put them in proper condition, and I am glad the Government are going to do something towards this. I regret, however, that it is not embodied in the Bill that the Government is to raise the loan.

HON. MR. BISHOP—The hon. gentleman is financier enough to know that the Government are in a position to raise the money any day and would have no difficulty whatever in doing so.

HON. MR. HARVEY—I have listened with very great pleasure to the Hon. Mr. Bishop's explanation of the clause, and while on my feet would refer to one other matter which was a great anomaly and that was the position of the Superintendents of Education. They at present were allowed a salary and had to pay their own travelling expenses; and it must be obvious to everybody that the better a man did his work old duty on that would be \$2.72 per cwt. Under the alteration it is \$1.68. Take the fisherman's and laborer's soap, which costs about fourteen shillings per cwt., and he pays the same duty—one cent and a half per pound. I think the alteration suicidal on the part of the Government, and there is something behind the scenes. Already the Standard Soap Company is getting enough protection. There is a protection of forty per cent., while they only pay fifteen per cent. duty on the tallow and grease which they import for manufacturing the article; thus getting a clear protection of twenty-five per cent. Certainly there must be something working behind the scenes.

The fishermen had adapted themselves to the use of a certain quality of soap, and this they would use, but they would have to pay more for it, though they were promised in the Premier's Manifesto of reduced taxation. How was the promise to the poor man being carried out? Fancy soap at twenty-eight shillings a cwt. which was used by the upper classes and would under our old tariff pay a duty of \$2.72 per cwt., but under the suggested change \$1.68 per cwt. Take 15-shilling soap, such as Lever's, which was greatly in demand amongst the poorer classes. The old tariff meant a duty of \$1.46 per cwt. Under the new tariff it was \$1.68. Soaps at thirteen and fourteen shillings were still lower under the old tariff, but all would be \$1.68 per cwt. if the section were passed.

I fail to see where the reduction for the poor man came in and would like every fisherman and workman in the Colony to take notice that not only would the alteration bear heavily on him, but it would have the effect of driving out such manufacturers as Swift, Armour, Goodwin, etc. I cannot understand what the Government meant and, as I said before, it is a suicidal policy. I read a letter in the Daily News in the forenoon under the caption of "Imperialism That Counts," but the act of the Government was "Imperialism With a Vengeance," and it meant a slap in the face to the English manufacturers. The facts are appalling, but there they are. I am not a shareholder in the Standard Manufacturing Company, but I am a customer, and have handled their goods for some years. I believe in local concerns, but not when they are a burden to the working classes. If the proposed tariff became law the biggest sufferers would be the

working classes, and the Government would begin to realize at a later date that the consumers of the lower grade of soap had been sacrificed. The Government were losing by it instead of gaining. The local manufacturers were already being protected enough with twenty-five per cent. and any concern with that protection should be able to make a business pay. As I said before, I am a great believer in local industries and am glad to say that the manufactured article from the Standard Works is a good soap. I am sorry indeed that the English manufacturers are going to be crowded out. The proposed change of the tariff without bona fide reasons was an insult to the exporters of soap; it simply meant that a free sale could not be made in a free market. The passing of such a section the way it worked out would only make us a laughing stock amongst exporters.

HON. MR. BISHOP—In answer to the hon. gentleman, I would say at the outset that the Government had not been approached by the Standard directors, nor was it at their instance that the alteration was being made. That company had no knowledge of it until the Budget came before the House. Hon. Mr. Knowling is a director of the company and I would ask him if the matter was ever spoken of or discussed at any meetings of the directors in his presence. Nor was it during his absence. I can not see where it is a "slap in the face" to British manufacturers. The quality of soap used by the masses cost usually sixteen shillings per cwt., and the change of tariff proposed would make a difference of ten cents per cwt. Hon. Mr. Anderson was right that on the higher grades of soap there would be a big reduction. The masses would be

able to use more of this quality and it was a clear instance of where the Government was fulfilling its promises of reducing taxation. The reason of the change being made was that American firms with local agents were shipping large quantities of soap here which was invoiced at \$1.20 a box and sold at \$2.50, less three per cent., after freight, commission, etc., were paid, giving the exporters a net profit of about forty-two and one-half cents per box. The exporters would not sell to importers here at duty paid price, and consequently the Customs could not help thinking that something was wrong.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—I am glad that my remarks of yesterday are endorsed by Hon. Mr. Anderson, and to the Leader of the Government I would say that when I spoke the object in view was to show the inconsistency of the Government. What was foreshadowed from the the less he got paid for it. It was an anomalous state of affairs. Fortunately, we had good men for our Superintendents, but there was a temptation for them to do as little work as they could and thus make more pay. I would like to know if this section means the improvement or rebuilding of old schools. The section reads for "new buildings," and I am not sufficient of a lawyer to know whether that means putting in new windows, repairing, etc.

