PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
AND
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
DURING THE
FOURTH SESSION
OF THE
TWENTY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF
NEWFOUNDLAND
1912

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1912
"NON SUFFICIT ORBIS."

EX LIBRIS

The Right Honourable

SIR ROBERT BOND
P.C., K.C.M.G., LL.D.

Prime Minister of Newfoundland
1900 - 1909

A bequest to the Memorial University College, St. John's from the Reverend GEO. J. BOND, B.A., LL.D.
Proceedings

of the

House of Assembly

during the

Fourth Session

of the

Twenty-Second General Assembly

of

Newfoundland

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WEDNESDAY, Feb. 14th, 1912.
OPENING OF THE SESSION.

His Excellency having fixed the hour at which he proposed to open the present Session of the Legislature at three of the clock in the afternoon of this Wednesday, the fourteenth day of February, instant, the Members of the House of Assembly met in the Assembly Room at a quarter to three of the clock in the afternoon when Mr. Speaker took the chair.

At three of the clock a message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, commanding the immediate attendance of Mr. Speaker and the House in the Council Chamber. Accordingly, Mr. Speaker and the House attended His Excellency the Governor in the Council Chamber, and having returned to the Assembly Room, Mr. Thomas LeFeuvre, the duly elected representative of the District of Burin, having duly taken and subscribed to the prescribed oath administered by the Hon. President of the Legislative Council under commission from His Excellency the Governor, was formally introduced to Mr. Speaker and the House by Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister and the Hon. Colonial Secretary and took his seat.

Mr. Speaker informed the House that when in attendance on His Excellency the Governor in the Council Chamber, His Excellency had been pleased to make a gracious speech to both branches of the Legislature, a copy of which for purposes of greater accuracy he had obtained, and which he then read to the House.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council.

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

It affords me much pleasure to meet the assembled Legislature once more and to invite its co-operation in the conduct of public affairs.

Since the close of the last session, the British Empire, of which Newfoundland is proud to be the oldest dependency, has witnessed a series of events of unique interest and importance. The solemnity of the Coronation of the Sovereign and his Consort at Westminster was supplemented by the personal presence of Their Majesties at the Durbar at Delhi, where they were proclaimed Emperor and Empress of India, while the year also witnessed the appointment of a Royal Prince to the Governor-Generalship of Canada, an appropriate recognition of the advance of Imperial nationhood; and though the functions of the Imperial Conference, which preceded the Coronation, were
not otherwise enlarged, it saw its representatives treated as full partners in the consideration of Imperial nationality, and though the functions of the Imperial Conference which preceded the Coronation were not otherwise enlarged, it saw its representatives treated as full partners in the consideration of Imperial defence schemes, a departure warranted by the colonial kinsmen having proved so fully their readiness to co-operate in all measures designed to maintain the security and prestige of the Empire.

In the Festival of Empire which was held in London recently, this Colony, as you are aware, participated, and, as I enjoyed the opportunity while in England of visiting the Exhibition, I was much gratified with the splendid display made by Newfoundland, and have reason to believe, from various sources of information, that the results cannot but be productive of great good in many ways. From the collection shown in the Colony's Court, a permanent exhibit was made up and installed in the Imperial Institute, where Newfoundland has been granted a largely increased space for a display, to serve as a demonstration of her varied natural resources and manufactured products. It must be a source of pride to Newfoundland that it has public spirited citizens so willing to devote their time and means towards assisting in carrying out so laudable a project, and they deserve our best thanks for their unselfish and long continued efforts.

It is gratifying to be able to state that the prosperity of this Colony during the past year has probably been greater than at any previous period in her history. The fishing operations of our people, as regards the catch, were on the whole fairly successful, and the prices obtained for dried cod amongst the highest ever realized, a result due to short catches by our competitors in the foreign markets, and to the purchase by American dealers of considerable quantities of green fish to supply their domestic demands. With the exercise of greater care in the cure and the employment of new methods in the preparing of fish for market, there seems no reason why the Colony should not maintain indefinitely its present fortunate position with regard to its staple industry.

The increased catch of lobsters in the past three seasons, and their larger size, prove the efficacy of the regulations enforced for the conservation of this industry, and my Ministers are encouraged thereby to believe that, through other measures which will be submitted for your consideration in due course, it may prove possible to still further enhance the value and extent of this industry.

During the past year the work so energetically entered upon the previous season for the encouragement of Agriculture was pursued on a still more extensive scale. The operations of the various societies established under the terms of the Act showed unabated vigour, and in the autumn exhibitions were held in the Districts of Burin, St. George's and Harbour Grace which proved highly successful. The evidence which these afforded, to even the people of the localities in which they were held, of the variety and extent of the agricultural operations possible in Newfoundland, coupled with the highly remunerative prices now obtainable for farm products, should induce a largely increased cultivation of the soil.

In November last it was my privilege to personally open the branch railroad to Bonavista, the first of the series authorized by you in the session of 1910. The road penetrates a section of the country which promises to afford substantial traffic, and I was extremely pleased to notice the
evidences of thrift and industry visible in all the settlements touched by this artery of trade and commerce. The construction of the branches to Trepassey and Heart's Content has been commenced, and it is hoped that these will be completed by the latter part of the present year.

As a complement to the extension of the railroad system of the Colony, by the construction of the branches already authorized by the Legislature provision will be invited for steam communication on the north east coast and such improvements in the existing steam services as the developments of trade in the various parts of the Island call for.

In conjunction with railway extension it is essential that the improvement of our main roads should be undertaken upon lines which will better ensure their permanence, and also their extension through sections of the Island still lacking these facilities, as they should prove valuable factors in promoting trade and intercourse, agricultural development, and the utilization of natural resources. My Government propose to take this matter into their consideration at an early date, and to formulate a definite programme of such improvements and extensions.

The policies of telegraph extension including additional wireless stations; of adding to the number of lighthouses, fog-alarms, and other aids to navigation; and of improving the roads and marine works of the Colony, so actively entered upon by my Government, will be continued during the present year, and the necessary legislation to that end will be submitted to you.

To extend the advantages of telegraphic communication to as many as possible of the outport communities, by utilizing telephones as auxiliaries to the telegraph system, has for some time occupied the attention of my Ministers, and experts representing the most modern telephone systems have visited the Colony and studied this problem at length, as well as the improvement in conjunction therewith, of telephonic facilities for St. John's. A measure to deal with this subject is in preparation.

The question of combatting that which is known as the Great White Plague or Consumption, has been engaging the serious attention of my Ministers. The tendency to-day of enlightened administrations and progressive legislation is to grapple with the problem in a comprehensive manner. One of the first acts of my Ministers on assuming office three years ago was to recommend to my predecessor the appointment of a Commission to enquire into this whole question, the work of which Commission during the intervening period has shown the need for the creation of permanent agencies to cope with this disease. I am glad that, through the munificent generosity of three of our citizens, and of the corporation of which they are the head, the Government is assured of a substantial factor towards the accomplishment of this aim, a large central sanitarium in St. John's and smaller buildings for the same purpose in the other electoral districts, so that the financial provision you will be called upon to make need therefore only be for administration and maintenance. I feel sure the people of the Colony will hail with pleasure and thankfulness the announcement that this matter is now to be taken in hand with the completeness which its gravity compels and that private generosity has been enlisted in so laudable an undertaking. I am equally pleased to observe that through the beneficence of another corporation in our midst, the city of St. John's is being provided with auxiliaries that must be bene-
ficial to the health of its citizens.

The Old Age Pension measure, approved by you last session, has resulted so satisfactorily that, in accordance with the intention foreshadowed then, it is proposed to ask you this session to increase the vote by another twenty thousand dollars, which will enable provision to be made for four hundred additional pensions, the amount voted last year providing for a similar number. Moreover, my Government, feeling itself bound to recognize the claims of those on the list of permanent poor to increased aid towards their maintenance, have decided to add to the appropriation for this purpose so that the annual payment to those deserving persons may be substantially increased.

In furtherance of the policy of my Ministers as to increasing the appropriations for educational purposes as speedily and as liberally as the Colony's finances warrant, and of otherwise promoting educational effort, proposals will be submitted to you for providing pensions for the teachers of our public schools. This measure, while not involving any additional burden upon the Colony for some years, will give those in the teaching profession a guarantee of much value in encouraging them to remain therein and will likewise, it is believed, assist greatly in uplifting the general status of education in the Colony. The generous appropriation made for new school buildings, and for remodelling existing ones on modern hygienic principles, has been applied to these purposes, and the beneficial effect of this policy should make themselves felt in the improvement of the health of the pupils attending these schools, and in better results accruing from their studies.

During the past summer thanks to the good offices of His Majesty's Ministers and the London County Coun-

ill, my Government were able to avail themselves of the services of a distinguished English specialist in the treatment of the insane, to report upon the present Lunatic Asylum, and recommend such improvements as seemed to him necessary. His report will be laid before you. In conformity with his conclusions you will be asked to approve of the conversion of the present building into a Poor Asylum, and the construction of a modern hospital for the insane.

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

I am pleased to be able to inform you that the revenue for the fiscal year ending on the 30th June last was not alone largely in excess of the estimate, but also realized a very handsome surplus over the expenditure for the same period. The Estimates for the coming fiscal year will be laid before you, and have been framed with due regard to economy in the administration of public affairs without, however, impairing the efficiency of the various services.

Mr. President and Honourable Members of the Legislative Council:

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

The decennial Census has been taken during the past few months, and I trust that before the session closes it may be possible to lay before you an interim report, setting forth the salient facts regarding the growth of population.

Negotiations are still proceeding between my Ministers and companies operating steamships on the North Atlantic, with a view of securing an improved ocean steam service, and it is hoped that they will have reached a stage ere long which will allow of your dealing with them.

At the Imperial Conference in London last summer, it was resolved that His Majesty should be approached
with a view to the appointment of a Royal Commission representing the United Kingdom and the self-governing Dominions, to investigate and report upon the natural resources and the improvement of the trade of the Empire, and in accordance with the terms of this Resolution my Ministers have been invited to nominate a representative for Newfoundland thereon, and have done so accordingly.

During my stay in England I had the honour of being commanded to visit Their Majesties in their Highland home at Balmoral. Our King and Queen both displayed a keen interest in the progress and advancement of Newfoundland and its people, and, before my departure, His Majesty charged me with a message to all who dwell in this ancient Colony, wishing them health and happiness and the fullest measure of success. I was specially pleased to be in a position to assure Their Majesties, not alone of the unwavering loyalty and devotion of the people, but that Newfoundland was enjoying a degree of prosperity unequalled in her history, and with every prospect of its long continuance.

It is with infinite pleasure that I take this great public opportunity of conveying to you the King’s gracious and sympathetic message.

In conclusion, I trust that Almighty God may long be pleased to prosper this Colony and that He may guide you aright in the work upon which you are now about to enter.

RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE.

THE HON. THE PREMIER:—Before proceeding to the regular and formal work of the session, I feel I express the desire of Hon. members when I invite them to place on record a resolution expressive of their sympathy in the recent death of Sir James Winter, Mr. A. J. W. McNelly, and Hon. D. J. Greene, three citizens who, for many years, occupied seats in this Legislature, and at different periods held many of the high offices of state which this Legislature has the power to confer on its members, or from administrations which this Legislature controls.

We are too near the life-work of our friends to form a correct perspective of their careers, or place a just estimate on the value the services which they rendered the State, and the part they played for the past forty years in the more domestic roles of citizenship.

Sir James Winter and Mr. McNelly were returned to this House first, I think, in 1873, Mr. Greene following in 1878, and from these dates until the time of their decease they occupied a conspicuous place in the public life of the Colony, each man seeming to fill a particular role, playing a particular part.

For over seventeen years it was my privilege to be a member of the Legislature with Sir James Winter. and for nearly thirty years I was connected with him professionally, and in that way I had many opportunities of studying the varied qualifications which he possessed, and which fitted him in so marked a degree for the legislative, professional and judicial duties he was called upon to perform.

His life, for those who were near him, and closely associated and identified with his work, was an interesting study. The keynote of his character was Thoroughness. All his energies were seriously and conscientiously devoted to whatever duties happened to be assigned to him for the time being. He never had an idle moment, and large and small matters...
were attended to with a detail which at once compelled admiration.

In his public career he came nearer one's idea of the statesman than the politician. Having fixed views in relation to large public questions, he was ever ready to stand or fall by his convictions. In that way he was more of the statesman than the politician, who trims his sail to the changing breeze. Quiet, unostentatious and unassuming, he probably did as much real work for the state as any man who ever sat in this Legislature and the Journals and public Statutes eloquently proclaim the work he has done, and stand as monuments to his industry and ability.

He was an able, convincing debater, possessed of great Parliamentary courage. I have been in this House on more than one occasion when political crises arose, well calculated to illustrate the characters of the participants, and on those occasions I have never known Sir James Winter to lack that placid courage which alone is capable of giving a political defeat the semblance of victory.

As a lawyer he possessed a fine, judicial mind, and his name will be forever identified with those important legal decisions involving international as well as domestic disputes which have come before the courts during the past forty years.

Mr. McNeily, for nearly a quarter of a century, was a member of this Legislature, and for a portion of that time occupied the Speaker's Chair. Those who were in the House with him when he held that high judicial office will bear me out when I state that he more than upheld the traditions for fairness between the parties in the House that characterized the decisions of those who had gone before him.

As Speaker, he brought to the consideration of the important questions that from time to time came before him, an impartial and judicial mind, with a wealth of precedent, which was at once satisfying and convincing, sustaining the best traditions of the speaker's chair from our first speaker, John Bingley Garland to his immediate predecessor in office, my Right Hon. friend who now so ably leads his Majesty's Opposition. He was an eloquent and fluent speaker, poetical and classic, and amongst his literary remains, which I trust may some day be collected and compiled, a place should be given to selections from his reported speeches.

Mr. Greene, at the time of his death, was a member of the Upper Chamber, but for a great many years had represented Ferryland in this branch of the Legislature. An earnest and painstaking member, he proved for many years a faithful and efficient representative.

He was a great favorite in the House, and, as the records show, was ready on every occasion to contribute words of warning or encouragement in relation to the various measures that came before the House. Exercising his best judgment in the criticism of public affairs, he at the same time rarely failed to impart into the debate a wealth of humor, which often relieved the discussion of dulness and monotony.

All three men, for nearly a half century, were prominent in our little world, and their removal within a few days of each other brings home to us, in a very dramatic manner, the uncertainty of our tenure of life. We can ill afford to lose men of this class trained as they were in the public service of the Colony.

As Newfoundland grows and develop-
of Parliaments and administrations, we are apt to pass hasty judgment on the public acts of others. Too often we ascribe to those occupying positions of public trust motives which would be more likely to influence ourselves if we were in their place. When our friends have passed beyond our reach; when, lying cold in death, we assuage our grief by laying costly wreaths and flowers upon their bier, bestowing upon them all private and public manifestations of our respect and sorrow; but when we have them with us we deny them ordinary justice, we refuse to give them a flower of consideration, of love or justice, but plot and plan against them and deliberately aim at misunderstanding and misinterpreting their every act.

Let us learn to give them the flowers when they are with us, when they can scent their perfume, and when they will represent to us something more than mere vain regrets. There is nothing before any of us but six feet of mother earth, and the memory of the friends we mourn to-day must bring this convincingly home to every one of us.

“The boast of Heraldry, the pomp of Power,
And all that Beauty, all that Wealth e’er gave,
Await alike the inevitable hour,
The paths of Glory lead but to the Grave.”

This is not the time nor the place for a panegyric on the life work of our friends. But when time has mellowed our judgments, the future Pedley or Prowse will pause to give a page of tribute to their worth, a tribute to their courage, to the power of the purposes for which they stood, and to the sincerity of their convictions.

I beg to move the following resolution:

RESOLVED—That this House of Assembly desires to record an
expression of its heartfelt sorrow at the decease of Sir James Winter, Alexander J. W. McNeilly, K.C., and the Hon. Daniel J. Greene K.C., for many years members of this Branch of the Legislature.

Their high attainments and thoroughness in the work undertaken, rendered them a valuable acquisition to the Legislature. Whilst mourning their loss, the members of this House desire to convey to their relatives deep sympathy in their bereavement.

MR. KENT—I rise for the purpose of seconding the resolution proposed by the Prime Minister, and do so to express the entire and full sympathy of the Opposition in the resolution. It is a matter of very great regret to me, and I am sure to the whole House that circumstances over which he has had no control have prevented the Rt. Hon the Leader of the Opposition from being here to second the resolution. For he could have spoken from personal connection and relation with the deceased as members of this House. Unfortunately, they had passed out, their life work as members of this House had been completed by the time I had first the honour of a seat here. We all recognize that in expressing our sympathy in the death of three such prominent men, we are doing something unique in our history. I do not think there was ever a time in our history when three such prominent men passed away in such a short space of time, so that the Legislature was called upon to express its sympathy for all on the one occasion. Sir James Winter, Mr. McNeilly and Hon. D. J. Greene filled a large space in the public life of the Colony. Sir James Winter led in every department of public life with which he was connected. In this House he rose to the highest office in its gift—the honourable and responsible position of Prime Minister. In his profession, he was a leader at the Bar, attained to the Supreme Bench and was President of the Law Society for years. In every walk of life his thoroughness brought him to that position which he deserved and which the people among whom he lived believed and knew he earned.

Mr. McNeilly was one of the brightest ornaments mentally of the generation now passing away. His literary work will be remembered and recognized as classical in generations to come. We all know the peculiar merit of his literary productions and where any matter of high literary attainment was required he was selected to perform the duty. It is unnecessary to go into the particular merits of these productions, they are known to every member of this House.

The Hon. D. J. Greene was also a man of high attainments, and was, perhaps, the most genial man that ever held a seat in this House. This peculiar genius had more or less the effect of covering the brighter and deeper genius which he displayed in his professional career. He was a man with a keen insight of law and knowledge of the public life of the Colony and was possessed of an unerring judgment. I do not wish to further delay the House at the present time as there are many other matters to be discussed this afternoon. I merely wish to join in this expression of sympathy to the families of the deceased. They will hold a large place in the history of the Colony. We may not be able to form a proper perspective of their careers...
but we are the best generation to ap
raise the personality of each, and I
think the entire opinion of this House
is that all three were esteemed in life
and are regretted in death.

The resolution was unanimously
adopted.

MOTION FOR ADDRESS IN REPLY.

MR. P. F. MOORE.—Mr. Speaker, I
beg to move that an address be pre-
sented to His Excellency the Gover-
nor in reply to the Speech from the
Throne and in rising to perform this
important duty I would say, at the
outset, that I am deeply sensible of
the high honor conferred on me in
my selection for this important task.
I am also well aware of the difficul-
ties which beset my path and I there-
fore ask that the House would view
my shortcomings with the leniency
which it has shown in the past to
honorable members, under similar
circumstances.

As His Excellency points out in the
opening paragraph of his Speech, the
past year has been unique in the an-
nals of the British Empire. Newfound-
land is not alone the oldest but the
most loyal of the Colonies, and it did
its part nobly in the Coronation festi-
vities. The celebrations both in St.
John's and in the outports were of
that whole-hearted and universal char-
acter, always associated with New-
foundland's part in everything that
pertains to make clear its loyalty to
the sovereign and to the British Em-
pire. We rejoiced in the Coronation,
and we laid the Corner Stones of a
Memorial to King Edward at the Gen-
eral Hospital, and of a Seaman's In-
institute on Water Street, named after
King George; we carried out a pro-
gramme which covered three days,
and in which every form of popular
rejoicing was included. We followed
with interest the royal journey
through India and gloried in its suc-
cess and if, as seems possible now,
the Duke of Connaught should visit
the Colony while he remains in Can-
ada, he may count upon a reception
which will testify to him that New-
foundland's claim to the first place in
loyalty and devotion is not made
without the strongest foundation.

To the success of the Festival of
Empire in London last year His Ex-
cellency the Governor gives his per-
sonal testimony so far as Newfoundland is concerned, and this House
will, I am sure, fully agree with him
that the outlay made by us on ac-
count of that exhibition was amply
justified because it brought home to
the British people, as never before,
the varied resources and possibilities
of Newfoundland. It is a matter for
pride, too, that we have in the Col-
ony men of public spirit who contribute
their time and money in order to en-
sure the success of the affair.

Regardless of party, we can all re-
joice in the prosperity that has at-
tended the Colony of late years. From
a material point of view, the Speech
furnished many substantial grounds
for congratulation upon the excellent
position which our Country occupies
at the present time. It is very pleas-
ant to note the vast strides in the
development of our various resources.
It is satisfactory to know that every
branch of industry in this Colony is
to-day flourishing as never before.
Our fisheries have now reached a
stage beyond all precedent, the prices
obtained for our codfish have never
been equalled before. This fact is
due to the enlarged markets which
the Colony is securing abroad, and to
the large purchases of green fish by
Americans and Canadians, whereby the fortunate position the Colony has gained in its markets for dry fish is maintained even better than previously. As I am not as fully conversant on fishery matters as the gentleman who is associated with me in this motion to-day, I will leave it to him to deal more fully with this matter and with the proposed legislation respecting the lobster fishery and content myself with expressing the hope that the fishermen of Newfoundland may long continue to secure as good prices as they have the past year.

We can all concur in the expectations of His Excellency regarding the development of agriculture which has shown such wonderful strides under the stimulating influence of the Government's agricultural policy. The exhibitions that have been held have been, as he says, a complete proof of the possibilities of the Country in this respect, and as the Branch Railroads are constructed the development of agriculture must follow even more largely.

The opening of the Bonavista Branch Railroad last fall was an occasion long to be remembered and the providing of railway extension for that important district, was a measure amply justified by the successful place the district occupies in our industrial avocations, and one which its enterprising people had certainly deserved. I look forward, Mr. Speaker, with confidence to the district of Ferryland, of which I have the honor to be one of the representatives, witnessing the opening of its branch railroad during the fall of the present year and also that to Heart's Content.

I am glad to note that the Government intends to inaugurate a policy of road extension and improvement. Anyone who represents an outport district must realise that there is no matter of greater concern to the people of these districts than that of good roads. For the past two or three years the Government has been able, through its overflowing revenues, to make special provision for roads, but a general measure inaugurating modern methods of road building will be productive of the very greatest good to the people of all parts of the Colony. In the same way, I am glad to see that the Government will continue its policy of extending the telegraph lines, providing more wireless stations and adding to the number of Lighthouses and marine works. It is gratifying to know that since this Government took office more than 400 miles of telegraph line have been built, that 23 lighthouses and fog alarms have been erected, more than ever accomplished before, while the sums expended on Marine Works have also been larger than ever in our history. It will also be a satisfaction to know that the Government is to undertake the installation of a general system of telephones for the Colony. In many of the smaller outports where the trade would not warrant the establishment of telegraph offices and the providing of skilled operators, the installation of telephones in the Post Offices or some similar place will be of great service to the people and ought to add considerably to the Revenue of the Postal Telegraph Department. The establishment, too, of a public Telephone System in St. John's is in line with modern ideas on this subject everywhere and will, I believe, be welcomed by the community.

The determination of the Govern-
ment to grapple with Consumption is most creditable and the princely generosity of the Reid Newfoundland Company in providing the sanitaria necessary for the purposes has earned them general public approval and will help greatly in facilitating the Government's work. The prevalence of tuberculosis is the greatest menace to public health that exists in this Island to-day, and the Government's policy will commend itself on grounds of humanity as well as of public interest. While on this paragraph, I think I would be justified in expressing the thanks of this House, and of the whole country, through the Reporters's Box, to the Reid Newfoundland Co., for this very practical expression of their interest in the welfare of our people, and in doing so, I am sure I am voicing the sentiments of all.

The decision which His Excellency intimates that the Government will provide another 400 Old Age Pensions this year is one that will be hailed with satisfaction by the toil-worn fishermen of this Colony, who are now at last assured of some provision in their old age, and who can see for themselves that an honest, earnest effort has been made to cope with this matter after it had been played with by others for so many years. A commendable step in the same direction is represented by the establishment of a pension for teachers. This scheme as I understand it, means that for 14 years to come there will be no burden upon the Colony on this account, because the funds belonging to the teachers which have been handed over to the Government, will provide enough in interest to pay all the charges that can fall upon the Colony during that period and after that time the calls cannot be very great, considering the conditions necessary to qualify for a pension. It will be a satisfaction to everybody that the Poor Asylum is to be abandoned and that the present Lunatic Asylum, which is no longer fitted for the purpose for which it is now used, is to be converted into a Poor Asylum and a new Lunatic Asylum constructed. This is a step in the right direction and one that certainly will, I think, commend itself both to this House and the country at large. The Lunatic Asylum has been the subject of much unwelcome comment in late years and to modernize it will, in my humble opinion, prove of great benefit to the inmates and a great relief to their relatives. That His Excellency is able to announce a substantial surplus of revenue as a result of the last fiscal year is a matter for congratulation. It is certainly wonderful how this Colony has prospered in late years and a large share of the credit must be given to the present Government which, when it took office, found itself facing the largest deficit in our revenue in modern times, but the Government has since been able, through good generalship, to so improve the conditions in the Colony, as to bring about surpluses that have never been approached. The people of the Colony have cause for thanks at the manner in which it has progressed. Not alone have the fishermen been successful but the iron mines and the pulp mills, the lumbering industry and all the minor pursuits that have been followed, have shared in the general advancement until it is doubtful if, all things considered, there is any more prosperous portion of the British Empire to-day than this Island home of ours. May these favorable conditions...
long continue and may our trade still further extend as the years go by.

We shall await with interest, Mr. Speaker, the promised Report on the Census, and also the result of the negotiations for an improved Atlantic service. We shall hope that the Imperial Trade Commission on which the Colony is to be represented will continue to meet with a generous measure of success.

It is pleasant to know from His Excellency that Their Majesties the King and Queen who visited us some 10 years ago, show such interest in the oldest Colony and our people will, I am sure, feel highly gratified at the kindly message which the King sent to us. Let us hope that before many years Their Majesties may honour us with a visit again, and that the Colony may be enjoying the same favorable conditions as now prevail, so that the reception which our King and Queen would certainly receive from their loyal and devoted subjects would exceed anything yet attempted. With these brief and inadequate remarks, Mr. Speaker, and wishing this Colony a long continuance of the prosperity it now enjoys, I beg to move the appointment of a Committee to draft an address in reply.

MR. LEFEUVRE.—Mr. Speaker,—In rising to second the motion for the appointment of a Committee to draft an address in reply to the gracious speech of His Excellency, so ably proposed by the member for Ferryland, I may say that it is not my intention to inflict upon the House a speech of undue length.

His Excellency's Speech refers in its opening remarks to the Coronation of Their Majesties our beloved King and Queen which auspicious event took place last year and in celebrating which, all Newfoundlanders, so far as we were able, took part, than whom their Majesties have none more loyal than the subjects of the Oldest Colony of the Empire.

Reference is also made to the Festival of Empire; that grandest of modern pageants also held in London last year, and in which this Colony took part, nor does he forget to mention, those citizens of ours, who gave time, and talent, to the arranging of exhibits, and the general supervision of the Newfoundland products.

The entire country just now is jubilant over the generosity of the Messrs. Reid on their offering the Government the expenditure of the sum of $100,000.00 in building sanitarium. These sanitariums or homes for Consumptives when established and working, will be an unqualified blessing, to each community in which they are erected, and to the country as a whole. Any one acquainted with the ravages of that dread disease, which yearly claims more than 1,000 victims cannot but realize from a commercial standpoint what a loss this means to the Colony. Placing the earning power of each at $300 gives a total of $300,000, and as the greater part of this sum would be spent on dutiable goods there is a direct loss to the revenue of probably nearly $100,000.

This is the commercial side of the question, but there is another phase of this subject, the pathetic. There are few who have not had friends, or relatives, die of this disease, few who have not had opportunities to trace with apprehension the first signs of the dreaded White Plague and feel that another victim will soon be claimed; and in spite of all that friends could do; go to an untimely grave. The Association for the Prevention of
Consumption has done much to try and cope with the disease, and much credit is due that association, but through lack of proper homes for such cases, their work has been much hindered. The Messrs. Reid by their philanthropy will place such homes within reach of all, in outports as well as city; and I am glad to note that the people of the outports are not slow to express themselves, and hence we read in the daily papers of meetings called, and resolutions passed; resolutions of appreciation and thankfulness appreciation of the princely generosity of the Messrs. Reid and thankfulness that our wealthy and influential citizens are devoting their wealth to such noble purposes.

The Government, ever ready to assist a good work, whether for the commercial or social betterment of the people will gladly appropriate a vote at this session for the maintenance of these institutions.

His Excellency remarks on the general prosperity of the country. This prosperity is gauged by the success or non success of our fishery. Last year this fishery on the whole, was not as many would wish it, especially our West Coast shore fishery, which during the two best months of the season was almost a blank. Indeed over the entire West Coast the trap fishery was a complete failure.

This shortage on the West Coast was somewhat balanced by the success of the Northern fishery; and later in the season we had a general improvement all round, and this coupled with high prices, secured for our fish last season, brought the value of the catch up to a fair voyage.

The high prices obtained for our codfish last year was chiefly due to a shortage in the American catch, and the consequent demand for Newfoundland fish, some thirty thousand quintals being sold in a green state to that market, thus relieving the foreign dry fish markets of that quantity, and as a consequence we may reasonably expect high figures to rule for spring catches, as the Americans have relieved us of a quantity of fish, that would otherwise be held over in salt bulk for spring delivery.

It is well known that the lobster fishery around our coasts had for some years carried with it the last three years have shown an increase in catch, and the effort that is about to be made with a view to its preservation will tend to preserve that increase. In 1911 we exported 28,644 cases valued at about half a million dollars which was an increase of four thousand cases over the previous year, with an increased value of about one hundred and twenty thousand dollars.

Twenty years ago we exported nearly three times that quantity of lobsters, at a price per case of about one-half of present day prices. This goes to show that at the present prices, if we can get our catch up to what it was twenty years ago, our lobster fishery, instead of being worth only half a million dollars will be worth one and a half millions. And surely such a fishery as this; employing as it does between four and five thousand of our fishermen, is worthy of consideration; and as foreshadowed in His Excellency's Speech, the Government will bring in practical legislation tending to preserve the seed or spawn bearing lobsters, and this can only be accomplished by devising means for those lobsters being placed where the seed can mature.

It has been estimated that an eight inch lobster carries five thousand eggs and a fourteen inch lobster carries forty thousand. It will be readily seen that, supposing only one per cent of these eggs came to maturity that the eight inch lobster would produce fifty and the larger one four hundred, but in order to insure the propagation of
these eggs the mother lobster must be either put back into the water by the fishermen, or placed in some proper reservation where it can mature.

Further Encouragement of Agriculture.—In this respect the Government on coming into power, introduced legislation and appointed a board to carry on the agricultural policy of the Government.

This board at once set to work organizing agricultural societies all over the island, and to-day we have about eighty of these societies distributing the best of seeds and literature among the people; as well as the best breeds of cattle and sheep.

The Government's policy of holding agricultural shows or exhibitions, is one that has gained much general popularity, and judging from the great interest of the people of Burin district in our exhibition of last October, will, I feel sure, create a healthy rivalry all over the country, as to which district will put on the best exhibition.

In spite of adverse comments with regard to Burin's agricultural possibilities, the result was highly successful. There were nearly five hundred exhibitors and more than six hundred exhibits and these exhibits, excellent as they were pronounced to be, did not do the district justice, owing to the extended period of dry weather last summer, which had a damaging effect upon the crops.

This exhibition has done much to awaken agricultural interests in Burin, as I feel certain, has also been the case in the districts of Harbor Grace and Carbonear and St. George's, where also exhibitions were held. Much may be said with regard to the Government's agricultural policy, so far, the results are matter for congratulation. I could say a great deal about the Burin exhibition, but suffice it to say that it awakened many of our people to the agricultural possibilities of their own district; and many doubtful ones who visited our exhibition came prepared to see the worst; they came, saw, examined and finally admired and were convinced.

Branch Railways.—I am glad to notice that a reference is made to the Government's branch railway policy, a policy that has been carried into effect without loss of time; and the important town of Bonavista is already enjoying railway communication with the capital.

Speaking as an outport business man, I can readily understand the great commercial advantage of such connection to the residents of Bonavista, and principally the business people who are now engaging largely in the packing of fish in casks; and instead of having to ferry these casks and other freight on board the coastal boats, often at great risks in stormy weather, they can load them in the freight cars and have them conveyed safely overland to the city for transshipment.

The district which I have the honor to represent does not as yet enjoy the advantage of railway connection, having as we do to travel many miles east or west to make connection; but, Sir, we cling to the hope that, on the completion of the proposed branch to Fortune Bay we shall see a continuation of that branch right through the peninsula of Burin.

At the present time, however, we are more concerned in main line roads. It is a fact that until recently we had no main line, but since the advent of the present Government, a road has been almost completed that will encircle the district and touch every settlement when complete, and thus place the district on an equal with other districts as regards main line roads.

Telegraph extension.—The Premier in his manifesto to the people on his assuming the Leadership of the People's Party, pledged his party to tele-
graph extension. How thoroughly that promise is being carried out is shown by the fact that in Dist. of St. Barbe alone, no less than 250 miles of line have been constructed, and I am glad to note that provision will be made at this session for the further extension of that service, there being many deserving settlements not yet sharing in the advantage of that great commercial facility.

Nor should I fail to mention that Burin district has also been favored in this respect. I refer to the connection of the important settlement of Flat Islands with the main land by cable; and the establishment of an office now working there, and much appreciated by residents of that community. Garnish, also an important settlement in Fortune Bay, in direct connection with Burin by road, has also been connected; which is an equal advantage to Burin as to the people of that community.

Telephone Extension.—As a result of the Government's energetic telegraph policy the majority of the important outports are now connected by telegraph, but there are many smaller communities which do not warrant the maintenance of telegraph offices, but on the other hand the importance of many of these places during the fishing season as bait resorts, and the consequent gathering of many fishing vessels calls for some means of rapid communication and this advantage can be gained by telephonic connection.

The public are already indebted to the present administration for a daily telegraphic fishery report and the addition of the telephone would make the service complete. Speaking of Burin district in this connection I wish to have it understood that I do not speak selfishly but knowing Burin as I do I can in perspective by comparison the more readily discern the needs of other districts in this respect; for not only for fishery news purposes but also to the business people of Burin, the telephone will be of inestimable benefit, and I feel sure that the same applies to other outports.

Old Age Pensions.—It is with gratification, Sir, that I notice that our aged fishermen are to be again remembered and that the Govt. will at this session appropriate another $20,000 to provide pensions for an additional 400 deserving ones. At last session provision was made for four hundred which were distributed among the eighteen districts according to population.

If there was one promise in our Leader's manifesto, that was looked upon with doubt by the public I believe it was the "Old Age Pension scheme" but the manner in which has been carried out has compelled the admiration of all, and I believe our Leader's name will be revered by posterity, as being the man who instituted the Old Age Pension Scheme for the benefit of the fisherman in his declining years.

From time to time we are treated in the press to suggestions with regard to our teachers' salaries and pensions; some of which may be practicable; and many of which are highly impracticable; and it is gratifying to know that a scheme will be considered at this session to place them on the same basis as civil servants as regards pensions, with a view to encourage them to remain in the profession. The steady exodus of teachers from the profession has resulted in our schools being supplied with young and inexperienced ones; many of whom follow their predecessors' example and use it as a stepping stone to other positions. Some eighteen years ago I took charge of a public school, at a salary of $200.00. At the present time a teacher of the same grade gets nearly
double that sum, due to increased Government grants; and the present administration has already done much to help educational interests, especially in providing schools in settlements where none existed before; and I believe that with the adoption of the new pension scheme, the exodus from the teaching profession will be considerably reduced; and the teachers, encouraged by the prospect of a substantial pension, will stay and gain experience in the profession; and thus the benefit of this experience will be participated in by the pupils. An interesting feature in connection with this scheme is its comparative costlessness. As is well known a scheme, though a wholly inadequate one, has been in existence for about twenty years. The accumulated surplus, now over $50,000, which belongs to the teachers, is being handed over to the Government, and forms a nucleus of the new scheme; so that, although great inducement will be held out to retain teachers in the profession, and so give to children and parents the benefits of ripe experience; the actual cost to the Colony for many years to come will be little or nothing.

New Lunatic Asylum and Poor Asylum.—The fact that the Government intend giving their attention at this session to both these institutions, will be hailed with approval throughout the Colony. The present administration has already made substantial addition to and improvements on the General Hospital, and that institution has now become a credit to the city and to the Colony. This condition does not apply, unfortunately, to the other two institutions, but I gather from His Excellency's Speech that a measure will be introduced, which, when carried into effect, will, no doubt, place both these institutions on a par with the one already referred to.

I shall not detain the House longer, but before I close I should like to make brief reference to the personal policy of the Rt. Hon. the Premier. I refer to his personal visits to the various Districts of the Colony, which are very much appreciated and enjoyed by the people. During the last year, the Rt. Hon. the Premier paid two visits to the District of Burin, his last visit being in October, when, at the invitation of the Agricultural Committee, he personally came and opened the Agricultural Exhibition. Not for some time will that visit be forgotten. The splendid weather, the immense gathering of people, and chiefly the presence and the brilliant address of the Premier when he formally opened the exhibition, combined to render it a noteworthy occasion. I would be law in my duty as a representative of that district if I did not make some reference to the deep public appreciation of these visits.

With these few remarks, Mr. Speaker, I beg to second the motion.

MR. KENT—Mr. Speaker. In rising I wish in the first place to extend hearty congratulations to the hon. members who moved and seconded the motion for a Committee to draft the address in reply. We have had from both these gentlemen an expression of their views of the policy, or what is termed the policy of the present Government as outlined in the Speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor this afternoon. I wish to welcome to this House the hon. member for Burin, Mr. LeFeuvre. I think he has shown that the latest member will be an acquisition to the speaking and debating powers of the House. He gave us a very interesting address on the speech from the Throne as it presented itself to him. Now I wish before referring to the Speech from the Throne to express my regret, and the regret of the House that circumstances have pre-
vented the Rt. Hon. Leader of the Opposition from being present here to-day. Members of the House are aware that he lives at some distance from the city, and that during the past week we had very unusual weather, which has prevented him from being here in time for to-day's session. It was his intention to come in on Monday last, so as to be sure to be here to-day; but unfortunately no train has got through from Whitbourne since that time. I have to express my regret and that of my colleagues at his absence to-day. It is difficult to be severe in criticism of the train service at the present time. We know that the conditions are a little unusual, but still I cannot help saying that I do not consider the conditions such that they ought not to have been coped with. As a matter of fact an engine and plough came through from Whitbourne on Monday, and the road was open, so that a train could have gone through, at any time between then and now, if I myself saw the conditions that existed, for I was on the spot at Brigus Junction, and if an effort were made to deal with the difficulties, they could have been overcome. However, Mr. Speaker, I am sure that these difficulties will be taken into consideration, and that the debate upon this motion will not close this afternoon, but that opportunity will be given the Rt. Hon. leader of the Opposition to deal with the Speech from the Throne. I do not propose at such short notice to deal with it in detail. Not until this afternoon did I know definitely that this duty would devolve upon me. I have not seen the speech nor a copy of it. I have only heard it read. But from hearing it this afternoon, I may say that in all my experience of this House, and I have been here now eight years, I have never heard a speech which said so little in so many words. It has been customary to describe the speech from the Throne when it is padded and filled out like that of this afternoon as a balloon. I do not think we have ever had a larger balloon presented to the country than this one. There is no measure of any constructive policy in the whole speech.

Perhaps the members of the Government look upon past sessions as a closed book as soon as they were ended, and have evidently forgotten to look back and see how former efforts have developed and the results that have accrued. Again, Sir, there are many subjects of supreme importance to the people of this country upon which the people have been waiting for enlightenment, and upon which for the past twelve months members of this House and the public have been anxiously awaiting pronouncements. But we come here and find that there is no question of public importance definitely dealt with in the Speech. There can be no question, but that the country at the present time is enjoying prosperity, but what is the cause of it. Take the matters referred to by the hon. members opposite who have just spoken, and by the Minister of Finance during his visit to London, and you will find that the cause of this prosperity dates back to the seeds sown by the late administration, which are now bearing fruit, and which the hon. gentlemen opposite now claim to be main factors in bringing it about. We are told that the pulp industry is growing. Yes, it has been growing from its institution here, which was before the combination now in power was in existence. That great in-
Industry has grown has been the result of the policy of the late administration. The mining development, and nearly all the other industries in existence were initiated, planted and grown through the labours of the previous government. I ask the hon. members on the opposite side, if there is one Act to which they can point as constructive policy upon which the present prosperity of the country is based. I don’t think they can. We have had for the past three years a frenzied rush by contractual legislation with parties about whom the country at large knows nothing. We are told nothing about Messrs. Trefethen and Lord; nothing about the question of cold storage, which was rushed through this House last session, and which we were afraid we could not get through quick enough, to enable the contractors to begin their operations in time for the fishery. I think that the failure at least so far as the people of the country know of this attempt of the Government to start a constructive policy is sufficiently clear for any person to see. Again, Sir, we had all hoped, in view of the revenues referred to by the hon. gentlemen, and in the speech from the Throne, and which the organs of the Government have been proclaiming for the past year, that the people at large would benefit in some way by a reduction in taxation, as a result of the increased revenues. But the Speech from the Throne is silent upon that matter. We are not told that this increase in revenue is to lead to a reduction in taxation. I think that all will recognize that some such reduction is necessary. We all know that the cost of living in this city is increasing to an alarming extent, when viewed from the earning powers of the people. Something must be done by any Government, which hopes to retain the confidence of the people, to attempt to reduce the terrible cost of living in this country. On the Government devolves the responsibility. We should have expected that instead of being wasted on trips, these bountiful revenues might have been spent in increasing the salaries of the members of the Civil Service, who are unable to live upon the small pittance they receive at the present time, and who are receiving salaries inadequate to the work they are doing. It is all very well for the Minister of Finance to say that if they don’t like it they can clear out. Unfortunately they can’t, and I ask that the Government be more generous than they are to the Civil Servants, and that some effort be made by which the burden imposed upon the people may be lightened. In the speech from the Throne there is one part I think in which we all take a particular interest at present, I refer to those matters which come under the heading of Imperial Matters. We know that at the present time the British Empire is in a formative state. It is growing towards the ultimate condition, when it is hoped that an empire renowned for its solidity, its justice and fair play will be evolved, and that it will be a permanent institution embracing all the colonies within its domin. The triennial Colonial Conference took place last summer. We had expected that some reference to the work of this conference would have been outlined, and that some practical result would have been shown, but we have been disappointed in this. I am sure that when the Prime Minister is dealing with this question he
will give us the superabundance of results of the labours of the three gentlemen who attended the conference. The Festival of Empire was no doubt an interesting display, and one which gave the sightseers of London an opportunity of visiting the Colonies in imagination, but it is very hard to compute the practical results of it unless we have the returns before us. We have no returns, and as far as I am aware there is no evidence of the practical results that have ensued, as referred to by the hon. member for Ferryland, Mr. Moore. I have no doubt that the members of the Government who visited London enjoyed a visit to the Festival of Empire, and were glad to see some familiar features there. There are several matters touched upon in this speech, but, as I have said before, there is nothing of a constructive nature such as we would naturally expect from a Government, which has been in power for three years. During that period they have accomplished no practical results. There is the Old Age pension scheme. It is admitted that it is a misnomer. This subject was dealt with a length last year and it was shown that it was not an old age pension scheme, and the circulars issued only served to confirm this opinion. I am sorry I have not with me the circulars published showing the conditions under which these old age pensions were granted, which confirmed the idea that it was merely for relief, and not a claim based upon service during a life worn out in the industry of the country.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I should like to take this, the first opportunity I have had to extend my congratulations to the Rt. Hon. the Premier on the honour conferred upon him and on the Colony, by his being raised to the dignity of a Privy Councillor. It is an honor which, I am sure he will appreciate as being a recognition of a laborious career, and of the dignity of the office of Prime Minister of this Colony, which he now occupies. I should like also to express my regret on the retirement of the late President of the Legislative Council, Sir Edward Shea, who occupies a unique position in this Colony. He is one of the pioneers of the foundation of the Colony's constitution, and it is a matter of great regret to all members of this House, that one of his experience and knowledge should pass from the position he has filled with so much honour. I also wish to extend to Mr. Harris my congratulations on his election to the Presidency, and I hope that the record of his predecessor will be to him as an inspiring star, and that he also will enjoy the respect and esteem that Sir Edward Shea has earned.

MR. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Speaker, it would be ungracious to my friend on the other side who has delivered so very interesting a speech if I did not say something briefly in reply to the various points that he has made. First I should like to join with him in the congratulations tendered to the proposer and seconder of the motion in reference to the Speech from the Throne. The very eloquent speech of Mr. Moore was in itself a treat to everyone who heard it. But we have heard him before, and therefore it is no great surprise to us; but as my hon. friend, Mr. Kent has pointed out, Mr. LeFeuvre, who took his seat in the House for the first time to-day has easily established a
claim to be considered a very important addition to the debating power of this House. Further I should like to join in the regret of my friend opposite that the Rt. hon. the leader of the Opposition is not here this evening, and that he should have been prevented from being present by causes "over which he had no control," as my hon. friend puts it. Whatever else we may differ on there is no one on this side but will always regret the absence of the hon. member because he is able to bring to the consideration of public questions an experience which very few can.

At the same time I think that after listening to the speech that has just been delivered our regrets cannot and need not be as full as if the part of the Opposition had not been so well sustained by my hon. friend Mr. Kent. We all hope that for many years the present leader of the Opposition will be spared to occupy the position, and if anything should necessitate his leaving that position, then I shall be the first to welcome my friend on the other side of the House. My friend Mr. Kent referred to the Speech from the Throne as one of the balloon character. Well, I am not going to vie with him in the discussion of speeches of a balloon character because I fancy I should run the risk of being worsted. My hon. friend has had an experience in balloon speeches that would make it difficult for me to vie with him. It may be a balloon speech, but it resembles the balloon in the lofty manner in which it soars, and the only danger from the balloon aspect is that it may come down upon the Opposition. My friend has pointed out that there has been no reference in the Speech to any measure of a constructive character. Well if ever there was a Government that has made an honest effort to construct and correct legislation it is this Government. I am not boasting, but I am prepared to submit the work of this Government for the last three years, both practical legislation and legislation of a remedial character, and I am prepared to back it against that of any previous legislature. If the Trefethen and Lord arrangement has not been carried out, if it is not actually in operation to-day it is not the fault of this legislature.

We are merely in the position of the Government of Sir Robert Bond, who, after devoting days and weeks to a policy for smelting iron ore on Bell Island found themselves 10 or 15 years afterwards in precisely the same position as the day they started. I am prepared to admit the sincerity of the leader of the Opposition, when he introduced the Fog Free Zone scheme, and the steamship service which was to bring us to the other side in three or four days. Where is it to-day? I don't wish to throw cold water upon it. It was put on the Statute Book, and after 5 years we are exactly in the same position with regard to it. The same thing applies to the smelting on Bell Island and a thousand and one matters introduced by the late Government. I am prepared to back the legislation of the past 3 years against any legislation between the years 1901 and 1909 when the late administration was in power. It is a very easy thing to make arrangements and contracts with people to come here and open up our resources, and we can't do more than satisfy ourselves that they are financially sound and able to undertake these schemes. But after the contracts have been made people
very often find that it will not pay to invest their money in them, and this is true not only of public but private affairs. There are thousands of people who try to work up all kinds of properties, and find that the only outcome of their labours is loss of time and money out of pocket. I don't think it is generous, and I don't think it is fair to reflect upon the efforts of this Government to bring capital into this country. We have today in Newfoundland a very large and up-to-date Wool factory. The operation of this factory is one of the results of the legislation of last year. Employment is being found for a large number of men. In addition to this a large dock is being built at Hr. Grace, as a result of the encouragement which the Government gave to those who inaugurated it. I might go on to enumerate many instances in proof of the position that I am contending for.

The hon. gentleman has referred to the Harmsworth industry and claims that it was introduced into the colony by the late administration. I may remind my hon. friend that there are some members sitting on this side of the House who had something to do in introducing the Harmsworths to the colony, and I am prepared to produce documentary evidence at any time to show that they had as much to do with it as those who are now sitting on the other side. I do not care how soon this statement is challenged. But what does his claim amount to? A stranger came to the Colony, Mr. Beeton, without any references to anybody here and without being acquainted with anybody in the island, with the exception of Sir Godvendish Boyle, who was then Governor of the island. He came here to investigate and as a result of his investigations he entered into a contract with the government. The making of a contract is nothing in an enterprise of this character unless it is followed by further operations and in the case of the Harmsworths these operations were effected and the present industry is the result.

This Government has recognized that the most important of our industries is the fisheries, and it has been their aim to develop this industry along the lines that would be most conducive to the betterment of those engaged in it; and even if results are sometimes fruitless it must be borne in mind that as much energy and work are put into undertakings without a present result as in matters more quickly accomplished.

My hon. friend made a very strong plea for the civil servants of the colony, and I heartily agree with him that it is not in keeping with the dignity of the colony and this legislature to have its servants or any of them underpaid. The public do not require it and it is not fair or just to those in the civil service. However, we must cut our garments according to our cloth, and we cannot afford to add many thousands of dollars in salaries, if the people who will have to contribute them, have to live on half as much. It is very easy to say that the civil servants should be better paid, but my hon. friend should not forget that he sat on this side of the House for seven years and never made one motion that the salaries of civil servants should be increased.

MR KENT—How do you know that?

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—I know it because I sat on this side with the hon. gentleman and kept my eye on him. During all the years that
he sat here I challenge my hon. friend to quote one motion of his proposing that one solitary salary be increased, but being a lawyer, and a clever lawyer, he knows that when you have no case the best course to adopt is to call the other side names.

**MR. KENT.**—You are also a lawyer.

**RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.**—I know it, but I have not had the experience along these lines that my learned friend has had. He calls the speech from the Throne a "balloon speech." You can search the records of this House for the past fifty years and on every occasion that the House has opened you will find that the Leader of the Opposition has tried to make fun of the speech from the Throne. He has to say something. It is expected from him, and those who know the gentleman who now leads the Opposition must sympathize with him in his misfortune in having to attack a speech against which there can be no sound argument.

In speaking of the Old Age Pensions, the hon. gentleman says that they do not carry out the idea of Old Age Pensions. Well, we have given the people much more than the former Govt. ever gave them, for while we heard a lot about Old Age Pensions during the past ten or fifteen years, nothing resulted until the present government came into power. The late government appointed a Commission of six or seven gentlemen, consisting of Messrs. Pitts, Bowring, Jackman, Grieve, O'Dwyer and, I think, Hon. John Harvey. That commission was appointed seven or eight years ago, but up to the present time nothing has been done by them, and they have never submitted any scheme for the assistance of the old people of the colony. Last year we gave four hundred pensions at $50.00. Of course, we know that this sum will not support those who have received them, but it has been a great help to them. This year we shall give four hundred more pensions of $50.00 and next year four hundred more, and by that time every old man who deserves a pension to assist him will have been embraced in our Old Age Pension scheme. That is the cause of the bitter feeling on the other side of the House for we have done what they failed to do; and when we go back to the country at the end of our term to defend our policy, we shall be able to show the people how all our claims have been justified, and that we have been able to carry out all our promises without one cent of additional taxation. We have given them light houses, increased education grants, a second steamer on the Labrador, a northern service in winter, Branch Railways, Old Age Pensions, and all the other things that we promised. I know the people of the colony very little if, when it is shown to them that we have accomplished all that we promised, they will not respond in our favour. What was the argument used against our policy last election? Our opponents said that if we carried our promises into effect there was nothing in store for the colony but bankruptcy and confederation. These were the stock-in-trade arguments and we saw and heard them everywhere we went. The opposition papers were full of them, and published prehistoric cartoons showing the country being given over to Canada. Their prophecies have not been fulfilled. I am thankful to say, and to-day we have not only carried out our policy but we have large surpluses every year that we are able-
to give back to the people.

I join in the regret of my hon. friend that Sir Edward Shea has resigned the Presidency of the other chamber. He is the last link that binds the Legislature to a generation, the majority of whom have now passed away, and we can form some idea from him of the calibre and character of the public men of sixty years ago of which he is so fair a representative. There were in those days strong men, big in frame and brain, who fought the battles of the colony against the French, won for the people Responsible Government, and the liberty of the press. Anyone who is acquainted with the history of the colony will remember that a very conspicuous figure in all these movements was our friend, Sir Edward Shea. It is a matter of congratulation and satisfaction that one who has had such a distinguished public life, who has upheld the best traditions of our public men and who now takes off his harness, can leave as a legacy to his children, if not wealth and fortune a more priceless one of an unsullied name in both public and private life.

I thank my hon. friend for his personal allusion to myself. The honour has been conferred upon me not for anything that I have done, but because of the fact that I had the honour to represent this colony at the Coronation. It is very kind of my hon. friend to suggest that it was otherwise but it is one of the accidents of life to have the privilege of being premier of the colony in Coronation year. It is to this that I owe the honour and not to any work of mine for there are others who deserve the honours far more than I do.

I have no objection to my friend's request that the debate be postponed for we have no desire to rush it or any legislation through the House. We court the fullest enquiry into all matters and for that reason I readily agree that further debate be adjourned till the next sitting of the House.

On motion of Rt. Hon. the Premier and Hon. Colonial Secretary the further discussion of the Speech from the Throne was deferred until the next Sitting.

Mr. Kent gave Notice of Question. Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister gave Notice that he would on to-morrow ask leave to introduce a Bill to Amend Chapter 120 of the Consolidated Statutes (Second Series), entitled "Of Harbor Master and Harbor Regulations for the port of St. John's."

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourned until Monday, February 19th at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

MONDAY, Feb. 13th.

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

CORRESPONDENCE.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER laid upon the table of the House a copy of the correspondence between the British Government and this Government in relation to the status of Dominion Navies.

CORRESPONDENCE RE DOMINION NAVIES.

Rt. Hon. L. Harcourt to His Excellency the Governor.

[Copy] Downing Street, July 14, 1911.

Sir,—I have the honour to transmit to you, to be laid before your Ministers, the accompanying copy of a mem-
orandum of conference between the British Admiralty and representatives of the Dominion of Canada and Australia on the subject of the status of Dominion Navies.

2. This matter was mentioned at the last meeting of the Imperial Conference on the 20th June, and it was agreed that it should be published simultaneously in this country and in Canada and the Commonwealth.

3. I will telegraph to you the date on which publication will take place.

I have, etc.,

L. HARcourt.
The Officer administering the Government of Newfoundland.

[Copy]

DOMINION NAVIES.
Memorandum of Conference Between the British Admiralty and Representatives of the Dominions of Canada and Australia.

The Naval services and forces of the Dominions of Canada and Australia will be exclusively under the control of their respective Governments.

2. The training and discipline of the naval forces of the Dominions uniform with the training and discipline of the fleet of the United Kingdom, and, by arrangement, officers and men of the said forces will be interchangeable with those under the control of the British Admiralty.

3. The ships of each Dominion naval force will hoist at stern the white ensign as the symbol of the authority of the Crown, and at the jack-staff the distinctive flag of the Dominion.

4. The Canadian and Australian Government will have their own naval stations as agreed upon and from time to time. The limits of the stations are as described in Schedule (A) Canada, and Schedule (B) Australia.

5. In the event of the Canadian or Australian Government desiring to send ships to a part of the British Empire outside of their own respective stations, they will notify the British Admiralty.

6. In the event of the Canadian or Australian Government desiring to send ships to a foreign port, they will obtain the concurrence of the Imperial Government, in order that the necessary arrangements with the Foreign Office may be made, as in the case of ships of the British fleet, in such time and manner as is usual between the British Admiralty and the Foreign Office.

7. While ships of the Dominions are at a foreign port, a report of their proceedings will be forwarded by the officer in command to the Commander-in-Chief on the station or to the British Admiralty. The officer in command of a Dominion ship so long as he remains in the foreign port will obey any instructions he may receive from the Government of the United Kingdom as to the conduct of any international matters that may arise, the Dominion Government being informed.

8. The Commanding Officer of a Dominion ship having to put into a foreign port without previous arrangement, on account of stress of weather, damage, or any unforeseen emergency, will report his arrival and reason for calling to the Commander in Chief of the station or to the Admiralty, and will obey, so long as he remains in the foreign port, any instructions he may receive from the Government of the United Kingdom as to the relations with the authorities, the Dominion Government being informed.

9. When a ship of the British Admiralty meets a ship of the Dominions, the senior officer will have the right of command in matters of ceremony or international intercourse, or where united action is agreed upon, but will have no power to direct the movements of the ships of the other service unless the ships are ordered to
co-operate by mutual arrangement.

10. In foreign ports the senior officer will take command, but not so as to interfere with the orders that the junior may have received from his own Government.

11. When a court martial has to be ordered by a Dominion, and a sufficient number of officers are not available in the Dominion service at the time, the British Admiralty, if requested, will make the necessary arrangements to enable a court to be formed. Provision will be made, by order of His Majesty in Council and by the Dominion Governments respectively to define the conditions under which officers of the different services are to sit on joint courts-martial.

12. The British Admiralty undertakes to lend to the Dominions during the period of development of the services, under conditions to be agreed upon, such flag officer and other officers and men as may be needed. In their selection preference will be given to officers and men coming from, or connected with the Dominions, but they should all be volunteers for the service.

13. The service of officers of the British fleet in the Dominion Naval Forces, or of officers of these forces in the British fleet, will count in all respects for promotion, pay, retirement, etc., as service in their respective forces.

14. In order to determine all questions of seniority that may arise, the names of all officers will be shown in the Navy List and their seniority determined by the date of their commission, whichever is the earlier, in the British, Canadian or Australian service.

15. It is desirable, in the interests of efficiency and co-operation, that arrangements should be made from time to time between the British Admiralty and the Dominions for the ships of the Dominions to take part in fleet exercises or or any other joint training considered necessary under the Senior Naval Officer. While so employed, the ships will be under the command of that officer who would not, however, interfere in the internal economy of ships of another service further than absolutely necessary.

16. In time of war, when the naval service of a Dominion, or any part thereof, has been put at the disposal of the Imperial Govt. by Dominion authorities, the ships will form an integral part of the British fleet, and will remain under the control of the British Admiralty during the continuance of the war.

17. The Dominions having applied to their naval forces the King's Regulations and Admiralty Instructions and the Naval Discipline Act, the British Admiralty and Dominion Governments will communicate to each other any changes which they propose to make in those Regulations or that Act.

June 1911.

(Schedule A.)

CANADA.

The Canadian Atlantic Station will include the waters north of 30° north latitude and west of the meridian of 40° west longitude. The Canadian Pacific Station will include the waters north of 30° north latitude and east of 180° longitude.

(Schedule B.)

AUSTRALIA.

The Australian Naval Station will include:

On the North—From 95° east longitude by the parallel of 13° south latitude to 120° east longitude, thence north to 11° south latitude, thence to the boundary with Dutch New Guinea to the boundary with German New Guinea in latitude 8° south, thence east to 155° east longitude.

On the East—By the meridian of 155° east longitude to 15° south latitude, thence to 28° south latitude on
the meridian of 170° east longitude, thence south to 32° south latitude, thence west to the meridian of 160° east longitude, thence south.

On the South—By the Antarctic Circle.

On the West—By the meridian of 95° east longitude.

(Copy.)

PREMIER MORRIS TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE ADMINISTRATOR.

12 August, 1911.

His Excellency the Administrator,—

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication, covering Despatch No. 155, in original, from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with accompanying copy of a memorandum of a conference between the British Admiralty and the representatives of the Dominion of Canada and the Commonwealth of Australia, on the subject of the Status of Dominion Naval Forces.

I return herewith the Despatch, as well as the memorandum, and would be grateful if you would arrange to let me have a copy of both these documents, if you should have them in the office.

I had not an opportunity of submitting to Ministers the memorandum referred to until last evening, and I now desire to convey to you an expression of their opinion in relation to it, with the request that you may be good enough to transmit the same to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The memorandum purports to be copy of a memorandum of a conference between the British Admiralty and representatives of the Dominion of Canada and the Commonwealth of Australia on the subject of the status of Dominion Naval Forces. In paragraph 2 of the Despatch, covering this memorandum, and signed by the Secretary of State, Mr. Harcourt says:

"This matter was mentioned at the "last meeting of the Imperial Conference on the 20th June, and it was "agreed that it should be published "simultaneously in this country, and "in Canada and the Commonwealth."

It might be implied, from this paragraph, that the subject matter of the memorandum, the details of the document, and the principles embodied therein, might have been disclosed at the Imperial Conference, or that a copy of it might have been read to the Conference.

This, however, was not done. It will be found by reference to the Minutes of the last meeting of the Imperial Conference that the only reference to this matter made at that meeting was from Mr. Pearce, one of the representatives of the Australian Government at the Imperial Conference, who merely referred to the Conferences which were taking place at the Admiralty between that body and the representatives of the Canadian and Australian Governments, with regard to the Status of Dominion Naval Forces, and their co-operation with the Royal Navy.

It was then agreed, on the suggestion of Mr. Harcourt, that a memorandum embodying the conclusions reached at the conference between the British Admiralty and the representatives of the Dominion and the Commonwealth referred to, should, when drawn up, be incorporated amongst the papers to be published in connection with the Imperial Conference.

But the terms which the said memorandum was to contain nor any of them were never suggested or foreshadowed, and you will notice by the reports of the Imperial Conference that there is no record of its having been tabled or presented.

By reference to Schedule "A." of the memorandum in question, it appears that the Canadian Atlantic Station includes the waters north of 30
degrees north latitude, and west of
the meridian 40° west longitude. This
includes the waters surrounding New-
foundland, and you will observe that,
under the provisions of paragraph 4 of
the memorandum, the Canadian Gov-
ernment may establish their stations
in the waters referred to in Schedule
"A."

Although this memorandum between
the British Admiralty and the Can-
adian Government could in no way con-
fer any right on that Government to
come into the territorial waters of
Newfoundland, and will confer on them
no more rights than are held and
possessed by the navies of any for-

gn power, it is open to a contrary
inference which is likely to create a
feeling of doubt and uncertainty in the
Dominions affected by this memora-
dum.

Ministers would strongly contend,
and would do so successfully, that the
rights enjoyed by the community of
Newfoundland cannot be lessened,
parted with, changed or ceded with-
out their consent, and that the con-
stitutional mode of procuring that con-
et is through the Legislature of New-
foundland, which consent would be the
essential preliminary to the slightest
modification of their territorial or
maritime rights; and Ministers feel
satisfied that this contention must be
borne out by His Majesty's Govern-
ment, and, indeed, that the Canadian
and Australian Governments them-
selves would be the very last to contend
for a contrary position.

With a view, therefore, of there be-
ing no misunderstanding hereafter,
Ministers suggest that the attention
of the Canadian Government be drawn
by the Secretary of State for the Col-
onies to this matter, and that it be
made clear that the zone in which
their navy may operate in the North
Atlantic waters should in no degree
encroach on Newfoundland's territori-
al and maritime waters, and that it

Le pointed out to them that the mem-
orandum referred to in no way alters
the status existing previous to the
drawing of that memorandum.

The Newfoundland Government, or
its representatives at the Imperial
Conference, were not consulted in re-
lation to this memorandum, nor were
the Newfoundland members of the
Conference present when the terms of
the memorandum were agreed upon,
nor were they given an opportunity of
considering its principles or details,
and the writer saw it for the first time
when it was forwarded by Your Ex-
cellency a few days ago.

E. P. MORRIS,
Prime Minister.

SIR W. H. HORWOOD TO SIR E. P.
MORRIS.

Government House,
Sept. 26th, 1911.

Dear Sir Edward Morris,—

I beg to forward, herewith enclosed,
the Despatch received from the Right
Honourable the Secretary of State, in
reply to your communication on the
subject of the Status of Dominion
Navies.

Yours sincerely,

W. H. HORWOOD.

Right Honourable
Sir Edward Morris,
Prime Minister.

SECRETARY HARCOURT TO AD-
MINISTRATOR.

Downing Street,
Sept. 13th, 1911.

Newfoundland,
Number, 215.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknow-
ledge the receipt of your Despatch No.
70 of the 14th August, transmitting a
communication from your Prime Min-
ister on the subject of the Status of
Dominion Navies.

2. In reply, I have to request that
you will inform your Ministers that
the Canadian Stations were formed for
the purpose of assigning to the Canadian fleet a definite area of action, in the same manner as Commanders in Chief of Stations abroad have a definite command, and in the arrangements discussed with the Canadian Ministers, Newfoundland was expressly excluded as requiring special provisions. In determining the limits of the Canadian Atlantic Station, there was no intention on the part of His Majesty's Government or of the Government of Canada to alter the existing position with regard to the control and jurisdiction of the Government of Newfoundland over its territorial waters, or to empower the Dominion Government to establish a station in those waters without the consent of the Government of Newfoundland.

3. The supervision of the Newfoundland fisheries is now carried out by a ship of the Imperial Navy, and there is no present intention of disturbing this arrangement.

4. I trust that this statement will be satisfactory to your Ministers.

5. I am sending a copy of the correspondence to the Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada for the information of his Ministers.

I have, etc.,

L. HARCOURT.
To the Officer Administering
The Government of Newfoundland.

PRIME MINISTER TO ADMINISTRATOR.

Prime Minister's Office.
His Excellency the Administrator,—

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of yesterday's date, enclosing copy of a Despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, No. 215, on the subject of the Status of Dominion Navies.

E. P. MORRIS,
Prime Minister.

September 27th, 1911.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY

laid upon the table of the House Report of the Newfoundland Savings Bank for the Year ended 31st December 1911.

QUESTIONS.

MR. KENT asked the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay on the table of the House a copy in detail of all expenditures made by or through his Department in the District of St. John's East from January 1st, 1911, to date, giving in each case name of parties, dates, amounts and purposes of each such payment, also a copy of the returns relating to each such payment.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—

In the absence of Minister I beg to state that the information is being prepared, and will probably be tabled next sitting.

MR. KENT asked the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of the House a copy in detail of all expenditure made by or through his Department in the District of St. John's East from January 1st, 1911, to date, giving in each case name of parties, dates, amounts and purposes of each such payment, also a copy of the returns relating to such payment.

MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.—

I beg to table the information asked for.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance and Customs to lay on the table of the House a fully detailed statement of all expenditures made to or on account of the Railway Contractor under the Railway Extension Act, 1910, to date, for construction or any other purpose.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—I beg to table the information required.
HARBOR REGULATIONS BILL.

Pursuant to notice and leave granted, the Hon. Prime Minister introduced a bill to amend Chapter 120 of the Consolidated Statutes (2nd series) entitled "Of Harbour Master and Harbour Regulations for the port of St. John's," and it was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

COMMITTEE ON ADDRESS.

Motion for Committee to draft Reply to Speech from the Throne.

SIR ROBERT BOND—I understand that the motion for the Select Committee to draft an address in reply to the speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor on Wednesday last was deferred in order that I should have an opportunity of criticising that speech. Of course the delay was entirely unnecessary, inasmuch as I could exercise my right of criticism upon the report of the address; but I am entirely conscious of, and grateful for, the kind consideration and courtesy that was intended. As I shall probably have amendments to propose, I shall avail of the report stage of the Committee to then address the House in reference to His Excellency's speech.

The motion then passed, and His Honor the Speaker appointed the following on the Committee, Mr. Moore, Mr. LeFeuvre, Hon. Colonial Secretary, Mr. Kent and Mr. Dwyer.

Rt. Hon. Prime Minister gave notice of motion.

Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Bond gave notices of question.

Mr. Kent gave notice of question.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn till Thursday next, the 22nd inst. at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

THURSDAY, Feb. 22nd, 1912.

The House met at three of the clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

PAPERS TABLED.

Hon. Colonial Secretary tabled the Report of the Commission on Public Health up to December 31st, 1911.

Hon. Minister of Finance tabled the following:—

Statement of Customs Revenue collected in the Colony during the year ended 30th June, 1911.

Statement of the Imports and Exports of the Colony for the year ended 30th, June, 1911.

A comparative statement of goods, wares and merchandise, imported into the Colony during the years ended 30th June, 1910, and 30th June, 1911, showing increase and decrease for the year 1910-1911.

A comparative statement of revenue received at each of the Outports for the years 1909-1910 and 1910-1911.

A comparative statement of Light Dues, showing collection at each Outport for the years 1909-1910 and 1910-1911.

A return of the Bank Fishery for the year ended 30th June, 1911.

A 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 30th June, 1911.

An abstract of shipping for the year ended 31st

ADDRESS IN REPLY.

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

"House of Assembly
"Newfoundland.

"To His Excellency Sir Ralph Champneys Williams, K.C.M.G., 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.

(Sgd.) "P. F. MOORE,
"THOS. LeFEUVRE,
"R. WATSON.

"Assembly Room,
"February 22nd, 1912."

SIR ROBERT BOND.—I rise to move an amendment to the Address in Reply to the Speech with which His Excellency the Governor opened this Legislature on the 14th inst., and in doing so I shall offer some criticisms upon that Speech. Having carefully considered the same, I am forced to the conclusion that it is more remarkable for that which it does not contain, rather than for that which it does contain, with one exception, and that I shall deal with at a subsequent stage of my remarks. It seems to me that His Excellency's speech cannot fail to be disappointing to those who have pinned their faith to the promises profusely made, and which have been so often repeated, by the present Government. It cannot fail, I think, to be disappointing to every man, be he Tory or Liberal, who has the welfare of this country at heart, for, it portrays a complete abandonment of policy and principles that have found expression in the opening speeches of the past three sessions. We stand to-day on the threshold of a new parliamentary year, the 4th session of the 22nd General Assembly. In the ordinary course of events this would be the last session before a General Election, but, as the present Government were returned to power in May 1909, possibly we may witness another session of this Parliament before the curtain drops, and the People's Party make their final exit from this Chamber. Be this the last session or be it otherwise, it witnesses the near approach of the dissolution of the governing body, and, we might reasonably have expected therefore that in the Speech before us there would be revealed an intention on the part of the Government to redeem the past, and to perform works mete for repentance. It is well, I think, that the responsibility for this document, which is termed "the Governor's Speech," should be clearly defined, because, there are doubtless thousands in this country who verily believe that the pledges and assurances set forth from time to time in the opening Speech of the session are pledges and assurances for the fulfilment or non-fulfilment of which the representative of our Sovereign is responsible. We in this House, of course, know full well that the opening Speech is a document prepared by the members of the Government, and is supposed to foreshadow their policy for the information of this House. The Constitution which imposes upon His Excellency the Governor the duty of delivering this Speech on behalf of his Ministers, at the same time exonerates him from all responsibility in the premises, and, for every word in the opening Speech, places the whole responsibility upon his Ministers. It is well that it is so, it is well that it should be clearly understood that it is so, for otherwise, during the past two or three years, the Crown, which is the fountain of honour and truth, might
have been brought into contempt, for, Sir, the opening speeches have contained the most solemn obligations and pledges that have not been fulfilled. Those pledges would appear to have been given but to soothe public feeling, and to create a favourable atmosphere in which the members of the Government might pursue the even tenor of their way. Lest we forget, let us from the threshold upon which we have just stepped look backward for a few moments. In the opening Speech of the first session of the present Parliament the Government, through the lips of the then Governor, declared “that the burden of taxation borne by the fishermen and working classes of the Colony is too great, and calls for such adjustment as will lean more equitably on those who at present feel most seriously the increased cost of living in this Colony.” This declaration was accompanied by an intimation that the tariff would be immediately revised. We now know that this was nothing less than a piece of cruel deception; a mere pretext of a fulfilment of a pledge given by the leader of the Government a few months previous when seeking the votes of these “overburdened” people. In the manifesto issued by Sir Edward Morris to the Electors in 1908, he said, “Reduction of taxation so that it will bear equitably on the working classes can be best accomplished by placing on the free list such items as tea, sugar, pork, and the other prime necessaries on which very high taxes are now imposed.” If this language meant anything more than deception, then, we must regard it as a promise, that provided the “People’s Party,” so-called, was returned to power the tariff would be so revised as to place “tea, sugar, pork, and other prime necessaries” on the free list. The paragraph in the opening Speech of the first session of this Parliament, to which I have had reference, was a renewal of that promise. Three years have now passed since that promise or pledge was given, and still “the weary Titan staggers under the too vast orb of its fate.” Still the “overburdened fishermen and labouring classes,” as the Government admit, “feel most seriously the increased cost of living in this country,” must pay duty on “tea, sugar, pork, and other prime necessaries.” We have now entered upon the fourth year since that all-important pledge was given to the people, and what do we find? Why, that the pledge finds no renewal in the Speech before the House, neither is there any indication that a revised tariff is to be proposed for the adoption of this House. The “weary Titan” must still stagger on, the “overburdened fishermen and labouring classes” must still bend beneath the weight of “increased cost of living,” while the nine Deities from the height of their ministerial Olympus look clown in contempt upon the people to whom they have duped. But, worse still. The extravagance of the present Government, their wasteful expenditure of public money, and the enormous and most onerous obligations that they have placed upon the Colony renders such revision of the tariff as I have been referring to, almost, if not altogether, impossible without a reduction of the Civil list. The placing of tea, sugar and pork upon the free list would reduce the revenue by the sum of three hundred thousand dollars per year. In view of the obligations with which the Colony has been burdened, it would puzzle wiser heads than those of the Government to devise a revision of the tariff under which that large amount of taxation may now be dropped. In the matter then of this promised reduction of taxation the people have been most wantonly and cruelly deceived. Mr. Gladstone, than whom no higher authority has ever lived, declared that “One
of the very highest duties of all who are intrusted with the administration of public affairs under all circumstances, and at all points, is to eschew and to repudiate the raising of any expectations except what they know they can fulfill." This is a standard of political morality that I regret to say the present Government fall very short of, Sir, I cannot refrain from contrasting the conduct of the present Government in this connection with that of their predecessors in office. During eight years of the late Government's administration taxation was reduced by nearly a million and a half dollars, or about two hundred thousand dollars per annum. And I am in a position to state that if the late Government had been returned to power at the last Election, the burdens of taxation that now weigh so heavily upon all classes of the community would, long ere this, have been removed. This would have been but the sequel of the policy that I inaugurated during my term of office. Sir, there is an eternal justice in this world, and the history of nations as well as of individuals has demonstrated the truth that what men sow they shall reap. The people are reaping to-day that which they sowed at the last election. They sowed to the wind, and they must expect to reap a whirlwind. The expenditure of borrowed millions is affording them at present a temporary shelter, but that must necessarily disappear before long, and then we shall all feel the full blast of the storm. Increase of taxation, and not a reduction thereof, is what the people of this country must now look forward to. The folly of the few has made hard the lot of the many. But, to pass to another point. In the opening Speech of the first session of the present Parliament the Government declared their intention to provide a bounty for the clearing of land so as "to induce a greater number of our people to turn their attention to the cultivation of the soil." Three years have passed away since then but no bounty has been provided for the clearing of land, and as there is no mention of such a bounty in the Speech before us, we are justified in concluding that the Government have abandoned the bounty idea for the "new agricultural policy." Instead of fulfilling their pledge and encouraging "a great number of our people to turn their attention to the cultivation of the soil," they have deemed it more expedient to provide a bounty of five or six thousand dollars a year for three of their supporters in this House who are supposed to devote their attention to the formation of societies for the promotion of greater excellence in kitchen garden produce, and to warning the "fisherman-farmer" against the danger of producing cankerous, or what the learned Minister of Agriculture last session so aptly designated "fierce looking potatoes." I had the pleasure last session of dealing with some phases of the "new agricultural policy." I shall not repeat those observations now, although no less an authority than that great scholar and statesman, Lord Morley, in his life of Richard Cobden, declares that "repetition is the public man's most effective instrument in securing reforms," and, that 'he must not shrink from incessant repetition." However, Sir, there will be many opportunities for applying that instrument of torture during the session. At this time I would only observe that the "new agricultural policy," which has taken the place of the bounty to "fishermen-farmers," promised in the opening Speech of the first session of this Parliament, was truly a marvellous conception. Under it the Government may secure faithful allegiance by farming out positions of emolument to their supporters in this House, or, they may practice without
fear of consequences the most extensive electoral bribery in the distribution of live stock and seeds. But alas, Sir, that is not the worst phase. Under it the country has been sacrificed to party politics and its agricultural advancement has been put back at least a generation. The late Government had, with the almost unanimous approval of both branches of the Legislature, laid the foundation for a Model Farm and Experimental Station, where the boys of our country might receive a scientific and practical training in agriculture. Every civilized country in the world is to-day endeavouring to advance agriculture by such means, yet here in this country of vast undeveloped resources, and where so few avenues of employment open out to the rising generation; in this country which perforce at the present time sends more than a million of money abroad for agricultural produce that might be raised at home, we find a Government which flaunts before the public as the “People’s Party” denying to the children of the people they represent the advantages that are everywhere else afforded. Sir, can you conceive of anything more unpatriotic or unjust? Can you conceive of a greater reach of confidence and trust. A Government like a trustee is responsible for the proper administration of the estate. If a trustee betrays the confidence reposed in him as such he is very properly indicted before the courts of law and punished. Thank God their is a Court before which the present Government may be indicted for the mal-administration of the vast estate for which they are trustees, and that is the high Court of public opinion. Before that Court I indict them this day. While on this subject of Agriculture, there is, I would remark, another very grave omission in the Speech under review. There is no reference whatever to the Government’s immigration policy. They had such a policy in view, for, in the opening Speech of the Second Session of this Parliament we were told that measures were “being devised for the settlement of unoccupied lands along the line of railway by the establishing there of farming colonies composed of suitable agricultural emigrants from the British Isles.” Two years have passed away since then but we have no “farming colonies” established along the line of railway, and this House and the public have been left entirely in the dark as to the measures that were “being devised”? What class of emigrants did the Government propose to bring in here? For two years this House and the public have been living in a state of expectancy, wondering what the scheme could be that was taking so long time to “devise,” and what class of people we were to have added to the population of the Colony. Last year fifty-eight thousand persons emigrated from the rural districts of Scotland owing to the increasing burden of rates or taxes. Was any attempt made by the Government to induce those people, or any of them, to settle in this Colony? It will be admitted, I think, that no more desirable emigrants could possibly be found than those brawny, brainy, thrifty Scotch folk. Was that stream of emigration permitted to flow past our doors without any effort being made to turn at least a portion of it this way? The Government have admitted that “the burden of taxation borne by the fishermen and working classes is too great.” Then, if that is true, why do they not endeavor to induce, suitable emigrants to come here and share that burden of taxation with our people? In this matter they have been exhibiting less common sense than in their conduct of the financial affairs of the Colony, and that is saying a good deal. Are you unaware, sir, that instead of inducing a thrifty people to come here
and help bear the burden of taxation, they have been actually aiding a scheme to bring pauper children here and which would entail increased burdens on this Colony? Such is the truth. Let me draw aside the curtain and let in the light on this matter. Shortly before this immigration policy was announced by the Government through the lips of His Excellency the Governor, some philanthropic gentlemen in England had inaugurated a scheme to procure the emigration, to the Colonies of the Empire of pauper children, or the waifs and strays of the large cities of Great Britain. They laid their scheme before the Premier of this Colony. It was approved by the Government, and the Premier, Sir Edward Morris, on behalf of the Government pledged this Colony to most extraordinary liberality in the furtherance of the scheme. He undertook to give the promoters "a free grant of fifty thousand acres of the best land in the Colony," "with exemption from taxes; to give them "a bonus on all areas cleared of timber;" to give them "an annual grant of money for teachers' salaries"; and, to give them "a grant for school buildings." I notice, sir, an appearance of incredulity on the faces of some honorable members, and I am not surprised at this, for it is difficult to conceive that such a scheme could have met with the approval of the "People's Party." Yet, sir, the facts as I have given them are vouched for in a pamphlet published by the promoters of the scheme. We have no waifs or trays or pauper children, such as exist in the great cities of the world, in this country, I am thankful to say, but we have hundreds of bright, healthy boys to whose parents their future in life is a very serious problem. With advantage to themselves and to the country these boys could be instructed in the noble work of Agriculture which is the financial backbone of all nations, and the origin of all national wealth. The late Government recognizing this, as I have previously said, made provision to grant the boys of this country a scientific and practical knowledge of Agriculture. But, upon the recommendation of three Government supporters in this House, who profited at the rate of Eighteen hundred dollars per year by the Government accepting and acting upon their recommendation, the advantage of an Agricultural training has been refused to the boys of this country. And yet, sir, what has been denied to them, has been lavishly proffered to the waifs and strays and paupers of Great Britain by this self-designated People's Party.

