

THE DOMINION PARLIAMENT

Many Bills Came Up in House For Reference Monday.

Limiting the Scope of Play-Houses—Amendment to the Criminal Code to Prohibit Low Class Pieces or Immorality at Shows—The Railways and the Coal Trust—Many Items Passed in Supply.

Ottawa, March 24.—One long, dreary, rainy, dull day, with an afternoon and evening session of the House, marked the opening of the week's work. There was a lassitude about the members that made the day's work wearisome.

Hon. James Ross, ex-governor of the Yukon, the first member from the district, was introduced by Sir Wilfrid and Walter Scott, M.P., amid applause.

Col. Thompson, M.P. (Haldimand) introduced his bill to extend the power of loan companies. In explanation, he said the object of the bill was to give existing loan companies incorporated under an earlier act, the same powers held by other companies incorporated under a later act. He would enlarge on the bill at a later stage.

Limiting Play Houses.

In introducing his bill to amend the Criminal Code, Mr. Fitzpatrick said it had been drafted on the suggestion of the municipal administrators of the large cities of Canada, and aimed to put down indecent and immoral plays.

Sir Hibbert Tupper declared that well-meaning people did all sorts of things to reform the world suddenly. He feared there was a tendency among certain persons to reach reform through extreme legislation, that only frustrated the good objects they had in view.

Terms of the Bill.

After further discussion it was decided to allow the bill, with a minor amendment, to go up for a third reading. The bill now reads: "Every person who, being the owner, lessor, lessee, or manager of a theatre, presents or gives, or allows to be presented, or given therein any obscene play, opera, concert, acrobatic, variety, or vaudeville performance, or other entertainment or representation is guilty of an indictable offence, and liable, if convicted upon indictment, to one year's imprisonment, with or without hard labor, or to a fine of \$500, or both, and, if convicted upon summary conviction, to six months' imprisonment, or to a fine of \$50, or to both."

May Arrest Actors.

"2. Every person who takes part or appears as an actor, performer, or assistant in any capacity, in any such indecent immoral play, opera, concert, performance, or other entertainment or representation, is guilty of an offence and liable, on summary conviction, to three months' imprisonment, or to a fine not exceeding \$20, or to both."

"3. Every person who so takes part or appears in any indecent costume is guilty of an offence and liable, on summary conviction, to six months' imprisonment, or to a fine of \$50, or to both."

"4. In this section, the word 'theatre' includes any hall, room, or other place open to the public, gratuitously or otherwise, where dramatic, musical, or other entertainments or representations are presented or given."

Mr. Maclean's Fear.

During the discussion to amend the Criminal Code, Mr. Maclean said the public wanted to be protected against combinations of railways with the Coal Trust. The situation that developed during the coal strike called for a cure and the only remedy came through the criminal code. Combinations had been formed that worked to the serious detriment of the public. "Let the hon. gentleman tackle that if he wishes to remedy the criminal code. What is he going to do about it?"

To this the Minister only replied: "One thing at a time."

Mr. Maclean asked Sir Wilfrid if he intended to bring in a general telephone act. The Premier replied: "Give notice of your motion."

Who Carries the Grain?

Mr. Bennett (East Simcoe), who is gathering information on transportation topics, was told that the total quantity of wheat taken from Port Arthur and West William in Canadian boats to Canadian ports was 22,087,791 bushels, to Buffalo's 636,558 bushels. The quantity taken by American vessels to Buffalo was 11,256,528. This makes a total of grain taken to Canadian ports 23,551,643 bushels, and to foreign ports, 12,126,873, a grand total of 35,698,516 bushels.

Dr. Roche (Marquette) was told that Judge Myers was appointed to succeed Judge Prendergast on Jan. 3, 1903, though he was an M.P.P. for Minnedosa when the appointment was made.

Jabez Robinson (Elgin) was informed that the Government had under consideration the advisability of introducing a system of free rural mail delivery in some part of Canada during this year.

No Private Bank Laws.

Mr. Fielding told Mr. McGowan that the Government was not contemplating the introduction of any legislation regarding private bankers, because private bankers are in the same position as the promoters of any private concern.

Mr. Bennett was told that the total number of bushels of grain shipped to Sarnia in 1902 was 3,884,391, and to Goderich, 3,226,660.