HON. MR. BISHOP—The intention is that where there are schools capable of being remodelled they may be made as good as new, but not otherwise. It is the intention of the Government before next session to have an entirely new Education Act. There are many anomalous sections in the present Act. It is really three or four Acts in one and we intend to have a new Act, when all the de-

fects will be remedied. In the meantime, I think it would be quite possible, upon the recommendations of the Superintendents of Education, to allow some assistance to a board for the remodelling of a school or schools. I beg to move the adoption of this section, with the insertion of the words "or remodelling" after the word "erection."

And it was carried.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had passed the Bill, with some amendments; and upon his motion the report was received.

THIRD READING OF EDUCATION BILL.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved the third reading of the Education Bill.

The Bill passed and was ordered to be sent to the Assembly, with a message acquainting that body that the Bill had been passed with some amendments, and requesting the concurrence of the Assembly therein.

COMMITTEE OF WHOLE ON BOARD OF TRADE BILL.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved the House into Committee of the Whole on the Board of Trade Bill.

HON. MR. ANDERSON—I was glad to hear the remarks of Hon. Mr. Harris yesterday on this Bill. I think that Section 6 should be amended. It is right enough to have a council of fifteen, but I do not think that four of those should be appointed by the eleven elected. Why not all be elected?

HON. MR. BISHOP—The Bill has been given due deliberation by the Government. It was not worth while altering the section as it now read. It would effect nothing really and I think it unwise to make any altera-

tion until a trial has been made.

HON. MR. ANDERSON—I think the promoters of the Bill deserved thanks, and the committee, with Messrs. Gosling and Fearn, who labored so hard in the matter. I have not referred to the Bill in its entirety, but only to Section 6. It was no compliment to the Board of Trade not to have power to elect its own full Council Board. The whole Board was best qualified to elect its Council and should not have eleven elect four. The members were not a crowd of children. Let them have a chance to elect a full Council.

HON. MR. BISHOP—I do not see the force of what the hon. gentleman has said. It frequently happens at meetings where large numbers are present that names are overlooked. If eleven were elected they would be able to select those who perhaps would be overlooked and yet would be very valuable to the Council. It is a better way, in my opinion, and also in the opinion of the Committee, to have four of the Council selected by the eleven than to have the whole fifteen elected.

HON. MR. ANDERSON—I oppose the section on principle. A Board of Trade of, say, 500 members, ought to be qualified to elect its own Council. An Act of Parliament to control the Board of Trade, so far as electing its Council was concerned, was against the dictates of common sense.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported that they had passed the Bill with some amendments.

On motion of HON. MR. MILLEY, the report was accepted.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be read a third time and passed, and that a message be sent to the House of Assembly acquainting that

body thereof; and it was ordered accordingly.

COMMITTEE OF WHOLE ON REVENUE BILL.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved the House into Committee of the Whole on the Revenue Bill.

HON. MR. ANDERSON—Before the Bill is submitted to the Committee, I would like to make a few observations on it. In April last the Premier issued a Manifesto, containing many items, one of which reduced taxation. In the Speech from the Throne it was further outlined that there would be a revision of tariff, so that taxation would bear more equitably on the poor man. But what would the fishermen of the country say when they found that the very first act of the Government was to increase taxation, and that on the poor man? I refer to the increased duty on soap. The high class soap, which was not used to any extent by the poor man, was reduced in duty, while the common laundry soap, the fisherman's and labourer's soap, was increased in duty. Take soap at twenty-eight shillings a cwt. The Throne in the Governor's Speech was a reduction of taxation on the fishermen. But by the increased taxation on the fishermen's soap I cannot see how this can be brought about. I agree that what Hon. Mr. Bishop has said about the Standard Company is right. What I am opposed to is the unnecessary change in the tariff on soap. So far as the factory is concerned, it would derive no benefit by the end of the year. The people who have used the imported laundry soap so long will still use it, though the price will be increased, and consequently the taxation will bear heavier on the poor man than the rich man. From a Government stand point, the matter of allowing this one

item in is not so urgent, and fuller consideration should be given the matter. What Hon. Mr. Bishop said about false invoices might be true, and if true needed attention. Why not put the Bill to a vote before it went to Committee and test the feelings of the House? The matter had gone too far now. I met defeat in my motion, but it was a good cause and in the interest of the working classes, and I feel satisfied.