Try and realize if you can, sir, the magnitude of this political crime. While the boys of this country are denied the benefit of a practical technical education, the taxes wrung from their over-burdened parents, is pledged by the present Government for the support and education of the pauper children of the wealthiest country in the world. It is evident that Governments like individuals sometimes go mad, or, to put the same idea less forcibly I will use the language of the old Hebrew philosopher, Elihu, "Great men are not always wise." This pauper boy emigration schemes to which I have referred, fortunately for us, did not materialize, the Governments of New Zealand, Australia and South Africa having, as I understand, declined to encourage it. Again, sir, in the opening Speeches of previous Sessions of the present Parliament great things were promised to all those directly interested in the fisheries. For instance, there was to be "a standard and equitable cull" established by the Government; "new markets" were to be opened for the disposal of fishery produce, and "cold storage" on an unprecedented scale was to revolutionize present methods of conducting the codfishery. These most excellent promises have been re-
peated and elaborated from time to time, but, here we are entering upon the fourth session and nothing in the direction indicated has been accomplished, and so far as we may judge from the Speech before us the whole undertaking is as dead as Julius Caesar. There are other important omissions in this opening Speech. We are not informed as to the result of the Government's coal exploration scheme, or of their peat fuel enterprise. Why? Have they been a complete failure? But more important still, we are left completely in the dark as regards the Government's policy in respect to the expert of bait fishes. In view of the recent announcement through the press that fish purchased by Americans will in future enter American ports on the same tariff basis as American caught fish, it is a matter of great importance that the policy of this Government should be clearly and promptly defined. We will now turn our attention to one or two matters referred to in the Speech before us. First then, I observe, that the opening of the branch line of railway to Bonavista is considered by the Government a matter for great jubilation. They tried to make it appear such a few weeks ago by a lot of parade and nonsense, but I wonder how many of those who they termed so recently "overburdened taxpayers" regard it in that light, or how many level headed business men do so. The branch line has been opened, but the expenditure in connection with its construction and full equipment has not been finalized, and we do not know the measure of the Colony's liability in the premises up to this hour. We know that it has cost far and away more than the Government's estimate placed before this House. We have reason to believe from the amount that we know has already been expended upon that branch line, that before the Railway Contract of 1910 is completed another loan must be procured, and that before the Colony is through with the whole of its obligations arising out of that contract at least another four millions of dollars will be added to the public debt. Sir, is that a matter for jubilation? I have regarded, I still regard those branch railways as a totally indefensible expenditure, entailing upon the people of this Country a liability for which there cannot be forthcoming a commensurate return. I have regarded the undertaking as a huge piece of electoral bribery undertaken without regard to either cost or utility. And the remarks of the Premier, Sir Edward Morris, on the occasion of the opening of the branch line to Bonavista appeared to confirm the latter conclusion, for, he is reported as saying. "I promised you before the last election that if my party was returned to power that within two years I would visit your town by rail. My promise is this day fulfilled." In the height of jubilation this unguarded admission was made. It is to be hoped that the branch line to Bonavista will be operated very differently from the manner in which other branch lines have been operated during the past year. If not, then the people will have reason to curse rather than bless the promoters of the enterprise. I do not exaggerate when I say that the operating of the line between St. John's and Carbonear and vice versa during the past year has been perfectly disgraceful, entailing the greatest inconvenience and hardship upon those who were obliged to travel by train. Let me read an extract from an editorial that appeared in the Harbor Grace Standard of date November 17th last. This is what it said:

"The public are exceedingly dissatisfied with the way the trains are run on the line between St. John's and Carbonear. The evening trains do not get in at either end of the line very frequently till all hours of the night. Mat-
ters are growing worse instead of better. Only those that cannot help themselves travel by these trains, and they grumble. The railway hands are like the public, only more so. The public are insistent for a change.”

Imagine travellers wearied and worn by hours of travel in one of these trains finding themselves landed at a terminal station in the small hours of the morning with no means of conveyance at hand for themselves and baggage and every hotel and boarding house closed, and you can form some idea of what the travelling public had to put up with. The Harbor Grace Standard’s allusion to the “railway hands” suggests the question as to whether in the interest of those custodians of the lives of the travelling public, as well as in the interest of those who travel by train, this House should not take immediate steps to pass legislation to regulate the number of hours that train officials may be on duty. I consider that before the session closes the matter should be dealt with. Men who are worn out for want of sleep and proper rest are not competent nor should they be permitted to operate a railway train. The thing should end, and end it will if I can convince this House of its duty. I was exceedingly pleased to notice that at the annual meeting of the Board of Trade last month a very strong representation was made in the Report as to the unsatisfactory manner in which the Railway Contractors are carrying out their contractual obligations, for, it is to be hoped that the Government will now see the necessity for discharging their duty in the premises. During the period that the late Government was in power my political opponents declared that I was constantly fighting the Railway Company, and that as a consequence the railway service was most unsatisfactorily performed. That owing to the relations between my Government and the Contractors their vast land grants remained undeveloped and their proposed hotel enterprise was at a standstill, and it was urged and set forth as one of the reasons why the late Government should be defeated. Well, my Government was defeated. Has the conduct of the railway and steam service been more satisfactory to the public or more unsatisfactory? Have the vast land grants or any of them been developed? Has the hotel enterprise appeared? I am willing to admit that during the whole of my term of office it was one continual fight to get contractual obligations carried out, and to have preposterous claims against the Colony set aside. I am willing to admit that since the advent of the present Government to power all fighting with the Railway Contractors has ceased; that trumped up claims have been dropped, and that the Contractors, who are subsidized public officials, have become public masters. But, have the public benefitted by the changes? The recent report of the Board of Trade furnishes a partial reply. The public feeling recently voiced by the Harbor Grace Standard furnishes another answer, and the inconvenience and privations experienced by the residents of the South Side of Trinity Bay who are supposed to be served by the railway via Broad Cove and who from the 3rd of January to the 20th had no service whatever furnishes still another answer to my query. The non-operation of the railway for nearly three weeks via Broad Cove was a perfect outrage and entirely without excuse. To say that storms and snow falls along that line prevented its operation would be incorrect, for three hours from the time that an engine and plow started from Whitbourne on the 20th January the whole line was open to traffic. For ten days the people of that portion of the district of Trinity were without even a mail, and many of them I am
told were reduced to the extremity of borrowing provisions from neighbors through the neglect of the Railway Contractors and the connivance of the Government. Bad as the railway service was during the summer and autumn, the conduct of the same service the commencement of the New Year beggars description. While the public have been patiently waiting for their mails and provisions, the contractors have been waiting for a kind Providence to send warm winds and copious rains to clear the track. It was part of my duty as head of the Government and Colonial Secretary for many years, to keep an eye on the operating of the railway, and I can truthfully say that the country has never experienced anything equal to the present condition of things. If it be contended that weather conditions have made it difficult to secure regularity of service, then, my answer is that no organized effort has been made to overcome those difficulties. It will be found that the Broad Cove branch has been practically abandoned since Christmas. The Placentia service has been but little better. It has consisted of midnight meanderings between Brigus Junction and Whitbourne. Since last Saturday week no train has been run to Placentia nor was any attempt made until Friday last. On Saturday the principal organ of the Government, the "Chronicle," announced that "the task of clearing the Placentia branch was resumed this morning. The snow blockade was heavy for 4 or 5 miles towards Placentia from Placentia Junction." Is that to be wondered at I would ask, after the line being abandoned for more than a week? It is quite evident to me that the Government do not know how the railway is being operated, or they don't care, for on the 14th inst. I telegraphed the Colonial Secretary as follows:—

"Hon. Colonial Secretary,

St. John's.

"No mail received here since Friday. No train has passed through here since Saturday afternoon, although engine could come here on Monday morning at daylight, take on board coal and return to Brigus Junction. The present disgraceful conduct of service surely demands immediate attention of the Government. Although I have received no official notice of the meeting of the Legislature I am aware it is sitting and desire to get there. When may I hope that trains will be operated to this place.

R. BOND."

To that message I received this reply:—

"St. John's, Feb. 15, 1912.

"Right Hon. Sir R. Bond, Whitbourne.

"Your message received. Official intimation opening legislature mailed you Monday. Am now informed by Reid Newfoundland Company that no train has got beyond Brigus Junction since Saturday owing to storm that afternoon which completely blocked line between city and Junction. Understand east bound express due Whitbourne one o'clock. Line to St. John's now clear and regular train will run to-morrow. Am asking Government Engineer to report whether undue delay occurred in clearing of lines. Regret exceedingly inconvenience to yourself personally. Owing to your absence debate on Address not concluded. House adjourned till Monday.

COLONIAL SECRETARY."

It will be observed that if the Government knew anything about the train or mail service "the official intimation of the opening of the Legislature" referred to in the Colonial Secretary's telegram would not have been posted to me but telegraphed. Where have the mails been that were posted here for Whitbourne, Placentia,
and Trinity Bay South via Broad Cove? Unless I am greatly mistaken they might be found in an outbuilding at Brigus Junction at the mercy of any highway robber who might pass that way. Is not that a scandal? Before we entered upon the building of more lines of railway common sense would have suggested the wisdom of first securing the efficient operation of those we had. Until such efficiency is secured jubilation over the opening of new branches is entirely out of place. Again, Sir, in a spirit of boastful pride the Government informs us that the Revenue exceeded the Estimate. I do not think it a matter for much surprise that the Revenue exceeded the Estimate when in framing that Estimate no account was taken of the revenue to be derived from the expenditure of borrowed millions. The fact is that the Revenue for the past two years has been largely abnormal. It resulted in part from the establishment of the Pulp and Paper Mills at Grand Falls and Bishop's Falls; in part from the gambling in timber lands, and also from the expenditure of the Railway Loan. If the Government contend that there has been a surplus of revenue apart from this, then, Sir, it is not a matter of boastful pride but rather for a feeling of shame, for it denotes bad statesmanship on the one hand and bad faith on the other. It is of the essence of statesmanship that burdens should be lightened and benefits shared. If the Government are taking from those they have declared "overburdened taxpayers" more in taxes than is requisite to meet the actual needs of the public service, then, the Government are plundering those unfortunate taxpayers. If the surplus revenue is not abnormal, then why do not the Government fulfil their pledge and give the people "tea, sugar, pork, and other prime necessaries" duty free? If they don't do this, then we have evidence of bad faith, and of a cruel and unwarranted betrayal of public confidence. If on the other hand the Government admit that the surplus of revenue is abnormal, then, in view of their enormous and increasing obligations, they are bleeding this country to financial death and they don't know it. While the Government appear to be ignorant of the trend of their policy, I rejoice to believe that the mass of people fully recognize it, and that there will be concerted action on the part of the "overburdened taxpayers" to put an early end to the present carnival of political crime. Sir, it is nothing short of crime that in a country such as this, with a population of less than a quarter of a million, whose earning power is less than sixty dollars per head, and thousands of whom have to subsist on the scantiest fare, that nearly three million dollars should be wrung from them in taxes. It is an aggravation of the crime that those who are guilty of it obtained place and power upon the solemn pledge to reduce those taxes. I rejoice that during the period that the Government of this country was vested in me and my colleagues we bent our energies to lightening the load of taxation upon this people; that they were relieved of taxes to the value of a million and a half of dollars during that period, and that half a million dollars was placed to their credit in the Bank of Montreal to meet the stress and storms of the future. The surplus of revenue of which the Government boast, under the circumstances I have alluded to, is not a matter for congratulation but rather for deep regret.

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills,
a prey,
Where wealth accumulates and men decay."

I observe a paragraph in the Speech before us having reference to the subject of tuberculosis or consump-
tion, and intimating that the Government propose to introduce legislation to deal with it, and that the Treasury has received a gift from a large corporation in this city in furtherance of the movement. Sir, you as Speaker of this House are the custodian of its rights and liberties, and I must point out to you that those rights and liberties have been invaded if gifts have been received by the Crown without the consent of this House. This is a very serious matter, as I shall presently show, and there is involved in it a Constitutional question of much importance, namely, the right of the Crown to receive benevolences or gifts of any kind or for any purpose without the consent of Parliament. This is rendered a somewhat difficult matter to deal with because of the peculiar circumstances now surrounding it. But, Sir, I shall not be deterred from performing what I conceive to be my duty by that consideration. It is the duty of the Opposition to criticise every Government measure, and to point out every error, or seeming error, in every governmental action. I think I shall be able to show that the Government have greatly erred in this matter. “Evil is wrought by want of thought as well as want of heart.” Want of thought has caused more mischief in this world than the most violent convulsions of nature. It has brought mighty empires to the dust, and slain countless thousands of the human race. One of the most remarkable men of the last century took as the motto for his crest the words “Think well, then act well,” and he carried out in his public life the wisdom embodied in those words. To-day his name flashes brightly from the pillar of fame. I refer to Count von Moltke, Statesman and General. He long foresaw the contingency of war with France and was ready with his plans when it suddenly broke out in 1870. Their action resulted in the most astounding and uninterrupted series of victories ever achieved by one great military nation over another, and, in the founding of the German Empire. I give this as an example of what careful thought will achieve, and I will proceed to show the reverse. Sir, I could wish that the leader of the Government had made it the governing principle of his life to “think well, and then act well,” for, had he done so, the country would have been spared the pitiable exhibition of blunders that it has witnessed during the past three years. In my humble opinion the leader of the Government did not think well or act well in the matter of dealing with consumption. Had he done so, then this House would have been permitted an expression of opinion before the offer of the Railway Contractors to erect and present to the Colony seventeen Sanatoria was accepted. Surely the wisdom of the Government accepting gifts from those Contractors was a debatable point. Surely the wisdom of erecting seventeen Sanatoria, apart altogether from that offer, was a debatable question. Then why was the House debarr'd the privilege of discussing the question? Why! Because the Government did not think well before acting. Does not the leader of the Government, the Rt. Hon. the Premier, recognize that there is involved in this matter a Constitutional question of great importance, namely, whether the Crown has the right to receive a benevolence or gift for any public purpose without the consent of Parliament? For many years—from the time of Edward IV. down to 1794—the question of compulsory and voluntary gifts to the Crown was debated in the British House of Commons from time to time, and there were different Acts from the time of Richard III. to the 13th Charles II., which went directly against private gifts of any description. It proved a subject of much interesting discussion in Parliament and between
the highest Constitutional authorities until it was set at rest by the passing of the Act 13, Charles II. Its preamble declares "all voluntary benevolence from the people to the Crown are..." and there was a special provision that the Statute should never "be drawn into example for the time to come," it having permitted the gift of £200 to the Crown. In the discussion that arose in the British House of Commons in 1794 it was contended that that Act was still in force, and I cannot find that it has since been repealed. The purpose of that Act was to uphold the dignity, authority and independence of Parliament. Sir, if it was regarded as improper that the Crown should receive gifts or benevolences from the nobility of England who were under no obligations to the Crown—a fortiori—it is most improper that it should receive gifts from those under contractual obligations for the proper performance of great public works. But, suppose we dismiss for the sake of argument the illegality of the proceeding, still the action of the Government must be condemned. The Executive is but a Committee of this House appointed by a majority of its members to carry out the will and pleasure of Parliament. How can the will and pleasure of Parliament be known without discussion? The majority who appointed the Government as a Committee, as well as the Opposition in this House, have been totally ignored. The necessity for an immediate decision in the premises cannot be advanced as justification, for this House was convened for dispatch of business within three weeks from date of the offer. Again, Sir, that the Government did not think well before acting is evident from the correspondence which has been published. According to the Premier's letter, the Contractors made their offer on the 3rd of January, and it was accepted by letter from the Premier on the following day. Such hasty action in a matter of such vast importance is incomprehensible and entirely inexcusable. It is indicative of the hasty, slipshod manner in which the business of the country is being conducted to-day. Sir, I am of opinion that if the Government had thought well and acted well they would have respectfully declined the offer of the railway Contractors. First—Because the Contractors are engaged in the expenditure of millions of dollars on behalf of the public, and have entered into enormous contractual obligations to the public extending over a number of years for the proper performance of works essential to the conduct of trade and commerce and the general well-being of the people, and therefore the Government of the Colony, who are public trustees, should be in a position unhampered by any sense of obligation to those Contractors. As public trustees the Government in the discharge of their duties must necessarily be called upon from time to time to exercise firmness, and it may be compulsion, and, in the discharge of these duties, they should be entirely unfettered. They cannot be unfettered if they recognize a sense of obligation. And, if they did not recognize it they would be something less than human. But, in the letter of acceptance which has been published the present Government do recognize the obligation, for they say to the Railway Contractors "Your contribution will relieve the Public Treasury from the burden of constructing Sanatoria in the city and outports." This to my mind was a highly improper position for the Colony to be placed in. The Treasury did not require to be relieved of the expenditure of a hundred thousand dollars, for, do we not boast of hundreds of thousands of surplus revenue? Sir, I submit that if the erection of Sanatoria for consumptives is desirable or requisite, then the Government should erect them and avoid an obligation
that is impolitic and must prove embarrassing. Secondly, the Government if they had thought well and acted well would have respectfully declined the offer of the Railway Contractors, because, they are not in a position at the present time to properly determine whether the erection of seventeen Sanatoria in this Colony is either necessary or desirable. What competent authority has advised the Government as to the necessity or desirability? There can be no shadow of a doubt but that it is most undesirable if it is not necessary. So far as I am aware there are only six State Sanatoria in the United States to meet the requirements of a population of more than ninety millions of people. Of course there are private institutions. Here the State proposes to maintain three times as many to meet the alleged requirements of less than a quarter of a million people. What will the outside world think? What can they think? They can alone suppose that Newfoundland is a veritable hotbed of the deadliest disease that afflicts the human race. Is it wise to give such an impression? During the past year the Premier has been announcing through the press, over and over again, that world wide tourists had suddenly discovered that Newfoundland is a perfect paradise and as a consequence they had placed the Colony on their visiting lists. The Colonial Secretary has been advertising the Colony in the "Standard of Empire" as the "Norway of the New World; a land of surpassing beauty and of rare interest for the traveller." Let it once be known abroad that seventeen Sanatoria for consumptives have had to be erected in this small Colony of 230,000 people, and Newfoundland will not only be dropped from the visiting lists of tourists, but it will be shunned as a Leper Colony is. Then again, Sir, is it not possible to believe that such an alarming proclamation may have a damaging effect upon the export of our staple product? But, let me turn back to my question.—What competent authority has advised the Government that this wholesale erection of Sanatoria is necessary? In the opening Speech three years ago the Government announced that "the State should assume the responsibility of endeavouring to arrest the spread of consumption," but it was only last year that a Commission was appointed to deal with the subject. Have the Government acted upon the advice of that Commission in accepting the offer of the Railway Contractors? I cannot assume that such is the case, for these gentlemen are far too intelligent to suggest such an absurdity as the erection of sixteen Sanatoria to cost three thousand dollars each. What is a Sanitarium? Dr. Knopf, director of the National Association for the study and prevention of tuberculosis, and a world renowned authority, says, "A modern Sanitorium for the treatment of consumption is an institution usually established in a healthy locality, somewhat elevated, relatively free from dust and traffic, where only patients suffering from tuberculosis are received." It is important to note that in a Sanitorium for consumptives only consumptive patients may be received for treatment, so the sixteen buildings proposed to be erected in the outskirts may not be used as cottages or general hospitals. The next question that arises is, What is the usual cost of a properly equipped Sanitorium? Dr. J. Walker when addressing a public meeting recently in London in regard to the tuberculosis Sanitorium proposed to be erected under the National Insurance Bill said, "The cost of a properly equipped Sanitorium was roughly One hundred and fifty pounds sterling, or Seven hundred and fifty dollars per bed." It will be observed then that the three thousand dollar buildings that the Government
propose to take over and maintain would each only provide for four patients. Would it not be the height of absurdity for the Government to assume the costly maintenance of such buildings when these four patients might be treated with equal satisfaction in their own homes. I make the assertion upon the testimony of Professor Austin Flint, M.D., of Harvard University, a well known writer on tuberculosis. He strongly recommends hygienic treatment in the home, and adds "living out of doors as much as possible is an important part of hygienic treatment. Abundant nutritious diet, embracing fatty articles of food in as large a proportion as the appetite will allow"; and he contends that "the moral effect of consumptives congregating is often unfavorable." I make the assertion upon the testimony of Dr. Knopf, of New York, director of the National Association for the study and prevention of tuberculosis, who propounds the question "Can the treatment of consumption be carried out with satisfactory results outside of an institution," and answers it in the affirmative. When addressing a conference held in Ottawa in 1902, Dr. Knopf said "Consumption was not curable by quacks. The sole remedy was judicious use of fresh air, of God's sunshine, water, an abundance of good food with helpful medicine." Again, Sir, I know of no sufficient data upon which the Commission appointed by the Government last year to deal with the question of consumption could possibly base such a recommendation. Could they be guided by our vital Statistics? I do not think so, and they certainly have not had either the time or opportunity to obtain more accurate information. Now with regard to our Vital Statistics. I am not at all satisfied that the alarming statements we have heard and seen in the newspapers in respect to the prevalence of consumption in this country are justifiable. Those statements, doubtless made in good faith and with the very best motives, are based upon what are termed Vital Statistics, compiled by the Registrar General. The Registrar General is a capable, painstaking, and most estimable public official, but he will tell you that in compiling his statistics he has to be guided absolutely by the returns he receives. Such returns as he received from skilled medical practitioners are no doubt correct. But a large proportion of the returns received are not from medical men, for the very good reason that the bulk of the population reside in hamlets far remote from medical supervision or attendance. The law recognizes this and provides that clergymen, and lay readers, may fill in the returns as to cause of death. Our clergymen are not skilled physicians, and I most respectfully submit that their returns cannot be accepted without question in dealing with this important matter. In Pagan times, and down through the early years of Christianity the clergy were recognized as physicians. Subsequently they became lawyers, but to-day, holy orders is no more a guarantee of medical skill than of the proficiency in the Institutes of Blackstone or Chitty, most excellent gentlemen most of them, and they do their best to fulfill the duty imposed upon them by the law, but to say that they are competent to pronounce upon diseases would be to attribute to them superhuman powers, and that I am not prepared to do. They certify to the best of their belief, but, their belief is not based upon scientific know-
ledge, and my legal friends will readily admit that such certificates would not be received as reliable evidence in any court of law. Now then, sir, after going carefully into the question of these Vital Statistics with the Registrar General what do I find? Why, that nearly two-thirds of the deaths returned as from consumption are certified as such by gentlemen who, I most respectfully submit, would not be regarded as competent authority by any court of law. Out of 692 deaths in 1910 alleged to have been from consumption 390 were certified by clergymen and even less competent persons. Are those the statistics upon which we are going to brand this country as a hotbed of consumption by maintaining in every district a monument of folly? Are these the statistics upon which the Government appear to have based their action? Let us pause before we commit such an egregious blunder. Further, during my thirty years of public life I have come into close touch with our people in nearly every settlement in the Colony, and I have not observed that outward appearance of consumption that would lead me to concur in the alarming reports and the Vital Statistics upon which the Government appear to have based their action. That consumption exists in every district is no doubt true. That it prevails to an alarming extent in this city is probably correct, but not surprising when we have regard to the filth and dust and lack of proper sanitation that prevail here. That everything necessary should be done to prevent the spread of consumption and to stamp it out where it exists goes without question. But don't let us be led by fads and fancies into a course of action destructive of the material interests of the country and that will lead to a waste of the public funds. The cost of the erection of seventeen Sanitoria is a mere bagatelle compared with the perpetual charge upon the revenue for their proper conduct and maintenance. Let us remember that consumption is an endemic disease, habitually prevalent the world over, and let us learn by experience of other countries what our proper course of action should be. We know that this disease existed 460 years before the birth of Christ, for Hippocrates, the most celebrated physician of antiquity, describes it. From his day down through two thousand years and more scientific men and philanthropists and governments the world over have been trying to cope with this disease. Every age, every country, every school of medical science has been practicing its favourite panacea, and yet to-day we are told that the world yields up one million and ninety-five thousand of its inhabitants each year to this disease, that is to say three thousand persons every day. The death rate from consumption is lower in England and in Germany than in other countries. Can we profit by that knowledge? I think so. Germany is ahead of other civilized nations in recognizing the economic value of caring for the people. Prof. MacSweeney, bacteriologist to the Local Government Board in Ireland states that "Germany leads the world to-day in stamping out the white plague." How? Not by multiplication of sanitoria but by bettering the condition of the labouring classes. In eighteen years from 1885 to 1903 the enormous sum of two hundred and sixty-four million four hundred and seventy thousand dollars were expended to
end and up to the close of the year 1904, the sum of forty-four million five hundred thousand dollars was expended in improved dwellings for the working classes. That says Professor MacSweeney is the secret of Germany's success in dealing with consumption. The death rate from consumption in England is lower than in any other country being less than fifteen hundred to the million of the population. For fifty years England has had its sanatoria, and everything that science and experience have suggested has been brought into practice in dealing with consumption, and what has been the result of the test? We have it indicated in a recent report by Dr. Balstrode, one of the medical inspectors of the local Government Board. His report declares that the fall in the death rate from consumption in England may be attributed to better sanitation, and better conditions of living. And he affirms that "in the suppressing of consumption money will be more profitably spent in raising the standard of health by good food, good clothing, and clean comfortable homes, than in building and maintaining costly Sanitoria." Sir, need I go further to prove that the Government have not thought well or acted well in their dealing with the question of consumption? Is it not clear from the experience of England and Germany that the proper way to deal with consumption in this country is to so readjust the tariff as that the fishermen and laboring classes shall be better fed, better clothed and better housed than they are at present? If it be correct, as alleged, that consumption prevails to an alarming degree in this land, then, we may conclude from Dr. Balstrode's report that the cause may be very largely attributed to privation consequent upon excessive taxation, and the remedy is to be found not in Sanitoria but by hygienic treatment in the homes and in enabling the masses to provide for themselves better food, better clothes and better homes. This can be done and it can only be done by reducing or removing altogether the taxes upon the prime necessaries of life. I believe, Sir, that against the plain cold logic of this proposition no practical objections can be sustained. I will say then, in conclusion, to the Government, reduce your taxes to the full amount of your surplus revenue; stop your wasteful expenditure, and you will do more to stamp out consumption than if you spent millions in Sanitoria. Refuse to do this, and you will be guilty in the sight of God and men of continuing a policy which by its tendency to rob the people of better food, better clothes and better homes, will fill your Sanitoria, and fasten upon this people a pathetic burden of ruined hopes. I beg to move the following Amendment to the Address in Reply. After the word, Legislature, insert the words:

But humbly represent that, having regard to the acknowledged injury resulting to the fishermen and working classes of the Colony by reason of the burden of taxation, and to the fact also that they feel most seriously the increased cost of living in this country, it is the duty of the Government to immediately readjust the tariff so as to place tea, sugar, pork and other prime necessaries on which taxes are now imposed, on the free list. Further, that having regard to the dignity, the credit, and the authority of this House, which are seriously threatened by the Government accepting gifts from those under contractual obligations to the Colony for
MR. SHEA—Mr. Speaker, in rising to support the Amendment just proposed. I would like to say a few words with regard to the Speech from the Throne, the speech of the Government of the day. I know, Sir, that the Speech from the Throne, as a rule, has never been very acceptable to members on the opposition side of the House. I have heard during the years that I have been in this House, the Speech from the Throne characterized as variegated, meaningless; and as the Rt. Hon. the leader of the opposition has said, more remarkable for what was not in it, than for what it contained. I think that in the present case, such criticism by the Opposition will be borne out by the general public, for it is many years since such a frothy production was placed before the House for consideration. I heard a gentleman on Water Street pass what I consider was a very fair criticism of it. He said it was the kind of document that generally came from one of our Societies, in the shape of the Annual Report, such as from the Benevolent Irish Society, or the British Society, recapitulating all the events taken part in by the society during the year, and winding up with the statement that the financial condition of the society was all that could be desired. I think that the comparison is more than appropriate. As my Hon. friend, Mr. Kent said of it the other day there were a good many words in it, but very little substance. We did not expect such a speech as this from the present Administration. Such a speech coming from the late government or the one preceding it might have been passed over without notice, but coming from a government that sailed into power taking the people under its special care, that claimed to be a government for the people, by the people, and of the people, it was a most extraordinary production. For, Sir, where do the people come in in this speech? They are quite forgotten, ignored. This is not an ordinary government, it is a people's government, which has been ruling for the past three years and hopes to keep in power for the next 8 or 9 years.

The first paragraph of the Speech is more or less of imperial interest, dealing with the visit of their Majesties to their Indian Empire, and the Duke of Connaught's appointment to Canada. Well, Sir, I am sure that we all hope that good results will follow from the Duke's appointment, and that the visit of their Majesties will be most fruitful, and be of great benefit to the Empire. The second paragraph has also an imperial bearing, and deals with the Festival of Empire, in which this Colony took a part, and about which there has been so much said in this Legislature. Now, Sir, I would not like to say anything disparaging of such an enterprise, but I would like to know what it will cost the people of this Colony. I have heard various estimates of its cost, some placing it in the neighbourhood of $25,000 or over, that amount. I was in England last summer, and I visited the Festival more than once, and I heard a good deal about it, and from all I could gather, I heard that the exhibition was an absolute failure. I don't say that Newfoundland's exhibit was a failure, it was a very creditable exhibit but the whole exhibition itself was a complete failure. On one occasion when I
visited the Newfoundland ward, there were not a half dozen people in it all the time. The grounds were desolate, and the exhibition as a whole seemed deserted. It is very doubtful to me whether any results will accrue to this country or not from taking part in it, and if as reported the cost is to be in the neighbourhood of $15,000 or $20,000, then we shall pay well for anything we shall get out of it. Now, Sir, the next paragraph is a very important one, and it refers to the prosperity which we are enjoying in this country. There can be no question about this, for we are enjoying a prosperity unprecedented in the colony's history. We all rejoice, the whole community rejoices to see the colony in such a prosperous condition. But, Sir, one would suppose, that before this Government came in, we were in distress, in the throes of despair, that we were bankrupt, and that the present period of prosperity is due simply and solely to the present Administration. But this is not so. During the last 4 years the late Administration was in power, the country was just as prosperous, and the government was piling up surpluses every year, and moreover placing money to the credit of a reserve fund. The only thing that can be said is that the present Government did not stop the prosperity and progress. If you look around you must ask yourself the question, What have the present Government to do with prosperity of the country? Where do they come in? These are questions any man on the street can answer. The present Government have as much to do with the prosperity of the country as they have with the changes of the weather. They are both dependent on higher causes—causes which this Government or any other Government does not dare think of controlling. And yet a paragraph is put in the Speech as if the Government were contributing to the prosperity of the country. The prosperity is brought about by a condition of things over which the Government have no control; and the same power that brought prosperity here fifty, thirty or twenty years ago brings it here now. When a fisherman in Torbay or elsewhere brings in five quintals of fish and converts it in four weeks into twenty five dollars cash that is the cause of the prosperity; and it will be thus until the end of time. As the Rt. Hon. Leader of the Opposition has said notwithstanding all this prosperity; notwithstanding the fact that for the past three years the Government have collected large revenues—and every three months or so we read in the papers supporting the Government of the large sums of money coming in—notwithstanding all this, what have the Government done. Have they reduced taxation by one cent during the three years which they have been in power? Although in the first speech to the Legislature we were told that the Government advocated the reduction of taxation; they have not taken one cent off the necessaries of life although in this Colony the cost of living within this last ten years has increased over 40%. No Sir. The policy of the Government has been to spend this money. To cast it to the four winds of heaven: the only speculation being that the “four winds” should blow steadily on those supporting the Government. Where is the Cold Storage
scheme of last year and the year before? Where is the Cold Storage scheme that we debated over last year? It has vanished in thin air. The Premier the other evening, debating on this point referred to similar schemes during the Bond Administration. But he did not say to this House how the opposition papers attacked these schemes and abused and vilified the men who came in here to inaugurate them. The papers abused Mr. Mair and Mr. Flett so much that they drove the bulk of them out of the country and one nearly to his death. Then there is another paragraph which refers to the Agricultural policy of the Government. Well after the exhaustive manner in which the Leader of the Opposition dealt with this subject I do not mean to say much on it; but I will say this, as far as the policy of the present Government is concerned with agriculture, it has been so far only a policy of expenditure. That is all that can be said about it. The one thing that has distinguished the policy of the present Government has been the reversal of the policy inaugurated by the late Government. The first thing they did was to remove the model farm and dismiss the expert who was brought down here to take charge of it. What will be the result of the present policy remains to be seen. They have spent large sums of money in carrying out that policy. Members of this House have received large sums for going through the country, distributing literature and forming societies, and the result of that policy is in the dim distant future. Now a word in reference to the Agricultural Exhibitions. Mr. Speaker we had a very creditable exhibition here in St. John's; but I would like to know what it cost this Colony. We have also had other exhibitions in different outports of the Colony; and there was one thing that I was told something about that I feel I should speak of here in the House. There was an Exhibition in Burin last year previous to the election there. I do not know if what I heard is true, but I have it on very good authority, and I feel I should speak of it; and find out if it is part of the present Government's policy of Agriculture. It was said that the exhibits at that Burin exhibition were purchased afterwards by the Government at high prices. Not only were they purchased by the Government, but they were sent on here and sold privately, or semi privately by the Government at the Agricultural stables at a serious loss to the Government. Why was this done? I never heard of an exhibition where this was done before. If it is true it does not reflect any credit on the department of Agriculture. I do not say it is true, but if it is capable of denial no doubt it will be denied from the other side of the House. I am glad to know that the Government intend to finish the railway extension I have been a supporter of railways ever since I entered this House, and I hope to continue on as long as I have a seat here. I believe in a railway policy if judiciously carried out, and the money is spent judiciously in connection with it. I believe in building railways even where there is no traffic. I believe that the railway will make the traffic. The effect of railway construction in every successful country has been that the more railways you build the more you want. The only position I take in this matter is whether the
country can afford to build these railways without being embarrassed. If we are to build those railways, as the Rt. Hon. Leader of Opposition has said it is apparent to every man in this House and outside it, that we are not going to do it with the four million dollars we borrowed two years ago, when three quarters of that is gone now. If we have to complete the remaining railway branches we will have to borrow money to do it. Then there is another little paragraph which is somewhat of an Imperial character. It refers to the visit of His Excellency the Governor, to the King at Balmoral, and it is both interesting and instructive, and I am sure that any of us who have the pleasure of personal acquaintance with His Excellency will understand how thoroughly he enjoyed that visit.

Now, Sir, the people of this country are warranted in expecting great things from the present Government. They were led to expect that when this Government came in they would do great things for the country and the people, they were the People's Government. They are in three years now, and what have they done so far? That is a question that will have to be answered in the not far distant future. They have spent a large sums of money. With what result? These are questions the elector will be called upon to decide at the next election. Whether the large revenues collected by the Government have been judiciously expended or whether they have been cast to the four winds of heaven? Whether the different departments of the Government have been judicious in their expenditures, and what they have to show for such expenditure? These are questions which will have to be answered when the members of this House go before the tribunal of public opinion, and I have no doubt as what will be the answer of the elector of this country; and I have no doubt, Sir, that at the next election the members of that Government will, politically, be relegated to that bourne whence no traveller returns, and in the interest, Sir, of the country, may that day be not far distant.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—The Hon. member for St. John's East, Mr. Speaker, my regarded friend Mr. Shea, summarily disposes of us in his closing remarks though I believe he does not really mean to kill or annihilate the members of the present Government and send us to that bourne from which no traveller returns.

MR. SHEA.—I said, politically.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Hearing that correction I have no fault, Mr. Speaker, to find with the Hon. member's speech. He was temperate and argumentative, and he differed on nearly every point from his leader—especially in endorsing the railway policy of the present Government and, indeed, the railway policy generally. I repeat that I think we may feel satisfied that his speech this evening has more than endorsed our railway policy and I congratulate him on his honesty in giving us this testimonial. He is altogether too honest to be in the Opposition, and though, to my knowledge, he has associations that would corrupt almost anyone, he still contrives to retain that original honesty for which I hope he will long continue to be noted. He is frank enough, moreover, to admit that he has heard for many years in this House the same old terms applied to the Governor's speech from the Opposition benches—that it is vapid, nonsensical and unsatisfying, and then he observes that somebody remarked to him on Water Street last week that our Speech from the Throne was like the
Annual Report of one of our city societies. Whether this was intended as a compliment or not, I regard it as such, and I am sure that his colleagues, Mr. Kent and Mr. Clift, who sit beside him, must also have the same feeling, because Mr. Kent has for years been Vice-President of the Irish Society and Mr. Clift Grand Master of the Fishermen’s Society and these gentlemen must therefore, if they did not write these reports themselves, have played an important part in the composition of them. Personally, though I may be considered old-fashioned, I never fail to read these annual reports of the Societies, and find them very interesting material, telling, as they do, the history of the effort made by these important bodies amongst us to uplift not only their own members but the community in general; and if the Government has done nothing else except imitate, in the Speech from the Throne, these very fine productions, I think its efforts have not been in vain.

There were a few points made by Mr. Shea to which I shall briefly refer. The first relates to some animals purchased at the Burin Agricultural show by the Government and sold here in St. John’s later at a loss. It is quite true that this was done. The explanation is that the Committee at Burin, conducting the exhibition who had given months of their time gratuitously, advised that some of the cattle exhibited there, which had been brought long distances on foot overland or by boat along the coast, could not be taken back without such outlays as would be a hardship on the owners and recommended that the Government purchase the cattle and sell them in St. John’s, arguing that this would be a stimulus to these people to engage more extensively in cattle raising in future and a stimulus to the other exhibitors as well. Remember, however, that it was only these cattle that were purchased. The Government bought no other exhibits whatever. The cattle were brought on here and when they were sold, a loss was made, but it was a mere bagatelle—four or five hundred dollars—compared to the beneficial effect which buying these cattle from the owners had on encouraging agriculture in the district generally.

MR. SHEA.—It would be a very bad principle to go on, if you had to buy all the cattle at these exhibitions.

RT. HON PRIME MINISTER.—I admit that generally the principle would be bad, but this was an exceptional case and I think this explanation will satisfy the Hon. member. If, however, he desires further details the Government has nothing to hide in the matter and the Department gladly courts the fullest criticism.

The Hon. member next asserts that the Festival of Empire, as a whole, was not successful financially. That may be so; I cannot say how it resulted as a commercial venture, but I can say that our part in it was a complete success. I visited it myself on half a dozen occasions and had an opportunity of addressing more than a thousand people on one occasion in one of the great halls, and of describing Newfoundland and its opportunities. Then, daily, people from all parts of the world were viewing our exhibits and realizing what our country can produce. Further, all the great illustrated papers had photos of our court and numerous articles on our opportunities for a desirable investment. Moreover, Mr. Outerbridge, the Chairman of our Committee, a gentleman not specially identified with the policy of this Government, who devoted many weeks while in London, besides all the time he gave to it here, to promoting the success of our part of the show, declared in a report he made to the Board of Trade recently that this Colony's exhibit was an unqualified success and that not only would the Colony benefit indirectly but was already beginning to
benefit directly, as capitalists were planning the investment of money in the development of our resources; so that if the Festival ensures the opening of one mine or one mill it will more than justify the part we took in it.

The Hon. member then asked what became of the Government's Cold Storage Schemes? The Government, I might remind him, has only been identified with one, that introduced here last year, the contract with Trefethen and Lord. The Government made inquiries about these people and was assured by its financial agents that they were perfectly reputable. The delay in their undertaking operation is, I understand, a mere question of money. The venture is a large one. They have identified themselves with capitalists in America and two of our leading Water Street merchants are local directors of the enterprise, men whose names, when mentioned, will be a sufficient guarantee that these people mean business, but even if they never come here will this scheme be any worse than others that have been introduced into this House in the past?—such as the Cold Storage schemes fathered by Mr. Wright under the late administration and supported by nearly every member now on the Opposition side. Of course, the Opposition, having no better material at hand, is making of this matter a weapon with which to attack the Government, apparently desiring to have the public believe that "nothing good can come out of Nazareth." If, however, this and all the other ventures of the present Ministry, cold storage, coal exploration, peat working and other projects—that up to the present time have not brought forth fruit, fail to do so later, the colony is no worse off than when similar schemes were put through by our predecessors, of which Ministry Mr. Shea was a member. Take, for instance, Sir Robert Bond's bill to promote the smelting of iron ore on Bell Island. According to this the land was to flow with milk and honey. Everybody was to be rich beyond the dreams of avarice. But seven or eight years have passed. What smelting has taken place? I say this in no sense of criticism or reproof. Such would come with ill grace from me, as I was a party to the measure and supported it myself. I mention it merely to explain our position, just as I recall Mr. Thompson and his Fog Free Zone Scheme. It is five years now since that project was launched here. I supported it, not that I altogether believed in it, because I said at the time that it seemed to me too good to be true; but I took the position that if it ever materialized, that if the country could, for $75,000 a year, get a weekly service of four-day boats from the Old Country, we would be fully justified in providing such a contribution. Where is that scheme now?

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND—You know where it is. You have correspondence on the matter.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER.—I know I have a letter asking for an extension. But what I say is that nothing has been done.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND—And they were making the survey.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER—The survey was a blind.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—I will discuss that later.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER—I will discuss it any time you wish. I say I know that the survey was a blind; throwing dust in the eyes of the people.
RT. HON SIR R. BOND.—I thought you knew nothing about it.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER.—I said nothing of the sort. However, I think the Rt. Hon. gentleman might let me proceed. I did not interrupt him during his speech.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—That is so. I beg your pardon.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—As I said, I have a letter asking for an extension. Nothing has been done in the past five years and the parties want an extension of time. The project is now in the same position as it was five years ago. It has come to nothing so far. I supported that contract and I defended it when it was bitterly assailed both in the House and outside; and I would be prepared to support it now if it was likely to be carried out. So much for the speech of the Hon. member for St. John's East.

The Rt. Hon. Leader of the Opposition has treated us this afternoon to a very interesting speech from many standpoints, though most of it was in anticipation of the subject with which I hope to deal next Tuesday—Tuberculosis. As I have already given notice that I propose to submit resolutions on this subject on that date, I shall not now go into details, but content myself with two or three references to the effort made this afternoon by the Rt. Hon. gentleman to have it appear outside, if not inside, this House that something wrong has been done by the acceptance of the gift of $100,000 from Messrs. Reid towards the prevention of tuberculosis. We have been told, forsooth, that there has been a breach of some old statute of Edward IV. or Charles II. who have been reposing for centuries in Westminster Abbey, and that it is unconstitutional and criminal for the Government to accept gifts of this nature. With all respect to the Rt. Hon. gentleman, and to his great industry in searching for and discovering these old precedents, I can assure him that he has entirely missed the principle underlying these cases. The statutes quoted by him refer entirely to personal gifts to the Crown and were intended to prevent such gifts because they savored of corruption. Of course, if the gift of Messrs. Reid were of a personal nature to the Crown or to members of the Government, Sir Robert Bond's arguments might be germane, for this would put the gift on an entirely different basis; but the gift in question is a gift to the country, to the thousands among us who will die if something is not done to alleviate their suffering. The Government is not frightened by the Rt. Hon. gentleman's allegation that the Constitution is being jeopardized. His argument is entirely unfounded in this regard.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—I will prove that to you later.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—You may try to do so but I do not think you will even convince yourself. I repeat that you are absolutely wrong. The youngest law student could see at a glance that there is no analogy between this gift and gifts such as are barred by the statutes of Charles II. There is no reason why the Government should not accept this gift. We are the people's trustees for this splendid offering as we are their trustees for all the other sums of money received by the Treasury. When we go out of office our successors, whoever they may be, will be trustees for it in the same way. The same thing is done in England every week of the year. Scarcely any large Institution is kept up except by voluntary subscriptions. Though controlled by the statute law, by the County Councils and by the Government, they are maintained voluntarily. Moreover, did not the late Lady Reid add a large wing to the General Hospital when the present Leader of the Oppo-
sition was Colonial Secretary and if it is wrong now to take this gift from her sons surely it was equally wrong then to take $5,000 or $10,000 from her at that time. It is, however, to-day, with the Rt. Hon. gentleman, as this House and the country outside can see, a case again exemplifying the old adage, "It all depends on whose ox is gored." It was quite right and proper for his Government to take a gift from Lady Reid but it is altogether wrong and improper, and a grave constitutional crisis is brought about when this Government accepts a similar gift from her sons. But, Mr. Speaker, all this parade of constitutional issues has no force whatever. This Legislature is supreme and whatever it ratifies is the constitution of Newfoundland. No matter what the Mays, Bourinots, Dodds and other Parliamentary authorities may say, we do not care the snap of the finger for them, and although musty precedents may satisfy some pettifogging lawyer, they have no influence upon free men representing free people.

Then the Rt. Hon. gentleman went on to object to the acceptance of this gift by the Government without having previously obtained legislative authority therefor. Does not he know that nine-tenths of the business of the country is done by the Executive in the same way? He, with his long experience, knows very well it is the very first principle of government that the Executive Council, acting really as a Committee of the Legislature, deals with all matters that arise, for otherwise government would be impossible if Legislative authority had to be obtained before any step was taken during the course of the year. Did the Rt. Hon. gentleman when he accepted the gift of $5,000 or $10,000 from Lady Reid for the building of a wing to the General Hospital, wait until the Legislature assembled before he decided to accept that gift and if he did not, how can he fairly argue that we should do so now?

The next contention he makes is that this gift is unnecessary. This is an appropriate enough attitude on his part, who allowed the question to drift curing all the time he was in office and never attempted to grapple with it; but we are doing things differently now.

In my opinion there is no question about the need for sanatoria in this Colony. One thousand of our people die every year from consumption,—50,000 in the last fifty years and no attempt made to save them though we know that consumption is a preventable disease. Not alone can it be prevented, but it can be cured in a large percentage of cases. The Rt. Hcn, gentleman says our Vital Statistics are imperfect, and in some cases they are sent in by clergymen, for which reason he appears to think that they should not be regarded seriously. Well, Sir, very often I would sooner take the diagnosis of clergymen on Consumption than that of some other medical men whom we have had in this Colony advising Governments in this matter. But in our decision to grapple with this problem we are not governed altogether by the statistics sent in from the outports. We know what the statistics of other countries are, what percentage of cases and deaths occur in these countries and if we doubt our own we have only to take the reports on tuberculosis of England, Germany, United States, Canada and other countries to be fully satisfied that the statistics supplied for this Colony are very little, if at all, astray. But even if we admit that our records regarding tuberculosis show our condition to be no worse than that of other countries, the fact remains that whereas the rest of the world has been actively endeavoring to grapple with this problem, we have done nothing at all as yet in Newfoundland, so far as the
Government is concerned, to co-operate with it. Four or five years ago private enterprise was enlisted in the matter. Hon. Mr. Harvey and others formed an Association for the Prevention of Consumption, which has done very fine work and has earned the gratitude of the community; while other volunteer workers have also merited a liberal share of praise as well. The present Government, when it took office, felt that the policy of drift which characterized my Rt. Hon. friend's regime, could no longer continue; and appointed a Commission on Public Health composed of Hon. Mr. Harvey and several medical men, whose work the past three years has shown the great need of more drastic action and fully justified the policy of the Government in regard to this matter as announced in the Speech from the Throne. It is our intention to deal with every case in the Island, if possible. It is not a question of cost; whether it will pay, or not, to undertake this work. Apart from its saddening phases we have also to look at the economic side of the problem, and see the value, as citizens, of the thousands of our people afflicted with this dread scourge who are slowly but surely going down to death. Viewing these facts we cannot, rich or poor, man or woman, get away from our responsibility to deal with the problem. If a case of Smallpox or Diphtheria broke out in town to-day everybody would be alarmed. The newspapers would cry out, Boards of Health would be appointed and every precaution taken to prevent our homes from infection; and yet, because Consumption is more insidious and less obtrusive as a disease, though thousands of cases exist around us, we calmly sit down and think we are doing our duty if we attend the wake and the funeral. The time has come, in my judgment, for something to be done and whether it takes the form of sanatoria or hospitals matters not. Action must be commenced and I hope that within three or four years every case of Consumption in Newfoundland will be under treatment. I look to these sanatoria to prove springs of health in every district, places where, by the ministration, of competent nurses and doctors, the best treatment will be obtained by patients and valuable information will be disseminated throughout the whole communities regarding the betterment of public health and the simple methods which can be utilized to lessen the risk from this disease. The Hon. gentlemen on the other side of the House may criticise as they will, but something has to be done. The wheels of progress in this respect must not be stopped and it is as unreasonable for my Hon. friends to oppose the attempt or belittle this movement as it would be for them to try to stop a locomotive in its course.

Then, seeing the weakness of his case otherwise, the Rt. Hon. gentleman would have the public imagine that the whole work of this proposed new organization is to be placed in the hands of experimenters. The Government has no such intention. These sanatoria will be handed over for the care of doctors and nurses. There will be a fully qualified medical man as head of the staff at the central sanatorium in St. John's and thoroughly experienced nurses will be attached to each Institution. The worst cases will be removed to the hospitals and the less serious ones will be treated in their homes. The Rt. Hon. gentleman appears to be so poorly informed on this subject that he actually stated that there were only six tuberculosis sanatoria in the United States.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—Excuse me. What I said was that so far as I could learn there were only six state-owned sanatoria.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Ah! That is different and may be correct,
but the explanation is that there are so many public spirited men in the United States, philanthropists who do not bank their money and let the people die, but put up sanatoria and hospitals and other institutions, that the need for the State to move in the matter is not so great. These men give a share of their money back to the people, recognizing the responsibilities of wealth in the same way as Messrs. Reid are recognizing it by their gift. Last year more than ninety millions of dollars was subscribed by private individuals in America to public institutions such as sanatoria and hospitals. There were in 1905 only five sanatoria in that country while to-day, only seven years later, there are 400. Not six to-day but actually 400 and virtually all of these built by private enterprise, paid for by men of wealth and dedicated to the service of the public. That is what the Rockefellers, the Carnegies and the others are doing to-day, giving back to the people some of the money they have made; and hence the State governments are not called upon to build or maintain these institutions. The same thing is true of England, where all the great hospitals for every kind of disease are mainly equipped and supported by voluntary subscriptions but, as they are not state-owned, my Rt. Hon. friend will perhaps argue that because the Legislature in England do not vote anything for these institutions the country is without them and will have to wait for them until such a vote is made. Personally, I feel sure that when this question comes up for discussion next week it will be agreed by all that the time has arrived when something really practical should be effected and though we may differ as to the best means of dealing with the problem and the methods to be adopted, we shall, I am satisfied, be able to agree on the main question that something must be done immediately.

The Rt. Hon. gentleman then turned his attention to the branch railways which, without intending to be personal, seem to me to be the "red rag to the bull" to him, for whenever you mention railways at all, unless they were promoted by that gentleman and his colleagues they are anathematized. According to him there is no political salvation either here or hereafter for anybody associated with railroad or other political policies lacking his endorsement and approval. He was particularly annoyed because there was a jubilation last autumn over the opening of the Bonavista Branch. It was perfectly right and proper for previous railroads to be opened with the usual functions and formalities, but that anybody should be so bold as to open the Bonavista Branch with any ceremony whatever, because he had opposed its construction, is an offence against his dignity which he resents very vehemently. But, Mr. Speaker, why should we not jubilate and rejoice over the inauguration of a large artery of commerce like the Bonavista branch railway. To be sure, if anybody had a right to rejoice over it the Government were the ones, but we were not alone in our rejoicing, for members of both sides of the House and representatives of both the Government and Opposition papers vied with each other in throwing up their caps to celebrate the opening of the road. I should point out, however, that it was not a public function in the ordinary sense, but one that originated with the contractors who built the road, and who invited the guests. Many attended the function but I claim that if nobody attended but members of the Government, we had a right to rejoice because the offspring and the work was ours. The rejoicing was not, however, at the public expense, and did not cost the Colony anything, so that my Rt. Hon. friend's well known scruples against
Taking up the general question of branch railways I would point out, Mr. Speaker, that we went to the country on such a policy, well-defined and clear cut. There was no doubt about this policy, for in the session four years ago, early in 1908, it was debated here; and in the manifesto of our party we stated it most specifically, nailed our colors to the mast and were prepared to stand or fall by them. After our manifesto was issued the Opposition leader issued his and regarded our railway policy of sufficient importance to deal with it in his manifesto, wherein he said that he did not believe the branch railways would be of any benefit to the Colony, that Newfoundland would never be able to meet the cost and expenses of building the railways and that these branches could never give any commensurate return for the outlay. That was the issue on which the parties went to the country in October 1908, and eighteen men came back on each side. In other words, in spite of all the electioneering machinery at the disposal of the party now in Opposition, but then in the Government, an untried new combination went to the country and succeeded in winning as many seats, though having to fight against a combination of circumstances never previously approached and that I shall not dignify by naming in this assembly. Nevertheless, in spite of all influences, in spite of lavish outlays, in spite of despicable cries, we won as many seats as our opponents and when a second opportunity came we wiped them out as no other party had ever been wiped out before under similar circumstances. In the same way, in the spring election of 1909, the issue was that of the branch railways for we told the people then, as we had told them in the previous fall, that we advocated railways. We were elected by the people and are building the railways. We have the work well under way and it will be carried to a finish. The Rt. Hon. gentleman has said that it will cost $4,000,-000 more to finish these branches.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—At least four million dollars.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—The Rt. Hon. gentleman is completely mistaken. It will not cost half that amount—not $2,000,000 more to complete the branches, not to speak of $4,000,-000. But supposing for argument's sake, that it would cost $4,000,000 more, has any man in this House a right to object to this when the people have said they want these railways and we have proved that it is possible to build them without impairing the solvency or stability of the Colony? Is it not better to spend public money in building railroads which will return a substantial share of the outlay to the Colony, rather than to throw it away with no chance of any of it ever being returned? We stated, from the outset, where these railroads were to go, but it was impossible then and, even when the Loan Bill was introduced, to make an estimate of what their total mileage will be, though my Rt. Hon. friend opposite put them down at about 200 miles.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—My information was supplied by the Government Engineer.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—I was not aware until this moment that the Government Engineer had supplied you with the figures but that fact makes it all the better for my case. I am speaking from memory, but my recollection is that the words used by you were that "after making careful investigation and inquiries" you had figured out certain measurements and it will much surprise me if in your manifesto can be found the words "Government Engineer." However, if the Government Engineer supplied the figures he was 150 miles out, though
I was not misled to that extent. My idea of the length of the five branches was that they would total about 300 miles and the Government Engineer figures them out to-day at 340 miles, though I do not say this to bind him to any estimate, because all the lines are not yet built, or even surveyed. But the road to Bonavista is 88 miles, that to Trepassey is 102 miles, that to Bay de Verde is 53 miles, that to Heart's Content is 33 miles, and while those to Fortune and Bonne Bay are not yet surveyed, the Government Engineer estimates the line from Deer Lake to Bonne Bay at about 24 miles and that to Fortune Bay at about 45 miles, a grand total of 340 miles. I always thought myself that between 300 and 350 miles would be about the total. I remember Mr. Anderson, who was really the financial mouthpiece and exponent of Sir Robert Bond—

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—I deny that.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—But no denial from you or anybody else can take away from the fact that Mr. Anderson issued the financial statement. I am aware that Mr. Anderson has since had a relapse from grace, from the viewpoint of the Rt. Hon. gentleman, and may not think now as he did in 1909, but he was on the same platform with Mr. Kent and Mr. Shea, who are now sitting beside the Rt. Hon. gentleman, and who were at that time members of his Executive and what Mr. Anderson said on that platform in the T. A. Hall, in October, 1908, he being a man whom the people thought had some knowledge of finance, who had been in the Assembly for years and had shortly before been appointed by the Rt. Hon. gentleman to the Legislative Council, had its effect upon the public. Mr. Anderson's financial statement was made from between Mr. Kent and Mr. Shea and with their acquiescence and approval. This financial statement was then published in the Evening Telegram, the organ of the Rt. Hon. gentleman, it was considered sufficiently important by that paper to be decorated with headlines two inches long and it was used for all it was worth by the Rt. Hon. gentleman and his candidates throughout the country in the election then pending, though now Mr. Anderson is repudiated by his then leader. Mr. Anderson figured the length of the line at 275 miles. Possibly we might have so built these roads so that the total mileage would not exceed 300 miles, but in that case we would have had to build them over barrens and cut out settlements now tapped, and the railroads would not have been nearly so valuable to the people of the Colony as they have become by reason of the manner in which we have built them, because we have endeavoured so far as possible to bring every settlement into touch with the road, unlike the policy pursued in more than one section between St. John's and Port aux Basques on the main line, where the only knowledge the people have of the presence of a railway in their vicinity is hearing the locomotive whistle as the train passes by.

Take, for instance, the case of the branch to Heart's Content. That line is now 33 miles long, but we could have built a railway directly across the "Barrens" from Carbonear, which would be only about 14 or 15 miles, but there is not a single house in that section, so we went round by Dildo and connected up settlements with a population of 6,000 by adding 20 miles to the line. The same is true of Bonavista Bay. We could have made the road about 75 miles, but that would have left out important settlements in Trinity and Bonavista Bays so we lengthened it 13 or 14 miles to connect these. In the same way, the public road from here to Trepassey is, roughly, about 75 miles, but many of the settlements could not be connected if we
built a railroad of that mileage and so we lengthened the road, but we considered ourselves justified in doing this in all these cases, because we will bring the advantages and facilities of the branches home to the very doors of the people. Therefore, when these branches are completed in 1915, the total length will be about 340 miles and when everything is paid for—construction work, cost of right of way where private property is interfered with, and every other expense which the branches will involve—the total cost will not amount to $6,000,000 but will probably be considerably less than that amount. As I have already said, no one could make an estimate of the length of these various roads when we went to the country, and indeed, not until the surveys began and the claims of the different localities for close connection with the branches came to be considered was it possible to even approximately determine where and how the lines would run. To-day one branch has been built and is under operation, two are being constructed and the surveys of the last are being made, so that we can closely estimate the total length and thereby arrive at a fairly accurate estimate of the cost. But, anyway, the country has pronounced on this point; those who will pay have demanded railroads; the Legislature has authorized the construction; and whether the cost is to be four or five or six million dollars, the people of the country who want the lines are entitled to have them. Moreover, I have yet to learn why Bona vista and Trinity and Catalina and the other sections of the country which are to be supplied by these branch railroads should be penalized and refused these facilities when other districts can have not only railways but steamers and main roads and other accessories. I can go daily by carriage from here right round Conception Bay, or I can go in a railway train, or I can go in a subsidized steamer, while the northern bays are locked up for some months in the year, having no connection with the outside world and in a sense suffering conditions like those in Siberia. The Rt. Hon. gentleman and his friends seem to contend that the people who live in these bays should not have railroad facilities. On the other hand, on the South Coast, they sometimes have three steamers a week, the Portia, the Argyle and the Glencoe. Yet the man from the north who pays for these boats and gets no show, but is taxed like his more fortunate neighbour, is to be refused a railroad and the Rt. Hon. gentleman will try to have the public believe that this is justice. It may be his idea of justice, it is not mine and it is not the people's; because the people declared against it when we put our respective policies before them at the last elections. I would remind the Opposition that we are not building these branches for the pleasure of the thing, but because we consider them a necessity; and it is not a question whether they will pay or not, any more than it is a question whether a lighthouse will pay, or a road, or a breakwater, or any other public utility which is necessary for our people in the conduct of their daily avocations. The railroads are the very life-blood of a country, the great commercial arteries through which the source of life passes and without them no community can prosper. The Government in building these lines are merely trustees or directors carrying out a work which the country has authorized and in the autumn of 1913, when we appeal again to the country for an endorsement of our policy, I have no doubt what the answer will be. When we went to the country before we were untried and the people had suffered so much from the breaches of trust and broken promises of the Bond regime, that it is not surprising that in many places our
policy was ridiculed and that our candidates were told: “We have heard all that before and it has come to nothing!” It did not surprise me when I went down to Bonavista and told them that if they elected me, I would come again within two years by train, they scoffed at me and thought I was fooling them. There were hundreds of men in the Orange Hall at Bonavista that night in October 1908 and when I told them that we were going to build that railroad, I saw smiles of incredulity on their faces. But when I went back last fall and addressed the same people in the same hall and reminded them how I kept my promise, the rafters rang, for the fishermen of this Colony never fail to give credit when they feel that they have been treated fairly, yet we heard the Rt. Hon. gentleman say here a few moments ago that our railway policy was a bribe, a public bribe, to get votes. Did he commit bribery when he went to the country with Sir William Whiteway in 1889 whose policy was nothing but a railway policy? And he went again in 1893 and once more in 1897, what was the Whiteway policy if it wasn’t a railway policy? How can it be called a bribe to submit to the electorate a great industrial policy? Is it bribery, for instance, for Asquith to go to the country on a Home Rule policy? There is no man in England who would dare charge him with this.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—Balfour charged him with it over and over again.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—But Balfour is down and out and one of the reasons for that is that though he was an able statesman, probably one of the greatest in England for many years; yet, (if it would not be considered improper for me to give an opinion of a notable English statesman), I should say that it was his weak point that he never put proper value on the yearnings or aspirations of the people. You have got to take the people into your confidence and realize that times change and old days pass away, that you have to make the people partners in your enterprises, tell them what you are going to do, how you are going to do it, and what the benefits will be to them. If a railroad policy is to bribe I hope I shall never be charged with a greater offence, inside or outside this House, than that our Branch Railroad policy in 1908 was an attempt to bribe the electorate.

I should very much like, if possible, to submit the two manifestoes to an impartial judge or court and say “Here are the manifestoes of the leaders of the two parties. Which do you think contains the greater bribe?” I am satisfied such an impartial authority would have only to read them to see the manifesto of my Rt. Hon. friend was a petition to the charitably-disposed public, as I would term it. There was never such a manifesto issued by anyone as was his. He did me the honor this evening of reading a number of extracts from my manifesto and from the Speech from the Throne and he enlightened and illuminated the debate by referring to many interesting things in these speeches. I now extend to him the invitation to continue that good work and begin to read for us the next time the committee sits some of the Speeches from the Throne during his term of office from 1901 to 1908, not alone at the opening but at the closing of the sessions, and let us learn of the number of promises never realized and never intended to be kept; and then I think he will find that the Speeches with which this Government has been identified will compare favorably with those of his adminis-
Another matter that excited the Hon. Gentleman’s indignation was a letter he saw in the press relative to immigration. He wants to know what happened to our immigration scheme, and my answer is that very much the same happened to it as happened to his own.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND—We never had one.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER.—I will refresh his memory as to that very soon and refer to one of his speeches in which he mentioned an immigration scheme. So far as this Government is concerned it is at work in other respects in the endeavour to promote settlement in the island. To do this is not an easy task because to secure settlers, even if you have the best and richest land to offer, you are competing with populous communities like Canada and America which possess endless means for encouraging settlers and development. The Canadian Pacific railroad, for instance will provide an English farmer who plans to settle in Canada, with a farm of 200 acres, with the buildings up, the stock on the farm and the crop in the ground. That offer is published broadcast in newspapers and periodicals in Britain and America. In our country, without the wealth such concerns possess, without the means to advertise so fully, it is difficult to induce immigration. My Rt. Hon. friend charged against us that we had a scheme for bringing out waifs, strays and criminals.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—I did not say criminals.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—Well, if you did not I am willing to accept your disclaimer. I was reading from the notes I took.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—I repeat that I did not say criminals. I challenge the House as to that.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—Well, I may have been mistaken but such was the note I took at the time. With regard to the project which he criticizes, I may say that it was never my intention to identify the colony with any scheme for bringing out waifs and strays. What did happen was that a Society including many of the best people in Oxford has for years been promoting a scheme for scientific education for poor lads in agriculture in the colonies. The idea is to take large tracts of land, set up important colleges and send out boys to receive scientific training in modern farming methods. This Society asked us if we could give one or two thousand acres of land and we said that we could. That is but a small area and if these immigrants were brought here and this large college erected nothing better could be done for Newfoundland. Every day boys are being sent to Canada from England by all sorts of Societies. There are many in the old country that do nothing else but look up poor boys whose fathers are farmers and help these lads out to Canada. Unfortunately, however, nothing came of the scheme so far as we are concerned. Many schemes have been tried here the past twenty years and have come to nought, but I am not the projector of them all. I am prepared to take full responsibility for any scheme, or measure initiated by me that has not borne fruit, but we are not responsible for all the Wrights and Blackmans that have been coming here for a generation. Anything I have done for the past three years, or that I may do for the next two years, if I continue in office, will be done with only one object and that object the good of the people of this coun-
try, and I will not be deterred from so doing by any word or act of my Rt. Hon. friend or his colleagues. For the past few months we have been told by the Opposition organs that there would be "lively" times in the House this session. That may be a proper way to speak of a "nickel show" but it is not the proper way to speak of a Parliament and is derogatory to the dignity of this House. As for the "lively" times which the Opposition are going to give us, we do not care very much for we court the fullest criticism, but we claim that we should get fair criticism and that I consider we have not had here this evening. We are told that surpluses in our revenue come from "borrowed millions." We have had them as high as $400,000 a year. We are going to have $300,000 this year. Now what do these "borrowed millions" amount to in making up a surplus? What difference can it make to have a few hundred men working on the railway? It is the merest nonsense and my Rt. Hon. friend can hardly be serious in advancing such an argument. Every man that works on the railway is taken away from some other work where he would be adding just as much and more to the country's wealth. What difference does it make to the revenue if we put a thousand or two thousand men on the railway and have to take them from the Labrador fishery to do so? Or from Bell Island to put them at Grand Falls or on the Bonavista Branch? How does that affect the revenue? It does not better it one dollar. If you brought in 2,000 men from the outside and set them on the railway, it might do so then. Indeed, as it is, there is more likelihood of it being a loss to the colony for most of the things the workmen use on the railway come in duty free. Then my Rt. Hon. friend says that gambling for Crown Lands is another cause of the increase of revenue. But were we not told by him in 1901 that the Crown Lands of the colony were now free and would in future prove one of its best sources of revenue? Yet he tells us today that dealings in them are a mere gamble. I myself do not know to what he refers in that. I have never had an interest, direct or indirect, near or remote, in any timber or mineral wealth. I have never made application for a piece of timber or a mineral grant and I know nothing about it, but gambling in timber and gambling in mineral will continue as long as there is a world left to gamble in, or anything left to gamble with, for there is no power in the law to prevent it. The very same law exists today as to the purchase and exchange of these lands as existed when my Rt. Hon. friend was in office. There is not one iota of difference and it is not fair of him to say that a cent of our surplus revenue is improperly earned. The Government cannot stop such gambling if it exists. It will go on, and we are not alone in this respect in Newfoundland. It is the same way in Canada and other countries. These, then, are the various ways in which my Rt. Hon. friend asserts that our surplus revenue is being maintained—"borrowed millions" and "gambling in Crown lands," but he forgets to mention that a hundred thousand dollars a year is obtained from Bell Island. This is something in our favor and therefore he ignores it. That $100,000 has been sufficient up to date to pay the whole interest on our branch railway expenditure and it represents one-third of our surplus revenue.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—That is the normal revenue. I refer to abnormal revenue.
RT. HON. THE PREMIER.—The surplus revenue is made up of both abnormal and normal revenue and another factor in making up our revenue, whether normal or abnormal, is the prosperity the colony has enjoyed since we attained office, a prosperity for which he will be the last to give us credit, but which we claim is the direct outcome of the progressive policy which we have inaugurated and are carrying out to the best of our ability.

One other important matter to which the Rt. Hon. gentleman referred. He said there was no mention in the speech from the Throne in regard to the Government's policy as to the export of bait fishes. The Government's policy in this respect is unchanged. There will be no bait fishes exported and there never have been since the present administration has been in power. We want all our bait fishes for our own people.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND—I think you forget what was done last summer in Fortune Bay.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER.—There was nothing in that at all. I am not talking now about an odd barrel of herring getting away. I am talking of the general policy of the Government. For the past three years no fish have been exported from Newfoundland for bait. We endeavour to trace every barrel of herring because that is about the only bait fish really exported. In the law to-day there is nothing to prevent any man who takes herring from shipping it to St. John's and sending it by steamer to New York, and it might easily be used as bait. However, we are watching the situation closely and if I could tell the Rt. Hon. member what the Department is doing in that direction, he would be surprised.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND—Don't you think it desirable to tell the House?

RT. HON. THE PREMIER—No bait fishes have been or will be exported. That is the policy of the Government and that is the policy which it intends to pursue.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND—Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether I am entitled to speak again or not.

HON. THE SPEAKER.—The Rt. Hon. member is not entitled to speak.

SIR R. BOND.—Mr. Speaker, if you will refer to May's Parliamentary Practice you will find that while I am not entitled to go into new matter I am permitted to make further remarks by way of personal explanation. However, I do not intend to make any lengthy reply to my Rt. Hon. friend opposite. When his remarks go broadcast to the country as a reply to what I have challenged the Government with this afternoon, I think the judgment will go in my favour. His reply was no reply; but there was one remark in it I am sorry to suppose the Rt. Hon. member capable of making. I am afraid he became a little bit out of temper and lost his balance; at any rate he became somewhat personal. I always avoid personalities. He says that the merest tyro of a law student would be able to show that my construction of the law of constitutional usage is absurd. Well, I should expect such an interpretation as his from a mere tyro of a law student, or an imbecile lawyer, but hardly from an ex-Attorney General. Allow me, Sir, to say, that the leader of the House was entirely wrong in his interpretation of the constitution. I thought, Sir, that he would have come prepared; I thought that he had ranged the whole of history in this connection, and was well posted, until he told us that all the arguments to which I had reference referred to private gifts to the King. It is the very opposite. Every
statute that I quoted, had reference, not to personal gifts to the King, but to gifts, both compulsory and voluntary, given to the Government of the King and to enable him to carry on wars both at home and abroad. What a position for my learned friend to put himself in! And what a position for him to attempt to put me in! Either he did not know what he was talking about or else he was committing the offence of trying to mislead the House.

And why does that law exist? It was passed for the purpose of the protection of the British House of Commons in order that that House should retain the power of the purse, so as to control the King and his Government. It was to prevent any interference with the high privileges of Parliament to say what should be done and what should not as regards the public expenditure. I challenge any lawyer to deny in one iota the correctness of this statement.

We have had a good deal of dilating on the railway policy. Sir, I was one of the fathers of that policy. I went to the country with Sir William White- way the first time he appealed to the country on it, against the whole mercantile community. No man has been a stronger advocate for a railway policy than I. No man has fought harder battles for it than I, in and out of this House. And yet my Rt. Hon. friend says that I am always opposed to that policy. The records of this House will show that I have ever been a staunch upholder of a railway policy, but not one such as that of my Rt. Hon. friend. Not a policy of constructing branch railways to places that will never give us any return. Where are the fertile lands and vast resources of the district of Bonavista? I have been over that country on foot myself more than once; but I never saw them. Where are the great natural resources of Trepassey? Sir, I oppose the railway policy of the Government not because I am opposed to railways in themselves, but because at present we are not getting that service we ought to expect and until we can by some means or other compel the railway company to carry out its present contractual obligations as regards the present service we should not in decency give him more contracts. I should like to know the facts as to the non-operation of the branch lines to Broad Cove and Bonavista during a part of this winter. What was the cause of the inefficiency of the service to Hr. Grace. I surmise, I surmise only, that the interests of those people were sacrificed. There is not enough rolling stock to meet the requirements of the road, yet some of it had to be taken and used in connection with the construction of those branch lines. That is my position, not opposition to railways, but against a continuation of a condition of things that are unrighteous and detrimental to the whole commercial interests of this country.

I also referred this afternoon to the jubilation that ensued on the opening of the Bonavista branch, and my learned friend took exception to my remarks. He said that members of the Opposition attended the opening and took part in the celebration, but even if they did that didn't justify it. The Rt. Hon. gentleman's argument reminds me, sir, of a story told, I think, about Richard Brinsley Sheridan. He was returning from a dinner and while walking along the pavement, met a drunk man. Going up to him he said, "My good man, I cannot get drunk with you, but I will do the next best thing I will lie down in the gutter with you." The Opposition were in the same position with our learned friends. They couldn't get drunk with the Govt. in their policy, but they did the next best thing they get down in the gutter with them—they did it out of sympathy.
My Rt. Hon. and learned friend says that he went to the country upon a policy of railway extension, and that he had received a mandate from the country to carry out this policy. Was not there also, Sir, in his manifesto, a statement that he would reduce taxation, and that pork, sugar, butter, tea would be on the free list? He published that pledge. He made it one of the planks in his manifesto, but he did not carry it out. That pledge, Sir, made by him, is just as binding, as the pledge to extend the railway to Bonavista, and was equally a mandate from the people, and yet, Sir, that pledge so solemnly made by him, published in his manifesto, forming one of its planks, has never been fulfilled.

Again, my learned friend objected to my statement that the surplus revenue was abnormal. I say that it was abnormal, because it was obtained from extraordinary sources—from moneys received from gambling in Crown Lands; it was received from the expenditure on the paper mills established in this country, and in the next place, because it proceeded from the expenditure of borrowed millions. My learned friend says that no revenue was produced from the expenditure on the railway! Does he mean to contend that the moneys have all gone into the contractor's pockets? But, Sir, it must have gone into the pockets of the men who worked on the railway, and every cent they spent contributed therefore towards the revenue. Gainsay that if you can. I again say that every cent helped towards it, and that the expenditure from those borrowed millions helped to make the surplus abnormal.

My learned friend says further that the country was tired of the scalding received from the former government, and that they returned him because they were sick of the stagnation of the Bond Government. Sir, was he not also one of the scalding party? They had enough of stagnation! "Out of thine own mouth, I condemn thee, thou unjust servant." I have a little pamphlet here. It is called "Morris on Prosperity." What does Morris say on this subject? It was written, when he was a member of the then Bond Government in March, 1907. Mark, well, just a few months before he made the hop, skip and jump. He said:

House of Assembly March 1907:

"The government has been able to reduce taxation annually to the extent of $250,000 and increase public services to the extent of $300,000, including grants for extension of coastal service, light houses, etc., that the people have lived better, and have been able to put away in the savings banks of this country something like five millions of money, not to talk of the amount they put away in their own homes. What has brought about this prosperity! There has not been more fish caught than there was forty years ago when there was one third less population than there is today. How was it then that the people could live better, have more comforts and save money with one third more population, if it were not for the new industries started as the result of the development policy of the government.

"As a People we are better off and one of the reasons for this is the policy of the Government of today." I am done, Sir. I am satisfied.

MR. BENNETT.—Mr Speaker, I had not intended to speak this evening—

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—I object, the debate is closed.

MR. BENNETT.—Mr Speaker, I know I have no right to speak after the debate is closed, but I submit it is not closed. I hope this is not intentional on the part of Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Opposition to try and choke me off.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—I would
like to tell the Hon. member that he does not know the rules of debate. The debate is closed. You have not the right to reply. If he has, I can exercise my right to reply.

MR. BENNETT.—You are not the one to decide that point.

HON. THE SPEAKER.—I would point out that only the mover of a substantive motion has the right to reply. In this case Mr. Moore was the mover, and he has the right to reply, if he so desires. When the Rt. Hon. member just spoke, he had no right to reply, only through courtesy of the House. The debate is not closed, and Mr. Bennett can speak.

MR. BENNETT.—As I was going on to say,

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—I object.

MR. BENNETT.—Oh go on, I will sit down until the Speaker decides.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—You are very impertinent Sir, you are long enough in the House to know its rules.

MR. BENNETT.—Mr. Speaker,

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—I rise to a point of order.

MR. BENNETT.—May I speak, Sir?

HON. THE SPEAKER.—The Rt. Hon. gentleman has risen to a point of order, let him state it.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—On page 358, of May's Parliamentary Practise, it is written that "In regard to the explanation of personal matters, the House is usually indulgent; and will permit a statement of that character to be made without any question being before the House; but no debate shall ensue thereon. General arguments or observations beyond the fair bounds of explanation, or too distinct a reference to previous debates are out of order."

HON. THE SPEAKER.—I would like to point out to the Rt. Hon. member that he is allowed to give an explanation of personal matters, but according to all Parliamentary rules, and the rules and practice of this House, he is not allowed to speak twice on any subject before the chair.

MR. BENNETT.—I regret exceedingly, Sir, this personal affair. I would like to inform the Rt. Hon. gentleman that there is no one for whom I have a greater respect and admiration, but I—

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—Thank you. I did not contradict the Hon. member, I only rose to point out to him the Rules of the House.

MR. BENNETT.—However, Sir, I listened this afternoon with a great deal of interest to the speech of the Rt. Hon. gentleman, and I must say that I cannot congratulate him on his effort. I have heard him on many occasions make speeches in this House that did credit to himself, to this Legislature, and that would be a credit to any legislature in the Empire. This afternoon, I was expecting something extraordinary from him, to hear from him an exhaustive criticism of the actions of the Government and of their policy, but I think that every member of this House, including the members on the Opposition side, if they are honest enough to confess it, will agree with me when I say that the Rt. Hon. gentleman fell very far short of what was expected of him. He designated the Speech from the Throne as one that contained nothing, and not by any means one worthy of a government. I would have thought, Sir, that he would have taken the different clauses of that Speech and analysed each separately, but the best part of the evening was taken up with a discussion or a dissertation, on the condition of things on the railway line between here and Whitbourne. I do not know what this has to do with the Speech from the Throne. Is it because he failed to arrive here on the opening day? I do not think that he was fair in his contentions as to the conditions of things along the railway line. He charges it as being due to the neglect
and dilatoriness of the contractors, and of the Government. I suppose he thinks that this is proper and fair argument to put up under existing conditions. When he was in power, were there any storms or blizzards? But, Sir, I think, that if he will look around and see the condition of affairs in this city to-day, caused by the snow storms and blizzards, one succeeding the other, there can be found some excuse for the condition of things along the railway line. It is a wonder to me that he has been able to arrive here yet. I would have liked this afternoon to have seen the Mayor of the city in the House so that he might have listened to the high encomiums on city affairs from the Rt. Hon. gentleman. It is true that the streets of St. John’s were never in such a condition as at present, but I do not blame the City Council or the Reid Co., I blame the unprecedented conditions of weather for the last two months. It is impossible to conquer the elements, no sooner have you cleared away after one storm, than along comes another and undoes all your labour. I hold no retainer from the railway contractors, and I would be the first to criticise their actions if they were not doing their duty, but I feel sure that such a condition of things that exist to-day is unprecedented. I can cite as an authority one whom the Rt. Hon. gentleman has said cannot err. His Excellency the Governor also expressed his admiration for the Reid Co. for the way they were fighting their difficulties.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—I would remind the Hon. member that it is contrary to the Rules of Parliament to bring His Excellency’s name in here. He cannot quote him in the House.

MR. BENNETT.—I am not going to take issue with the Rt. Hon. member. As he thinks it unparliamentary to bring in the Governor’s name, I am sorry that I unwittingly mentioned it in debate, but I am convinced all the same that His Excellency is of that opinion.

I had hoped, Sir, that the other matter that occupied his attention would have fallen from his lips in a very different spirit. I refer to the sanitariums in different parts of the country. I think that the whole country is as one in its appreciation, thanks and admiration for the generosity of those gentlemen, who have put their hands in their pockets for the relief of suffering mankind. I only hope that their good example will be copied. In the past we have had men come into the country, and make large sums of money. Quite proper, I admit, but the deplorable part of it is that never on one occasion has anything been done by those men of a public character. They go back to the countries from whence they come, never giving a dollar for the benefit of the country or of the people, from whom they made their wealth. I would have liked to have seen the Rt. Hon. gentleman, in spite of his party feeling, join hands with us across the floors of this House, in fighting the greatest plague the world has ever known, consumption. I say and repeat that it will be a great day in this country when the men who have made money out of it, will return some of it to the people to help the most deserving and needy. When this matter is put into execution and operation, then the people of this island will appreciate it, and know what the Messrs. Reid have done, they will see that the death rate from consumption is cut in half and they will not as in the past, see their children and relatives dying before their eyes, for want of a proper place to be treated and cured. This in itself is sufficient justification for the acceptance of this gift by the Government. I care not if any technical point of the constitution has been broken or any constitutional right has been violated, but I hope that this is the starting point and that
something far reaching will be done to save the thousands of the best blood of this Colony, now being sacrificed by a plague, which very little has been done in the past to combat. No wrong has been done as has been pointed out here this evening.

**RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.**—The Government has done wrong, I pointed it out here this evening.

**MR. BENNETT.**—I think not, Sir, The leader of the Government showed that there was not any wrong done, and I think that he is just as well able to interpret the law as the Rt. Hon. gentleman. This I hope, Sir, is but the first gift, and that it will have the effect of awakening our wealthy men to a realization of their responsibilities, and if they have a spark of christian feeling in them, they will help on this movement. I do not hear anything about Mr. Bowring who has donated a park to the city. I do not know if this was unconstitutional

**RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.**—No. No.

**MR. BENNETT.**—Would it be unconstitutional for Mr. Bowring to build an hospital?

**RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.**—Yes, unless with the permission of Parliament.

**MR. BENNETT.**—"The permission of parliament." In my experience it has been very difficult for Parliament under some leaders to give permission to do anything. I mean to say that under some leaders it is a one-man Parliament, and Parliament has nothing to do with it.

**RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.**—I do not understand.

**MR. BENNETT.**—I do not choose to explain further. I was going on to say Mr. Speaker, that others have helped in philanthropic works in this community. The Messrs. Bowring have donated a park which will be an enduring monument to their beneficence, and this park will be a helping adjunct to the institution that we hope to see established in our midst during the coming year. The Rt. Hon. gentleman wanted to impress strongly on the House that he was an advocate of railroads. It is true that during his connection with the Whiteway administration he was a party, with the Rt. Hon. the Leader of the present Government to the building of the railway across the country.

**RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.**—Long before that.

**MR. BENNETT.**—Perhaps long before that; but from the time the Rt. Hon. member took charge in 1901 up to the time of his retirement from office he never drove one spike or laid one rail or one sleeper. He did not carry out the policy laid down by his predecessor and the railway work and railway policy lay dormant for eight years without anything being done and without any effort being made to continue it until the advent of the present administration.

**RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.**—We were fighting the contractor all the time endeavouring to make him carry out his obligations.

