

that had been made against him, but he thought had gone far enough.

Hon. Mr. FRASER, however, again proceeded.

Mr. LAUDER again called the hon. gentleman to order, and called for a ruling upon the point.

The SPEAKER said he had already given his ruling in the matter, and had intimated that the debate should close.

Mr. FRASER continued to address the House, and stated that the policy of the Government in proceeding with public works was to decide whether the improvement would be a meritorious one.

Mr. RICHARDS claimed that the policy of Sandfield Macdonald's Government was that which it had been asserted. They laid down the rule from which they never departed, that they distributed the public works in the public interest solely. He charged the present Government with hypocrisy in this matter, and was speaking with regard to the removal of the Etobicoke farm when six o'clock was called. The hon. gentleman, however, persisted in speaking on.

Mr. SPEAKER rose, when

Mr. RICHARDS desired a brief license. He continued his remarks; and six o'clock being again called,

Mr. SPEAKER rose, and preceded by the Mace, departed from the chamber, leaving the hon. member for Niagara speaking amidst the slight confusion occasioned by members locking their desks and others hurrying from the chamber.

INSPECTION OF RAILWAYS.

After recess,

Hon. Mr. MOWAT moved the House into Committee of the Whole on the Bill for inspection of railways, Mr. Deroche in the chair.

At the request of Mr. Cameron, Hon. Mr. MOWAT renewed his explanation of the Bill, as already reported, Mr. Cameron not having been present at the second reading.

Mr. CAMERON thought that what the Attorney-General asked was an ex-

traordinary and dangerous power to give hon. gentlemen in the Government. He thought such a Board should be made up of independent Commissioners.

Hon. Mr. MOWAT said the hon. gentleman forget that his own friends had passed a law seventeen years ago, which had remained the law ever since, providing that the members of the Executive should be a Board of Railway Commissioners. He did not see that any better measure could be devised in the interest of public safety, and therefore he proposed to make the measure operative, with the changes necessary to our altered circumstances.

After some discussion, in reply to a question by Mr. Lauder,

Hon. Mr. MOWAT said it was the opinion of the Government that their own engineer could perform the duties of inspector. The Government, however, had determined that the railways should be inspected, and if it were necessary they would employ assistance or appoint an inspector.

The Bill was then passed clause by clause, and reported.

THE PROTON OUTRAGE.

On the motion of Hon. Mr. MOWAT that the House do now adjourn,

Mr. RYKERT called attention to the report in THE GLOBE of the speech of the Commissioner of Public Works, in which that gentleman charged him (Mr. Rykert) with having falsified the Report of the Proton Committee. If the charge were correct, he (Mr. Rykert) had no right to sit in the House. He was sorry that the charge had been made in his absence, and he hoped the Commissioner of Public Works would withdraw the charge, otherwise he would move for a Committee to enquire into the matter. He went into a long discussion of the Proton matter and the proceedings before the Committee to show that the charge that he had falsified the report was without foundation. He asserted that the attack upon him, being made in his absence, was cowardly, and if any member of the Committee told the Minister of Public Works that he had altered the report, he was stating that which was untrue. (Cries of Order.)

Mr. FAREWELL also went into the details of the report, showing that in the 8th clause the words which implied that the Commissioner of Public Works had learnt during the interview at the American Hotel that Lewis was going to Proton, and had not probably learned so before, were not in the original draft of the report; that he had requested its insertion; that the Chairman had promised its insertion, but when the report was brought up in the House they were not inserted, and the chairman felt considerably incensed because he was requested to re-insert them. He, however, consented to put them in, and they appeared in the report as printed. He (Mr. Farewell) felt after the report had been brought up in the House that the Committee fell into two important errors. The first was in admitting that at the time Lewis went to Proton he was in the employ of the Government, while the evidence showed that he had ere that time completed his labours; and the other was in admitting that any member of the Government had been in any way connected with an alleged attempt to interfere with the freedom of the electors.

Mr. RYKERT enquired whether the hon. member had said to the Commissioner of Public Works that the Chairman of the Committee falsified the report.

Mr. FAREWELL said he might have said that the chairman showed a disposition to do so, but in making that statement he wished it to be understood that he referred to the unwillingness of the chairman to insert the words in the report as he (Mr. Farewell) requested. He would ask the hon. member for Lincoln if any one moved in the Committee that the words should be struck out.

Mr. RYKERT said the suggestion to strike them out had been made, and came either from Mr. Galbraith or from the hon. member for South Ontario.

Mr. FAREWELL added in conclusion that there was no desire or intention on the part of any member of the Committee to insert anything in the report that could be taken as any censure upon the Government, and in that respect the report was not such as he, for one, agreed. (Hear, hear.)

Hon. Mr. CURRIE suggested that the hon. member for Lincoln should produce the draft report.

Mr. RYKERT said there was no draft report—only the resolutions moved in Committee.

Mr. BOULTER said no member of the Committee intended to put anybody in fault, and the report, he thought, was according to the evidence. He thought it was upon the motion of Mr. Galbraith that the words referred to by the hon. member for South Ontario were struck out of the report in Committee. He thought the matter should be settled now for the last time. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. PRINCE denied that he had ever, in any way, said anything to indicate that the Chairman of the Committee had falsified the report, or tampered with it in any way. (Hear, hear.) The reason why he thought that report should not be received, and voted that it should not be received, was because there was the word "other" in the last clause, which had no business to be there; without that word he should have agreed to every line in it; but as the report stood it implied that some member of the Government was implicated in the election matter, and no other but the Minister of Public Works could have been. The evidence showed very clearly that no Minister was so connected with it, and therefore he objected to it and voted against its reception. He was proceeding to show how well Mr. Lauder had attended the meetings of the Committee, addressed it, and caused it to be adjourned at his pleasure, and gave some details of the doings of the Committee, when

Mr. CAMERON called him to order, on the ground that a question of privilege was being discussed, and not the "Proton outrage."

The SPEAKER said he did not understand the hon. member to have raised a question of privilege. He understood him to have spoken on the motion for adjournment.

Mr. RYKERT said he had said it was a question of privilege.

The SPEAKER said he had not heard him say so, but he would take the hon. gentleman's word for it, and rule accordingly.

Mr. CAMERON asked if the Commissioner of Public Works was prepared to withdraw his statement.

Hon. Mr. MCKELLAR said after hearing the statement of members of the Committee, he was quite prepared to state