Mr. Clancy, speaking for Mr. Taylor, asked for a return showing the total cost of taking the census for

1871, 1881 and 1891; also the amount paid on account of the taking of the census for 1901 up to March 1, 1903. This had been asked for before.

Mr. Fielding moved an amendment to make the statement show the nature of the census information, and the mode of remuneration in each case. Mr. Clancy objected because the additional information would entail more work, and consequently the return would not be brought to the House immediately. Mr. Fielding, however, promised him no time would be lost.

Up For Second Reading.

Four bills were read a second time and reported for a third reading. They were: An act to amend the Expropriation Act; an act to amend the Yukon Territory Act; an act to amend the Criminal Code; an act to amend the Juvenile Offenders Act of New Brunswick. They were all fathered by Minister of Justice Fitzpatrick.

When the House reassembled at 8 o'clock, the estimates on civil Government were taken up. The customs items were passed.

The main estimates of Mr. Blair's department went through with slight discussion. The estimates of the Public Works Department were then taken up, and after a spirited debate the item, \$50,000 for the mint, was passed. House adjourned at 11.30.

BORDEN NOMINATED.

Conservatives of South Ontario Tender Conservative Leader the Seat—Happy Speech by Mr. E. L. Borden.

Whitby, March 24.—Despite the frightfully bad state of the roads, the annual meeting held yesterday afternoon by the South Ontario Conservatives was largely attended by stalwarts from all sections of the riding. Not only were they assembled to elect new officers for the association for the coming year, but a selection was made of the party's candidate for the next general election, and "Borden for South Ontario!" was the unanimous cry.

The leader had evidently caught on, and it is now up to him to say whether he or some other Conservative will be the next member for this riding, for, gerrymander or no gerrymander, the Tories say they can carry the constituency.

Mr. Borden in Reply.

In replying to the tender of the Conservative nomination for South Ontario at the next election, Mr. E. L. Borden, the Conservative leader, said he must ask that the matter be left in abeyance, as he could not entertain the proposal without consulting his friends in his old constituency and getting their consent to a change. Of one thing he was sure, however—the nomination meant his election if he could see his way clear to accept. He also vigorously denied the reports spread by some Liberals that he had not regretted the defeat of ex-Minister of Finance Foster in North Ontario.

Mr. Borden then entered into a vigorous and terse exposition of public affairs, declaring himself as not criticising Liberals, but the policy of the Liberals touching on the present undoubted prosperity of Canada and the attitude of many Liberals in talking to themselves the largeness of the same and putting Providence in as a bad second. He spoke of the general prosperity of the world over, and challenged the Liberal doctrine that Canada had prospered as a result of Laurier's Government.

To get the prime cause of Canada's being able to share so largely in the prosperity that had been so general we must go back to 1878, when John A. Macdonald laid the foundation of Canada's industrial and commercial prosperity. He then vividly contrasted the Liberals in opposition with the Liberals in power, and quoted the Hon. Mr. Fielding's declaration that a politician should be held strictly to his pledges as well as an ordinary business man, showed that in application of this axiom placed the Liberal party in an unenviable light.

He gave many instances of pre-election pledges of the Liberals which had been more honored in the breach than in the observance. Taking up the trade question and the attitude of the Liberal party in regard thereto he contrasted their stand with the fixed and certain policy of the Conservative party. The latter's stand being for such adequate protection for Canadian manufacturers as would preserve for them the markets. He then gave a history of the shifty policy of the Liberals, and showed the line of cleavage in that party was so great that Hon. Mr. Tarte resigned from the Cabinet because he insisted on protection as the future policy of the country. On the other hand the Conservative policy is the same in the east as in the west, the same as it has been since promulgated by Sir John Macdonald in 1878. Canada has great agricultural, fish, timber and mineral resources, but it also has great manufacturing possibilities.

The speaker then took up the attitude of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in regard to preferential treatment, and his famous declaration that Canada expected nothing in return. The Conservatives are willing for preferential trade with the Empire, but it would mean a great impetus to Canadian agricultural industry and no loss to the Empire.

In 1803 the Chancellor of the British Exchequer announced a taxation of food products, but no preferential treatment for the colonies, and that was not the Conservative's idea of preferential trade within the Empire. In connection with the recent colonial conference Mr. Borden pointed out that there were 28 nations made, and the representatives of these, the Empire's foremost colony, moved one, viz., the vote of thanks to the chairman, and closed his remarks with a strong appeal to the young men.