HON. MR. GIBBS—I think that the invoices are being manipulated to the detriment of our dealers, and the Customs authorities are right in taking prompt action in the matter. If Hon. Mr. Knowling or Hon. Mr. Anderson discovered that some person in their employ was acting dishonestly, the first thing they would do would be to check it. Surely, then, it was reasonable for the Government, which was looking after the revenue of the people, to prevent fraud when they could, and I feel sure the present Government will do so. In reply to Mr Anderson, I would say that the policy of the Government would be carried out, and at the earliest opportunity. The policy of the Government was to protect the interests of the workingman, and very soon the masses would realize this.

HON. MR. ANDERSON—I would again point out that in making this change England would suffer as well as the United States. The lower the scale the greater the percentage. It was of benefit to the importers and to those who consume and use the better quality of soap. As for the items used in the manufacture of soap by Swift and Armour, I will make it my particular business to go into the details and find out the cost of each. We would be surprised to find out how cheaply they could make

soap, and would learn also that these firms manufacture more soap in one day than we could in two years.

HON. MR. BISHOP—I have no desire to prolong this discussion, and I have said I was not going to mention names, but Hon. Mr. Anderson had referred to Swift & Co. and said that nobody could manufacture soap as cheaply as they could; but they sold the ingredients, as well as the soap, and they would not sell the ingredients or the soap as cheap in Chicago as they would in St. John's. The hon. gentleman would find that the fixed duty on the lower grade of soap was a very proper rate of duty. I have much pleasure in moving the House into Committee on the Bill.

HON. MR. HARVEY—I cannot see how this policy is a slap to Great Britain. I think the reduction on the high priced soaps made it the exact opposite.

The motion was carried.

THE HON. THE PRESIDENT left the Chair.

HON. MR. HARRIS took the Chair of Committee.

After some time the House resumed.

PROGRESS ON BILLS.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had passed the Bill without amendment and moved that the report be received and adopted, which was done.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

Upon motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, it was ordered the Bill do pass and a message be sent to the House of Assembly acquainting them to that effect.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved the sec-

ond reading of the Public Service Bill and that it be sent to Committee to-morrow.

THE HON. THE PRESIDENT read a message from the House of Assembly, stating that they had passed, without amendment, the amendments made by the Legislative Council to the Board of Trade Bill.

THE HON. THE PRESIDENT read a message from the House of Assembly that they had passed, without amendment, the amendments made by the Legislative Council to the Bill entitled "An Act to Amend the Education Act."

ADDRESS TO GOVERNOR.

THE HON. THE PRESIDENT read a message from the House of Assembly that they had passed the accompanying Address to His Excellency the Governor on his departure from this Colony and requesting the Council to concur in it and pass the same as a Joint Address of both Houses.

Here the Clerk read the address, as follows:—

"To His Excellency Sir William MacGregor, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Doctor of Medicine, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies.

"We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the members of both branches of the General Assembly, in Legislative Session convened, respectfully approach Your Excellency with an expression of our profound regret at your approaching departure from this Colony, whereby Newfoundland will lose the valuable

and highly-appreciative services of one who, as His Majesty's representative, has filled that position in a manner to earn the esteem and regard of the whole people.

"During Your Excellency's stay in this Colony you have endeared yourself to all classes and sections of our people. To the performance of your official duties you have always brought an unswerving devotion and an unselfish fidelity. You have striven zealously to promote the interests of the Colony in other respects. Your reports on our trade and commerce will always stand as a monument to your industry and researches. Your historical and scientific investigations on Labrador have added greatly to our knowledge of that important portion of our Colony. Your visits to different parts of the Island, whereby you have come in touch with our people in their ordinary pursuits, your work in the causes of education and charity, and the active identification of yourself with all philanthropic and moral organizations, have made your name a household word, and greatly contributed to stimulate popular interest in the activities of these very deserving institutions.

"We feel that we can certainly voice the feelings of the whole people of Newfoundland in thanking Your Excellency for the evident desire you have thus shown to promote the welfare of this Colony, and we hope that the blessings of Divine Providence may attend you in the great Province of the Commonwealth of Australia, to which His Majesty has been pleased to appoint you.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Address to His Excellency the Governor be read by the Clerk, which was done.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Council concur in the Address and a message be sent to the House of Assembly to that effect, and it was ordered accordingly.