**MR. BENNETT.**—When the present administration came into power and in accordance with the manifesto of the Rt. Hon. the Leader of the present Government in which he promised to build railroads he started the present railway policy. What was the cry that then went forth through this country from the Opposition, as regards that policy. It meant ruin and bankruptcy and confederation and every other dire calamity. But, Mr. Speaker, I think the policy inaugurated by the present administration has been carried out and has been carried out in such a manner that no such thing as bankruptcy or confederation or other calamities prophesied from the other side of the House have come to pass. Instead of such calamities the country is enjoying unprecedented prosperity, enjoying to-day a position it never oc-
occupied before and I hope when these railways are completed we will be even in a better position. The indications are that the railroad that has already been built will be one of the most successful in the country. Twenty years ago we had two small coastal boats, one going west and one going north, doing the transportation business of the country. That was considered ample provision for the trade and commerce of the country. What do we find to-day? We find that these two small coastal boats are supplemented by two others double their size and in addition we have eight steamers on the different bays and railroads running to the different centres. Why was this necessary? Any man who knows anything, knows that the country cannot stand still. The wheels of progress must not be blocked by any policy of stagnation. I am glad to know this afternoon that the Hon. member for St. John's East, Mr. Shea, had sufficient independence and public spirit to get up in his place and say that he was a believer in railroads and the railroad policy. I say that it was refreshing to see that at least one member on that side of the House expressed his independent conviction, and I believe that every other hon. member there has the same convictions if they dare express them, and I further believe that if they were returned to power to-morrow they would follow out the same policy laid down by the present Government. I defy the Rt. Hon. Leader of the Opposition to say that the present Leader of the Government is not a man who has filled that position with credit to himself and advantage to the country. Since coming into power he has worked efficiently and assiduously and to the best of his ability for everything leading to the betterment of the country, and I say this now because the Rt. Hon. member this evening tried to belittle the efforts that have been made. Now, Sir, it is not the policy of the present administration to hide anything. We court the searchlight of public criticism. We court everything that is necessary to let the people know what this Government are doing, and as a private member of this party I claim it as a privilege that I can with all sincerity and truthfulness congratulate the Government on the work they have done since their advent to office. A great deal was said this evening with regard to the cold storage scheme of last year. The Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Opposition on that occasion I remember distinctly threw up his hands in holy horror that the sheet anchor of our country was going to be destroyed under the concessions that we were giving to these Americans. He argued strongly, forcibly, and, on the surface, with a great deal of conviction. But, Mr. Speaker, the history of that contract has shown the shallowness and hollowness of the ridiculous position that he was so pleased to occupy. He stated on that occasion that these people were going to get for nothing, and by getting control of our bait fishes would get control of our whole fishery. And the Opposition press took this up and spread it broadcast all over the country. Nothing would convince the Opposition that this was not correct. But the history of the contract has shown the Rt. Hon. gentleman and his associates the hollowness of that argument, because, whilst the contractors have not yet given up hope of coming down here and establishing cold storage; if all the things said by the Opposition were true these parties would have been down here the next day to avail of every tenet of the contract. His arguments as to the other matter are of the same character. I know and appreciate that it is the attitude of the Opposition to criticise and belittle the Government. I know that everything
the Government proposes will meet with opposition from the other side of the House. I do not want to delay the House, Mr. Speaker, but I would like to again congratulate Mr. Shea upon his manly speech this afternoon and I would also like to ask why he asked what the Government have done during their term of office. Now I think that the hon. gentleman has already heard what has been done by the present administration; but I will indicate one or two things that I think worthy of mention. Since coming into power we have voted $100,000 as an additional education grant, that money was spent in the direction where it did the most good and in the localities that needed it most, and I might tell the hon. member that when the next election comes around that the children of the different districts will be better educated, and you will not be able to frighten their parents with the bugaboos made use of the last time, as their children will know better and will be able to teach them.

Another matter I think, that would be appreciated in this Colony is what the Government has done in connection with the General Hospital. We have in the city to-day, I submit,—and I ask every person within a sound of my voice to avail of an early opportunity to visit that institution and see if it is not a credit to the country. Seventy thousand dollars have been spent in renovating and fitting it up and putting it on a basis fit and proper for the work carried on there. Ask any patients leaving that institution how they have been treated and you will find that in every case the treatment was such that the institution is looked upon as a place where the balm of consolation and care can be held out to the afflicted with whom this Colony is so much concerned. The same holds good with reference to other institutions. As a member of the late administration I came in here on many occasions and put forward a plea on behalf of the Poor House. Any of us who visited that institution and saw the accommodation there knew the necessity of having something done, but we were always answered in the same manner, "there were no funds, no money, and nothing could be done," but the present administration has taken up the matter both of the Poor House and the Lunatic Asylum, and I am glad to be able to state that within the next year steps will be taken to build a new Lunatic Asylum and the present Asylum converted into a Poor House. A Lunatic Asylum will be constructed on modern lines as laid down by one of the greatest experts of lunacy in the world, and the country I am sure will appreciate the efforts that are being made on behalf of the unfortunate who go to this institution and no longer have the Lunatic Asylum looked on as a place of detention where unfortunates are sent and over the door of which might well be written "Abandon ye all hope who enter here;" but it will be looked upon as a hospital where those mentally afflicted will be sent for scientific treatment, and where every effort will be made to cure them of their ills. That is the kind of policy that I like to support and that this country wants, Sir. The ordinary man can take care of himself but it is the unfortunate, the poor and the needy who should be especially cared for by the Government.

In addition to this a provision has been made for Old Age Pensions for worn out fishermen. Twenty thousand dollars were distributed last year, and twenty thousand more this year, making in all forty thousand dollars, giving fifty dollars a year to 800 men. I think, Mr. Speaker, that that is a scheme that cannot be too highly commended by the people of this country. Its far-reaching effects will be known all over the country. I know that in the district I have the honour to re-
present there are thirty old men receiving $50,000 a year from this fund. If that is true in St. John's West it is true in every district; and this with the other things I have quoted is my answer to the question of the honourable member for St. John's East as to what the Government has done since its advent to power. I regret that the Rt. Hon. Leader of the Opposition, a man so well acquainted with the procedure of the House, from his long experience here, thought it necessary to take a technical advantage of me, when I rose here to-night. Even if I was out of order, I did not think he would do such a thing. I can assure him, however, that as long as I stand on the floors of this House and while I have the power of speech, I will not be controlled by anyone, but will on all occasions that I feel disposed, rise and express my ideas without fear or favor of any man. I told him this before, on the floors of this House and on that occasion I walked across the floors and my action was endorsed by one of the most intelligent constituencies of the country, and even if I have not had the time and the opportunity, and the leisure to become well posted in May's Parliamentary practice and all the little details of legislative procedure, still, no man will keep me from rising in my place and speaking in defence of a policy or in favor of a measure I honestly believe in.

MR. KENT—I did not intend to take any part in the debate on the address, as I had already expressed myself on the Speech from the Throne on the opening day of the Speech. I think it is necessary, however, that I should say a word or two. In the first place I think it is only fair to the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition that I should set him right in the estimation of the honourable gentleman who has just sat down. I think the House will agree with me that the objection of the Right Hon. the Leader of the Opposition, when he drew your attention to the fact that the honourable member was going to speak, was not for the purpose of obstructing him or depriving him of the right to speak, but to assert his own right to speak after him. That was the only object the Rt. Hon. Leader of the Opposition had. He considered that the debate had ended, but as it was receiving new life from the hon. member, he claimed the right to reply. There was no attempt on his part to deprive the hon. member of his right to speak. I do not think any member of the House looked on it that way. The hon. member probably in the excitement of the moment overlooked the point raised by the Rt. Hon. gentleman, but that he attempted to interrupt the course of debate is a misrepresentation, unintentional, no doubt, of what the Right Hon. gentleman meant.

I shall refer briefly to some matters that have been discussed this afternoon. The debate has covered a number of subjects, some of which arose incidentally out of the Speech from the Throne. We have had under discussion in first place, Mr. Speaker, the donation that has been presented by the Directors and Managers of the Reid-Newfoundland Company and by the Company to the Colony. I do not wish to say one word in depreciation of the intentions of these gentlemen in making this present. I do not wish to be understood as criticising in any way any man who for philanthropic purposes endeavours to endow charitable or humane institutions in this country, but, Sir, the question as raised by the Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Opposition was an entirely different one. We have here unfor-
Some action must be taken to combat this disease. It is recognized throughout the world to-day as being one of the greatest causes of mortality amongst mankind, and it is necessary for those who are responsible for the Government of mankind to be up and fighting this disease. In Canada, the United States and Europe they are fighting it continuously and successfully, and from me no efforts will be wanting in support of any remedial measures, provided I consider them to be properly directed towards obtaining successful results—they will then receive my most earnest consideration. But, I wish to point out to the Rt. Hon. the Premier and to his colleague in St. John's West that the question raised was entirely different—a grave constitutional question which has been introduced into the consideration of this address unnecessarily by the government. Every member should protest whenever he thinks the privileges of this House are being infringed. It comes with an ill grace from any member to consider lightly the privileges which we enjoy. It shows a lack of appreciation of why these privileges exist. The necessity to assert our privileges may arise in different shapes and forms. At one time it may come up in the form in which it is difficult to criticise when large elements of good are contained in the infringement. At another it may involve most vicious legislation. The principle which we endorse to-day, to-morrow may be applied in a most evil and dangerous form. It is not the single instance, it is the principle involved that makes a violation of the constitution dangerous. I take it that the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister will admit that the course followed in the present case—the acceptance of these gifts by the Crown without the sanction of the Legislature—is a violation of the privileges of this House, and of the popular representatives in this House—and the invariable rule of the constitution that this House has the exclusive right to say what money shall be supplied for the public service—that is the principle. The commons in parliament assembled are the sole judges of the need of the Crown in the matter of supply, that is the constitutional rule on which are founded all our liberties—the right of the people to say what monies shall be supplied for the public service. You now call in other judges of these requirements, who in the present instance are the judges of the necessities of the Crown; not this House but the Railway contractors who are the judges of what the public service requires, parties under heavy contractual obligations to the Colony. We, in this House are sent here to judge of the necessity of the Public service and the Government should at least—though they ignored all other considerations—have had the courtesy to have submitted this matter to us for our decision before accepting such favors from anyone. If the Government were confident of their majority in the House and desired to accept this gift it might have been done within the spirit and letter of the constitution. They might upon receiving from the Messrs. Reid, their offer to present these Sanatoria have written to them, thanking them for their generous offer, informing them that they would present their offer to the Legislature at its session, then a few weeks away, for consideration as to whether it was desirable or necessary for the public service or in the public interest to accept their kind offer, that it would be necessary
for the Legislature to also consider whether the public service could maintain these institutions at the present time. I express no opinion upon the gifts themselves. Any proposal that comes before this House or any other effort that may be made to fight this awful disease of consumption, deserves the best consideration of all the members of the House and of the people of the country. The constitutional rule was denied tonight by the Prime Minister. I do not think that it is necessary to go further into the question. During recess I turned up one authoritative work on Parliamentary practice which I had available during the short time at my disposal. I refer to Todd's Parliamentary Practice—The quotation which I will read comes on Page 724. It involves two propositions, one that the Crown cannot receive, the other that a subject cannot donate any contribution to the service of the Crown. This is the quotation:

"While the Crown is not at liberty to make or receive gifts, or loans of money for any public service without the consent of Parliament, neither may any person voluntarily lend money to the Crown or to any department of State for public purposes without the sanction of Parliament." That is the opinion from Todd, an authority which I think the members of this House will accept.

MR. HOWLEY—That does not touch this question.

MR. KENT.—It does touch and govern this point, and I think the Hon. member would see it if he read it.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER.—It does not affect voluntary gifts to the Government.

MR. KENT.—It says gifts or loans of money to the Crown or any department of State. Can anything be more explicit? It covers exactly such gifts as these Sanatoria of the Reids. This is a constitutional authority, of unquestioned standing. It concludes all arguments as to the rights of parliament as the only judge of the question of the government's acceptance of this gift. I fail to see anything in the remarks from the other side, in reply to the questions raised by and criticism of the Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Opposition. To the matters raised by the amendment proposed by the Rt. Hon. member, there is not one word of reply. I raised this question of the necessity for redistributing the tariff and lessening taxation before. It was promised in the Manifesto of the Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Government, and was mentioned in one if not two Speeches from the Throne at the opening of sessions of this parliament. The matter is again brought to his attention tonight and yet he does not refer in one sentence to the subject matter of the Amendment. I think, Sir, that the people of the country expected some pronouncement, and more particularly when we consider the large and bountiful revenues enjoyed by the Colony and the express and repeated promises to reduce taxation. We were told by the Prime Minister that the subsidy from Bell Island was enough to cover the interest on the increased public debt. If that is so then the other revenue ought to be available for other purposes. What better purpose could there be than the reduction of taxation, the raising of the burden borne by the people. Could not the increased revenue be used to alleviate the burden of the people, borne down by taxation. The people expected it from the promise of the Prime Minister. But they have been disappoint
ed in this, as they have been in many other matters. Take the question of Branch Railways. When the Bill was going through I offered some criticism to the contract. I told the House that in my opinion instead of four million they would cost nearer seven. This opinion was repudiated by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister. But this evening it turns out that I was correct. I expect that before we are through instead of six it will be nearer eight million. We had figures tabled the other day. Already there has been expended $2,609,000, and this statement contains the amount for equipment under Secs. 34 and 37 of the contract amounting to only $35,000, and that does not cover the Bonavista Line alone, and has nothing for freight stations, rolling stock etc. And I believe that these two sections will ultimately double this amount. The interest on the public debt of the Colony is now over one million dollars. In other words before we can provide further for the public service, we will have to put aside one million dollars to provide the interest on the public debt with every prospect of a still further increase in such interest. Besides this we have the other departments of the public service increasing in expenditure. I think the Department presided over by my Hon. friend the Minister of Agriculture and Mines will show a large expenditure without any practical results whatever. The policy of expenditure upon which the Department of Mines and Agriculture has entered, for I can call it nothing else, is a wanton waste of public moneys and one which I think deserves the condemnation of each member of this House. I will not detain the House any longer. I think that all the efforts of the Government in the way of legislation have been of the most unsuccessful character. The hopes of the people are dead that the Government would initiate something of a successful nature. The cold storage, the coal development, the Peat industry—all have failed. As members of this House are aware from the statement of the Hon. the Prime Minister tonight they can take very little comfort in relation to the successful results of any of these matters. He made reference to the efforts made by the previous government. Well, I think such remarks and the criticism which he made come with a very ill grace from him for in all the propositions which he mentioned, he was a mover and a supporter, and at least responsible as a member of the Government. Failure seems to follow the Rt. Hon. gentleman. He will become known as a Jonah and his legislative efforts will be known by their want of fruition. We require more than promises, more than boasting, more than loud declarations. Continuous effort, intelligent appreciation of conditions and capable work with the materials which we have got will alone bring about results of a practical nature and general utility.

MR. PARSONS.—Mr. Speaker, I wish merely to make a few remarks as it is getting rather late, but I feel I would be recreant in my duty if I allowed the opportunity to pass without saying something in relation to one of the measures foreshadowed in the Speech. After an experience of forty years or more, during which my avocation in life has brought me in touch with all kinds of disease, I think I may be allowed to speak with a certain amount of authority regarding the wonderful ravages of
of constructive legislation, for so much of which the Government has been responsible.

On motion for the adoption of this Report, Rt. Hon. Sir R. Bond proposed in amendment, seconded by Mr. Shea, that the following addition be inserted after the word "Legislature":—

"But humbly represent that having "regard to the acknowledged injury re-"sulting to the fishermen and work-"ing classes of the Colony" by reason "of the 'burden of taxation,' and to the "fact also that they 'feel most serious-"ly the increased cost of living in this "country,' it is the duty of the Govern-"ment to immediately readjust the "tariff so as to place 'tea, sugar, pork "and other necessaries on which taxes "are now imposed' on the free list."

"And further, that having regard to "the dignity, the credit, and the auth-"ority of this House which are seriou-"sly threatened by the Government ac-"cepting gifts from those under con-"tractual obligations to the Colony for "carrying out of large public works, it "is imperatively demanded that the "offer of the Railway Contractors to "confer such gifts be respectfully de-"clined."

Whereupon the House divided and there appeared for the amendment,—Rt. Hon. Sir R. Bond, Messrs. Clapp, Gear, Kent and Shea; and against it—the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, Hon. Colonial Secretary, Hon. Minister of Finance, Hon. Minister Agriculture and Mines, Hon. C. H. Emerson, Hon. J. C. Crosbie, Minister of Public Works, and Messrs. Bennett, Devereaux, Howley, Kennedy, Moore, Murphy, Parsons, Whiteway; so it passed in the negative.

Whereupon the original motion for the adoption of the Report was put; and there appeared in favor of it,—the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, Hon. Colonial Secretary, Hon. Minister of Finance, Hon. Minister Agriculture and Mines, Hon. C. H. Emerson, Hon. J. C.
Government of the Newfoundland Railway.

It was ordered accordingly.

Hon. the Government of this Colony; (2) As to whether the locomotives in use on the lines of railway between St. John's and Carbonear, and between Brigus Junction and Placentia, are sufficiently powerful to ensure regularity of service on schedule time; (3) As to what cause the irregularity on those lines during the past year must be attributed; (4) As to whether a sufficient number of section men are employed on the several lines of railway to ensure proper maintenance, and to keep the lines open for daily traffic during the winter months; (5) As to how many miles of track are embraced in a section, and how many men are allotted to each section; (6) As to whether in his opinion the Railway Contractors have employed all necessary means to keep the railway lines open to traffic since the commencement of the present year; (7) As to what steps he has taken to acquaint himself of the conditions with which the Railway Contractors have had to contend in operating the railway since the beginning of the present year.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—

a (1) The Government Engineer has not furnished any reports for the past three years on the equipment and operation of the Newfoundland Railway, other than reports of irregularities in train service. He made an inspection in 1909-10, but did not make a report as he had nothing new to report. In 1910-11 he had not time to make an inspection, and the inspection for 1911-12 will be made this spring.

b (1) The Government Engineer has never considered the Railway fully equipped with rolling stock, but this company has been building as fast as their plant would permit, and rapidly of late. It is difficult to lay down a hard and fast line as to the actual requirements, traffic conditions vary so much from those in other countries, and the population served so small. A good deal of trouble with regard to freight delays was due to lack of proper facilities to handle it at St. John's. This has been rectified to a great extent by enlarging the freight shed. The engine power is being added to by engines of the heaviest type admissible on a 50lb. rail and the type of passenger cars and their upkeep is improving. A great improvement has been effected on the Placentia Line by the placing upon it of a properly equipped train to replace a train, the accommodation on which was very justly a cause of frequent complaint. It would appear that the cross-country service has now as many passengers as it can conveniently handle, and with the advent of increased traffic from the branch lines, will probably be over-taxed in the near future, calling for an increased service. The conditions of the Carbonear Railway would also indicate that some steps must be taken either to increase the service or to confine freight operations on one of the daily trains, so that the evil result of mixed traffic, now in evidence, may be eliminated.
(2) As a general rule, the engines used on the Carbonear Branch are the heaviest and best in the service, and sufficient to ensure regularity of service provided the service is not a mixed one. No permissible improvement in power or speed would rectify the delays which arise through handling freight. The engines used for some time past on the Placentia Railway are a type which should be equal to the work of running on schedule time were the same trouble not experienced on this branch as on the Carbonear Line.

(3) The principal cause of delay on the Carbonear Line for the past year has been the handling of freight in conjunction with passenger traffic, and the delay on the Placentia Railway has been due to the late despatch from Brigus Junction on account of late arrival of train from St. John's, and to shunting operations at Placentia, where the station and pier arrangements are of a most awkward character and very hard to operate.

(4) The number of men engaged on maintenance is generally sufficient to keep the Railway in safe running condition. There are not sufficient to attend to matters of detail and general appearance of outfit, such as an English Railway engineer would require, and which are more or less sentimental as applied to a railway in this country. It is impossible to say what number of men would be required to keep the lines of railway open in the winter months, especially under present conditions, when men appear to be of little service except in the immediate neighborhood of a snow plough.

(5) The sections vary from 6 to 10 miles for each gang of men.

(6) The Government Engineer is of the opinion that on the whole the company have done all in their power, considering the equipment at their disposal, to keep the railway lines open for traffic. There may be isolated instances in which better results might have been obtained, but, generally speaking, Mr. Hall believes they are doing the utmost in their power to keep the lines open.

(7) The Government Engineer is advised every day through the mail clerks' reports of the conditions, and when these are not available he keeps in close touch with the company's operations through the Despatching Office, and all reports of the roadmasters and train gangs are put at his disposal by the company.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the value of the exports and imports, respectively, of the Colony for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1911.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE tabled the information asked for.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND asked the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs to lay on the table of the House a statement of the gross amount of Customs revenue for the past fiscal year.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE tabled the information asked for.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND asked the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs if the loan of 800,000 pounds sterling raised for the purpose of defraying the cost of the branch lines of railway contracted for in 1910 will be sufficient to meet the total cost of same, or, if the Government will find it necessary to borrow a further sum of money on that account, and, if so, what is the estimated amount that will be required.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE.—When the loan of four million dollars was raised in 1910, the surveys of none of the branch lines were completed, and, accordingly, the amount asked for and raised under the Loan Act was based on a mere estimate of the length of these proposed branches. At the present time, we can make a much closer estimate of the length of the
branches, and of their cost, as three of the proposed branches are completely surveyed; one branch railway is built and being operated; and two of the other branches are partially constructed. The surveyors are at present engaged in locating the branch to Fortune Bay. There will then only remain the short branch from Deer Lake to Bonne Bay to be surveyed. When completed the branches will probably represent the following mileage, according to the estimate of the Government Engineer: Bonavista, 88; Trepassey, 102; Heart’s Content, Grate’s Cove, and Bay de Verde, 85; Fortune Bay, 43, and Bonne Bay, 25, or a total of 343 miles for the several branches. The increased mileage over the original estimate is brought about by the desire on the part of the Government to connect as many settlements as possible with the line of railway. This policy increased the length of the branch to Heart’s Content by about 16 miles, by building it down the shore from Dildo, and connecting 5,000 people, instead of crossing the barrens from Carbonear to Heart’s Content, where there are no inhabitants. The Bonavista Branch, by connecting settlements in both Trinity and Bonavista Bays, increased the line from 11 to 13 miles. The same is true in relation to the survey for the Bay de Verde branch, where a very considerable increase is made on the length of the line, a fact that the railway passes near or goes through every settlement in the district. For the same reason, a considerable increase was made in the length of the road from St. John’s to Trepassey. Under these circumstances the branches under contract to build will, at $15,000 a mile on a mileage of say 340 miles, cost in the neighborhood of $5,100,000. To this amount, of course, will have to be added, for three of the branches, the cost of the right of way where the railway passes through private property, the cost of stations, fencing, any additional equipment not embraced in the construction contract. The Government have not, as yet, made any detailed estimate as to what the total cost will be. To date the contractor has been paid, on the certificate of the Government Engineer, for 85 miles on the Bonavista Branch, 55 miles on the Trepassey Branch, and 5 miles on the Heart’s Content Branch, at the rate of $15,000 per mile, or 145 miles in all—an average, for the three seasons’ work, 1909, 1910, 1911, of about 48 miles per year. For the foregoing reasons, it will be seen that the amount of the loan raised in 1910 will not be sufficient to defray the entire cost of the whole of the branch lines, when finished in 1915, and it will be necessary to borrow a further sum of money to complete the several lines. There is sufficient money in the Bank to the credit of the loan to pay for the work to be performed in the season of 1912, but the Government may consider it desirable to introduce a Loan Bill this session to cover the amount over and above the loan of four million dollars, as no loss will be sustained by reason of our having the money here before it is required, as the local banks pay us the same rate of interest as we pay on the loan.

The remaining orders of the day were deferred.

Mr. Kent gave Notice of Question.

Mr. Gear gave Notice of Question.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Friday, Feb. 23rd., at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

Friday, February 23rd.

House met at 3.15 p.m. pursuant to adjournment.

QUESTIONS.

MR. GEAR asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines for the
total cost of the Exhibition at Burin last year. The number of cattle bought by the Government at that Exhibition. The cost per head. Cost of transportation to St. John's. What amount received by the Government when cattle were sold. Give details of sale showing amount each animal fetched.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of all expenditures giving names of parties and date and purpose of each payment under the Act passed in 1910 to amend the Experimental Farm Act.

HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE & MINES—In reply to the hon. members I may say, replies to both these questions are being prepared.

HARBOUR REGULATIONS BILL.

RT. HON. PREMIER—Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the second reading of the bill. I may say that it is an amendment of the present law, is very urgently needed, and has been asked for by the Harbour Master in order to meet the cases of vessels which are anchored in the harbour, and likely to sink or to become a danger or obstruction to the harbour. The law at present deals with this matter to some extent but not as fully as necessary, particularly in the interests of fishing vessels from the outports that have the unhindered use of the port. At present if any vessel is not at once removed by the owner or party in charge when ordered so to be the Harbour Master may remove it at the expense of the owners, and any vessel at anchor that is not lying at a wharf shall have a person on board in charge and have a bright light on her from sunset to sunshine unless exempted by the harbour master. These cases are already dealt with, but there are cases every day where vessels are brought here and anchored and nobody takes charge of them. Some of these become a menace to the port, as in a case cited by the harbor master. A schooner was left with nobody on board of her and was in danger of sinking and becoming a menace to shipping. Under the law at present the master had no power to interfere, but under the Act which is now before the House he would have the power necessary to deal with the matter in the interests of ship owners generally.

Section 2 is an entirely new Section and deals with those vessels that come to port for repairs or short of coal or other necessaries. It is provided that these “lame ducks,” as they are called here, that come here and do not take any fresh cargo shall pay only one half the usual harbor dues. The Harbor Master thinks this would prove to be a benefit to the port for if it became known in the big ports of the world that vessels coming here in a damaged state would receive special advantages many of them would call here rather than proceed to other ports, such as Halifax. We stand to lose very little or nothing by this amendment to the present law for one steamer that we succeeded in bringing here would contribute more to the general revenue, and in other ways than fifty vessels would pay in harbor dues in as many years. I trust that the bill will receive the consideration of the House and that it will commend itself to the members.

MR. KENT—I have no objection to raise to the Bill that has just been explained by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, for I think there can be no question as to the desirability of keeping the waters of the harbour free and unimpeded. So manifest
As this that I do not think it can be a subject of controversy. I have not seen the Act of which the present Bill is an amendment but if I remember correctly certain sections of it deal with vessels that are at wharves. If that is so, it is possible that the law that is to be introduced will not apply to vessels in that position. This is a matter that should be dealt with, but I have nothing to say against the principle that everything possible should be done to keep the harbour free from obstructions.

The Bill entitled "An Act to amend chapter 120 of the Consolidated Statutes (second series) entitled "of Harbor Master and Harbor Regulations for the Port of St. John's" was thereupon read a second time and it was ordered to be referred to a Committee of the whole House on to-morrow.

Mr. Clift gave Notice of Question. Mr. Kent gave Notice of Question.

Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister gave notice that he would on Wednesday 28th instant, move the House into Committee of the whole to consider certain Resolutions in relation to the law dealing with Weights and Measures in this Colony.

Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister gave notice that he would, on to-morrow, ask leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Law relating to the Inspection of Boilers.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until Monday, 26th instant, at eleven of the clock in the forenoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

Monday, Feb. 26th.

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, His Excellency the Governor would receive the Address of Thanks at 11.15 of the clock to-day.

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:—

REPLY OF HIS EXCELLENCY.

"Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members of the House of Assembly:"

"I thank you for your Address in "Reply to the Speech with which I "opened the Session of the Legisla· "ture for the year 1912.

(Sgd.) RALPH WILLIAMS.

"Government House, Governor. "St. John's, Newfoundland, "26th February, 1912."

Mr. Speaker then left the Chair until three of the clock in the afternoon. At fifteen minutes past three of the clock in the afternoon of this, the 26th day of February, the names of the Members present being taken down by the Clerk, namely,—Hon Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Public Works, Messrs. Moulton, Kennedy, Grant and Bennett.

Mr. Speaker declared the House adjourned for want of a quorum until to-morrow, (Tuesday), the 27th day of February, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

TUESDAY, Feb. 27th, 1912.

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

COMMISSION OF INTERNAL ECONOMY.

Mr. Speaker presented to the House a certified copy of Minutes of Honourable the Executive Council, appointing
the Commission of Internal Economy for the session of 1912 as follows:

"The Governor has the honour to communicate to the Honourable House of Assembly the appointment of the Commissioners of Internal Economy of the Legislature, in accordance with the provisions of the Statute 61 Victoria, Cap. 1, as set forth in the accompanying certified copy of a Minute of the Honourable Executive Council approved by the Governor on the 13th inst.

( Sgd.) "RALPH WILLIAMS."

Government House,
St. John's, Newfoundland,
19th February, 1912.

"Certified copy of Minutes of the Honourable Executive Council approved by His Excellency the Governor on the 13th February, 1912.

"February 12th, 1912.

"Under the provisions of Section 4, Cap. 1, 61 Vic., the following to constitute the Commission of Internal Economy of the Legislature, viz:—


QUESTIONS.

MR. CLIFT asked the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of the House a statement of all allocations made out of special grants voted last session of the House in the District of Twillingate giving the following particulars,—(1) date; (2) amount of each allocation; (3) to whom made; and (4) for what purpose.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—
In the absence of the Minister, I beg to lay on the table of the House the statement asked for.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs to lay on the table of the House a statement in detail, showing date of payments, name of persons paid, and nature of claims discharged from June 30, 1911, to date, —(1) by special warrant issued under Sec. 33 (b) of the Audit Act 1899; (2) By order of the Executive Council for which no legislative provision exists; (3) under vote for General Contingencies.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—I beg to table the statement asked for.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines to lay on the table of the House a statement commencing January 1, 1911, to date, showing in each case (1) The number of acres of land in this Colony or its dependencies applied for pulp or timber purposes; (2) names of applicants; (3) the date of application; (4) the area in acres applied for; (5) whether the application has been approved by the Governor in Council; (6) the date of approval; (7) the area approved; (8) whether the approval was for timber or pulp; (9) the amount of fees paid; (10) the date of payment; (11) the date of survey; (12) the name of surveyor; (13) whether any area has been forfeited or notice of forfeiture given; (14) the cause of forfeiture; (15) name of parties to whom notice of forfeiture was given; (16) date of such notice; (17) whether the areas, or any of them, or any part of any of them, so forfeited, have been applied for, approved to, or granted to the same or any other person or persons; (18)
name of the present holder of each area issued.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—The statement is in the course of preparation.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House copies of the following:— (1) All letters, correspondence and documents between the Colonial Secretary’s Department upon, or in relation to, the survey, construction, equipment or operation of the railway branches, or any of them, provided for in the Railway Extension Act, 1910; (2) All letters, correspondence and documents between the Contractor and the Colonial Secretary’s Department or the Government in relation to the same subject.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—The statement is being prepared.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines to lay on the table of the House a statement beginning March 1, 1903, to date, showing (1) whether any application has been made for extension of time for making survey of timber or pulp areas applied for; (2) names of parties making, and dates of application for said extension; (3) areas to which such applicants refer and grounds upon which the application was made in each case; (4) whether granted or not; (5) terms of granting; (6) whether the terms have been applied for.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—The statement is being prepared.

TUBERCULOSIS RESOLUTIONS.

Pursuant to notice, and leave granted; and on motion of the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider certain Resolutions dealing with the prevention and spread of Tuberculosis, or Consumption, and providing of treatment for those who are at present in this country affected with the same, and for other purposes connected therewith.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Parsons took the Chair of Committee.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—It is not my intention to needlessly detain the Committee by any lengthy remarks or by any considerable quotations from authorities as to the necessity for the campaign outlined in the Resolutions which I am submitting for your consideration. The problems of coping with Tuberculosis, or Consumption, as it is more popularly known, is engaging the attention of every civilized community.

In England, which we are proud to recognize leads the world in all remedial legislation, the fight has been in progress for nearly a century; in Germany, which country came into the field late, probably the best results have been obtained of late, because of the German instinct for discipline; and in the United States and Canada splendid efforts are being made for stamping out the scourge we know as the “Great White Plague.” This record of endeavour abroad should nerve us for the work we are about to undertake, because it is one of no small magnitude.

It would scarcely be complimentary to the Committee or to the country to assume that it was necessary to be fervent in argument in support of the present proposals, since it is fair to assume that each and all of us in this House and outside, are awake to the devastating ravages of the disease, and that if we differ at all it is only on the question as to how we are to best combat the disorder.

The civilized world is in arms against this plague and steadfastly battles against it, and, unlike many other battles that are fought, it is one to stimulate the most indifferent, and impel to higher planes of enthusiasm the most zealous of the combatants.
We in Newfoundland are about the last of the British Colonies to take up the problem, but I am certain that now we have undertaken to grapple with it, we shall be constant in well doing. If we are only entering the fight to-day, I am satisfied that before long Newfoundland will have won golden opinions, and carried from the battlefield laurels of greater value than the medals pinned on many a hero's breast.

No work of a nobler character could be undertaken than that of alleviating human suffering, human pain, and, in this case, human misery; and I feel confident that this country shall not in the end be without honour or reward.

It may not be amiss here to briefly refer to the scientific aspects of the matter. The relation between human and animal tuberculosis has been much debated. They were held to be identical until Koch threw doubt upon the matter in 1901. Thereupon the British Government appointed a Royal Commission to inquire into the whole subject, and its holding was that human tuberculosis can be transmitted to animals, and that animal tuberculosis can be discovered in the human subject.

Tuberculosis as a disease, geographically, is universal, and is found from the Arctic regions to the most tropical climes. No country and no climate is exempt. It is not as extensive in high altitudes, such as Switzerland and Mexico, owing to the dryness of the atmosphere and surroundings. The mortality figures for the United States, as shown in the various races making up its population, are as follows:

Russians .................. 71%
Germans .................. 1.67%
Scotch .................... 1.72%
French .................... 1.87%
Irish ....................... 3.39%

whilst in native born Americans it is only 1.12%. The high percentage in Ireland is alleged to be due entirely to the moisture of the climate and the very large emigration of the strongest and best physical elements from the country in the last fifty years.

In 1910 more than 60,000 persons died from tuberculosis in England and Wales, or over 1,000 for every 1,000,000 of the population. The disease is a peculiarly secret and deadly one, and the period of inoculation is so long, though far more deadly, that it carries with it none of the fears attached to diseases like smallpox, typhus fever, etc., where the various stages are gone through in a few days.

In 1882 Prof. Koch of Berlin discovered the cause of consumption, the bacillus tuberculosis. Previous to its discovery we were led to believe that the disease was hereditary. Now we know that no child is born a consumptive. It is one thing less that we have now to blame on the Creator, to Whom plagues of this nature were usually attributed. Consumption is no longer sent by Providence as was at first supposed, but is a germ, and it must enter the body, be retained there, entertained there, fed there and live there for years and multiply before the seed of consumption is sown.

In this connection medical science has made another discovery. It has been found that sunlight is the greatest enemy of this germ. After a few moments exposure to the direct rays of the sun the germ dies. If the germ is placed in a well lit, well ventilated room, it will die; but if the surroundings are dark, moist and ill ventilated, it will remain active for a long period. Even when the germ enters the body, if the body is not weak from sickness, worry or overwork of body or mind, or from sleeping in ill-ventilated rooms without fresh air or sunlight, the germ will die.

The germ enters the body by two,
ways—by breathing or by swallowing; by swallowing because the germ is contained in milk, butter, cream, meat and other foods; by breathing, the germs are generally inhaled which have been ejected with the sputum of affected persons. When this sputum, which contains countless numbers of these germs, dries, it is broken up by sweeping or other means, the germs are released and fill the air and float around until they settle in the lungs or throat of some person.

We may then conclude that a great cause of the spread of consumption is indiscriminate spitting on the public roads, trains, street cars and other vehicles, schools, halls, theatres, in the home, in the sick room, in fact everywhere. If people would only give up the habit of spitting; if each person would sacrifice his “convenience” if we may so call it, this would prove one of the greatest and most effective blows which this disease had ever received, for while it is more than thirty years since the great discovery of Koch, up to the present time the world has really done nothing of a national character to deal with this matter. It might be said, too, that the breath of the consumptive is not dangerous, nor would it be dangerous to sleep with one affected with the disease, except for the spitting and hemorrhages, for it is in these that the danger lies.

Apart from the humane and pathetic side of the matter, there is the commercial or economic side which, as a nation, we cannot afford to neglect. The life of every citizen has its fixed proportionate value to the state, based upon the extent of his earning capacity and productive working power. A highly esteemed medical practitioner in this city has furnished me with the following figures on this side of the question.

**Annual Cost of Consumption in Newfoundland.**

- In sickness, 3,500 cases.
- In lives, 700.
- In dollars, $1,200,000.

The above startling figures are based upon the report of the Registrar General for 1910, and the revenue tables of the Auditor General for 1909-10.

Population, actual, 241,607, say in round numbers, 240,000.

Total earnings 1909-10, actual, $20,000,000, say in round numbers, $20,000,000.

Total revenue, 1909-10, actual, $3,447,989, say in round numbers, $3,400,000.

Earnings per cap. per annum, $83.33, say in round numbers, $83.00.

Revenue per cap. per annum, actual, $14.27, say in round numbers, $14.20.

Of the total population probably not more than one-sixth, i.e., 40,000 constitute the wage earners, but to be on the safe side, say one-fourth constitute this class. We then get,—

- Total wage earners, 60,000.
- Average annual earnings, $333, ($20,000,000 ÷ 60,000).
- Average daily earnings, $1.

**Mortality Statistics.**

Total deaths from Consumption in 1910, say 700.

The average duration of a consumptive’s life is placed at five years, this gives total number of consumptives in 1910, 3,500, (700 deaths ÷ 5 years.)

82% of the consumptive population develop the disease between the ages of 15 and 60.

The consumptive mortality in England in 1906 was 1 in 887 of total population.

Our death rate from consumption is 1 in 348 of total population.

82% of the total deaths (700) = 570 deaths annually among wage-earners.

82% of total cases (3,500) = 2,850 cases consumption annually among wage-earners.
Statisticians estimate that if consumption were abolished it would be equivalent to lengthening the average human life by 2\(\frac{1}{2}\) years.

Owing to our very high consumptive death rate this 2\(\frac{1}{2}\) years would be considerably increased, but, basing calculations upon that figure we get for the present population a total loss of

\[240,000 \times 2\frac{1}{2} = 600,000\] years.

Irving Fisher, Professor of Political Economy at Yale University, in a paper contributed to the Transactions of the International Congress on Tuberculosis at Washington in 1908 took the view that, after allowing for inherited weakness, consumptive sifatosis, etc., and deducting the years before 17\(\frac{1}{2}\) and after 60, "the working period lost by death is at least 17 years for each dying consumptive."

Apply this to our 570 deaths and we get an annual loss in years—570 \(\times\) 17, 9,690 years.

We have seen the wages earned averaged $333, we thus get an annual loss in wages 9,690 \(\times\) $333 = $3,226,770, as these years are lost by the wage earners between the ages of 17\(\frac{1}{2}\) and 60.

Annual loss to the revenue, $24,937, i.e., 700 (deaths) \(\times\) $14.25 \(\times\) 2\(\frac{1}{2}\) (years.)

Annual loss to wage earners through death $233,100, 700 (deaths) \(\times\) $333 (average annual earnings.)

Annual loss through sickness, $949,050, allowing one year only of total incapacity out of the 5 years' illness.

3,500 (cases consumption) \(\times\) $333 (average annual earnings), $1,207,087.

Taking the average annual earnings per capita at $83; it has been shown that abolition of consumption would be equivalent to endowing everyone with an extra 2\(\frac{1}{2}\) years of life, that is the power to earn 2\(\frac{1}{2}\) times $83—$207.50. As the total population is 240,000, abolition of consumption would be equiva-

lent to endowing the people of Newfoundland with the enormous sum of

\[240,000 \times 207.50 = 49,800,000\]

In the 1910 report of the Registrar General may be found the following figures.

Total deaths 3,673.

**Causes of Death.**

Epidemic diseases, 238—6.48%.

Tuberculosis all forms, 750—20.42%.

Nervous diseases, including convulsions, 476—12.97% (say 13%).

Premature birth and debility, 714—19.43% (shade less.)

All other diseases, 1495—40.70% (shade more.)

Tuberculosis causes more than one-fifth of all the deaths in Newfoundland.

Epidemic diseases cause less than one-fifteenth of all the deaths.

In addition to these figures we have the statement of the Public Health Commission for 1911, Appendix A, as follows:—

**APPENDIX A.**

**Consumption in Relation to the Taxpayer.**

It is certain that two-thirds of all the deaths occurring in this Colony between the ages of twenty and forty-five are caused directly by Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

In the year 1907 there were 800 deaths from the disease. Very few, if any, of these eight hundred deaths OUGHT to have occurred. They might nearly all have been prevented.

Let us make a rough estimate of what these eight hundred preventable deaths are ultimately going to cost the general public of this Colony in hard cash.

(A)—The average adult individual contributes about Thirty Dollars annually to the Revenue. The average expectation of life of these eight hundred victims of Consumption would
have been at least twenty years, if Consumption had not been allowed to kill them prematurely. Each one of these eight hundred persons would in the ordinary course of events have contributed $30 per annum during the remainder of his life, and on the average they would have each lived twenty years; that is to say that each individual would have paid an aggregate amount of $30 for twenty years, or $600 cash to the general Revenue before he died, if it had not been for Consumption.

These eight hundred persons at $600 each would give a total of nearly half a million dollars, which sum the Colony will ultimately lose in Revenue through the deaths caused by Consumption during one year—1907—and this amount will eventually have to be made good by the survivors. This is not fancy but fact.

Of course the whole of this loss is not yet realized, because deaths from Consumption have reached their present unprecedented totals only within the past few years. Nevertheless the actual loss is very large now, and it will very soon reach the figure named.

Consider it another way. The deaths from Consumption have rapidly increased from 654 in the year 1901 (we have no intelligible figures before that date) to 801 in 1907.

During these seven years 5,369 persons altogether succumbed to Consumption. Now if these 5,369 persons were alive to-day, as they should be, they would be each paying $30 per annum to the Revenue. These 5,369 persons would be contributing in all $160,000 and those who survive would have to contribute $160,000 less than they do now. Taxation would be very appreciably reduced. Furthermore, a large number of people who should be alive to-day were sacrificed to Consumption prior to 1901, say between the years 1882 and 1901, and the Revenue which they would pay, if we had them with us, would amount to a very large additional sum.

We survivors, however, HAVE TO MAKE GOOD THEIR SHARE AND OUR OWN TOO, simply because Consumption has been allowed to claim its victims and to levy its tribute of human life in an ever increasing ratio, and almost without check. If eight hundred persons continue to die every year, we shall have at the end of twenty years sixteen thousand fewer people in the Colony than we ought to have, entirely owing to Consumption. It is easy to see how serious this loss must be from a social and financial standpoint, and what an enormous practical difference it would make to the burdens of the taxpaying public if these sixteen thousand people could be saved from destruction.

(B)—In every country, however, there is a special money value attaching to each sound adult person quite apart from his value as a direct contributor of revenue.

The country has protected him and educated him and to that extent at least it has made an investment in him in hard cash; and when he reaches maturity, he is expected, and if he is physically and mentally sound, he will certainly be able, to return the country a profit on the investment before he dies.

Suppose there were only twenty people in Newfoundland to-day. It would evidently be so poor a community that if to-morrow the whole of the present population of 230,000 were suddenly dumped into the Colony, almost all of them would immediately have to migrate again or starve. There would be no roads, no boats, no cleared land, no houses, no stocks of food or clothing.

It is manifest that the accumulated property of generations must be in existence before our present population can be supported.
The means of industry are not entirely provided or created by the individuals of to-day, but to a large extent they have been created and saved by our predecessors for the benefit of us who now use them; and our generation will also increase them to the benefit of the general commonwealth, and they will finally pass on to our successors.

A very low estimate of the monetary value of an individual adult life on this basis in other countries is $1,000.

Even if we put the value in this country (being a poor country) as low as say $300, about one year's wages, we get a very large annual loss directly attributable to Consumption.

Annual Loss in General Wealth.

800 lives destroyed, @ $300, $240,000 per annum. Ultimate loss to Revenue at rate of $500,000 per annum. Total, $740,000.

(NOTE.—These figures are based on 800 deaths, whereas the actual mortality from Tuberculosis is more like 1,000. The figures are consequently underestimated).

Three quarters of a million, and in addition to this there is the enormous cost of nursing and supporting those who are stricken with the disease, plus all the suffering which these things bring. And do not forget that a major part of the money has to be or will have to be made up by those who remain. Every hard working man in the Colony is obliged to find more money to make good the various losses being caused by Consumption.

(C)—Consider further how terribly Consumption and Poverty react upon one another. The greatest cause of Poverty among civilized communities the world over is Consumption, and how much more is this the case in Newfoundland where the death rate is from three to four times as great as it is in England.

Evidently, the economic loss to this community from Consumption is such that almost any expenditure in reason is justified, and will show a net gain in the long run.

Vigorous legislation is necessary and vigorous legislation must come sooner or later.

The Germans are not sentimental, but are practical philosophers, and that they are correct is, I think, more than proved by the following figures adopted from Marshall Leigh ton and worked out by Dr. Richer, of Montreal:

A human life, at the period of industrial usefulness is worth $6,000 distributed as follows:
- To the Federal Government $1,000 (which is the universally accepted figure).
- To the Provincial Government, $500.
- To the Municipal Government, $500.
- To the community and family, $4,000.

The above calculations have been made from the "rationale" of productiveness, based upon the expectancy of life at the period of industrial usefulness, as follows:—At twenty-five years, the average age at which tuberculosis is fatal, the expectancy of industrial usefulness is twenty years, the average earning capacity $500 per year, five per cent. of which goes to the Provincial and five to the Municipal Government, making a total of $500 to each in the course of the twenty years. These contributions are both direct and indirect, and according to the law of mutuality represent a sum superior to $500, but this sum-total, if it errs, does so on the side of conservatism.

To the death roll from consumption the neighbouring Dominion of Canada contributes over 12,000 lives.
per year, one-seventh of the total number of deaths within its confines. In other words, consumption causes the death of one Canadian citizen every hour during the day and every half-hour during the night, and carries them off at an age when they are most useful to their families and to the community.

In Newfoundland we have an annual death roll of 1,000 at the very least; that is, nearly three persons die every twenty-four hours from consumption in Newfoundland, and during the past 50 years we have lost 50,000 from a disease which we now know to be curable and preventable.

As I have already said, war has been waged against this monster by all the civilized nations. The Germans were the first to adopt special treatment in hospitals and sanitariums. The home treatment was marked by an improvement in the general sanitation, and better conditions of living. The public were educated as to how to live, and the spread of the disease was checked by looking after those affected. The result has been the reduction of the death rate from tuberculosis in Germany 62% in the past 20 years. In opposition to this excellent example, certain other countries have taken no action whatever. One can be named in which the consumptive death rate increased in 20 years by 15%, and another in which it has doubled in the last fifty years. On the contrary, again, look at what is being done to-day in the United States. At the beginning of 1905 there were 25 tuberculosis associations in that country. To-day there are 500 similar bodies, pledged to combat the disease. On January 1st 1905 there were 115 sanitariums in the United States—to-day there are 400. The tuberculosis dispensaries have increased in the same period from 19 to 300, and in the light of these facts, and what is being done in other countries such as Canada, Ireland, England, the United States and Germany, can any person entertain a doubt as to our manifest duty?

How serious a matter it is for us can be best realized by my quoting from our late Governor, Sir William MacGregor, who, in a public address at the British Hall on June 1st 1909 said—"The population of Newfoundland is about 235,000. The average number of deaths from tuberculosis is has been 845 in the last three years, out of a mean total of 3,589. Now, as about one in every five of the people of this Colony are at present affected by consumption, it follows that out of the 235,000 of us that form the population of the country to-night, 47,000 of us have to look forward to death by consumption before our proper time. To put the matter in a more homey manner, each family of five in this Colony has to be prepared, if no remedy is applied, to see one of their number go down to the grave prematurely through a cause that is preventable, through the silent, treacherous invasion of tuberculosis disease. Every mother in this country that brings into the world five children may expect to see one of them carried to the grave a victim of this fell malady."

My task, in view of such declarations, is rendered easier, because I am not called upon to prove the need for such a campaign as we propose, or for the substantial outlay which it will involve. The present undertaking is one which all will admit is essential, and the outlay involved will be no less imperative. The gravity and seriousness of this problem to the country cannot be exag-
There are doubtless some very deserving people, whose opinions are of value, who may dispute that the problem is as grave a one as we claim, but I think a little reflection will show that all the statistics and all the material at hand fully emphasize the fact that Newfoundland is in no way in a better position than are those countries that I have named, whose careful statistics have been kept for many years, and where they have found themselves compelled to inaugurate far reaching policies to grapple with this disease.

It was only last night that I read in one of our local papers a quotation from a speech by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in Great Britain, Mr. David Lloyd-George, a great modern remedial legislator, and practical statesman, who has introduced into the British Parliament that measure known as the National Insurance Bill. In one of his speeches on this measure he said—"It kills "as many in the Kingdom in a single year as all the zymotic diseases put together, and a very terrible fact in connection with it is the moment a man is attacked and "compromised he becomes a recruit "in the destructive army, and proceeds to injure mortally even "those to whom he is most attached "and to scatter infection and death "in his own household. . . . "All the resources of this country "should be placed at the disposal of "science to crush out this disease. "... the most heart-rending "and painful disease that ever afflicted the human race."

Not alone is the tuberculosis problem in Newfoundland one of grave importance, but the campaign against it is attended with greater difficulty than in any other country because we have to-day over 1300 settlements spread around our coastline, and hundreds of these settlements are without a doctor or trained nurse, and with very little communication between them and the larger settlements where doctors and nurses may be found.

Moreover, besides these initial difficulties, there are special features about the situation in this Colony which serve to increase the chances of infection and encourage the spread of the disease. Ill-ventilated quarters, close hearths, the abandonment of open fireplaces and the substitution of the cooking-stove—all of these have served only too well to create and foster the incipient stages of the disease. Everything, it may almost be said, that we have done and are doing, fight on the side of tuberculosis up to the present, and hence it is that we have seen whole families attacked, and often wiped out altogether. With people living under the conditions I have indicated, our boys and girls, our young men and women, the very best blood of our country, all become subject to the disease, and until comparatively recently nothing was done in any way to attempt to arrest its ravages.

Public interest in Newfoundland in relation to this matter may be said to have been first notified by the introduction into this Chamber by Mr. Morine in 1901 of Resolutions as follows:—

WHEREAS it is desirable to perpetuate in this Colony, in some appropriate form, the memory of Her Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria;

AND WHEREAS amongst the many virtues of "Victoria the Good" none were more conspicuous than her sympathy with the sick and afflicted, and works of mercy at all
time commanded her approval and support;

AND WHEREAS in this Colony there are very many persons afflicted with Consumption—"The Great White Plague"—and there is not an institution where the sick may be cured, be given proper care, or have their sufferings alleviated;

AND WHEREAS the most eminent physicians now believe that consumption is not hereditary, but is both preventable and curable, if proper treatment be afforded in due time, which treatment many sufferers in this Colony cannot obtain;

RESOLVED, that this Legislature is of opinion that the construction and maintenance of sanitaria for consumptive patients would be at once the most appropriate and the most beneficent memorials to Her Gracious Majesty;

RESOLVED, that this Legislature is of opinion that the creation of such sanitaria is not only a work of mercy, but also of duty, to the people of this Colony;

AND FURTHER, that this Assembly will heartily support a recommendation by the Governor in Council for granting an adequate sum for the erection and maintenance of memorial sanitaria.

No action was taken, however, in relation to Mr. Morine’s Resolutions and the next stage in the matter followed with the organization of the Association for the Prevention of Consumption, in 1908. That Society, there can be no doubt whatever, has done excellent work. The highest praise is due the President, Hon. John Harvey, the late Governor, Sir William MacGregor, who was actively identified with its inception, and to the other zealous members of the Association, as well as to those who have since contributed to the work.

It was a Herculean task for any private association to undertake. The great difficulty was where to begin and how to begin, for few appreciated the seriousness of the situation. Apathy and inertness existed all round, and the very efforts of the society, in its endeavour to arouse public opinion to the seriousness of the danger existing on all sides, were very often made the subject of a joke.

Picture to yourself, Mr. Chairman, the situation. One thousand people are dying in the country every year, and continuing to die, and yet nobody exhibits any concern whatever with reference to the situation. Yet, if one case of smallpox, cholera or typhus fever shows itself in the country, it is as if a very devastating angel had appeared. Fear and horror fill every breast; the press is agitated; public meetings are called; boards of health established; and apathy and indifference give way to watchfulness and alertness. Yet in one year we lose more of our people by consumption than we have lost in the past fifty years by all other contagious diseases put together.

What, then, is the secret of our apathy and indifference in relation to this disease? The only answer can be that, owing to the insidious nature of the malady, our attention is not arrested to its danger until it is too late, and then nothing can be done. A case of smallpox is on us and over in a few days, and we not alone take every precaution and safeguard to protect ourselves, but the authorities placard our houses and quarantine us in order to protect the public.
And yet no precautions are taken in relation to consumption, and we allow those who are afflicted with it to continue for weeks and months and years without helping any of them towards recovery, without safeguarding ourselves from the infection or without protecting the public from its ravages. On the contrary, the house where the patient resides becomes the rendezvous for the neighbours, and before the victim has succumbed hosts of his friends and relations visit him.

In 1909 when the present Government came into office, they recognized the seriousness of this matter, but it was one upon which no far-reaching or decisive action could be taken, owing to the difficulties which surrounded the question even in the treatment of the patients. No one could discuss the question with Dr. Brehm, the Medical Health Officer, without becoming impressed with the appalling character of the situation. Dr. Brehm is a most conscientious and careful official. I have had much to do with him the past three years, and the public can safely conclude that anything he states regarding this disease can be amply corroborated. He has written me some appalling facts regarding it. He has stated that over 4,000 people are to-day affected with the disease in the Colony; that at least one thousand die every year; and that we cannot longer delay in taking up the task of coping with the situation. For instance, in a letter addressed to me on February 12th last, he deals with this subject exhaustively, and it may be interesting to know that, in his opinion, the situation is even worse than it would seem to be from the reports of the Bureau of Vital Statistics, for he is of opinion that many cases of consumption are otherwise reported. The letter is as follows:—

"In accordance with your instructions I beg to enclose herewith a statement of the total number of cases of tuberculosis which have been reported from all the districts in the country—from October 26th, 1909, to February 10th, 1912. It is to be feared, however, that these figures do not even approximately represent either the whole extent of the disease throughout the Island, or its comparative prevalence in the different districts. There must undoubtedly be a large number of cases which, for some reason or other, have not yet been reported. The majority of these may be cases living in isolated settlements, or in the early stages of the disease, who have never consulted a doctor, but as mentioned in my letter of the 3rd instant, some medical practitioners are very careless about reporting their cases. The great variation in the number for the different districts is largely due to the difference in the way in which medical men comply with the Regulations, some being very conscientious, and carefully reporting all cases seen, while others are still very negligent. There has been a steady improvement in this matter, however, and I hope that with the further development and organization of the campaign against tuberculosis, the returns will soon be complete enough to give a fairly accurate idea as to the real prevalence of the disease throughout the country. In all countries it is a very difficult matter to obtain reliable information upon this point. It seems to be generally agreed by authorities that, at a moderate estimate, there must be at least five living cases for each death. In
1910 there were about 750 registered deaths from tuberculosis in Newfoundland. At the above rate there must therefore be about 4,000 living cases in the country.

A considerable number of the cases in the settlements have died since being reported. In St. John's districts this number is 83, but I have no accurate information as to deaths being merely reported by the doctors to the local magistrates for the purpose of disinfection.

If the 4,000 cases of consumption which, according to Dr. Brehm, exist in the country to-night—not to speak of the thousands of unreported ones—could be gathered into one centre, or even into ten centres, it would be a simple problem to deal with; but when we remember, as I have said, that these 4,000 cases are spread over the Island in 1300 settlements, extending over some thousands of miles of seaboard, the difficulty of how and where to begin, whether the campaign should be started by a propaganda of education, by individual effort among the people, or by the establishing of sanitariums, hospitals and dispensaries, greatly accentuate the seriousness of the problem and compel careful and special enquiry. Accordingly, in the Speech from the Throne at the opening of the first session of the present Legislature in 1909, His Excellency the Governor made the following declaration on behalf of the present administration—

"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 agent 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."

In accordance with this declaration, the Executive Council recommended to His Excellency the Governor the appointment of a Commission, consisting of Hon. John Harvey, Chairman; Doctor Keegan, Secretary; Doctors Rendell, Fraser and Brehm, whose instructions were as follows—"To enquire into and report upon and deal with, insofar as the funds placed at your disposal by the Government from time to time may allow, the whole question of tuberculosis, its extent and growth in Newfoundland, its causes, the remedies which might be adopted to prevent its spread, and particularly the part that teachers in the public schools might take in that connection; the instruction of the teachers at the training schools in a special course of sanitation, and of those who have passed out of said training schools without having had the privilege of such instruction, but who are now engaged in teaching in this Colony; the teaching of households by lectures, pamphlets and personal visits; the methods of improving the health of the people generally, and of the water supply of all places which are centres of population; infantile mortality, its causes and remedies; the establishing of district dispensaries and district trained nurses;
the structure of dwellings, with a view to improving sanitation, dryness and drainage; the laying out of towns with regard to sanitation and drainage; the establishing of cleansing and disinfecting staffs in towns; the registration of infectious diseases and of infected houses where diseases such as tuberculosis occur; and fuller and more correct returns of vital statistics."

That Commission has performed splendid work. It was provided with an annual sum of $4,000, increased moreover at its demand, so that in three years the Commission has expended for the Government over $20,000 in the way of educating the public as to the treatment and care of tuberculosis and as to the most effective methods of preventing the spread of the disease.

In their report for the year 1909, the Commissioners say—They have found the subject an exceedingly involved and difficult one, touching the life and habits of the people of the Colony at many points, and it became early apparent that a large and expensive organization is required to deal with it at all effectively. An initial grant of $4,000 has been placed in the hands of the Commission, and the obligations assumed by them in this connection will be referred to in a later paragraph of this report. Meantime the Commission desire to express their appreciation of the action of the Government in placing this grant at their uncontrived disposal without reservations of any kind save only that it be utilized for the object in view. It is to be noted that in nearly every country as the result of the enlightened modern campaign, a very substantial and progressive decline in the death rate has been for some time in evidence. And there seems no doubt but that it can be fought with even more success here than elsewhere if the Colony will spend the necessary money upon it.

The establishment of sanatoria, while at first sight it has more to do with the cure than with the prevention of Consumption, is in reality a very strong factor towards prevention. Sanatoria may be of two kinds, (a) Hospitals or establishments for taking advanced cases, not so much with the idea of curing them as of segregating them and removing a source of infection. Incidentally, of course, the patients are benefitted by the treatment even though they cannot be cured. It is mostly from these advanced cases that infection is spread, partly through direct inoculation of others, and partly by the infection of houses from the sputum of the patient.

(b) Establishments for taking early cases. These serve the double purpose of curing or at least greatly improving the patients, and what is still greater importance, of thoroughly educating them in the right mode of life for the protection of those around them. Every patient returning to his home from such an institution would be sufficiently educated to continue his own treatment and would be a constant centre of education for others.

The Commission has had under discussion the question of sanatoria. It is estimated by authorities in the United States that suitable sanatoria cost about $500 per bed to erect, the cost, both of erection and maintenance, depending to some extent upon the size. Buildings suitable for this purpose need not cost anything like that in Newfoundland. The problem may be dealt with in two ways here,—either by the erection of a series of small sanatoria in different
localities (a method advocated by some of the medical correspondents of the Commission), or by the erection of one or two large institutions.

It is apparent that for the city of St. John's the thing most urgently required is an hospital for extreme cases to which advanced patients who are doing so much to spread the disease in the crowded parts of the town, could be removed. There is at present no place to which a poor consumptive can be taken. This often entails great hardship. He cannot be admitted to the General or Fever Hospitals, and he is obliged to live in a crowded tenement district. This is obviously false economy, and costs the community a great deal more than would his separate maintenance in a place where he could do no harm to others. For the outports, on the other hand, the Commission believe that the most urgent call is rather for sanatoria for curable cases.

The Commission have come to the conclusion, so far as their present deliberations have carried them, that some attempt at sanatorium treatment of incipient cases ought to be tentatively made at once. They believe that a conclusive trial of the sanatorium method in the outports can be made at a cost of not over $4000 or $5000, and if the Legislature can see its way to increased appropriation to the services of the Commission they will be prepared to make a test of the matter with a view to ascertaining whether the system can be advantageously extended or not. And they believe that for St. John's a special Hospital for advanced cases has become an unavoidable necessity, if constant reinfection of tenements and an indefinite spread of Tuberculosis in the city is to be avoided.

Recommended, that a trial be made at once to test the practical value of sanatorium treatment here.

In their 1910 report the Commissioners say—

The total number of deaths in this Colony for the past five years, which are given for comparison, are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>3,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>4,663</td>
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<td>1907</td>
<td>4,122</td>
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<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>4,142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>3,683</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For the purpose of further comparison it may be mentioned that for 1901 the total deaths were 3,865.

During the past five years deaths from tuberculosis have been as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>801</td>
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<td>1908</td>
<td>802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>736</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rate per 1,000 living.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Rate per 1,000 living.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>3.43</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>736</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It will thus be seen that the number of deaths since 1906, when the agitation on this subject began, shows a steady decline and that they are now less than they were in 1905.

The Commission feels that the expenditure of the grant of $100,000 recently provided by the Legislature in connection with School Buildings, is going to have a most marked effect on the health and happiness of the community. Each one of the denominational bodies which have the expenditure of this money is directing its attention in a most decided way towards the question of sanitation in connection with any schools which participate in the grant, and the educational effect, not only among children, but among the adults
wherever this question is considered and discussed by school boards and others, is sure to be very marked. Extract from 1911 Report Signal Hill Hospital. An average of from 20 to 30 consumptive patients have been constantly under treatment at this hospital with marked success. It is impossible to speak too highly of the work that is being quietly done by Dr. Campbell and his staff at this institution. A very large number of patients, many of them in an advanced stage of consumption, have been greatly improved, and those who have voluntarily gone there, while benefitting themselves, at the same time have relieved their families from the ever present danger of infection.

Sanitarium. This subject was dealt with in the last report, when it was stated that the Commission were unable to recommend the Government to incur the large expense incidental to the adoption of sanitarium treatment on any considerable scale at the present time. The matter, has, however, been urged by some of the medical correspondents of the Commission, whose views command consideration. It has been suggested that small and inexpensive sanitariums for individual districts, conducted under the local doctor’s eye, should be tried at least experimentally.

The two great difficulties, as pointed out, are in the first place how to find early cases, still in the curable state, and how to prevail upon them to abandon their homes and families and stay in an institution long enough to be cured; and in the second place how to provide for the rest of the family during the period of treatment. There can be no doubt that if all advanced cases of consumption could be removed from their homes and properly looked after in special institutions, a great step would have been taken towards terminating the ravages of the disease. Sanitariums have an indirect value in educating the patient while under treatment.

The compulsory withdrawal and segregation within institutions of advanced and incurable cases is a crying need in definite localities, especially in St. John’s.

In a very valuable report which I have had from Dr. Wakefield, who is giving his services gratuitously to this work in connection with the A. P.C., the Doctor says:

Death rate from Tuberculosis in Nfld. and Labrador.

According to the official statistics, 750 persons died from tuberculosis in Newfoundland and Labrador during 1910. Owing, however, to unavoidable errors and fallacies in the returns, the actual number of deaths due to tuberculosis is undoubtedly much greater than 750. A short glance through the official statistics is sufficient evidence of this; how much greater, it is impossible to say. Certainly to place the number at 1000 is a very conservative estimate. It may therefore be stated without fear of any exaggeration that during the year 1910 not less than 1000 deaths were caused by tuberculosis in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Excessive death rate Compared to Other Countries.

According to the above estimate the death rate from tuberculosis in the Colony in 1910 was 4.14 per 1000 living, and 27.2 per 100 deaths; and, therefore, one death in every 3.67 was due to tuberculosis.

In England and Wales similar figures for 1909 are 1.52 per 1000 liv-
ing, and 10.5 per 100 deaths, and one death out of every 9.52. These figures may be taken as a fair average, or perhaps a little better than those of most civilized countries. In Australia (See report of Imperial Medical Institute), the figures are 9 per 1000 deaths, and 1 death out of every 11.11.

In the light of all this information, the Government recently came to the conclusion that the time had now arrived when the task of dealing with this matter could no longer be left to private agencies; that it was not fair to either the Public Health Commission or to the public generally, that the task of coping with this disease should be continued any longer by any agency other than a Government Department, every official connected with which should devote his whole time to dealing with the matter—not piecemeal, by sections or settlements, but comprehending the whole country; while at the same time a policy would be inaugurated which would apply the laws of prevention and cure to every case in the Island, invoking, further, all educational influences to the aid of the Government in this campaign, so that within a reasonable time it might be possible to look for the complete extermination of this plague from amongst us.

We have to look at this matter from two aspects, first, the humane—from the standpoint of humanity, because after all, we in this Legislature represent the people. We are doing for them what they cannot conveniently do for themselves. We are as much responsible in this connection for their lives, and the establishment of every possible safeguard against the spread of the disease, as we are for building lighthouses to protect them from the dangers incident to their perilous avocations on the sea. The health of the people is the supreme law of the state—and not alone their health but the welfare and comfort of the people is included therein.

If the health of the people, then, is the supreme law, and if an epidemic rages the land, the people properly and naturally look to the Government for protection and help. They ask, in a sense, “What are you going to do about it?” We cannot rid ourselves of this responsibility and if we once admit that the devastating disease is in our midst, and is creating as much havoc as did the devastating angel amongst the Egyptians in the olden time, slaying the first born, and leaving homes desolate and bereaved, then we can remain no longer inert. We have to be up and doing and must wrestle with this common enemy. Humanity first, mutual safety second, calls for united action between the north and south poles of society. Capitalist and workingman, master and servant, are equal in this greatest of modern missions; there is no distinction of class or quality; disease and death bring all men to a common level; we cannot, by united or any other effort, defeat death ultimately, but we have it in our power to combat disease, some kinds partially, some effectively. That the work we have commenced is necessary cannot be denied; that it is effective is amply proved. The man, the woman, the father, the mother, the brother, the sister, who stand aloof, says in effect; “Let danger surround me; let those sink who cannot swim.” The one without family, without kindred, who adopts a similar stand, says, “What is Society, or what is my brother man to me?” In short they stand on the banks of the river into which human beings have fallen, and when they could save them by stretching forth a helping hand, they allow
them to perish miserably and hopelessly. To do this actually would be criminal; to do it morally is almost the same. The person capable of doing it morally would almost do it actually; and the same person, with positions reversed, would be the first to cry out for assistance. I cannot believe there is such a one in Newfoundland, and am satisfied it is only thoughtlessness or ignorance of Christ's command as given through the Bible that hinders any citizen doing his part, be it great or small.

It is not a question of what it is going to cost, for the money has got to be found. Again, apart from the humane side of the question the best thing a Government can do is to save its people. The people are the assets of a country, and every life saved is a help, and we should do battle for it.

I said, Sir, that such a battle is being waged all over the world. All countries are fighting this disease, and it is now our duty—late in the day though it be—to do our part, and undertake the supreme responsibility of trying to save the people. Within the past year or two the Association for the Prevention of Consumption has had two or three doctors in the country giving special attention to this problem. I have had an opportunity of reading their reports, and they disclose such cases of woe and misery as would make one's heart bleed. It is, perhaps, the saddest story ever told in connection with Newfoundland—the story of the desolation of whole settlements, and the wiping out of entire families. There is no one who could read this record of what is going on in Newfoundland to-day without being inspired with the very strongest desire to engage in the battle against this disease, and assist to the best of his ability in its extermination.

This country owes a debt of gratitude to the ladies and gentlemen who have promoted this organization, and who have given all this voluntary work in connection with it, work which had no other stimulus than that which comes from doing good, and being able to deserve the gratitude which is the only payment which can be made in so many of these cases. We could have wished that it were possible to avail of the services of the gentlemen who compose the Commission on Public Health to aid us in this campaign, but their hands are already fully occupied with other work, and they are not alone busy men, but very busy men. They have given all the spare time they could to enquiring into the matter on the lines of their commission, but it would not be fair to leave the responsibility any longer on them or to burden them with duties which properly belong to those who are entrusted with the conduct of public affairs in this island; and accordingly, as they intimated that the work was getting beyond their powers, we have decided to create a competent department with full powers to undertake the campaign against consumption in Newfoundland. Much valuable information has been gathered from the researches of this Commission on Public Health, and from the labours of the A.P.C., so that we do not conceive that it will be an extremely serious matter to work out a plan for carrying on this campaign, and we are now asking the Legislature to vote sufficient money to set the work on foot, and enable us to determine upon the lines upon which it is to be carried out.

It will be needless for me to go very fully into a description of the methods by which the prevention and cure of consumption is accomplished in other countries. There are three principal agencies for this object,
and these, I have no doubt, will be invoked in this crusade.

(1) Dispensary Establishments.—These have been a great success, and are much used in Scotland, England, Ireland and America. The past four or five years there has been a great movement in Ireland against tuberculosis. The Viceroy and his wife, Lord and Lady Aberdeen, have gone into the whole subject, and as a result there are all over Ireland to-day centres for dealing with this problem in its various phases. The people get advice as to food and treatment, almost without leaving their own homes.

Then there is another class that will go into the sanitariums. These are what may be termed in the incipient stages, who can be cured if taken in time, but who require in a very large percentage of cases to be removed entirely from their surroundings. They will be taken into these sanitariums, and sent forth not alone cured, not alone healthy happy citizens, but every one a missionary proclaiming the new Gospel, and advising others how to avoid the danger of this infection. Every man, woman and child who goes into one of these institutions and goes out cured, goes out confirmed, as it were, in the new health doctrines, and becomes as I have said a missionary in favour of the new movement.

Then there is the Hospital, where confirmed cases will be sent, persons who in a very large percentage of cases cannot be cured themselves, but who will be put in these hospitals very largely for the purpose of saving others, and saving the community, whilst at the same time a large proportion of themselves may be cured and may be saved. But these are all matters of detail, as to how this work will be carried out. This Legislature or this Government, or any administration that may be in charge will not be able to attend to the details of so vast an undertaking. What we have to do is, having realized the gravity of the situation, to get some person competent to take charge of it. What we want is a health Kitchener, a man in whom we can have absolute reliance, a man thoroughly competent—a faddist if you like in relation to this particular work, and having got the right man, the right Doctor, the right General, then give him carte blanche and say to him, “Now, what do you recommend? Here is the patient, here is the condition of the patient, what nature of an operation do you recommend?”

It will not be for us laymen, to decide whether it should be sanitariums or hospitals or dispensaries; whether we should rely entirely on literature, on education in the schools, on compulsory notification, or on hospitals—all these are mere links in a great chain or cogs in the machinery necessary to combat and fight this disease, and the less we laymen have to say as to details, the more likely is this matter to be successful.

The resolutions which I shall submit later to the Committee are simple and few, because I have considered it unnecessary to have this legislation too cumbersome, because like all legislation of its class you cannot put in one Resolution or in one Bill today all that will likely be necessary for the next fifteen or twenty years; but it will be found in relation to the Bill when it comes before the House that there is sufficient power to deal with every phase of this question as it arises.
I submit then Mr. Chairman that we are in a very splendid position here in this new venture that we are making. We are fortified—sadly if you like, but fortified,—by facts and figures which I have quoted and which I will quote. We know of the existence of the disease, we know of the extent of the disease. We have the researches of the gentlemen whose names I have already mentioned, and we cannot delay an hour in declaring war against the enemy.

I said before I did not think it necessary to labour the argument, that I thought it fair to assume that every one had made up his mind as to the necessity for this undertaking, but a few facts may be interesting.

The great Civil War in the United States destroyed 650,000 in four years. We know that 600,000 die of consumption every four years in the United States, in other words there is a Civil War as far as the death rate is concerned in the United States every four years.

I should like to briefly refer to the opinion of Doctor Rendell, who has given an opinion himself on the matter. He is one of the Commissioners and he has prepared for me a very interesting paper in relation to this whole question of Tuberculosis. I would delay the Committee too long if I were refer to it at any length, and I shall be very brief and confine myself to merely mentioning it. He has gone into the matter very thoroughly, very carefully and very exhaustively. He has been in this Colony practising for nearly thirty years, and he has kept himself thoroughly posted in what is going on in other countries in relation to this matter, and with his local knowledge and acquaintance and his well known ability he ought be taken by us as an important witness. He says:—

“The annual cost of consumption in Newfoundland to-day in sickness amounts to 3,500 cases, in deaths 700, and in dollars $1,200,000.” He says that these figures are based on the Report of the Registrar General for 1910, the Revenue Tables of the Auditor General for 1909 and other sources. Then he goes and figures the whole matter out, and shows precisely how these very amazing figures are arrived at.

In the study of this question, Mr Chairman, as I have said before, I am very much indebted to our Public Health Officer, Dr. Brehm, who has given me his researches in relation to this matter and the very latest word in relation to Tuberculosis. A day or two ago he sent me a pamphlet by Dr. Flick, who is one of the foremost authorities in the United States, and he says—“In this work that I forward you Dr. Flick states very clearly the methods that have been of the greatest value in reducing the mortality from Tuberculosis in Pennsylvania.”

In the booklet, which is entitled “The Progress in the Tuberculosis Campaign in Pennsylvania up to 1911” Dr. Flick says:—

“The campaign against tuberculosis began formally in Pennsylvania in 1892 with the organization of the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. Prior to that time things had been done which might have had an influence for a reduction in the death rate from tuberculosis, although they were not done specifically for that purpose. The general hospitals and almshouses all over the state had harbored and thereby isolated advanced consumptives. The Consumptive Home
of the City Mission of Philadelphia had been started in 1876 and the Rush Hospital had been founded in 1890. Dr. Wm. Webb had taught the contagiousness of tuberculosis early in the eighties, and Koch's discovery of the tubercle bacillus had been promulgated in 1882. Since 1902 the Free Hospital for Poor Consumptives and White Haven Sanatorium Association have been organized, the Henry Phipps Institute has been established, the Tuberculosis Department of the city of Philadelphia has been organized, the Montefiore Home of the Jewish Hospital has been opened, Grandview Sanatorium of Oil City has been established, the Scranton Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, with its sanatorium at West Mountain, the Rothrock Camp at Mont Alto, the Anti-Tuberculosis Society of Harrisburg, the Wyoming Valley Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, the Tuberculosis League of Pittsburgh throughout the Commonwealth have been organized and established. The Commonwealth itself opened a large sanatorium at Mont Alto in 1907 and has established dispensaries in every part of the Commonwealth. There are now in operation 14 charitable or semi-charitable institutions for the treatment of tuberculosis with a capacity of about 600 beds, 6 pay institutions for profit with a capacity of about 100 beds, and 2 public institutions with a capacity of about 1100 beds. There are 125 dispensaries in operation, most of which give free milk and eggs and free preventive measure supplies to their patients. About $6,000,000 has been expended in Pennsylvania in the interest of the crusade against tuberculosis, and of this amount a little over $2,000,000 has been expended by private corporations, nearly $3,000,000 by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and about $1,000,000 by the city of Philadelphia. Nearly $4,000,000 of the entire amount has been expended since 1907. There are now 1800 beds available in the Commonwealth for tuberculosis cases.

"On the face of the records there seems to have been a reduction of 68.7% in the mortality rate from tuberculosis in Philadelphia since 1870. While this seems very high, it has the earmarks of truth in its progressive ratio and in its harmony with what has been done to bring it about. More than one-half of the reduction has occurred within the last decade.

"What lesson can we draw from the reduction in the death rate from tuberculosis in Pennsylvania, when studied in connection with what has been done to bring it about? First, that reduction in the death rate apparently hinges upon isolation of open, ulcerative, pulmonary tuberculosis of the lungs; second, that the campaign against tuberculosis might be a much simpler matter than we have made it. Prior to 1890 the only thing done in Pennsylvania with a preventive value worth considering was the isolation of open, ulcerative, pulmonary tuberculosis in general hospitals and in almshouses. Before the scare about tuberculosis came over the medical profession and the public, all general hospitals and nearly all almshouses harboured and thus isolated cases of open, ulcerative, pulmonary tuberculosis in general hospitals and in almshouses. Before the scare about tuberculosis came over the medical profession and the public, all general hospitals and nearly all almshouses harboured and thus isolated cases of open, ulcerative, pulmonary tuberculosis, especially in the terminal stages of the disease. Some of the general hospitals devoted a great many beds to this purpose, and could an inventory be taken of the number of patients who were isolated in this way in the Commonwealth, it probably would be found to be
quite large. The preventive influence of this isolation upon the death rate may well have been sufficient to account for the reduction in the death rate between 1870 and 1890.

"About 1890 hospitals and sanitaria for the treatment of tuberculosis began to spring up, but as they came up, the beds in the general hospitals and to some extent also the beds in the almshouses were gradually withdrawn from the use of tuberculous subjects. It is very probable that during the decade between 1890 and 1900 as many beds were thus lost to the crusade against tuberculosis by the withdrawal of beds in general hospitals and almshouses as were gained in the special hospitals and sanitaria. During this decade dispensaries also began to spring up but we know now that the preventive value of dispensaries is exceedingly small, and would in no sense equal the value of the isolating beds in the general hospitals and almshouses. By 1900 most of the beds in the general hospitals and in the almshouses had been withdrawn, but, fortunately, by that time the number of beds in special hospitals and sanitaria had considerably increased, and probably was more than equal to the loss which had been sustained. At present there is an isolating capacity in Pennsylvania of over 7000 patients a year, allowing three months for each patient. With this isolating capacity we ought be able to reduce the death rate very rapidly all over the State. The value of isolation of ulcerative, pulmonary tuberculosis has been taught us in other countries and in other times. The Kingdom of Naples over a hundred years ago nearly wiped out tuberculosis in a relatively short time by the compulsory isolation of pulmonary tuberculosis in hospitals and almshouses.

England reduced its death rate from tuberculosis 75% in less than a century by isolation of ulcerative, pulmonary tuberculosis in its consumptive hospitals; and Germany, during the last thirty years, has brought about a marvelous reduction in its death rate from tuberculosis by the isolation of its tuberculosis cases in hospitals and sanitaria.

"That the reduction in the death rate from tuberculosis in Pennsylvania has been largely due to the isolation which has been practiced would also seem to be indicated by the typographical relationship between the reduction and the isolation. The reduction has been greatest where the isolation has been greatest. Since general hospitals and almshouses have closed their doors against consumptives, vastly the greatest amount of isolation has occurred in the city of Philadelphia and during this time the reduction in the death rate in Philadelphia has been vastly greater than in the rest of the Commonwealth."

I submit, Mr. Chairman, that we can no longer get away from our responsibility in this matter; we can no longer stand callous and indifferent when we see this disease all around us carrying off our friends and relatives, and do nothing to check its ravages. We may not be legally responsible, but we are morally responsible. We are standing on the bank of a river, watching thousands struggling in the water, and we refuse to extend them any assistance, and if an occasional one gets out we regard it as a mere matter of course. I repeat that we cannot shirk our responsibility in this matter. On the heads of every one of us, on every member of this Legislature, the responsibility rests, and if we do not perform our duty
this matter a higher Power will deal with us. Our own child or our friends' children may at any time contract this disease, and from one whom, if we had done our duty, would never have had it.

If any member of this community is still in doubt, after what I have quoted here this afternoon, I would advise him to read the reports of the Commission on Public Health for the past three years, and in them he will find material that will assuredly convince him.

I have had sent me today, by a doctor working in this city, an illustration of a few cases that exist right here in town at the present moment. I shall briefly refer to them in the order given, as a sample of what is going on, and the terrible conditions in which some of the affected persons exist, as well as illustrating the manner in which the disease is spread from one to another.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

Persons suffering with consumption now or recently living in this Colony who, from their careless or dirty habits, or from the nature of their surroundings are a serious menace to the health of those amongst whom they are living, and so demonstrate the urgent necessity of a law to make the segregation of such cases compulsory.

1. Miss C. B., aged 24.—Patient in the last stage of phthisis. Has an exceedingly bad cough, and does not take proper precautions. Living with father, mother and brother of 16, 5 sisters and all mother's relatives died of phthisis. Mother has to go to work early, and patient, who is practically helpless, therefore gets no breakfast or other attention till 10-11 a.m. She insists on her mother sleeping in the same room for company. Mother has now had a bad cough for some time. She fully realizes the danger, and is very anxious indeed for the girl to go to hospital, but the latter obstinately refuses.

2. Miss M. R., aged 13.—Reeking with tuberculosis, bad cough, suppurating tuberculous glands, tuberculous disease of skin of face, evidence pointing to spinal caries, and tuberculous disease of bone of finger discharging exceedingly foul pus. So little care is taken of this that, when I was there, this infectious pus was smeared all over the bed-clothes. Patient lives with father and 6 small brothers and sisters, the oldest being only 15. The father expresses willingness for the child to go to hospital if she were willing, but she resolutely refuses.

3. Henry W., aged 22.—Patient is in an advanced stage of phthisis, has a bad cough, spits and has frequent hemorrhages. Lives with his sister and her husband and their 3 small children, (aged 11, 3½, and a few months respectively), also another sister who is single. Only 3 rooms in house. Patient sleeps in one room, not always by himself. His sister needs the room, but patient will not go to hospital, and threatens to board elsewhere when pressed to go to Signal Hill. The other died of phthisis. Last summer patient worked in an oil factory, making cod oil for others to drink.