CHINESE FESTIVALS.

Six Curious Feast Days That Usher In the New Year.

The first day of the Chinese New Year's feasts is called Bird's day (Kay-Yat) and is supposed to bring to mind the utility of the feathered tribes as food. On this day all orthodox Chinese abstain from eating flesh, and they sometimes observe it as a day of fasting. The second day is Dog's day (Ku-Yat). This day is especially held sacred to the canine hosts of the Flowery Kingdom. The Chinese, notwithstanding the fact that they eat the flesh of the dog and esteem it a great delicacy, honor their dogs more highly and take better care of them than any other race of people. In every large Chinese city there is a workman whose sole trade is that of making coffins for departed canines.

The third day, Hog's day (Chen-Yat), is celebrated in honor of a hog that once drew a valuable manuscript out of a bonfire of trash. The fourth feast, Sheep's day (Yaong-Yat), is honored in memory of Pun Koon Venga, a shepherd who clothed himself in leaves, grass and bark of trees, refusing to make use of any part of the sheep, either for food or clothing. The fifth day is Cow's day (New-Yat). This day is consecrated to the cow that suckled the orphan who afterward became rich and built the celebrated Temple of Cows. The sixth day is Ma-Yat, or Horse day, and is set apart to call to mind the usefulness of that noble animal.

Notable Paintings.

Probably the smallest painting ever made was the work of the wife of a Flemish artist. It depicted a mill with the sails bent, the miller mounting the stairs with a sack of grain on his back. Upon the terrace where the mill stood was a cart and horse, and on the road leading to it several peasants were shown. The picture was beautifully finished, and every object was very distinct, yet it was so amazingly small that its surface, so the story goes, could be covered with a grain of corn.

In contradistinction to this the largest painting, exclusive of frescoes and panoramas, is Titoretto's "Paradise." It is hung in the grand saloon of the doges' palace at Venice and is 84 feet wide and 34 feet high.

Michael Angelo's fresco in the Sistine chapel of the Vatican completely covers the vaulted roof, which measures 133 feet in length and 43 feet in width. This painting delineates the creation of man, his fall and the early history of the world, with a reference to man's final redemption and salvation.

Reassuring.

"Oh, Harold," wailed the lovely maiden, in whose expressive features grief and indignation seemed to be struggling for the mastery, "how can I believe you in the face of all this evidence of your perfidy and double dealing? The letter to Blanche, in your own handwriting; her photograph, found in your possession; the fact, as told me by a dozen witnesses and tacitly confessed by you, that you kissed her the other evening when you were together in the conservatory—how can you reconcile these things with your continued professions of love for me?"

"All these things, darling," said the hero of the story, the light of truth shining in his dark brown eyes and the impress of sincerity stamped upon his noble forehead, "will be satisfactorily explained the next chapter!"

No Time to Read.

"Pause, O youth or maiden," wrote Andrew Lang in the Windsor Magazine, "before you accustom your lips to this fatal formula, 'I have no time to read!' You have all the time which for you exists, and it is abundant. What are you doing with it—with your leisure? Mainly, gossiping. Our modern ma lady is gregariousness. We must be in company chattering. "To be always with others, always gregarious, always chattering, like monkeys in treetops, is our ruling vice, and this is the reason why we have no time to read and why you see so many people pass their leisure when alone in whistling or whittling. They have time to whittle!"

Leonardo da Vinci.

Leonardo da Vinci, the celebrated Italian painter, sculptor and architect, died in 1519. He was born in 1452 and became well versed in all the sciences and arts of his time. His most famous picture is "The Last Supper," painted on the wall of a convent at Milan. He is said to have anticipated Galileo, Kepler, Copernicus and others in their astronomical theories and also some of the discoveries of recent geologists, though his views are expressed in somewhat vague language.

A Successful Test.

At a small town in Kent a gentleman employed a carpenter to put up a partition and had it filled with sawdust to deaden the sound. When it was completed, the gentleman called from one side to the carpenter on the other: "Smith, can you hear me?" Smith immediately answered, "No, sir."

Happy.

Mrs. Nextdoor—I suppose your daughter is happily married. Mrs. Nagsby—Indeed she is. Why, her husband is actually afraid to open his mouth in her presence.

Better Out.