NOTICE OF QUESTION.

HON. MR. ANDERSON gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask the Hon. Leader of the Government if the position that has lately been conferred upon Mr. Alan Goodridge, gazetted as Superintendent of Fisheries, is a new position or the old one of Deputy under a new name.

HON. MR. HARRIS gave notice that he would on to-morrow call the attention of the Hon. Representative of the Government to the fact that application is soon to be made by the Liquidators of the defunct Union Bank to the Supreme Court for the winding up of the said Bank, and ask him if he could inform the House when the Commercial Bank is to be wound up.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the House adjourn until to-morrow, Friday, at 4.30 p.m.

The House adjourned accordingly.

FRIDAY, June 11th, 1909.

The House met, pursuant to adjournment, at 4.15 p.m., the President in the Chair.

COMMITTEE OF WHOLE ON PUBLIC SERVICE BILL.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved the House into Committee of the Whole on the Public Service Bill.

THE HON. THE PRESIDENT left the Chair.

HON. DR. SKELTON took the Chair of Committee.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—Might I ask the Leader of the Government in

this House what particular Branch Railway the sum of \$3,000 is being voted for, and how it is to be spent?

HON. MR. BISHOP—No particular branch had yet been selected, but I can assure Hon. Mr. Knowling that the money will be judiciously spent by the Government, as it is not their intention to waste any.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—I think the sum of \$3,000 will scarcely be enough to cover the survey of the branches.

HON. MR. BISHOP—I appreciate Mr. Knowling's solicitude for the Government, but can tell him that no error has been made in asking that this said amount be voted.

HON. DR. SKELTON reported that the Bill had passed without amendment, and moved that the report be adopted.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be read a third time.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill pass and be sent to the House of Assembly with a message that it had passed without amendment.

It was ordered accordingly.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

HON. MR. BISHOP—In reply to the question of Hon. Mr. Anderson, I beg to inform him that the position that had been gazetted was not a new position, and that Superintendent of Fisheries was the official title under the Act, but the real position is Deputy Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

HON. MR. BISHOP—In reply to the question of Hon. Mr. Harris, I beg to say that the liquidators inform me that a final dividend is being paid and directions of the court will be asked in a few days for final

closing of the Commercial Bank in liquidation.

PROROGATION ANNOUNCED.

THE HON. THE PRESIDENT (SIR E. D. SHEA) announced that His Excellency would prorogue the House on to-morrow, June 12th, at three of the clock.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, the House adjourned at 5.20 p.m. until to-morrow at 2.30 p.m.

SATURDAY, June 12th, 1909.

The House met, pursuant to adjournment.

The Minutes of Friday, June 11th, were read.

At 3 o'clock, p.m., His Excellency the Governor, Sir William MacGregor, G.C.M.G., C.B., M.D., having arrived at the Council Chamber and being seated on the Throne, the Hon. the President directed the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to proceed to the House of Assembly and inform the Speaker and Members thereof that it is His Excellency's pleasure that they forthwith attend at the Bar of the House; and they being come thereto

His Honour the Speaker read the following Address to His Excellency :

(See text of Address on pages 201 and 202)

The Honourable the President then presented the said Address to His Excellency.

His Excellency the Governor then made the following reply :

"Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

'Mr Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly:

"The address that has been read to me as Governor of this Colony I accept as another proof of your whole-hearted and dutiful devotion to the Throne and person of His Majesty the King. You are the representatives of a people that are conscious of the dignity that belongs to them as citizens of the British Empire—the humblest man of which recognizes that he has a duty towards this great bulwark of liberty, of freedom, of justice, loyalty to the throne, and love of country, have hitherto been among the chief characteristics of Newfoundland—yet these sentiments have never been more clearly reflected than in the address now presented to the King's representative by this Legislature.

"I shall leave this Colony in the firm conviction, which I am proud to hold, that no daughter of the United Kingdom looks towards the Motherland with greater confidence and affection than the eldest of her family.

"I cannot but deeply feel and highly appreciate the kind and indulgent expressions you have used with regard to myself personally as the servant of the King, and for these I beg to thank you heartily and sincerely. For nearly five years I have lived and thought as a Newfoundlander, and it will take some time to learn to think differently, for I have no care, no interests, outside of this Colony, while I have been its Governor.