4. Mrs. G.—Far gone in phthisis. Coughs and spits a lot, and has frequent hemorrhages. Terrible dirty and careless concerning her sputum. Both small children, youngest 1 year old and patient coughs freely in their faces. The oldest had to be sent home from school for being dirty. House has 4 rooms, no windows can be opened. Mother and grand
mother died of phthisis. Husband lazy and whole family half-starved, and therefore doubly liable to become infected.

5. Henry B.—Phthisis, coughs and spits a lot, and has frequent hemorrhages. Lives in small house with wife and 5 small children, several of whom have been having colds and coughs off and on, after the manner of the onset of phthisis. Patient reasonably careful, but wife terribly dirty. No windows open. Sleeps with husband, whose father, 1 brother and 2 sisters have died of consumption, and others have the same disease now.

6. Mrs. H.—Phthisis, with bad cough, much spit and frequent hemorrhages. Says she takes precautions, but obviously does not. Lives with husband and 5 children in 3 rooms, and sleeps with husband and baby. 2 children have chronic coughs, 1 (one) had bronchitis when I was there. For about 2 weeks the whole family lived and slept in a tiny room only just big enough to hold the bed.

7. Mrs. S., aged 45.—Phthisis. Coughs and spits a lot, and has occasional hemorrhages. Careless about her infection. Lives with husband and 5 children. Sleeps with husband, and window never open. Constantly sits with her grandchild of about one year on her knee coughing into its face. Pays no attention when spoken to on this or any other subject. Girl of 10 years already showing definite symptoms of onset.

8. Mrs. L., aged 78.—Phthisis. Has been coughing and spitting and having hemorrhages for 16 years. Careless. Sleeps in tiny room, with window tightly closed. Odour coming from this room is terrible. Lives with 4 small grand-children in the house, and is with them all the time. A son died phthisis, and the mother of the children is pale and sickly.

9. Mrs. S., aged 33—Phthisis. No cough or spit, but frequent hemorrhages, and very weak and careless, will follow no directions. 3 small children, all use same dishes. No windows open. Sleeps with husband, whose father, 1 brother and 2 sisters have died of consumption, and others have the same disease now.

10. Mrs. N., aged 41.—Phthisis with coughing and spitting. Patient tries to be, and considers herself, most careful, but does not know how to do so. For instance she constantly coughs over food, or into the room, and she wipes her mouth on her apron, etc., without realizing the danger of what she does. She lives with 6 children and sleeps with her husband.


12. Mrs. G—, aged 60.—Phthisis. Coughs and spits. Careless. Shares a house of 6 rooms with another family, each having 3 rooms. Patient’s family numbers 5, including 3 small children. During the last 6 years patient’s son, nephew and niece’s husband have died from consumption in this same house. Patient’s daughter now living there has tuberculous glands.


14. Miss R—, Phthisis, with coughing, spitting and hemorrhages. Very bad. Lived with 2 sisters. Went to Signal Hill, but insisted on returning home when patient thought she was going to die. One sister had to leave her work in order to stay at home and nurse her, thus seriously reducing the family income. Patient tried to be
careful, but being constantly with her sisters she was almost certain to infect them and one showed definite symptoms of onset when last I saw her.

15. The family of H. T., living in a small 2-roomed hovel.—When I was there the mother lay in bed coughing and spitting up much blood and phlegm. She was too weak to dispose of this in a proper way even if she had had the knowledge and desire to do so. The house was unspeakably filthy, no window would open and there was a large stove, almost red hot, in the kitchen. The family consisted of father (who was away and I did not see him), mother and 6 (?) children. The eldest, a boy of about 16, was at St. Anthony Hospital with a tuberculous ankle. The 5 (?) smaller children all showed signs of the onset of the same disease in one form or another (cough, tuberculous glands, anaemia, etc.)

This last case is the only one from the outports, but conditions there are quite as bad as, sometimes worse, than in St. John's and I know of many instances similar to this last.

Last year, at the request of the Public Health Commission, we fitted out an hospital at Signal Hill, and during 1911 there were 68 patients treated there by Doctor Campbell in connection with the Commission. Excellent work was done there and its character can be widely extended if more people can be induced to avail of it, and utilize the facilities that are afforded there for treatment.

I am satisfied that this war against tuberculosis will be the best investment that this Colony has ever made of its money, not merely from a commercial but from a humane standpoint, and not only the country but all the world will justify it. Our need is no worse here than in Canada and the United States, and they are fully alive to the danger; so are Germany and Great Britain. There is nothing local about this disease; nothing special about the causes that produce it here. If we ever hope to make this a country in which it will be safe for people to live, and if we ever hope to make it attractive as a health resort for foreigners, we must first wipe out this disease. I look confidently to the day when we shall have merely a bowing acquaintance with a case of consumption in Newfoundland. Every dollar spent in this campaign will return to us a hundredfold, not alone in the happiness of having saved our people, but in its economic aspect.

I do not think it would be proper that I should leave this subject without a reference to the generous offer made by the Reid Newfoundland Company to give us seventeen sanitaria, one for St. John's and one for each of the other 16 districts. These will not alone he capable of being used for the purpose for which their donors intended them, but they will be centres of health, from which hygienic principles will emanate to each district. Every one of these little buildings will be a lighthouse to which the people will look with hope for the present and the future. Every one will contain a ministering angel in the shape of a trained nurse who will supervise the work; while each of the hospitals will also serve as a dispensary where people may obtain advice and medicine. Those who come to these hospitals will come with the certainty of obtaining advice and treatment. We are under a great debt to the corporation which has contributed so freely to this war against a plague which has cost the Colony nearly half as many lives as Newfoundland contains today. Future generations will be able to look calmly and dispassionately at the work upon which we are now entering, and will give a fair share of merit and praise to the corporation that has assisted us so munificently.
With these few remarks, I now beg to propose the Resolutions.

Resolution (1) deals with the construction and equipment of sanitaria by the Government, and the taking over by the Government of sanitaria which may be erected in the Colony.

Sec. 1 deals entirely with the giving notice of cases and making it compulsory for medical practitioners to give notice of same.

Sec. 2 prescribes the forms of tuberculosis to which this Resolution shall apply.

Sec. 3 refers to delivery of notice.

Sec. 4 concerns penalty for non-delivery of notice.

Sec. 5 prescribes the fee of 25 cents to be paid every medical practitioner giving notice.

Sec. 6 deals with the form of certificate.

The next Resolution provides for the disinfection of bed clothing, etc.

Section 1 deals with the appointment of a local Committee and enables the Governor-in-Council to supervise these sanitaria.

The next Resolution deals with the question of disqualification; in other words it prevents any person from being affected or disqualified as regards the exercise of the franchise by reason of his having been treated in these sanitaria. The next Resolution deals with the appointment of nurses, attendants, etc. That which follows has to do with the making of rules and regulations by the Governor in Council for carrying out the Act.

The next Resolution deals with the giving of notice of all infection of residents of tenements, and the next is much the same.

As I have said, this measure is merely a beginning, and it may be that every possible contingency has not been covered or guarded against, but if anything has been omitted I think it can be dealt with under the power conferred on the Governor in Council by these Resolutions. If, however, any honourable member has any suggestion to offer, with a view to making the proposals more effective, I shall be very glad to receive the suggestions with that end in view.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—These resolutions which have just been placed in our hands are exceedingly important and I have not had an opportunity of even reading them over up to the present moment. I have been so intent upon listening to the Hon. Leader of the Government that I have not ventured to direct my attention to the perusal of this document; and I therefore hope before the Leader of the Government presses the motion we shall be afforded an opportunity of giving to these Resolutions the attention they really deserve. I must congratulate him upon the dispassionate manner in which he has introduced the Resolutions. It would be impossible for the most captious critic to offer any objection whatever to the observations of my learned friend. Any formal panegyric on a subject such as this would have a good deal the appearance of what the ancients called “Ambitiosa ornamenta.” It would have no discernable use, for it would only assert that which everyone admits, and which has never been called into question in this House. Perhaps I may be excused if I venture to criticise my learned friend. I thought his observations were calculated to give the impression that nothing whatever had been done by any former Government in reference to this subject of tuberculosis. Permit me to disabuse his mind of such misapprehension of the facts. When the late Government came into power in 1900 they gave their attention to the subject of tuberculosis. Permit me to disabuse his mind of such misapprehension of the facts. When the late Government came into power in 1900 they gave their attention to the subject of tuberculosis. It is true that no flurry was created and nothing of an alarming nature took place, but they performed certain work that I believe had a very material effect in relation to tuberculosis in the Colony.
The late Government of which I had the honor to be the leader, called upon a very learned gentleman—than whom, perhaps, there is no more learned in his profession in this country—I refer to Dr. Tait—to prepare a pamphlet on the subject of tuberculosis, and the Government of that day distributed amongst the clergy and schoolmasters of the Island and the leading people of the outports about a thousand pamphlets for their guidance and for the instruction of those who came within the radius of their influence. Not content with this I as Prime Minister of the country, a year or two after that date instructed the Public Health Officer to communicate with the authorities in Washington and obtain from them a pamphlet on the subject prepared by a gentleman acknowledged to be one of the highest authorities of the age on tuberculosis, Dr. Knoff, of New York, President of the Association for the study and Prevention of Tuberculosis. About two thousand copies of that excellent publication were placed in the hands of the clergy, the teachers and the principal inhabitants of the various outports of this country. So that it cannot be said with accuracy that no Government had made this matter one of study or action, but on the contrary something was done. Then after that my friend, the Hon. John Harvey, took up this matter in a manner most commendable, with a vast deal of energy, a vast amount of patience and associated with him were certain gentlemen who proceeded on the same lines, namely, the distribution throughout the Colony of literature specially prepared, dealing with the subject, supplementing them by hygienic instruction by means of doctors specially called in to lecture and by retaining the services of nurses in various places in the outports. Excellent work, for which we are grateful was done by the Association for the Prevention of Consumption, of which the Hon. Jno. Harvey is President. Then the next move that we had in the matter was a notification from the present Government, through the lips of the Governor, at the opening session of the present Parliament, in which it was stated that it was the duty of the State to take hold of this matter, as peculiarly one of those things the Government ought to take hold of. We were then informed that by way of doing this the Government would appoint a commission to deal with the public health, and tuberculosis in particular. No more excellent move could have been made if the Government had determined that the extent of the disease in this Colony warranted their doing so. Although we had that commission in the first year, the commission was not appointed till last year.

HON. THE PREMIER.—That is not correct.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—So far as I know we were only notified of the appointment last year.

HON. THE PREMIER.—The 23rd. June, 1909, was the date on which the Commission was Gazetted.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—Then this Commission was appointed and we had to assume that they went to work in the proper way. I have very carefully perused the report of the Commission—I may say that this subject of tuberculosis has engaged my attention for several years past, and I have accumulated a large amount of data, newspaper clippings and pamphlets dealing with the subject. My information then has not been acquired from the “figures in this community” (as alleged by the Government press). Any data that I have been fortunate enough to possess I have acquired after a great deal of painstaking and from all the latest literature on the subject that I could find. It is a most interesting subject, seeing that it has
lately occupied the concern of all Governments, the world over,—whether the movement is sentimental or otherwise, it exists, sweeping over the communities of the world, and riveting attention as it has never done before. Now there is no difference of opinion,—as I said the other day and repeat now,—between those on this side of the House and those on the other side, as to the duty of the Government to do all in its power to prevent the spread of tuberculosis and to stamp it out where it exists. The only possible difference of opinion is as to the means that should be adopted for dealing with this matter. Surely we may differ, surely there is room for difference of opinion when all the world differs upon the question of method. The Government contend, if I understand rightly the words of the Leader of the Government, that this can best be done by providing sanatoria throughout this country. That is one of your contentions, and still in another breath you say we should not do anything further than create a department of Public Health, place the best expert we can command at its head and leave him to determine as to that which is best in the premises. There is a conflict between your suggestions. If our course is to make provision for an expert, and that we should not do anything till we have his advice, then aren't you going a little too fast in asking this Committee to resolve upon the matter of the erection of seventeen sanatoria, or even the erection of one sanatorium? “Don't do anything” and still “do something.” That is the curious position advanced by the Government. By all means, if it appears well to the Government and their followers that the services of an expert upon tuberculosis should be secured at any cost, then be it so; we won't differ. But if you admit that as your premises, then upon what grounds do you ask this House to approve of the erection and maintenance of seventeen sanatoria in this Island? You are anticipating what this learned man may say. He may be totally opposed to the erection of sanatoria all over the Colony. Don't you know that some of the leading lights in this question are entirely opposed to sanatoria. You have quoted Sir Wm. MacGregor as a man learned in medicine and of wide experience on this subject. You have quoted him as an authority whose advice should be followed. I do not know that I am prepared to admit that he is an authority on the subject of tuberculosis. You have quoted him on constitutional law, but his knowledge of constitutional law is much like your own, exceedingly limited. But, admitting for the sake of argument that he is an authority on tuberculosis. What did he say? He said, “I warn you against the very idea of establishing sanatoria in this colony it is beyond your means.” There is your authority. Again Mr. Chairman, I gathered from the observation of the leader of the Government that his movement in this matter is based upon what he terms, “vital statistics.” I have already declared that in my opinion the gentleman who compiled those statistics is a man of infinite painstaking, earnest and reliable, but, he is totally accountable as regards the reliability of those statistics, because he has to depend for his information upon the report of gentlemen not qualified in any way to offer an opinion upon the subject. There is perhaps no disease that is more deceptive in its character than tuberculosis. It requires the most minute diagnosis. Do you mean to tell me, Mr. Chairman, that clergymen and school teachers, are capable of diagnosing consumption. What is the diagnosis? There are three methods. The first is by
percussion, the second by microscopic examination of the expectoration for the tubercle bacillus, and the third is by hypodermic injection of tuberculin. Do you mean to tell me these various tests are gone through? And even with these three tests the most eminent physician may err. In the year 1902 a most interesting correspondence took place in the London Times between Sir William Broadbent and Colonel La Poo French. Sir Wm. Broadbent, famed the world over as a physician, was also President of the National Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. It was alleged that he diagnosed the case of the Hon. Mrs. La Poo French, the Colonel’s wife to be that of a hopeless consumptive. That lady was taken by her husband to Dr. Allibone of London, and put under his treatment, and in a few brief months was restored to perfect health. So you see, Sir Wm. Broadbent, one of the world’s greatest authorities on disease was deceived, even after applying these three well known tests. I have mentioned this to show that if one of the ablest physicians that adorned the profession was capable of erring in his diagnosis what possible value can you place on the diagnosis of school teachers or clergymen who have had no training or skill in these matters. I have showed that nearly, if not quite two thirds of the returns sent in from the outports have been certified by those whose evidence would not be taken in a Court of Law as worthy of credence. And yet we are asked to commit ourselves to the erection of seventeen sanitaria upon evidence, two thirds of which is produced by those not competent to form a correct judgment. The leader of the Government stated that he had read the reports for the past three years of the Department of Public Health, and that he was convinced that at least one thousand deaths per year were caused by tuberculosis. But the gentlemen whose signatures are attached to these reports have declared that the return of vital statistics outside of St. John’s are by no means satisfactory. Does not that bear out my contention that you cannot place implicit confidence in the reports of the Registrar General? Again, the leader of the Government has stated that the greatest deference should be paid to the report of the gentlemen of the commission because they have been actuated by no other motive or feeling than that of their love of their fellow beings and in this I agree with him entirely. Let us take up that Report and what do we find? Why, Sir, we find that those very gentlemen have declared that they cannot advise the erection of sanitaria throughout the island. These gentlemen have declared that the statistics of the outports are not satisfactory and therefore not to be relied upon, and they have declared that it is St. John’s that is the hot bed of the disease. They have emphasized this point and if my reading between the lines is correct they have declared that out from this city may proceed those germs that cause the deadly disease to spring up in the outport. Would it not be better to confine our efforts to cleansing this city? Would it not be better to deal with the fountain head first? Is it not possible that from the filth, the dust, the dirt and the lack of sanitation in the city may spread all over the island the disease that you so much dread? Take our outport life as a rule. Is it not the ideal life for health and vigor if the people have
proper food, clothing, and homes? Are not the outports ideal places to live in, swept by fresh breezes that bring along the ozone from God's Heaven? Should they not be ideal health resorts?

Here in this city our nostrils are filled with villainous odours arising from the gutters, the side walks of some streets, and the houses in the prevailing slums, but this is not one's experience in the outports.

Is it not possible, too, that the conditions that have existed in connection with the prosecution of the seal fishery may have had something to do with the establishment and spread of consumption in this island? More than twenty five years ago I introduced a Bill into this House in reference to the overloading of sealing steamers. The atmosphere in which the men lived, packed together like sardines in a box was calculated to undermine their physical strength. This deterioration was doubtless transmitted to their progeny and the result was their begetting a race not like that of the old times, when the seal fishery was prosecuted in sailing vessels, but an inferior race by reason of their physical deterioration. Is not that another aspect of this question that ought to be dealt with by the Government? If Germany and England furnish us with these illustrious examples, surely it is the duty of the Government if they are statesmen to take advantage of that knowledge and profit by it. The leader of the Government told us a few moments ago that we ought to be guided by those who have made a study of the question. I agree with him. Then, what right has the Government to go to the expense of maintaining seventeen sanitariums that may be condemned by the very scientific man that they bring here?

I have carefully perused the reports of the commission and I do not find any recommendation whatsoever for the establishment of sanitariums in every district of the Colony. In fact, I cannot even find a recommendation for the establishment of one of these institutions. What do the Tuberculosis Commission say? They say that to grapple with the disease properly better homes must be provided for the working classes. This means that you must lower taxation to enable the people to live better, and it bears out what I have already contended in this matter. They also say there is a need of imposing...
municipal regulations so that people will not be allowed to throw their filth in the drains and in this way spread disease, for the whole air becomes polluted when that filth becomes dry, and the spores and germs of disease are circulated freely by the wind. They also recommend compulsory education on the subject in St. John's, so as to enable the children to obtain a knowledge of the danger to be avoided, and teach them the advantage of clean habits in their schools and in their homes. An excellent recommendation. They then recommend a moderate and spitting law with power to the police to see it carried out so that every man who spits on the public streets or in public places may be punished. They also recommend a weekly examination of popular resorts and places of amusements, which are to be properly cleaned and properly ventilated, no foul air being allowed to remain in these places. Another excellent recommendation Sixth, they recommend the enlisting of the sympathy and advice of people who are competent to give an opinion in this matter so that interest in it may be broad as possible for in the multitude of counsellors there is wisdom. That recommendation is all right. Then they say that they strongly recommend the distribution of literature on the subject and in this way are following the example which my government set them. In the eighth place they recommend the instruction in the schools throughout the island of hygiene. This is also an excellent recommendation. They also recommend the fumigation of houses, the improving of vital statistics and the arranging of an anticonsumption exhibition. These exhibitions would be very interesting to those gentlemen engaged in the practice of medicine. In the sixteenth place they recommend the inspection of meat and cattle and milk. This is most necessary for there is a grave danger from these sources. Up to the present time cattle come into this country without any certificate as to their soundness and freedom from any disease, in spite of the fact that the Association for the Prevention of Consumption has brought forward the matter as urgently requiring attention. This is a danger concerning which nobody can have two opinions and the sooner a law is introduced that no cattle can be imported from Canada to this country unless there is accompanying them a certificate from a veterinary surgeon that they are free from tuberculosis, the better it will be for the health of our people. A penalty should be imposed on any persons importing these animals without such a certificate and any person vendin the carcass of an animal known to be tubercular should be severely punished.

The leader of the Government said that a few years ago it became known through Dr. Koch of Germany that tuberculosis can be transmitted from an animal of the lower to man. We know now, or believe we know, that this is correct but my learned friend is in error when he says that Koch also discovered what may be regarded as a cure for consumption. It was in 1905 or 1906 that a meeting was held at Davos, attended by eminent physicians and authorities from all parts of the world. These gentlemen went there for the purpose of raising a monument to Dr. Koch because of his discovery of a cure for tuberculosis, but after a lengthy discussion the delegates left
Davos without raising any monument to Dr. Koch, and none has been raised since that date. But, Sir, not only has the medical world declared that tuberculosis may be transmitted from an animal of the lower class to man, but it has also been proved beyond peradventure that the disease can be transmitted from man to the lower animals. This fact was demonstrated a few years ago in the following way. A family afflicted with the dread disease lived in the neighbourhood of some fields, and the diseased children were accustomed to play in those fields. The expectoration of spittle thrown off by those children fell upon the grassy turf and in course of time became dry. For purpose of test cattle without the vestige or sign of tuberculosis as far as could be seen were driven into those fields, and after a few weeks a test for tuberculosis was made on the animals with tuberculin, and it was discovered that the animals were suffering from the disease. The conclusion arrived at was that the children in going across the fields gave forth their spittle which became dry in the grass, and when the animals ate it, they introduced into their stomachs the tubercle bacillus and became affected with the disease. My esteemed friends of the commission say in their seventeenth recommendation that some steps should be taken to obtain proper cooking of food. This is most desirable, for every man is susceptible to disease when his stomach is out of order. He becomes bad tempered, and bad temper leads to lowering of the tone of the system and to disease. My hon. friends opposite should bear that in mind and not get out of temper. In the next place the commission recommended the establishment of abbatioris and this is most desirable for the reason that at the present time, cattle are killed in all kinds of places, concerning which we have no guarantee of cleanliness. A public slaughter house is one of those improvements that will meet with the approval of everybody. If cattle are killed in such an establishment as this we can be sure that meat is clean and that we are protected against the many dangers that arise from its being brought from places that are in any way in a dirty condition.

In the whole 19 recommendations of the commissioners there is not one recommendation in favor of a sanitarium. We differ only on the two points: (1) as to the reliability of the statistics that we have before us and (2) as to the desirability of taking over and maintaining seventeen sanitaria. There is no other question between us. There is no doubt that the disease exists in the Colony, particularly in St. John's and it is our duty to do all in our power to arrest the spread of the disease. We all agree on that point. Our only difference is as to the means to be adopted to accomplish that end. There is nothing in the question to become excited about; there is nothing in the question that calls for bad temper or bad manners, or for abuse of each other in the language of the gutter snipe. There is no need for any rowdy rhetoric. It is a question that we should deal with dispassionately and arrive at a conclusion by wise, deliberate, unbiased and unprejudiced debate. It is unfair to attribute to any member any motive other than his determination to give the question his best consideration in the interests of the people.

Now, sir, we have not had time enough to consider the resolutions before us as we should like to consider.
them and I have confined my remarks to observations on the points raised by the Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Government in the course of his speech in introducing the Resolutions. I would ask, therefore, that nothing further be done in the matter until we shall have had an opportunity of reading over and studying the resolutions. We are called upon to take over and maintain seventeen sanitaria. That is a very debatable question on which there can be very great differences of opinion and as we all wish to arrive at a proper conclusion of the question I trust that the motion will be allowed to stand over until to-morrow, when I shall be ready to give my last word on the Resolutions before us.

RT. HON PRIME MINISTER.—In reply to the Rt. Hon. member, I beg to say that it is not our intention to rush those resolutions. Hon. members will be given plenty of time to study them, and the Committee will rise, if necessary each day, until the matter has been thoroughly gone into.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairman of the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred; had made some progress, and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that this report be received and adopted, and that the Committee have leave to sit again tomorrow.

"INSPECTION OF BOILERS" BILL.

Pursuant to notice and leave granted and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, the Bill entitled, "An Act to Amend the law relating to the Inspection of Boilers," was introduced and read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

NOTICES.

MR. CLAPP gave Notice of Question.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND gave Notice of Question.

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

HON. MINISTER FINANCE gave notice that he would on Monday next, March 4th, move the House into Committee of the Whole on Supply.

MR. KENT gave Notice of Question.

The remaining Orders of the Day were deferred.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Wednesday, February 28th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 28th.

The House met at 3 of the clock in the afternoon, pursuant to adjournment.

PETITIONS.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Grenspond, District of Bona-vista, asking for a wharf in that place. If a wharf were built it would be of great benefit to the people. I give this petition my hearty support, and would ask that it be referred to the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a petition from Gilbert Bugden and other residents of English Harbor, in the District of Trinity, on the subject of a road from the settlement to the Flag Station or Railway Crossing. Petitioners state that in order to reach the railway they have at present to travel by way of Champneys, and they are desirous of having a new road cut between English Harbour and the railway. The distance is about two miles, and I understand that the road will be the means of opening up some valuable agricultural land.

I also ask leave to present a petition from Rev. J. G. Joyce, Abram Button, Augustus Sparkes, and other residents of Sibley's Cove and Lead Cove, asking for a grant of $40 for the construc-
tion of a road to the Methodist cemetery. Also a petition from Joshua Warren and other residents of Norman's Cove, praying for a grant of $110 to construct a bridge which crosses Norman's Cove Brook and joins the main road in the settlement. Also a petition from William H. Button and others of Lead Cove, setting forth that the present local grant is insufficient for the repairs of the local roads of that settlement, and asking that special allocations be made this year. Also a petition from Azariah Critch, J. W. Janes and other residents of Hant's Harbour, asking for a similar grant for a road leading from the main road in the settlement, and asking that special allocations be made this year. Also a petition from Joseph Norman's Cove, praying for an allocation of $30 to construct a road leading to farms inside the harbor. At present there is only a foot path to the said farms. Also a petition from Tobias Critch, Malcolm Short and other residents of Hant's Harbour, asking for a similar grant for a road leading from the local road to the dwelling houses and gardens of petitioners. I feel sure that the subject matter of the various petitions will receive very careful consideration at the hands of the Government. Meanwhile I would ask that the petitions be received and referred to the Department of Public Works.

These several petitions were received and referred to the departments to which they related.

NOTICE OF QUESTION.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines to lay on the table of the House a statement commencing Jan. 1, 1911, to date, showing in each case:—(1) The number of acres of land in this Colony or its dependencies applied for pulp or timber purposes; (2) names of applicants; (3) the date of application; (4) the area in acres applied for; (5) whether the application has been approved by the Governor in Council; (6) the date of approval; (7) the area approved; (8) whether the approval was for timber or pulp; (9) the amount of fees paid; (10) the date of payment; (11) the date of survey; (12) the name of surveyor; (13) whether any area has been forfeited or notice of forfeiture given; (14) the cause of forfeiture; (15) name of parties to whom notice of forfeiture was given; (16) date of such notice; (17) whether the areas, or any of them, or any part of any of them, so forfeited have been applied for, approved to, or granted to the same or any other person or persons; (18) the name of the present holder of each area issued.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—In reply I beg to say that the statement is being prepared. As soon as it is ready, I shall table it.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House copies of the following:—(1) All letters, correspondence and documents between the Colonial Secretary's Department or the Government and the Government Engineer's Department upon, or in relation to, the survey, construction, equipment, or operation of the railway branches, or any of them, provided for in the Railway Extension Act, 1910; (2) all letters, correspondence and documents between the Contractor and the Colonial Secretary's Department, or the Government, in relation to the same subject.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—The correspondence is being copied. We are getting it done as quickly as possible, but it will take some time.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table any reports made by Mr. J. F. Downey on dredges since the present Government took office; also statements showing amount paid Mr. Downey in connection with inquiries regarding dredges; also record of what action, if any, was taken by the Government on such reports of Mr. Downey; also copy of the instructions to Mr. A. W. Piccott, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, re his present visit to Great Britain in con-
nection with dredge; also copy of any letters, cablegrams or reports received from Mr. Piccott from England in reference to same; also record of what action, if any, the Government has taken on said cablegrams, letters or reports, and whether a dredge has been obtained; and, if not, when one is likely to be.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY:—
(1) The report of Mr. Downey is tabled herewith.
(2) Mr. Downey was paid the sum of $900.00 in 1909, on account of his services and expenses going abroad in connection with the enquiry re dredge.
(3) No action was taken on the report, as the Government has been endeavouring to arrange for the building of a dredge in the Colony.
(4) Copy of instructions to Mr. Piccott is herewith tabled.
(5) The Minister of Finance who was with Mr. Piccott in London, reported to the Government on his return to St. John’s that the Minister of Marine and Fisheries recommended the purchase of a dredge, with Priestman grab, the plans and specifications of which were submitted to Council and were approved.
(6) Copies of cablegrams between the Prime Minister and Mr. Piccott, authorizing the purchase of the dredge, are submitted.

MR. CLAPP asked Hon. Min. of Justice to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the amounts paid to Rt. Hon. Sir E. P. Morris, Hon. D. Morison and the late Sir James Winter for services in connection with The Hague Arbitration; if the said payments are in full of all demands, or merely payments on account; if the latter case, whether bills in full have been presented on behalf of said counsel; and, if so, what is the amount of the same; if such bills in full have not been presented, when they are likely to be; also to ask the Minister if he is aware that by a return recently tabled in the Canadian Parliament, it was shown that the Dominion of Canada has already paid on account of said arbitration the sum of $203,000; if such payment includes any amounts on behalf of this Colony; if his department or any department of the Government has as yet any knowledge of the total cost of said arbitration to the Colony; if the Minister or the Government has as yet taken into consideration what means it will adopt for meeting the total cost of the said arbitration.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE:—
In reply to the question of the Hon. member for St. Barbe District, I beg to lay on the table a statement of all amounts paid to date in connection with the Hague Arbitration. The amounts paid to Counsel are payments on account. No bills have yet been presented on behalf of the Newfoundland Counsel who represented the Colony upon the Arbitration and I have no information as to when these bills are likely to be presented. I am not aware whether a return has recently been tabled in the Canadian Parliament showing that the Dominion of Canada has already paid the sum of $203,000.00 on account of the Arbitration. Until I see this return, I am not in a position to say whether it includes any amounts on behalf of this Colony or for which this Colony will be liable. The Government has not as yet sufficient information to enable it to make any definite statement with regard to the total cost to the Colony of its share of the Arbitration expenses and accordingly has not as yet taken into consideration what means it will adopt for meeting same.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary (1) if the Bonavista Branch Railroad has been completed, (2) if its completion has been certified by the Government Engineer; (3) if it has been formally taken over by the Government Engineer, (4) if it has been formally taken over by the Gov-
ernment and if so, when, (5) if any amounts remain to be paid on account of the completion of the said Branch Railroad, the providing of right-of-ways or the equipment of the line, (6) if the Contractors claim that any amounts are yet due in respect of the completion of the said railroad and if so to state the amount of such claim.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY:—
(1) No.
(2) No.
(3) No.
(4) No.
(5) Yes.
(6) The Contractors have applied for a further payment on account of construction, which has not been entertained, as the Government Engineer reports it as not yet due.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs to lay on the table a statement showing the amount expended to date on account of Branch Railway extension, specifying the amount paid the contractors for the branches completed or under construction, the amount paid for arbitrations for right of way and fees thereon, and the amount paid for stations, fences, snow fences and telegraph lines; also to table statement showing, with reference to the four million dollars raised in 1910 for railroad extension, what portion of the same remains unexpended; also to table statement showing, if any, now claimed to be due by the contractors on account of the Branch Railways.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—I beg to table information asked for.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of this House a statement from the Postmaster General, showing (1) When the last mail by train was received from Placentia; (2) When the last mail by train was delivered at Placentia; (3) Where the mails for Placentia, Whitbourne and those settlements in Trinity Bay supposed to be served by the Broad Cove line, and which have been sent out from St. John's by rail since the 8th February, have been deposited; if at Brigus Junction, what accommodation is provided there for mail matter, who is in charge of such mails, and who is responsible for their safety.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—
I beg to table information asked for.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of this House a copy of all correspondence between the Postmaster General and the Railway Contractors, since the 1st January last in respect to the conduct of the railway service.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—
In reply I beg to say that there is no correspondence between the Postmaster General and Railway Contractors. The correspondence between the Government Engineer and the Contractor is being copied.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary if it is the intention of the Government to deduct any amount from the subsidy payable to the Railway Contractors for conveyance of mails, on account of the interruption of such conveyance.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—
In reply I beg to say that this matter has not yet come under the consideration of the Government.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of expenditure on account of the erection or maintenance of Marconi Stations in Newfoundland or Labrador from March 29th, 1911, to date, giving names of parties, dates and amounts of payment in each case.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—
I beg to table information asked for.

HIS HONOR THE SPEAKER.—I would like to point out to the Hon. members that under Rule 45, the busi-
ness of the House upon Notices of Question should precede the time set apart for the asking of questions. If this were done it would give the clerks in the departments practically half a day longer in which to prepare their statements and thus facilitate the business of the House. Notices should be given during the time allowed for the presentation of petitions.

Pursuant to notice, and leave granted, and on motion of Hon. Minister of Finance, Supply was granted to His Majesty.

TUBERCULOSIS RESOLUTIONS.

On motion of the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister House went into Committee on the Tuberculosis Resolutions.

THE RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—Before we adjourned yesterday afternoon, the Committee had the advantage of hearing the Rt. hon. the Leader of the Opposition in relation to the Resolutions now before the Chair. Two or three points that he then undertook to establish, I think it would be only fair to the House, before the debate proceeds further, that I should answer briefly but effectively.

He asserted, first, that something had been done in 1905 or 1906 by the administration of which he was the Leader, in relation to this subject, and he further stated that it had been done without any flurry or alarm. I do not know quite what he meant by that. So far as this Government are concerned, they do not desire that there should be any flurry or alarm in relation to this subject, because the matter is sufficiently serious and alarming as it is at present. One has only to mention the subject of tuberculosis for its gravity to be immediately realized, and I am glad to know that in whatever else we may differ, we are united in our recognition of the seriousness of this problem, and that we are only apart as to how we should deal with it.

The Government have made up their minds as to how the problem should be attacked, whereas Honourable members opposite have not, either in the past or at the present, offered any suggestion as to an anti-tuberculosis campaign. The main point of my Rt. Hon. friend's argument yesterday seemed to be that he did something when in power. So far I have not been able to find anything that was done by him, or by any Government previous to his. Certainly there was nothing done with any "flurry" because up to this mention yesterday, I do not think anyone in this country can recall that any effort had been made in this direction. Whatever has been done here in recent years to draw the attention of the public to the alarming nature of this disease has been done by the Society called into existence very largely by the Honourable John Harvey. Nothing that can be said can deprive him of the credit he deserves for his work in this direction.

My Right Honourable friend stated yesterday that he had sent out three thousand copies of a book on Tuberculosis, written by Doctor Tait. I know of that book; I knew of it when it was written; and I had the advantage of perusing it at that time. It was published as far back as 1902, and I think the Right Honourable gentleman will find he was somewhat inaccurate in stating that he sent out three thousand copies, for the public records show that only 600 copies were purchased by the Government from Dr. Tait in April 1902 at a cost of $90—and that was the vote for an anti-tuberculosis campaign that year by my Right Honourable friend's Government—$90
for 600 copies of Doctor Tait’s pamphlet.

The inadequacy of this step will, however, be best realized when I point out that even if the 600 copies were sent out, then there would not be one for all of the teachers in the public schools, and it would not put one copy in half of the settlements in Newfoundland, because there are 1300 places in the Island where people dwell. My Right Honourable friend stated that they were sent to clergymen, physicians and teachers. But what is perhaps even more remarkable than the small number of pamphlets purchased by my Right Honourable friend is the fact that, after they were purchased, he retained them in his office for four years before he proceeded to distribute them throughout the country. From this I deduce one of two facts—either that the books were not purchased from Doctor Tait for the purpose of distribution, but rather to provide him with a sop; or that, if they were purchased for the purpose of distribution, gross neglect is exhibited by their having been retained in his office for four years afterwards before anything was done. Moreover, the best proof that the latter fact, at any rate, stands as an indictment against the Right Honourable gentleman is that when he did send those pamphlets out, they were accompanied by a circular, dated May 25th, 1906, in which he confesses to the very facts which he was trying to dispute in his speech, namely, the seriousness of this disease, and the extent of its ravages. I have before me a copy of the circular, and it begins with the assertion that the increase in the number of deaths in this Colony from tuberculosis has led the Government to consider whether by the dissemination of the accompanying pamphlet, which has been compiled by Dr. Tait, something cannot be done to prevent the spread of the disease, and decrease, in some measure, the large death rate. In this paragraph the Right Honourable gentleman admits, (1) that the increase in the number of deaths from tuberculosis has impelled the Government to do something; (2) the something they have decided upon is the dissemination of this pamphlet; and (3) the purpose underlying the dissemination is to endeavour to prevent the spread of the disease, and, in addition, to decrease in some measure the large death rate.

Yet the Right Honourable gentleman has tried to argue to the House that the situation is not so serious as we have sought to represent it; that the Vital Statistics compiled by the Registrar General are not reliable; and that the death rate from tuberculosis is not so large as these statistics would indicate. Then my Right Honourable friend’s circular goes on to say that this pamphlet suggests some very simple remedies whereby the disease may be limited in its ravages; that it is a highly infectious disease; and proclaims that if precautions are not taken, it will spread from family to family, and from settlement to settlement.

Could the present Government desire any stronger endorsement of its proposals at the present moment than is embraced in the confession of my Right Honourable friend which is contained in these words? He confesses that the disease is highly infectious. He utters a warning as to its spread from family to family and from settlement to settlement, if precautions are not taken, and he urges upon those to whom he is
sending this pamphlet that they consider the methods it suggests for the limiting of the ravages of the disease.

Now, sir, this is the Government's policy in a nutshell, but the present Government take the position which Sir William MacGregor took at the public meeting in the British Hall on February 28th, 1908 that "the attempt of our predecessors to fight this dread enemy by the issuing of circulars reminded him of nothing better than drawing a cheque on the bank in which there were no funds." Then my Right Honourable friend went on to say that, after that work was done, after the book had been purchased and had lain for four years in his office, and after it had been circulated through the Colony, together with a number of leaflets from some American authority, the Honourable Mr. Harvey "took up the work." Took up what work? There was no work being done. There was nothing started which could be taken up, because the sending out of these few circulars could hardly be magnified into a serious attempt by his administration to undertake this task effectively. The work which Mr. Harvey inaugurated he actually initiated. He began it from the very foundation, because there was nothing of this nature done before he attempted his self-imposed task in the public interest.

Yesterday much time was occupied by my Right Honourable friend in endeavouring to combat the idea of sanitariums. But what do we find in this book of Dr. Tait's, which he himself sent out. Why, if in this little pamphlet there is any certainty about anything it is as to the value of sanitariums. In his preface Doctor Tait says:—

"We alone remain uninterested and unmoved, notwithstanding the enormous mortality, and the large amount of suffering due to this disease. We hope, however, that measures will soon be adopted whereby the sanitary conditions of our people may be improved, and their hygienic living better understood and this little work has been undertaken with a desire of supplying information to the people, and thereby arousing public attention to the various aspects of this most insidious and ruthless of all diseases."

Then on page 35, respecting our statistics in relation to this disease, he says:—

"In Newfoundland we have no reliable statistics, but from the report published by the Registrar General the city of St. John's gives us a death rate from consumption of 26.2 per 10,000 living. I have no doubt but that in many isolated localities, where consanguineous marriages have for years been taking place, that abnormal conditions of health are even more numerous than in the above cases, and that our high tuberculosis mortality is largely due to this fact. Considering the peculiar conditions under which many of our people live, I am strongly convinced that the evil effects produced by these close marriages have a detrimental influence upon the present generation, and that tuberculosis, in many instances, is the direct result of consanguinity.

Speaking generally he says:—

"To-day it is more widespread, more deadly, more persistent in one or more of its many clinical forms than any other known disease. It is estimated that 1,000,000 lives are lost by it throughout Europe alone, and in England and Wales the death rate reaches close
"upon 60,000. In the United States 100,000 victims perish every year, and in Canada the same fiend claims yearly a holocaust of 9,000 souls."

"Now how are we to stop all this? First, by convincing the careless or ignorant consumptive of the wrong he is doing to himself and others by the manner in which he disposes of his infectious expectorations. In the second place the strong arm of the law must be invoked, and a strict supervision maintained over all public institutions such as asylums, hospitals, prisons, large boarding and day-schools, street and railway cars, and all places of a public nature where people congregate in large numbers, not overlooking even our churches."

"In the third place provision should be made for the notification of all cases of the disease, especially those far advanced, and in all houses and rooms where death occurs, cleansing and proper disinfection should immediately take place, as in the case of other infectious diseases."

"In the fourth place consumptive hospitals, or sanitariums should be established, where the poor and disabled could be sent, if for nothing else, to keep them from infecting others."

"The matter is a thing of public concern, and ought to be dealt with from a public standpoint. Public centres should be established, presided over by competent persons, whose duty it would be to make examinations and give advice gratuitously to all who might apply. In such an establishment the necessary appliances would always be at hand, and the physician in charge, being an expert, would give advice of the most practical and reliable kind. This system might be easily carried out in connection with our Public Health Department, or in an isolated pavillion attached to the General Hospital. Better than all would be the erection of a commodious and up-to-date Consumptive Hospital furnished with all the technical and hygienic requirements of modern science. When we come to compare our death-rate from consumption with that of other countries where the causes are far more apparent, we stand in bewilderment and ask ourselves the question—why is it that we go about so unconcernedly in the midst of a disease so appalling as to claim for its heritage a yearly hecatomb of nearly 1,000 souls?"

"It is for the people, and more especially for the medical profession, to press this matter as one of the utmost urgency, until the Legislature, impressed with its importance, will be compelled to undertake some measures of relief.

"For the United States the death rate from Consumption per 1,000 of the population is as follows:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Death Rate from Consumption per 1,000 of the population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District of Columbia</td>
<td>3.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>0.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>2.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>1.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>0.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>2.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>2.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newfoundland</td>
<td>4.49</td>
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"The Treatment of Tuberculosis.

"(1) Treatment of the home of the patient.

"(a) This can be easily managed, especially in the houses of the well-to-do, where good sanitary arrangements exist, and where plenty of pure fresh air and sunshine abound.

"(b) In the case of the room—those dwelling in small, damp, dark, and poorly ventilated apartments, the cir-
cumstances are entirely different. Living amidst such unwholesome surroundings it would be useless to expect, or even hope for, any improvement by the ordinary methods of treatment. To treat a patient in such an environment, with any reasonable hope of success, is only a useless expenditure of energy. Left in these conditions, in spite of treatment, all these cases succumb to the disease. But is there no hope, no encouragement for these despairing ones? Yes; ample hope and encouragement too, if we can only succeed in getting these people removed into salvable quarters! They must be taken out of these hot-beds of infection, and placed in healthful surroundings, and then, if the disease is not too far advanced, there is every hope and encouragement. Without this all other methods will fail, and the best efforts of man become doomed to disappointment.

"(c) For the ten who are able to avail themselves of hospital, or home hygienic measures, we must not forget the ninety who have no means to provide themselves with modern treatment. Here lies the root of the whole trouble, the chief difficulty being how to adapt means to existing circumstances. For these cases some administrative measures of reform must be provided.

"(d) Shall we send our patients away to the various "health resorts?" No! we have scores of these places in our own country. The few who have already left their homes to try these foreign resorts have invariably met with disappointment. Generally speaking, those who have gone away for this purpose have only done so when health was fast declining, and liè hanging between hope and despair.

"(2) As to Hospitals: These are usually situated within the city limits, and are devoted to general or special purposes. In some places they have isolated wards in connection with general hospitals for early cases of the disease, and they work admirably.

"(3) Sanitaria: The idea that tuberculosis in order to be successfully treated, must be dealt with from an hygienic standpoint is old; but the organization of all the hygienic elements into a complete system, and administered under the continuous direction of medical authority is new; and this is the system of the modern sanitarium. These are generally built by the seaside, or in inland places, especially at high elevations. In the pure air of these regions the treatment, especially if commenced early, nearly always results in a complete cure. Although elevated tablelands, amidst pine groves are generally selected as sites for sanitarium, yet it must not be understood that good results may not be obtained at well situated and well managed institutions in lower regions. But have we not in this country sites elevated protected, with sandy subsoil, a good water supply, and sheltered with tercibinthine groves from whose woody heights the healing odor floats afar? Assuredly we have, and they should be availed of in the treatment of our consumptives. Since science has established the fact (1) that tuberculosis is contagious; (2) that it is avoidable; and (3) that it is curable; how is it that Newfoundland lags so far behind her sister colonies, so that while these institutions are multiplying in every other land, "England's oldest colony" has not to-day one single public institution wherein to receive a poor, wretched, dying
consumptive, and thus relieve his miseries, and remove him as a centre of infection to others? And, again, what is of more importance, not even a single thought in connection with the establishment of these later, and more pronounced God-given institutions, which appeal not only to the generosity of governments, but of individuals as well! May we not hope that the crying need for help, and the possibility of giving that help are due to a lack of knowledge upon the part of the Christian men and women of this country, rather than to a state of hardness, or indifference of heart, towards their dying fellow-men?

"The statistics from 22 German sanitariums are as follows:

"Of every 100 patients in each institution there were,

Dismissed as cured or improved 83.3
Dismissed as no better 8.7
Dismissed as worse 3.7
Died 1.1"

Now this is the authority quoted here yesterday afternoon.

SIR ROBERT BOND—I never quoted him as an authority.

SIR EDWARD MORRIS—I understood you to say that he was a very eminent physician.

SIR ROBERT BOND—I said he was a very eminent physician.

SIR EDWARD MORRIS—It is the same thing. This is just one branch of a physician’s work. This is his opinion as regards sanitariums.

Again on page 59 the Doctor takes the matter up—

"The ladies of this country have already exhibited their zeal and generosity by exhibiting a large and well equipped annex to the General Hospital of this city for the treatment of their own fellow creatures in distress. They have under construction a Convalescent Home, and in contemplation also a Home for Incurables. Then why not, to complete the circuit, and add energy to the whole scheme, begin at once to erect that key-stone structure, the most urgent and useful of them all, a Sanitarium for the Cure of Tuberculosis.

"Those buildings are less costly in structure than any of those already undertaken for the purpose I have mentioned, and their general equipment and management a thing of far less outlay."

"Lord Beaconsfield once said that "the atmosphere in which we live has more to do with human happiness than all the accidents of fortune and all the acts of governments.” The great aim and use of sanitariums are to cure patients affected with tuberculosis by means of fresh pure air and sunshine. Already sufficient facts are at hand to convince even the most sceptical "that the “atmosphere” as far as consumptives are concerned, is the "great purveyor of health, and that the "sanitarium" is the purveyor of "the atmosphere—the open air treatment by day, and the open window treatment by night."

"To close this chapter I will append a clipping from a London paper which is instructive, and speaks for itself.

"For the new building which the generosity of an anonymous donor will enable the North London Hospital for Consumption to erect, a site of about sixty acres has already been chosen and purchased at Northwood, in Hertfordshire, nearly four hundred feet above the sea level. The new building, which is expected to be commenced shortly, will contain 100 beds, to which the overflow pa-
tients will be transferred from the great open-air establishment at Mount Vernon, Hampstead. The anonymous friend of the hospital—a friend indeed to the community at large—not only provides the purchase money for the site and makes provision for the erection of the institution, but also promises the sum of £1,000 per annum to endow this open-air adjunct. The plans are at present under discussion, and it is generally believed that large verandahs will be erected, where the patients will sleep at night in the open air. The institution will face southwest, and it is thought improbable that the revolving verandah plan so common in the Continental sanitaria will be followed. Nor will the patients here be forced to eat—as they are in Germany—a consideration of immense importance to many a one with a delicate appetite.

"Consumptive patients under the new treatment, live as far as possible in the open air day and night, winter and summer, and hitherto none of our maligned November fogs has necessitated the removal at night time of any of the Hampstead patients into rooms. Should snow or rain beat down on any verandah, canvas-blinds are drawn for shelter. No matter how severe the weather patients who cannot even leave their beds remain in open verandahs.

"At this North London sanitarium the medical officers do not yet accept Dr. Koch's suggestion that human and animal tuberculosis are two different diseases. All milk is carefully sterilized before being used, and the meat is subjected to a severe examination before being cooked. Butter, of course, has to be taken on trust, and so far eggs have not been suspected of any tuberculous symptoms. But even if the eggs were originally infected boiling would be fatal to the consumption germ.

"The doctors here have no doubt that the germs of consumption are spread to a very large extent by the careless and disgusting habit of spitting. So strong are their views upon this point that any patient expectorating within the precincts of the hospital is, after due warning, expelled for any repetition of the offence. Consumption, so far as the experience of the doctors of the North London Hospital goes, and they receive patients from all parts of the United Kingdom, is more prevalent amongst men than women. This is due to the fact that they work in more confined spaces. In many cases which have come under the notice of these doctors, the patients have been employed in ill-ventilated factories, where there were several men suffering from consumption, and in some instances well-defined phthisis, who carelessly expectorated on the floor, thus spreading the terrible disease.

"It is impossible to prescribe a period at which consumption can be cured. In some few cases, where the infection is early discovered, it is a matter of probably two or three months, while in others the patients should be under treatment for a year or much longer. At Mount Vernon patients are kept for periods varying from six weeks to three months. When the new buildings are opened the time will probably be extended to six months. But each case is treated individually, on its own merits. Feeding is, after the open-air consideration, the main feature of the treatment, but the stomach is gently invited, and not forced. After all it does not take much to induce the patients to eat, for a very large
proportion come from the East-end of London and the slums of the West end. No charge whatsoever is made no matter what station in life the patient may occupy. But few patients forget the benefits they have derived from this kindly institution, contributing their mite towards its expenses, or inducing their friends to send some monetary acknowledgment."

My Right Honourable friend next deals with the Commission of Public Health appointed by this Government. He was apparently so poorly informed as to the progress of events, and took such little interest in the subject that his assertions yesterday were to the effect that this Commission was appointed last year, although this House has for three sessions voted a sum of $4,000 annually for the work of that Commission, and although it has presented three reports to the Legislature. My Right Honourable friend was, as I say, so poorly acquainted with public matters that he actually was not aware of this fact. I informed him yesterday, as I repeat now, that this Commission was appointed a few days after we assumed office three years ago. It was one of the very first matters taken up by us, for we realized the seriousness of this question which affects everybody in the Colony—not alone those suffering from the disease, but those who may acquire it. It is a disease that respects neither age nor nationality, settlement nor street. We never know when we may be drinking in our own death; therefore, realizing the gravity of the problem, we at once took it up, and in the Speech from the Throne delivered by Sir William MacGregor on June 1st 1909, shortly after we came back from the last General Election, the following paragraph was included—

"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 agent 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."

At that session we invited the Legislature to vote $4,000 a year for the use of the Commission and gave this sum to these gentlemen unconditionally. We told them to take it and do what they liked with it, so long as they saved the people. Hon. John Harvey and Doctors Brehm, Fraser, Keegan and Rendell made up that Commission, and they were not restrained or narrowed in any way in their work. And what were the instructions given them? They were as follows—

"To enquire into and report upon and deal with, insofar as the funds placed at your disposal by the Government from time to time may allow, the whole question of tuberculosis, its extent and growth in Newfoundland, its causes, the remedies which might be adopted to prevent its spread, and particularly the part that teachers in the public schools might take in that connection; the instruction of the teachers at the
training schools in a special course of sanitation, and of those who have passed out of said training schools without having had the privilege of such instruction, but who are now engaged in teaching in this Colony; the teaching of households by lectures, pamphlets and personal visits; the methods of improving the health of the people generally, and of the water supply of all places which are centres of population; infantile mortality, its causes and remedies; the establishing of district dispensaries and district trained nurses; the structure of dwellings, with a view to improving sanitation, dryness and drainage; the laying out of towns with regard to sanitation and drainage; the establishing of cleansing and disinfecting staffs in towns; the registration of infectious diseases and of infected houses where diseases such as tuberculosis occur; and fuller and more correct returns of vital statistics."

These Commissioners have worked, and worked nobly for the past three years without pay or pension. They have given up their time, sacrificed their own convenience to the work, and it is largely on the strength of their reports, embodying the fruits of their labours, that the present proposals are offered to the committee.

We were told yesterday by the Rt. Hon. gentleman that these sanitariums were not the right things, that we were going the wrong way about dealing with this problem, and several authorities were quoted by him in relation to this phase of the matter. We were told that we were not in harmony with the Health Commission and its reports, but if you will look at the report of the Commission for 1909, which he refers to, you will observe that on the question of sanitaria the Commissioners say, in section 34, that,—

The establishment of sanitaria, while at first sight it has more to do with the cure than the prevention of Consumption, is in reality a very strong factor towards prevention. Sanitaria may be of two kinds: (a) Hospitals or establishments for taking advanced cases, not so much with the idea of curing them as of segregating them and removing a source of infection. Incidentally, of course, the patients are benefitted by the treatment, even though they cannot be cured. It is mostly from these advanced cases that infection is spread, partly through direct inoculation of others, and partly by the infection of houses from the sputum of the patient. (b) Establishments for taking early cases. These serve the double purpose of curing or at least greatly improving the patients, and what is still of greater importance, of thoroughly educating them in the right mode of life for the protection of those around them. Every patient returning to his home from such an institution would be sufficiently educated to continue his own treatment and would be a constant centre of education for others.

2.—They have found the subject an exceedingly involved and difficult one, touching the life and habits of the people of the Colony at many points, and it became early apparent that a large and expensive organization was required to deal with it at all effectively.

4.—The first difficulty that confronted the Commission was the complete absence of reliable statistics and information. The return of causes of death as at present compiled are admittedly inaccurate. This is through no fault of the present Registrar-Gen-
eral, Mr. E. Doyle, who is a most efficient and pains-taking official, and some increase in the Grant for his Department is recommended.

6.—The Commission are of opinion that there are at least 1,000 deaths per annum in this country from Tubercular diseases of all kinds, and by far the greater part of these are directly or indirectly due to the failure on the part of our people to observe a few simple hygienic laws.

8.—The subject of Tuberculosis and the havoc wrought by it, its relation to poverty and city life, its prevention and cure, have occupied the attention of all nations during recent years. The enormous excess of victims claimed by it over all other preventable diseases combined, has become everywhere apparent, so that we in this Colony are not singular in this respect. The average number of annual deaths from Tuberculosis in the world is estimated at over 1,250,000. In the United States it is figured that over 150,000 people succumb annually to the disease, and that of these three-fourths die between ages of 18 and 45. This peculiarity about Tuberculosis as compared to other preventable causes of death, viz., that probably three-quarters of its victims are in the working and productive period of life, marks it quite apart from the number of its victims as economically and socially the most disastrous of all diseases.

35.—The difficulties incident to the establishment of such institutions are twofold. First, the cost of erection and operation; and second, the problems that are likely to arise in connection with the maintenance of young families from which the father or mother caught to go to the institution. Some provision would have to be made for such cases.

36.—The Commission has had under discussion the question of Sanitarium. It is estimated by authorities in the United States that suitable Sanitarium cost about $500 per bed to erect, the cost, both of erection and maintenance, depending to some extent upon the size. Buildings suitable for this purpose need not cost anything like that in Newfoundland. The problem may be dealt with in two ways here, either by the erection of a series of small sanitarium in different localities (a method advocated by some of the medical correspondents of the Commission), or by the erection of one or two large institutions.

37.—(e) That a trial be made at once to test the practical value of Sanitarium treatment here.”

Out of the $4,000 granted to the Commission, they allocated $1,000 to Dr. Grenfell to experiment with small sanitarium at St. Anthony, and in the last Report, that for 1911, on page 21, section 19, under the head of “Sanitarium,” they say,—

"19.—This subject was dealt with in last Report, when it was stated that the Commission were unable to recommend the Government to incur the large expense incidental to the adoption of Sanitarium treatment on any considerable scale at the present time.

The matter has, however, been urged by some of the medical correspondents of the Commission whose views command consideration. It has been suggested that small and inexpensive Sanitarium for individual Districts, conducted under the local doctor’s eye, should be tried at least experimentally.

The two great difficulties, as pointed out, are in the first place how to find early cases, still in the curable state, and how to prevail upon them to abandon their homes and stay in an institution long enough to be cured; and in the second place how to provide for the rest of the family during the period of treatment. There can be no doubt that if all advanced cases of Consum-
tion could be removed from their houses and properly looked after in special institutions, a great step would have been taken towards terminating the ravages of the disease. Sanitariums have an indirect value in educating the patient while under treatment.

The compulsory withdrawal and segregation within institutions, of advanced and incurable cases, is a crying need in definite localities, especially in St. John's."

These are the very things that are proposed by these Resolutions—local sanitariums, sanitarium for each district, keeping in view the fact that every one of these will also be a dispensary where competent local officials will dispense medicines and give advice. But the Commissioners did not stop there. In addition to these recommendations, they made two very important suggestions in relation to public fumigation and the treatment of advanced cases of Tuberculosis at Signal Hill. Seventy such cases were treated at the hospital on Signal Hill last year, and I have before me the report of Doctor Campbell in relation to the treatment of these cases, which is as follows:

**DR. CAMPBELL’S REPORT.**

"There were 105 patients admitted to St. George’s Hospital at Signal Hill for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1911. Of this number there were 10 deaths, 45 were discharged cured, 21 still remain in hospital and the remaining 29 left the institution variably improved.

"The following table gives the disease for which they were admitted and number in each group:—"
In view of this being the first attempt at the treatment of Tuberculosis in Hospital in this country, a more detailed statement of the results at Signal Hill will be of interest. On the whole the results have been satisfactory. We observed here as is the case in all such institutions that the young patient who is not too far advanced with pulmonary tuberculosis shows a rapid and marked improvement. This is manifested in the temperature rapidly reaching normal, increased weight, lessening of cough and expectoration and increased appetite. On the other hand patients who are near or have reached middle life while they improved temporarily they soon show that the lung invasion continues and they run the usual tuberculosis course. In all the deaths of the patients were near or past middle life. During the summer months the improvement was more manifest than in winter. Many patients slept in tents near the hospital all summer and the results were good, but owing to the exposed situation of the hospital they were obliged to spend most of their time indoors in winter which markedly retards their progress. In no cases did we find any difficulty to get the patients to sleep with windows open and they faithfully make use of the sputum cup.

While the results from a curative standpoint have been satisfactory the best service done by the Institution during the past year cannot be estimated. Many cases came to us from crowded homes where the inmates were constantly exposed to infection; by removing such a case to the hospital those remaining at home may have been saved, which impresses upon us the necessity of segregating advanced cases where precautions are not strictly followed. Another feature that is undesirable is the habit of patients wishing to go home or to work whenever they begin to find themselves improving. In nearly every case where such a course was followed, they returned to us much worse than when they first entered. The most remarkable result obtained was in the case of a man whose weights are not given in the table, as we had no means of weighing when he entered. He remained in Hospital nearly a year and gained 43 lbs. when he returned to work and has lost very little in weight since.

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL.
St. John's, Feb. 19th, 1912.

My Right Honourable friend thought he had made a strong point when he quoted Sir William MacGregor as against sanitaria. I do not think, however he was quite fair in the manner in which he put forward the quotation. Our late Governor is a very high authority on most matters—not alone on Tuberculosis and medicine, but on Constitutional law; not, I admit, in the opinion of my Right Honourable friend, but I can say with certitude in the opinion of the courts and all the legal authorities of the Mother Country.

Now, what does he say in relation to sanitaria, to quote him specifically and correctly? On February 28th, 1908 a public meeting was held in the British Hall. I was present at the meeting, which was a very large and influential one. The Governor spoke, Hon. Mr. Harvey spoke, the then Mayor of St. John's, Hon. M. P. Gibbs spoke, and very many other influential gentlemen were present. Amongst the recommendations made by Sir William MacGregor, in the speech he delivered on that occasion, and which has since been published in pamphlet form by the A.P.C., was that of sanitaria. I shall not quote exhaustively from the excellent
speech of our late Governor on that occasion, because I think a copy of the leaflet is in the hands of every honourable member, but I shall content myself with pointing out that in his suggested programme for a public health campaign, which will be found on page 10 of the leaflet, he puts as number 8, "To facilitate and encourage the erection of sanitaria-ums for consumptive patients."

The Governor outlined this programme because up to that time my Right Honourable friend, who was then in office, had not done anything; I mean his Government had not done anything. Private enterprise, in the person of Hon. John Harvey and his associates, had taken up this task, realizing the frightful death rate from consumption amongst our people, and the necessity for something to be done to cope with it. At this meeting the A.P.C., was formed, and began its admirable work, as a private institution, to cope with what should be a public duty. Somewhat more than a year later, in June 1909, another public meeting was held in the same hall, at which were present, in addition to Sir William MacGregor, His Lordship Bishop Jones, Doctor Curtis, the Mayor of the City and a number of others. At this meeting, which was a meeting of the A.P.C., Sir William MacGregor made another speech, which has also been issued as a leaflet by the A.P.C., in the course of which he used, among others, these words—"In the first place I warn you against the idea of sanitaria; they are beyond your means . . . . . A single sanitarium would cost more than all the funds at the disposal of the Association could meet . . . . . I warn you against sanitariums until you find a philanthropist prepared to build and endow them."

My Right Honourable friend, in the amendment which he offered to these Resolutions, included a paragraph in which he made reference to Sir William MacGregor, and in which he quoted that gentleman as saying—"I warn you against the idea of sanitariums." I desire to point out to this Committee and to the country at large that I do not think it is fair or honourable on the part of my Right Honourable friend to suppress part of Sir William MacGregor's actual words on that occasion, and to represent him to the world at large as making a bold statement of warning against sanitariums, when what Sir William MacGregor said and meant was, not that he warned the country against sanitariums because he did not believe in them—for we know that a year previously he had specifically included sanitariums in his programme for coping with this disease—but he warned the Association against the idea of sanitariums because they were beyond its means, and as he said himself—"A single sanitarium would cost more than all the funds at the disposal of the Association could meet." Moreover, in this very speech, Sir William MacGregor again testified to his faith in sanitariums, because he said "I warn you against them until you find a philanthropist ready to build and "endow them." We have to-day found the philanthropists ready to build the sanitariums, and the Government is now proposing that the Legislature should assume the duty of providing for the cost of their maintenance.

But the point I am especially concerned at the present moment in making is this—that my Right Honourable friend has taken certain words of Sir William MacGregor's
and quoted them as representing that gentleman's views, whereas they do not represent his views at all, but do a grave injustice to him. They have been separated from the context, and as they now stand, constitute a libel on Sir William MacGregor and are calculated to reflect upon his professional reputation in a manner which my Right Honourable friend ought not be guilty of. I pointed out to him yesterday that in common fairness he ought to include the whole of the words of Sir William MacGregor which explain his meaning, and I understood him to agree that he would consent to the inclusion of the rest of the words so as to make Sir William MacGregor's meaning perfectly clear.

It would be difficult to find anyone stronger in his advocacy of active measures to cope with this disease than Sir William MacGregor, although my Right Honourable friend deprecates what he calls "alarmist views" on the subject. Sir William MacGregor declared that 45,000 people in this country must die before their time from tuberculosis, and that statement has never been gainsaid. Sir William MacGregor then goes on to emphasize the fact that we attach more importance to a single case of murder than we do to the annual sacrifice of 800 lives by preventable and curable tuberculosis.

After having dealt with these various aspects of the matter, my Right Honourable friend went on to raise the question of cost. But what has the question of cost to do with a matter of such moment as this? Do we not every year vote money for lighthouses and fog alarms in order to protect the people from the dangers of the sea, and do we ever raise the question of these facilities paying? If I know the people of this country, they will go as far as the people of any other country to save and succour their fellow countrymen, and one of the ways by which this can be done is by the providing of sanitariums. Hon. Mr. Harvey, who was the gentleman most identified with the A.P.C., movement, declared at the meeting in the British Hall in February 1908 that—

"I am a great believer in the efficiency of sanitariums. Such establishments would have to be conducted at the public expense. They need not cost a great deal to erect. There are now in operation elsewhere, many sanitariums, constructed practically of canvas. If the cost of the upkeep was very large, the institution might be closed during the winter months."

Those of us who read the papers will not have failed to notice the clipping from the Canadian papers published a few days ago, wherein Hon. Adam Beck, one of the members of the Ontario cabinet, and E. B. Osler, the Chairman of the Commission on Public Health of the National Conservation Commission of Canada, and Dr. Hodge, the Chief officer of that Commission, discuss the subject of tuberculosis. In it we find the statement, according to the Toronto Globe, that Mr. Beck counselled against the proposal to confine operations to one large sanitarium, and advised in favour of assisting in the creation of half a dozen well situated local institutions, with co-operative local organizations throughout the Provinces, to deal with the patients in the early stages in their homes, and it is probable that such a course will be followed.
Then I find in another local paper an article stating that Mr. Lloyd George, Chancellor of the British Exchequer, in speaking on his great National Insurance Bill, emphasizes that one of the features of that magnificent enterprise is that provision is made for the maintenance of sanitaria. British medical men are all of opinion that sanitaria are the best means of fighting consumption, provided that the funds available are sufficient to properly operate them.

Then my Right Honourable friend goes on to say that, while in these Resolutions provision is made for sanitaria, I speak of intending to hand over to experts to do what is necessary, the whole campaign against tuberculosis. There again he is not fair in his comments on what I said. I do not mean that he intentionally misinterpreted my statement, but what I intended to convey to this Committee was that the policy of the Government is to hand the matter over to competent men to deal with, and give them free and unfettered control, within reasonable limits, with one object in view—namely, the saving of the people. We intend to put the responsibility on their shoulders; in other words to have this undertaking directed by them. What do we do when a father, mother, sister, brother or any member of the family is ill? We call in the best medical advice obtainable. We summon the best physician or the best surgeon that our means can afford. Do we allow the question of cost to stand between our ailing ones and death? Do we not provide the best nurses and the best nourishment available? That is just what we are doing in relation to the sanitaria. We intend to get the most competent men procurable, and provide them with powers to administer this public trust for the best interests of the people. It is not a subject that can be dealt with by laymen or by committees. We propose to secure some competent authority who will shoulder the responsibility to the public and there is nothing whatever inconsistent with that in these Resolutions. However, it makes no difference whom we appoint, or what principles we adopt in grappling with this problem—sanitaria must be a link in the chain. You cannot fight tuberculosis without the aid of sanitaria. There are many other things that have to be done as well, but sanitaria must be one of the principal factors. Education, fumigation, notification and other agencies must be called into service, but sanitaria must stand side by side with these. There must be dispensaries or offices where people can go and ascertain their condition and have treatment arranged for. If one of us today had the symptoms of consumption, we might not like to go to hospital, but it would be comforting to know that there was a dispensary on Water Street or Long Pond Road to which one could go and obtain advice and treatment from those in charge. I say that every one of these sanitaria will be a dispensary, available to the people of all the districts, where they can obtain advice and treatment if necessary.

In Edinburgh and other large cities they have taken up this question. Though they may differ as to treatment all are at one on the subject of sanitaria, hospital dispensaries and camps or shacks of canvas or some such material.

Now, sir, there is nothing whatever conflicting in these Resolutions. If one reads them, they will be seen to
be perfectly open and clear. One section says:—"It shall be lawful for "the Governor-in-Council, out of any "money the Legislature may vote, "etc." If the Legislature does not vote any money, then nothing will be done. The sanitaria cannot be built, equipped or maintained unless the Legislature votes the money. I can assure my Right Honourable friend that there will be no conflict whatever as to this matter, and that we have made no mistake. To-morrow if we procured a medical expert from any of the most advanced institutions in the world, and he came here and saw what we were proposing to do, he would say that we had done quite right, that we were providing places where the mildest forms of the disease could be sent, and where the most advanced cases would be treated and looked after, and that everything was as it should be.

I have here a copy of Mr. Lloyd-George's National Insurance Bill, a great measure in its way, containing more than a hundred sections and three or four hundred subsections, many of which deal with the question of sanitaria. Nothing else as regards tuberculosis is mentioned in the Bill except provision for the maintenance of sanitaria all over England.

I had forwarded me by Doctor Brehm recently an interesting volume containing an account of the meeting of the Sixth International Congress on Tuberculosis held at Washington on September 28th to October 5th, 1908. It contains a section on State and Municipal control of tuberculosis. I have not had time to go through the whole of the volume, which honourable members will see is a bulky one, but if there is anyone here sufficiently interested in the study of the matter, I shall be very glad to let him see it. At this Congress the whole world was represented, and the question was very fully discussed. What struck me most, on an examination of the volume, was the very complete manner in which sanitaria are dealt with. Here I find a selection on sea side sanitaria in Denmark, and on page 137, the report of British Columbia in relation to the vote there for sanitaria. I had a letter from a Doctor out there the other day in relation to a sanitarium which they have erected at their own expense. Then I find a record of Ontario having passed a law whereby it contributes $4,000, or one fifth of the cost of sanitaria erected by the Municipality. Quebec has done something on similar lines, New Brunswick is also legislating on this matter; Nova Scotia, our next door neighbour has a sanitarium with twenty-five beds. Prince Edward Island and ourselves appear to be the only ones lagging behind. In Ottawa they have just spent $50,000 for a special sanitarium. There are countless anti-tuberculosis associations shown to exist all over Canada. Their names are here in this volume, as well as a summary of the work they are doing and the sanitaria they are erecting.

I suppose there is no greater authority on this matter than Dr. Arthur Newsholme, Chief Medical authority of the Local Government Board of England. After a most complete and careful discussion he states—

"In fact, however, no influence except that of institutional segregation has appeared in actual experience in a constant relation to the amount of Tuberculosis, and it must therefore
be accepted as having the predominant influence." ("The Prevention of Tuberculosis. p 293). In his writings Dr. Newsholme refers to this again and again, and lays the greatest possible stress upon the practical value of such segregation.

He also proves conclusively that general measures of hygiene, such as prevention of overcrowding, improvements of conditions of housing and sanitation, and improving the food supply, etc., important as they undoubtedly are, yet are of small relative value when compared with the overwhelming importance of segregation.

This is very clearly and conclusively brought out in part 2 of his work, re "The Prevention of Tuberculosis."

That is the opinion of the greatest living authority on the matter. I have also had sent me copy of a lecture delivered before the International, Congress by R. W. Phillips, another eminent authority on the subject, and he also is strongly in favor of sanitaria, combined with hospitals and dispensaries. In the "Encyclopaedia Britannica" I find the subject brought right up to date. In an interesting article by an eminent English M.D., I find the following—

"An effort has been made by the "International Association for the "Establishment and Maintenance of "sanitaria for workers suffering from "Tuberculosis to establish such sanitaria, together with training for "suitable work during convalescence, "the gradual resumption of wage "earning being resumed while in "touch with the medical authorities."

In other words these sanitaria enable the breadwinner to be treated, and at the same time to be able to give some returns so that his absence from home may not seriously interfere with the well-being of his family. I have had a rather interesting paper prepared for me by Doctor Rendell on this whole question of sanitaria, and I shall only trouble the Committee with two extracts which are as follows:

"State Sanitaria. State sanitaria "for partly indigent cases have been "amply justified by results. Care "must be exercised in selecting the "site and in the construction of the "buildings—the site must be suitable, and the construction such as "will afford suitable accommodations "for the greatest number at the "least cost. A number of such buildings scattered throughout the Island will undoubtedly yield more "satisfactory results than one large building. Elaborate architectural "designs are to be deprecated; the essential requirement for incipient "cases is instruction, which can be "elaborated in camp quite satisfactorily, or in modest substantial "structures, and dispensaries and "working farm colonies. It is possible with increasing experience "and more definite knowledge as to "the true scope of State Sanitaria "that it may be determined to de "vote these institutions exclusively "to moderately advanced patients."

Influence of Sanitaria upon Neighbouring Communities and Surrounding Property—"The evidence thus far presented shows overwhelmingly that such institutions are everywhere responsible for a material reduction in the tuberculosis mortality amongst the neighbouring inhabitants owing to their pronounced educational influence in hygien-
ic living and force of example in precautionary measures. Tuberculosis amongst the physicians, nurses and attendants is rare. Even in open health resorts, e.g. Mentone and Nice the observation of experienced clinicians reveals an entire lack of statistical data showing an increase in practical danger of infection from influx of consumptives. No valid objection can be presented to the erection of hospitals for tuberculosis patients on the score of fancied dangers to the community.

Another very high authority, Dr. Hermann M. Biggs, Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Health in the city of New York, in dealing with this question of sanitaria, says: The sanitary authorities should provide or have available proper sanitaria in favourably situated country districts for the care of early and incipient cases. No further comments seem necessary on this phase of the subject. It is evident that as the authorities have to deal with both the prevention and cure of tuberculosis, such institutions are imperatively demanded. As has often been pointed out, every early case removed to a sanitarium not only removes the individual who may be for a long period a source of danger to others, but also affords the best chance for recovery. Such patients when cured and discharged from the sanitarium are educational factors of no small moment in the community.

Free Dispensaries—In these free dispensaries medical treatment for ambulatory cases should be provided. These cases should be constantly under the supervision of the district physicians and nurses attached to the dispensary. Where necessary, not only medicines but food should be furnished free by the dispensary to the consumptive poor. The dispensaries should also act as clearing houses for consumptives, and should serve as places to which all institutional cases on their discharge from institutions and all poor cases receiving the care or assistance of charitable organizations should be referred for medical care. From this dispensary suitable cases should be referred to either a sanitarium or a hospital as seems necessary.

I have also here the report of Doctor C. J. Fagan, Secretary to the Provincial Board of Health, British Columbia, and here is what he says—Sanitaria. The open-air treatment of consumptives and those who are threatened with tuberculosis disease has given much better results than any other. The earlier the treatment is begun the more likely is there to be a favorable result. Open-air treatment, excellent though it be, is not enough, the exercise and the food are necessary adjuncts and each must be under expert supervision. Therefore sanitarium treatment is almost a necessity. Sanitaria like ordinary hospitals, although they may be endowed by the Government, must principally look to the public for support. I am convinced we have in British Columbia a climate as favourable to the successful treatment of consumption as any in the world, still we are without a sanitarium. I hope this will soon be remedied.

In addition to these, I have also had an interesting paper prepared by Doctor Wakefield, at present in the city, working with the A.P.C., and giving his services gratuitously for a year.
Here is what he says:—

"For example the chronic febrile case will probably be cured in a sanitarium. Febrile cases, early and advanced, require nursing and treatment in hospital fashion before sanitarium treatment is advisable. Some chronic cases are best treated as outpatients, after a preliminary course of instruction in a sanitarium. Many workers are able to go on working, and will recover if only they will regulate their lives according to sanitarium teaching. Very many cases of slight infection are cured at home without the person ever knowing he has had consumption.

"In the past the erection and maintenance of sanitarium have cost far too much. This objection no longer holds, as apart from the cost of land, a sanitarium of a permanent character can be erected and equipped for a little over £100 a bed. The cost of maintenance and administration should amount to rather less than twenty-five shillings (25/-) a week per patient. (Sir Clifford Allbut and others, loc. cit.)

"Beautiful and elaborate institutions, costing hundreds of thousands of dollars have been designed and built, but careful investigation shows that as good results in returning the patients to health can be shown by small institutions built along cheap, simple and economical lines." (Dr. T. S. Carrington, Assistant Sec. to the U. S. Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, "Journal of Outdoor Life," September 1901.)

"Such shacks have already been built by the Commission of Public Health at St. Anthony (costing $500 for 4 beds) and by the Daughters of the Empire near St. John's. Both of these have done excellent work. "The best type of shack which I have seen is the 'Pagoda Shelter' (designed by J. M. Dladen) as used at the Westmorland Sanitarium, and

"recommended by the British Association for the Prevention of Consumption. These are erected at a cost of £50 each, in Britain, and each accommodates 2 patients. With some modifications this could probably be erected at an even smaller cost."

There is one other point my Rt. Hon. friend endeavored to make some capital of, and that is the unreliability of the Outport Vital Statistics. I think everyone will admit that the manner in which the vital statistics are made up leaves something to be desired. The sources from which the information is drawn are not always most reliable. The only people from whom these figures come are the clergymen and the doctors. The doctors' statistics are, I presume, always reliable, and in most instances I am satisfied that those of the clergymen are hardly less so. In many cases the clergyman is practically a doctor himself. Many will remember the late Canon Colley who for many years practised up and down the shores of Conception Bay, with his home at Topsail, and cured thousands of people of ordinary simple complaints, and could diagnose a case of consumption as well as any medical man, and prescribe treatment. The same is true of Canon Smith of Portugal Cove. The people of that settlement and vicinity never think of sending for a doctor when they are ill, except when suffering from a very serious or critical complaint.

In any case we have only to compare the population of this country with other lands, and we can reasonably calculate, from what statistics we have, as to how we stand regarding this disease. If we have correct statistics for half of the population, we can reasonably conclude as to the remainder. When we have a certain number of reliable reports, we can fairly well make up our minds and draw our
conclusions as to the rest of the country.

I hope the conditions are not quite as bad as they are stated to be, but I am afraid that, when we come to investigate, we shall find them worse, and that we will get very little consolation from accurate returns that will be obtained.

Anyone who has read the Report of the Public Health Commission for 1911, tabled yesterday, will realize at once the seriousness of the situation. Dr. White, of Trinity, states that—In his District Tuberculosis is a cause of death in 8.0 per 1,000 living. The rate for Newfoundland according to the official statistics is only 2.8. The rate in England and Wales is 1.52 (1909). Therefore Tuberculosis in this District is almost three times as bad as the rate given officially.

This means that in his District Tuberculosis causes the deaths of eight in every one thousand of the population, whereas the rate for the whole of Newfoundland, according to the Vital Statistics, is only 2.8 in 1,000, so that Dr. White makes it nearly four times as much as the Vital Statistics show. If this be the case, it discloses a very serious state of affairs. I read that in England the death rate from tuberculosis is only 1.52 in 1,000. Therefore, tuberculosis in Dr. White's district is nearly five times more destructive in its ravages. Now if Dr. White's figures be correct, and there is no reason to suppose otherwise, it brings us face to face with a grave problem.

Dr. Plewes furnishes statistics much the same as Dr. White, and I fear that we should derive but little comfort from a perusal of the more accurate statistics which my Rt. Hon. friend thinks we ought to endeavor to obtain.

SIR ROBERT BOND.—Yesterday it was my pleasure to congratulate the leader of the Government upon the dispassionate and entirely unobjec-
about it until I related the circumstance yesterday afternoon." He admits that six hundred copies of Dr Tait's pamphlet were distributed, but he does not say how many of Dr Knopf's book were sent out to clergy men and teachers. What I said yesterday was that between three and four thousand pamphlets on tuberculosis had been distributed, that included both Dr. Tait's and Dr. Knopf's and the Premier will discover on further enquiry that I was approximately correct. Of course I spoke from memory and without the exact figures before me. Again, the Premier declared that I had misrepresented Sir Wm. MacGregor for he says that in 1908 at a public meeting Sir William advocated the establishment of Sanitariums here, and he has read from a lecture or address delivered by him at a public meeting. He further says that the words I quoted as falling from Sir William were not his full observations, and that he was addressing the A.P.C. Society only, whose funds were limited. I admit that in 1908 Sir William MacGregor approved of Sanitariums, but, after twelve months consideration he evidently discovered his error, for I again say that in 1909 Sir William said at a public meeting held in the British Hall on June 1st. "I warn you against the idea of Sanitariums. They are beyond your means." He was not, as alleged by the Premier, simply addressing an Association with limited means, he was addressing the public at a public meeting; and if it could even by any possible twisting of words be construed to apply only to the Association, then my answer is that he was fully aware that the Government would be prepared to supplement the funds of that Association if such were deemed necessary. It is entirely clear from the records that Sir William MacGregor's views underwent a radical change in twelve months and that he condemned what he had previously approved. Now, sir, this subject of tuberculosis has occupied much of my serious deliberation, and whatever I have thought or felt, or spoken upon it is not a momentary impulse, but the result of calm, settled, and well considered judgment. In introducing these Resolutions yesterday, it will have been noticed that the Premier did not base his motion for their acceptance either upon statistical information furnished by the Registrar General, or the report of the Commissioners appointed in 1909 to consider the subject of tuberculosis, or the report of any Specialist; and it will also be noticed that the kernel of these Resolutions is contained in the first paragraph which signifies broadly the legalizing of the act of the Government in accepting on the 23rd January, without the sanction of this House, the gift of seventeen Sanitariums at the hands of the Railway Contractors. That was an illegal act, which the adoption of these Resolutions will indemnify the Government for illegally performing. The subsequent paragraphs in these Resolutions simply provide for the carrying on, maintaining and operating these Sanitariums. The Constitutional aspect of the question I have so recently dealt with that I shall not repeat my argument, and shall confine my observations to the one point, namely, is it desirable that this House should take over and maintain seventeen Sanitariums in this country. I contend that it is not desirable. I contend that the cost of maintaining those Institutions will mean at least one hundred thousand dollars per year if properly equipped and properly managed. I contend that we are not
warranted as at present advised to saddle the overburdened taxpayers with this increased burden, while the necessary work of hygienic treatment may be carried on in their homes. I submit, sir, that nothing advanced by the Premier yesterday or to-day would warrant the House in doing so. The Government is not fortified by the advice of the Special Commission appointed to deal with the subject, or by reliable statistics, or by the advice of any known person in urging the adoption of these Resolutions, but, on the contrary, the advice given the Government by the Commission appointed to deal with the subject of tuberculosis is directly opposed to such a scheme as the erection of seventeen Sanitariums. The advice of Sir Wm. MacGregor, whom the Government have quoted as an authority on the subject is directly opposed to such a scheme, and the Government are simply moving on their own impulse or mere ipse dixit. The Premier has quoted from the Report of the Association for the Prevention of Consumption certain lines to indicate that the said Association are not opposed, but he has failed to quote in full from their Report of 1910 which places their attitude beyond the shadow of a doubt. Here is what they say in that Report. "A large amount of consideration has been given to the matter of the Establishment of a Sanitarium, and to the Secretary's (Dr. Keegan's) report in connection with the information gleaned by him on his recent visit abroad. So far, the Commission is not prepared to recommend the Government to establish a large Sanitarium in this Colony. Dr. Keegan considers that the actual results obtained by Sanitariums elsewhere are often exaggerated and frequently doubtful ....... It "would seem as if the principal value to be derived from a Sanitarium "would be the educational effect."

