

ed in the hands of every member, and it mattered not whether this was placed within the covers of the public accounts or in the Treasurer's statement. It was clear that the hon. gentleman, in his reckless statements, had not followed the practice of experienced Parliamentarians and was exceeding Parliamentary courtesy when he said that the Government were blustering when they submitted to the House a plain statement of facts. He had also wound up by stating that the Government had accepted the position of the Opposition upon the timber policy. Upon what great questions of public policy had this Government ever been called upon to accept the policy of hon. gentlemen opposite? If there was no legislation upon the statute book except what was suggested by the Opposition, the statutes would be a smaller volume than the old Irish reader. The House was called together in November, and long before that date the Government had given an indication as to what their policy would be in respect to the timber question, that it would be a Canadian policy. The Government had called the Parliament together because it wanted to get the advice of the representatives of the people of the Province in Parliament assembled, to consult hon. gentlemen opposite, to see them face to face in the discussion of a great question, so far-reaching in its character. After assuring his hon. friends opposite that the people of the Province would endorse the policy of the Government upon this and other questions, Mr. Ross sat down amid loud applause:

Thé Division.

The division was then taken, with the result that the amendment was lost, the vote being:—For, 23; against, 51; Government majority, 18. The division list follows:—

Yeas—Beatty (Leeds), Brower, Bush, Carnegie, Crawford, Dynes, Fallis, Gurd, Haggerty, Haycock, Hiscott, Kerns, Kidd, Langford, Little, McCallum, McDonald, McLaren, McNaughton, McNichol, Magwood, Marter, Matheson, Meacham, Miscampbell, Preston, Reid (Addington), Reid (Durham), St. John, Shore, Tucker, Whitney, Willoughby—33.

Nays—Auld, Barr, Baxter, Beatty (Parry Sound), Bennett, Biggar, Blezard, Burt, Campbell, Carpenter, Caven, Chapple, Charlton, Cleland, Conmee, Dana, Davis, Dickenson, Dryden, Farwell, Ferguson, Field, Garrow, German, Gibson (Hamilton), Gibson (Huron), Harcourt, Hardy, Harty, Hobbs, Macnish, McKay (Oxford), McKay (Victoria), McKee, McLean, McPherson, Middleton, Moore, Mutrie, O'Keefe, Pardo, Paton, Pattullo, Richardson, Robertson, Robillard, Ross, Smith, Stratton, Taylor, Truax—51.

Pairs—Loughrin and Ryerson, Craig and Gamey, Flatt and McNeil, Bronson and Currie.

The House went into Committee of Supply and passed several items.

The following private bills were put through the committee stage:—

Respecting the Shebandowan Mining Company and incorporating the Frue Shebandowan Gold Mining Company, Limited—Mr. German.

Respecting the Sisters of St. Joseph for the Diocese of Toronto in Upper Canada—Mr. McKee.

Respecting the Sydenham Glass Company of Wallaceburg, Limited—Mr. Pardo.

To incorporate the Ottawa Stock Exchange—Mr. O'Keefe.

Respecting the Town of Walkerton—Mr. Truax.

Respecting the City of Toronto—Mr. Crawford.

Respecting the Corporation of the Town of Midland—Mr. Biggar.

To amend the acts relating to Victoria University—Mr. Davis.

Respecting the Village of Huntsville—Mr. Middleton.

To confirm a certain agreement between the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada, the St. Clair Tunnel Company and the Town of Sarnia—Mr. Biggar.

These bills were read a second time: Respecting the Kingston, Portsmouth & Cataraqui Railway Company—Mr. Harty.

Respecting the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara—Mr. Dickenson.

Respecting the City of London—Mr. Hobbs.

To confirm by-law No. 479 of the Town of Ingersoll—Mr. McKay (Oxford).

Respecting the City of St. Thomas and the St. Thomas Street Railway Company—Mr. Macnish.

To confirm by-law No. 586 of the Town of Berlin—Mr. Robertson.

Relating to the City Hospital of Hamilton—Mr. Middleton.

To incorporate the Presbyterian Ladies' College, Ottawa—Mr. O'Keefe.

To amend the act incorporating the Sisters of Loretto—Mr. Harty.

To amend the act incorporating the Strathroy & Western Counties Railway Company—Mr. Ross.

To incorporate the Smith's Falls, Rideau & Southern Railway Company—Mr. Matheson.

Departmental Stores.

Mr. Middleton moved the second reading of his bill to impose a special tax on departmental stores. Telephone, telegraph and street railway systems, he said, had by the centralization of trade placed departmental stores under exceptionally favorable conditions, and it was only fair that they should be taxed at a higher rate than those stores which were being injured by an unequal competition. A ruinous overturn in commerce was being brought about by the departmental store. The practice of imposing special taxes, he said, had been successfully adopted in some parts of the United States. Mr. Middleton mentioned as a serious matter the hazardous character of the departmental store business, which brought great crowds of people into one building unprotected by fire-walls. He proposed that the question of imposing special taxation on these enterprises should be considered by a committee of the House.

Mr. Kerns pointed out that care was necessary in order to avoid injuring private interests. The departmental stores had in some respects been productive of good, inasmuch as they had been successful in introducing a cash system of doing business, which in itself was of importance.