"This was my duty as a public servant, for the performance of which, to the best of my ability, I deserve no praise, but should, had it been otherwise, have merited just censure. I am not unconscious of the fact that I should have often done things better; that I may at

times have done what I should have left alone; and that perhaps I have occasionally not tried to do what I should at least have attempted. We all know from experience how much easier it is to see this after, rather than before the event. I can, however, say in truth and sincerity, that I have not knowingly been unjust to or injured any man; and that I have at all times honestly endeavoured to do the best I could in the interests of Newfoundland as a Dominion of the Empire of which we form a party.

"Your kind and comforting words form a very pleasant conclusion to an interesting and eventful chapter in the history of this Colony, and in my own life. I leave this with feelings of affection for the warm-hearted and generous people of the country, in the prosperous future of which I have the greatest confidence. Of the welfare of Newfoundland, and of the many true and faithful friends I leave behind, I shall always hear with real and sincere pleasure."

His Excellency the Governor was pleased to give his assent to the following Bills :

"An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money towards defraying certain expenses of the Public Service for the financial years ending, respectively, the 30th day of June. One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nine, and the 30th day of June, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ten, and for other purposes connected with the Public Service.

An Act to Amend the Revenue Act, 1905.

An Act further to Amend the Education Act, 1903.

An Act for raising by loan a sum of money for the Public Service of the Colony.

An Act respecting certain Retiring Allowances.

An Act to Incorporate the Newfoundland Board of Trade and for other purposes.

His Excellency signified his assent to these measures.

After which His Excellency was pleased to speak as follows:

"Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly:

"In proroguing this General Assembly and relieving you from further attendance, it gives me great pleasure to observe the assiduity and earnestness with which you applied yourself to the despatch of business, and the spirit of concord and harmony which marked your deliberations.

"I am sure it must be a great relief to you and to the country at large that the unexampled political conditions which have prevailed here for so many months are now at an end, and that with the closing of this session all classes of the community may confidently look forward to a restoration of conditions of political tranquility.

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly:

"I thank you for the Supplies that you have voted for the Public

Service. The addition to the grant for education will be greatly appreciated, and the providing of a sum in aid of the prevention of the spread of tuberculosis will, I trust prove a great benefit

"Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council.

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly:

"I heartily join in the feeling of hope which prevails in the community at the prospect of a substantial increase in the price of our staple products, and the assurance which this represents of a return to the conditions of widespread prosperity which this Colony has so long enjoyed.

"In these, my last words to the Legislature of the Colony, I desire to testify the great pleasure that it has been to me during the past five years to assist in promoting the best interests of the people of Newfoundland. I shall ever retain the most agreeable recollections of this Colony and its people, and follow its onward march towards an ever-brightening future.

In bidding you farewell, I trust that Providence may ever guide you to wise decisions and endow your country with all-lasting good."

The Hon. the President then said :

"It is His Excellency the Governor's will and pleasure that this General Assembly be prorogued until Thursday, the nineteenth day of August next, then and here to be holden, and the General Assembly stands prorogued accordingly."

INDEX
TO
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
DURING THE
SESSIONS OF 1909.

INDEX

"DEADLOCK" SESSION, PROCEEDINGS OF, 3, 7

REGULAR SESSION, PROCEEDINGS OF, 17, 162 (For Details See Next Page)

- DEBATES, DISCUSSION ON, REPORTING OF, 47
- DEBATE ON DREDGING, 69, 72
- DEBATE ON LOAN RESOLUTIONS, 73, 74
- DAYLIGHT BILL (Message from Council) 135
- DATE OF PROROGATION, 162
- DWYER, MR.—
On Address in Reply, 63
- DIVISION, ON FAREWELL ADDRESS TO GOVERNOR, 152
- DEVEREUX, MR.—
On Board of Trade Bill, 84
On Farewell Address to Governor, 151
- DOWNEY, MR.
Moves Address in Reply, 25
On Board of Trade Bill, 83
- EMERSON, HON. MR.—
On Cutting Timber on Crown Lands, 132
- EDUCATION RESOLUTIONS—
Notices of, 44
Committee of Whole on, 102, 130
Passed all Stages, 136
- FAREWELL ADDRESS TO GOVERNOR, 148
- FINANCE & CUSTOMS, HON. MINISTER—
On Supply, 45
On Loan Resolutions, 72 107
- GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH, 21
- GOVERNOR'S REPLY TO FAREWELL ADDRESS, 160
- GOVERNOR'S CLOSING SPEECH, 162
- GIBBS, HON. MR.—
Debate on His Position in Ministry, 64, 65
- HOWLEY, MR.—
On North Sydney Post Office, 49
- INTERNAL ECONOMY COMMISSION, 40
- JUSTICE, HON. MINISTER—
On Farewell Address to Governor, 150
- KENT, MR.—
On Address in Reply, 35
On Supply, 47
On Education Vote, 48, 49
On Address in Reply, 63
On Loan Resolutions, 74
On Board of Trade Bill, 78
On Resolution of Condolence, 87
On Education Resolutions, 104
On North Sydney Post Office, 49
- LOAN RESOLUTIONS—
Notices of, 39
Committee of Whole on, 72
Bill Read First Time, 74
Committee of Whole on Bill, 107