This, sir, I submit bears out all that I have contended in previous debates and gives no warrant for the adoption of these Resolutions. It will be observed that not only are the Commissioners opposed to the establishment of Sanitariums, but also to the establishment of even one "large Sanitarium in this Colony"; that not only is the Commission as a body opposed, but that Dr. Keegon, who was specially sent abroad to acquire information on the subject, after doubtless consulting specialists, and profiting by the experience of those specialists and of those operating Sanitariums in Great Britain and Europe, returned to this country convinced that "the actual results obtained by Sanitariums elsewhere are often exaggerated and frequently doubtful," and he, too, joins with the other Commissioners in withholding approval of the Establishment of Sanitariums. The Commissioners further state "that at this time and in the light of their present information, it would be a mistake to recommend the expenditure of the very large sum that would be necessary for establishment and upkeep of a large general sanitarium for the Colony." This also bears out this matter, and furnishes no warrant for the Government's action in this matter. Again, sir, in their Report for 1911 the Commissioners state that "the vital statistics outside of St. John's are by no means satisfactory." This declaration also bears out the correctness of what I have said, and indicates that the Vital Statistics of this Colony furnish no warrant for the Government's proposal. Now, then, where is the warrant to be found? There is none whatever. The Report of our own
Commission on Tuberculosis; the Report of our Special Commissioner, Dr. Keegan; the advice of Sir William MacGregor, who the Premier has given as an authority; the Vital Statistics of the Colony, and the experience of Germany and of England all go to show that we shall make a mistake, a very great mistake if we entertain the idea of maintaining seventeen Sanitariums, or even one "large Sanitarium" in this Colony. In view of this what right have we to impose fresh burdens upon the people? Looking to the great world of thought that pulsate around us what do we find? Why, sir, that next to the question or subject of religion, there is nothing that is enveloped in such a mist of multitudinous and divergent theories as the nature and care of physical diseases. Read the medical journals, the organs of the legitimate and responsible schools of medicine and you will find explanations of certain forms of diseases and systems of hygiene recommended that are constantly diametrically opposed to each other. You will also find that to the old established schools of allopathy and homeopathy modern science adds hydropathy and osteopathy, various kinds of rest cure, nature healing, faith cure, mental therapeutics, Christian Science, and a whole host of schools involving the mental with the physical in the curative agencies. The special disease of tuberculosis with which we are dealing has called forth numerous suggestions for its cure and prevention, first, the establishment of sanitarium, then the cold air treatment, then the application of tuberculin, then the auto-inoculation or work cure, and lastly compulsory notification. What does all this constant change of medical opinion, and these various curative agencies or systems point to? It points to the fact that all are merely experimental and surrounded by the conflict of opinion would it not be madness for this House unguided, unadvised, by authoritative advice to involve this country in the enormous expense of maintaining seventeen sanitariums for an unknown number of consumptives? In order to try and bolster up his scheme the Premier has quoted from a speech delivered by the Right Hon. Lloyd George, Chancellor of the British Exchequer, in introducing his National Insurance Bill to the British House of Commons, and he has endeavoured to convince this House that between the Sanitarium to be erected under that National Insurance Bill and the Sanitarium to be erected under and by virtue of these Resolutions there is an analogy. What nonsense! It would be just as well to compare sunflowers with cucumbers. I have read something concerning that great measure, and let me point out a few facts. First let me say that Mr. Lloyd George's speech in introducing that Bill clearly indicates that the Government of Great Britain have not regarded Sanitarium as the par excellence remedial measure for the cure and prevention of tuberculosis, for Mr. Lloyd George has stated that "there are four or five hundred thousand people suffering from the disease" in England, and that there are only "four thousand beds in sanitarium altogether" to meet the requirements of that vast number of patients. Now, if the Government of Great Britain regarded sanitarium as above all else the remedy for consumption, then Parliament would have provided one hundred times more beds than it has provided since sanitariums were introduced fifty years ago. Again, Mr. Lloyd George's sanitarium scheme un-
under the National Insurance Bill provides that the Government shall only pay one fourth the cost of maintenance while three fourths are to be taken from the public by the imposition of a special tax. It is this special tax that has called forth the bitter agitation against the measure. Does the Premier intend to impose a special tax upon the people of this country to maintain the Railway Contractors' Sanitarium? If not, then, there is no analogy between the two measures. Again, Mr. Lloyd George's bill provides that when the head of the family, or the supporting member of a family, is removed to a sanitarium the wife and children will receive a provision of ten shillings a week to keep them from starvation during the time that the bread winner is being cured. Does the Government propose to take God's afflicted ones from the custody of their friends and force them into the Railway Contractors' Sanitarium without making any provision for the support of the family while perchance the bread winners are confined in these sanitariums? Unless the Government intend to make a provision similar to that in Mr. Lloyd George's bill there is no analogy, between the two measures. There is no intimation in these Resolutions that such a provision is to be made. Again, sir, the leader of the Government has referred to the discovery of the germ of tuberculosis by Dr. Koch, of Berlin, in 1812, and had appeared to suggest that in this discovery and its resulting suggestions by Dr. Koch a sure remedy for consumption had at length been found, and that in the sanitarium to be erected this remarkable discovery would play an important part. Sir, I have read a little about this discovery and discoverer. A few years ago, I think it was in 1904 or 1905 leading medical men from all quarters met at Davos to raise a monument to Dr. Koch. But after full discussion of the alleged merits of the discovery they left Davos without erecting the monument, and none has been erected to this day. Nine years after the discovery of the germ of tuberculosis the Doctor produced a lymph known as tuberculin R. which for a time was regarded with hope as a cure and prevention against tuberculosis, but that hope has been long ago abandoned and tuberculin is now only recognized as valuable for diagnosis purposes. It is injected hypodermically in supposed cases of consumption and the reaction from it is supposed to prove the existence of tuberculosis in the system of the patient. That is the only value of Dr. Koch's discovery, so the ablest writers on medical science declare, and to suppose that his discovery of tuberculin could be turned to account as a cure in the sanitarium proposed to be erected here would be absurd. Finally, let me repeat that sanitariums have been put to the test for fifty years in England, and Dr. Balstrode, the medical inspector of the local Government Board in England, has declared in his recent report that to better conditions of life alone must be attributed the reduction of the death rate from consumption in England, to better homes, to better food, better clothing, and he adds that the bringing about of such conditions of living will do more to prevent and cure consumption than millions spent in the maintenance of sanitariums. Germany, which Professor MacWeeney, bacteriologist to the local Government Board, in Ireland, says leads the world in stamping out the White Plague by the expenditure of millions of dollars annually in bettering the condition of the working classes gives us the
right guide in this matter. Let us proceed to readjust the tariff and enable the fishermen and working classes to secure better homes, better food, and better clothing. Let us combine that movement with the suggestions of the Commissions we have appointed to advise us as to what should be done in this matter, and we shall be doing our duty. We have no right, no warrant, I repeat again to do other than that. Entertaining these views I move the following amendment to the Resolutions before the chair:—

Whereas the Government in 1909 appointed a Commission to take into consideration the subject of Tuberculosis; and whereas the Secretary of the said Commission proceeded to Great Britain for the purpose of acquiring information in reference to the said subject;

And whereas the Commissioners after considering the matter of the establishing of Sanitaria and the Secretary's report in connection with the information gleaned by him on his visit abroad, reported that, "so far, the Commission is not prepared to recommend the Government to establish large sanitaria in this Colony, Dr. Keegan considers that the actual results obtained by sanitaria elsewhere are often exaggerated and frequently doubtful;

And whereas the procedure provided for in the resolutions submitted by the Government to this House, and now under consideration, is not in accordance with the said authority or any other expert authority;

And whereas the late Governor of this Colony, Sir William MacGregor, who has been quoted as an authority in the course undertaken by the Government, has declared in a public address, as follows:—"In the first place I warn you against the idea of Sanitariums;"

And whereas the establishment of seventeen sanitaria in this Colony is unwarranted by any reliable statistics or recommended by any competent authority;

Be it Resolved that this Committee is of opinion that existing conditions in relation to tuberculosis can be best dealt with by the Government immediately procuring the services of a medical man, expert in the subject of tuberculosis, otherwise a specialist, who shall advise this Legislature as to the best means that can be adopted with a view to the extermination of this disease in the Colony and that in the meantime such sum of money be provided by this House, as the said Commissioners shall report to be necessary to prevent the spread of and to remedy existing cases of tuberculosis in this Colony, and that the recommendations made by the Commissioners in their reports, shall so far as possible be acted upon.

Be it also Resolved that in the opinion of this House, it is not desirable for the Governor in Council, out of any moneys appropriated by the Legislature to construct, equip, manage or operate sanitaria, or to accept, take over, manage, operate or control any Sanitaria which may be erected by any person or corporation in this Colony for the treatment of Tuberculosis.

Be it further Resolved that such a re-adjustment of the tariff be made as will raise the standard of living amongst the various classes of this Colony, which is regarded both in England and Germany as the primary and best means of securing the reduction of the death rate from Tuberculosis.

MR. KENT.—I merely rise for the purpose of seconding the amendment proposed by my Rt. Hon. friend, the leader of the Opposition. While it is
unnecessary in the Committee of the Whole House that a resolution such as that which he has proposed should be seconded, I think it right that I should do so. Both the original resolution and the amendment deal with a subject, the importance of which cannot be exaggerated, namely the question as to how best to exterminate such Tuberculosis as exists in this Colony. That it exists here as it exists everywhere else there can be no question of doubt and the seriousness of the matter is unquestionable. To my mind resolutions dealing with a question of such importance as this have been introduced and dealt with by the Government with undue haste, for it appears that they had not made up their minds as to what course they would adopt in the matter up to the time of the offer and acceptance of the gift which was tendered by the President and other officers of the Reid Newfoundland Company. I am confirmed in this opinion by reference to the official reports of the commissions which have been appointed from time to time to consider the matter. All official and authoritative opinions on the question advanced by these commissions are opposed to the course which has been adopted. I am sure that the statements made by the Rt. Hon. the leader of the Opposition this afternoon are sufficient to convince the House that such is the case. If members will look at the reports of Public Health Commission for 1910 and 1911 (I have not seen the report for 1909 from which the Prime Minister has quoted for it is not in the Journals of the House) they will find no recommendation of any kind for the erection of sanitaria. That sanitaria have a place, and a right and proper place, in the fight against Tuberculosis is accepted by high authorities of the medical world and I am not contending that they are not useful, but this question is a broader and wider one and before the Government enters upon it they should come here with expert advice, with full knowledge of the facts and carefully prepared statistics before they can expect the House to deal with it. That we have no advice of this kind is clear; no person has pointed to it. There has not been one satisfactory proof brought forward that the establishment of 17 sanitaria throughout the island is desirable or likely to prove effective in the fight to exterminate the disease in the island. On the contrary, every piece of evidence tends the other way. We have the evidence of the commission and the evidence of Dr. Keegan that they cannot recommend the establishment of sanitaria. Dr. Keegan can be regarded as one of the most competent authorities on the matter that we have and his report is based on experience and knowledge and on materials gleaned by him after personal observation in England as to actual results attained there in the campaign against Consumption, where sanitaria have been in existence for many years with questionable success and his conclusion is “that the results obtained by sanitaria elsewhere are often exaggerated and frequently doubtful.”

Other countries like Germany, England and the United States have found that sanitaria will not prevent the spread of the disease unless they also strike at the root of it by the introduction of remedial legislation for the improvement of social conditions. They have introduced legislation to better the mode of living and to improve the housing of the poor and have passed other large measures of an ameliorative nature.

Let us consider for a moment the nature of this disease. I do not pretend to have any knowledge than that of an elementary character but I think that if you examine into the nature
and cause and origin and spread of this disease you will see that in establishing sanitaria you are not dealing with the matter in a proper direction. The operations of the Association for the Prevention of Consumption have been directed in the right direction. The disease is caused by a germ called the bacillus tuberculosis, a microbe that only comes into active life when it reaches the temperature of the human body. In a lower temperature it remains harmless and the irritation which induces illness is not set up. Under such conditions it retains that apparently inactive condition, but it still retains its vital qualities. Take the spittle from a patient, from one who is suffering from this disease. That one thing is very often the source of contamination. It causes consumption more often than any other. A patient spits on the sidewalk, it dries up with the dust, it is charged with the microbe which the wind takes up and carries it here and there. Everywhere that it is carried it brings danger of infection. We crowd our factories and unless they are properly ventilated, they are a source of contagion. Our laundries, our workshops, unless properly constructed, are also a source of contagion. There is hardly a conceivable thing in daily life from which this disease will not disseminate. The first move should be grapple with those conditions, and further I think it will be admitted that a robust man, if he is attacked, will be able to fight it off, but if he lives in a continual atmosphere of disease, and with such conditions, he will not be able to withstand the attacks of those germs. If we have clean and healthy surroundings, good food and clean food, we will remove the cause of this disease, and go a long way towards improving the health of the people. This is the course that has been pursued in Germany. In Ger-

many the reduction of the death rate from tuberculosis alone, from a system of proper inspection, has been reduced within 20 years, 42%. In every city and country of Europe, this system is pursued, and it is only right that in the present instance, this colony should not have committed itself to the establishment of seventeen sanitaria, without having it based upon more competent advice than that which is before us now. We had no estimate from the Prime Minister in his speech on this subject as to what the cost of these sanitaria will be. We are surely entitled to that. Has he ascertained what the cost of keeping up those will be? That they are costly and expensive institutions every one knows, and if the cost of these was directed towards the bettering of the conditions of the people, results of a more permanent character would accrue. The resolutions included in the amendment are directed in the first place towards the securing of competent advice before the subject of the resolutions now before the chair is put into effect. It asks this committee to apply money necessary to carry out the campaign in the manner recommended by the Public Health Commission; that the work of the fight against consumption go on; that it should go on, and no change should take place in the present method which has the sanction of the authorities, until this House is furnished with advice by competent and scientific men. They also ask this House, on information before it at the present time, not to enter upon the construction and equipment of these sanitaria, and not to take over such for maintenance by this Colony until full information on this subject has been presented to it. I do not think, sir, that ever in the history of this Legislature, were they asked to take a step of this kind without having concrete evidence to direct it. They also, sir,
point to the need of a re-adjustment of the tariff. I have already referred to this, and I think that reduction of taxation is a way to fight consumption, that from this, there will be better homes, better living, better food, better houses, and better conditions generally, so that by removing the cause, we remove the effect, and thus deal with the problem. They ask that a reduction of taxation be undertaken by the Government. It is not unfair to ask that. It is a promise which they themselves held out to the people, a promise held out in their manifestoes, and surely it is only right that the people should be given the benefit of this promise. We ask in our resolutions that this matter be attended to, and that relief be granted. I have much pleasure in seconding the resolutions just proposed by the Rt. Hon. the leader of the Opposition.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—Mr. Chairman, I rise to place myself on record as being strongly in favour of the resolutions for the prevention and spread of Tuberculosis, so ably introduced by the Rt. Hon. the Premier. I think it is only right that I should express a personal opinion in connection with them and refer to some of the criticisms advanced by the Opposition. First and foremost, sir, it seems to me as if the Opposition do not desire any good thing to go to the Outports. They express themselves as perfectly in accord with the erection of a sanitarium in St. John's, but are absolutely against their erection in other districts. Why should this be? Have not the Outports just as much right to have sanitariums as the city of St. John's? I should like to ask the Rt. hon. Leader of the Opposition why when his Government was in power and he had the opportunity to do something in this way to relieve our suffering people, he did not do it? Away back in 1907, five years ago, when I was but a young member of this House and sitting with the Opposition of that day, I asked the Government, led by the Rt. hon. gentleman opposite, what was being done to combat this awful scourge of consumption which was destroying the flower of the youth of our country, and I received the reply—“the matter was being enquired into.” And the matter would always be “being enquired into,” that Government was still in power. Even to-day, sir, they are harping upon the same thing, asking us to delay doing anything until further enquiries are made. But, sir, this Government does not believe in waiting; it believes in doing. It is a Government of work not of play. It is all very well, Mr. Chairman, for the members of the Opposition to criticize. Criticism is fair in its proper time and place; but when resolutions such as these come before this House, resolutions with the hallmark on them, resolutions that have for their object the alleviation of suffering and distress, then I say, sir, the Opposition should reach their hands across and join with the Government in putting them forward. Let them stop for one instant to consider and they will realize that these resolutions are solely and absolutely for the benefit of the people. It has been argued here, sir, that there is not as much consumption in this country as reported, that our statistics are wrong. I say, sir, that there is consumption, a great deal of it, in this country and that steps must be instantly taken to cope with it. I know that it prevails to a large extent in the Northern districts, and there are many cases in my own district of Bonavista. I could quote you instances that have come under my personal observation, where a family lives in a small house with a
couple of rooms only. The living room is the overheated kitchen. Here the family practically spend the whole of their time. Imagine a young man ill with tuberculosis in such surroundings. Not only is there no possibility of him becoming cured himself, but he is giving the disease to every other member of the family. Such cases come before us every day, and yet the Opposition would have us believe that there is no need for sanitaria. Our own observation is enough to satisfy us that consumption is widespread throughout the country, but in addition we have the words of the medical men and the clergymen, which I am prepared to believe, that it is rife in our midst. The resolutions before us have for their purpose the stamping out of this disease and the amelioration of the conditions of the people, and I say, sir, we all should support them. My learned friend who has just spoken has talked about broader principles. What does he mean? Why does he not tell us about them?

MR. KENT—The hon. member has not been listening.

HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINES—I have been listening to my honourable friend, but I must admit that I can place no meaning to his string of words. Now, sir, some little argument has been adduced against the taking of the sanitaria, that we could not accept them without first obtaining consent of Parliament. Sir, that position is ridiculous, for we have many precedents to go by. The Rt. hon. the Premier has quoted the gift of Lady Reid to the hospital, but I can show you even a greater instance than that. At the time of the late Boer War, Lord Strathcona equipped a full regiment of soldiers and handed them over to the British Government, and the gift was accepted.

MR. KENT—There is special legislation covering that in the Volunteers Act.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES—Why, Sir, there are a thousand of such instances where gifts have been made and accepted on record. We have wasted too much time altogether quibbling over this matter. Personally I shall record my vote in favour of the resolutions. We must have some place to remove the people if we want to save them. Let us give them a helping hand then by placing sanitaria within their reach—hospitals to which the unfortunate ones could be removed. We are told that one thousand die from consumption every year, and if by these sanitaria, we can cut the death rate down by 50 per cent., will it not mean a great deal to the country? It is true we must have a sanitarium here in St. John's, and with that I am in accord; but, sir, here in the city we have everything we can think of to give relief to suffering humanity. We have a general hospital and we have a fever hospital, so that a person, if he is sick can be removed there, but in the outports we have nothing like this, but if those resolutions pass, then we will have gone a long way towards removing that want by making some effort to save the people in the outport districts. We have already some idea of what can be done in fighting tuberculosis—gained from the work done in the Hospital on Signal Hill. We have positive proof that within the last two years, persons have gone in there, infected with the disease and have come out cured. That is the evidence of Dr.
Campbell, and it is a work that speaks volumes of what could be done if carried out on a larger scale. Great credit is due to the A.P.C. and one and all should join hands in the support of that society. It is not my intention to detain this House any longer, except to say that I will give my vote in favour of the resolutions, because I believe in them, because I believe they will be of great benefit to this country, and because I believe they will prove a means of coping with this dread disease.

MR. CLIFT—I am sorry, sir, that I am unable to agree with the resolutions now before the Chair. I had expected that when the last speaker had risen in his place to express his opinions upon this most important matter, he would have given us some reasons more substantial than those he gave us. Now, sir, it seems to me that the whole of this question is contained in the first resolution before this Committee, and if we deal with that, we deal with all the other resolutions because they are merely of an administrative character for the purpose of carrying out the operation of these sanitaria should they become established. I think, Sir, that before being called upon to record our votes in favor of these institutions, we should be offered more information than we have before us at the present moment, more information as to the necessity, and more information as to the probable cost of these sanitaria. I am not at all satisfied in my mind that we should begin in this manner or that this is the proper time to take up the question of the erection of sanitaria. It seems to me that a great deal of preliminary work has to be done before we reached that stage. I think it will be generally admitted by all the members of this House that this dread disease exists in our midst, and to an alarming extent. We all agree that the time has come to take steps for the purpose of eradicating it, but we should go slowly, and we should fully inform ourselves what it means to maintain 17 sanitaria in this country. No information whatever has been given as to the cost, but suppose for the sake of argument that we will have one large sanitarium in the town of St. John's, capable of containing 100 patients. I do not know if that will be the case, whether provision will be made for 150, 100 or 50 patients. To provide for those 100, and I do not think it will be an outside estimate, we must allow that each patient will cost $300 a year, that would give a total cost of $30,000. Suppose in the outlets 16 sanitaria are erected, each to take care of 10 patients. That would mean 160 patients. And if we figure their cost at the same rate as in the larger one, $300 each, though I think we could justly estimate it at a much larger sum, this will give $48,000 a year. To this of course must be added a sum for up-keep, say $5,000, or in all a total cost of $83,000 annually. Are we ready at the present moment to pass a vote to this extent, and mind you, Sir, this sum would not include any amount voted for the A.P.C. work now being done. On the whole, then, I think that it might be fairly estimated that the operation of these sanitaria, as well as the carrying on of the Commission, will entail an annual expenditure of $100,000. I should be glad to hear that it will not cost this, Sir, be glad to hear that if these sanitaria are to be erected, they may be run effectively at a smaller
cost, Mr. Chairman, it is now 6.30, do you intend sitting after tea?

RT. HON. THE PREMIER.—No, not to-night.

MR. CLIFT.—Then I shall resume my remarks at the next sitting.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

The Chairman of the Committee reported that they had made some progress, and asked leave to sit again to-morrow.

On motion, the Report was received and adopted.

The remaining orders of the Day were deferred.

Mr. Clapp gave Notice of Question.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Thursday, February 29th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

THURSDAY, Feb. 29th, 1912.

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

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Gooseberry Islands, calling attention to the necessity of some further legislation on the question of Sunday observance. I have also to present a petition from the inhabitants of King's Cove and Keels on the same subject. These petitions seem to be part of an organized application to this House on this question, and no doubt other petitions on the same subject will be received. In this connection I need hardly state that any legislation which may be brought in here for the proper observance of the Sabbath will receive my very best support. I would ask that these petitions be referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

MR. MOULTON.—I beg to present a petition from certain inhabitants of Cape Ray asking for the sum of $300 to renew or build a bridge on the main line between Cape Ray and Channel. That line has been open for many years, and the people bring their cattle and other things that way. At the present time travelling is greatly impeded for the want of the bridge. I hope that the Government will grant the petition, and I would ask that it be referred to the Department of Public Works.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—I ask leave to present a petition from certain inhabitants of Amherst Cove on the subject of a road. I wish to give this petition my hearty support.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—I wish to present a petition from Rev. Sydney Bennett, Rev. Dr. Murphy and a number of other persons residing in that part of Bonavista, known as Mockbeggar. The petition asks for a grant of a sufficient sum to protect the main road running through that place. The road is over a beach and the sea is gradually eating it away. Last November the sea overflowed the beach to the level of the road, and if this is permitted to continue the street will be washed away and considerable damage done to property there. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines to lay on the table of the House a statement commencing Jan. 1, 1911, to date, showing in each case:—(1) The number of acres of land in this Colony or its dependencies applied for pulp or timber purposes; (2) names of applicants; (3) the date of application; (4) the area in acres applied for; (5) whether the application has been approved by the Governor in Council; (6) the date of approval; (7) the area approved; (8) whether the approval was for timber or for pulp; (9) the amount of fees paid; (10) the date of payment; (11) the date of survey; (12) the name of surveyor; (13) whether
any area has been forfeited or notice of forfeiture given; (14) the cause of forfeiture; (15) name of parties to whom notice of forfeiture was given; (16) date of such notice; (17) whether the areas or any of them, or any part of any of them, so forfeited, have been applied for, approved to, or granted to the same or any other person; (18) the name of the present holder of each area issued.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—I have much pleasure in tabling the information asked for. I may say that to answer a question of this kind satisfactorily is a difficult task, and the clerks have been kept hard at work preparing it. When presented in this form the work does not seem very great, but the amount of time spent in looking these matters up and preparing it is enormous.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines to lay on the table of the House a statement from March 1st, 1903 to date showing (1) whether any application has been made for extension of time for making survey of timber or pulp areas applied for; (2) names of parties making and dates of application for said extension; (3) areas to which such applications refer and grounds upon which the application was made in each case; (4) whether granted or not; (5) terms of granting; (6) whether the terms have been applied for.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—The answer to this question is also tabled.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY tabled the information asked for by the Hon. member for St. John’s East, Mr. Kent, of the Hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries in relation to the expenditure of his department in St. John’s East. Also the correspondence asked for by the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition between the Government Engineer and the Railway Contractor in relation to the train service.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs to lay on the table a statement showing the amounts paid to all persons for fees as arbitrators or solicitors on account of the construction of branch railways from March 1st, 1909, to date.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—I beg to table the statement asked for.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs what increases of salaries have been made and paid to tidewaiters and messengers in his department, giving names of persons and amount of payment since the present Government assumed office.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—No increases have been made or paid.

TUBERCULOSIS RESOLUTIONS.

Pursuant to order, and on motion of the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the Tuberculosis Resolutions.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.
Mr. Parsons took the chair of Committee.

MR. CLIFT.—Mr. Chairman, when the committee rose last evening it was considering these resolutions and I was making some observations in reference thereto. I began my remarks by saying that I was not in accord with the resolutions before the chair, which resolutions—or resolution really, because the first resolution contains the whole substance—enables the Governor in Council, out of any moneys which may be appropriated by the Legislature for such purposes, to construct, equip, manage and operate hospitals, sanitariums or dispensaries for the treatment of inhabitants of this Colony suffering from tuberculosis, and may accept, take over, manage, operate and control any hospitals, sanitariums or dispensaries which may be
erected by any person or corporation in this Colony. That clause would enable the Government to take over the hospitals or sanitariums which may be erected by the Reid Newfoundland Company or any other company and operate and maintain the same. And in considering the question one must first of all ask oneself as to the necessity that exists at the present time for such sanitariums and as to whether the erection of sanitarium and their operation and maintenance is the best means of coping with this dread disease, known as consumption. For the purpose of ascertaining whether that is the best means of coping with this scourge we must of necessity have recourse to the opinion of others because I take it that no member of this House is of himself sufficiently expert in these matters to be able to express an opinion upon which we can act. Now what are we acting upon when we decide to adopt this resolution to enable the Government to take over and defray the cost of maintenance of these institutions. We have as far as I can observe no expert opinion. No such expert testimony as I should desire, has been laid before the committee. In the report tabled last session, the report of the Commissioners appointed to take up the matter of public health it was stated that Dr. Keegan had visited Europe for the purpose of making enquiry into this matter, and particularly into the treatment of consumption and the question of sanitarium. In this report the commission says that Dr. Keegan considers that "the actual results obtained by sanitarium are often exaggerated and frequently doubtful, the principle reason being that it is difficult to get patients to go into these sanitarium, until their case was almost hopeless." And the commission goes on to express its own findings in the matter and says that "the commission feels, however, that it could not in the light of present information recommend the expenditure of such a large sum of money as would be necessary in the erection and operation of a large general sanitarium." That report was tabled in this House last session. That is the report of the committee or commission appointed by the Government for the purpose of taking this question into consideration. Since that report I am not aware of any report from any expert authority which would justify this committee in taking upon itself to permit this extra expenditure which is now proposed to be imposed upon this country by the resolutions now under consideration. If it can be shown to me that this is the best and most expeditious way of dealing with this question then I am prepared to vote for the erection of sanitarium. But it seems to me, sir, that the work of this commission is but in its preliminary stage. They have made excellent progress and have made what appears to me to be very wise suggestions for the purpose of dealing with this great question. And if they were to recommend the erection of sanitarium I do not think that they would go so far as to recommend such a large order as we are at present asked to consider. It seems to me that the one thing they would have recommended, had they considered it desirable to have these institutions, would have been the establishment or erection of one sanitarium and after that had been in operation and we had gained some experience from that one and found that its work was successful, then like ordinary common sense business men we could go on to increase the number until the desired results had been obtained. But the government comes in here with a proposition embodied in these resolutions, altho that does not appear upon the face of it, a proposition to erect the matter of 17 sani-
taria, a proposition which we should gravely consider before we commit ourselves. It requires to have a very large amount of grave consideration before we commit this colony to the annual expenditure of $100,000 for the upkeep of these institutions. As I remarked upon a previous occasion, no figures have been laid before the committee, no estimate has been made of the probable cost of the upkeep and maintenance of these institutions. But I have for my own information endeavoured to arrive at some idea of the cost. These figures which I quoted then and will quote now are more of an arbitrary nature than based upon actual fact. I find that the annual cost of a patient in the lunatic asylum is in the neighbourhood of $200, and I assume that a patient in these sanitariums will cost more than that and for the sake of arriving at a figure, I say that the cost of a patient in a sanitarium will be about $300. I assume further that in the large sanitarium in St. John's there will be one hundred patients, that would I suppose be about the size of the institution. It may be that it would not be able to accommodate that number, but for the sake of argument I take that number. One hundred patients at $300 would mean $30,000. In each of the sixteen sanitariums proposed to be erected in the other parts of the country, there will I assume be at least ten patients, though, I cannot conceive how a sanitarium can be erected for the accommodation of ten patients for the sum allotted to each of the sixteen. However, I assume that would be the minimum number for which they would erect each sanitarium outside of St. John's. In that case there would be 160 patients in all at $300, which would be an expense for the upkeep of each of these outpatient sanitariums slightly greater than the per capita expense in St. John's and this I put at $5,000. That would make the outpatient sanitarium cost $30,000, and the St. John's one $30,000 making a total expenditure on account of the annual upkeep and maintenance of these sanitariums of $83,000. Then of course the work of the A.P.C. would still be going on and the recommendations of the commission that are now existing would have to be carried out to a large extent and for that work I allow the round sum of $17,000. For the whole then, that makes an annual expenditure of $100,000. $100,000 per annum would be the cost of keeping up these institutions which we have been told can be erected and equipped for the sum of $100,000. Then all have to consider is whether we are in a position at the present moment to cast upon the taxpayers of the Colony an additional burden of $100,000. If we are in a position to expend annually that sum in this work then I say that that $100,000 could be spent to better effect and to more advantage if the suggestions made by the Commissioners in their Reports were acted upon, and if it were found necessary to have sanitariums, it might be expended in the maintenance of one as an experiment. But to begin with seventeen sanitariums without having any experience with one, is, I think, rather hasty and rather unwise and very difficult for us at this stage to foresee what the consequences may be. And the aspect of this case that surprises me, and I cannot for the life of me see the reason for it, is why the Messrs Reid in donating this munificent sum for this purpose should have tacked on to that gift the condition that these sixteen sanitariums to be erected outside St. John's, should be placed one in each of the electoral dis-
tricts. I think that the Messrs. Reid in attaching that condition to their gift were badly advised, and I think further that they have marred to a very great extent the gift by the addition of that condition. Are we to suppose from that condition, that an equal amount of consumption exists in each of the electoral districts? Are we to suppose from that condition that there is equal necessity in each of the electoral districts for a sanitarium, regardless entirely of the population thereof, or of the area over which it may extend? Perhaps I may illustrate what I mean by reference to some of the Districts in this way. Take the Districts of Conception Bay. There are five of them in the smallest of our three great northern Bays. In that Bay you will put five sanitariums, one in Harbour Main, one in Brigus, one in Hr. Grace, one in Carbonear and one in Bay de Verde, covering a very small area compared with five other districts, say Bonavista, a large bay in itself, Notre Dame Bay, with a very extensive coastline, St. Barbe a very big district, St. George's another large area, and Burgeo similarly large. These five districts cover practically three fourths of the coast line. And in these five districts you have five sanitariums spread round while in Conception Bay you have five more all huddled up together. Is that the right and proper way to distribute these sanitariums, if it is found necessary to have them at all? I say that in my opinion Messrs. Reid were badly advised when they attached to their gift a condition that each electoral district was to have a sanitarium. If these institutions are necessary it seems to me that it would have been much better to have had one or two larger ones in the interior of the country at some place easily accessible to the greater northern districts to which I have referred. For my part I would prefer to see one or two larger sanitariums than a number of small ones. The expense of maintaining small ones is comparatively greater than that of maintaining larger. And I cannot see what object there can be in placing all these in the electoral districts. One would naturally think that if it were necessary to have sixteen sanitariums for the purpose of meeting the requirements in this battle against consumption, the one thing to do would be to locate the points and places at which these sixteen institutions should be established, and not to divide them up amongst the electoral districts. What object can there be in selecting the electoral districts for if they desire the districts to benefit from them they should be placed in the most convenient locality to reach the greater number. I fail to see what constituencies have to do with the matter. Why should there be a sanitarium placed in each of the constituencies? Some constituencies or electoral districts may not require any. Others may require two or three. In the five districts that I have allowed as covering nearly three fourths of the coastline of the colony there is a population of 65,000 people, while in the comparatively small bay of Conception Bay in which the other five districts are there are only 44,000. Are you going to place 5 sanitariums in Conception Bay, and no more than one in each of the districts to which I have referred? I think this is a matter that ought to be taken into consideration, and I hope that before it is too late the Government will ask the Reid's if they are prepared to permit some such change to be made in the conditions which attach to the gift, in order to be able to distribute these san-
Mr. Chairman, and for the reasons that I have stated, I am not prepared at the present time to support these resolutions. I do not wish to oppose these resolutions simply because I am sitting on this side of the House; I am opposing them for the reasons I have given. I am not satisfied that they are the best means of combatting the disease. My mind is open on the matter, and if anyone can convince me that I am wrong by expert testimony or otherwise, if I am convinced that this is the proper way to treat the disease, then I am prepared to give them my support, but not otherwise.

MR. WHITEWAY.—Mr. Chairman, there have been most interesting speeches delivered upon these Resolutions, from hon. members on both sides of the House, and I consider it hardly necessary for me to occupy the time of the Committee in giving an expression of my views upon this most important subject. I followed with great interest the speech of the Rt. Hon. Leader of the Government in moving these Resolutions. I was particularly struck with one reference that he made in his speech, and that was when he quoted the best and highest authorities that consumption or tuberculosis is not hereditary. I am sure that this will be very pleasing intelligence to very many of the people of this country. It will be a great source of thankfulness to many in this country to-day suffering from tuberculosis, fathers and mothers afflicted with this scourge, to know this. As a matter of fact up to the hearing of the Premier's remarks I am sure that 90% of the people of this country believed that it was hereditary. This statement will infuse new life and hope into many, and encourage them to fight against this evil. I was also very much interested in hearing the speech of the Rt. hon. Leader of the Opposition. It always affords me as a junior member of this House great pleasure to listen to him, and I am sure that every member of the House will agree with me in this. But the Rt. hon. member, and every other member of this House, must remember that many of us here, though juniors in this House, have feelings of humanity for our people; and I was amazed and surprised when he attempted to impress upon this Committee, that the erection of these sanitaria in the different districts would tend to lessen the tourist traffic in this country, and materially affect our foreign markets. I want to remind this Committee that we have a market at home that calls for protection. We have here a quarter of a million people, and we are morally bound by the law of nature and of God to stand by and protect the health of our people. Is not the health of our people of more importance than the few palty dollars of the tourists that come to our shores? I say, and so will every christian worthy of the name, protect the health and happiness of our people, and prosperity will surely follow. What better use can we make of the public moneys than by endeavouring to save our people from consumption? I regret that the hon. member for Twillingate, Mr. Clift, has laid such stress and importance on the cost of maintenance of sanitaria. It is unfair to suffering humanity to begin to value their lives in that way. The Rt. hon. leader of the Opposition in the course of his remarks connected the name of the Premier with that of Lloyd-George of England. I think that the anti-consumption scheme of Sir
Edward Morris is worthy to go down to history with the Insurance Bill of Lloyd George. The question has been asked, what is to become of the helpless families whose parents have been taken to the sanitarium? Well, what has become of them during the last quarter century? Sir, it will be a protection to the family to remove the parent infected with consumption to a sanitarium. When this question does arise I am quite sure that the Government will find a way to deal with it. Mr. Chairman, I had no intention of delaying the House long, and I have undoubtedly exceeded my intention. But before I take my seat let me say in answer to the argument of Mr. Clift that as far as the placing of sanitariums concerned in Conception Bay, that will be dealt with by the representatives of those districts, and I have no doubt, they will look to the best interests of the people. In the case of my own district, there is no reason why the sanitarium should not be erected at the farther end of the district, so as to serve, not only Bay de Verde, but also the people of the South Side of Trinity Bay. The same thing might apply to other districts. These are mere details, and the representatives of the districts are quite capable of dealing with them. Before resuming my seat I wish publicly to acknowledge in this House the most generous gift of the Messrs. Reid, who have demonstrated their sympathy in this practical way by helping us to combat the great White Plague throughout this country.

MR. BENNETT.—Before the debate closes I should like to put myself on record as one of the supporters of the spirit of the resolutions now before us. Upon one point in connection with them. I think the House has demonstrated its unanimous opinion, and that is that there exists in this country an alarming condition of things that has only in recent years been appreciated, and which it is absolutely necessary to combat. The next point I think that came up is as how best to deal with this condition of things. We have before the House two sets of Resolutions, those of the Premier and those of the Rt hon. leader of the Opposition, and it is for us here this evening to decide as to what course we are to take. Now, Sir, before giving my views on this question I would like to endeavour to give some intelligent expression of my convictions as to why I should vote on one side or the other. The Premier introduced his Resolutions in a very explanatory and instructive speech, and I think he has demonstrated his view to the House in such a lucid, far reaching and thorough manner as to carry conviction to every member; I am sure that those who do not see eye to eye with us on this side of the House will recognise that his speech meant in the near future hope and courage to those afflicted with this dread disease. We have heard quotations from eminent authorities giving their opinions as to how best to fight the Great White plague; and those statements quoted from this side of the House have not been successfully refuted from the other. In looking at the possibilities of these resolutions, in appreciating the great things they may mean to the country, is it not sufficient for us to know that something is immediately necessary; no weak or pettifogging instrument is required at this present juncture, but something of a far-reaching character. The country has been awakened for the first time to the realization of the dangers and the importance of the question. I take it
that it is news to a great many of us at least that thousands of souls are passing away every year, laid low by this great disease in our midst. Only now we have commenced to realise our responsibilities in this matter, which are greater than in any other subject that I ever heard discussed in this House, responsibilities that we must not shirk or evade or we shall have our reward. We must have an open declaration of war on the enemy, more insidious and dreadful than any a country ever encountered from without. To trifle with this matter would be criminal, it would be unjust. And therefore I gladly say that I can support these resolutions, because they shall become the beginning of a campaign that will check this enemy and bring it to bay, and give our people a chance for their lives. It is appalling the harvest that this dread reaper is exacting every year from our people, and I believe that that death rate can be cut down considerably, not in five or ten years, but next year, by proper administration. And it must be dealt with in no paltry or stingy way, but in a way which its importance merits. The resolutions now before the Chair provide for the establishment of sanatoria through the length and breadth of this country. I have had an opportunity in the United States of visiting sanatoria attached to some of their great public institutions. I have gone into these buildings; erected in a manner which does not call for great expense. Their construction is light and airy, not lofty or imposing, but low and unpretentious and efficient for the purposes for which they are intended. I have seen the patients in these buildings and have noticed them in their different stages. I have seen patients go in the earliest stages and have their wants ministered to by nurses and doctors with all the scientific and proper methods of treatment and cure. I have seen hope upon the faces of those patients; their expressions would make one feel that they hope in a short time to leave it cured. I have seen others whose cases had gone so far before they entered the sanitarium, that they were beyond recall. But they were there receiving the ministrations of doctors and nurses, and sufferings and anxieties were relieved and their lives were prolonged, if not for long, at least for a while. I have also visited the departments where the convalescent patients were removed. I have noticed in visiting that department the sense of thankfulness and gratitude on the faces of the patients. I have looked at the doctors and nurses and have read in their faces triumph over a great enemy. This I think is a great demonstration of what would be termed combatting the enemy known as the great White Plague. I submit, Sir, that the intention of the resolutions now before the Chair is to bring about in this country a condition of things such as I have described. I look forward to the establishment of one of these hospitals in every centre in every district of the island. I have no doubt that when the time arrives for the disposal of these hospitals that a due regard will be had for the most desirable localities, and the position where the greatest number of sufferers may be found. But we may have confidence that those whose duty it may be to allocate these hospitals will do what is most required. We will have a large sanitarium in St. John's, not because it is St. John's, but because it is the centre and seat of Government of the island. There must be a centre in
every country, and St. John's happens to occupy that position. I take it there is no intention on the part of Messrs. Reids, the donors of this gift to make any distinction as regards St. John's, but purely and singly to have a centre or headquarters for the whole island. There will be a large sanitarium that will accommodate a number of patients, not necessarily all from St. John's. I take it that patients may be taken there from any part of the island, therefore I say that it is not with the intention of giving St. John's any undue preference. A great deal has been said and with a great deal of truth with regard to the condition of things in this city. I listened to the remarks of the Rt. hon. leader of the Opposition as regards the sanitary condition of this city, and I regret to say that I must agree with him. Unfortunately our streets, our back streets, and the streets off our main streets are not as sanitary as we could wish or desire. But I claim that we are steadily improving, and that within the last 10 or 15 years a great deal has been done in that connection, and whilst to-day the condition of the city is not all that could be desired, bye and bye we will have a fairly clean and sanitary city. But no great reforms could be carried out owing to the fact that it is impossible to do so without money. The Municipal Council's one bugbear is and has been the want of funds. We all know what improvements could be done if we had the money. The streets could be widened and paved, and the by-streets could be kept clean and wholesome. But to carry out these reforms needs a great deal of money. I claim that the time is now ripe when the managers of the affairs of the city of St. John's should demand the amount necessary for the carrying out of these reforms, and if that money is well spent I believe it will be returned a hundred fold by curtailing at least the death rate in the city and making it more healthy. The time is now ripe when the people of this city should awaken. Only the other day we had evidence of the public spirit existing amongst us when a certain gentleman gladly donated the handsome sum of $10,000.00, to open a park in the West end of the city. The circumstances are known to every member of the House, and it is a matter of congratulation that there is amongst us such public spirit, that might well be emulated and followed up by others, if they had the inclination to do so, by opening up parks and making breathing places for the children, where the pure zephyrs of heaven may cleanse their bodies and minds, where they may go and enjoy themselves to their heart's desire, and get at least some relief from the congested city in which they are compelled to hide. That is only one instance of how the public spirit is awakening in our people, and I look forward with confidence that in the near future we will have many other individuals or corporations coming forward and copying the example so creditably set by Bowring Bros. It has been contended that the proper way to fight this plague consumption is by waiting and considering and pausing. What are our people going to do while we are waiting, considering, pausing and thinking? What is to become of those who are in the fierce grasp of the deadly enemy? What is the right way but to declare war and bring every force into action to annihilate the enemy? Are we going to let those who are already afflicted with this disease die? Is there no remedy for them? Are we here as the custodians of the fu-
ture or of the present? Are our duties to the present generation or to future generations? Are our duties to be performed for those who are today in the grasp of this dread monster, or are we to wait and see that nobody else is contaminated? What would be thought of the British Army when they fought the South African war, if they had marshalled their forces and when they found many of their compatriots bottled up in Ladysmith and Mafeking, they had merely fought those on the outside, and left those inside to die? What would have been thought of Lord Roberts by the English people and by the whole world, if he had passed by Ladysmith and left those inside the beleaguered city to die? In that action they did what we are doing today. Every possible opportunity was availed of to go to the relief of those in the grasp of their enemies. And it is the same thing with this great enemy. We owe a duty to those, already in the grasp of the enemy. We have a duty that we should perform in no uncertain way to those of our fellow countrymen women and children afflicted with this disease, and that is the purpose of the resolutions introduced by the Leader of the Government, and one of the reasons why I wish to endorse them. I don't wish to delay the House, but I should like to ask the members of the Opposition if we are to remain dormant for another year. What about the thousand souls going to their eternal home between now and this time next year? Are we going to let them die without trying to save them? I fully appreciate that we cannot have these sanitaria erected and in operation in a few months, but once the Government gets to work then they are doing all they can possibly do to stamp out this White Plague. I said the other day that I hoped the House would be as one on the subject, and I regret to find that the opposition to this resolution lacks that sincerity we would expect from the gentlemen on the other side in opposing them. It isn't regard for the deaths of those who may be afflicted that actuated them, but only a fear that some money of the country will be spent in this direction. They desire to throw cold water on this question, when I believe that right down in their hearts they believe in it. The idea that reduction of taxation is the proper way to fight this matter is absurd, and unworthy of the gentleman who sits on the other side of the House. I take it the people of the country do not want reduced taxation if the money is necessary to fight this monster. I take it that any money to be spent will be spent with the full approbation and approval of every right thinking man in this country, and therefore I feel that the leader of the Opposition in introducing the resolutions in amendment of the resolution before the Chair is not sincere and merely wishes to baulk this movement. I feel that he, and those associated with him will be glad to know that the work contemplated in these resolutions has been carried out, and our actions justified throughout the island. I feel sure that our actions are right in view of the authorities that have been quoted in support of them, and the endorsement of the present Commission, who know more about our local conditions than any other body of men in the country. They think that Sanitaria will be a great help and assistance in fighting this enemy. The A.P.C. commission has done noble work. The whole community appreciates the work of Hon. John Harvey and his associates. Un-
tiring in their efforts, ready at all time to relieve the distressed, their nurses have gone through the city as ministering angels. But all this is entirely inadequate, and falls far short of the remedial measures which are embodied by the resolutions now before the Chair. The Association for the Prevention of Consumption has done noble work so far as has been within their means, and I hope they will continue their good work, and that it will be found practicable to give them greater assistance. I hope these sanitaria will not be the means of their giving up one iota of what they have been doing, and that not alone will they not abandon their work, but will continue and be the greatest help possible to the sanitaria, and that their combined efforts will bring about such a condition of things in the next 2 or 3 or 5 years that every member in this House will thank God that he had had the opportunity of supporting the resolutions which are now being proposed. I have therefore very much pleasure, Mr. Chairman, in endorsing and giving my support to the resolutions now before the Chair.

**RT. HON SIR ROBT. BOND**—Mr. Chairman, I think perhaps that before you put the question I had better deal with a matter to which my friend, the member for St. John's West, Mr. Bennett has referred, I think under a misapprehension of the facts, namely that the authorities produced by the learned leader of the Government in support of these Resolutions have not been refuted. Well, I thought that I had refuted them sufficiently for the purpose of the guidance of this committee, but in case I was in error. I shall have very much pleasure here and now in refuting them, I hope to the satisfaction of my friend, not as from myself but as from the highest possible authorities extant in the world to-day. I had in my mind when the debate closed last evening that possibly it might be necessary on my part to produce still further authorities in reference to the question of sanitaria; and I made it my business today to procure, a copy of the British Medical Journal, than which there is no higher authority, and from which I will quote. The British Medical Journal of date the 17 September 1910, contains a leader of very great importance, commenting upon a volume entitled "Conquering Consumption" by Dr. Woods-Hutchinson, Professor of Clinical Medicine in the New York Polyclinic, a man well known throughout Great Britain for his high standing in the Medical world. What does that journal say in commenting upon this work. It says:—"This distinguished writer, who is well known in England, pillories all statistics regarding tuberculosis by reminding us of the old German tradition that 'Jeder Mensch ist ein Ende ein Bischen tuberkulose.' He succinctly summarizes the difficulties of treatment when he says, 'The bacilli do not grow of themselves in our bodies, nor are they handed down to us from our ancestors. They are always imported—carried in our food, or sucked in in the air that we breathe; whirled in the clouds of dust raised either by the wind or the deadly broom; picked up from floors or sidewalks upon our shoes, or that volunteer street-cleaner, the trailing skirt; carried by flies, or dirty fingers, or filthy garments, and dropped on our food or in our milk; shot on the floor in expectoration, there to be crawled in by the children; sprayed over everything within three or four feet in a cough or sneeze; always carried somehow—
never moving of themselves—and usually by some human agency or act! Break this link in the chain and you stop consumption!'

"The elaborate and prodigiously expensive machinery which Dr. Latham and Mr. Garland would have us create seems an unwieldy instrument for the severance of this one small shackle in the etiological chain of the disease. In his discursive and attractive volume Dr. Woods Hutchinson advocates, as does every physician nowadays, fresh air, sunshine, food, and regulated exercise, but he enters no plea for an elaborate and State-subsidized sanitarium system. His recommendations are essentially practical, as for instance, when he says: 'The ideal place for the cure of tuberculosis is a camp where others are taking the cure at the same time. But where this, for any reason, is out of the question, a very fair substitute, giving within 15 or 20 per cent. of the same chances of cure, can be improvised in the average home.'

"We have thus called special attention to the question of the treatment of tuberculosis because it is at present very much in the air. Crusades are being promoted throughout the country to teach the people the fundamental truths about consumption, and with them we are in the fullest sympathy. By instructing the working classes on the nature, behaviour, and means of propagation of tuberculosis disorders, and by inculcating the value of the great natural prophylactics, more will be done to limit the prevalence of the disease in future generations than any curative measures, whatever they be, applied to those already suffering from it. We are in no sense opponents of sanitariums; but their mission is, in our opinion, educative rather than curative, and their multiplication to any such extent as that advocated by Dr. Latham and Mr. Garland would involve, it seems to us, inexpedient expenditure in which no ratepayers would quietly acquiesce until they were more assuredly convinced than by any arguments yet before them that "the game is worth the candle."

That leader called forth a voluminous amount of correspondence from the leading Medical men of Great Britain. Let us hear what they say. I am now quoting from the Medical Journal of the 25 December (1910). First, sir, I quote from an article written by Dr. Karl Pearson to this Journal. Under the heading "Sanitarium Treatment of Tuberculosis he says: "Your able and temperate leader in the last issue of the Medical Journal, ought to emphasize the point that we need further knowledge before large schemes of combating tuberculosis are propounded, immense sums of money demanded for putting them into existence. Sanitariums undoubtedly help the non-tuberculous by teaching the tuberculous the social importance of sanitary behaviour, but their influence in lessening the mortality of the already tuberculous in a marked and appreciable manner is open to question."

Dr. Thomas Dutton writing to the same journal in September 24th 1910 said:—"I believe I had ample opportunities of forming an unbiased, impartial opinion of the open-air cure long before it became the "Sanitarium treatment," and from the hundreds of writings in various papers on this subject, I have come to the conclusion long since that the curative powers of Sanitariums are absolutely imaginary."

Then I come to Sir Wm. Osler, one of the most eminent medical authorities in the world and a Regius professor of the University of Oxford, having gain-
ed that position by his high standing in the medical world. What does he say on the subject of sanitariums:—“The great majority of the people in that room had probably somewhere a little focus of disease, but were saved by the natural capacity of healing. Probably not ten per cent. of the tuberculous, even under the new regulations, could ever be treated in Sanitariums.” Dr. Arthur Edward Lyster writing in August 1911 said: “My view—and it has been forced on me by eleven years experience—my view is that the utility of the Sanitarium is grossly exaggerated, and that the sanitarium is not the solution of the problem. I do not believe the statistics published by sanitariums, but I do believe, and do know those statistics are unreliable and misleading.”

Dr. J. C. McWalter of Dublin says—“the ordinary opinions as to sanitariums were based on fallacies—no practitioner knew of a case of tuberculosis which he had treated ten years ago and which was now alive. What Hippocrates taught of tuberculosis remained unshaken for two thousand years. . . . Institutional treatment was a costly fashion, and there ought to be hesitation before placing a burden of fifty millions on the ratepayers, because the great cause of sickness was poor food and bad housing.”

Dr. A. P. Reid, Provincial Health officer for Nova Scotia in “The Public Health Journal in July 1911 writes as follows:—“The comparative success that was associated with sanitarial treatment captured the laity as well as the profession, and in common with others, I assumed that the sanitarium could be made the grave of the tubercle bacillus.

Experience, however, has disclosed inherent defects in its present method of installation which militate against its success.

Since the establishment of sanitariums the tuberculosis death rate has diminished, no doubt partly due to them, but also to the great awakening of the general public to the advantages of fresh air, diet, rest, appropriate exercise and other hygienic aids which will cure the incipient and even the cases not too far advanced. All of these conditions have no doubt had their influence in promoting the falling death rate.

In dealing, however, with the sanitarium let us consider the disabilities under which these institutions labor, many of which are not remediable and must lead to their failure to accomplish what it is assumed they can accomplish. Put it in other words—their role is very limited as regards the extinction of the disease or the cure of a very large percentage of the afflicted (explained infra) even were the cost not considered.

Institutional treatment is not necessary, for 90 per cent. of the afflicted get well without knowing it or making any special effort, while at the same time engaged in their usual vocations. The remaining 10 per cent. could recover in the same way at their own homes and usual employment if common sense and scientific treatment were adopted in time, while in their own homes, before their sickness was such as to require them to leave off their employment. This is exemplified by the Dr. Phillips’ dispensary system in Edinburgh, and Dr. Dixon’s method in Pennsylvania; the lines they use must be followed to secure success.

By adopting this preventive treatment there would in a short time be no advanced cases to require treatment in hospital or otherwise, because
those now existing would either have recovered or passed "ad majores iis" and tubercle carriers being reduced to a minimum, ere many years tuberculosis would be locally extinct unless reintroduced.

The strongest argument against the sanitarium on lines now in vogue is that it contemplates a permanent fixture in our social economy.

Dr. Arthur Latham said—"Fresh air and plenty of nourishing food were important. In some cases, especially with much bronchitis, treatment in a Sanitarium was actually harmful." Professor Louis Woodhead suggests that "those engaged in the educational crusade against consumption should not be insistent in a particular method, such as the sanitarium or dispensary. There was no universal panacea."

Dr. Robert Murray Leslie of London writes to the same Medical Journal that "at the best sanitarium treatment was only suitable for a small fraction of the cases."

Can I produce any higher authorities than these gentlemen to refute the statements made by the Rt. hon. leader of the Government in support of the Resolutions?

My hon friend, Mr. Bennett, asked the question "Is the matter to lay dormant for another year?" I say "No" and my resolutions do not propose that; in fact, they suggest immediate action. I am just as anxious that whatever action is necessary should be taken immediately. What we disagree upon is the method to adopt. In the Government's wisdom, or want of wisdom, they have decided upon the erection of sanitariums. I acknowledge their good motives in the matter, but I say they are mistaken and I have endeavoured to prove that they are mistaken. I have endeavoured to prove it by the testimony of Dr. Osler, Dr. Flint, Dr. Knoff and a number of other eminent medical authorities whose testimony has been brought to bear on this discussion. I am not going to attribute either directly or indirectly any sinister motives on the part of the Government in introducing these Resolutions. I proceed solely on the ground that they are in error, that they have acted in error from first to last. I maintain this and I challenge contradiction. Basing my statement upon constitutional authorities I say that from the first the Government's proceeding was illegal. I now want to point out in concluding all that I have to say on the matter that the Government by their passing of these Resolutions are establishing a precedent for which they may be sorry. The question as to the right of the Crown to accept gifts without the consent of Parliament has been fought out for hundreds of years in the British House of Commons and in 1794 an Act was passed giving the House of Commons the controlling influence over the Crown. This is not mere sentiment. Are we dead to the facts of history? Are we blind to the rights of Parliament? Are we jealous of the reputation and honour of the House of Commons in Newfoundland? Let me read to you brief extracts from speeches of some of the greatest men who have adorned Parliament. Hear what Richard Brinsley Sheridan, one of the most brilliant lights that Parliament has ever seen, has to say on the question. He says:—

"There can be no true sanctity for public liberty except on the ground that the Crown can neither take nor use property without the vote of Parliament. It was not the boasted liberty of Englishmen merely that proper-
ty was secured to them, but that no property, however it might come into the hands of the Crown, could be applied, to any possible purpose, except such as had been previously authorized by Parliament; and that people cannot by any act of indiscreet benevolence present their gifts to the Crown, except through the channel of Parliament. Would the House see the great and strong fence of their liberties, the power of the purse, invaded, in the slightest manner; and would they say that we had any sensible practicable security for any one privilege, if the Crown had resources independent of the people."

What did Lord Coke say? My legal friends opposite will appreciate the force of the wisdom of that great Constitutional lawyer. He says: "Contributions to the Crown never can be voluntary. Some give through pride; others through fear and some in the expectation of titles or other personal interest."

Fox, no less a light than Sheridan, says "I look upon every gift to the Crown as an injury to the Constitution. Suppose that the House of Lords were to offer out of their private pockets to contribute to the exigencies of His Majesty's government, would you not spurn the proposal as an encroachment upon your rights."

I deny that your proposed legislation is legitimate. I deny that you will act either prudently or constitutionally if you press this measure. You may act legally now but not constitutionally. What did the present Lord Chancellor declare only a little while ago: "The difference between what can be done according to the law, and in accordance with the constitution, is notorious and fundamental." So in the present case Go ahead!

MR. DEVEREAUX.—I rise for the purpose of supporting the Resolutions before the Chair. Notwithstanding all that has been so eloquently said by the Rt. hon. leader of the Opposition, he still leaves me unconvinced that the Government has done wrong in accepting from any man or body of men a gift that will eventually be the means of saving the lives of hundreds of our own people. The Rt. hon. gentleman has been living for the past few days in the time of Walpole when every politician was supposed to have his price. To-day we are in the early part of the twentieth century, in an active, strenuous age when men in public life are incapable of doing the actions that have been insinuated by my Rt. hon. friend. Is it that his bright intellect is losing its grip? Is it possible that the brilliant leader of the Opposition is incapable to-day of grasping intellectually the whole of the great question now before us? He has produced a few authorities, one or two of whom are certainly eminent, but is it not possible that they might have been influenced by some motives like my Rt. hon. friend in making their declarations? He began his opening speech with an animadversion of those who in the kindness of their hearts have given the people an opportunity of arising and taking to themselves a new lease of life. He talks of ozone and the pure fresh air as a cure. We have had ozone for the past three hundred years but we want more than that. We want our people in the outports to be educated in these matters so that they may learn to realize and appreciate what the Government is about to do in the way of sanitaria. We know and all those who mingle with the people know what strong prejudices those of our people have who are in rapid de-
cline, and how hopeless they feel when once this disease fastens itself upon them. We must educate them to take such measures as are necessary to restore them to health, and this can only be done by a policy such as that contemplated by the Government. If the people understand fully the national character of this splendid gift of the Reid Company and if we can instil into their minds that there is hope for recovery of those in sickness if these institutions are established, then we shall gain the end that we have in view. If you go to any of the villages outside St. John’s and enter into a home in which one or two are afflicted with the disease you will find how hopeless they seem. Even the relatives seem convinced that nothing can be done for them. If a sanitarium is erected in the district with proper equipment and two or three are taken there and by skilled medical treatment at the hands of the doctor or a first class nurse are cured of the disease, will it not renew hope in the hearts of our people and lead them to believe that it is possible to be cured?

We know the condition of our people who are suffering from the disease and how they suffer because they are in many cases unable to obtain medical assistance. Will it not be a glorious thing if a sanitarium is placed in each district? Will it not pay the colony if only fifty men of thirty years of age were saved by the whole number of Sanitaria? As a matter of fact many will be saved and the gain to the country in this way will more than offset any expenditure.

In his speech yesterday, the leader of the Opposition showed his animosity to the Reids and attempted to prove that the sanitarı̈a would be of no benefit to the people. He forgot that a hundred and forty thousand people would be reading what he had to say in reply to the noble words of the hon. Prime Minister. We must consider above everything else the health of our people and it is idle to say that Consumption is not widely spread throughout the island. The man that makes the assertion to this country does not understand what he is saying or else he has not been in touch with the people and knows nothing of the lives of those outside a small circle. If my Rt. hon. friend will ask Hon. John Harvey he will give him evidence strong enough to convince him. Mr. Harvey knows, for he was the first to take an active part in fighting the spread of the disease. All honour to him for his efforts. The leader of the Opposition said that he himself initiated the fight against it, but when the Prime Minister questioned him as to what he had done, what do we find? We found that he sent out six hundred pamphlets describing the disease and warning the people of the dangers that brought it about, and I have no doubt that he stood up in his place in the House at that time and hoped that the people would be grateful to him for that. What the leader of the Opposition did amounted to nothing and the only man who did anything in the matter previous to the giving of these sanitarı̈a was Mr. Harvey. It was not altogether manly on the part of the leader of the Opposition to try to take away from Mr. Harvey the praise that is due him.

SIR ROBT. BOND.—That is absolutely incorrect and Mr. Harvey knows it for he was present when I made my remarks.

MR. DEVEREAUX.—I must ask to be allowed to continue without being interrupted.

SIR ROBT. BOND—You must speak
the truth, then.

MR. DEVEREAUX.—It is not fair for a member with my hon. friend's parliamentary experience to interrupt me in this way.

RT. HON. SIR ROBT. BOND.—I shall not make any interruption as long as my hon. friend tells the truth. If not, I shall give him what he deserves.

MR. DEVEREAUX.—Mr. Chairman, as a member of this House I am not going to be brow-beaten by anybody and I shall maintain my rights of debate as well as he will. I am here to represent the people.

RT. HON. SIR ROBT. BOND.—You represent yourself very well. You got $1,800 last year from the Government.

MR. DEVEREAUX.—I have to say, Sir, that I will not be dictated to by the hon. member, or any other member of this House, no matter if he has read May's Parliamentary Practice, and committed it to memory. I represent here a free people, and I am prepared to maintain their rights at any cost.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—Yes, you have well represented yourself, you got $1,800 a year.

MR. DEVEREAUX.—Well what about you. You did not scruple to take $750 for sitting on the Hospital Commission, and you gave $500 to the then leader of the Opposition to close his mouth. I am surprised that such animus has been brought into this debate by the Rt. hon. gentleman, who has had an experience in this House of over 30 years, and if a young member says anything that is not in accordance with May's Parliamentary Practice, surely he may be excused, by his lack of experience as to the procedure in this House, I say that he did not initiate the campaign against consumption in this country, as he claim-
est importance to the people of this Colony. No country would dare to trifle with a gift so large as this, and given so generously by the Reids, and I think that the criticism which has been made against the government for receiving these gifts, is totally unfair and unpatriotic. The Government is only asking for power to accept sanitaria, and when they are erected, I hope and trust that the Opposition will visit them, and having regard to the calm judicial mind of the Rt. Hon. leader of the Opposition, I think that they will be able to say with him that they are the best institutions that could have been established for the benefit of all the people in this colony. I have much pleasure in supporting the Resolutions and sincerely hope that the generous donors’ gift will be fully appreciated in the years to come even by the few who now oppose sanitaria for reasons only too obvious.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Chairman, before the question is put there are one or two points I should like to refer to, and it will include everything that I intend to say in relation to this matter. This is the third day that we have been debating this question, but I do not think that the time has been lost, that all our work will be in vain. A great deal of information has been given in relation to this whole question of tuberculosis; and although considerable difference of opinion prevails here and outside it seems impossible, at least as far as we are concerned, to try and reconcile those opinions. We might go on till the Judgment day and yet not be able to reconcile the various views on this question, but being practical men, practical politicians, with public responsibilities resting upon us, we have to deal with matters as we find them, and to try and provide the best methods to cope with any question that arises from time to time.

Now what is the effect of these Resolutions? They do not commit this House to the expenditure of one dollar. They only affirm the principle that the Government may build sanitaria, hospitals, dispensaries, out of any moneys that may be voted from time to time by this Legislature. We may not be called upon today, to-morrow, or any time, to vote this money. We only affirm the principle that the Governor-in-Council henceforward may out of any moneys that they may receive, build and construct sanitaria, hospitals, etc., or take over any that may be built. Now as regards the assertion that it was only after the House met that those Resolutions were drawn up. All I have to say to that is this, that the Solicitor of the House had instructions to draft these Resolutions when the gift was accepted. The Government recognized that it would be perfectly idle for them to accept the gifts if this Legislature did not grant the power and authority to take them over. There is not a bit of use quibbling over this. As regards the constitutional question raised. I have only to say now, as I said before, that all the arguments brought forward as to the right of the state to accept gifts, do not apply to this sort of gift at all, and no authority can be produced to deal with the gifts of the nature of these sanitaria.

A great deal of the trouble seems to be in the name, and if we had called them hospitals or dispensaries, instead of sanitaria, we would not have had half the objections raised. Now the large sanitaria in use in the United States, in Germany and in England, are entirely different to what we propose. We purpose to have a small sanitarium in each district, and the Hon. member for Twillingate, Mr. Clift, whose speech was remarkable for its
soundness and common sense, was the only one who touched in the whole debate upon the financial aspect of the question. He wanted to know what these sanitaria would cost to operate. It is a very proper question and a very pertinent one. He gave us some figures of his own. He took the Lunatic Asylum for comparison, and said that the cost of each patient in that institution was about $300 a year. I think that is about correct; and he estimated that if we had 100 patients in St. John's, at the rate of $300 a patient, that would be $30,000. Then he estimated that the 16 sanitaria in the districts containing 10 patients each would cost about $48,000. To this he added $5,000 for extras, making the total cost about $83,000 a year. Then he asked, "Can you cast this burden on the public?"

The Hon. member was very pronounced on this phase of the question and to substantiate his position quoted from Hon. John Harvey's 1910 report which he claimed was against sanitaria; but he forgot to quote that Mr. Harvey pointed out in his report that we are losing $160,000 a year on account of the 5,000 persons who have died from the disease during the past seven years. If my learned friend quotes his Genesis, he cannot leave out the Revelations in the other part. If the gospel is good in one part, it should be good in the other. Mr. Harvey says: "During these seven years, 5,369 persons altogether succumbed to consumption. Now if these 5,369 persons were alive to-day, as they should be, they would be each paying $30 per annum to the Revenue. These 5,369 persons would be contributing in all $160,000."

There's the answer then. That is how we are going to get the money. But let me go further. If the hon. gentleman's argument is correct, and that consumption is not rife, then there will be no consumption to treat. These places then can be used for other purposes, places where the members can speak when they go around every 4 years to visit their constituents. But we hope to make use of them. We hope to put a properly qualified nurse in every one of them, to have a daily visit from a doctor, and regular visits of a properly trained specialist; and if it costs $80,000 or $100,000, it will only cost that if the patients are there.

I do not think that the Hon. member for Twillingate did himself justice when he quoted to the House passages from the reports of the Commission of Public Health, Mr. Harvey and others. One of the reports was against sanitaria, but why did he not quote the other two reports of the Commission? Now what are the facts? There are three reports. The first report is in favor of sanitaria. That of 1909. Anyone that reads that report will find that it strongly recommends sanitaria. Here is what the report says:

"The Commission have come to the conclusion, so far as their present deliberations have carried them, that some attempt at sanitarium treatment of incipients ought to be tentatively made at once," and in their general recommendations they say, "(e) that a trial be made at once to test the practical value of sanitarium treatment here."

That is the first report. Why is that not quoted? Now what happens? Dr. Keegan goes home on business, partly private and partly public, and he is asked to look into this matter, and no doubt he looked into it to a certain extent. And his findings are included in the second report, that of 1910. Dr. Keegan is not pronounced against sanitaria but points out some of the difficulties there may be of getting people into them. That one, the report of 1910, was the only one quoted by my hon. friend; and to have been fair in his criticisms he should
have quoted them all.

Now we know something of the cost of sanitaria, for we have had a little experience in this line, for during the past year an institution along similar lines has been conducted here in St. John's, the hospital on Signal Hill being utilized and in charge of Dr. Campbell, and according to Dr. Campbell's report, which I have already quoted from, there were 68 cases treated, at a cost of $6,200, including all salaries—doctors, nurses, medicines, etc.

I have listened with a great deal of interest to the authorities quoted by the Rt. Hon. Leader of the Opposition, and through his courtesy I hope to have an opportunity of looking through them, and I am quite satisfied that when I have read the whole text of the authorities quoted I shall find as much argument in favor of as against sanitaria.

All the arguments that can be put up amount to nothing, because you can get arguments and authorities to substantiate any case. We can get authority to support any provision, and that is the reason we have Courts of Appeals, Privy Councils, whose whole time is taken up reversing the decisions of other courts.

I have no fear, Mr. Chairman, as to the result of the work we are entering on. We cannot put back the hands of the clock. No matter who may succeed us here the vote for tuberculosis will go on and increase, like the education vote, the vote for the relief of the poor, the Old Age Pensions, the Lighthouse Votes, and all other remedial and beneficial legislation. You will not be able to stop it and whoever is here in five or six or seven years time will find those on this side of the House pleading for a further vote and extension in relation to this matter, and those on the other side of the House criticising as they do now, saying there is no Tuberculosis, that Mr. Harvey is wrong, that Dr. Brehm is wrong, that Governor MacGregor and all the other authorities that have been quoted here are all wrong; that 5,600 people have not died during the past seven years, and that 5,600 are not now getting ready to die. Well, if it is true that we have no tuberculosis at all, then, as I have said there will be no necessity to use this vote and Mr. Reid's sanitaria and any other sanitaria contributed by anyone else and built by this or a succeeding Government will merely continue to serve as a monument to a genuine desire on the part of authorities and philanthropists to do good for the people. I hope the day will come when this vote will be removed from our Statutes; when there will no longer be a necessity for a tuberculosis vote; and I hope that day is not far off. And I hope that, as I have said, these sanitaria instead of serving that purpose may be used as village hospitals—Outport or District Hospitals, used for accidents, used for lying-in homes for poor women, as hospitals for children and for all the thousand and one ills that flesh is heir to. I hope the day will come when there will be no need to cure our consumptives, and no need for that vote. We are violating no law to-night in passing these Resolutions. My learned friend quoted with effect a statement made by a Lord Chancellor that what is legal is not always constitutional. I think that was about it. But the constitution of this country is what we make it within these walls. Remember that. That is the Constitution. The Constitution of England to-day is what the Parliament of England makes it to-day. We in this Assembly are the Judges of our Constitution. The majority of this Legislature makes the Constitution of this country. It does not lie with us to in any way lessen or detract from our powers in that respect. We can take a gift from a Carnegie, a Reid, a Rhodes or a Strathcona or
anybody else. Gifts to the submerged classes are not the class of gifts referred to by the old authorities in the days of the Charleses when large monopolies were given away merely to raise the wind or for some other worse reasons or worse purposes. Monopolies were given to individuals and laws had to be passed to prevent the public rights from being bartered away. There is no analogy whatever. No one ever questioned the right of Strathcona to send his horses out into South Africa when the Empire was in peril. Some persons may say there was a right to do it, that Parliament allowed it to be done. That is quite right. That is where Parliament comes in, and day after day whittles away these old cobwebby enactments made centuries ago when there was a reason for making them. What do we find today. We find the Governor of this Colony and Governors of other British Colonies on Rhodes Scholarship Committees, acting in relation to that gift of the late Cecil Rhodes. That is not done without the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. No one ever criticised that gift.

SIR ROBERT BOND.—That was a gift to a University.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—It was a gift to the British Empire. That is my opinion.

SIR ROBERT BOND—Apparently the Hon. Prime Minister has forgotten that it was a gift placed into the hands of three trustees.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—I happen to know all about it, and I say it was a gift to the British Empire.

SIR ROBERT BOND—It was nothing of the kind.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—The Crown adopted it, because it is controlled by a Committee appointed by the Crown, and the Governor of each colony is a member of each Committee. I will undertake to say that that was not without the approval of the Secretary of State. Now, Mr. Chairman, I cite this not as a concrete case in point, but merely as an illustration of the whittling away of those old nonsensical ideas that existed a century ago. I wish we had more Rhodes in Newfoundland. I wish we had more men who would not tie their purses, but would do something for the country and the people.

SIR ROBERT BOND.—Hear, hear.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—We need more men who regard their wealth as something given them as trustees for the people and the countries in which they live. We want more Carnegies and Rhodes and Strathconas and Reids.

Now Mr. Chairman, I do not know I need labour the matter any further. I rose really to reply to the Hon. member for Twillingate, Mr. Clift, who, I think it fair to say raised a most important point in his question as to what these Sanitariums would cost. Well, now, they will cost whatever this Legislature wishes! Each sanitarium can cost a thousand dollars a year or you can spend ten thousand. When they are put up in each district it will be for this Legislature to come in here and say what we can afford to spend on them. We may come in here and say we can only afford to spend five hundred dollars a year on each of them. We may say we are prepared to give a contribution to the local Doctor and turn this place into a dispensary where the people can come and get advice. That may cost one thousand dollars. Then we may be prepared to go further and spend two thousand dollars on each. Or you can go on and treat 100 persons at the
cost of $8,000, basing it on the cost of the 70 patients treated by Dr. Campbell last year in St. John's, at a cost of $8,000. It really depends on what we are prepared to spend. You may treat 60 or 70 or 80 or 100 patients. Take the case of the General Hospital. Hundreds of people went through that Hospital last year. We have down there to-day a staff of 90 people including the doctors and forty five trained nurses. There are five or six doctors besides the trained nurses and servants, and there must be some thousands of people going in and out of that institution, and the whole thing last year cost $50,000. That was what the Legislature voted. Now if we can spend $50,000 on the treatment of consumptives, I think we shall be doing some good.

Mr. Chairman, before I sit down I should like to draw the attention of the Leader of the Opposition to the wording of the amendment that he proposes to submit. It is in regard to the statement of Sir William MacGregor. I do not think it is fair to quote him here without putting in the whole of what he said. In the amendment proposed there is nothing put in except "In the first place I warn you against the idea of Sanitaria." Now if he were not a medical man it would not be so serious. But being a medical man he may some day go back to the practice of his profession, and I do not think it right that he should go on record as making a statement that he was against sanitaria. If it is desirable to put his opinions on record I submit that the whole of the statement made on that occasion in his speech before the Tuberculosis Committee meeting on June 1st 1906 should be inserted. What he said was this. In the first place he warned not the Legislature, not the Government, but the Society against Sanitaria, and the reason he warned the Society was "that your funds will be eaten up with one sanitarium."

There is no word against sanitaria there, except that he tells the Society that they cannot defray the cost of putting up and operating them. He tells them that they will have to get some person to put them up. Now to take a single sentence out of that paragraph and put it in a State document is, I submit, not what should be done, and I would suggest to the Hon. member that the whole paragraph should be inserted, especially in view of the fact that only a year before, when this Tuberculosis Association was started, with Mr. Harvey in the Chair, in the presence of the Lord Bishop of Newfoundland, the Mayor of the City, the Archbishop of St. John's, the Rev. Dr. Curtis and a very large number of other people, the Governor recommended sanitaria. On that occasion he said "I recommend you to have a sanitarium." I have no personal interest in this matter whatever beyond a desire to have done only that which is right and fair.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND.—Mr. Chairman, I have followed closely what the Leader of the Government has laid down as his interpretation of the speech or Address of Sir William MacGregor, and I am not prepared to admit the correctness of his interpretation by any means. It is alleged by my learned friend that this address was confined to the Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, and being confined to that Association, then his remarks had special reference to the allocation which that Association had provided for it. Why, Sir, his address was delivered at a
public meeting of the Association. It was a public address, an address not only to the Association, but to the public who were there present. If Sir William had said to the Association that "Sanitaria are beyond your means as an Association," then there would be some force in the Prime Minister's argument; but he spoke not to the Association, but to every man woman and child present and said, "I warn you against the establishment of sanitaria in this country, because they are beyond your means." At any rate that is my position. However, if my learned friend intends to support my resolution I shall make any amendment he suggests.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—I will vote against it anyhow; because you are doing a third party an injury.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND—I have no objection, if the Committee desires it to inserting the words "beyond your means." I will not go any further, because the insertion of the whole paragraph might be misleading unless the whole pamphlet were inserted. If the Hon. Prime Minister will support the amendment I am prepared to meet him half way. If not I and my friends will take the whole responsibility for it.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—the only objection I have is that you put Sir William MacGregor on record as being against Sanitaria.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND—Allow me to point out that in his former speech he said he was in favour of sanitaria; and then after twelve months, doubtless after the perusal of the opinions of abler men than himself, he gave this second opinion as far as this Colony is concerned. It is only a fool that does not change his mind. It would be an insult to say he could not change. It is no crime to say that he gave one opinion one year and a different one a year after. Why, Sir, if that were so, if a man's opinion were not to change with the increasing wisdom of the years, we would be at a standstill altogether. If you look through the whole world of general science it is a history of change after change. Why, Sir, the highest authorities in medical science have changed their opinions time and again. Take the attitude of medical men in regard to Tuberculosis. The leading physicians in London and Europe went to Davos to raise a monument to Koch, the discoverer of the tuberculosis germ. After listening to Dr. Koch they broke up the meeting and refused to erect the monument, showing that in a few hours they changed their opinions. As I have said the history of medical science is a history of changes. To-day it approves certain things, and to-morrow it condemns them. Apart from surgery the whole medical science is experimental:—experimenting on the poor unfortunate human system. There is no question about that, whether the medical gentlemen like it or not. There is no crime Sir, I submit, against Sir William MacGregor or against even greater men, in saying that they are capable of changing their opinions. I have no intention or desire to be unfair to Sir William MacGregor, or anyone else, and I have no objection to putting in the words, "Because they are beyond your means."

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—My learned friend entirely misconceives my point, doubtless unintentionally. He has given us a very interesting address on the mutability of human affairs; but it has nothing to do with the case. I was not discussing that point. What I contended was that it
was not fair to take a single sentence out of a paragraph and put it in a public document. I say Sir William MacGregor had the same opinion in 1909 as in 1908. I said that the wording of the paragraph showed that. The whole context of the paragraph shows that, if it shows anything at all. So far as I am concerned I am not going any further into it. I intend to vote against the amendment. I am only speaking of the injustice done to a third party. Sir William MacGregor is a professional man, and anyone taking up that resolution would be entirely misled by it, whereas if you insert the whole paragraph it would not be the case. What objection can there be to putting in the whole paragraph? Is the Rt. hon. gentleman afraid to do it? Does he think he will not get as much comfort out of the whole paragraph as out of a single sentence? It can remain as it is as far as I am concerned. It is good enough for me and those supporting the Resolutions before the Chair. I have only pointed it out in the interest of a third party.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND—That is my learned friend’s opinion; but surely he does not put his opinion forward as superior to that of everybody else. I have gone through that paragraph and consider myself just as competent to give an opinion as he is.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Yet you object to my appeal to put in the whole paragraph.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND—It is an appeal in which the Hon. gentleman is not interested. He has told the Committee that he has no intention of supporting our Resolution, therefore he is not interested.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE—Mr. Chairman, permit me to draw your attention to the clock.

Mr. Parsons left the Chair.

Mr. Parsons resumed the chair at 8 o'clock.