"What's this sketch?" "Oh, that's a little thing I got out of my own head!" "Great Scott! What a lucky thing you got it out!"

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Shaving the Beard.

The forty-first chapter of Genesis, fourteenth verse, contains the earliest reference to shaving of the beard, where it is told of Joseph that he shaved himself.

Spectacles.

It is said that spectacles, or at least magnifying lenses, were known long before the time of Christ, and it is known that Nero watched the games in the arena through a convex emerald. Lazard unearthed a lens of rock crystal from Nineveh.

Hares Feet.

Hares use their feet to wash their faces, and the hare's foot is so suitable for a brush that it is always used to apply the "paint" to the face of the stage.

Engraving.

Copper plate engraving was first done in 1511, wood engraving in 1799, etching on metal with acid in 1512.



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GENIOUS TORTURES.

...of Punishment Inflicted on Offenders in Morocco. Morocco the torture of offenders suspected, has been and is much practiced. Much ingenuity in the infliction of pain—such as the rubbing of red pepper on the wrists, the tying of the wrists to the ground, etc. The death of the late sultan a proclaimed himself the right to the throne and had a certain legitimate authorities, he was thrown down, when chilled to the inside of his body, and he was swelled with pain, and he was to shout out his titles and to be as much as pleased, being unable to utter a word. As he was thrown into jail to rot in the confinement of cruelty is the tort "iron glove," as it is called. A "iron glove" is placed in a man's fist which is closed up into a ball, the fist is tightly bound up with thongs and plunged into a tub of water. The agony soon becomes extreme. The torture is continued for eight days until in the end mortification sets in and probably death. A form of "lying up" is to chain or fasten a man to a wall, with his arms stretched out, so that he can only escape strain by standing on tiptoe.

A Rat's Teeth.

The rat is remarkably well equipped for the peculiar life he is ordained to lead. He has strong weapons in his teeth—two in the upper jaw and two in the lower. These teeth are well adapted and by a wonderful provision of nature have always a fine, serrated cutting edge. On examining them you will find the inner part is found to be composed of a glasslike enamel which is exceedingly hard. The upper teeth work into the teeth of the centers of the opposed jaw, so that the centers of the opposed teeth are in contact. The soft part of the teeth is being continually worn away, while the hard part is being continually renewed. The teeth are of the same length edge all the time, as they wear away from the bottom they are growing up from the bottom. Should one of these teeth be moved by accident or otherwise, the tooth will continue to grow, there being nothing to wear it away. It will project from the jaw and be turned upon itself, and if it is not under tooth it will often grow long as to penetrate the skull.

Undertakers.

In England in 1614 undertakers of influence who undertook consideration to get such persons buried in parliament as would be submissive to the royal will of James I. The three chief speakers of 1614 were Lords Bacon, Somers and Neville. They undertook to be the chief speakers and men of sense in parliament that year of the side of the King, with but a success. Then there were under Ireland in 1608. They were English Scotch colonists sent to North and were each allotted 2,000 acres. They were men of capital undertook to pay a mark a year every six acres and to admit no tenants for them. Hence neither the nor the dictionaries give any names for calling the men who buried and undertakers.

Almost Lived There.

During a burglary epidemic in a country an inspector of the police might make a tour through a burglarized district. Considerably midnight he saw a young man who had been a substantial burglar and made after him. "Did you just come out of the burglar house?" the inspector asked, smiling him. The young man, while of respectable appearance, was plainly ill at ease. "I did," he said. "Do you live there?" demanded the inspector. "Well, almost" was the embarrassed answer. "But I can't see that your business as long as you don't object?"

Where Gannets Swoon.

One of the most remarkable of the world is Bird Island, in South America, for the reason that during months of the year it is littered with gannets. Not a foot of ground is to be seen anywhere. Day after day thousands of gannets strut and they are so close to each other that the whole island seems actual. Those who have seen this state of affairs are so convinced that it is one which can never be gotten.

An Engaging Young Pe.

Father—So Filmy Luring is to young Rattles? Let me see she engaged to somebody else while ago? Daughter—Somebody else. Why, in our set no engagement considered complete without her.

Scrubbing the Land.

Hubbub—How bright and everything looks out here! Subbub—Yes, we had a country teetives scouring the country.

The Jaw of the Shark.

best watchmaker's oil. In it is found about half a pint.

It has many tools, but a handle that fits them all.—H.