- MEMBERS RETURNED, 17
- MEMBERS, COMMISSIONS TO SWEAR, 18
- MEMBERS SWORN IN 19, 108, 132
- MORRIS, HON. SIR E. P. (See Hon. Prime Minister)
- MORRIS, MR. F.—
 On Marticot Light, 49
 On Address in Reply, 63
- MORISON, HON. D. (See Hon. Minister of Justice)
- MARINE & FISHERIES, MINISTER OF.—
 On Steamer on Northern Labrador, 97
- MESSAGE TO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL RE ADDRESS TO GOVERNOR, 152
- MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL RE SAME, 152
- MOULTON, MR.—
 On Board of Trade Bill, 80
- NOTICES OF MOTION—
 Hon. Prime Minister, 39, 44
 Hon. Minister of Finance & Customs, 39
 Hon. Minister of Finance & Customs, 39
- PETITIONS—
 Mr. Clift, 41, 89, 91, 110, 137, 143, 145, 157
 Mr. Clapp, 152, 153, 154
 Hon. Colonial Secretary 43, 57, 58, 68, 90, 94, 100, 111, 138,
 Mr. Davey, 41
 Mr. Downey, 43, 69, 90, 140, 141, 70
 Mr. Devereux, 58, 58, 67, 111, 154
 Mr. Dwyer, 11
 Hon. Mr. Emerson, 40, 52, 54, 67, 94, 95, 111, 132, 160
 Mr. Earle, 136, 143, 144, 157, 159
 Mr. Goodison, 57, 69, 143, 145
 Mr. Grant, 57
 Mr. Gear 68
 Mr. Howley, 58, 67, 155, 156
 Mr. Kent, 42, 91, 94, 111, 142
 Mr. Moulton, 42, 52, 53
 Mr. F. Morris, 57, 58, 111, 146, 154
 Minister of Public Works, 69, 140
 Mr. Moore, 144
 Minister Marine & Fisheries, 142
 Minister Agriculture & Mines, 142
 Hon. Prime Minister, 41, 54, 70, 110, 142
 Mr. Parsons, 42
 Mr. Seymour, 42, 54, 141
 140, 156
 Mr. Squires 43, 57, 58, 67, 91, 94, 95 111, 138, 154, 157, 100,
 68, 70, 37
 Rt. Hon. Sir R. Bond, 109
 Mr. Roberts, 157
 Mr Winsor, 55, 94, 95, 110
- PRIME MINISTER, RT. HON.—
 On Address in Reply, 37
 On Wages, lien for miners, 41
 On Reporting Debates, 47
 On Education Vote, 48
 On North Sydney Post Office, 49
 On Address in Reply, 64