HON. MIN. OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—Before the passing of these Resolutions, Mr. Chairman, I think it my duty as a representative of six thousand people to add a word to this debate. The Resolutions have now been before the House for three days and open to the criticism invited by the Government when bringing them down. It was recognised that criticism would be offered, and there was no desire to shirk it. The Government are prepared to stand by their record in this matter. These Resolutions stand for a policy prompted by a desire to relieve human suffering, to check the ravages of the disease known as Consumption or Decline. One criticism is that the country is not in a position to grapple with such a measure, being too poor, so to speak. I have followed the discussion thus far with much attention, but have seen little effort made to meet the principal fact, namely, that the ravages of this disease are such as to compel some action. I care not as an individual member of this House what it will cost to provide a remedy, for if the lives we annually lose through Consumption were caused by the lack of Light-houses and Fog Alarms, there would be a standing agitation for such safeguards to be provided; or if they were lost by Smallpox or Cholera there would be a similar agitation to stamp out the disease at any cost. The dangers to our seafaring population are not to be compared to those which threaten them from this disease, and all the ravages of Diphtheria, Smallpox and similar maladies the past half century would not total more than the annual loss from
Consumption. It is, therefore, imperative for the Government to take some action in the matter now, for the figures quoted by the Premier prove that we are losing one thousand people a year from this disease. Therefore, I say, that if I were told such a loss was caused by want of fog alarms and lighthouses what would be thought of me if I advanced the argument in reply that, "it cannot be helped; we cannot afford to save them." I repeat in this case, as I would in the other cases, the declaration that we as a Government must provide the means to save these people. One of the arguments of the Opposition is that we should reduce taxation and deal with minor matters before grappling with this. I, on the contrary, contend that we can no longer delay action in this matter, and whatever the outlay for this purpose it will have to be met. The Government's plans for coping with the disease are based upon the best views of the most advanced scientists in the world, and while the A.P.C., and the Public Health Commission have done noble work in connection with this subject so far, the disease has now reached such a stage that it has become impossible for the Government to leave this task to private agencies in future. We are next told that the statistics sent in from various parts of the Island by clergymen and doctors are not sufficiently correct to warrant this House to make the proposed expenditure. I take issue with that assertion. It is not necessary to have recourse to these statistics at all; appeal to every family in the country, and how many are there to-night without having had some dear one taken from them? Those who advance such an argument are out of touch with the people, and if we are not to take these statistics compiled by people who are daily visiting the homes of the sick, what evidence are we to get otherwise? Again, we are told we should not have sanitariums in the outports. Why not? I look forward to the day when years hence, we may be able to so reduce the mortality from this disease as to make it unnecessary to continue further votes for the purpose. What can be done has been proved in the statistics quoted here this afternoon of the work of Dr. Campbell and others who have been operating a small sanitarium in the hospital on Signal Hill, and who have sent out of it seventy-five per cent. of its patients cured. If that has been already accomplished in St. John's, why should not the same be done in St. Barbe or St. George's? I think it is deplorable on the part of the Opposition to attempt to compromise the lives of the people of the Island for mere political purposes. It is pointed out in the report of the Public Health Commission, which has done such admirable work here the past three years, that within five years five thousand people have, through neglect, lost their lives from this dread disease, and that if these five thousand people had been preserved for the Colony it would have meant in Revenue, $160,000. But why should we talk of Revenue? Why should we measure finance when the lives of the people are in danger? How dare any man rise in this House and protest against the Revenue being spent on the sick and suffering people of the Colony? It may suit certain politicians to claim that we should reduce taxation even at the cost of human life, but I say that even if it cost us a much larger sum than we calculate the present policy will involve, we should find the money for this purpose because of the good it will do. Look at the person affected with Consumption in a home where there are six or eight children. What will be the consequence? I ask hon. members opposite to go down to these homes and see for themselves, as I have seen, how these children will go
house of assembly proceedings.

out one by one to the cemetery. Many people say that it is God's will for them to die, that their parents had this disease and that they were born with it, but we find of late years that it has been proved that such is not the case, that children of even a mother who is herself a consumptive are not born with the taint of Consumption, and could be saved by care and attention. Then why should we not be up and doing? Why should we pay any attention to the criticisms of the Opposition? Our reward is not to come in the present but in the future. If we grapple with this disease, pass this vote, and find that, as the Opposition say, the disease does not exist, so much the better; we can then turn the sanitaria into something else, but I fear that even when we erect one in each district we will soon find it is not sufficient. I have known families in the last five years to be completely wiped out by this disease, and it is a simple sum for the Opposition to figure out that if one thousand people are sacrificed annually from the population of two hundred and forty thousand in this Island by this disease, what it would mean in every way if these people were to be saved. We were told by my hon. friend, Mr. Kent, (I observe that Sir Robert Bond is not in his seat tonight, perhaps thinking I was going to make it too hot for him, but I should be prepared to show him facts and figures if he would only come up from his roost down below) that our first duty should be to reduce taxation. I can show Mr. Kent tonight that we have reduced taxation and that the party of which he is Deputy Leader never did so at all. The only argument they seem able to advance from that side of the House is that "One of the planks in our platform was to reduce taxation," but, Irishman-like, I will meet that argument by advancing another. In 1902 after his party had come into power, the first move that was made by the Bond Government was to send to the Custom House for information as to how another quarter of a million dollars in revenue could be obtained by increasing the duties on imports in such a way that the people would not suspect what was being done. This information was secured and the quarter of a million was tacked on at the next session. On the eve of the general election in 1904, when the time had arrived for them to give an account of their stewardship, they made a pretence of reducing taxation, they pulled a red herring across the track, they promised to reduce taxation if the country would elect them again, and they took off the duty on salt, flour, molasses and kerosene oil, to the tune of about $180,000.00, whereas, the year before they had increased the duty on other articles so as to bring in $250,000.00. I make this statement with the facts in my hand to support it, and I submit to this House the facts on which I base this assertion. I hold in my hand a statement showing the articles on which the duty was increased and the additional revenue derived therefrom each year of the six years from the time these increases were made until the Bond party went out; and another table showing what losses accrued to the revenue during the same period through the removal of the duties from salt, flour, molasses and kerosene oil. I shall have these complete statements published as part of the debates so that everybody may be able to understand exactly how the thing was done. By reference to the statements it will be seen that for the six years the late administration was in power, from the time they started this new scheme until they went out of office, the total amount of the increase in Revenue, obtained through increasing the duties on all these articles, was $1,397,000, while the am-
ount lost to the revenue by reducing the taxation by putting on the free list salt, flour, molasses and kerosene oil, was only $1,196,000 so that there was an actual gain to the revenue during these six years of $201,000, an average of $33,500.00 for each year of the six. Now that is how the Bond administration reduced taxation in this Colony. They robbed Peter to pay Paul. They made a pretence of virtue by going to the people and saying to them: "We are reducing taxation on four of your necessaries—salt, flour, molasses and kerosene oil, but before doing this they had already increased the duty on all these other articles, so as to bring into the revenue nearly $35,000.00 every year, more than they were giving back to the people and did persuade them that they had reduced taxation, until it falls to me now to expose the deceit practiced on the country and the dishonesty of their claim. I repeat that instead of reducing taxation they juggled with the tariff so as to annually increase taxation $33,500 a year and here is the evidence to prove it:—

(See Table.)

In our case matters were very different. We have not increased taxation but we have promoted the credit of the country so that we have been able to realize year after year the largest surpluses ever obtained by any Government here; and we have given these surpluses back to the people in the form of increased grants for all the public services by which they profit directly, such as education, lighthouses, marine works, roads and bridges, Old Age Pensions, hospital improvements, more relief for the poor, etc. I challenge the last speaker (Mr. Kent) to say whether he has not received more money for his district works from us than he ever received while his own party was in power. We gave him and his colleagues last year for their district something like $12,000, more than was ever given previously. We have done the same throughout the Island. Under the late administration there was not a district that received any money, apart from the usual grants voted by this House, except those represented by one or two leading members of the Ministry. Now, why should this be? Why should one district receive more per capita than another? Why should Sir Robert Bond take $1.00 per head for Twillingate district, while Ferryland received nothing. That was one of the principal reasons why I left that party, because I did not get fair play for my people. When we came into power we were faced with a debt of $160,000. That money was spent by the Bond Government to get back the control of the Legislature, and not for the public interest. What Government on the other hand has ever done more for the Colony than the present Government? Our predecessors collected the revenue and spent it, but I defy anybody to point out one thing done by that party which benefitted the fishermen of the Colony. If a fisherman was driven off the coast, the Members never went on Water Street and tried to get a ship to send to his aid until they got permission from their leader. Now the Minister of Marine and Fisheries has standing instructions from his Leader to do promptly whatever is necessary, and the first principle is that no money is to be considered where human life is concerned. If Sir Robert Bond were in his place to-night I would remind him of some facts in relation to this matter, but I can reserve them until later. But to come back to Tuberculosis, Sir Robert Bond apparently wanted to take credit to himself for being the first to move in the matter. When his claims were shown out here in debate, it was seen that the only thing he had done was to buy from Dr. Tait six hundred copies of a report
INCREASE IN THE TARIFF ON THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES FROM 1903-4 TO 1908-9, BOTH INCLUSIVE.
ARTICLE.

INCREASE IN RATE.

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Acids .... ·····························
$ 70 os
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$ 90 20
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Asbestos and Manufacture thereof .. · .. .
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391 00
207 os
67 6s
77 45
Baths, Tubs, &c ....... ···· . . . . ... .... .
67 71
140 ss
76 10
133 40
125 30
Bicycles and Tricyles ·. · · · · · · ·. · · · · ... .
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94 70
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93 45
Billiard Tables .... ..... . · · ........ · .. .
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524 70
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Brushes ..... · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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Cabinet Wares &c.············· · · · · · ·.
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3,279 40
2,257 20
2,363 75
Candles, Wax, Paraffine ............... .
82 85
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Cast Iron Pipes ..... · · . · · · · .... · · · · ... .
25
28 55
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Cement ................... · ..... . ... . .
I,o6I 45
776 70
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1, 75 s oo
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Cheese ..... ···························
1,98.\ 88
China, Earthenware, &c ............... .
I,814 6 5
2,039 70
r,Sog 70
I,64S 8o
I,745 lO
Clocks, 'vVatches, &c ... · ·. · · ·. · ·. · .... .
>,063 00
932 74
791 10
SJS 35
88o 35
Com bs of all kinds- ................... .
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295 8s
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Cotton Fabrics of every kind . .. ...... . . .. .... .... . .
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r§,112 so
12,634 40
Dry Goods ........ ·. ····.······· ·· ... .
47,232 So
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16,440 ss
1S,5o7 70
43,246 6o
Explosives ............................ .
451 70
369 ss
2S4 75
377 35
5s 5 oo
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Fancy Wares-· ............ ············
1,r 99 s 5
1,480 45
1,433 05
1,791 20
Flannels, Serges, &c.. . . . . . . . . . . . ..... . .. ... .....
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1,334 55
I 20
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F ireworks ..... ························
8 75
7 25
Fruits, Green ............. · ..... · · · · .. .
2,407 6o
I ,628 05
1,95• 6s
I,94S 95
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Fruits in Cases, &c ....... ...... ....... .
682 10
I,759 70
904 8s
7'4 15
56s 3o
Furs, Gloves, Mits, &c ...... .. ... ..... . . . ........
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7.)2 45
913 8o
859 70
Glassware . ................... ..... .. .
I,570 6s
1,788 00
1,3J4 40
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Groceries ... ........ . . · .. · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
6,304 40
5,515 15
5,912 6s
6,s6S 35
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Hat•, Caps, &c . ....... ... · · · · · · · · · · .. .
3,468 65
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Hardware (b) .......... ·.··············
7,6go 25
8,214 JO
7,922 6s
7.742 20
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Indian Rubber Boots, Shoes ........... .
4,023
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Jewellery ..................... · ... · ... .
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892 8o
Knife Brick .......................... .
I,142 55
1,036 00
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Leatherware .......................... .
6,037
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4,820 40
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Machines and Machinery .............. .
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5,210
20
6,24§
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6,771
4.993 6o
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Oils. Essential· ............ · · · · ....... . ................
76 68
66s 6s
I58 70
5I4 45
Oils, Linseed .... ........ . ... . ..... . .. .
2,278 55
J,468 70
J,Oo8 70
2,845 35
3,737 30
Paper Hangings ..................... .
30
1,216
1,081 95
I ,292 95
1,087 45
I,soo 95
Perfumerv ............................ .
217 os
192 8 5
224 90
170 os
220 75
Pianofortes and Musical Instruments .. .
2,416 00
1,7S9 QO
2,765 30
2,493 70
21371 30
Picture Frame, &c. . .... ....... ..... .. .
127 70
IOS 8o
I44 75
95 so
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Readvmades, Clothing ................ .
10,30 70
12 1750 30
10,416 75
9.176 20
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Small wares ... . ............ · · · · ....... .
g,oo6
10
9,046 6o
8,401 5G>
8,514 45
7,873 45
Soaps ....................... ......... .
1,465 90
1,626 05
1,824 70
1,324 ss
2,019 70
Spirits, Alcoholic .................... .
88 So
6] 6o
27 00
25 20
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Cordials ...................... .
II so
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23 6o
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Brandy ................... . . .. .
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1,S63 6o
I,?OS 20
I,838 25
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" 'vVhiskey ........... · · · · · ·. ·. · · . .
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s,6s 3 6 5
5,985 6o
6,849 90
6,867 30
" Gin .................. ···· ....... .
522 10
s6g 6o
576 40
543 40
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" Rum ................... . . ... ········
12,725 8o
g,6gl 40
l l ,619 40
12,906 00
9.970 8o
Stationery ..... .... .......... ........ .
3,Q)S 00
4,147 25
4,938 6<j
4.434 15
4,949 ss
Sugars, all kinds ...................... .
45,646 23
so,r 76 97
s8,546 44
SJ,Il9 S7
ss.s47 15
Tar .................................. .
886 JO
1,073 os
I,007 IS
975 98
984 ss
Tea ................................. .
5,326 02
4,SIO 83
6,727 40
5, 269 35
s,o67 51
Tinware .............................. .
2,269 40
2,oso 8o
1,852 6o
z,oia 6o
2,325 so
Thermometers, &c .................... .
57 8o
37 so
33 40
74 90
38 6s
Tobacco, Manufactured ............... .
Ir,38S 64
10,977 S2
9,041 38
12,415 IT
n,36s 41
Cigars ...................... .
"
640 32
798 10
683 42
694 44
713 47
"
Cigarettes .................. .
I,ss 5 81
1,628 3S
2,216 JO
1,676 37
2,042 23
Tweeds ................ ....... ..... .. . ..... ..........
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6,68 5 o 5
8,989 So
8,123 95
Wines. all kinds .......... .. ....•... . . .
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703 24
903 6s
o343 IS
924 45
897 57
Window Shades ........... ........... .
210 10
171 32
IJO 10
151 85
2JS 25
Women's Dress Goods, &c ............ . ... . . . . . . ..... ' ................
7,304 10
6, JS7 20
6,488 35
Wood Manufactures .................. .
8o9 8o
864 6s
727 00
777 ss
Zinc and Manufacture of Zinc ......... .
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From 3c. per lb. to 3%c.
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19,254 75
701 20
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S14 95
14 70
2,397 10
745 10
730 7S
1, 3 11 ss
6,215 70
3,185 58
7,JS3 25
4,159 rs
1,og6 20
765 So
6,oos 6o
s,o46 20
70 20
3,208 70
899 15
232 05
1,686 So
55 35
9,091 15
8,224 6o
2,072 40
6o 6o
24 40
I,S7s 00
6,577 os
496 20
12,466 40
5,049 45
6o,so4 07
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5.4 2 3 83
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64 6o
l;l,Ol 5 22
412 02
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6,933 70
S2o 27
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5,415 25
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I91 $ 240,527 72

RETURN SHOWING ARTIClES PlACED ON THE FREE liST AND DECREASE OF DUTY THEREON DURING SAME YEARS.
I

SALT.
Lines and
Twines.

Year.
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I
1903-4
1904-s
1905-6
1906-7
I907-S
lg<l8-q

$4,691
5.294
6,839
10,628
9,079
8,830

6o
40
70
90
30
SO

Quantity
Tons.
46,716
70,353
64,149
48,090
76,163
69,6zr

Duty
20 cents
per ton.

s 9.343

14,070
12,829
9,618
15,232
13,924

20
6o
So
00
6o
20

I
I

FLOUR.
Quantity
Brls.
JZ1,411

371,407
4'1,781
365.427
366,237
340,876

1

I

Duty
25 cents
per Brl.

$30,3S2
92,S51
102,995
91,356
91,559
SS,2l9

87
75
25
75
25
00

MOLASSES.

KEROSENE OIL.

Duty

Quantity
Galls·

I per4 cents
Gall.

Quantity
Galls.

Duty
6 cents
per Gall.

982,578
r, 436,o6s
1,os8,o36
I,239o969
I,262,356
I,186,173

$39.303
54.442
42,]21
59.598
50,494
47.446

2-44.975
S44.400
907,356
945,014
1,074,616
951,912

$14,698
so,664
54-44 1
56,7oo
64,476
57,114

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6o

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24
92

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96
72

Total
Amount
Decrease
for each
year.
$ 98,389
2 17.323
219,427
217,903
230,S42
212,535

29
35
55
25
35
34

Total Amount
of increase
for each
year, as
per sheet
above.

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------$1 1 I96,419 00

Net Increase ..

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238,292
240,527
234,002
236,614

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which he had written but Sir Robert Bond kept those reports in his office for four years before distributing them. If its recommendations had been carried out promptly many would not be in their graves to-day who have met untimely deaths because of indifference and neglect. That is what he did to grapple with this disease. The only effort made in the matter so far has been by the A.P.C., to which no helping hand was stretched out by Sir Robert Bond's Government. It was left for this Administration to provide in its first days of power for the appointment of a Commission of Public Health, and for a grant of $4,000 to that Commission, which money has been admirably spent; and it is left for the Government now to bring in these Resolutions. Sir Robert Bond did no more in this matter than he did in relation to Old Age Pensions. He promised the people years ago to deal with that subject. He appointed the commission of enquiry and it never reported. His hand was "seen" and called at the last election, and since then he has appeared in his true colors. He is to-day like a horse that has fallen, his knees are broken and he will never again be the same as before. The suspicion was widely aroused last election that he was not as keen in the interests of the people as he would have them believe, and although he had the impertinence to tell the electors that if he was not returned he would resign from politics and retire from public life, they disregarded this threat and elected twenty-six men against ten for him. Then he sulked in his tent at Whitbourne. He did not appear in this House for two sessions except to draw his sessional pay, but now he comes in and tells us that a man who cannot change his mind is a "fool." He has been valued by the people of the Colony at his proper value, he has been weighed in the balance and been found wanting. He did nothing himself and he would like us to do nothing, because the more we do, the worse is the contrast between his record and ours. No administration since Responsible Government has done so much for the people as the party now in power in this country. What was the condition of the Hospital when this Government took power? Before that time one needed a "pull" with the powers that be to get a sick man in that institution. When the outport fishermen came to town he was ignored, unless he could find some man with a "pull", and when he did succeed in getting into the Hospital, he did not receive the treatment he was entitled to. If we have done nothing else, we have at least made that Hospital one of the finest of its kind anywhere, and we have fulfilled the promise to give the old fishermen a pension. We were told then, as we are told now, that we could not adopt that policy without ruining the country, but we have made a creditable beginning and will do more as the years go by. We have, moreover, carried out nearly every plank in our platform, and we are told by gentlemen opposite that we are piling up the public debt. But can we not justify our increases? We have opened up the country and built railroads through several of the districts, providing them with the great civilizing agency of the day. In his reference to railways, the Opposition Leader saw even one of his own followers, Mr. Shea, get up and say he was in favor of railroads, even through a wilderness, because they develop a wilderness and create their own traffic. Look at the condition of the Colony twenty-five years ago. Then people living one hundred miles from St. John's thought it wonderful to get a letter inside of a month; to-day the people in most places get them every second day, and this summer the Government will have daily trains run
across the Island for the accommodation of the public. Because of this, we are told we are going too fast, and that the country cannot afford such an outlay. This is the same old story we have heard, and that our fathers heard before us. Since Responsible Government was granted certain people are always looking for ruin—and it generally follows themselves. Personally, I have always favored, and will favor, railway building, for only by it can the prosperity of the country be maintained. If our industries will not keep our people here they will leave, but since the railway and Bruce services have been inaugurated, hundreds of those who formerly were unable to find employment in this Colony, apart from the fisheries, go away to the neighboring country, earn goodly sums of money and come back again and spend it. That is one of the benefits of railways. When Sir Edward Morris goes back to the country again, it will be with virtually every promise in his Manifesto fulfilled. I know hon. members opposite are thinking that the promise about reducing taxation is not fulfilled, but I am quite prepared to go before the people and defend the policy of allowing the taxation to remain as it is, as all the revenue we get is developing the country, making improvements in all directions and to be realising such surpluses as we have been getting of late years and giving the money back to the people in such forms as we have been giving it to them, is in my mind, one way of reducing taxation and a much wiser way than to take the duty off certain articles, and perhaps have in a few years to put it on again. If we are receiving these excesses of revenue we are giving them back to the people again. We are building railways, roads, bridges, lighthouses and fog alarms. We are opening up new industries and we are keeping the people more prosperous than ever they have been. Then a complaint is made that the country is tied up this winter. That is true, but is not that the act of God? Is not the Atlantic tied up, and are we to blame for that? Everything possible has been done by the Government, and if the railways and the steamer Bruce are not running on schedule time, it is not our fault. The Government Engineer has reported, in a letter that has been given publicity, that the contractors are doing the best that is possible to clear the lines, and the Government Engineer, who was brought to this Colony by the Leader of the Opposition and who was endorsed by that gentleman, is surely a competent and capable authority to pronounce on this matter. Because, however, of the Rt. Hon. gentleman's aversion to these railway contractors, he next tells us we should not accept the generous donation of $100,000 for sanitaria to relieve human suffering. My answer is that I am only sorry there are not more people like the Reid Brothers in this Colony. I care not where the money comes from, I am here to do my utmost for the people who sent me to this House, and if I cannot get money from the Government for the purpose of dealing with this disease, I am prepared to take it from any generous people who are willing to offer it. The same thing is done everywhere over the world, and the argument against it is too absurd to be seriously noticed. That is an old game with the Rt. Hon. gentleman. I was a follower of his for a few years, and I can speak from my experience and observation. I left him when I saw that he was not prepared to do the right thing, and I know him to be the finished article as a political hypocrite, prepared to advance any argument to promote his political advantage. Take his action here in this House in reference to the addresses delivered by Sir William MacGregor
in 1908 and 1909. Sir Robert Bond quoted him yesterday as being opposed to sanitariums, but it has been proved conclusively that Sir Robert Bond garbled his words and represented Sir William MacGregor as stating one thing whereas he stated something very different. He would not quote Sir William MacGregor in full, because that would be to damage his own argument, so he just selected for his amendment only that part of Sir William MacGregor's speech which suited himself, and to-night we have shamed him into putting in the whole of the words Sir William MacGregor said. Now what was Sir Robert Bond's object in suppressing certain of Sir William MacGregor's words if it was not to represent to the people of the country that a man who was so universally respected as Sir William MacGregor was opposed to sanitariums, but we know that what Sir William MacGregor really did say was that he advised the Association for Prevention of Consumption not to have anything to do with sanitariums because they were beyond the means of that Association, which was a private organization. For my part, Sir, I strongly support Sir Edward Morris in this policy, and I hope he will go on and do all he possibly can to protect the public health of the people and to better their circumstances in every way.

MR. KENT.—Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentleman who has just sat down, has, I think, exemplified the principle stated by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister on the opening day of this session. Members will no doubt remember that the Prime Minister then said in reply to a few remarks that I made with reference to the Speech from the Throne, that it was one of the principles of debate, when you have a bad case, to abuse your opponent. I think this rule has been the object of the whole speech of the Minister of Finance, to which we have listened this afternoon.

The question before the chair is one of great importance to the people of this country and deserves to be discussed upon its merits. Abuse is no argument and should not be introduced into such a discussion. There is a proposition here brought forward by the Government and submitted to this House involving the method of dealing with the disease of tuberculosis, which exists in this Colony, a subject of most serious interest to the whole population. I wish at the outset to contradict the statement made by the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance to-night, that any person on this side of the House at any time stated that there was no tuberculosis in this Colony. No such statement was made. It was, on the contrary, admitted by everyone who spoke on this side or the other side, that tuberculosis does exist; that people are suffering and have suffered from tuberculosis to an extent demanding action by those responsible for the public health, and that the subject demands some remedial measures is admitted by all. The only difference of opinion that has been expressed and that exists, is as to how this scourge can be best dealt with. The Prime Minister proposes the establishment of sanitariums. For my part, I think that a different course should be pursued in the fight against this disease. I think the keynote of the solution should be prevention rather than sanitariums. Relief from this plague must come through social and economic courses rather than through sanitariums, through the improvement of living conditions and the proper dissemination of knowledge regarding the disease, its causes and the sources from which it originates and taking such action as the knowledge so gathered may show to be best adapted to remove the social and economic causes that conduce to its development and spread.
The A.P.C. during its term of existence, has done great and admirable work in this direction, and nothing has been said by anyone on this side of the House, that could in any way be construed to take the credit for what has been done by those connected with that movement. This Association and Hon. Mr. Harvey, whose energy and perseverance have mainly contributed to its persistent and successful action, deserve great credit, they have kept the matter before the public consistently, they have aroused public opinion and brought home to the people the nature and cause of this disease and have largely contributed to the success so far attained and as a result, within the last four or five years the death rate from this disease has been reduced from 4 in every 1,000 living to 2.82 of every 1,000 living now. That, sir, is the result of the campaign carried on by the A.P.C., a result of which Hon. Mr. Harvey and his associates may well be proud. No person denies the existence of this disease, for evidence of its existence presents itself to us every day and cannot be denied. There is no person that has greater sympathy for those afflicted than I have, there is no person who would be prepared to do more than I am in the efforts to eradicate this disease from the midst of us. But, sir, we differ only as to the best means of carrying on or accomplishing this object, and I consider that the resolutions of the Government are in the circumstances a mistake, as the best remedial measure against consumption. It is not going to effect half as rapidly or efficiently the ultimate extermination of the disease, as the employment of social and economic remedies—which if persisted in will ultimately extirpate the disease in this colony. We are told that we are obstructing the action of the Government by raising questions of constitutional law as to the manner in which the Government has accepted the gift which the Reids have given to this Colony. No, sir, we have not tried to obstruct, but we have simply pointed out to the Government that they have unnecessarily ignored a sound constitutional principle which has been accepted for centuries as the safeguard of the liberties of the people in the matter of finance, one verified and confirmed by the action of the Government asking in the present resolution for Legislative powers to take over institutions of this kind and taking powers from this legislature to take over these gifts. We have in the resolutions proposed by the Prime Minister a confirmation of the position which has been taken by the Opposition in this matter.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER. —
That is not correct.

MR. KENT. — You ask for powers to take over these gifts and unless you acknowledged the position that such gifts can only be accepted by legislative confirmation why do you ask for confirmation? The Act speaks for itself. The resolutions were tabled here after this question was raised by the Opposition. The question was raised here by the Opposition on the debate on the Address, before those resolutions were brought in. The answer is that it is necessary to get this legislative confirmation. This principle is acknowledged in those resolutions. The principle which I referred to before is, that the representatives of the people, in the House of Commons, duly convened, are the sole, the only judges of the necessities of the public service, and that the crown has no right to receive gifts from any person whatever without the approval of the people, through their representatives in this House. In this case, the Government has brought in other judges besides the represent-
atives of the people as to the necessities of the Crown in the public service. They have accepted the Reid Newfoundland Company as the judges who are to supply the Government services in this question of the need or sanitaria to fight tuberculosis. The only way to accept this gift, and the only proper way that should have been pursued, was that, when submitting on the opening day their Legislative program in the Speech from the Throne, they should have said that this gift had been tendered, and that they intended to submit this tender to the House and ask the House to approve it, and if approved, the gift would be then perfectly in order. Had this course been pursued no question of the rights of the people could have been raised.

References have been made to Lord Strathcona's gift of a stool during the South African war. The case is not parallel at all. There is a legal provision that gouverneur lay. This was done under the Volunteer Service Act. Provision was made for gifts of this class. The gift of Cecilia Rhodes has also been referred to. This case is not parallel either. That was a gift of a great philanthropist, given to trustees and not to the Crown. He vested the fund created by his will in trustees by whom his gift was to be applied towards educating young men at Oxford, for the purpose of giving youths throughout the Empire an imperial education. The Crown had nothing whatever to do with this gift. It is the same as a gift to the St. Vincent de Paul or the Benevolent Irish Society or any other charitable institution in this country. There is no similarity to a gift to the Crown for the public service. But here, sir, it is a different question. We are here accepting from an outside source, a decision as to what are the needs of the public services of this country and vesting property in the Crown subject to a large annual outlay for maintenance.

I do not think it necessary to go over all the reports which we have had presented to us on the subject of tuberculosis. The reports of the Public Health Commission have been referred to again and again by the Prime Minister this afternoon. He quoted from the report of 1909. I have not seen that report, but the two reports which I have before me are I think explicit enough, for I find that the Commission does not recommend the establishment of sanitaria. I will read an extract from each. The report of 1911, which is the annual report for 1910—I may say that the report of 1909 had been drawn up before Dr. Keegan, the most reliable member of the Commission in these matters, undertook his enquiries abroad in 1910, and it is upon information gleaned by him during his visit abroad that he after his return based the report that has been included in the Report of the Commission and his report is included in the Report of Commission for 1910—

"A 23 says:— has been amount of consideration establishment to the matter of the the Secretary's sanitarium and to with the information in connection on his recent visit abroad. Commission is not prepa. f the Government to recommend the large sanitarium in this colony. Keegan considers that the actual results obtained by sanitaria elsewhere are often exaggerated and frequently doubtful, the principal reason being that it is difficult to get cases to go into sanitaria until they are too far advanced to be cured. The cases are frequently arrested but they have to be taken very early in order to be cured. The Commission are of opinion that it would be probably more difficult to get really incipient cases to go to a
sanitarium in this country than it would be elsewhere. It would seem as if the principal value to be derived from a sanitarium would be the educational effect for there is no doubt that patients who live in such an institution for any length of time adopt cleanly habits for the rest of their lives. It is probable that some modest development in the lines of the shack or open air system may be desirable first of all from an experimental point of view and the Commission still have the matter under consideration.

"The Commission feel, however, that at this time and in the light of their present information it would be a mistake to recommend the expenditure of the very large sum that would be necessary for the establishment and upkeep of a large general sanitarium for the colony."

That is the report presented last year, and it was made after exhaustive enquiry, from reports received from correspondents all over the country, from information of Dr. Keegan gathered abroad and his well known experience and knowledge on the subject and the Commission deliberately comes to the conclusion that it could not recommend a large sanitarium in this country. The report of last year, Section 19, reads:

"Sanitarium.—This subject was dealt with in the last report when it was stated that the Commission were unable to recommend the Government to incur the large expense necessary to the establishment of sanitarium treatment on any considerable scale at the present time.

"The matter has, however, been urged by some of the medical correspondents of the Commission whose views command consideration. It has been suggested that small and inexpensive sanitarium for individual districts, constructed under the local doctor's eye should be tried at least experimentally."

Now, sir, the Commission does not adopt these suggestions of its correspondents. It deliberately leaves out any endorsement of them. In view of the Report of the preceding year, it seems that they had their attention drawn to it during the year by correspondents. But they have not changed their minds, they are not able to recommend the Government to establish large sanitarium. As this is the only information dealing with the question as to the advisability of establishing sanitarium that we have before us, and I think in view of the results obtained by the A.P.C. during the few years they have been in operation, I hardly think that the erection of sanitarium can be justified by facts. As I said before, the work and results, which with justice, can be ascribed to the A.P.C., show that since 1906 down to the end of 1910, the only years in which the figures are available, the death rate shows that the reduction was in absolute figures from 953 to 632, or in percentage from 4% to 2.82%. This, sir, is a great result, an admirable result and it would be most encouraging to pursue that policy still.

The Minister of Finance says that consumption is rife in this country; that people are dying every day from it, and that it must be eradicated at any cost. I am with him there, sir. I am with him in saying that this disease should be eradicated at any cost. It would be a national calamity to allow it to go on.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—Why wait then?

MR. KENT.—I would ask him to listen to me farther. I think, sir, that it would be a national calamity if we did not deal with the matter. But I say that our energies should be directed to the most effective method, and that method is by the employment of social and economic remedies, which I explained here this afternoon. I
know, personally, Sir, I am convinced from the little reading I have done on this subject, to agree thoroughly with the opinion of Dr. Keegan, that the results obtained from sanitaria in other countries, are exaggerated and often doubtful. But, sir, I have no two opinions as to the results that would be obtained from the effective use of social and economic reform.

The Minister of Finance and Customs has given us a speech from his point of view and from which I am sure that he is convinced that he is correct. The Hon. member quoted a long list of articles which he stated were put under increased taxation between 1901 and 1904. Well, sir, I am not in a position to deal with that. I was not in the House at that time. I did not come here until 1904, but I think that as the Premier and himself were both members of the Government then, they will be able to give a better explanation of that increase than I am. From 1900 to 1904, the Minister of Finance sat on that side of the House, as a supporter of the then leader of the Government, and it was during that period that the increase which he alleges took place in taxation, but every one will agree with me when I state that this Government, of which he is now a member, from the day it came into power, down to this day has introduced no practical legislation which tends to the betterment of the people of this country. It is true that they have drawn large revenues, larger than ever drawn, unprecedented revenues, but to find the cause of this, we must go back further.

We will find that that cause is to be ascribed, not to any work of the present Government, but to the work of the late Government, to the inauguration of the Harmsworths, and the Albert E. Reed Co. That, Sir, to the policy of the late Government will be ascribed these bountiful revenues, which the Government now enjoys.

Again, sir, I take issue with him when he states that he does not believe in the reduction of taxation. I think that if he spends the money properly on the public service, if it is spent properly, and if the money that is voted here goes into proper channels, then it is the duty of the Government to lighten the burden which is grinding down the people. It cannot be lightened by taking large sums of money, and spending it on excursions, by frittering it away to party followers. No, sir, it cannot be done in things of that kind, but by saving, and by economy, so that the burden may be lightened on every one. That is one of the ways of bettering the conditions of living.

The Minister has been good enough to challenge me this evening regarding the expenditure of money in St. John's East. I am not in a position to state what money has been spent there during the last three years. I have not been given the privilege to say as to how the moneys of the district should be expended. I have here, sir, a return which I got the other day. It shows how the Minister and his friends return the people's money to themselves. I find, sir, that a sum of $8,000 was appropriated to St. John's East last year for marine works, and out of that $8,000, a superintendent received $1,220, and Flat Rock $600; Torbay $185; Logy Bay, $103; and Outer Cove $305, Bauline not one cent. So that the Inspector receives as much as all the people in all these settlements put together. The records of the late Government will show that every $1.00 voted, went into the public service, that the money was returned to the country. But here one man receives more than 6 settlements put together.

Again, sir, the Hon. member claims that under the late Government if a fisherman or a constituent was in
distress, that members were afraid to render any assistance, without first going to some important members of the Government. Well, sir, on two or three occasions, while I was a member of this House, accidents happened to my constituents, and I got assistance for them without going to any person and I am not afraid to put that position and my conduct in connection with these matters before my constituents at any time. I refer to these matters, sir, simply because the minister referred to them; otherwise I do not see what relevancy they have to the debate.

The Minister referred to the moneys now being spent on railways. I shall refer to this matter afterwards, as it is not my intention to refer to it at any length now.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—There was no money spent by the previous Government on railways; only on mistakes.

MR. KENT.—There were amounts paid in connection with the railway for awards and arbitrations, which in my opinion were directly due to the men in this Legislature who voted for the 1898 contract and for the 1901 contract.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—Your leader is one of them.

MR. KENT.—He is not. He did not. He did not vote for the 1898 contract. He voted for the 1901 contract. I do not wish to refer to this matter any further.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—It is a sore point.

MR. KENT.—It is and the Minister shows it. As I have said the cause of the expenditure was due principally to those who voted for both contracts, and how they reconciled themselves to vote for both passes me.

Now sir, in conclusion, I wish to say that it is unfair to say that the members of the Opposition at any time or in any remarks that have been made here, have denied the existence of consumption in this country, or have in any way tried to obstruct measures which in their opinion were best calculated to exterminate this disease from the colony. I agree with the remarks made by members opposite that the more philanthropists we have in this country the better. If the Reid Newfoundland Company or any other philanthropists are prepared to accept the statement of Sir William MacGregor in the address which has been before referred to and are prepared to build and endow sanatoria, let them do so, sir. Then they will be institutions for which they are responsible and which will be under their control and which will be their own. But this does not in any way interfere with such course as this Legislature in its wisdom may decide to take in the extermination of this disease. I think, sir, that if any man is prepared to do this, to build and endow and operate either himself or others any measures or means of improving the people of this country we ought to be thankful to him and accept his generosity; but that, sir, is a very different question from the one we are now considering. I think I have already stated I intend to vote against the resolution proposed by the Prime Minister.

MR. HOWLEY.—Mr. Chairman, I regret I was unable to attend the sittings of this Committee, this afternoon and to hear the various addresses which were made with regard to the resolutions before the chair. I regret it, sir, for several reasons; the principal of which is that I have been very much interested in this debate from the time the Resolutions were first introduced, and I have tried to follow it as fully as possible. I regret it for the further reason that I am unaware if any of the remarks I am about to make should be a matter of repetition to this Committee. I do not know
what transpired here this afternoon, and hence I am unable to say how far anything I may have to say will be unnecessary and a matter of repetition.

However, sir, I feel that I ought to express myself upon the subject matter of the Resolutions before the chair and the amendment, in such language as seems to me proper and consistent with my duty as a member of this House. I think, sir, that this is a matter which ought not be dealt with as a party measure by the Government or the Opposition. Almost every proposed enactment or set of resolutions that comes before Parliament must necessarily partake of an appearance of party demacracy and it is extremely difficult for a member, either on one side of the House or the other, to treat ordinary matters or to speak on ordinary matters, otherwise than from the standpoint of his party; but this, sir, is a measure which concerns the health and well-being of not less than 25% of the population of this Colony, and ought to be dealt with by every one of us individually irrespective of party and according to our best judgment as to whether or not it should be grappled with; and if it should the best manner in which it should be done. I propose therefore to deal with it as far as my capacity will permit purely from the standpoint of a private member and not as a party measure; not as a supporter of the Government or a supporter of the Opposition, but simply in my capacity as a representative of the people, anxious to see placed on the Statute Book or brought into effect such a measure as will do the greatest good to the greatest number, because that is the underlying principle—the basic principle—of all proper responsible Government. In reviewing the subject matter of these Resolutions I propose, sir, as briefly as possible to deal with the information—that we have as to the extent and nature of this disease, and as to the best means in which to deal with it, and as to the position taken by my hon. friends on the other side of the House with regard to the matter; and as to their sincerity with regard to the positions they take. First of all, sir, I understand that it is not denied by anybody that there a great deal of consumption in this Colony. How much or how extensive it is we are unable to say accurately; but one thing is sure—that a considerable amount prevails in this Colony, much more than ought to prevail, and much more extensively than it should if proper measures were taken to combat it. It has been contended—and I propose later to deal with the sincerity of these contentions, at present I shall deal with them only as arguments against the proposed measure—that there are no authoritative facts upon which to base our conclusions that the proposed action of the Government is justifiable. It has been contended that we have nowhere a recommendation in favour of sanitarium. It has been contended that our Public Health Commission has expressly negatived sanitarium. With all due deference to these contentions, Mr. Chairman, I beg to say that in my opinion, after reading the authorities and the Report of the Health Commission, no such contention is tenable for a moment. In the first place those who have advanced these contentions have taken the Report of the Commission on Public Health for the year 1911 and they quote from that Report with regard to sanitarium, “that the Commission were unable to recommend the Government to incur the large expense incidental to the adoption of sanitarium treatment on any considerable scale at the present time.” Then the report goes on and says: “That the matter has, however, been urged by some of the medical correspondents of the Commission,
whose views commend consideration. It has been suggested that small and inexpensive sanitariums, for individual districts, conducted under the local doctor's eye, should be tried at least experimentally.

Then they go on and give the reasons why they are not prepared to recommend these sanitariums. These reasons are, as they say:

"The two great difficulties, as pointed out, are in the first place, how to find early cases, still in the curable stages, and how to prevail on them to abandon their homes and families and stay in an institution long enough to be cured; and in the second place, how to provide for the rest of the family during the period of treatment."

But, Mr. Chairman, this very same report that is relied upon so much by the opponents of the Resolutions before us, in dealing with the limited sanitarium which has been established by the Government in the city of St. John's says:—

"An average of from 20 to 30 consumptive patients have been constantly under treatment at this hospital with marked success. It is impossible to speak too highly of the work that is being quietly done by Dr. Campbell and his staff at this institution. A very large number of patients, many of them in an advanced stage of consumption have been greatly improved, and those who have voluntarily gone there, while benefiting themselves, at the same time have relieved their families from the ever present danger of infection."

Mr. Chairman, if I understand the English language, and I hope I do, what is that statement but an unreserved approval of sanitariums. It may be said, sir, that it is an approval of a sanitarium in St. John's. I do not begrudge St. John's its sanitarium; but why cannot our people in the outports have sanitariums if necessary, just as well as St. John's. They are all the more needed and all the more reason why we should have them. The people of St. John's have better medical facilities, better facilities for obtaining medicines and drugs. They have at hand the various hospitals and other places in which their different ailments can be cured; but in the outport districts, some of which are very scattered, and very remote from medical aid or the aid of drugs, or any skilled aid at all in this direction,—why should these people be deprived of the privilege of treatment for which they are bearing their proportionate share of taxes. Again, Sir, it is only such of us as have to do with outport districts, that can realize what an amount of hardship and suffering and inconvenience the average outport patient has to go through while in transit from his home to the hospital. Now, sir, if I understand this question of consumption rightly the remedy may be divided under two heads. One is cure and the other prevention, and both involve education. My learned friend on the other side of the House, the Hon. Member for St. John's East said in the course of his remarks that it was rather a question of prevention than of cure. I can only assume from that, if it means anything, that if we have four thousand persons at present inoculated they must be allowed to die, and we will be doing our duty if we take steps to prevent others from taking the disease. I say that it is not alone a question of prevention, but of cure also; and both cure and prevention involve education. It seems to me that if you erect these small sanitariums in each outport district, where everyone can avail of them, they will become centres of education and information and enlightenment for those who have to deal with consumptives in the family or home; and that alone would be more than a justification for the establishment of these sanitariums.
Now, Mr. Chairman, there is another matter to which I wish to draw your attention and that is to the authorities cited, and who seem to base their opposition upon one point, and one point only, and that point is that the expense of the establishment of these sanitaria is so great. That seems to be the underlying objection with all these so-called authorities against the establishment of sanitaria. Like my Hon. friend, the Hon. Minister of Finance, for my part that ground would not hold for a moment. I can only say, sir, that if one thousand people die every year from consumption and in my vote for $100,000, or $200,000, in this House can save them, I will vote for it every day I come into the House.

Now, sir, I would like to believe that the Hon. gentleman on the other side of the House were sincere in the position taken by them on this question. I would particularly like to believe that the Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Opposition was sincere. They tell us that they believe it is necessary to do something. They tell us that they recognize the existence of consumption, and that something ought to be done. But, Mr. Chairman, actions speak louder than words; and if I take a loaded gun and aim it at you and pull the trigger the fact that I say I did not intend to kill you does not convey any meaning to anyone. No one will believe me. Now, sir, what is the position of the Opposition. When the Address from the Throne, which outlined this policy, came before this House, what position did the Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Opposition take? He came in here, sir, and criticized in the most heated and violent terms the breach of constitutional law that had taken place by the adoption and acceptance by the Government of the gift of Messrs. Reid of one hundred thousand dollars to build sanitaria; and, sir, he has gone back hundreds of years, long before any man now living was born, to find a ground to sustain his position and to sustain his opposition to the scheme. He has gone back as far as the days when laws preventing settlement in this Colony were enacted; laws that gave the first ignorant hulk of a skipper arriving, the rights of life and death over the people of this Colony. It is the law of this period; a law made under conditions that do not exist to-day, a law made hundreds of years ago, and long since forgotten, that he has quoted as the grounds for his objection to the action of the Government in accepting this gift. Now what are the facts in connection with this law? I suppose the Rt. Hon. gentleman knows them. If not he ought. The statutes and laws which he cited in support of his position were adopted in England some centuries ago in order to deal with abuses grown up under the reign of monarchs from early in the 13th and 14th century. It must be remembered that constitutional Government as it is known to-day was not known at all in those days. It must be remembered that the cabinet which to-day is the motive force in governing the action of the nation did not exist in those days; and we must not forget that our own system, our constitution, is modelled on the constitution of Great Britain itself. In those days the monarchs of Great Britain assumed to themselves the personal right to impose taxes and use them as they wished. That right has gradually been successfully combated by the people and the Commons, beginning with the Magna Charta, and coming right down through the centuries; leaving a familiar series of landmarks in the development of the modern constitution. But, sir, on the assertion by Parliament and the people of their rights in these matters, the monarchs or some of their advisers invented a scheme of
taxation, or possibly, to put it more accurately, a way of raising the wind without applying to Parliament. It was nothing especially strange in those days for His Majesty or Her Majesty, on waking up some morning and finding that he needed $100,000 to send to some rich man and say he would like to get a present of this money and there are cases on record where the party to whom the request was made refused and was placed in prison till he saw the error of his ways and made a gift to the Crown. The sums raised by this method of taxation became known as benevolences. This went on for years and for centuries, gradually growing worse, until it culminated I think in the reign of the second Charles, by Parliament enacting once and for all that no loan or gift to the Crown without the consent of Parliament, would be permitted, and this is the statute brought in now to criticise and find fault with the actions of the Government in accepting this gift. But this statute, Mr. Chairman, as I have already said, never contemplated conditions as existing in modern times. That statute was never intended to apply to present day conditions. The word 'gift' as used in that statute was never intended to comprise gifts of such a character as this. It was intended to apply to so-called gifts that the Tudors and Stuarts wrung from their subjects by the threat of imprisonment. That is the statute brought in to-day as a criticism of the gift of the Reid Newfoundland Co. Now, as I have said before, if we were discussing some measure which as I say ought to be treated as a party measure, there ought to be some shadow of justification for the position of the Opposition; but we are dealing with a subject that is a question of life and death of the flower of our men, women and children in Newfoundland. Why should we go back through centuries of dust and mist to find evidence to criticise the Government. Does it not look as if the Rt. Hon. gentleman read of this gift and read those resolutions and said to himself: "Where am I going to find some justification for opposing this gift?" and in the quiet of his home and during the leisure that he has, a leisure which we men who have to earn our living, cannot get, he searches back and comes upon this statute in 1661, this statute of Charles II. and on this musty authority, states that the Government is acting unconstitutionally. For that reason I question the sincerity of the Opposition. But there is another reason and that is the deliberate misquotation or part-quotation of an expression of opinion of Sir Wm. MacGregor. In the profession to which I have the honour to belong we frequently have occasion in addressing the Committee to cite from authoritative and recognized authorities to sustain the position which we are upholding and no man of honour, no reputable member of the profession would dare to quote from an authority in the mangled manner in which the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition has done here. And if he dared to do so he would soon be called to order by those whom he is addressing. This committee occupies a position analogous to that which the judge occupies in the Court. And when we come before this committee we come here as Honorable gentlemen, supposed to put forth our minds and best judgments fairly and honourably to arrive at the results best calculated to benefit those who sent us here. What have we to say to a man who deliberately misquotes an authority to mislead the committee and the public. I say that the conduct of the Rt. Hon. Sir R. Bond was unworthy of an honourable gentleman, and unwor-
for some more years in the Colonial Secretary’s office. It is all very well for hon. members to criticize and say what they would do if they were over here, but they must recollect that they were in power for eight years, and no matter what protestations they may make now as to what they would do if they were here, people will judge them by what they did when they were here. And that was nothing. Not one of them ever raised a finger to deal with the question of Consumption, and we can only conclude that if they were here today, if they had been continued in office, nothing would still be done. And from the remarks dropped during the course of the debate it would appear that if ever they get back to power they will undo what we have done and consumption will be again allowed a free hand. I intend, Sir, to vote against this amendment for the reason first that it is insincere, secondly because the preambles are incorrect, intentionally incorrect, and thirdly because the resolutions inferred from these preambles do not constitute proper and legitimate inferences. For these reasons I intend to vote against the amendment. Something must be done by us to stay this dreadful scourge which has been growing greater and greater every year, and for these reasons I shall vote for the resolutions.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND—Mr. Chairman, before this section (Sec. 4) is passed I would like to call the attention of this committee to the fact that this section is evidently intended to carry out the recommendation of the A.P.C., as incorporated in paragraph four (d) of the Report of 1911—that report contains the following paragraph which is a recommendation to the Government: “The creation of necessary powers for the
compulsory removal of advanced consumptives from crowded dwellings to a public institution where they can be properly looked after, thus ensuring a compulsory segregation of the most dangerous cases." Yesterday, it will be remembered, I drew attention to a clause in Lloyd George's National Insurance scheme which had reference to Sanitoria, wherein provision is made that where a patient who is a breadwinner is compelled to enter a sanitarium the State shall make provision for the support of his family during such period as he is detained therein. And I pointed out the great hardship that would accrue and the great injustice that would be done to people compelled to leave their family and incarcerated, in these sanitoria, and their family perchance left helpless without any provision for it. Is the Government going to carry out a law of compulsory taking away these breadwinners from their family without making any provision for their support? Sir, the provision made by the Imperial Act is a payment of 10 shillings per week for the support of the wife and children. There is no mention made in these resolutions that any such provision is to be made in the bill to be introduced and I deny the justice of compulsory detention without provision being made for the support of the wife and children. I think this resolution is a most objectionable one, and I think its principle will be more objectionable if it is included in a bill. There can be no doubt whatever as to the intention of this resolution for a subsequent section provides that:

"It shall be lawful for the Governor-in-Council to make all such rules or regulations as he may consider necessary for rendering any of the provisions of this Act effectual, or as in their opinion may be necessary for the purpose of preventing the spread of tuberculosis in any form, and may affix penalties for the breach of the said rules or regulations."

The intention is perfectly clear. The Government purpose to act upon the recommendation of the A.R.C. and to take power to compel any man who has any symptom of consumption to enter a sanitarium. If this be the intention of the Government, and I challenge contradiction; then it is the duty of the Government to make provision for the wives and children left helpless at home.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER
—Mr. Chairman, I may say in reply to the Rt. Hon. the leader of Opposition, that no such intention was ever contemplated. The section he has quoted is not for that purpose. It merely gives power to make rules and regulations. Such rules and regulations as the Governor in Council may be pleased to provide for the carrying out of the law, and there is no such intention as that suggested of taking the breadwinners from their homes and incarcerating them. In the past we have not professed so much interest in their welfare, they were allowed to go down unheeded to their grave. Not one, nor a hundred but 50,000 who in this country now lie with their pale faces to the sky, stricken down by this dread disease. And yet we are told, when we come in here to succour and save them, that we are going to incarcerate them, cover them up. There is going to be no incarceration, no imprisonment of the bread winner of the family. The section provides for mere matters of detail to be fixed by the Governor-in-Council. The Rt. Hon. member is too old a parliamentarian, and too wise a one not to know that you cannot put every detail into a Bill. That sec-
tion is a verbatim copy of the Imperial Act dealing with Tuberculosis. The Rt. hon. member is always prepared to quote Imperial legislation as perfect, and the fact that this section is quoted from the Imperial Act should satisfy him. Now the intention of the Government is not to take away any man or any breadwinner upon whom a family or anyone is dependent without supporting the family while he is away from home. But that is a matter of detail not put into the Act. It does not require to be put there. It will be dealt with in the rules and regulations as will also the question of notification, milk, food, tubercular cattle and a thousand and one other matters. If it is found necessary in the interest of the public health that any person should be removed from his home, he probably will be removed. But that is the law of the land to-day in relation to tuberculosis. It has been the law of the land for some years. A man can be removed from his home to-day, if it is considered necessary in the interests of the public health. It is the law of this and many lands in regard to all infectious or contagious diseases. So that the danger pointed out by the Rt. hon. gentleman does not exist. I give him my fullest assurance, and I give it to the House that no rule or regulation, as far as the present government is concerned will take any member of the family away from his home without provision being made for the maintenance and support of those left behind during his absence.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND—Mr. Chairman, I am extremely glad, that my observations have drawn forth this pledge to the House. Whatever the intention of the government may be now, we heard nothing about such intention during the debate until I pointed out this evening what the Imperial Government had done. We are told that compulsory powers are contained in the Imperial Act. I do not question the Rt. hon. gentleman's statement. They would have a proper place in the Imperial Act, because in that Act provision is also made for the support of the families.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER.—There is no such reference in the Imperial Act.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—Oh, yes now, there is not and I'll prove it. I'll bring down the Act to-morrow.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—I shall be very pleased if you do so. In his speech, which I have before me, Mr. Lloyd-George, the Chancellor of the Imperial Exchequer pointed to the fact that the Imperial Government would provide 10 shillings per week for the benefit of the wife and children. If this is the intention of this Government, why not express that intention in the resolutions. If on the other hand it is not the intention of the Government to compel a consumptive to leave his home and go to a sanatorium, am I to understand that the recommendation of the Tuberculosis Commission is to be ignored in the matter? This is one of their recommendations; the creation of machinery and powers for the compulsory removal of consumptives from their homes for treatment. And I still have to read these resolutions in connection with that recommendation. Again, I ask why should not the matter of provision for the family be embodied in a bill.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER.—It is a mere matter of detail.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—It is a matter of which this House is the
proper judge, as to what amount should be given to the family of the person so removed. It should not be left to the Executive Government. It should be decided by this House, and not by nine gentlemen who sit as a committee of this House, to carry out its will and pleasure. How are you going to arrive at its will and pleasure, unless you debate the question here? Your decision may be entirely opposed to the will of this Legislature. You might give to those families far less or far more than the Legislature intended to give. However, you are the Government, all-powerful at present, and you will do as you please. It is my duty to point out what you should or should not do. When I have done that I have done all I can do. Again, we are told that we are going to save the lives of thousands of people by these sanitaria. I pointed out that some of the highest medical authorities are not in favor of sanitaria. I will come closer home. The Provincial Health Officer of Nova Scotia, Dr. A. P. Reid; in a pamphlet he has written is not by any means in favor of sanitaria. He says:—"The comparative success that was associated with sanitarial treatment captured the laity as well as the profession, and in common with others, I assumed that the sanitarium could be made the grave of the tubercle bacillus. Experience, however, has disclosed inherent defects in its present method of installation which militate against its success. Since the establishment of sanitariums the tuberculosis death rate has diminished, no doubt partly due to them, but also to the great awakening of the general public to the advantages of fresh air, diet, rest, appropriate exercise and other hygienic aids which will cure the incipient and even the cases not too far advanced. All of these conditions have no doubt had their influence in promoting the falling death rate. In dealing, however, with the sanitarium let us consider the disabilities under which these institutions labor, many of which are not remediable and must lead to their failure to accomplish what it is assumed they can encompass. Put it in other words—their role is very limited as regards the extinction of the disease or the cure of a very large percentage of the afflicted (explained infra) even were the cost not considered."

Here we have the Provincial Health Officer of Nova Scotia saying that the role of sanitaria is very limited indeed as regards the extinction of the disease. And yet we are told, without the production of any competent authority, that these 17 sanitaria are going to stamp out once and forever tuberculosis from our midst. The mere reiteration of that statement will not disprove the views of so many medical authorities, though it may satisfy the consciences of the Government. We are pathetically told that there are "50,000 people in their grave to-day turning up their pale faces to the sky" and so on for want of being looked after. They were attended to if they came under the Poor Commissioner's control, and if they died from neglect of others, then the Premier censures himself since he was Attorney-General for some years.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER—For 20 years that matter was in your Department.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—If there was neglect, the Rt. hon. leader of the Government as Attorney General, and member of the Executive for
years was particeps criminis. But we have had enough of this kind of twaddle. It reflects no credit upon the leader of the Government. If he imputes responsibility he must share it with every member of the executive government, and not try to shift it off on the shoulders of former colleagues. But I say there is no such responsibility.

RT. HON THE PREMIER.—You made the charge.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—No; you made it.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER.—I did not make the charge against you any more than against anyone else.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—The Rt. hon. leader of the Government is getting very excited over the matter. And yet I am merely taking up his own words, that 50,000 of our people have gone down to their graves through neglect. These exaggerated statements are not proper to be made to an intelligent committee. We are not appealing to the galleries.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER.—I have been appealing to heads, not to heels.

RT. HON SIR R. BOND.—You would appeal to any part of the human body that would respond to you.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER.—Now what does that mean? You do not know what it means

RT. HON SIR R. BOND.—If the Rt. hon. the Premier will allow me to proceed, I got up to point out a most important fact that reflects upon the life and well-being of many families in this Colony. I only say that if a doctor diagnoses a case as consumption and the man is forcibly removed to a sanitarium his family should be supported by the State, and for this I am violently assailed.

RT. HON THE PREMIER.—I did not attack the Rt. hon. gentleman. I merely replied when he made a charge against myself.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND.—You said that 50,000 people had gone down into their graves through neglect. Whose was the responsibility? It was either the Poor Commissioners or the Executive Governments if these 50,000 people were paupers and the leader of the Government must bear his share of that blame. From time to time I am told by him that he courts criticism, and yet every time I criticise him he becomes heated, or if he does not, his followers do and I am subjected to any amount of personal vilification and abuse.

HON. MR. CASHIN.—If you mean me, what I said was true.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND.—You are insignificant, utterly insignificant.

HON. MR. CASHIN.—You are a political hypocrite.

RT. HON SIR ROBERT BOND.—Mr. Chairman, I appeal to you to make the hon. member take his seat. He does not know the rules.

HON. MR CASHIN.—I am not to be taught by you.

RT. HON, SIR ROBERT BOND.—Mr. Chairman, do you intend to permit this rowdyism here?

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE.—You are the greatest political hypo-
critic that ever stood on the floors of this House.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND—I move that these words be taken down.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE—I have got the floor.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND—Mr. Chairman, if you do not do your duty I must ask the Speaker to be called in. You must request that member to sit down. I move these words to be taken down.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE—Why should the words be taken down?

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND—This is a perfect disgrace. I will point out to the Speaker that it is his duty to take the Chair. I am astonished that the Leader of the House who is responsible for the behaviour of the House, does not make some attempt to uphold its dignity. Where is this sort of thing to end? It is a disgrace to a Legislative body and to Ministers of the Crown.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE—I have seen the same thing done by a Prime Minister of this Colony.

THE CHAIRMAN—The Rt. Hon. leader of the Opposition has the floor.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND—I have moved that the words be taken down and reported to the Speaker. No debate can take place in the meantime.

MR. F. J. MORRIS—Mr. Chairman, I take it that the right motion is that the Committee rise and that the words be taken down and reported to the chair. I rise to a point of order and make this suggestion to the chairman.

The Committee rose.

Mr. Speaker took the Chair. The words taken down were reported by the Chairman to Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER—The Chairman of the Committee of the Whole reports that the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs has said that the Rt. Hon. Leader of the Opposition was “the greatest political hypocrite that ever stood on the floors of this House.” What is the pleasure of the House on this report?

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND—I ask, Sir, for your ruling on the words taken down and reported to you.

MR. SPEAKER—I beg to point out that I was in the House at the time, and was aware that in case of grave disorder it is the duty of the Speaker to take the Chair. I was of opinion that there was no grave disorder sufficient to necessitate such a course. I heard nothing that could not have been suppressed by the Chairman. I heard an interruption made when the Rt. Hon. Leader of the Opposition had the floor. I heard the Minister of Finance and Customs say: “If you refer to me, what I said was true.” I heard the Rt. Hon. leader of the Opposition say: “You are entirely insignificant.” I then heard the Minister of Finance and Customs use the words here taken down.

I rule that neither the words used by the Rt. Hon. leader of the Opposition, nor the words used by the Minister of Finance and Customs were Parliamentary.

RT. HON. SIR ROBT. BOND—May I point out that I said I regarded any statements that proceeded from the Hon. member as insignificant. Surely that is not out of order.

MR. SPEAKER—The Rt. Hon. gentleman said “You are entirely insignificant.” It is entirely a matter for the Speaker as to the construction to be put upon these incidents. I now call upon Mr. Parsons to resume the chair.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Parsons took the chair of Committee.

RT. HON. SIR ROBT. BOND—Now, Mr. Chairman, I have only to say
this, that I am perfectly satisfied that
the ruling made by the Speaker
should be entered in the Journals of
this House for it is without a parallel
in Parliamentary history. I think, sir,
that the time will come when the
House will regret it. If it is possible
to fling the most abusive epithets
across the floor with infamy, then
the sooner respectable people leave
it the better. During the whole thirty
years of my experience in this
House I have never witnessed a more
disgraceful scene than that we have
had to-night; and I have seen some
strange scenes here; but the Speaker
of the House has always upheld its
dignity. I am satisfied to leave the
whole matter to the calm considera-
tion of the people of Newfoundland.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE &
CUSTOMS.—It is correct, Mr. Chair-
man, that I made statements about
the Rt. hon. gentleman in this House
to-night; perhaps I used strong
terms, but if I did, they were justi-
\fied. He went down stairs while I
was speaking and did not come up un-
til after the debate was over, and
then he seemed to be very angry and
has shown evidences of that anger
since. I am sorry he was absent when
I made these statements, but I will
repeat them here now in his presence,
and, moreover, I am prepared to back
them up. The Hon. gentleman
seems to be too large for this Assem-
bly or perhaps he thinks it is not
good enough for him. He told the
people that if he was not elected in
1909 he would retire from public life.
Did he keep his promise? As I said,
he comes back here now after sulk-
ing in his tent at Whitbourne for two
years. He should have been here at
this House attending to his duties the
past two sessions instead of imitating
Cincinnatus at the plough. There
was much debate last year about
whether a man called Jeffries could
come back or not, but the hon. mem-
ber has attempted to come back, only,
I think to meet the fate of Jeffries.
He will, plead, however, that he has
changed his mind, for he told us this
evening during the debate that a man
who could not change his mind was
a fool. He changed his mind and
what are we to think of him? Only a
fool he says does not change his
mind.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND—
Mr. Chairman, I rise to a point of or-
der. The hon. member’s remarks cer-
tainly have no relation to the matter
before the Chair.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE &
CUSTOMS.—The Rt. Hon. gentleman
is not going to bulldoze me; I do not
intend to be stopped by him.

THE CHAIRMAN—The Hon. Min-
ister of Finance and Customs is quite
in order.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND—
Sir, calling me a fool, is that in or-
der?

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.
—The Rt. hon. gentleman is unfair,
the Minister did not call him a fool,
he merely quoted from a sentence us-
ed by the Rt. hon. gentleman this af-
ternoon. It is not fair to allege that
the Minister referred to him as a fool.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND—I
do not expect any fairness in this
House to-night.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.
—I submit that this charge is equally
unfair. The Rt. hon. gentleman now
makes a charge against the whole
House, a charge that is unfounded.
This afternoon he said that a man was
a fool under certain circumstances—
he would be a fool if he could not
change his mind. The Rt. Hon. gen-
tleman, so the Minister has stated,
has changed his mind, but he has
not been called a fool. The Minis-
ter's remarks are only a deduction from what the hon. gentleman himself said.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS—The doctor would not take me seriously if I called the Hon. member a fool; but to return to the question, I am going to tell him again, once and for all, that he is not going to bulldoze me. I was a member of his party for several years, I know its inside workings, and I speak with authority when I say that he is the greatest party autocrat that ever occupied a place in this House.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND—I again object to this unseemly conduct.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS.—The hon. member can object as much as he likes, but if he does not care for the terms I use, then he had better go down stairs again where he spent the evening. I am not going to be dictated to by him as to what I may say or what I may not say. I will go further and assert here this evening that the Government of which he was the head was a one-man Government. The public know that it was never a Government of the people, but a Government with Robert Bond as absolute dictator; so far did he carry this dictatorship indeed, that when the fishermen were in danger from marine disasters, he had first to be consulted before anything could be done to relieve them. The heads of the departments of the public service had no authority to act of themselves; indeed, he allowed men, his own constituents, to drift out of Trinity Bay, and because he did not act promptly on their behalf, they all perished. Is that correct, or is it not? I maintain that it is, and I challenge him to truthfully contradict it. I also criticised his actions in this House. Is he above criticism? Is he not made out of the same clay as the rest of us? or is he a being superior to us all, that we must bow and scrape to him? I say that he has had his knees broken. Does he know what that means? He is like a horse that when it falls breaks its knees and is never the same after. Great numbers of people in this country know what this means, that a horse which has met this mishap can never be trusted again—that is the position of the Rt. Hon. gentleman, he has stumbled and gone down, his knees are broken and the people will never trust him anymore. I also exposed the fact that his government juggled with the tariff, pretending to reduce taxation, but really increasing taxation, but I think I convinced this House this afternoon that in giving back to the people of the country all the money we are returning them, we are doing better for them than if we merely reduced the taxes on certain articles and did not carry on the progressive policy we have now in hand. He would not come up here and take his seat and listen to my criticism. The hon. leader of the Opposition is mistaken if he thinks that he can frighten me. I know him too well. I have said that he is the greatest political hypocrite that ever entered this House, and the Speaker has ruled that this language is unparliamentary but he can consider any form of words that are parliamentary as being used instead. His whole conduct here in this discussion is dictated by hypocrisy. His arguments are trumped up to deceive the country. His answer to my arguments is that I am too insignificant for him to notice; but how dare he, Sir, make his statement regarding me? I represent 6,000 people who are just as independent as any in this Island. They have confidence in me and they have shown their confidence in me by returning...
me to this House. I care nothing of his opinion about me that went broadcast last election. He wrote and he telegraphed and he did everything possible to defeat me, but he found to his cost that I am not as insignificant as he would pretend to-night. I consider myself quite as capable a representative of a constituency in this House as he is. I have represented this constituency during my whole political career, and that is more than he can say. Moreover, I contributed very largely towards putting him where he is to-day. When I went to the country with others and showed the people what a political hypocrite he was they believed me, because they turned him out. Am I correct, or am I not? He thought he had control of the country for the rest of his natural life, and because he had defeated the political parties which preceded ours he thought he could also wipe us out when the time came, but he reckoned without his host. He found that he did not have all the political brains in this Colony, and that while he deluded his party following to stand by him, he could not delude the people of the country. I am as independent as any man in this House to-night, though I say it myself. No hundreds of thousands of dollars of public money have gone into my pockets. I am no political blood-sucker living for twenty-five years on money obtained from the public treasury, and no salaries for Government positions and for payments for trips to England, America and elsewhere have come to me. If I take a trip it is paid out of money that I have earned honestly in my private business. My record in this and other respects is at least as clean as his, and though he may say that I am too insignificant for him to notice, he realises only too well that this is a puerile excuse, and that I am as well able to hold my own in this House or in this country as he is himself. He has tried for more than once before this to misrepresent me in this House, but he failed then even, though he had a majority behind him on this side of the House, and he is failing now because the truth is not in him. I pointed out to this country to-night how he had misquoted Sir William MacGregor's remarks in the Amendment he made to the Resolutions before the chair. He misquoted Sir William MacGregor to try and bolster up a losing cause, and after two days of debate he was shamed by the Premier into crawling down and allowing the remainder of the quotation to be inserted in the Resolutions. What can be thought, sir, of a public man who went so far as to misquote Sir William MacGregor, and this afternoon the condemnation of this fraud was so great that he had the clerk insert the remainder of Sir William MacGregor's words in the amendment.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND.— That is not so, I have not consented to inserting the whole paragraph.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS—I appeal to the Chairman, the Clerk and the House whether it is not true.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND—It is not true. I did not do so. I did insert the paragraph or order it to be inserted.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS—You may not have written the words there yourself, but you asked that they be written there.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND.— I did not, and I'll see that the paragraph is not inserted.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS—That won't alter the fact that this afternoon you agreed to
have these words put in. You tried to deceive the public as to Sir William MacGregor's statement just as you have tried to deceive them in the past, I say this because I know you so well. I served my time with you and I know your methods.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND.—
Mr. Chairman, must I submit to this kind of vilification and abuse? Are you totally ignorant of the rules of the House?

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS.—You can call it what you like but it is the Gospel truth. Your whole action on this question is a case of maintaining your policy of drift just like you allowed the people of Trinity Bay years ago to drift out to their death on the icefloes. But we do things differently in this Government. Your opposition to this question is the same as your opposition to the Bait Act.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND.—
That is not true.

HON. MIN. OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS.—It is true. You opposed the Bait Act for all you knew how, and then the time came around when you maintained that the Bait Act was the sheet anchor of the country. Though you may think me insignificant, the people of this country had enough confidence in me at the last election to believe my statements in preference to yours.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND.—
Address the chair, sir.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—If you don't like my methods, why, get out, as you threatened to do if the country didn't elect you in 1909. You sulked in your tent for two years, coming in here only once a session to draw your pay, but now you think that you can frighten the country by reviving the Confederation cry. You talk of our statistics as to consumption not being reliable. How many homes of the people who are suffering from tuberculosis have you ever visited? I have visited the homes of hundreds. I have attended their funerals and I am satisfied that the statistics are not exaggerated; but you—how many funerals of the common people have you attended?

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND.—
Must I, Mr. Chairman, after my long political years, submit to this sort of abuse? No man was ever attacked in this fashion before, because the Chairman knew his duty and performed it.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—You can call it abuse, but you will have to submit to it and I recall to the House how you attacked the late Captain Chas. Dawe on one occasion in such fashion as was never heard in this Chamber before or since. I say again that the hon. gentleman attacked members of this House more cruelly than ever any were attacked before. This is an example of the hon. member's conduct. I served my time with him and I know his tricks thoroughly. I was present here when one of the best men in this House was most shamefully abused by him. I refer to the late Captain Chas. Dawe. There was no language strong enough for the hon. gentleman to use against Captain Dawe because he dared give his opinion here, and it is just as wrong for a man to give an opinion on any matter if he is in Mr. Bond's party without obtaining his leader's previous consent, as it is for an opposition member to get up and question what Mr. Bond is doing. That is the way in which he has run Governments in the past, and he thinks now that we are so much afraid of him that he can pursue that policy still. I think I have disabused his mind of the idea that nobody is entitled to give an opinion except himself, and his attempted sarcasm
will have little effect on me or on the country either. For myself I care as little for him as I do for the meanest worm that crawls the earth. My opinions are not to be dictated by him because I represent the people of my district and I shall say what I think of the matters that come before the House and my opinion will be independent and above board.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—May I say, Mr. Chairman, in reply to the flow of vulgarity and blackguardism directed towards me by the hon. member who has just sat down, that I treat anything that he may say as being unworthy of consideration and beneath contempt.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—We know your ways.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—The hon. member has had experience of me because I would not admit him into my executive although all kinds of pressure were brought to bear on me. I refused to allow him to be a member of the Executive because in my opinion he was not fit for the position. That was my reason and I think the country has seen that I did not make a mistake.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS.—In reply to the hon. member may I ask how it came to pass that he refused me a seat in his executive? Did I ever ask him for a seat? Let him answer me like a man. He cannot. He insinuates as he has insinuated before but he is unable to prove his words. He knows that he is not speaking correctly because he knows I would not take the seat if it was offered to me because if I did I would not be there for twenty-four hours. I ask if I ever asked him for any Government favor for myself? How dare he make charges here that are utterly false in every particular. He evidently does not know what he is saying because if he had any proof of the correctness of his charge he would be the first to produce it. The only favors I ever asked for were for the district of Ferryland and while the district of Twillingate took thousands every year, Ferryland received nothing except its share of the general grant. These were the only favors I ever asked for and he has not one tittle of evidence of the statement he has made. A man that is not prepared to back up a charge that he has made ought to take it back and that is the position the hon. member is in to-night.

The hon. member was turned out of office. He did not leave office but he stayed until he had to go. He did not have the independence to leave office when he was defeated, but he held on till he was turned out by the Governor. This aggravated him, but if he had received some such lessons in his young days as he has received now, he would not be the bad boy that he is. He tried to fasten that charge on me before in this House, and even though he had the strength of the Government behind him, and I was on the other side, with only two or three people, I wiped the floor with the man that he put up to make the charge, and I compelled him and them to take it back. The country knows this to be the case, and knows that I got the most complete certificates to prove the truth of my statement from the parties whose names were brought forward here with the idea that they would be used as evidence against me. I repeat now that never, at any time, directly or indirectly, did I seek a seat from him in his Executive, and I make him an offer here to-night which he cannot get away from, that if he can prove that I ever made such an application to him, I will resign my seat in the House and go out of it.
Moreover, I would not be 24 hours in his Executive, because I would not submit to be brow-beaten and dictated to, as were the men he had in his Cabinet. He thought in those days that there was nobody but himself in this country, that he knew all about politics and that nobody else was entitled to have any opinion but himself, and he browbeat his colleagues accordingly; but we taught him in 1908 and 1909 that he was only a blunderer and a fumbler, and his party have been cursing him ever since because of his cocksureness, which led them into utter defeat.

What has happened to-night is entirely the fault of the hon. member, for, after remaining two hours in the Opposition rooms, he came up and tried to domineer everything, but while I have right on my side I am not afraid to cross swords with him. He has made a charge now and I have asked him to prove it, and if he does prove it in one instance I shall resign from my seat.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND—The hon. member has referred to a charge. What charge? I made no charge. What I did say was that every possible influence was brought to bear to induce me to take the hon. member into my Executive. I refused because I did not think he was a fit person to have in the Executive.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS—What influence was brought to bear?

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND—Well, one was a round robin signed by the members of the party, but I rejected it because I did not think the hon. member a fit person for the Executive.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS—I would ask the hon. gentleman to tell me the name of one person who signed it. He cannot tell me. If anybody did sign such a paper they had no authority from me to do so, and I would not have taken the seat had it been offered to me. I believe Mr. Ellis once asked you to take me into your executive but he had no authority from me to do so and I am not responsible for what other parties do without my knowledge. Moreover, Mr. Ellis made a statement here four years ago which completely exonerated me from any connection with the matter and did this so fully that it was never revived again till to-night.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair

The Chairman of the Committee reported that they had passed the Resolutions to them committed and recommended that a Bill be introduced in accordance therewith. On motion this Report was received.

On the motion for the adoption of this Report Rt. Hon. Sir R. Bond proposed in amendment, seconded by Mr. Kent, the following:

"WHEREAS,—The Government in 1909 appointed a commission to take into consideration the subject of Tuberculosis;

"AND WHEREAS,—The Secretary of the said commission proceeded to Great Britain for the purpose of acquiring information in reference to the said subject;

"AND WHEREAS,—The commission, after considering the matter of the establishing of Sanitaria and the Secretary's report in connection with the information gleaned by him on his visit abroad, reported that, 'so far, the Commission is not prepared to recommend the Government to establish large Sanitaria in this Colony, Dr. Keegan considers that the actual results obtained by Sanitaria elsewhere are often exaggerated and frequently doubtful;'

"AND WHEREAS,—The procedure
provided for in the resolutions submitted by the Government to this House, and now under consideration, is not in accordance with the said authority or any other expert authority;

"AND WHEREAS,—The late Governor of this Colony, Sir William MacGregor, who has been quoted as an authority in the course undertaken by the Government, has declared in a public address, as follows: 'In the first place, I warn you against the idea of a Sanitarium.'

"AND WHEREAS,—The establishment of seventeen sanitaria in this Colony is unwarranted by any reliable statistics or recommended by any competent authority;

"BE IT RESOLVED,—That this Committee is of opinion that existing conditions in relation to tuberculosis can be best dealt with by the Government immediately procuring the services of a medical man, expert in the subject of tuberculosis, otherwise a specialist, who shall advise this Legislature as to the best means that can be adopted with a view to the extermination of this disease in the Colony, and that in the meantime such a sum of money be provided by this House as the said Commissioners shall report to be necessary to prevent the spread of and to remedy existing cases of tuberculosis in this Colony. And that the recommendations made by the Commissioners in their reports shall so far as possible be acted upon

"BE IT ALSO RESOLVED,—That in the opinion of this House it is not desirable for the Governor-in-Council, out of any money appropriated by the Legislature, to construct, equip, manage or operate sanitaria, or to accept, take over, manage, operate or control, any sanitaria which may be erected by any person or corporation in this Colony for the treatment of Tuberculosis.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,—That such a re-adjustment of the tariff be made as will raise the standard of living amongst the various classes of this Colony, which is regarded both in England and Germany as the primary and best means of securing the reduction of the death-rate from tuberculosis.

Whereupon the House divided and there appeared for the amendment—Rt. Hon. Sir R. Bond, Messrs. Clift, Clapp, Gear, Kent and Roberts—(6); and against it—Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, Hon. Minister of Justice, Hon. Minister of Finance, Hon. Minister of Mines, Hon. J. C. Crosbie, Minister of Public Works, Messrs. Bennett, Devereux, Goodison, Howley, Kennedy, F. Morris, Moore, Moulton, Parsons, Whiteway and LeFeuvre—(17). So it passed in the negative.

Whereupon the original motion for the adoption of the Report was put: and there appeared in favor of it—Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, Hon. Minister of Justice, Hon. Minister of Finance, Hon. Minister of Mines, Hon. J. C. Crosbie, Minister of Public Works, Messrs. Bennett, Devereux, Goodison, Howley, Kennedy, F. Morris, Moore, Moulton, Parsons, Whiteway, and LeFeuvre—(17); and against it—Rt. Hon. Sir R. Bond, Messrs. Clift, Clapp, Gear, Kent, and Roberts—(6). So it passed in the affirmative and was ordered accordingly.

On motion the Bill entitled "An Act respecting the treatment and prevention of Tuberculosis" was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

The other Orders of the day were deferred.

Rt. Hon. Sir R. Bond gave Notice of Question.

Mr. Clapp gave Notice of Question.

Mr. Kent gave Notice of Question.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-day, Friday, March 1st., at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.
FRIDAY, March 1, 1912.
The House met at three of the clock in the afternoon, pursuant to adjournment.

PETITIONS.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Safe Harbour praying for $400 for a wharf. I know this place, and the wharf is much needed, and I hope the department will give it attention.

HON. MR. EMERSON.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Belleoram, asking for $400 to repair the breastwork of a road there and do other repairs to the road. This breastwork was put up 30 years ago of logs or timbers and has now given way owing to heavy rainfalls; and to make a good job it ought to be replaced in cement.

MR. PARSONS.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from 300 inhabitants of Bay Roberts on the subject of Sabbath observance. I am of opinion that the Sabbath has been taken advantage of a good deal in connection with the unloading of some of the steamers, and while it is right to work if necessary to save life or property on Sunday, too much general work should not be permitted. Also a petition from Spaniard's Bay, signed by the Rev. J. Adams and 100 others, on the same subject.

MR. KENT.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Bauline on the same subject as that lately presented by the hon. member for Harbour Grace, Mr. Parsons. Also, a petition from Pouch Cove on the same subject.

QUESTIONS.

MR. ROBERTS asked the Hon. Minister of Justice if the Government has purchased the dwelling now occupied by Const. Cram at Lewisporte; if so, what was the amount paid, or to be paid, for it; whether a jail for prisoners has been, or is to be, provided therein.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—In reply to the hon. member I may say that the Government has purchased the dwelling now occupied by Const. Cram, for $500. It is also the intention of the Government to provide a jail therein.

MR. ROBERTS asked the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the amount of fees collected as wharfage at Coastal Wharf, Twillingate, each year from 1909 to date, giving the names of persons from whom such fees have been collected, and also state the deposition of said fees.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, replying on behalf of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries I may say I am informed by the department that no fees have been paid to the department on that account.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of this House a statement from the Postmaster General intimating on what date the mails for Placentia, Placentia Bay T. P. O., Whitbourne, New Harbor, Dildo and other places served by the Broad Cove Branch and Placentia Railway and transmitted from this city since the 9th instant were stored in a mail car at Brigus Junction and placed in charge of Mail Clerk Grant; also stating if Mr. Grant is a regular postal official, when he was appointed to his office of mail clerk, and how and when he reached Brigus Junction.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—I beg to lay upon the table a statement of the facts asked for.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary if the Government has done anything with the petition of the people of Bonne Bay, forwarded by him to the Colonial Secretary on October 27th, 1911, asking for the prohibition of motor boats in the prosecution of the herring fishery.
HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—
In reply I may say that the matter is at present under the consideration of the Government, who are making enquiries in relation to it.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary if it is the intention of the Government to put a steamer on White Bay during the present year.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—
In reply I may say that the Government decided some months ago to provide a steam service for that Bay and the eastern part of St. Barbe District.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Prime Minister if the Reid Newfoundland Company or any person or persons on its behalf has served the Government of this Colony with notice of a claim for arbitration respecting alleged damages sustained through the enactment of a contract with any coastal steamship company, and, if so, to lay on the table of this House copy of said claim and all demands and documents in relation thereto.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.
Before calling for tenders for the service now performed north and west by Bowring Brothers, Limited, or entering into the contract, the Government of the day called upon me, as Attorney General, to advise whether, in making such a contract, it would render the Colony liable to the Reid-Newfoundland Company for damages under the contract of 1898. I advised the Government that there was nothing in the contract to prevent them entering into such a contract for such a service with Messrs. Bowring Brothers, Limited, and the contract was accordingly made. The Reid-Newfoundland Company afterwards made a claim, I think in 1905 or 1906, maintaining that the Bowring contract was a breach of their contract of 1898. Beyond filing the notice of the claim, I am not aware that anything further has been done by the Reid-Newfoundland Company. Neither they, nor any person or persons on their behalf, have served the present Government with any notice of a claim in relation to this matter, nor has any correspondence taken place with the Government, or any of its departments, in relation to the same. After the claim was served on the late Government by the Reid-Newfoundland Company, I prepared a case for the opinion of English counsel in relation to the whole thing, and the opinion given by me to the Government, to the effect that the Reid-Newfoundland Company had no claim, was confirmed by the English counsel. I understood that this claim of the Reid-Newfoundland Company's was renewed January 6th, 1908, or a similar claim made by letter from the Reid-Newfoundland Company, dated the 6th January, 1908. That letter would appear to have been forwarded to the Department of Justice on January 8th, 1908, from the Colonial Secretary, but on enquiry at that Department, I am unable to obtain any further information, save that the letter was left with the Colonial Secretary of that day by the then Attorney-General, Mr. Kent, who verbally advised the Government similarly to what I had previously advised. I can find no record of any claim made by the Reid-Newfoundland Company in relation to any other contract. They have not made any claim since the present Government came into power.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines whether any amounts have been paid on account or charged to the votes of $15,000.00 for exploration of coal areas, granted by this House during the sessions of 1910 and 1911, respectively; and, if so, to lay on the table of the House a statement showing particulars of all such payments, with names of parties, dates and object of each such payment.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—In reply to the hon.
member I beg to say that no amounts have been paid as yet.

HARBOUR MASTERS BILL.

Pursuant to order, and on motion of Hon. Minister of Justice, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the Bill entitled, "An Act to amend Chapter 120 of the Consolidated Statutes (second series) entitled "Of Harbor Master and Harbor Regulations for the port of St. John's."

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Parsons took the chair of Committee.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—Mr. Chairman, the object of this Bill is to make an amendment in the Act relating to the powers of the Harbor Master by giving him authority to take charge of any vessel which is likely to become an obstruction to the harbour. Schooners are allowed to remain at anchor in the harbor with nobody in charge, and in case they became leaky are liable to sink before it would be possible to get in touch with the owners. They are thus liable to become a permanent obstruction to the harbour, and would cost a considerable amount to remove, which sum might or might not afterwards be recovered from the owners. There is no provision in the law as it stands at present which would justify the Harbor Master in removing such vessels, and the first section of this Bill is to provide for such an emergency. The object of the 2nd section is to make the same provision with regard to harbor dues as is in force with regard to light dues, that is, if vessels arrive here for the purpose of coaling or taking on board food or supplies and do not bring a cargo for delivery at this port, that only half the usual charges should be required from them. I beg to move these sections.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the

matter to them referred and passed the same without amendment.

