

HON. MR. MACKAY TO SEEK INFORMATION

Has Canadian Northern Re- ceived Grants of Land?

THE TERMS OF THE ACT.

Construction of Sellwood Line Proceeds Too Slowly.

Only About Fifteen Miles of a Total
of Five Hundred Between Sell-
wood Junction and Port Arthur is
Under Construction Now.

Hon. A. G. MacKay intends to stir things up with regard to the construction of the Canadian Northern Ontario Railway line from Selwood Junction to Port Arthur. The company was, by act of the Legislature in 1909, guaranteed four thousand acres of ungranted lands in the districts of Algoma and Thunder Bay for every mile of the line for a distance of five hundred miles. The grant was subject to a condition that the work of construction be commenced within one year and completed by the end of 1913. Although nearly half of the allotted time has elapsed, it is understood that only about fifteen miles of the line are under construction.

The Liberal leader has given notice that on Wednesday next he will inquire of the Government whether it has any information showing the number of miles of railroad which have been completed by the Canadian Northern Ontario Railway between Selwood Junction and Port Arthur, and if so what number of miles have been completed between the said towns?

Have Lands Been Set Aside.

Hon. Mr. MacKay will also ask the Government whether any lands within the districts of Algoma and Thunder Bay have been set aside and appropriated to the Canadian Northern under the provisions of the act of 1909. The act provides that upon the construction of any section of ten miles of the line, the Government may grant the acreage earned by the company. Unless ten miles of the road have been completed the company is therefore not entitled under the act to any of the land named, and it is upon this point that the Liberal leader is curious. Hon. Mr. MacKay will also ask for information concerning the Selwood to Toronto branch for which the Legislature provided assistance in 1908. That portion of the line was to be completed in two years, and the time allowed under the act expired last September. The Liberal leader desires to know if an extension has been granted, and if so, the nature of such extension.

The afternoon's session of the Legislature yesterday lasted but fifteen

minutes and nothing of importance was taken up. A number of private bills were given first readings.

Remove the Anomaly.

There is no reason, in the opinion of Hon. A. G. MacKay, why an architect, summoned to court to give evidence in a professional capacity, should receive \$5 a day for his attendance, while medical and other technical experts are paid only \$4. Mr. MacKay raised this question when the House was in committee on Hon. Dr. Pyne's bill respecting the profession of architects.

Dr. Pyne said that that fee of \$5 was in the old act. Mr. MacKay replied that the anomaly in the old statute should not continue.

"When we come to the other bills you will find that the fee is made \$5 for other experts," said Dr. Pyne.

"Either way to end the anomaly," replied Mr. MacKay. "Only the other bills may not be before the House this session, perhaps. I think they should be the same way."

Too Much Power to Council.

The clause in the bill providing that "any person may be prosecutor or complainant under the act, and the Council may alter such portion of the penalties as it deems expedient to the prosecutor," also came in for some criticism on the part of the Opposition leader. He thought this was putting too much power in the hands of the Council.

Dr. Pyne said it would lessen actions.

"That is not advisable," retorted Mr. MacKay, "all crime should be put down."

Bills Introduced.

First reading was given to a bill by Mr. W. F. Nickle (Kingston), to amend the public health act by giving municipalities power to control the storing of rags and bones; to a bill by Mr. T. E. Bradburn (West Peterboro'), to amend the public schools act, with respect to qualifications required by persons to be nominated for the position of trustees, and one by Mr. Bradburn to amend the consolidated municipal act of 1903.

Notice of Motion.

Mr. A. A. Mahaffy (Muskoka) has given notice of motion for Tuesday next of a bill to amend the Justices of the Peace act.

Liberals Added to Committee.

Messrs. R. E. Truax and J. McEwing, Liberal members for South Bruce and West Wellington, respectively, were, on motion of Hon. Col. Matheson, added to the Private Bills Committee.