- On Board of Trade Bill, 74, 106
 On Condolence Resolutions, 84
 On Steamer on Northern Labrador, 98
 On Education Resolutions, 102
 On Pension Bill, 106
 On Cutting of Timber on Crown Lands, 133
 On Farewell Address to Governor, 149
- PUBLIC SERVICE BILL, 93, 113, 139**
- PENSION BILL, 105**
- PARSONS, MR.—**
 Chairman of Committees, 45
 On Resolutions of Condolence, 88
- PICCOTT, MR. (See Minister of Marine & Fisheries)**
- PROROGATION ANNOUNCED, 159**
- QUESTIONS—**
 Mr. Bennett, 140
 Mr. Clift, 66, 72, 89, 92, 93, 108, 152
 Mr. Downey, 51, 59
 Hon. Mr. Emerson, 51, 59
 Mr. Earle, 152
 Mr. Gear, 108
 Hon. Colonial Secretary, 59, 72, 92
 Hon. Prime Minister, 59
 Hon. Minister of Agriculture & Mines, 92
 Hon. Minister of Finance & Customs, 92
 Mr. Kent, 39, 44, 93, 108
 Minister of Public Works, 59, 72, 92
 Minister of Marine & Fisheries, 59
 Mr. Moulton, 66, 72
 Mr. Squires, 51, 59, 67, 72
 Mr. Winsor, 108
- QUESTIONS ANSWERED—**
 Mr. Bennett, 147
 Mr. Clift, 100, 101, 101, 102, 112, 132, 147, 153
 Mr. Earle, 159
 Mr. Gear, 113
 Hon. Colonial Secretary, 100, 101, 102, 113, 153, 158, 159
 Hon. Minister of Justice, 101
 Hon. Prime Minister, 101, 102, 112, 113, 132, 158
 Hon. Minister of Agriculture & Mines, 101, 112
 Hon. Minister of Public Works, 102, 132, 147, 147, 158
 Hon. Minister of Finance & Customs, 112
 Mr. Kent, 101, 102, 112, 158
 Minister of Marine & Fisheries, 147, 158
 Mr. Winsor, 112
- RETIRING ALLOWANCES BILL, 39, 60, 64**
- RESOLUTIONS RE DISTRIBUTION OF SUPPLIES, 139**
- RULES, NOTICE FOR SUSPENSION OF, 138**
- RULES SUSPENDED, 148**
- REVENUE BILL PASSED ALL STAGES, 130**
- SPEAKER—**
 Called for election of, 20
 W. R. Warren elected, 21
 Election approved, 21

SPEECH FROM THRONE, 21

SHEA, MR.—

On Loan Resolutions, 107

SUSPENSION OF RULES, Notice of, 138

SELECT COMMITTEE ON DAYLIGHT BILL, 136

SUPPLY,—

Notice of, 39

Notice for committee of, 39

Supply granted, 44

Committee of Supply, 51, 66, 84, 113, 130, 138

SEYMOUR, MR.—

On North Sydney Post Office, 49

On Resolutions of Condolence, 88

SQUIRES, MR.—

On steamer on Northern Labrador, 97

WINSOR, MR.—

Seconds Address in Reply, 30

On steamer on Labrador, 96

WAYS AND MEANS—

Notice of, 39

Committee of Whole on, 139

WATSON, HON. R. (See Hon. Colonial Secretary)

WOODFORD, MR. (See Minister of Public Works)

INDEX
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
DURING THE
SESSIONS OF 1909.

INDEX

ADDRESS IN REPLY—

- Motion for, 25
- Committee on, 38
- Draft Address, 44
- Debate on, 60
- Adopted, 66
- Presented, 67
- Reply to, 67

AGRICULTURE & MINES, HON. MINISTER—

- On Coal Boring, 51

BLACK ROD, 19, 21, 160

BOARD OF TRADE BILL, 44, 74, 84, 105 113

BENNETT, MR.

- Sworn in, 108
- On Farewell Address to Governor, 148

BLANDFORD, HON. S. D. (See Hon. Minister Agriculture and Mines)

BILLS ASSENTED TO, 161

BOND, RT. HON. SIR R—

- Sworn in, 108

COMMISSIONERS, GOVERNOR'S TO SWEAR IN MEMBERS, 18

COMMISSIONERS, GOVERNOR'S TO CALL FOR ELECTION OF SPEAKER, 20

CLOSING PROCEEDINGS, 160

CASHIN, HON. M. P. (See Minister of Finance & Customs)

CLIFT, MR.—

- Speaks on Address in Reply, 44
- Speech on Supply, 45, 46
- On Coal Boring, 50
- On Address in Reply, 60
- On Loan Resolutions, 74
- On Steamer on Northern Labrador, 96
- On Board of Trade Bill, 105
- On Education Resolutions, 131

CLERK OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, 20

COMMITTEE TO DRAFT ADDRESS IN REPLY, 38

CONDOLENCE, RESOLUTIONS OF—

- (Late Sir W. V. Whiteway and late Capt. C. Dawe) 84

COMMITTEE OF WHOLE ON RETIRING ALLOWANCES BILL, 93

DESPATCH APPROVING GOVERNOR'S ATTITUDE IN ELECTION CRISIS, 38

DOCUMENTS TABLED—

- Hon. Minister of Finance & Customs, 39, 112
- Hon. Colonial Secretary, 40, 67
- Hon. Prime Minister, 40, 107, 108, 159
- Hon. Minister of Agriculture & Mines, 131
- Hon. Minister of Justice, 160

INDEX
TO
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
DURING THE
SESSIONS OF 1909.