Ordered, that this Report be received and adopted and that the bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

INSPECTION OF BOILERS BILL.

Second reading of Bill to amend the law relating to the Inspection of Boilers.

RT. HON PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to move the 2nd reading of this Bill. You will notice that it contains one very short section to the effect that "if the owner of any boiler shall use or work, or permit the use or working of the same, before a certificate of inspection properly signed shall have been delivered to him by the Inspector, the said owner shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding $100 for every day or part of a day during which such boiler shall have been used or worked." Now I would suggest that that might be amended by making it discretionary for the Court before which any case of violation might be tried to fix the amount of the penalty. It is quite easy to understand that in the case of a very large concern the Court might consider it desirable if: to inflict a large penalty, whereas in the case of a small concern a small fine would be more desirable. It will be found by reference to the law as it now stands that the penalty for failing to comply with the order of the inspector is fixed at $100. This amendment has been recommended in the report of the Boiler Inspector for this year, and is for the purpose of enabling the Government to compel owners of boilers to take certificates of inspection.

The Bill was thereupon read a second time and ordered to be referred to a Committee of the whole House on to-morrow.

TUBERCULOSIS BILL.

Pursuant to order and on motion of
the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, the Bill entitled, "An Act respecting the treatment and Prevention of Tuberculosis," was read a second time, and ordered to be referred to a Committee of the whole House on to-morrow.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND gave Notice of Question.

RT. HON PRIME MINISTER gave Notice that he would on Tuesday next, March 5th. instant, move the House into Committee of the Whole to consider certain Resolutions in reference to Education.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until Monday next, March 4th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

MONDAY, March 4th, 1912.

The House met at three of the clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES tabled the following Returns and Reports:

Returns of Licenses for year ending June 30th, 1911; Reports of Surveyors (2) for years 1910-1911; Report of Chief Woods Ranger 1910-1911; Return of Leases of Water Powers, 1911; Return of Fee Simple Mining Grants, 1911; Return of 99-year Mining Leases, 1911; Return of Licenses of Quarries, 1911; Return of Licenses to Cut Timber, 1911; Return of Crown Land Grants, 1911; Return of Sawmills operated with License, 1911; Return of Sawmills operated without License, 1911; Return of Sawmills operated with and without License, 1911; Return of Mining Licenses issued 1911.

PETITIONS.

MR. GEAR.—Mr. Speaker, with your permission I should like to present a petition from Rev. G. A. Steele, J. W. Bishop, J.P. and other residents of Flat Islands, in the district of Burin. Petitioners ask that a cottage hospital be erected at Burin for the use of sick people throughout the district. Flat Islands is 18 miles by water from Burin and a doctor's visit costs $25.00. Petitioners don't want a sanitarium. They want a house where anyone having met with a gun accident or anything of that kind may be taken in and treated by the doctor residing in Burin. They don't want it to be a pauper institution. Their idea is to erect a building with perhaps 4 or 5 rooms and a kitchen where a man can go and provide his own food, have a doctor attend him, and pay the doctor's and other fees. I would strongly support the petition, because it is part of a scheme outlined by Dr. Smith, myself and my late colleague, some four years ago. I think it will meet the needs of the people in and around Burin, for at present it is a great expense to call a doctor from Burin to Mortier Bay or Flat Islands. I would ask that this petition be referred to the department of the Colonial Secretary, where I feel sure it will receive the consideration it merits.

HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Speaker, I should like to say a word in support of this petition, for the reason that I have received a letter from Flat Islands, asking me to support it when it was presented by Mr. Gear. I am in entire sympathy with a great deal of what the hon. member has said. The request is exactly on the lines of the policy of this Government in relation to outport hospitals. The term "cottage hospital" is the same as outport hospital. Within the last two years the Government has been able to open the first outport hospital at Grand Bank. I had the very great pleasure at the request of the committee there, to attend and open that hospital. The great advantage of an outport hospital at Grand Bank is that it has a very efficient resident physician. Flat Islands would also be
a very desirable place for a hospital but I don't think there is a doctor there. At Burin there are two doctors, Dr. Smith, probably unequalled in the Island as a surgeon, and Dr. Parker, a very fine young man also. Burin also possesses the advantage of being a port of call for the Bowring boat, the Glencoe and the Argyle, and if an arrangement could be made to erect a hospital there it would meet a long felt want. It speaks well for these people living 15 miles from Burin, that they recognize the special advantages over their own homes that Burin offers for such a hospital. From Burin to the bottom of Placentia Bay there is no doctor; in fact I think Placentia is the nearest place there is a doctor, so that it is easy to appreciate the difficulties and expense of getting a doctor to the outside places. Speaking for myself I am entirely in accord with the prayer of this petition and I hope something will be done in the matter.

MR. LEFEUVRE.—Mr. Speaker, I take it as a great compliment to the present administration that the people of Flat Islands did not present this petition to the House till the present Government came into power. I appreciate the difficulties of the people of Flat Islands in getting a doctor from Burin, and I heartily support the prayer of the petition presented by Mr. Gear.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present several petitions, from Catalina, Little Catalina, Melrose, Trinity East, Port Rexton, Champneys East, Champneys West, English Harbour, Hodge's Cove, Little Hearts Ease, Bay Bulls Arm, Scilly Cove and New Melbourne, in the District of Trinity, on the subject of Sabbath observance. The petitions, which are largely signed, by clergymen, merchants and fishermen, are similar to those presented last week by the Minister of Justice and other honourable members of this House. I feel sure that the suggestions made by the petitioners will receive very earnest consideration by the Government, and meanwhile I would ask that the petitions be referred to the department of the Colonial Secretary.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—I ask leave to present a petition from Rev. Ezra Tulk and others of Greenspond on the same subject as those just presented by the Colonial Secretary, namely the desirability of further legislation on the subject of Sunday observance.

HON. C. H. EMERSON.—Mr. Speaker I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Bay L'Argent and Harbor Mille in the district of Fortune Bay on the subject of Sabbath observance. Also a petition from the inhabitants of Mill Town, Bay D'Espoir, asking for a sum of $400 to construct a public wharf. As far as I can gather there never has been a wharf there, and now that it is a regular port of call for the steamer, the people find it a very great inconvenience not having a public wharf. I ask that this petition be referred to the Department of Public Works.

MR. MOULTON.—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a petition from the residents of Burgeo and vicinity who ask that a ferry be put on the harbour to ply between Burgeo and Ramea Islands. There are between three and four hundred people living on these islands, and it is very awkward for clergymen, doctors, teachers and children, to have no way of getting back and forth. I trust the Government will do its best to provide this ferry service. I would ask that the petition be referred to the Department of Public Works.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—I ask leave to present
a petition from the people of St. Brendan's, asking for the sum of $35.00 for the purpose of building a well. The petition has my hearty support and I ask that it be referred to the Department of Public Works.

MR. CLAPP gave notice of question.

SIR ROBERT BOND gave notice of question.

MR. ROBERTS gave notice of question.

MR. KENT gave notice of question.

QUESTIONS.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary what quantity or mail matter was left at Brigus Junction on the 9th ult., and between that date and the 14th ult., and in whose charge such mail, if any, was placed, and in whose custody did it continue to date, or has it reached its destination and, if so, when and in whose custody.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—I beg to table the statement asked for.

SUPPLY.

Pursuant to order and on motion of 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.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—Mr. Chairman, I have the honor to submit to this Committee to-day the Estimates of Expenditures for the fiscal year 1912-1913.

Each hon. member has, I think, been supplied with a complete copy of the Estimates as printed, and it will therefore, I take it, be acceptable to all if I make a cursory review of the whole, explaining the changes that have been made as compared with last year.

The grand total of the Estimates $3,493,939.05, as compared with $3,327,442.20 for the fiscal year 1911-1912, shows an increase of $166,496.85.

To deal with the details. On page 4 under the heading of Public Debt will be found the figures for interest $364,229.34, which represent an increase of $2,800.00 in the interest on our 4 per cent. debentures. The explanation: Last year in re-enacting the Loan Bill of the previous year which had not been raised with additions which made the total $520,000.00, provision was made for interest on $400,000.00, this left the interest on $120,000.00 to be provided for, but the Savings' Bank has just decided to apply $50,000.00 towards reducing the public debt, and this lessens the amount to carry interest from $120,000.00 to $70,000, which makes $2,800.00 as provided on page 4.

On page 6, under the subhead of Vital Statistics, will be found the first alteration in the Estimates for Civil Government, namely, provision for a messenger at $60.00. In the Department of Finance provision is made for an accountant at $1,000.00—Mr. Woods—who deals with the Old Age Pension Scheme. Under the heading of Agriculture and Mines it will be seen that two surveyors are now attached to the Department, Mr. Bayly, being appointed in addition to Mr. Balfour, an appointment rendered necessary by the Government's decision to embark upon a large policy of improving and extending the Public Road system of the Colony.

On page 7, under Marine & Fisheries, a salary for the Inspector of Fisheries, Mr. Dee, has been provided, $720, and a vote of $200 for examination of Engineers, both previously paid out of contingencies. Under the heading of Public Works, the salary of the Book-keeper, Mr. Snelgrove, is increased $50.00, and that of the third clerk is made $600.00, Mr. James Murphy being given the position. The typist,
Mr. Kent, whose salary heretofore was $200.00, is now increased to $300.00. Under the Audit Department, a messenger, Mr. Luscombe, has been provided permanently at $240.00, owing to the increase of business, whereas formerly partial service was secured for $84.00. The salary of the clerk and typist, previously $400.00, has been made $500.00, for the same reason as in the previous case.

On page 8 will be seen that the provision for the census $20,000.00 last year has been reduced to $10,000.00. The stationery of the Department of Finance is increased $200.00 because of Old Age Pension business. The vote for printing cash notes is increased from $2,500.00 to $4,500.00, because the actual cost for the past two years has reached about the latter sum, and the Old Age Pension appropriation is increased from $12,000.00 to $32,000.00, so as to meet the 400 Pensions it is proposed to allow this year.

On page 9 it will be seen the provision for Coal and Light for Post Office and Postal Telegraph Buildings is increased from $6,500.00 to $8,000.00 following the opening of additional offices; and that of the Museum Building is increased $200.00, the previous vote of $1,000.00 being inadequate. Under the heading of Insurance on Public Buildings, there is an increase of $300.00 due to more buildings having to be insured, and the sum of $530.00 is provided to pay the rent of the Admiralty Survey office connected with the location here of H. M. Surveying ship, "Ellinor." This office is situated in the building formerly occupied by the Municipal Council. The votes for ordinary repairs to Public Buildings, attached to each service previously, and totalling $15,000.00 last year, is reduced to $10,000.00 and "lumped" together in this vote, on the advice of the Department of Public Works and the Auditor General, and the amount saved, with $900.00 extra, is used to provide for the services detailed at the foot of the page under the heading additional, which explain themselves.

New Conservatory for Government House grounds $1,000.00, Boundary Fences around Government House grounds, $700.00; painting and repair to Museum, which has suffered from leaky roofs and otherwise, $1,500.00. Special vote for Custom and Postal Buildings, $1,200.00, Boundary Fences around the Constabulary ground $500, improvements of the Lazaretto $1,000.

The Pension detail on page 10 explains itself. George Hudson as warden of the Penitentary, is pensioned at $366.66. T. McNamara, warden Lunatic, at $350.00, William Reeves, Light Keeper at Garnish, at $100.00, S. B. Pike and B. Parsons, Collectors of Customs, at $180.00 and $200.00, and Sir E. D. Shea, President of the Legislative Council, at $240.00, making a total of six new pensions at $1,426.00. On the other hand, the pensioners who have died within the year represent a reduction of $1,859.24, so that the total of the pensions will now stand at $18,571.31, compared with $19,294.55 last year, a decrease of $423.24.

On page 12 there are but two changes, an increase of the salary of the Supreme Court Stenographer from $300.00 to $400.00; his name is Mr. Byrne. An increase in the Contingencies of the Registrar of Deeds and Companies from $200.00 to $500.00 is made on the recommendation of the Minister of Justice, so as to provide for making a complete index of the Documents in the Registry, an increase, however, only to apply this year.

Under the heading of the Constabulary, there will be seen to be changes in the last item on page 14, and in several items on page 15, due to the terms of the Special Pay schedule adopted for the Constabulary some years ago by which the pay of the
men increases with their years of service. It makes a net increase of $4,300.00. The provision for Uniforms, etc., is increased by $400.00, due to the advance in the cost of material and making, and there is an increase of $300.00 for transfers and travelling expenses. On the other hand, the item of $1,900.00 for special repairs, is dropped this year. The changes in the annuities at the bottom of page 15 explain themselves. They represent in round figures an increase of $800.00 due to the retirement of men beyond their labor. The figures on page 16 show a little alteration, the retirement of one man as shown at the bottom of the page reduces the appropriation for sergeants by $25.00, and the $3,000.00 for repairs to buildings, as voted last year, is dropped, so that there is a saving of $2,800.00.

On page 17 will be found the vote for the Penitentiary. As a result of the pensioning of warden Hudson, there has been a re-arrangement of positions, and salaries, the warden formerly voted under the sub-heading of industries being included in the general staff, and the Orderly being converted into a Turnkey, so that the whole salary list represents an increase of about $10.00. The $600.00 for repairs to Court House and Gaols is dropped here, as is the vote of building and repairs and all the several details elsewhere, so I shall not deal with them again. In the list of Local Constables, one is provided for St. Vincent at $40.00.

On page 19 the only change is the addition of $100.00 to the allowance for payment of Members of the House of Assembly, rendered necessary by Mr. LeFeuvre, who resides in an outport, succeeding the late Mr. Davey.

On page 20 the item for $800.00 for repairs to the Colonial Building is transferred.

On page 21 the grant for sparsely located places is increased from $39,000.00 to $46,000.00 in pursuance of the policy of the Government to increase this allowance by $20,000.00 in three years, so as to make it possible for every settlement in the Colony to enjoy the advantage of school facilities. On the same page it will be seen that the vote of $4,000 provided as interest on the loan for school buildings is dropped; this loan intended originally to be a special one, having since been taken over by the Government, and added to the Public Debt, the interest on it being included in the total interest as shown on page 4.

The next changes will now be found under the Head of Public Charities, page 26, where some slight alteration is made by dividing up some of the existing Poor Relief Districts, without, however, increasing the total. On page 27, however, will be seen several substantial increases, namely, Casual Attendance in outports from $5,000.00 to $8,000.00, Emergency Cases from $700 to $1,500, Pauper Lunatics from $1,200 to $2,000, Conveyance of Sick Poor from $1,000 to $2,600; Conveyance of Labrador Sick Fishermen from $800.00 to $1,500. These increases are made because the expenditure for some years past has been equal to the amount now asked, and the votes taken heretofore have been inadequate. There is also an increase of $25,000.00 in the provision for the permanent and casual poor in accordance with the announcement in the Speech from the Throne, wherein the Government intend to augment the sum for their maintenance by 25 per cent., as indicated.

Under the heading of Charitable Societies, an increase of $660.00 in the appropriation made for the Institution of the Blind at Halifax, and $200.00 for the institution of the Deaf and Dumb at Halifax, and $1,000.00 for Dr. Grenfell's Hospital at Pilley's Island.

On page 29, under the heading Lunatic Asylum, there will be seen to be
a complete re-arrangement of the salaries, a departure in accordance with the recommendation of Sir James Moody, who came here from England last summer to report upon that Institution, and who advised an increase in the number and pay of the staff. These increases and additions represent something over $2,000.00. There is also an increase of $4,500.00 in the item of supplies, due to the increased cost of rations, clothing, etc., and $500 in the provision for Coal and Light. The item for repairs, $3,000, is dropped; the same explanation applies to the detail of the General Hospital on page 30. As this House is aware, a new home for Nurses is under construction. Its completion will afford additional accommodation for patients in the Hospital building, and that will necessitate more nurses and adequate provision for their comfort. It is also proposed to light and heat the whole group of buildings within the Hospital grounds from a Light and Heat station there, and this will involve the employment of an engineer at $600.00, and an Assistant at $416.00, while a night watchman has also been provided at $360.00, an imperative necessity in an Institution such as this is. Including these three men, and the increase in number and re-arrangement of salaries, and the Nurses, probationers, laundresses, cooks, and maids, there is an increase of $2,400.00 in the cost of the staff, which, after July 1st, will number ninety persons from the Medical Superintendent to the Messenger.

On page 31 under the heading of Maintenance or Supplies for the Poor Asylum, there is an increase of $1,000, due, of course to the increased cost of materials. On the same page, under the heading Public Health, there is provision for a clerk at $720.00; this is Mr. Whiteway who looks after the patients arriving here for treatment in the General Hospital, Poor Asylum, Lunatic Asylum. There is also, on the same page, an increase of $20,000.00 for the Tuberculosis Campaign, in accordance with the decision of the Government to undertake vigorous measures to combat that disease. The vote for Public Health in the outports is likewise increased from $5,400.00 to $8,000.00 as the expenditure for some years past has reached that figure.

On page 32 the provision for Maintenance and Supplies for the Lazaretto is increased by $1,500, and that for the Fever Hospital, $1,400.00. In the Light House House Department on page 34 will be found Mill Point, Keeper, reduced $50.00, the figure of $200.00 voted last year being a provisional one; the same applies to Musgrave Harbor, from $200.00 to $100.00. Shoo Cove is a new station. Melrose, the $50.00 is for the Keeper of a Leading Light. At Cape Spear a second assistant has become necessary owing to the increased work occasioned by the improvements made at the station. The $388.00 for the Keeper at Point Verde is for an Assistant to run the Fog Alarm. The $50.00 at Placentia is for the Keeper of the new Leading Light. At Tide's Point, Mortier Bay, at Little Burin Island, and at St. Lawrence, three new stations, with lights and alarms, the Keepers at $700.00 will have to provide their own Assistants. $50.00 is provided for the Keeper of a Leading Light at Lamaline, and $200.00 for the Keeper of a Light at Fortune. On pages 38, 39, and 40 will be found the detail in the cost of maintaining these Lights. The increases are made because it cost these amounts to maintain the stations.

We next come to Agriculture and Mines on page 41. The appropriation for coping with Forest Fires is increased from $1,500.00 to $5,000.00, due to the opening of Branch Railways and to the need of special effort to prevent these fires spreading on the
Branches where the Timber supply is so essential for the needs of the people. In the same way the cost of timber inspection is increased from $700.00 to $1,000.00. There is a new vote of $980.00 for the rent of Court at the Imperial Institute in London, where the Premier arranged last summer to install a permanent exhibit made up from the articles shown at the Festival of Empire.

On page 42 under the heading of Marine and Fisheries, there is a vote of $600.00 for Salmon Label expenses. The Department of Marine and Fisheries has decided to have salmon tins labelled in the same way as lobster tins are, and this vote is to provide for the cost of these labels; they in their turn are sold to the canners and the Treasury is recompensed for the cost. On the same page it will be seen that the vote for Public Wharves, repairs, rent and light, is increased from $1,500 to $2,000, an increase due to the great number of wharves necessitated by extending the Coastal Service around the Island. The vote for Dredging is increased from $3,000 to $15,000, as it is intended to engage in Dredging extensively the coming summer. A new vote of $5,000 for the propagation of Lobsters is included in accordance with the Government's decision to engage in this work, the details of which will be supplied later when the whole matter is laid before this House.

By reference to the summary of Roads and Ferries on page 43, it will be seen that while the provision for Roads is unchanged, there is an increase of somewhat over $5,000, the largest items in which are an addition of nearly $2,500 for the new Motor Service at Placentia; $1,000 of an increase for a Motor Service at Bay of Islands, from Curling to Summerside, and an increase of $640.00 for a motor ferry at Trinity, Trinity to Trinity East. There are sundry minor changes as Honourable Members will see for themselves by reference to the details, and with reference to these I shall be glad to give any further information that is desired.

Turning now to the Post Office Department on page 50, it will be seen that an increase of $200.00 each has been given to the Assistant Accountant, Mr. A. W. Martin, the Postmaster General's Secretary, Mr. Campbell, the first clerk in the Money Order Office, Mr. Lloyd, and the Superintendent of Parcel Post, Mr. Kinsella, all of whom are officials of long standing, and who are receiving these increases so as to put them on an equality with other officials having the same rank and class of duty in this and other Departments. The fourth clerk in the General Post Office is increased from $350.00 to $400.00. An additional clerk is provided at $200.00. The junior clerk in the Registration Branch is increased from $200.00 to $240.00. Provision is made for another Assorter and Stamper at $500.00 and $400.00, and for two more letter carriers at $200.00 each, making seven instead of five.

On Page 52 the allowance for Branch Railway Mail Clerks is increased from $1,200.00 to $1,400.00. An Additional Conception Bay service is provided at $400.00, owing to increase of business. Two clerks for the Bona-vista Branch are provided at $490.00 each; an Assistant for the Sydney office at $500.00, in view of our getting a daily mail the coming summer, is also fixed. There are two slight reductions in main line clerks, owing to promotions, and provision is made for an extra man at $400.00; these changes are made on account of the daily service the coming summer. It will be seen, too, that the provision for three extra mail clerks made last year is dropped this season, being incorporated into the regular schedule this year. In the list of postmasters, there are not many changes. Bonne
Bay is increased from $90.00 to $120, Burin from $160 to $240, Catalina from $80 to $150, Curling from $100 to $150, Heart's Content from $200 to $260, Jersey Side, Placentia, from $80 to $120, King's Cove from $100 to $150, St. John's, Miss Bulley, from $400 to $500, and an assistant, Miss March, is provided at $200, owing to the great increase of business.

$330.00 is added to the total for new Post Offices; and a mail man at $200.00 is provided for the second Labrador steamer.

On page 67 will be found a list of Couriers, and it will be seen that many changes have been made in the total, which runs over the next seven pages, amounting to $4,000.00. These changes have in some instances occurred by the policy of Railroad extension calling for new and altered services, and in other instances by the fact that people could not be got to tender for these services at a lower figure.

On page 75, under the heading of Ocean Steam, there is provision for a vote of $4,000.00. The Postmaster General explains that this is a liability under the terms of our adhesion to the Universal Postal Union, and is based on Postal Statistics taken throughout the world in November, 1907. Heretofore our liability under this head has been insignificant, as countries having small mails are almost totally exempt from transit charges, but during the current year we have had to pay $4,484.00 for the transit of mails originating in Newfoundland and going throughout the world, but the Estimate for future years may be put down at $4,000.00. The Bell Island Postal Service is increased $600.00, the St. George's Bay service from $4,000.00 to $6,000.00, and the Northern Winter Coastal Service from $6,000.00 to $7,500.00.

As for the proposed White Bay Service no tender has yet been received and an amount will be taken in Supplemental Estimates.

On page 76, the chief check clerk, Mr. Garland, and his assistant, Mr. Rooney, are increased to $900.00; the Inspector, Mr. Mitchell, and the chief operator are increased from $720.00 to $840.00, and there is a rearrangement of the other officials as will be seen by reference to the printed page. The total increase in the cost of the staff at St. John's is about $1,300.00, and has been rendered necessary in the main by the fact that it became imperative to pay these officials higher salaries if capable officials were to be retained, as the demand for operators abroad is very great. The changes in the list of offices outside of St. John's are mainly due to the establishment of new offices following upon the extension of the services the past year.

We next come to the Department of Customs on page 83. the clerk to the Registrar of Shipping is increased from $700.00 to $1,000.00. The explanation is, the late incumbent, Mr. Alcock, received $700.00 and fees which were worth about $300.00 per year. The general policy of the present and past Government has been to have all fees turned into the Treasury, and accordingly, when the present incumbent, Mr. McGrath, was appointed, his salary was fixed at $1,000.00 and it was stipulated that the fees should go to the Treasury. The other change in the schedule of salaries is a Second Assistant Examining Officer, Mr. Gibbs, at $1,000.00. This appointment was rendered necessary by the increase of the number of parcels and the volume of Parcel Post business which had be-
come so great as to require an extra official, and as most of the parcels came under the heading of Dry Goods, we had, therefore, to appoint an official with experience in that branch of the Colonies trade, and had to pay him a salary accordingly. Under the heading of Contingencies on the same page is $1,000.00 for the cost of providing excise stamps.

On the next page the vote for telegrams is increased $200.00, and under the detail on next page Humber Mouth and Lark Harbor have been transposed. We had to increase the salary of the man at Kelligrews $100.00; he resigned and we could get no person else to do the work. The vote for outport supernumeraries is increased from $2,200.00 to $3,000.00, and it has been rendered necessary to employ men at Bell Island, Grand Falls and Botwood, as the volume of business is constantly growing. The Coal and Water refunds, which the past two years have been put under a separate heading, are this year included in the Customs Estimates, where they properly belong, being put there at the suggestion of the Auditor General.

This covers the whole of the changes shown in the Estimates, and I trust the hon. members will find this explanation sufficiently satisfactory. If, however, any further details are desired on any matter arising therein I shall be very glad to furnish them with such.

I do not propose to ask the Committee to proceed with this matter today, as gentlemen opposite will wish further opportunity to study the Estimates laid on their desks. I propose following the suggestion adopted last year and have the review I have just made published to-morrow, so that it will be at once available for honorable members. I move that the Committee rise, report progress, and ask leave to sit again on Thursday.

**RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.**—Mr. Chairman, of course neither I nor my colleagues shall make any attempt to criticise the several matters outlined by the Finance Minister, because before we can intelligently do so, we require the public accounts before us. Now by the Rules of this House, Rule 239, it is laid down that the public accounts should be tabled by the first day of March. It is absolutely impossible to deal with this matter unless we have them before us, and I have to ask that those accounts be placed before the House immediately. I would also like to have the Auditor General's Report.

**HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.**—The Public Accounts are at the bookbinders, but I will see that they are here by to-morrow.

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 this Report be received and adopted, and that the Committee have leave to sit again on Thursday.

**HARBOR MASTERS BILL.**

Pursuant to order, and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, the Bill entitled “An Act to amend Chapter 120 of the Consolidated Statutes (2nd series) entitled, “Of Harbor Master and Harbor Regulations for the Port of St. John’s,” 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.

**BOILER INSPECTION BILL.**

Pursuant to order, and on motion of
Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the Bill entitled “An Act to amend The Boiler Inspection Act.”

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Parsons took the chair of Committee.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—I entirely concur with the principle of this measure which has just been introduced. I do not think it goes too far, but rather not far enough; and I would ask my learned friend’s attention for one moment to what I am about to observe. It seems to me that if any hardship is going to accrue by reason of this measure which has been introduced it will accrue not from any desire on the part of owners to possess that which may be dangerous, but from ignorance of the fact. I think that a great deal of the trouble and danger accruing to our people to-day comes from the fact that ignorant men and perfectly innocent ones, purchase from reliable persons, boilers which they believe perfectly safe and suitable for their purpose, yet which in many cases are unsuitable and dangerous. Under the Bill it seems to me that the hardship falls on them. Should it not fall, I ask my learned friend, upon the man who sold the article rather than on the purchaser. I submit the Bill would be rendered more perfect by inserting a clause putting a heavy penalty upon a person who disposes of a boiler unless it is accompanied by the certificate of a competent engineer guaranteeing its soundness.

MR. HOWLEY.—It seems to me that the views of the Rt. Hon. gentleman are not very practical. The object of the law is to protect the employees of anybody operating a boiler, and that should be the primary object. The object of protecting the purchaser of a boiler should be a secondary object; and I submit, with all deference, that protection to the purchaser is already afforded by law. If a person sells a boiler or any other article and misrepresents its condition, or otherwise imposes upon the purchaser, and the purchaser has no way of satisfying himself of the defect, then that purchaser, I think, has a right of action. Further, if you go so far as to adopt the suggested section and enact a penalty, unless you specifically guard against it you may deprive the purchaser of his right of action.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—Of course my learned friend is right. The purchaser would have a remedy, provided the seller disposed of his goods under misrepresentation. If he sold an article and guaranteed it sound, and it afterwards turned out to be unsound, the purchaser would have a remedy at law. But supposing he did not give any guarantee. A man goes in to purchase a boiler. He is not competent to pass an opinion upon its capacity, or steam test, and he knows no more about it than my learned friend or myself. He gets no guarantee. What remedy has he. But it seems to me that if provision were made that no second hand or other boiler should be sold except accompanied by a guarantee, the desired protection would accrue. Take the case of a gun. If you purchase a gun from any reputable gun store in any part of the world, you get a guarantee that it is sound. Why should the same not apply to a boiler which is equally dangerous if not more so. I merely throw out this suggestion to the Government. The matter is in the hands of my legal friends on the other side of the House.

MR. ROBERTS.—Supposing a man purchases a boiler in one of the outports, notifies the inspector, and he does not come to inspect it, is the owner compelled to keep the boiler idle and not use it? That seems to be
the law, for several cases have come under my notice and I think it very unfair.

MR. HOWLEY.—I think, Mr. Chairman that the primary object of the Bill—to protect employees—is fully carried out by the law as it now stands and these amendments, the suggestion of my Hon. friend is more with a view to safeguarding purchasers. It seems to me that under his suggestion you would be penalizing ordinary commercial transactions for the protection of purchasers who are already protected by law, unless by his own negligence or omission he refuses to protect himself. As to the guarantee that goes with a gun, as referred to, it is simply an inducement offered by reputable gunsmiths in order to enhance the value of their goods to purchasers, and to increase their sales. Whilst I fully appreciate the idea of the Rt. Hon. gentleman I do not see that that clause is necessary to fully carry out the object of the Act. I think if the Legislature were to interfere as between vendor and purchaser it would be putting a premium on negligence, in relieving the purchaser of the responsibility which must attach to himself in purchasing any article whatsoever.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—Does not my learned friend see that his argument applies to any ordinary commodity of sale? Well, any reputable firm will give a guarantee with any article it vends. Take the case of an automobile. Any manufacturer of automobiles will not wait for the purchaser to examine the goods, but will give a written guarantee. In the first place this is for the protection of the purchaser and in the second place only for the purpose of increasing his trade. I may be wrong in the position I take, but it occurs to me that my suggestion would simplify matters. There is great difficulty in getting the services of an engineer to examine these boilers in the outports. A man might have to wait eight or nine months for an engineer and in the meantime he might be using a dangerous boiler. That would be entirely obviated by adopting the suggestion I have made.

MR. WARREN.—As this is hardly a party matter I may be permitted to say a few words which have occurred to me, more from the legal standpoint than anything else, with reference to what has been said by the Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Opposition. The original act, of which this Bill is an amendment, was framed not to protect the purchaser or the vendor, but ignorant or innocent people who have to use these boilers, against any danger which might accrue to them through the boiler being defective or dangerous in any respect. Now, that being the main object, we must confine our attention to that and that only, and instead of putting a premium on negligence by protecting the purchaser, we should primarily safeguard those who are absolutely ignorant and innocent of any danger that may exist, because they never had a chance to examine or inspect the boiler. Now I do not think any man who has to pay the price of a boiler commands is going to buy a boiler, unless he knows beforehand what he is going to get, and in ninety per cent. of cases where boilers are purchased the purchasers have them examined before they buy, and get an idea of the state of the boiler and how it runs. This Bill is purely to safeguard the employees of the purchaser of a boiler, who have had no chance to inspect it, and it seems to me that it makes no difference whether the boiler was defective when purchased from the vendor or became defective afterwards; the main thing we have to do is to protect the people working around and about it. If you put in the section proposed by the Rt. Hon. gentle-
man, and say that a guarantee shall be given with the purchased boiler when it is bought, then the man who buys it will say, I need not bother about the boiler, if it blows up and kills my employees the vendor will be responsible. Now, that is not what we want. We want that man to inspect that boiler before he buys it, so that it will not blow up.

**RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.**—That is all right when the purchaser can inspect a boiler, and understands how to do it, and would be all right if all boilers were purchased from engineers or engine shops. But very often that is not the case. Usually they are bought from people who have been running mills, scattered all around the coastline of the country, and far away from where an expert can be had to examine them. The purchaser may be as innocent as the Angel Gabriel, and may think the boiler is going to last five or six years. But when he starts to run it, it explodes and destroys three or four lives. Now the man who sells usually knows all about the boiler; not the man who buys. The vendor may have had it for five or six years. Why not inflict a penalty on him in order to protect the purchaser and his employees at the same time?

**MR. WARREN.**—The position I took was this. Suppose a man purchased a boiler without knowing the first thing about it, and takes no trouble to inspect it. He says I have my guarantee, and under that and the Sale of Goods Act, I am protected if anything should happen to my employees. It is easy enough for anyone to ask for a guarantee from a vendor, and if he will not give it, it is easy enough to see the reason.

**RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.**—Why should the purchaser be penalized? My learned friend says that if the section I propose is inserted, then the purchaser will be relieved from any responsibility for accidents through dangerous boilers. Certainly. I contend that you should put the penalty on the vendor, and I think the vendor should be penalized for the reasons I have set out, both from the legal and the humane standpoint.

**MR. KENT.**—I think that the position taken by the Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Opposition is a perfectly correct one; and if you insert the section proposed by him you complete the protection of those who use boilers. This is not a question of the civil liability of the owner, user or vendor of a boiler. Any employee who is injured as the result of the explosion of a boiler has his remedy by action. The only object of the section suggested is to make a man who sells a defective boiler liable to the same penalty as the man who uses it. Now, I think the man who sells a boiler owes the same duty to the purchaser, as the purchaser does to the man he puts in charge of it. This bill penalizes the owner of the defective boiler. My learned friend the member for Placentia and St. Mary's objects to penalizing the sale—the commercial transaction. Well, Sir, I think you penalize the transaction equally whether you penalize it before the sale or after the sale. But, Sir, under this Bill the civil liabilities of and remedies of the parties will not be interfered with at all. If a man sells a boiler and produces the certificate of a competent engineer that at the time or sale the boiler is fit for use, then, Sir, he need fear no penalty. He need fear no further penalty or liability than that imposed on him now by the ordinary law under the Sale of Goods Act. I think that the man who sells or puts in circulation a dangerous boiler should be liable to the same penalty as the man who uses it. In nine cases out of ten, where a boiler is in use, the man who buys it depends upon the word of the man who sells it; and
considering the conditions around this country and the difficulty of the man who buys a boiler getting a proper certificate, the law ought rather impose the penalty on the vendor than on the purchaser.

MR. HOWLEY. — I do not want to delay the Committee; but as I stated I do not want to penalize a purely commercial transaction; or to in any way interfere with the right of action by the representatives of an employee after an accident has happened. It is a very poor satisfaction to the relatives of an employee who has been killed to know that the purchaser of the boiler can sue the vendor. As I have stated, the main object of the Bill is to protect those working around the boiler, and whether the purchaser is penalized or not is a matter of indifference to me. I take it that the principle is that no danger, or as little danger as the law will permit is to be put in the way of the men working near that boiler. Now if Mr. A. sells a boiler to Mr. B. and is bound to give a guarantee, what is the consequence?

MR. KENT. — I did not say guarantee.

MR. HOWLEY. — Then a certificate. Well if on that certificate B uses that boiler and C. D. and E. are blown up, what satisfaction is it to their representatives or their families that B has a guarantee from somebody who sold the boiler, and who may perhaps be without the jurisdiction of our — Courts, perhaps in Halifax, in Sydney, in Montreal. Now, Sir, as far as I am concerned, it is not objectionable to me to have the vendor guarantee the boiler, and be penalized for selling a boiler not in good condition; but if that penalty is to relieve the user of the boiler from his liability and from his duty to his employees then I most certainly do object. I would ask my learned friend; suppose he erects a saw mill at Lewisporte and goes to Sydney and purchases a boiler and gets with it the guarantee or certificate or whatever it is, that the law lays down, how are you going to enforce the penalty against the seller in Sydney. In other words, of what avail is it to protect you, the purchaser, or your employees who work in connection with that boiler. And do you propose if you buy with a guarantee or a certificate that then you can forthwith use that boiler without having it inspected; because if that is so, the employees are not protected. If the certificate or other document is all that is necessary then the employee is not protected when he uses the boiler.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND. — My learned friend is in error. The Government have drafted this Bill with a view of meeting the very point he has in mind, namely the protection of employees. My suggestion is simply that the introducer should add a clause to give further protection to the employees and purchaser.

MR. HOWLEY. — Would the Rt. hon. gentleman draft his amendment.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND. — Oh no. I have no intention of doing so. It is merely a suggestion for an amendment. I merely throw out the suggestion to the leader of the Government or whoever is in charge of the Bill. That is all.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER. — Mr. Chairman, I am anxious to say a word or two while on the point. In the first place I may say that I have great sympathy with the suggestion as thrown out by the leader of the Opposition. If the suggested amendment would in any way enhance the Act to the better safety of such people, I should be willing and ready to meet the suggestion and add to the
but I do not think that at present there is any necessity and up to the present time there has been no real need for it because in the one or two accidents that have occurred the question never arose as to the original quality of the boiler when purchased. It is principally the work of the Department of Marine and Fisheries to see that a boiler that has been in use for some years or even in its first and second years inspected. There was a bad accident over on the South Side which led to fire and death. A very stringent enquiry into its cause followed and a great deal of sworn evidence was taken of engineers, boiler-makers and inspectors. It turned out that the accident arose from what is termed 'salting up,' caused by the use of improper kind of water. Very many difficulties would arise if you were to call upon the vendor in the first place for inspection, or certificate or whatever you may please to call it, but such a course would be greatly to the benefit of the purchaser. I am not acquainted with this kind of legislation in England and Canada, so that I cannot say whether there are any precedents for compulsory certificate on a sale by the manufacturer or by the original vendor. But we have a law which embraces all this. We do not, however, of necessity apply it at the source. We do not start with the manufacturer in the factory or the vendor in the store; but we say that no person who has in his possession or use any boiler, shall use it without a certificate. It does not make any difference whether it is in the Reid's engines, in Angel's or the foundry, or on a steamer or in the Harmsworths works at Grand Falls, or in the smallest mill in the country, it cannot be used without an inspection by the Government Inspector. We have two boiler inspectors with first class certificates as marine engineers. We had one originally, but two years ago we found it necessary to appoint a second, so that the whole country could avail of their services—so that suppose to-morrow a man buys a boiler and gets with it a certificate or guarantee he would still have to have that boiler inspected. The Government must still inspect it. The mere fact that the purchaser obtained a certificate from Angel's or Reid's or Knowling's or from the English or American vendor would not remove from us the responsibility of inspection. All this goes to show that there is a double guarantee already. Under the Act of 1889 all these boilers have to be inspected. The rules and regulations have been for many years in force and have been found very thorough in relation to this examination and inspection. We are now going a step further, a step I think in the right direction and we say that if the owner of any boiler shall use or work, or permit the use or working of it without a certificate of inspection he shall be penalised. There is nothing whatever to prevent a purchaser obtaining any guarantees he may choose or desire. He can satisfy himself on every point, but the inspection is still required. No one is going to purchase a boiler without first satisfying himself as to the character of the manufacturer, the standing of the factory and the material used. But nevertheless it must be inspected. This is an additional precaution made in the interests of the working people and the object is to protect the man in the factory, the workingman in the shop or mill and the public who travel by train or boat or who are in any way connected with that class of machine. As I say I am in sympathy with the suggestion.
of my Rt. Hon. friend, and I appreciate the motive which suggested the amendment, but I think that he will see that the objection is well met. Now as regards the point raised by the Hon. member for Twillingate, Mr. Roberts—I do not think that any difficulty has arisen on that score. The inspectors are always ready to examine these boilers. The danger would be if you were to limit the operation of the Act in anyway and permit a man to have a boiler in his possession in use for say six months before it is inspected. It might blow up, mean death and destruction to his employees and the public. If you are going to have a law it must be a strict one. We simply say that you must have it inspected, and have a certificate before you can use it.

MR. ROBERTS.—Mr. Chairman, I do not wish to detract one iota from the double guarantee of the Bill, but I think the matter worth noticing, not from a legal aspect, but because it has come under my notice that months have intervened between the application for inspection and the actual inspection. It is working a hardship upon the employers of labour, the users of boilers and machinery unless there is some proviso licensing their use to some extent, and extending the time a little. What for instance is the necessity for local inspection if the boiler comes in with a certificate from outside the country. It is a great hardship upon the owner of a boiler to have to pay $100 for every day of use of the boiler without inspection or else hang up his business indefinitely.

RT. HON PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Chairman, under the law, in the first place, there is no such fine. If a boiler owner is brought before a magistrate he may be fined five cents a day or one cent a day. It is quite within the law. This is the Act as originally drafted. It follows the Act of 1899—and at the introduction of that Act I raised the very point now raised by the Hon. member that it might work a hardship if the fine were fixed. But now under this law if a man is working his boilers for say ninety days, three months, without inspection and is then taken before a magistrate he can be fined one cent a day or ninety cents. It is entirely discretionary to the magistrate. To meet the cases quoted by Mr. Roberts that the second inspector was appointed. I suppose that most of the boilers used in the country are bought in St. John's, so that the inspection could be made here before shipment. I think really very little hardship could arise. Now as regards the annual inspection, that is really a case for the inspectors, and it is their fault if the inspection is not made. Up to the present I have never heard of any hardship, and I do not think that any can arise. The amendment is entirely in the interests of the men that work in the factories.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND.—Mr. Chairman, I do not intend to raise any contention on the matter, but I would just point out that I do not refer to boilers sent out from the machine shops here, for this reason, that boilers sent out from here have a reasonable guarantee in the reputation of the firm. If the Reids or Angels of the Terra Nova Foundry make the boilers, there is a reasonable guarantee as to the make of the material. But the class of boiler that I mean is the one that passes from one small mill to another—the exchanges or purchases that frequently take place. One man cuts out an area of timber in a certain locality. He abandons the
mill and sells the boiler to some one say in another district or in some remote part of the country. That is the class of boiler-transaction in which I wish to prevent the injury. And it seems to me that you work no injustice to anyone if you add that to the present bill. It will protect the innocent purchaser from perchance a rascally vendor. Now the Rt. hon. the Prime Minister said that although a purchaser of a boiler might have a certificate from the manufacturer it would still have to be examined here by a local inspector, and that a second charge would be placed upon the vendor. For this reason the certificate of a competent engineer should rate with the certificate of the local surveyor, thus relieving the vendor of having to pay the cost of the second survey. There is no reason why the certificate from the machine shops in the States or Canada should not rate equally with that of the local surveyor.

MR. HOWLEY.—How are you to know that the surveyor is an engineer or is competent.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND.—In the States and Canada no man is allowed to practice as an engineer unless he belongs to the Society of Engineers.

MR. HOWLEY.—But then you would need a second certificate as to the engineer’s identity.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND.—That is absurd. The firm would be guarantee for that. No reputable firm would risk the ruin of its business in that way.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.—The answer to the position raised by my hon. friend is that we must assume that the vendor has been working it under a certificate of inspection. What better title could there be than the certificate of inspection within a year.

The purchaser might go further, and demand another inspection, but he could on the old certificate run the balance of the year on the vendor’s certificate, so that I cannot apprehend any danger in this respect.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND.—Mr. Chairman, there is just one matter that has been lost sight of. Suppose the vendor has not used the boiler within the past twelve months, there is then no guarantee. In that twelve months the boiler may have become utterly useless. Suppose for example that a man uses a boiler in the neighbourhood of a water supply containing a large quantity of acid. If that acid is allowed to remain in the boiler, it will ruin the boiler. It will eat away and destroy the tubes utterly and affect the whole structural condition of the boiler. The vendor may be innocent, perfectly innocent, and yet the purchaser will be victimised.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.—That could only be found out by an inspection and survey and the purchaser can always get that.

RT. HON. SIR ROBERT BOND.—Yet if he does not he is without any remedy against the vendor.

MR. KENT—Mr. Chairman, I would just like to ask the Right Hon. the Premier if this amendment amends or repeals any Section of the old Act.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.—No. Purely an addition to the old act.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred and had passed the Bill with an amendment.

Ordered: That this Report be received and adopted, and that the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

TUBERCULOSIS BILL.

Pursuant to order, and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, the
House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the Bill entitled "An Act respecting the Treatment and Prevention of Tuberculosis."

Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Parsons took the Chair of Committee.

MR. CLIFT.—Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister in the event of the Government taking over the 16 outport sanitariums or hospitals which have been offered, is it the intention to place one in each district, or is it proposed to ask the donors to reconsider that arrangement?

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Chairman, in reply I may say that the offer was made by Messrs. Reid in that form and the Government accepted it unconditionally. I listened the other day to the hon. member with considerable interest, and I thought he made a good case in relation to the placing of 4 or 5 sanitariums in Conception Bay against only one in Placentia Bay, one in Notre Dame Bay, one in St. Barbe, one in Burgeo, and one in Bonavista Bay, all very large districts. But as I said that was the way in which the gift was made, and I do not even now know that any representative of a Conception Bay district in this House would feel justifiably in saying that he did not require one in his district, that it was near enough to some other district to meet the requirements of the case. It seems to me that if you put these five little sanitariums, really five little outport hospitals, in Conception Bay, and there is a good deal of consumption in these places, it will take some time before the services of these sanitariums can be safely dispensed with. Then when their work is over in each place they will simply be little outport hospitals which can be used for a thousand and one purposes arising every day. We all know what a valuable thing it would be to have one such cottage hospital, not only in every district, but in every town, where any case requiring special treatment could be taken. Then again there are cases which require absence from noise. There are midwifery cases which cannot be properly treated in their homes. In all that class of cases these little outport cottage hospitals when they have served their purpose in relation to consumption, can be most carefully utilised. I should like if it were possible to see more in the large districts and less in the small districts, especially those near St. John's; for the large sanitarium in St. John's will not be for St. John's alone. Cases will be admitted in St. John's from all over the Island, and properly so otherwise it would not be fair. If this point raised by Mr. Clift were regarded as important I should be very glad indeed to bring the matter to the notice of the donors, and the question might be considered with the consent of the various district representatives, because after all, the gift has been made to these districts. But it is too late now to say that, for instance, Carbonear is near enough to St. John's, and take the sanitarium away from that district. After all, there is the gift, and it has been accepted unconditionally, and it would now be difficult without the consent of the various representatives to deal with it further.

MR. WOODFORD.—Mr. Chairman, I should like to say that I believe a sanitarium would be a great advantage to my district of Hr. Main. I know of several families within the last few years wiped out by tuberculosis, who would have been saved if we had had a sanitarium in the district. After the disease is wiped out these buildings will be most useful as cottage hospitals, and I can assure you, Sir,
that we will take very good care to secure one for the district if possible.

Mr. Goodison.—Mr. Chairman, I have listened with much attention to the remarks made upon the question raised by my hon. friend the member for Twillingate, Mr. Clift. I may say that I do not think he will find any representative from Conception Bay to assent to his proposal that the four of five sanitariums, which it is proposed to erect there should be reduced in number. I would have spoken on this point the other day had not the Prime Minister dealt with it so fully.

The hon. member suggested that if the Government were going to try this form of treatment it would be better to pin their faith upon the sanitarium in St. John's. I am rather surprised that that suggestion should come from an outport representative. From an outport point of view this would be far from satisfactory as I know the privations and hardships outport patients would have to suffer in getting up to St. John's or in waiting their turn to enter; and for an outport representative to suggest that the trial be made with one sanitarium in St. John’s is surprising to me.

I should like to say a word in praise of the munificence displayed by the Messrs. Reid in making this gift; and I think that the giving of a sanitarium to each district is one of the best features of that offer. If they had been, or if they were to be, allotted to certain districts the Opposition would have raised another cry, that it was done only for political effect. But when each district is given one there can be no objection on those lines. It must be apparent to the hon. member for Twillingate that a district which has had the offer of such a gift as this is not likely to give it up easily. I need not tell so experienced a politician as himself that there is a certain amount of jealousy between districts at times, and if the sanitariums are placed as Messrs. Reid suggest there will be no scope for anything of that kind. I look to the day, Sir, when these institutions will have done their work, and when they can be utilized as small outport hospitals. The hon. member told us the cost would be immense, and it is the cost, I suppose that he is still thinking about. But he estimates the cost annually as $300 per patient, ignoring the fact that Dr. Campbell had a sanitarium in St. John's for a while where he treated 100 patients at a cost of only $60 a head. We feel in Carbonar that this sanitarium will be a great thing for the district. We do not wish to be forced to send patients away, even to Harbour Grace. I think the present arrangement a very satisfactory one, and I am sure the Government will not consider it necessary to take any action along the lines suggested by the hon. member for Twillingate.

Mr. Emerson.—Before the Committee rises, I wish to place myself on record as being entirely in accord with the Bill. I regret that I was prevented from being present when the resolutions were being discussed in this House, for I judge by the newspaper reports that a great deal of interesting matter on the subject of tuberculosis was elicited from hon. members on both sides. Whatever may be said as to the best means of dealing with this disease, everyone must agree that immediate steps are necessary to prevent it extending, and if possible to effect a cure in cases where persons are suffering from it in its incipient stages. The Messrs. Reid have generously offered to erect a sanitarium in St. John's at a cost $50,000.00 and one in every district at a cost of about $3,000.00 each. The handsome gift has been accepted by
the Government, and it is our duty now to provide for their maintenance and upkeep. During the past months the newspapers were daily recording the thanks of the people from the different outports, and I now take this occasion to thank the donors, on behalf of the people of the district of Fortune Bay for their splendid offer to erect a sanitarium there. I have frequently visited the different settlements between Fortune Bay and Cape Ray, and I regret to have to say that evidence is not wanting of the presence of consumption in a great many places along that coast. Knowing that this disease is prevalent amongst our people, it is clearly our duty to take such steps as will arrest its ravages and if possible, in course of time, stamp it out altogether. Some hon. members on the other side of the House are opposed to the maintenance of these sanitariums on the ground of expense, which they compute at about one hundred thousand dollars per year. We know that they will not cost anything like this amount, but even if such was the case we would be perfectly justified in making the expenditure. I am fully prepared to accept all responsibility for the manner in which I intend to vote on this question, for if we can succeed in stamping out this disease, or lessening the number of deaths due to its ravages, we shall be able to justify our action before the country. The mere distribution of literature is not sufficient—we must go further and grapple with this enemy in some tangible manner. This is an honest and sincere attempt on the part of the Government and will meet with the approval of all those persons who are not blinded with political prejudices. The Association for the Prevention of Consumption has done good work, and the Hon. Mr. Harvey, as its prime mover, has worked incessantly in the direction of teaching the people how to prevent and overcome this disease and if that Society had done nothing further than to wake up the country to a realization of the seriousness of this menace, their efforts are not in vain. If they had made us alive to the fact that the time had arrived when legislation, such as is now contemplated is necessary to cope with this disease which attacks so many of our people, they will, if these sanitariums prove a success, be commended of all classes. I support this Bill for the reason that I believe sanitariums scattered throughout the country must help a large number of our people afflicted with consumption, and I oppose the amendments brought forward by the leader of the Opposition because they seem to be insincere, and introduced merely from an opposition standpoint.

MR. MOULTON.—Mr. Chairman, I should like to say a few words before this bill passes, to place on record my appreciation and that of my district of the very generous gift of the Messrs. Reid in offering to build a hospital in every district throughout the Island. At the time the report came out the people of the whole district were very much pleased and thought the news almost too good to be true, and on their behalf I wish to thank the Reid Brothers very much. A few days ago when speaking on this subject, the Rt. Hon. Leader of the Opposition made it a strong point of his argument that if you compel consumptives to go into these hospitals you will be taking the breadwinners from many homes. That I think would be a great benefit, because if a man has consumption he is no longer a breadwinner for his home and by compelling him to enter the hospital you will be doing a benefit to his family. The hon. gentleman also made a strong point of the
cost to the Colony for the upkeep of these hospitals, but I think that if one-quarter of the consumptive people in this country could be made better, it would be money well spent. I am very grateful to the Reids for their very generous offer to my district.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

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

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

The remaining Orders of the Day were deferred.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Tuesday, March 5th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

TUESDAY, March 5th.

House opened at 3 p.m. pursuant to adjournment.

PETITIONS:

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Scilly Cove, New Chelsea, Brownsdale, New Melbourne, Whales Brook and Grate's Cove, asking for the allocation of a sum of money for the erection of a light house at Grate's Cove. The locality is a dangerous one and the petitioners wish to have a light house erected there. I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition and ask that it be referred to the department of Marine and Fisheries.

MR. MOULTON.—I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of New Harbour, Hermitage Bay, asking that it be made a port of call for one of the coastal boats. No steamer calls there and the people do not get their mails more than once a fortnight. They want better facilities in this respect and I trust the Government will be able to arrange to have the steamer call there. I ask that the petition be referred to the department of the Colonial Secretary.

HON. MR. EMERSON—I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Femme in the electoral district of Fortune Bay asking for the allocation of $50 for the erection of a pier there. I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition and I ask that it be referred to the department of Public Works.

MR. KENT—I ask leave to present a petition from the people of Flatrock on the subject of a road. The road in question is called the Three Island Pond Road and is an agricultural road. It has been absolutely neglected for a long time and although I have communicated with the Department of Public Works and with the Prime Minister concerning it both by letter and by personal interview, nothing has been done in the matter, and the petitioners have come here to ask that it be attended to. The road is a most important one to the people for they use it in connection with their farms. I ask that the petition be referred to the Department of Public Works and I trust that as soon as the spring opens they will give the matter their attention.

MR. DWYER.—I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition just presented by my hon. friend, Mr. Kent. I know the road very well and also the trouble and hardship which the people suffer trying to get over it. I sincerely hope the Department will attend to it as it will be a great blessing to the people if it is improved.

The several petitions were received and on motion it was ordered that
they be referred to the several departments to which they related.

Mr. Kent gave notice of question.

Mr. Clapp gave notice of question.

Mr. Gear gave notice of question.

MR. CLAPP.—Asked the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay on the table of the House a statement (1) the total amount credited out of the special grant to District of St. Barbe; (2) statement of each allocation made therefrom, giving date and amount of each, also to whom allocated and for what purposes, and if any part of the Marine Grant was transferred to the Public Works Department from the Marine and Fisheries Department.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.— In absence of the Minister I beg to table the statement asked for.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND asked the Rt. Hon. the Premier if the Government of this Colony has undertaken to pay a subsidy to the Galway trans-Atlantic Port Project. If so, what amount of subsidy. Also, to lay on the table of the House a copy of all correspondence that has taken place between the Government of this Colony and the promoters of the scheme.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—When in England in June last, the Chairman and Directors of the Midland Great Western Railway of Ireland, and the Chairman and Members of the Galway Trans-Atlantic Port Committee invited the Premiers of the Overseas Dominions to visit Galway to inspect the proposed Galway trans-Atlantic port.

On Tuesday, July 11th, I visited Galway on the said invitation, and was entertained by the Chairman and Members of the Galway trans-Atlantic Port Committee.

Lord Killanin, who was Chairman of the Committee, made a speech outlining the proposed service between Galway, St. John's and Halifax, name-

ly a weekly service, from Galway to St. John's in 2 3-4 days, and from Galway to Halifax via St. John's in 3 1-2 days.

In speaking on that occasion, I stated that if such a service ever became an accomplished fact, and Newfoundland was made a link in the same, the Newfoundland Government would be prepared to consider a reasonable contribution in the nature of a subsidy for carrying the mail.

Beyond that, no correspondence has taken place between the Government of this Colony and any parties in relation to the said scheme.

MR. ROBERTS asked the Hon. the Prime Minister if it is the intention of the Government to put two steamers on Notre Dame Bay the coming summer to meet the demands for additional mail service and the requirements of the trade in that district. If not, why not? If so, to state the proposed route of the two boats, also name the amount of extra subsidy to be paid the contractors for such service, and the additional ports of call to be inserted in the schedule.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—The question of placing additional steamers on Notre Dame Bay the coming summer to meet the demands for additional mail service and the requirements of the trade in that district is under the consideration of the Government, and has been for some time.

Nothing has been decided as to the route, the amount of the subsidy, or the ports of call; nor has any correspondence taken place with the contractor.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND asked the Rt. Hon. the Premier if any negotiations or correspondence has taken place between the Government of this Colony and one John Forester, of London, England, on “The Canadian North Atlantic, Limited,” in reference to the construction of a railway from Port
Charles, Labrador, to, or towards Montreal. If any subsidy has been promised by the Government of this Colony towards said scheme, if so, what amount, and to lay on the table of this House a copy of all correspondence.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—When in New York, on May last, on my way to London, I was waited on, and met by appointment John Foster, Chairman, and Thomas Skinner, Director for and on behalf of the Canadian North Atlantic Corporation, Limited, a Company which propose to construct and operate a railway between Quebec and a point at or near Cape St. Charles on the coast of Labrador.

After fully discussing the question as to what the Newfoundland Government would be prepared to do, the accompanying memorandum was prepared and handed to me.

I pointed out to these parties the various proposals of Mr. Bender and others, going back for twenty years, to establish similar services, and indicated that I thought it was idle to bring this matter before the Newfoundland Government or before the Legislature until a charter had been obtained from the Dominion Government or the Quebec Government, giving the parties full rights and powers to construct and operate a line down to the Newfoundland Labrador boundary, but when that charter was granted by the Dominion or Quebec Government I would be glad to bring the matter before the Government of Newfoundland, and afterwards before the Legislature.

No subsidy of any description was asked for, nor has any subsidy been promised. The matter has not been brought before the Government in any shape, and no correspondence has taken place.

It is proposed to incorporate a Company in both Canada and Newfoundland, with a capital of $25,000,000, or thereabout for the purpose of acquiring, constructing and operating a standard gauge railway between Quebec City and a point at or near Cape St. Charles on the coast of Labrador (a point only 1,680 miles distant from Liverpool), and to establish, either directly or through another Company, a fast passenger service by steamers of the Lusitania type between the eastern terminus of the railway and Great Britain.

At Quebec, the railway will connect with all the trans-continental railways of Canada and Newfoundland, and will furnish the quickest route between Europe and all parts of Canada, Newfoundland and the United States of America, Japan, China, New Zealand and Australia. The Company will, on the completion of the main trunk line, construct a branch line from the main line to a convenient point on the Labrador coast, opposite Bonne Bay, or other approved point with ferry connection, or, if preferred by the Newfoundland Government to connect Bonne Bay by ferry with the main terminus of the railway on the Labrador coast, thus furnishing to Newfoundland the best transportation facilities to Europe and America.

The Company will be referred to in the memorandum as the London Company to distinguish it from the Railway Company.

The London Company has made satisfactory financial arrangements with one of the large banking houses of London, and with one of the large French banks for the flotation of the Railway Company if the London Company succeeds in arranging reasonable assistance from the Colony of Newfoundland and the Province of Quebec.

The London Company has made a provisional agreement to take a 99 years' lease of running powers over the Quebec and Saguenay Railway from Murray Bay into Quebec, a distance of 86 miles. This agreement gives the London Company and its assigns running powers into Quebec with the use of the station and terminal at Quebec, and will also give to the London Company the ownership of the charter and cash subsidy (now owned by the Quebec and Saguenay Railway Company), for extending the line from Murray Bay to Seven Islands Bay.

The distance from Murray Bay to Seven Islands Bay is 380 miles. The subsidy for this 380 miles is $6,400 per mile in cash, or $2,432,000 in all, with a land grant of 2,000 acres per mile.

No difficulty is anticipated in securing at least like assistance for the section between Seven Islands Bay and the eastern limit of the Province of Quebec.

These arrangements are satisfactory to the financial houses referred to, and they will be prepared to proceed with the flotation upon an arrangement being made along the following lines with the Colony of Newfoundland:

1. The Newfoundland Government to make a freehold land grant to the London Company or its assigns of 6,000 acres of land in Labrador per mile of railway constructed, or to be constructed through Newfoundland territory, such land to be selected by the Company or its assigns in alternate blocks of not more than five square miles each, lying at least three miles distant from the shore, a freehold land grant of an additional strip of freehold land two hundred feet in width, one hundred feet on each side of the centre of the railway tracks along the whole course of the railway in Newfoundland territory, and in addition, a grant of all such further freehold lands and lands covered with water as the Company may from time to time reasonably require for terminals, docks, wharves, townsites and other purposes connected with the undertaking in Newfoundland territory—provided, however, that the last mentioned lands are not to become the fee simple property of the Company or its assigns until such time as they have commenced construction on the railway and terminal works in Newfoundland territory and shall have expended thereon the sum of five hundred thousand dollars, which construction is to be commenced within four years from the date of the incorporation of the Railway Company, and to be completed within six years from the expiration of the said period of four years.

2. The Government to secure the passage by the Legislature of a charter incorporating the Railway Company by the name of the Quebec and Cape Charles Railway Company, or some other suitable name, such charter to contain similar provisions to those contained in Chapter 7 of the Acts of 1890 (except so far as the same may be inconsistent with this memorandum), and such other provisions as may be hereafter agreed on by the London Company and the Government.

3. The Government to secure the passage of Legislation exempting the Railway Company from Government,
Municipal and local taxation for a term of fifty years.

4.—The legislation to be secured by the Government is also to establish the Labrador terminus of the Railway, a free port for the trans-shipment of goods.

5.—All plant, machinery, materials and supplies required for the original installation of the railway and its equipment and the docks, wharves and incidental works in any way connected with the undertaking are to be admitted free of customs or other duties or taxes.

6.—It is understood that the Government is to complete the construction of the projected line of railway to Bonne Bay, or other point to be agreed upon, in sufficient time to complete the ferry connection to be established between Bonne Bay or some other convenient point and the Company's railway system.

The financial houses interested suggest these terms to be very reasonable in view of the fact that Newfoundland grants nothing if the railway is not completed, while on the other hand if it is completed, the railway company will have expended approximately $5,000,000 in the Labrador and the whole territory which is now comparatively valueless will be made valuable.

This statement is submitted by Messrs. Foster and Skinner, who are duly authorized by the London Company to negotiate and conclude an agreement with your Government on the above lines. If the terms are satisfactory, this memorandum will be made effective by an Order in Council accepting the terms thereof and agreeing to submit the necessary legislation to make the agreement effective.

JOHN FOSTER, Chairman.

THOMAS SKINNER, Director

Acting under Power of Attorney, dated London, April 27, 1911, for and on behalf of the CANADIAN NORTH ATLANTIC CORPORATION, LTD.

New York, May 8th, 1911.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance and Customs to lay on the table a statement of the Loan of £800,000 stg. raised under the Railway Act, 1910, showing in detail (1) The total amount of loan raised under said Act; (2) The total amount received by the Colony as proceeds of said loan; (3) Particulars of the difference between the face value of the loan and the amount received with names, dates and purpose of each such particular; (4) Amounts paid out of said loan, to whom, for what purpose, date and on what authority; (5) Balance now to credit of said loan, and where such balance is now deposited.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—In reply I beg to say that the statement is being prepared. As regards the question asked by the Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Opposition on Thursday, Feb. 27th, I laid the information on the table of the House the same day, but as he did not get it, I beg to hand him another copy.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES RESOLUTIONS.

Pursuant to order, and leave granted, and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider certain Resolutions on the subject of Weights and Measures.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Parsons took the chair of Committee.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Chairman, these resolutions are for the purpose of amending, in the way of addition principally, the present law in relation to Weights and Measures. For the last two or three years we have had a new Inspector of Weights and Measures, Mr. O'Mara, and I think that he is endeavoring in
the interests of the public to try and see that the law is carried out. We have only to reflect for a moment, to see how very important it is in the general public interest, in the interest of the public individually, to have proper weights and measures. It is a large public matter, and appeals to every person, rich or poor, but to the poor person especially, for he generally gets everything in small measure, and it is only fair and right to him that the weights and measures being used, should be correct. When Mr. O'Mara was appointed three years ago, he found on inspection and examination that about 25 or 30 per cent. of the weights and measures used were incorrect. That is a very large percentage. He would not claim that this was intentional on the part of those using those weights and measures, but it was largely due no doubt to indifference and to the want of not having attention drawn to the importance of the question. A large number of weights, measures, scales, beams, etc., were condemned by him, absolutely condemned and destroyed; but in many other cases they were repaired and adjusted. In the case of molasses measures, it was found that some were a pint and a pint and a half out on the gallon, owing to the accumulation of sugar at the bottom, the result being of course that people purchasing 5 gallons, only received 4. In the case of coal, one platform scale, 50 years old, was out 200 lbs. on the tub. That was condemned. In another place, 5 scales were out 33 lbs. In other places weights were found which after years of use had accumulated deposits on them. These weights were in favor of the purchasers. From 70 to 100 oil tanks are in use in the city, and some of them were a half pint out on the gallon. In the case of paints, 14 lb. tins are sold for a gallon, and people have been buying and paying for them as if for a gallon, where often they are a quart or a pint short.

Then as regards the size and height of measures. In one case, in a saloon was found a pint measure that was a half inch short. I mention these merely to illustrate how important it is in the public interest for these weights and measures to be in the first instance, guaranteed to be correct, in the second place, to have those not correct, properly adjusted, and in the 3rd place regularly, and annually inspected, and seen that they are kept in proper repair. In the case of fish weighing machines, Mr. O'Mara's report shows that the number of weights inspected were 410, and of these 30 were adjusted and 12 condemned as unfit for further use.

Now the amendments that are proposed here will I think have the effect of making the law more perfect, and of bringing home to those engaged in this work of inspection the importance and high character of the work in which they are engaged.

The first resolution is merely a verbal amendment. The word "late" between the word "His" and "Majesty George the Fourth," which was in the old act is now stricken out.

The second resolution is merely to make a distinction between the chief inspector and the other inspectors. In the old chapter there was no such distinction drawn, all were alike.

The next section deals with the actions of the inspectors. They shall stamp or mark thereon the initials of the reigning sovereign and their own proper initials. The section following is to get over the cases of places which are not accessible to the inspectors, from various reasons. The
section provides that the scales, weights, etc., may be brought to the Inspectors' office and there stamped. Under the old act there was considerable doubt as to whether the Inspector had power to condemn old measures and weights that were incapable of being adjusted. This next section removes that doubt and gives the Inspector the necessary power.

The next section is practically the same as in the old act, except that the Inspector is given power to confiscate and destroy condemned weights and measures. This addition was considered necessary by the Inspector in the interests of the buying public.

Section 6 provides that salt may be sold by measure or by weight, and if by the former method further adds there shall be eighteen gallons to a tub, and three tubs to a hogshead. A penalty is also provided for a breach of this rule. This section is to me a very important one. It appears that under the old act salt could only be sold by weight, but I was always under the impression it was universally sold by measure. I am informed by the Inspector that for years this law has not been carried out, and that many of the large dealers, probably without knowledge of the law, have been selling by measure, and he recommends this change which seems to me to be a most reasonable and proper one.

Section 6 which deals with the importation of meat and hay is the same as under the old law.

Section 7 says the standard yard measure shall be thirty-six inches. Up to the present there has been no local standard for the yard measure, and though I have no doubt but that only the standard length has been in use, it has been considered wise to have it included in this act.

Section 8 provides that "All articles sold by weight shall be sold by avoirdupois weight, except that gold and silver, platinum and precious stones and articles made thereof may be sold by the ounce troy, or by any decimal part of such ounce; and all contracts, bargains, sales and dealings in relation thereto shall be deemed to be made and had by such weight, and when so made or had shall be valid."

This has always been the custom and we are now simply giving expression to the rule.

Section 9 says,—"Nothing herein shall prevent a sale or subject a person to a penalty hereunder for the sale of an article in any vessel, such vessel being included in the sale when such vessel is not represented as containing any specified quantity by measure, nor subject a person to a penalty hereunder for the possession of a vessel when it is shown that the vessel is not used or to be used as a measure."

This is merely to get over cases where bottles, etc., are being used, not for measuring, but simply as receptacles for various liquids.

The next three sections deal with the duties of the Inspectors and are self explanatory.

Section 13 provides that no measure or weighing machine need be inspected while remaining in manufactory, store or warehouse, but they cannot be removed for trade use without such inspection. The penalty for a breach of this rule shall not exceed $50. The section also provides that a second inspection shall not be required within twelve months.

Sections 14, 15, 16 and 17 are all new. Section 14 makes it a punishable offence for an inspector to stamp weights or machines without verifying them with the standard instrument. The next section provides that aggrieved persons may recover double damages and double costs against the user of light and deficient measures. Section 16 provides that only half the fees shall be collected for reinspection after adjustment or repairs. The last
section gives the owner or user of a machine power to demand its inspection at any time by paying therefor the fees and costs incurred.

These are the suggested amendments and I think that a perusal of them will show that they are framed entirely for the protection and in the interests of the public. The whole aim is to make this important branch of the public service as exact and perfect as possible. The penalties imposed on the inspectors will keep them up to their work and prevent any carelessness on their part. I feel that the addition of these amendments will work to the best interests of the public.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—I think, sir, that there can be no question whatever as regards the good intention embodied in these resolutions. The only possible question that can arise in a question of this matter is as to the efficient safeguard which they may embody for the greater protection of those who are vendors or purchasers.

It will be apparent to the Committee that there is a very great difficulty in dealing with this matter of weights and measures, so as to secure to the public perfect protection, because a vendor may have his scales or measures stamped to-day, and if he chooses to be dishonest, he may alter them to-morrow. It seems to me, sir, that there is a way in which a purchaser might be protected, and that is by embodying in these resolutions a section providing that the chief Inspector shall furnish to the Government annually a tabulated statement showing the various parties for whom he has tested weights and measures, and to whom he has given a seal of accuracy. That will be a protection, I think, for the purchaser, because at the present time, a purchaser has no knowledge that the vendor's weights or measures have been inspected at all. It will be a certificate from the Inspector that the vendor has within the past 12 months, had his weights tested. Having done that, we have gone as far as it is possible to go. I think also that this statement furnished by the chief Inspector should be published in the daily papers, so that the public may know the names of those who have had their scales properly inspected and adjusted. How are the people in the outports to know that they are getting right weights and measures, unless they have some knowledge by publication that there has been a proper test. I merely offer this as a suggestion to the introducer of these resolutions. It is not a party criticism and I merely bring it forward in the interests of both vendors and purchasers.

HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Chairman, speaking for myself, I see no objection whatever to the proposal of the hon. member; in fact it would be an additional safeguard; and when the bill is being introduced I shall be glad to have an amendment to that effect inserted. I think it would be well that the public should have such a statement.

It was my intention, when looking up this matter, to have had a clause inserted in the resolutions in relation to the examination and testing of electric meters and gas meters. I can find, however, no precedent either in English or Canadian legislation, and conclude that it is entirely a municipal matter. Accordingly, although I had drafted a resolution dealing with that matter, I determined to write to Canada and find out exactly what they are doing there. I am informed by my friend, Mr. Bennett, who looked into this matter somewhat, that he is of opinion that it is entirely a municipal matter; but whether municipal or state I think the time has arrived when we should have some supervision, or an appeal in relation to the questions arising daily in this con-
nection. I don't say this now with a view of suggesting that there is any wrongdoing, but the feeling exists sometimes that one's bills are higher than they ought to be. That may, of course, be due to not understanding what is going on, or it may be defective machinery. I suppose all meters that are attached to gas and electric light are self-registering, and ought, I suppose, in the nature of things, if properly made and properly attached, register correctly; but be that as it may, the feeling is abroad that it would be better to have some inspection. Then, of course, it would be necessary to have a competent inspector—an engineer or some person who thoroughly understands such matters. It would not be a matter for the inspector under this bill. I hope—it may be before this session is over, or at least next session—to have this matter dealt with.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—I desire to thank the leader of the Government for his acquiescence in the suggestion which I have submitted. And I may say that I entirely concur in what he has just said. Whether there is reason to suppose that wrong doing exists or not, it is the duty of the Legislature to take every safeguard in the public interests. I think the power should be contained in this bill, because in case the municipality elected to take action in the matter, they could not, of course, act without legislative power.

HON. PRIME MINISTER.—I might point out to the hon. member that if it is found desirable to let the Municipal Council deal with the matter, there will be a bill before us this session in relation to municipal matters, and we might then be able to include it.

MR. KENT.—Regarding section four I would ask the Prime Minister whether there is a general penalty clause in the original Act; because if there is not, a person might use defective weights and measures without incurring any penalty except the provision in a later section. I think it would be expedient, in the interests of the public, that a person who uses illegal weights and measures should be liable to some penalty.

HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Yes, there is a general penalty.

MR. ROBERTS.—Mr. Chairman, there is considerable dissatisfaction in reference to the measurement of salt. I would like to know if this is a new standard of measure, or is there any law now in existence providing eighteen gallons to a tub. I think you will find that that measures 54 gallons to a hogshead, or about 10 gallons more than is given at present. I don't suppose that will affect the purchaser very much because I suppose if the measure increases the price will also increase, but is that the right standard of measurement for a hogshead of salt?

HON. PRIME MINISTER.—In reply to the hon member I would say that the law at present is that no salt can be sold in this country except by weight. All the salt sold in St. John's and delivered here, however, is by measure, and this section was included to meet this practice. This standard came from the Inspector, who has measured the tubs and made very careful enquiries into the matter. Of course, if it is not correct now is the time to change it. The law to-day is that salt cannot be sold by the tub, although that is the universal practice. As I have said, all the salt that comes to St. John's is measured by tubs, although the law is that it should be sold by weight and not by measure. I have put in these resolutions "by measure or by weight" because I have been informed that in some cases salt is still weighed, and if people choose to go by weight that is their own lookout; but if, as at pre-
sent, it is sold and delivered to nine-tenths of our people by measure then we should have control of the measures and be in a position to see that people get their rights. As far as I have been able to ascertain, the measure obtaining to-day is eighteen gallons to the tub and three tubs to the hogshead.

 **MR. ROBERTS.**—I think that is correct as far as the practice is concerned. There is considerable dissatisfaction in connection with the measurement because it does not come up to the weight by any means, and it is merely a question as to whether it would not be advisable to put down the correct measure, namely 54 gallons to the hogshead instead of 44.

 **MR. DOWNEY.**—Before this clause goes through I would like to say that some years back, when in the fish business myself, I realized that a considerable diversity of opinion existed on this point and I made a number of tests to satisfy myself with regard to the matter. The result of these tests was that I found that 9½ lbs., of clean, normally dry salt made a gallon, 52 gallons a hogshead, a hogshead containing 494 lbs. I found that if there was any error at all it was an error in favor of the purchaser, because a gallon really contained only a fraction over 9 lbs.—less than a quarter—and that would mean 2 gallons to the hogshead in favor of the purchaser. I don't know that this data will throw any light on the matter, but merely offer it to the committee.

 **MR. BENNETT.**—Mr. Chairman, before resolution 17 passes I would like to call the attention of the Committee to what might be construed into a hardship upon the dealers. The resolution very properly safeguards the dealers to a certain extent, but, sir, I submit that there is still a very grave danger of their interests being largely penalized. Now, I quite agree with the contention made by the Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Opposition as regards the impracticability of having a thorough and correct inspection of weights and measures right throughout the year. I presume it is the intention of the inspector in chief and his assistants that they will make an annual inspection of all weights and measures in the communities over which they have the right of inspection; but I think, sir, it would be very advisable in the interests of the community that that inspection should not take the shape of an annual one, but rather that it should be periodical or spasmodic. I think, with the Rt. Hon. Leader of the Opposition, that a man might have his weights and measures inspected to-day and to-morrow could have them altered, if he were dishonest enough; and without a man being dishonest, it might sometimes happen that his weights and measures might become incorrect a short time after inspection. I therefore think that in the interests of the community spasmodic inspection should take place. In reference to the resolution now before the chair I would point out that while it provides that the manufacturers of weights and measures or dealers in weights and measures are not required to have all the weights and measures that they have on their premises or in their factories inspected, still at the same time it must naturally occur to the Committee that at certain seasons of the year a very large demand is made, especially in St. John's, for articles of this kind and it is not always that the inspectors would be quickly available for the purpose of inspecting and stamping articles sold. I would point this out to the Leader of the Government as I am sure he did not intend to put unnecessary hardship upon dealers. Take for instance the case of Mr. Clouston, Mr. Gear or Mr. Knowling, or any of the other gentlemen who are engaged in selling articles of this kind, it would be a great
hardship on them, especially in the fall and spring when people are here from the outports and might require large quantities of weights and measures, and it would be utterly impossible for the inspector to wait on all these men at one and the same time. I think that this resolution should have further consideration.

HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Chairman, I quite appreciate the difficulty suggested by my friend, Mr. Bennett, in fact I have given that matter a good deal of consideration because I saw the difficulty from the start, but the object was, of course, to take this matter at its source, as was suggested here yesterday afternoon in relation to another matter. I have discussed at considerable length this question with the Chief Inspector, and he tells me that no difficulty will arise in that way, and that he will keep in touch with the two or three persons here in St. John’s who vend these measures. As a matter of fact there are no scales and no weights made in the colony at all, and it is only the tin measures and large articles such as platform scales, tubs, and that sort of thing that have to be considered. This resolution would really only affect the persons referred to by my friend Mr. Bennett, and by an arrangement with these dealers they could always have a certain quantity examined and stamped and all ready for sale, and it would be a matter between themselves as to how that could be arranged.

Now there can be no objection to putting in a clause as regards spasmodic inspection. I think, however, that point is covered in the resolutions on page 2, where it says “It shall be lawful for the Chief Inspector, or the Inspectors in the day time once in three months, or oftener if it shall be necessary.” That meets the difficulty. The other difficulty will I think be met by instruction to the chief inspector to so arrange his inspection so as not to inconvenience the manufacturer or the storekeeper, or the public who may be purchasing from him. That is law in other places as it is here, but I think that if the Inspector gives the matter his consideration it will work out without any friction. This measure not alone touches the seller, but also the maker. It brings the inspector directly in touch with the manufacturer of the article.

MR. KENT.—Mr. Chairman, now that I come to consider the Section, I do not think that either of the members look at the Section from the right point of view. I do not think that under the section the objection raised by my hon. friend, Mr. Bennett can arise. I take it that the object of the section is that a manufacturer or dealer may have in his store or factory weights and measures not inspected, but he may not use any of them or sell them before inspection, but if he has a quantity of them inspected and properly stamped, then the difficulty as to sale will not arise.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER.—Mr. Chairman, without wishing to interrupt the hon. member, I may say that is not the point. Mr. Bennett’s point is that a difficulty might arise by not having them inspected, and no man is going to the expense of having a large quantity inspected before he has any chance of selling them.

MR. KENT.—Mr. Chairman, it appears to me to be merely a choice of two positions, between the manufacturer having inspection of a certain number of the weights and measures before sale and sale without inspection. This section meets the position better than a proviso that there could be a sale without inspection when the Inspector is not available.

MR. BENNETT.—Mr. Chairmah, my
contention was that in the fall of the year when there is a great demand for these implements it might be a great inconvenience to a dealer, who has a number of these weights and measures uninspected, and I say he might not be able to get the service of an inspector for two or three days. But as the Rt. Hon. the Premier says, perhaps proper instructions to the Inspector that he should be completely at the service of the dealer during the busy seasons would overcome the difficulty.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND—Mr. Chairman it has just occurred to me to ask one question and it is this—I am not aware as to what this act fixes as a standard. Take the purchaser of a ton of hay. What does he purchase, two thousand pounds or 2240? That point ought to be made clear. Another point, a man purchases a bushel of oats. What is he entitled to receive—38 pounds? There are two weights in this city—one store will give you 38 pounds to the bushel while another only gives 34. This should be put beyond peradventure. It makes the market doubtful. A man orders two hundred bushels of oats. He finds on arrival that he is only getting 34 pounds to the bushel. Another orders twenty or thirty tons of hay, and he finds that he has paid for 2000 pounds to the ton. It ought to be clear as to what is the standard weight in the country. I might further point out that while the Imperial Act is referred to in the Act it is no safeguard to the public. There is not one man in a thousand who knows the contents of the Imperial Act. It should be incorporated with this Bill and put the question of standard beyond discussion.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER.—Mr. Chairman, I quite appreciate the point raised by my learned friend, that there should be no question as regards the standard of weights and measures. But I should like to point out that the present resolutions do not profess to be anything more than a mere additional inspection for the carrying out of the standard as the law at present stands. This point raised by my learned friend is a much larger question, and I think it would be wiser and safer to take a little time to consider before we attempt any legislation to deal with that. But I may say that taking the point as raised, a ton of hay here means 2240 pounds. That is the local standard. There are other and various standards. In Germany or in the United States a ton of hay might mean either 2240 or 2000. But we have established here in this country the standards of the Imperial Act, and it has been the law before this Parliament existed. "All weights and measures used in this Colony shall be according to the Standard established by the Act passed in the Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland in the 5th year of the reign of His Majesty George the Forth, entitled "An Act for Ascertaining and Establishing the Uniformity of Weights and Measures, and any Acts in amendment thereof."

That is the Standard that prevails and has prevailed here for many years and was incorporated in our first Statutes on this question. In other words in a dispute in Court the Imperial Act would be held to be the law because incorporated in these resolutions and it is the law to-day. As regards the confusion that exists, that is a very large question. If it is correct, and I have no doubt that it is so, it is a matter that would require a great deal of consideration before the introduction of any legislation.
But the law as it stands to-day makes the Imperial standard our standard, and this Act referred to in the resolutions has I understand had no alteration or amendment of any importance since its passing. There is nothing later than the old Act.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—Mr. Chairman, I am afraid I have not made myself quite clear. I do not contend for any alteration in the old standard. I do not contend that there is need for any departure from the present law. My only contention is that there is at present a difference in the sale of a ton of 2,000 lbs. and 2,240 and a difference in the bushel of 38 and 34 lbs.; it should be placed beyond peradventure, by reciting in the Bill or Resolutions what the standard is at present. I do not ask for any alteration. Is the standard 2,240 lbs. and 38 lbs.? If so recite it in the resolutions. It means a larger amount to the purchaser and less chance of disputes on sales.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that the Act states that a ton is 2,240 lbs. If I order a ton of hay or coal or anything else and I only get 2,000 lbs. I can sue for the extra 240 lbs. The Act already provides that oats shall weigh 38 lbs. to the bushel. Various grains in the act are stated as being so much to the bushel and the weight varies because these grains are of different specific gravity. The difficulty raised by the Rt. Hon. gentleman arises through the difference in the Prince Edward Island bushel. In P. E. I. the bushel is only 34 lbs. Sometimes oats is imported from there in sacks of three bushels. The people do not know of the difference in the bushel. But there is no doubt as to the law. If I go to T. & M. Winter or Shea & Co. and order ten bushels of oats I am entitled to 380 lbs. and they cannot legally sell me 340. But the question could hardly be dealt with in these resolutions which only touch the practical question of the regulation of inspection of weights and measures.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred and recommended that a Bill be introduced in accordance therewith.