- COUNCIL, LEGISLATIVE—
Meet at Opening of Session, 168
- DAYLIGHT BILL—
Debate on, 177, 186
- DIVISION—
On Second Reading of Revenue Bill, 189
- DOCUMENT—
Laid on Table, 33
- EDUCATION BILL—
Debate on, 189, 192, 195, 196
- FAREWELL ADDRESS TO GOVERNOR READ, 203
- GIBBS, HON. M. P.—
Appointed Provisionally Member of the Legislative Council, 175
- GOVERNOR—
Arrives at Council Chamber, 168
Desires Attendance of Assembly, 168
Approves of W. R. Warren, Esq., as Speaker of the House of Assembly, 168
Delivers Speech at Opening of Session, 168
Replies to Joint Address on Departure from Nfld., 203
Assents to Bills, 204
Delivers Speech at Closing of Session, 205
- HARRIS, HON. MR.—
Moves Address in Reply, 168
On Second Reading of Board of Trade Bill, 193
- HARVEY, HON. MR.—
On Daylight Bill, 185
On Education Bill, 190
On Education Bill, 197
On Revenue Bill, 201
- KNOWLING, HON. G.—
On Use of Surplus, 187
On Education Bill, 193
- MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR—
Appointing Commission Internal Economy of the Legislature, 173
- PETITION FROM R. PITTMAN—
Debate on, 175, 177
- PRESIDENT AS COMMISSIONER—
Addresses Both Houses at the Opening of 1st Session of 22nd General Assembly, 168
Informs Council Governor will receive Address of Thanks, 174
Informs Council of Appointment of Hon. M. P. Gibbs as a member of Council, provisionally, 175
Informs House of Governor's Intention to prorogue Legislature, 203
Presents Joint Address to His Excellency on Departure From Newfoundland, 203
Declares Prorogation, 205
- PROROGATION, 205

QUESTIONS—

- As to Mr. A. C. Goodridge's appointment as Superintendent of Fisheries, 204
- As to Winding up of Commercial Bank, 204

REPORT—

- Of Internal Economy of the Legislature laid on Table, 175

RESOLUTIONS—

- On Death of Hon. Samuel Blandford, 173

RULES SUSPENDED, 195

RYAN, HON. MR.—

- Granted Leave of Absence, 195

SPEAKER—

- Of the House of Assembly, W. R. Warren, Esq., Presented and Approved by Governor, 168
- Reads Address to Governor on Departure from Newfoundland, 203

SPEECH—

- Of Governor at Opening of 1st Session of 22nd General Assembly, 168
- Of Governor at Closing of Session, 203

SPEAKER ELECTED, 168

SUSPENSION OF RULES, NOTICES OF 195

INDEX.

ABSENCE—

Leave of, Granted to Hon. J. D. Ryan, 195

ADDRESSES—

Of Thanks, 168

Presented and Read First time, 174

Read Second Time, 174

Agreed to and Passed, 174

To be Presented by Deputation of Whole House, 174

Presented at Government House, 174

Reply to, 174

To His Excellency Sir William MacGregor on His Depart-
ure from Newfoundland, 201

Read and Adopted, 202

AMENDMENTS—

On Education Amendment Bill, 48

On Board of Trade Incorporation Bill, 49

ANDERSON, HON. MR.—

On Daylight Bill, 177

Notice of Daylight Saving Bills, 174

On Pension Bill, 187

On Education Bill, 196

On Reducing Taxation, 189

On Board of Trade Bill, 199

On Revenue Bill, 200

ASSEMBLY, HOUSE OF—

Attend at Bar of Council, 10, 13, 57

AYRE, HON. MR.—

Seconds Address in Reply, 170

BILLS—

Respecting Certain Changes in Hours of Day and Night, 31, 36

Read First Time, 31

BILLS ASSENTED TO, 204

BISHOP, HON. R. K.—

On use of Surplus, 187

On Reducing Taxation, 188

On Education Bill, 189

On Second Reading of Board of Trade Bill, 192

On Education Bill, 195

On Board of Trade Bill, 199

On Revenue Bill, 200

BLANDFORD, HON. SAMUEL—

Resolutions Passed on Death of, 27

BOARD OF TRADE BILL—

Debate on Second Reading, 192

CLOSING OF SESSION, 203

COMMISSIONERS—

Request Attendance of Assembly in Council Chamber, 167

Direct Commission Opening Legislature to be Read, 167

COMMISSIONS—

Of Internal Economy of Legislature, 175

COMMITTEES—

Select—On Address of Thanks, 174

Select—On Saving of Daylight Bill, 186