On motion this Report was received and adopted, and the Bill entitled “An Act to amend Chapter 102 of the Consolidated Statutes entitled “Of Weights and Measures and the Inspection of Lumber,” was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on tomorrow.

BOILER INSPECTION BILL.

Pursuant to Order, and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, the Bill entitled “An Act to amend ‘The Boiler Inspection Act, 1899’,” 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.

TUBERCULOSIS BILL.

Pursuant to Order, and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, the Bill entitled, “An Act respecting the Treatment and Prevention of Tuberculosis,” 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.

Hon. Minister Finance and Customs tabled the Auditor General’s report for the year 1911.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until Thursday, March 7th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.
THURSDAY, March 7th.

The House met at 3 of the clock in the afternoon, pursuant to adjournment.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—I beg to table the report of Sir James M. Moody, the special commissioner appointed to enquire into and report on the condition of the Lunatic Asylum; also the report of the Commission of Internal Economy.

PETITIONS.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Jamestown, Southern Bay, and Seal Cove, on the subject of a general election in November 1912.

MR. MOULTON.—I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Dog Cove, Coppit, Deer Island and vicinity. Petitioners protest against the use of codnets in the deep waters of the Bay. I would strongly urge upon the Government to have this matter stopped, as it is very detrimental to the interests of the fishermen of that locality. I have very much pleasure in giving it my hearty support.

QUESTIONS.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND gave notice of question.

MR. KENT gave notice of question.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—In reply to a former question of Sir R. Bond's in relation to the Placentia and Whitbourne mails, I beg to supply the following additional information: Mails for Placentia and Whitbourne were despatched and delivered on February 9th and 10th. The 11th being Sunday, no mail was made up or despatched. The 12th and 13th mails were made up for despatch, but the 12th and morning train of the 13th were cancelled. These mails were despatched by evening train of the 13th. On the 14th, mails were despatched in charge of Mail Clerk Grant, and the train arrived at the Junction, where it has since been held. On the 15th and 16th the mails were despatched in charge of Carbonear Mail Clerk Bradley, who transferred them to mail clerk Grant at the Junction.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. the Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of all amounts paid for the advertising in English, Canadian or Foreign or Colonial papers; give names of papers amount paid date of payment and object of advertisement in each case from June 30th, 1909, to date.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—When the present Government assumed office it found that the 'Standard of Empire,' of London, a weekly paper, was in receipt of $3,500 per annum for one advertisement. It was the weekly edition of the London Standard, and designed entirely for circulation in the Colonies. When the present Premier went to London in 1909, he realized that the Colony was not receiving value for this large sum, and accordingly he made an arrangement whereby he reduced the amount paid the Standard of Empire to $1,500, and arranged with the Financial News, a leading financial journal, and the weekly illustrated paper known as 'Canada,' published in London, for the insertion of advertisements as well. 'Canada' receives $1,250, and the 'Financial News' receives $1,250; so that for $4,000 the Colony has not alone the benefit of the advertisements in these three papers, but also of articles descriptive of the Colony's progress and resources, which are published by the Standard of Empire, The Financial News, and Canada. The detailed statement asked for by the honourable member is tabled herewith.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance to lay on the table of the House a statement in detail of all amounts paid under the head of Civil and Criminal Prosecutions with names of parties, dates of payment, amount
paid and purpose of each payment from March 1st, 1911, to date.

**HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.**—I beg to table information asked for.

**MR. KENT** asked the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the amount allocated and the amount expended to date in each electoral District out of (1) the special road grant; (2) the surplus trust voted at the last session of the Legislature.

**MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.**—I beg to table information asked for.

**MR. KENT** asked the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the amount allocated and the amount expended to date in each electoral District out of (1) the special road grant; (2) the surplus trust voted at the last session of the Legislature.

**MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.**—I beg to table information asked for.

**MR. CLAPP** asked the Minister of Public Works whether it is the intention of the Government to put a Motor Ferry to ply between Woody Point and Norris Point, Bonne Bay, in substitution for the row-boat now in use there and in compliance with the request of the residents, and contained in the petition presented to this House.

**MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.**—In reply I beg to say the matter is under the consideration of the Government.

**MR. CLAPP** asked the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of the House a statement showing (1) the total amount credited out of the special grant to District of St. Barbe; (2) Statement of each allocation made therefrom, giving date and amount of each, also to whom allocated and for what purpose.

**MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.**—I beg to table statement asked for.

**MR. CLAPP** asked the Minister of Public Works whether it is the intention of the Government to undertake the construction of the Bridge over Baker's Brook, District of St. Barbe, according to a plan laid down by the Government Engineer and if the Minister is not already aware that there is lying on the bank of the river a large quantity of material for its construction, together with a number of poles already paid for and waiting delivery in connection with the construction of said bridge.

**MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.**—In reply I beg to say the matter is under the consideration of the Government.

**MR. CLAPP** asked the Minister of Public Works whether it is the intention of the Government to make provision for a ferry for St. Margaret's Bay, District of St. Barbe, as asked for by a petition presented to this House and signed by Rev. J. T. Richards, Church of England Missionary, and a number of others.

**MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.**—In reply I beg to say that nothing has yet been done in this matter.

**MR. CLAPP** asked the Minister of Customs if, and to what amount payments have been made to tidewaiters outside of salaries in His Majesty's Customs.

**HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.**—In reply to the hon. member I may say that no amounts have been paid.

**MR. CLAPP** asked the Hon. the Colonial Secretary how many copies of the book prepared by P. T. McGrath, on Newfoundland in 1911, have been purchased by the Government, and what distribution has been made of them and a statement of the amount paid to Mr. McGrath for same.

**HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.**—I am not aware of any book having been prepared by Hon. P. T. McGrath, on Newfoundland in 1911. I am aware, however, of a work having been written by Mr. McGrath, entitled "Newfoundland in 1911," and judging by the comments of the press of both continents, it gives promise to be regarded as one of the standard works on Newfoundland. No copies of the book have been purchased by the Government, consequently there could have been no distribution, and it follows that nothing could have been paid Mr. McGrath for the same. No
MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House the report of Sir James M. Moody on the Lunatic Asylum.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—In reply to the hon. member I beg to say that this report has already been tabled, and may be seen by reference to the clerk of the House.

MR. ROBERTS asked the Minister of Public Works to skate why the Main Line and Local Road Moneys for Twillingate were not sent out in the early part of the season as formerly, but held back until late in the month of November last, when the season was too far advanced for road work.

HON. MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.—I beg to say that owing to the pressure of business in our office there was some delay in sending out the allocations. Instructions have been given to have all sent out this year as soon as possible.

MR. GEAR asked the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of this House statement of all special money spent on Main Line of Road, Burin District, when spent, what work was finished (how many miles), showing cost of bridges at Corbin, Lawn and from Grand Bank to Frenchman's Cove.

MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.—In reply I beg to say that that statement is being prepared.

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.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—Mr. Chairman, in moving the House into Committee of the Whole a few days ago, I think I made all the necessary explanation of the many changes in the estimates for the coming year. If there is any further information asked for by the gentlemen on the other side of the House I will be only too glad to furnish it.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—In the statement made by the Minister of Finance on Tuesday last, when tabling the Estimates, we were told that the grand total of the Estimates is Three million four hundred and ninety-three thousand, nine hundred and thirty-nine dollars and five cents, as compared with $3,327,442.20 for the previous year, which means that the Estimates for the next fiscal year 1912-13 is One hundred and sixty-six thousand, four hundred and ninety-six dollars and eighty-five cents in excess of the former estimated expenditure. The total Estimate was designated by the Minister as a grand one. I do not see anything grand about it. The word grand means magnificent, illustrious, eminent. The Minister, I presume, does not mean for us to consider his figures in that sense, but probably applied the word grand as signifying enormous, and, if that was his meaning, he was not astray in the application of the word, for the Estimate of three and a half million dollars is an enormous sum to defray the cost of the Civil Government and meet the public expenditure in this small and sparsely populated Colony. It is an enormous sum of money to wring from a people who the Government admit are “overburdened by taxation,” and who “suffer keenly from the increased cost of living” here. Sir, enormous as it is, we cannot hope that the figures will cover the expenditure of the current year, or, the year for which the Estimate is made. We cannot entertain this hope, because we have the fact confronting us that each year...
since the present Government assumed office their expenditure has largely exceeded their Estimate. The Current Expenditure on Account of the Public Service for the year ending June 30th, 1911, amounted to Three million three hundred and fifty-four thousand, seven hundred and forty-six dollars and fifty-two cents, being Two hundred and sixteen thousand nine hundred and seventy-one dollars and fifty-eight cents in excess of that for the year 1909-10. We shall not know, until this House meets again what the expenditure for the fiscal year 1911-12 amounts to, but, from the experience of the past we are fully justified in assuming that it will be largely in excess of the Estimate. The policy of the present Government is not to curtail expenditure, but to scatter in selected channels every cent they can appropriate. I observe by the Auditor General's Report before the House, that with a view to making accounts appear better than they really are a method has recently been introduced of holding over accounts chargeable to the current year and paying them in the following year. This, sir, is most reprehensible, and the Auditor General in his report very properly censures it as "a distinct breach of the Audit Act." If such a condition of things were to be permitted to continue, then, we should never know how to deal with the Estimates submitted to this House. While the Estimates for the year 1912-13 is One hundred and sixty-six thousand, four hundred and ninety-six dollars and eighty-five cents in excess of the Estimates of the current year, we cannot hope that it will not be exceeded, because, each and every year reveals the fact that the votes taken in Supply are inadequate to meet an ever expanding and altogether too expensive public service. The Auditor General in his report before the House says "when we have to do with overdrafts ranging from fifteen to one hundred per cent. and over on the original votes, it is clearly evident that if the expenditure is reasonably economical, then, the votes must be inadequate, and this is really what is the trouble." The Government in the Estimates before us have not remedied this trouble, for the $166,496.00 increase on the Estimates of 1911-12 does not touch the major portion of the accounts where the great leakage occurs. The Estimates then, if the Auditor General is correct, and I am sure he is, are not properly and accurately compiled, they are short Estimates forbidding another large batch of drawn accounts in 1913. Again, sir, the Auditor General's Report shows that forty-one public accounts were largely overdrawn last year. The Government's increase in the Estimates before us only affects nine heads of expenditure, thus leaving without redress the evil of which the Auditor General has very properly complained, and entailing upon your successors in office, in 1913, the duty of meeting by bill of indemnity another large overdraft. Speaking of the year 1913 I am reminded that the Government have not made provision in these Estimates for the cost of revising the list of voters. I submit that provision should be made therein. Before another General Election takes place, under the law, that work has to be done. The law provides that the list of voters shall be revised every four years. Suppose you do not go to the country next autumn, this Parliament will expire in May 1913. If you do not have the list of voters revised this year, the work cannot be done within the stated period, or before this Parliament expires, and you have no justification for believing that His Excellency the Governor will allow this country to be without a Parliament for six months, and the Gov-
ernment to be conducted for that period by entirely irresponsible persons. I use the words irresponsible in the sense that the Executive members will not be responsible to the people after the period of Parliament expires in June 1913. That is precisely what would occur if an election were not held prior to the 1st of June, 1913. It will be obvious then to this House that provision should be made in these Estimates for taking the list of voters this present year. In his statement to this House on Tuesday last the Minister of Finance said, and his words are published in the Daily News of the 5th inst., that "it will be seen that the provision for the census, twenty thousand dollars, last year has been reduced to Ten thousand dollars." That is absolutely incorrect. Does the Minister mean this House to understand that the taking of the census has only cost ten thousand dollars?

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—We voted $20,000 last year, $10,000 this.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—Is the $20,000 voted last year sufficient to cover?

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—No.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—Is it not a fact that he now requires to supplement the vote of twenty thousand dollars by an additional ten thousand dollars? That the cost has been or will be thirty thousand dollars instead of twenty thousand dollars which he estimated last year, and which was then voted? The Minister now admits that my contention was right. Then it follows, that his statement to this House on Tuesday last was misleading and incorrect. Apart from the increased votes for Education, Lighthouse Service, and Public Charities the Estimates are practically the same as last year, and do not require special analysis at this time. The other increases are comparatively speaking petty and vexatious. Vexatious because they relate to increase of salaries mainly, and those increases have been made without regard to the claims of other Civil servants. When it must be admitted that all the other Departments of the Government are overmanned and underpaid, it is manifestly unjust that some few officials should be singled out for increases of salary while possibly more deserving men have to be content with a starvation wage. I shall reserve further comment on these increases of expenditure until the votes arise in Committee.

There is an omission from these Estimates to which I desire to draw the attention of the Prime Minister. Last year I presented a petition to this House from the inhabitants of Grand Falls in respect to the necessity for a Public Building at that place to accommodate mails, telegraph and Customs business. At that time I endeavoured to impress upon the Government the necessity for that work being undertaken without further delay, and I received the assurance of the Prime Minister that it would be immediately taken in hand. He accounted for the delay by intimating that there was some difficulty in obtaining a suitable site for the building.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—The difficulty really was in getting a tender.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—The Prime Minister says that I am in error, that it was not a difficulty with regard to the site, but in respect to obtaining tenders. Well, I have in my hand a letter received from a reliable gentleman resident of Grand Falls, and he says as follows: "I notice in the published reports of the House of Assembly, the premier stated that the delay was caused by the Government not being able to come to terms with the Company regarding a site. This is absolutely untrue. Last summer the Company sent the Government a plan
of the town and they were free to take any site they choose. The Minister of Finance when here last summer (that was 1910) personally selected a site on Carmelite Road, directly across the way from the Staff House." However, whatever may have been the cause or delay it should be removed. It is evident from what my correspondent says that there is no difficulty in respect to a suitable site for the building, and, if the Government cannot obtain a suitable tender for the erection of the building, then they should place the work in the hands of the superintendent of Public Works and he should engage men to perform it. Grand Falls has become a most important contributing centre to the revenue of the Colony, and therefore requires, and should have without any further delay, a suitable place in which business of the greatest importance to the country may be transacted. There were two remarks made by the Minister of Finance which I cannot permit to pass without notice; first, his statement that certain increases in the conduct of public departments was due to increased cost of clothing materials and, secondly, as to the increased cost of food stuffs. Sir, this confirms the truth of what I have been reiterating during the past few days. The time has certainly arrived when this House should consider, first, the matter of the enormous protection at present given to local industries. In order to bolster up a few local industries in this town, which give labor to a comparatively few people, the fishermen and labouring classes have to pay exceedingly high prices for their articles of clothing, and the Government also in connection with public institutions has to pay an equally high price. Some of these establishments we are told from time to time in the newspapers, are paying their shareholders fifteen and even much higher percentage of dividends upon the capital invested. This indicates a condition of business success that does away with the necessity for continued fostering by high protective duties, entailing not alone absence of competition and the keeping up of high prices to purchasers, but taking money from the pockets of the many to enrich and swell the dividends of a few local capitalists. Now it is entirely proper in the initial stage of such industries that legitimate protection and encouragement should be given by the Government; but, when they have become successfully established, protection in a scale that prohibits competition should cease. It is not the duty of the Government to foster hotbed industries, that is to say industries that can only survive by special aid from the Treasury, and the sacrifice of the material comfort and pecuniary interests of the great mass of poor people in this country. With regard to food stuffs, the same argument applies in part, but the facts in this connection also emphasize the necessity for a complete revision of the tariff, so that the prime necessaries of life may come into this country free of duty. I need not labor this argument, for the correctness of the position has been admitted by the Government, and it only remains for the Government to act upon the acknowledgment.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS.—In reply, Mr. Chairman, to the Rt. hon. the Leader of the Opposition, I may say that I do not think there is a better guarantee to the country and to this Committee that the Estimates brought down by the Government are judicious and for the best interests of the Colony than is supplied by the very brief and superficial criticism of the Rt. hon. gentleman. In his attempt to criticize these Estimates he has confessed that they practically defy criticism, for whereas in the past he has
gone into the subject exhaustively, made detailed and involved analysis of the Estimates and tried to show by facts and figures that there was mismanagement and extravagance, he contents himself to-day with merely indulging in generalities without offering any arguments to support his contentions.

We have made several changes in the salaries he says, and he asks why did we do so, but first he goes on to assert that the policy of the Government is not to reduce expenditure. He did not succeed in proving that. The policy of the Government is to be economical in its expenditures, but the Government's policy also is to continue making improvement in all departments of the public service so far as it is possible to do so judiciously, and in order to effect such improvements it is absolutely necessary to spend money. How, I ask, can we go on providing all sorts of public utilities without increasing our outlay? Look, for instance, at the number of lighthouses built during the last three years. How could we provide these most essential safeguards to navigation without increasing our expenditure? We are providing railroads, and how can we provide railroads without increasing expenditure? but I maintain that in this and other respects the expenditures are judicious and quite within the possibilities of the country. Let us now take the Rt. hon. gentleman's own case. When he came into power in 1901 the total Estimates for that year were $1,920,000, and when he went out in 1909 the Estimates amounted to $2,941,000, an increase of over $1,000,000 in 8 years. He has not told us to-day why he made these increases, and I challenge him to do so. I do not mean to say that it was not absolutely necessary for him to make certain increases, but at the same time I am prepared to prove to this country that despite this increase of his the present Government has done more for the short time it has been in power than any other Government in the history of the Colony—it has done more for the fisherman, more for the farmer, more for the miner, more for the taxpayer generally. The Rt. hon. gentleman says that the public debt has increased $4,000,000. My reply to that, sir, is that if the public debt has increased by that amount we at least have something to show for it. But under the previous Administration the public debt increased $5,000,000, and the Rt. hon. gentleman admitted in this House the other night that they had nothing to show for it.

**RT. HON SIR R. BOND**—Nonsense; I did nothing of the sort.

**HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS.**—He said, sir, that he had to carry on a fight with the Reids while he held power and that to carry on that fight he had to pay $5,000,000.

**RT. HON SIR R. BOND**—I never said anything of the sort; I was not here during the debate. I was down stairs.

**HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS.**—He said, sir, in reply to Mr. Bennett and it is on the record. The Rt. hon. gentleman also criticised our vote for the census. For last year's Estimates we asked for $20,000 for this purpose, and I then stated that this sum would not suffice to complete the work, but that it would be sufficient to carry it on for the next twelve months. Today I say that the amount has been reduced $10,000. In other words, I can say that for the coming fiscal year we are asking only $10,000, in addition to the $20,000 we asked last year; yet he says that I am misleading the public, but if he will look at the debates of
last year he will find that what I say is there.

**RT. HON. SIR R. BOND**—That does not make any difference, the statement was misleading, it misled me at first.

**HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS.**—I say that the vote this year is only half of what it was last year.

**RT. HON. SIR R. BOND**—Now you do, but you said before that the vote was a reduction; whereas it was really an increase.

**HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE & CUSTOMS.**—That argument is childish. Last year we asked for $20,000, and this year we asked for $10,000, therefore, the public expenditure under this head is $10,000 less this year than it was last year. Is not that true? Is that misleading? The Rt. hon. gentleman first asked why we singled out a few officials and raised their salaries. I reply by another question—Why did he do it? Why did he do it? Why did he single out a few officials every year and raise their salaries. I reply by another question—Why did he do it? Why did he single out a few officials every year and raise their salaries? Look at the Estimates for 1907, page 4 and 5, and 22; there will be seen increases in the salaries of a few officials. Why did he adopt this policy? Why did he not come down with the broad policy of raising them all? The same thing has gone on ever since he had control of public affairs, and he did nothing to carry out the policy of general increases regarding which he is so eloquent tonight. He is equally eloquent about the increased cost of living. We all admit that the cost of living has increased, but we must not lose sight of the fact that the people of the country are far better off to-day than they were twenty-five years ago. The people who are comfortable and well able to pay the taxes to-day were living on Indian Meal, twenty-five years ago, and to-day are able to eat the same articles of food as the Rt. hon. gentleman opposite. The greater portion of these people have to-day what they had not twenty-five years ago, and that is a bank-book containing a substantial balance to their credit. Yes, sir, there is a vast difference in the people of to-day and the people of twenty years ago in the items of comfort and financial stability, and if the cost of living has gone up the earning power of our people has also increased, and they can afford to-day what they could not look at then, and it is not for us either to dictate to them what they shall live on.

The Rt. Hon. gentleman also complains about the industries which are paying such large dividends. If he can tell me what these industries are I will take steps to see what the Government can do in the matter. He further claims that when he was in power he reduced taxation. I deny that. I assert emphatically that he did not reduce taxation. He came into office in 1900 and he sent to the Custom House an order to have a scheme worked out, as to how taxes could be increased in such a way that it would not be noticed. I read that statement a few nights ago. He increased taxation by nearly a quarter of a million dollars every year, and that went on for four years, and then he took the duty off certain articles which really meant a reduction of less than he was getting otherwise, and then he came on and said he had reduced taxation. Yet this is the Rt. hon. gentleman who talks to us here about throwing dust in the eyes of the people. He took the duty of salt, oil, molasses and flour, but he added it on after on other things for he thought it would not be noticed, and he was able to get more money by about $35,000 every year from the
people than he gave back to them, by taking off the duty on these four articles. I will go further, however, and say that it is a question that admits of very grave consideration for the Government, whether it is better to reduce taxation and put an end to public improvements, or continue the present rates and provide all the great benefits we are giving to the country. I challenged the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. Kent), as to whether it is not correct that he has received more money for his district than he was able to get when he was Attorney General in the late Administration. He had to admit that this was so, and that $8,000 or $10,000 had been spent on that district and I challenge him now to say that he ever got that much under the late Government. Ferryland has got more from the present Government than it got for twenty-five years previous. I make that statement because I can prove it. That is the reason why this Government is not reducing taxation, it believes that it is better to maintain the present rate and to use the money so obtained for providing public improvements. Take Ferryland again, there was not a vestige of any marine work in that district under the late Government. Why, I do not know. Other members were able to get thousands, but to-day there is a different policy in force; public moneys are voted on a per capita basis and every district shares alike. Is not that correct? This is my reply to the paltry criticism and petty insinuations of the Rt. Hon. the leader of the Opposition.

RT. HON SIR R. BOND.—Mr. Chairman, although it is not necessary that I should on the present occasion occupy the time of the House, I think I may be pardoned if I contribute a very few words in relation to two or three statements made by the Rt. hon. the leader of the Opposition this evening. I think I can quite endorse what has been said by the hon. the Finance Minister especially when he stated that the best possible tribute has been paid to these estimates by the criticism of the learned opposition leader. There is no question whatever but that from his experience in this House, now extending over a period of nearly thirty years, from his close and intimate acquaintance with the public affairs of the Colony, and I may say no one in this House has had as close an acquaintance with them, there is no one who could more easily demolish or more easily break down and tear to pieces these estimates, if it were possible, so that, as a government, we may congratulate ourselves on the character of the estimates when not one solitary word can be brought forward or suggested that can in any way reflect upon the soundness of every statement laid before the House. Criticism there has been, but what is the value of it? What is the advantage of it? What is the meaning of it? If we are serious, if this is a delib-
ervative assembly in which men mean the very words they use, mean that their words shall convey their ordinary meaning then surely we must expect the public outside to give some attention to us. Now the learned leader opposite opened his remarks by saying that the total difference in the vote this year from that of last is $166,000. Is there anything strange about that? Is there anything wrong about it? Are we to remain where we were? Are we to make no progress? Are education and relief of the poor, railway extension, lighthouse extension, Marconi and telegraph extension and all the other public institutions, are they all to remain where they were? Is nothing to be done in these matters at all? Are they all mortgaged to one party more than another and have we to wait for these improvements until some other party succeeds us. There is an increase of $166,000 in the estimates,—and I make bold to say Sir, that there is not a dollar of increase more than is necessary. If this country could afford it, it would not be one hundred, but two hundred or three hundred and sixty six thousand we would be asking for. Now where are these increases? That is a fair question, and it is a question that the public is entitled to have a reply to and we are prepared to give it. We are prepared to defend it, to stand and fall in the estimation of the public as to whether we are right or wrong. Sir, I speak for those associated with me when I say that we do not desire to remain five minutes in our present position longer than the country wishes, but while we are here we will delegate our functions to no man—while we are here we will allow no one to interfere with the carrying out of our duty. We are asking the Legislature for $166,000 more than last year. And further moneys will be asked for under various heads in supplementary supply. In this we are following the precedents of this legislature for years. Yes, there is an increase of $166,000 and the country can well afford it, and it is only because the country is prosperous, obtaining larger revenues, that it can afford it. It is an increase which has been made every year for the past three years for improvements in the public service, improvements which have been carried out without one solitary addition to taxation, in fact taxation has been reduced because new sources of revenue have been found such as Bell Island, which have removed the burden off the shoulders of the masses. The Rt. hon the Leader of the Opposition was in office for eight years and during that time he increased the estimates every year. From the time he came in in 1901 until he went out the late administration collected one million dollars annually more than that previously collected. In other words there was an increase of $130,000 every year. We are not now concerned with how that money was collected. The Hon. Min. of Finance and Customs stated that it came from increased taxation,—that while the late administration took off $180,000 to $200,000 on some items they put over $200,000 on others. I say I am not prepared to discuss this question, but whether right or wrong I am prepared to take my share of the responsibility, because I was party to this increase, and party to the reduction and whatever was done I have to admit it. My only point now is that we are not doing anything more in the way of taxation than was done by the late administration. In 1901 when that administration came into power the revenue was $1,900,000, in 1908 when it went out it was $2,348,000, or an increase of $130,000 a year.
Where did this increase come from? More revenues were collected. And with those increased revenues came also increased expenditures in the public service. This increase in the estimates to-day, this additional vote of $166,000 is for the payment of increased public services. We are not increasing the contingency vote and we are adding a few dollars only to the customs vote. The vote for postal offices and telegraph offices, however, have been increased because it is impossible to extend the services without expenditure of money. When we came into power three years ago there was not a mile of telegraph from Bonne Bay to White Bay and for six or seven months of the year the people there might be in Siberia for all the outside world knew. Although we have been in power only three years we have built a line round that part of the country, and more offices are to be established there. We have laid cables in Placentia Bay and arrangements are being made to have others laid in Burgeo district to the island of Ramea and also to establish short cables in Notre Dame Bay. We are going to increase telegraph facilities all over the country, and also the Marconi system. This cannot be done without the expenditure of money. Is it the desire of my Rt. hon. friend that this extension should not be made? That is certainly the effect of his argument and if that is not his contention what is the application of his argument and of what value is it? Money is to be expended in erecting light houses and on agriculture. We have extended public wharves, light houses and agricultural facilities, and if these are to be continued the expenditure must be increased. We went to the country on a definite policy including a number of undertakings in respect to improvements of the public service. We undertook to provide Old Age Pensions and last year we voted $20,000 for this purpose. This year we are increasing the vote another $20,000 and next year we shall increase it a further $20,000. We cannot expect to find the money for this and the other increases on the Colonial building steps, it must come from the people. If we have large surpluses, as I am glad to say we have, what better way can there be to expend them than to give them back to the people of the colony who need them? The taxes should fall on the people in a fair and equitable way and those who can afford to do so should pay more than those who cannot do so. However, it is no easy matter to impose taxes so that they fall fairly on all the people. Take off the tax on flour, for instance, and it comes off the rich man's barrel as well as off the poor man's. The man that eats his penny bun derives no more benefit from it than the man who eats his cake. This is inequitable and some means have to be devised whereby taxes will fall more equitably on all. We are endeavouring to even things by giving back the surplus to the poor and needy in the shape of old age pensions; we are giving it back in light houses, in Marconi stations and in telegraph extension. What right have we to tax every man, woman and child in the island in order to provide education and not allow a large number of our people to enjoy the advantages of it? I stated last year that there are hundreds of children not being educated because they have no school to go to. We then voted $7000 to open schools in sparsely populated districts, this year we are adding another $7000 to the vote and next year we shall add a further $7000. I communicated with the superintendents of education on
the subject and asked them what they wanted and also in what space of time these schools could be provided. They replied that they could be provided within three years for $20,000 and so we voted a third of this amount last year, a third will be voted this year and the balance next year. Where can the money for these schools come from if it does not come from the surplus? The same applies to the vote for Public Charities. We have allotted an additional $25,000 for the relief of the poor, the sick and the needy. They receive three cents a day only from the Government and the people of the Colony who are in good health and have the means of supporting themselves are not only satisfied to have a share of the surplus given to those in need but, if necessary, they are willing to pay more, for they feel the responsibilities of citizenship and feel that they can enjoy their own prosperity more when they know that those in distress are given the necessities of life. That is why there has been an increase in this department, that we may give in a small way to these people some of the advantages to obtain which they have been taxed. Is there anything more unjust than to have a man taxed in order that the children of the country might have education and then deny his children the advantage of it? Is it fair to make him pay as much towards the revenue as the man living in a place where there is a good school? It is not so in other countries of the world and it is our duty to give every taxpayer an opportunity of educating his children, whether he avails of it or not. Even if a man only sends a letter by train or boat he is helping towards the payment of the subsidies to the Reids and the Bowrings. All pay something towards the revenue and it is our desire that taxation should fall reasonably and justly on all. These are the only headings under which there are increases, and I now invite my friends opposite to point out under the head of Education, Public Charities, Light houses, Marine and fisheries, Post Offices and Telegraph Offices what votes they would reduce. What lighthouses are they going to do without? What school will they close? What road will they refuse to keep open? What pension will they refuse to pay? I shall be very glad to be informed of any. My learned friend found fault with the word which the Minister of Finance used when he described the estimates as "grand." I say the word is properly used for it is a grand thing that a Finance Minister can come here year after year and increase the public service without increasing taxation one solitary cent. What can be grander? Read the estimates in the old journals of the House and see the position that the Whiteways, the Littles, the Kents, the Talbots and the Carters were in. They did not know where the money was to come from and could never tell how to make both ends meet. They were handicapped in all their efforts on account of lack of means, but we have now entered on brighter days for we have now reached a point when our people are at work and can get all the work they want. Nobody who looks for work is unable to find it. We now have large revenues, but no matter how they may grow the demands of the people who in the past have had no attention are growing in a larger ratio. How can the leader of the opposition justify the building of a telegraph line through the district of St. John's or Ferryland or Placentia and not through St. Barbe? Is not that gross dishonesty when the people of
St. Barbe are taxed the same as the people of other districts? How can he justify the building of motor roads through Conception Bay when there is not a road a mile long in Burgeo or Fortune Bay. If you wish to travel in St. Barbe district and leave the steamer at Bonne Bay you will find no road, even when the ground is not covered with snow, until you come to White Bay the end of your journey. In Burgeo there is no continuous road except between Port aux Basques and Channel. Rose Blanche is only fifteen miles from Channel and yet you cannot go there by road. It is the same in Fortune Bay and what is true of roads is true of other conveniences. One has only to go there to see how the people are deprived of public advantages. We here in St. John's know very little of the hardship under which the people in some of the outports labour. If anything happens to us here, if we have a pain or an ache, we have very little difficulty in having it attended to. If the doctor or the ambulance does not respond quickly there are letters in the daily papers. Fancy what the people of Burgeo or Fortune Bay have to put up with in order to go to the hospital when there are no means of conveyance at hand and you get some slight idea of their disadvantages. That is my answer to the charge that we are increasing these votes. I am glad we are able to increase them and I hope the revenues of the country will enable us to make further increases, for I am willing to make more increases year after year if they can be made without increasing the taxation of the people.

My Rt. hon. friend says that we are collecting an enormous revenue from a sparsely populated country. It is necessary to collect this revenue. If the people lived in three or four centres we would not have to build as many roads or hospitals or bridges, but the people are divided among thirteen hundred settlements, and that is the reason why it is so expensive to meet the requirements of all. However, in spite of the fact that the country is sparsely populated, we are trying to bring public facilities to every man's door, no matter how far he may live from these large centres because he pays for them and is entitled to receive them.

My learned friend says further:—"The idea of the present administration is to spend in well selected channels every cent of revenue that is collected." I agree with him. The channels are selected, very carefully selected, and no money is spent for minor considerations only. We are spending it on Old Age Pensions, in extending the railway to those places that for years have been contributing toward it, and yet have had no opportunity of availing of its facilities before. We came into power only three years ago, but when this present session of the Legislature closes we shall have increased the educational vote over $100,000. That is certainly an enormous increase, and if it had been stated in our manifesto that we intended to increase the vote by that amount my friends opposite would have declared that we were going to bring the country to the brink of ruin and Confederation. We have increased it and that is one of the "selected channels" to which my rt. hon. friend no doubt refers. How can we make a better selection? We are giving back to the people what we have collected from them. We collected it from the people of Bonavista and Trinity and the other districts, from the men who
earn their living by the bultow and seine and from the frozen pans. These are the men from whom we have collected it and these are the men to whom we are giving it back. I want to know what party has done as much for these men and for the country in ten years as we have done in three. My Rt. hon. friend then went on to speak of the increases in salaries which some of the civil servants have been granted and he describes them as "petty and vexatious." What we have done is this, that instead of making a universal increase in the wages of civil servants we have made certain selections in certain offices. It is these that he describes as petty and vexatious and to hear him speak, one would imagine that this has not been the established principle for years. The Minister in charge of the Resolutions has pointed out and named several cases in which the same policy was followed by the leader of the Opposition while he was in charge of the affairs of the colony and it is only because the present increases are made by us, that the Rt. hon. gentleman describes them as petty and vexatious. Had he himself made these increases it would have been something wonderful and it would be glorified and men and angels would be expected to bow down before it. What is true of his position on this matter is true of the position he takes on all matters introduced by the present administration for his policy is that "no good can come out of Nazareth." This is the business of the Opposition for while they are waiting like Wilkins Micawber for something to turn up they have to do this. Like the Government, they are on the stage before the public, but they have only to come out in the acts and play small parts. The public are always in the theatre and they have to do something. I find no serious fault with them, in fact, I can quite sympathize with some of them who have often to put forward arguments in which they do not themselves agree. They have to say something and come out like little boys and recite their poetry, but they do not believe all they say and merely learn it off by heart. If I could penetrate the mind and heart of the leader of the opposition, if I had some kind of mental X-rays by which I could discover what he really thinks, I am sure I would find that he is one with us in practically every measure that has been enacted during the past three years. He criticizes merely because he is in opposition, and if he were leader of the House at the present time, he would support every increase that has been made in the estimates.

You cannot flatter a man more than by doing what he does, and we have only done what my hon. friend has been doing for the past eight years, and yet he is not satisfied. In 1901 the leader of the opposition gave increases in the Colonial Secretary's department; to the Deputy Colonial Secretary $150, to the first clerk $200 and to the stenographer $100, and that was all. Those were the only increases that year. In 1906 they gave the Deputy Colonial Secretary another $100 and the second clerk $100. In 1908-09 they only gave one increase, to the Registrar of Vital Statistics $100. And these are what is termed petty and vexatious increases! Take the Department of Justice. In 1903-04 the Private Secretary got $150; everybody else passed over. In 1905-06 the Deputy Minister got $600 and the Secretary and Accountant another $150. In 1906-07 the Secretary and Accountant got another $100 and the messenger $44, and that was all. And in 1908
the messenger got another $100. Were those petty? Were those vexatious? They were not because he made them. Take the Finance Department. In 1901-02, the first clerk got $300 increase, the only increase in the Department. Then there was not another until 1908-09 when there was only one, the second clerk got $300. Were those petty? Were those vexatious? In 1904-05 the first clerk got $800; in 1906 the first clerk got $100 and the second $200. Were those petty and vexatious? In the District Courts there were only two increases; both to the same man. In 1901 the Clerk of the Peace at Hr. Grace got $105, and in 1907 he got $115; no one else got anything. Then take the magistrates all over the island. In 1901 four individuals got increases, those at St. Mary's, Oderin, Hr. Breton and Channel. All the others were passed over. Why? Is that petty and vexatious? Why pick out these four men in 1901 and leave out every other in the island? If we did that today it would be said that they had a pull; but when they did it it was all right. It is all wrong when we do something of a similar character. In 1902 the magistrate at Bell Island got $120 increase and in 1906 one other, at Bonavista. All the other outport magistrates were ignored. Why were only those two picked out? Is it petty and vexatious? Here is the work of the late Government, who every year were guilty of these petty and vexatious increases that they denounce here this evening. Nothing could be more convincing than the figures I have read. Then there is the Penitentiary; it does not seem to have been a great favourite with the late Government, they kept away from it as much as possible. In 1903 they made only one increase, the Waterman $66. In 1907-08 the Deputy Superintendent and the Turnkey got increases. Only three increases in
eight years, but that was not petty or vexatious? To give one man $400 increase and have all the others wondering why he got it and they did not. Then we come to the Custom House. Only three increases in 1901, the first clerk $200, the second $100 and the second messenger $30. All the rest of that large staff passed over, some of them men of 20 years service. Was that not petty and vexatious? In 1903 there was only one, the Asst. Collector $300, and a very proper increase too. But then, why is he selected and not others? In 1905 there were two. In 1907 the second clerk and cashier got $200 and all the rest were ignored. In 1908 some got it and the rest were ignored. It is always those who have the best salaries already and probably in the least need of it who get increases, while those who have less and probably need it more, (for the poorer a man is the larger his family, as a rule), do not get it. In the General Post Office they opened the ball in 1901 with $350 to the chief clerk, while all the rest got small rises. Right down through the list, every one got a petty increase. Then again in 1902 the 9th clerk got an increase, and the eleven others got none. In 1903 there were two increases one to the Secretary, and one to the Money Order Cashier. In 1906 there was another to the Cashier. In 1907 there were a number of increases. In the Telegraph department in 1903 the Supt. got $110. In 1904 there was one increase, the Clerk in Charge $100, and all the rest passed over. In 1905 he got another $200 and all the rest were passed over. In 1906 the Superintendent and the Check Clerk got an increase. Why were the others ignored? If there was any value in the hon. member's argument at all I submit that this statement I have read is a convincing answer. My learned friend is on the horns of a dilemma, and can take which ever one he chooses. Either it was wrong for him to have pursued this petty and vexatious policy or it was right. If it was wrong, what is his answer? If it was right, does not that justify us? I prepared that statement and brought it up because I knew what comment the hon. member would make on these votes. Last year he dubbed the estimates in precisely the same words, petty and vexatious. There might be something in it if the criticisms came from anyone but the hon. member, who is responsible for the system of increases. He endeavoured to make a point in connection with the Auditor General's report. I will undertake to say that from 1901 to 1908 there was not a single report of the Auditor General that is not a censure upon the late administration for the same things that have been contended here this evening. Now here is a challenge, and I will undertake to prove it, if need be, that Mr. Bertea never sent in a report from 1901 to 1908 without drawing attention to the very same things that have been brought against us this evening, by the Rt. hon. leader of the Opposition. The Auditor General points out that it is not a desirable principle to carry over to next year any account that ought to be paid on account of this year. That is perfectly true, but the fault does not lie with the departments, it is due to those people who did not send in their accounts in time. They have not been furnished, and it is for that reason that accounts of 1910 which should have been paid in 1910 were carried over until 1911. And if an account is carried over until next year, what difference does it make in the final result? I admit it is necessary to keep these things up to date if you want a
correct statement, but at times it cannot be helped. I only hope the Auditor General will never have anything more objectionable to report against this Government than his reference to the failure to pay in any one year an account contracted in the same year. My hon. friend went on to point out that 41 public accounts were overdrawn. I can only say in reply that that is regular and proper and customary; it has been going on for years and will continue. Matters arise every day that never could have been contemplated. Last year when we closed this House, every possible vote was taken, and we thought every possible contingency was provided against, but before we knew it we were landed into an expenditure of $10,000 to try and save the sealers from the infection of small-pox. What else could we do? Are we to ask this House now to vote $10,000 to cope with an outbreak of cholera next summer? We could not possibly foresee that occurrence, but we had to be up and doing, and we had to make a large expenditure for the protection of the people of this country, and the trade of this country, especially the fish trade; for if it once went broadcast that no precautions were taken there are many in other countries who would be glad enough to spread the rumour, and we might find that catching fish was easier than marketing it. And then we would be asked why we did not do this or that at any cost. Well, we stopped the small-pox, and we spent $10,000 to do it, but it was money well spent.

If we go on as we are going, so the Leader of the Opposition says, our successors in 1913 will have to face an indemnity; they will have to face a loan bill to pay the accounts we leave behind us. That is what we had to do in relation to himself at the end of the last government. He left behind him accounts overdrawn to the extent of $325,000. I know that must have been one of the things that hurt him most when he was leaving office, to think that he had spent all this money and left his successors in the difficult position of having to raise a loan to meet his unpaid debts.

Then he raised the question of the 1913 election and he wanted to know why there was not a vote for taking the lists of voters the coming summer for an election to be held next fall. Because there is not going to be an election held next fall; that is why. That money will not be voted until the session of 1913, this time next year. Parliament will expire in June, 1913, and we have from January to June to take the lists.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—You will not have the money.

HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.—This Legislature will have voted the money before the 1st of March 1913. There never was a voter’s list taken yet before the first of July. When I was with the Rt. hon. member, in any year we went to the country that list was never taken before the first of July. We will be legally in existence as a Parliament until the first of June, and the money will be voted long before June. There will be nothing done except what is constitutional. Parliament will lapse in June, and there will be an appeal to the country in November. I want to make that statement and make it early, so that no one can say that it was sprung upon the country. The election will be held in November 1913. And I shall advise the Governor that that is the proper time to hold it. The hon. member will find that in this case, at least, my constitutional law is good. But that will be a matter for the Governor; I have only to advise.
RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—That is not a proper matter to discuss here. May I remind the Rt. Hon. member that His Excellency's name should not be brought in here.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—But the Rt. Hon. member raised the question. I am making the statement now so that there will not be any talk afterwards in the papers about this having been sprung on the electorate. I will take the Rt. Hon. member right into my confidence. Parliament will prorogue before the 1st of June and we will hold an election in November 1913.

Then the Leader of the Opposition went on to point out that an awful catastrophe will happen, that for six months there will be no Parliament in existence. Well, to be strictly accurate it is five months, June, July, August, September and October—five months. There will be five months not six, when everyone of us will be what the Rt. Hon. gentleman calls "irresponsible parties," when everyone of the members of the Executive Council will be without seats. But does not the Rt. Hon. gentleman know that in 1889, not to go any further back, parliament was dissolved in the month of July, and it did not die by the efflux of time, but was dissolved by proclamation of the Governor. Does he not remember that when he came into power in 1901, that parliament was prorogued by proclamation and everyone that sat at the Council was irresponsible in that he had no seat. Does he not know that in 1904 parliament was dissolved by Sir Cavendish Boyle in July, and from July to November we were all irresponsible in that there was no parliament. Does he not know that in 1908 he dissolved the parliament in July and that we came back in November 18 to 18. What a discovery! What a wonderful discovery! For five months there is going to be a Government in this country that will be irresponsible because it will not hold seats in the parliament. Well we have good precedent, very good precedent—we have the precedent of 1889, the precedent of 1893, the precedent of 1901, the precedent of 1904 and the precedent of 1908 when there was no parliament from June or July to November or December. Not a parliament either that died by the efflux of time, but a parliament dissolved by proclamation—Put out of existence by proclamation. All the members of the Government were without seats. That was constitutional. It has been the practice since 1855 when we were granted responsible government. It has been the practice since 1833 when we were granted representative government. I hope I have made myself perfectly clear, when I say that the next election is going to take place in 1913, that is of course if I hold my position here up to that time. One can never tell what may happen in such matters, but if I hold my present position a vote will be taken for the taking of the voters list, this time twelve months, in 1913, and the General Election will take place as usual in the autumn of that year and when the time comes I shall advise His Excellency that that is constitutional. I make this statement now once for all so that no one can say that this has been sprung on them, and if it is not sound law the Rt. hon. member knows how to test it. Passing away from this he goes on to the question of taxation and he assailed the protection of one of our industries—that of ready made clothes. And this institution is particularly referred to. Why, I do not know.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND—Because the Minister of Finance referred to it.
RT. HON. THE PREMIER.—
But everything is higher. The clothes are more expensive, food is more expensive, coal is more expensive, the very light we use is more expensive. Everything has increased in cost. There is no reason why we should single out in particular one branch and say that it has increased in the Hospital or anywhere else, or that there is an increase in clothes.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND—I made the statement about all the institutions. I did not particularise.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.
I did not hear that, I must have been engaged at the time. But I stand corrected. Well then, he says all the industrial institutions in this country are over protected. In other words, the protection is too great, and if we were to admit ready made clothes free of duty or even reduce the duty to half the effect would be that we would get cheaper clothes. I doubt it. I am satisfied that if we had not the local factories here we would be the dumping ground for the foreign manufacturer. I am not prepared to say whether it would not be better to have an enquiry into the whole matter. It is a large question; one that is agitating the whole world—Canada, the States, England, Germany. It is a burning question everywhere. In Canada it was a national question only the other day, and an election was fought on that question alone. For that is all Reciprocity means, raising the tariff on some goods and lowering it on others. In England the question of Tariff Reform has been the one question for three elections, Tariff Reform or Free Trade. The same is true in the United States and Germany. It is a question that must be settled with great care and great thought. We have $10,000,000 invested in local industries and we have 10,000 people engaged in them. Are we going to close their doors by taking down the tariff barriers? I am not prepared to say here at the present moment how far we are prepared to go in the reduction of the tariffs in order to bring down the price of manufactured goods. But will it bring the price down? That is the point. If we wipe out the Boot and Shoe factory and begin to wear American boots and shoes, are we quite sure that we are going to get cheaper boots? If not our policy will be in vain. I will go further and say that it would be better to pay a little more for the local article than send the money out of the country. The man that earns $8 a week in making boots and shoes does not send it to Germany or the States. The money remains in the country. That man goes and spends it with the butcher or baker, and the butcher or baker continues to circulate it. We have to be careful before we enter upon a policy which will have the effect of closing down the local industries of the country and making them shut their doors. I say that it is impossible without having carefully prepared statistics before us, to express an opinion upon such an important matter. As to the question raised by the opposition, that there is no provision in the Estimates for a building at Grand Falls, on that point I should like to say that I am quite in sympathy with the Rt. hon. member in relation to that matter. It has not been left out intentionally, but we hope—the Government has plans before it—we hope to erect that building during the summer. Now, Mr. Chairman, I have fully covered the points raised by the Leader of the Opposition and I trust answered them to the satisfaction of the House.

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, had made some progress and asked leave to sit again.

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

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL.

Pursuant to order, and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, the Bill entitled "An Act to amend Chap. 102 of the Consolidated Statutes entitled of Weights and Measures, and the Inspection of Lumber" was read a second time and ordered to be referred to Committee of the Whole House on to-morrow.

The remaining orders of the day were deferred.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Friday, March 8th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

Friday, March 8th.

House met at 3 p.m. of the clock in the afternoon, pursuant to adjournment.

PETITIONS.

MR. GOODISON.—I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Victoria on the subject of Sunday Observance. This petition is along the same lines as those already presented to this House. It is very numerously signed, and I have much pleasure in giving it my support, and if a Bill is brought down on the lines suggested here I shall be very glad to support it. I have also a petition asking for a sum of money to construct a road from Long's Hill, Carbonear to the Main Road. The people of that HiH are shut off from direct connection with the town and it is very desirable that they should have this road. I would ask that this petition be referred to the Department of Public Works, where I hope it will receive favourable consideration. I have also a numerously signed petition from the Mercantile Firms of Carbonear, planters and others, on the subject of trawling. The petitioners ask that trawling be stopped from Hoopers Island north to Bird Island from the 1st of June to the 15th of September each year. I may say in reference to this petition that I know the coast referred to very well, and a large number of the planters who have signed this petition are men who have been fishing there year after year for many years. The trawling done there now by outside vessels coming in is ruining the fishery, and these planters should receive protection, and they now petition this House that they should not be deprived of a chance to earn a livelihood. The petitioners set forth that if trawling is stopped from June to September they will be able to fish there as of old. But if it is permitted to continue the fishery will be entirely ruined and they will have to leave that part of the coast. I know these facts are as stated and ask that this petition be referred to the Department of Marine and Fisheries, where I hope it will receive the favourable consideration of the Minister, himself a practical fisherman.

MR. PARSONS.—I beg to give the petition just presented by my friend from Carbonear my hearty support. The same complaint regarding trawls affects the District of Harbor Grace, and in a few days we will probably have a similar petition from that district. I beg to present a petition from Shearstown on the subject of Sunday Observance. It is along the same
lines as those presented by me a few days ago from Bay Roberts and Spaniard’s Bay. I beg to give it my hearty support and ask that it be referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

MR. DOWNEY.—Mr. Speaker, I would ask permission to-day to present two very important petitions that have been entrusted to me from the Codroy Valley. The first asks for an allocation to build three and a half miles of agricultural road. In connection with this petition those forwarding it have sent me some figures which I would like to read to the house, and which show the vital necessity to these people of the construction of this road. These figures don’t embrace the general agriculture of that section, but pertain exclusively to the extent of the dead beef and live cattle interests. An idea of the value of these can be gathered from the following figures, which have been sent, and for the absolute accuracy of which I can vouch.

Shipped by Searston Society............. 90,000 lbs.
Shipped by Codroy Society 46,171 lbs. 136,171 lbs.

Equal to—at 300 lbs. dressed 454 head
Searston Society sold alive 60 head
Codroy Society sold alive 69 head

Total 583 head

(3) Independent dealers shipped as follows additional:—G. Knowling, sold dead, 10,000 pounds; W. McLean, 20,000 pounds; D. McIsaac sold dead, 121,000 pounds; 80 head or 28,000 pounds. Total 179,000 pounds, or 90 tons beef and mutton.

Searston and Codroy Societies sold dead mutton, 40,000 pounds, or 20 tons. Total sales beef and mutton equal to 423,050 pounds or 211 tons; or 14 rail-way carloads of 15 tons each.

This Mr. Speaker is a considerable showing for a small section of the Codroy Valley in one industry alone, and shows the desirability of the prayer of the petition being granted by this Legislature. No doubt the people have all the natural requirements for a large agricultural industry in the way of soil, climate and skill; but they have been unfortunately handicapped by the lack of communicating roads. The road to the station is a climb of two and a half miles up a hill, with a corresponding decline on the other side. They have already a block road constructed for three and one half miles on an excellent grading and now they ask for an allocation of $1,700 to complete this road, which will connect the remoter parts with Little River station, and will be on almost a level grading, and I am sure that the House will agree with me that this would be a considerable improvement. I would ask that this petition be referred to the Department of Public Works.

I have also a petition from a number of settlements on the Port au Port Peninsula. The petition sets forth that these places are very badly off through lack of any rapid means of communication, either through postal or telegraphic service, so that it is impossible to transact any business of pressing importance. The petitioners ask the legislature to construct eleven miles of communicating road, and also for the establishment of a telegraph office at Clam Bank Cove. I would ask that this petition be referred to the Department of Public Works.

HON. MR. EMERSON.—At the request of His Honour the Speaker I beg to present a petition from North River, Port de Grave, asking for the sum of $250 for the Main Road at that place. I ask that this petition be re-
ferred to the Department of Public Works.

MR. MOULTON.—I beg to present a petition from Burgeo on the subject of salmon nets, asking the Government to pass a law prohibiting people from putting herring nets in salmon berths. The salmon fishery is one of great value and importance to the country, and the fishermen should not be interfered with. I trust the Government will grant the request of the petitioners and pass a law prohibiting people from putting herring nets in salmon berths before the salmon fishery is over for at least a month.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—I beg leave to present a petition from Wesleyville, asking for the prevention of seal fishery on Sunday and also the landing of freight from the steamer. A number of petitions have already been presented on this subject so I need not further explain them to the House. I beg that this petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from Northern Bight on the same subject as the one just presented. I have already presented and spoken to petitions on this matter and ask that it be received and referred to the Department to which it relates.

MR. CLIFT.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Luke's Arm, asking for the sum of $200 to expend on the roads of that place. Also a petition from Chance Harbor asking for the sum of $200 to repair the main line connecting Greater Chance Harbor with Little Chance Harbor. The petition points out that the road is in a ruinous condition and I trust that an allocation will be made for the purpose as asked. I have much pleasure in supporting these petitions and ask that they be received and referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. ROBERTS.—Mr. Speaker, I have much pleasure in supporting these petitions. There is no doubt about the requirements of that portion of the District. Last year the money for the roads was sent out too late to be of any use in the District. I believe that this obtained in other parts of the country and I hope it will not occur again. This is a special vote that is asked for and I trust that out of the large revenues received sufficient money will be found to meet the requirements of the people of that part of the country.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS laid on the Table of the House the following statements:

Balance sheet Treasury Account for the year ended 30th June, 1911; Public Debt Account on 30th June, 1910-1911; Public Works Trust Fund, 1910-1911; Statement of Current Account, 1910-1911; Agricultural Bounties, June 30th, 1911.

HON. MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS tabled the account of expenditure in the District of Burin as asked for by the hon. member for that District, Mr. Gear.

Mr. Clapp gave Notice of Question. Mr. Kent gave Notice of Question. Mr. Devereaux gave Notice of Question.

QUESTIONS.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of this House a certified copy of all public messages transmitted over the Government Telegraph lines to the outports, and elsewhere, since the commencement of the present Session of the Legislature.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, to save time, I table the originals of the messages asked for by the Rt. Hon. gentleman and would ask that they be returned to me for filing purposes.
RT. HON. SIR R. BOND asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary how many men are at present employed by the Railway Contractors, apart from Sectionmen, in clearing the railway between St. John's and Carbonear, and St. John's and Placentia, and if the Government Engineer considers that the said Contractors are employing all necessary labor to ensure a speedy resumption of traffic.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—In reply to the Rt. Hon. member I beg to say that I am informed by the Government Engineer that the last returns of men employed are not yet to hand. The latest information in his possession deals with the 5th instant, when 268 men were employed between St. John's and Carbonear, exclusive of Sectionmen, and 105 between St. John's and Placentia. As many as 338 men between St. John's and Carbonear, and 180 men between St. John's and Placentia, have recently been employed on these lengths. In reply to the second part of the question, which is somewhat indefinite, the Government Engineer informs me that he has no reason to depart from the broad opinion already expressed by him.

MR. KENT asked the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of the House a statement in detail, giving names of parties, amounts paid and purposes of each payment in connection with the Smallpox Observation Hospital erected last spring on Quidi Vidi Road; also a statement in detail showing the amount realized by the sale thereof, giving names of purchasers, item purchased, and amount paid in each case.

HON. MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.—The statement is being prepared.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House copies of (1) Pamphlet for Festival of Empire compiled by Hon. P. T. McGrath, for which he was paid $300, (2) Manuscript New Book for which D. W. Prowse, Esq., K.C., C.M.G., was paid $500, (3) Evidence and Report of the Marine Court of Enquiry into the loss of the S.S. 'Bruce,' in March last.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—(1) I table herewith the six pamphlets compiled by Hon. P. T. McGrath for the Festival of Empire, and desire to say that the amount paid Mr. McGrath for these pamphlets ($50 each) was the same as paid him by Sir Robert Bond for similar work when he was in office. (2) The late Government in 1908 arranged to pay Judge Prowse the sum of $400.00 for bringing his History of Newfoundland up to date, for the use of plates, and for editing and preparing the work for the press. In 1910 the present Government agreed to pay him $100 in full as Editor, in order to bring the Newfoundland Guide Book up to date, and for the use of plates. I table herewith a copy of the Guide Book, but the manuscript of the History is at present in the hands of the Printers in London. (3) The evidence and report of the Marine Court of Enquiry into the loss of the S.S. Bruce, is being copied, and I hope to table the papers at the next sitting.

MR. KENT asked the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the amount expended on Marine Works during the financial year 1910-11 and during the current financial year to date, in each case giving the amount of such expenditure made in each of the Electoral Districts of the Colony, and also specifying in every case the vote out of which each such expenditure was made.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—In the absence of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries I beg to say that the statement is being prepared.

MR. KENT asked the Minister of Finance to lay on the table of the
House a statement showing the gross amount of Revenue of the Colony from all sources for the financial year 1910-11 and to date.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—Mr. Speaker, the statement is being prepared.

The Chairman from the Committee of the Whole on Supply reported a Resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:

Public Debt, Management and Exchange ...... ...$12,000.00

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

SUPPLY.

Pursuant to Order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Finance, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on Supply.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Parsons took the Chair of Committee.

MR. CLIFT.—Mr. Chairman may I ask what that $1,000 for Museum requirements is for? Is it for specimens?

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—Yes.

MR. KENT.—Mr. Chairman in connection with the vote to the Government Engineer Department I think it only right to draw the attention of the Committee to the fact that no information has been furnished or made public regarding surveys and inspection of the railway. It appears from the statement made in the Press and to the Colonial Secretary by the Government Engineer that the railway has not been inspected for the past three years and that since that time no report has been made as to the rolling stock and other conditions of the railway. Just at present as we know a great deal of attention is centred upon the condition of the railway. Things are in a most unsatisfactory condition and as there is no report upon the condition of the system some information ought to be laid before this House, so that the members may be in a position to know the truth of this present stoppage of the whole system. If there was proper inspection and a proper annual report during these years, the public would be able to judge whether or not the line is fully equipped according to the contract and whether it is sufficiently equipped to overcome the difficulties of the winter. There is not one report upon these matters since the present Government came into power. We are unable to say with any satisfaction what is the cause of the present stoppage of the entire, freight and mail system, the tying up of the trade of the country and the tying up of transportation. I think it may be seen from the letters of the Government Engineer by a person reading between the lines that the line is not equipped sufficiently, to meet the ordinary snow storms that we have here every year and that when these rather unusual conditions occur the equipment is utterly inadequate to cope with them. What is the use of going on building branch railways, spending large amounts of money if the main line is blocked up with snow for three months of the year for want of proper equipment. A railway is only of service if it is operated all the time. In Canada where the same winter conditions prevail the roads have not been tied up more than a day or so. And here for over a month the whole transportation system has been practically closed. I bring the matter before the House now because I think it is the duty of the Government Inspector to inspect the line every year and report fully on its condition. Provision is made in the Contract that the Contractor shall place at the service of the Engineer a train for the purpose of inspection. In 1909 it was inspected. This
is a most unsatisfactory condition of affairs and one that should be brought before the committee. If the Government Engineer has too much to do in his department then he ought to divide the work with one of the other departments or increase the number of officials in his office. But if we are going on to build railways we ought to have proper inspection. We are building railways for the benefit of the country not for the benefit of the Contractor. I think there ought to be inspection of the rolling stock and equipment and the manner of operation and the report should be laid before the House within a week of the opening of the session.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.

—Mr. Chairman, I would just like to say one word in reply. The whole question raised by the hon. member has received a great deal of public attention during the past two or three months owing to the blockade which has been caused by the very unusual weather. There has been no regular inspection of the railway during the past two years, but we all know what that inspection means and what it has meant. It means that the permanent Inspector has to be conversant with every bit of the rolling stock and equipment on the line. This he can do without ever leaving St. John's. He can inspect the whole rolling stock and equipment of the railway without leaving St. John's at all. But everyone knows that inspection of the line is not so much inspection of equipment and rolling stock but inspection of the road bed. If you take up the reports of Mr. Burchell made during the years that he was permanent Inspector you will find that during his inspection his time was entirely devoted to the bed of the road and to the avoidance of accidents and to the neglect in keeping the road up to standard. We are singularly fortunate in relation to accidents. I mean that nowadays accidents from defective road beds, track-jumping and washouts and all the other difficulties arising out of failure in keeping the bed of the road up to the standard are very rare indeed. Now if these facts are correct then it is only reasonable to assume that the Government Engineer is under no necessity to carry out an inspection of the road bed every year, because year by year the road bed is made more perfect. If this is so, if improvements are being made, if new culverts are added and new bridges added there is no need for this annual inspection. And we must understand that the contractor has to operate this road for fifty years and that is his best business interests more than anyone else's to prevent washouts and keep the line in the best possible condition for his locomotives. So that if nothing whatever was done, if we were not to compel him, if the Government did not move in the matter at all, his own interests would operate to make him keep the line in proper order. But we know ourselves that every year there are new improvements along the line so that last year we find that with few exceptions the express arrived and left on time and that in the running of the whole 600 miles accidents were very rare indeed. All this goes to show that this inspection of the road bed is not so important or necessary as that of the rolling stock. Well now what are the facts in relation to that? Every part of it passes through St. John's at one time or another. And the Government Inspector has inspected every engine and boiler along the line, so that as far as the equipment and rolling stock is concerned we have had as efficient inspection of every part of the equipment as if the annual inspection had been carried out.

We do not require inspection to know whether there is enough equipment on the line. We can find that
out without the Government Engineer leaving his office, because we have a complete list of every engine, every carriage and every car on the line. We have a detailed list, and we are aware of the condition of every piece of rolling stock. This has been an unusual year. I consider that we have been singularly fortunate in that since the cross-country route has been established only on one or two occasions has the line been blocked for a month or two in the winter, as at present. It is only once or twice that we have had to run the Bruce to Placentia for two or three months owing to a blockade of the cars. When this railway was built everybody expected it to be blocked for months every winter. In the contract of 1898 there is a special provision for running the Bruce from Placentia when the line is blocked, and a special subsidy provided for her. It was expected to be not the exception but the rule. Fortunately it is not so. I consider it nothing short of a miracle that we are able to operate that line to Port aux Basques winter after winter in the way we do. The member for St. John's East said this sort of thing does not occur in Canada. Well, in 1904 I was in Truro for 10 days, kept there by snow; and that was on the I.C.R., where you can almost see from station to station, because the members up there give out stations as they used here to give out sheep a few years ago; and every station equipped with everything necessary. And in the end I had to go back to Halifax and take a boat to get down to St. John's. Now that is an instance that I recollect myself, and that was on the Intercolonial Railway, that cost $120,000 a mile when our railway only cost $15,000. And there are roads being built in Canada today that cost $150,000 per mile.

Mr. Kent.—That is only in the mountain section of the transcontinental railway.

Mr. Kent.—That is only in the mountain section of the transcontinental railway.

Rt. Hon. The Prime Minister.—That is so. There is not a railway in England but cost £30,000 a mile. In other countries you fill in lakes, you cut down hills, you make deep cuttings; but we have got severe curves and steep gradients. And the equipment of the road is on the same scale. We are expecting too much for what we pay, and if we kept that a bit more in mind there would be less unfair criticising. There are 500 men working today trying to open up that line, and they are costing the contractor three or four thousand dollars a week. No amount of inspection, not even a weekly inspection, of the road and equipment could possibly keep a road open under the conditions we have had this winter. It is the act of God; which could not be contemplated, could not be guarded against, could not be gotten over. The conditions are abnormal. There are merchants in the town owning ice-breaking steamers that want to get down north to get their crews and they have tried and they cannot get past Cape St. Francis. And what is true on the sea is true on the land.

Mr. Downey.—Mr. Chairman, I should like to make a few remarks supplementary to what the Premier has just said. I want to speak from personal experience regarding the conditions along that line. We have in this country 650 miles of narrow gauge line and I very much question whether in any other country in North America such a system could have been operated in winter. Under the conditions we have here it would be hung up four months every winter. There is no comparison between a broad gauge and a narrow gauge as regards the use of snow fighting appliances. The present condition of affairs is largely due to an accident, which caused delay, during which the line became iced up; and a second fall of snow covered up the ice. A man who
now tried to rush engines and plows over those ice-covered rails to clear the snow off them would be guilty of homicide. He would probably sacrifice the lives of the men in the plows and engines. Three years ago we had a snow fall and blockade of three weeks; yet in Canada, with some of the best equipped broad gauge roads, their blockade lasted six weeks. If our narrow gauge system were in any other country in North America, instead of weeks it would be hung up three months in every winter. These conditions, though perhaps abnormal, are liable to recur any year; and those who might require it should lay in sufficient supplies to carry them through; if they do not it shows want of judgment or foresight on their part. I have known similar conditions a few years back, and I should have thought that the lesson they were taught then would have been remembered. People who have not actually been through them can hardly realize what these conditions are. It is rank injustice to hold the railway contractors or their employees responsible for this condition of things. We have to thank, not the contractors, but the qualities of endurance of their employees, the labourers of this country, for the fact that any part of the road is kept open at all; and the thanks of this Legislature and the community at large are due to those labourers for their devotion to the interests of their employers and of the public.

I remember an occasion when I myself was from two o'clock on Monday to ten o'clock on Friday getting over a few miles of road, and again an occasion when it took me 36 hours to cover 4½ miles. No one except those who have experienced it could imagine the sufferings the men engaged in this work, go through for their pittance dollar and a quarter a day. It is more than ordinary labour; at times it means the sacrifice of life and limb. If these men fail to keep the line open it is because the conditions are such that it is impossible for human nature to overcome them.

MR. KENT.—Mr. Chairman, I should like to add just one word in reply on this subject. My reference to the want of a report has drawn from the Premier the statements which he has just given us. I can only say I do not agree with what he has said regarding what constitutes inspection of a railway. It should include the inspection of everything that makes up the railway as a going concern. That this is how it was contemplated under the contract will be clear to the Rt. Hon. gentleman if he will refer to the contract of 1898, section 7, which provides that the contractor shall provide a special train for the inspection by the Government Engineer. That inspection does not refer to the road bed only. It should include an examination of the road bed all over the line, but also an examination of the stations, the rolling stock, the whole system as a working concern, and the manner in which the trains are run and operated. Section 2 defines what is meant by “railway” under the contract. First of all it refers to the usual items, track, road bed, bridges, telegraphs, water service, machine shops, rolling stock and so on. That is the “railway” the Government Engineer is obliged to inspect annually; and my remarks were directed principally to the fact that we have no information officially regarding the cause of the blockade that at present exists throughout the Colony, whether or not it could have been prevented by foresight on the part of the contractors or by a little insistence on the part of the Government, or whether it is the act of God, over which the contractors had no control. I myself happened to be on the line at the beginning of this blockade; I was two days at Brigus Junction. It was in my
opinion not necessary for us to be there. If soft weather and then frost had come during those two days to freeze up the railway in the condition described by the member for St. George's, we would be at Brigus Junction still. We left St. John's for Brigus on Saturday evening and got through to Brigus Junction without a stop other than the usual stations. The same evening a train came through from Harbour Grace, and arrived at Brigus Junction a short time before us. Thus the whole line was open that day. The two trains were side by side at Brigus Junction and remained there until Monday morning. We then went through to Brigus without meeting any delay whatever. During those two days there was no effort made to clear the line, although there were there at Brigus Junction two engines and a plough. These are personal experiences. Now I would like to see a full and detailed report as to the cause of the present blockade. We had a report from the Engineer on the delays in the main service to which I am referring, prepared since the event, and the only foundation he gives for his statement that everything was being done that could be done was the contractor's own return of trains run. That is not a sufficient basis for the report. Such an enquiry should be impartial and independent. I think that a regular report ought to be made. It is no answer to a request for a report to say that you will get no more information than you have at present; to say that the Engineer can see the rolling stock when it comes to St. John's. How are we to know whether he does or not? To look at an engine or car when it comes to St. John's is not such an inspection as the people of this country have a right to expect of such a property as the railway. No doubt when the rails once got iced up in their present condition it made it difficult for the contractor to open up the railway again for traffic. Whether proper foresight or exertion would have avoided it I am not in a position to say. That is what I complain of. If the work being done in the Government Engineer's office is too much for it, there are plenty of clerks in allied departments who might be utilized to assist him.

MR. CLIFT.—Mr. Chairman, I should just like to say that I have this moment received a telegram message in connection with the matter before the Committee, which I will read; perhaps the Government will take some steps to see whether the assertion is true or not. The message reads: “Understand no cross country train contemplated. Urge Government force Reid send passenger and freight train, road practically clear to Millertown Junction, signed Grand Falls.” No name is attached. I would ask whether it is true that it is not contemplated to send a cross country train out? And whether the road is clear? I do not profess to be able to express an opinion as to whether this condition of affairs is avoidable or not; but it seems to me that if the Government Engineer made an annual inspection, which he is required to make he would have been in a position to state whether the railway is sufficiently equipped with rolling stock and snow fighting appliances to cope with conditions and maintain the railway service. He would have been able to see whether there were sufficient snow fighting appliances. Then if he said there were, but they were overcome by the unusual snow falls, that would be a condition of things for which the contractors could not be blamed. However, I would ask the Colonial Secretary to make enquiries into the matter.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Chairman, in reply to the hon. member I may say that I shall be glad to make enquiries as to the condition
of the line. But it is absurd to say that it is contemplated to cease operation of the cross-country line. As soon as possible a train will be sent across country. The information contained in telegrams of this sort is very often not reliable. A member of this House about two days ago received a telegram from Bishop’s Falls stating that 500 men were at Grand Falls, Bishop’s Falls and Millertown, desiring to take passage to St. John’s. I telegraphed to the magistrate at Grand Falls to make enquiries. He reported that after enquiring at the three places he found there were not more than 40 men; that was the figure the 500 dwindled down to. So that telegrams of this kind are not to be taken too seriously.

MR. ROBERTS.—I am sure that every man who has been north of St. John’s during the present winter must be fully convinced that there has been no effort made to open the railway line north of Brigus Junction. I have received information from different parties that the line is blocked at the present time owing to the fact that there was no precaution taken to have it kept open. The only section of the line that is now open is that between Port aux Basques and Bay of Islands and that is open because of the foresight of the foreman of that section who removed the snow fences, and consequently the snow drifted over the line out of the way of himself and those working under him. I do not know whether the filing of an annual report by the Government Engineer would be beneficial or not but it appears that there has been no determined effort on his part to have the line kept open north. I do not wish to disclose the names of those who have given me the information to which I have referred but I think everybody will agree that more might be done to help the people of the outports who are in need of freight and who have received no mails in many instances during the past two months. I think that the present blockade might have been averted if proper foresight had been shown for I crossed the country on the 23rd January, on the last train, I think, which crossed over the country. Any man that knows anything about railroad work knows that there is insufficient rolling stock on the line to keep half of it open. I repeat, sir, that I do not believe there has been any determined effort made to open up the road and that is a state of affairs that should be improved.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—In reply to the remarks of my hon. friend, the member for Twillingate, I would like to point out that it is very easy for us to sit here and settle all the points in connection with keeping the road open; in fact, if we drop into any of the clubs we shall find those who could tell us how the whole difficulty could be avoided and how trains could be run every day. However, it is a far different matter when the work has actually to be done, for if the line could be cleared by the receiving of reports we would have them here and there would be no further trouble. The hon. member complains that the Government has no official information as to the present blockade but what does he want to have? Have we not evidence that can be seen very clearly by all? I, myself, left St. John’s for Bonavista on February 15th, a short time before the present blockade and although it was not stormy when we left the city we could see that the cuts were being filled in by drifting snow and in some places the snow was higher than the train. In other spots the snow was two, four or six feet deep although no fresh snow fell. It merely drifted along the barrens and filled up the track almost as soon as it was cleared. When we left St. John’s we expected to arrive at
Clarenville on time but as a matter of fact we did not reach there till Saturday morning. We then found that the Bonavista branch was clear and we arrived at Bonavista some time during the afternoon. It snowed all day Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. On Wednesday and part of Thursday it was soft and then the wind veered to the north west and it became frosty. On Friday we walked to Elliston and we found that everything was frozen solid. The next day we walked along four or five miles of the track between the half-way house and Catalina and we could see that it would be some time before it would be possible to have the service in proper order again. We know the kind of weather we have had since then and we hear from reports sent to the Government that the men employed on the line cannot stand the frost and snow prevalent there. They have to work under very trying circumstances and the weather has been such that as soon as the line is cleared it fills up again. The fault is not the contractor's. He certainly does not want the lines blocked up for it stops the earning power of his service and he has to pay extra expenses all the time the line is blocked. My hon. friend has referred to the Bay of Islands branch but I cannot agree with the explanation which he has given for the line being open there, for I have made enquiries and I have found that the fall there has not been as heavy as it has been on this side of the island and further the snow was lighter than we have been having. Usually there are very heavy falls of snow in the vicinity of Bay of Islands but if my hon. friend will make enquiries he will find that there has been very little snow there this winter and for that reason it has been possible to keep the line open from Bay of Islands to Port aux Basques.

I should say that the winter in this part of the island has been the hardest winter that we have had since 1883. I remember the winter of 1882 very well, for I visited parts of Conception Bay then and to my mind it is the only winter that can compare with the present. I agree with my friends opposite that everything possible should be done to keep the lines open and I can assure the public that we have done all in our power to have that done and the company has never put anything in our way but has used its best effort to that end.

As to rolling stock, it is not for me to say anything on this for we should have expert opinion on a matter like that. The report of the Government Engineer is perfectly correct and will give all information necessary on that point. I shall be very glad when the line is opened for there must be a great deal of traffic held up that all the people are interested in. The sooner this can be handled the better will everybody be pleased.

MR. KENT.—I would like to say just one word in reply to the hon. gentleman. I think he has actually pointed to the fact which renders it necessary that a report from some expert source upon the railway system should be annually laid upon the table of the House when he states that he cannot express any opinion on the rolling stock of the contractors but that it is to an expert that we should look for such an opinion. It is the absence of that expert opinion which led me to draw the attention of the committee to the fact at the beginning of this debate. It is manifestly true that we cannot know without such assistance the causes which led to the present blockade, for we ought to keep distinct the blockade and the condition of the railway that might have led up to it. Now that the blockade is here the contractors are doing all they can to remove it, but my point is that we do not know if before the blockade the
line was properly equipped to cope with the snow storms that come upon us every winter. We have nothing before us to show if the line was properly equipped or not. The hon. member says further that one can obtain from the Government Engineer's report all the information that he may require on the matter. These reports are useless unless they are acted upon. My opinion of Mr. Hall is that he is a very capable official who is well qualified to inform us of the causes that led to the blockade and such information should be given us. I draw the attention of the committee not to the fact that no effort is being made now to clear the line, for there may be efforts, all kinds of efforts, but to the fact that we have nothing to show us upon whom the blame should be placed for the existence of the present blockade at all. If the blockade could have been avoided by any action on the part of the contractor or the Government one of them should receive the blame for it. If the contractor has not the rolling stock necessary to operate the line, the Government should look into the matter and they are more culpable still if they have no report from which they can ascertain if the contractor is in a position to ward off a blockade or not.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—Personally, I am not going to take any blame in the matter. My friend, Mr. Roberts, said something to the effect that he did not think the condition of the line was as bad as reported. I would like to read to him an extract from to-day's Evening Telegram, for while my hon. friend may not have much faith in the report of the Government Engineer I am sure he will believe what appears in the Telegram. It reads:

"The express from Millertown Junction, which was exactly 21 days going and returning to the city, as well as the belated special from Avondale, arrived here at 6 a.m. to-day with a large number of sealers and other passengers. Millertown was left 14 days ago with the two rotaries ahead and about 40 men shovelling the drifts which blocked the line. Eight of the best engines on the road were at the service of the train—two to each rotary, two engines and a push plow with the train, and two engines with a special which worked along in that section. There were ten first class and fourteen second class passengers in the cars, and 156 sealers joined them at Avondale when the express reached there. Sunday, two weeks ago, the whole outfit was hung up until Tuesday owing to a terrific snow storm, and they did not reach Port Blandford until Tuesday morning. The men along the road had terrible drifts to contend with, and the snow becoming hard and in many cases ice forming on the rails, one of the rotaries had six of its blades broken as they whirled around in clearing the ice and snow. Another had five smashed. So heavy were the cuts that sometimes it took the rotaries two days to run 3½ and 4 miles, and the oldest train hands never experienced the like before. Along one section of the line to the distance of nine telegraph poles the snow was piled to the height of 25 feet, and from 10 to 15 feet was the experience in the cuts right along. They arrived at Placentia Junction on Sunday last. All along, besides shovelling the snow the men had to work picks and shovels to get the ice off the tracks, and daily the two big rotaries slid over the ice and off the rails, causing much delay. Snow storms and heavy frost was the experience all through and quite a number of the men were badly frostbitten about the ears, hands and face. A number of men came out from the lumber camps, having quit work, there being too much snow and frost for comfort. The rotaries, which are now
Now, sir, I would ask the hon. member for Twillingate as a practical man what he would do under these circumstances. If he will give us any information upon this point we shall be very glad to pass it on but the whole thing is unreasonable and merely an attempt to see if by any chance the blame can be put on us. We leave it to the common sense of the people to say whether anything more could be done than what has been done. It is impossible for men to work under the circumstances that those working on the lines during the present winter have had to contend with. I can guarantee that my hon. friend, Mr. Dwyer, who lives a short distance in the country and who can remember more winters than I can, will say that this winter has been a very exceptional one. I know I have never seen a winter during which as much snow has fallen.

MR. ROBERTS.—I do not wish to put the blame of the matter on the Government unduly but I do say that conditions are worse than they should be. I do not know anything of the report in to-day's Telegram, but I presume it is correct in most of its details. However, I would rather be in possession of some information from home. If it were a matter of life and death I could not reach home and there are thousands of people who live north of Brigus Junction in the same position. I want the line to be opened up as soon as possible. My reasons are personal perhaps, but I think every effort ought to be made. I do not think the conditions stated in the Telegram are general. When I crossed the Topsails there was snow there then and there has been snow since; in fact, in one place the snow was twenty-five feet deep on the 23rd January. Still, we passed over all right and the road was kept open. What was done then could be done in other sections. The matter has not been attended to in the proper way. There are only two rotaries on the line and at the present time both of these are in St. John's. If a further snow storm comes on, they will not be of half the service that they might be if one was at each end of the line. Is that any way to deal with the blockade? It is true that in some places the snow may be twenty-five feet deep but that will be for fifty or a hundred yards only. Over the greater part of the line there is no great depth of snow but even where it is very heavy it can be removed if there is an earnest effort made to remove it.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—It is expected that the building will be completed in August next.

MR. CLIFT.—Might I ask for some explanation as to the vote for the Admiralty survey and what necessity there is to provide an office for the surveyor?

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—In reply to my learned friend I may say that up to last year the Elinor, the surveying ship belonging to the British Govt., had her headquarters in Halifax and she has been doing survey work in the neighborhood of Newfoundland for the past twenty years. A portion of that time was spent on the Newfoundland coast not purely for our benefit but more in the nature of a survey of Newfoundland waters for the advantage of Canadian trade and traffic. Nearly the whole of the waters from Bonne Bay to the Straits were surveyed and charted by her, so that all the steamers of the great lines, which travel along that coast,
might do so with confidence. This was done without cost to the Colony just as the Canadian Government has erected lighthouses and fog alarms on the same route. A year or so ago arrangements were made by the late Government of Canada to establish a local navy with the result that the quarters which the survey ship had in Halifax have been given to the naval authorities. Consequently the officers and crew had to leave Halifax and now the Government has made arrangements to have a survey made of the waters of Newfoundland and Labrador without any cost to the Colony. These arrangements have been made with the Imperial Government and the ship is now here with a crew of five officers, who are all English and belong to His Majesty's Navy, and twenty-five Newfoundanders as her crew. Her headquarters are in St. John's but she will be leaving here shortly and the captain proposes to begin to make a survey of the Newfoundland and the Labrador coasts. The Labrador coast has never been charted and the captain intends to make a survey of the whole of it, especially the banks and fishing grounds off the coast. All this will mean considerable expense but it will not cost the Colony a single cent. The survey will be a great advantage to our people for not only will the whole coast be charted but it is also possible that new ledges and banks will be discovered that will add materially to our fishing grounds.

MR. CLIFT.—I thank the Rt. Hon. gentleman for his explanation.

MR. KENT.—Regarding that vote of $3,000 for the Circuit. A great deal of complaint has been expressed during the last year or two, owing to the dropping of the Circuit. I think that those who had occasion to attend the sittings of the Supreme Court will remember that on two or three occasions at least, matters of the very greatest impor-

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—You never heard me say anything of the kind. You may have heard other members say it.

MR. KENT.—Certainly if the Minister denies it, he must be correct and I may be confusing him with some other members. But the necessity for the Circuit is becoming more apparent every year. For instance, it happens that a number of cases are set down for trial at different places on circuit. The parties are depending upon the cases being tried at places convenient, but after a delay of six or eight months, they find at the last moment that there is to be no circuit, and then they have to wait and get it tried at St. John's at great cost and delay. At the present time there are cases on the docket here postponed pending circuit. I am not personally interested in any of them—outport cases, and therefore it would be better if it is the intention not to go on circuit, that this vote should be dropped and that the people may know definitely that there is to be none. They would know that they need not depend upon the Court visiting the locality, but while this vote is there, it is an inti-
mation that the Circuit may be held. Therefore if it is the intention of the Government not to hold Circuit, it is only right to take this vote out, so that the people may make arrangements to have their business done here by the Supreme Court in St. John's. But personally, sir, as I said before, I think that the Court ought to continue to visit the principal outports of the Colony. This is the system in every other country in the world. They have the Supreme Judicial Tribunals visiting the principal places in the state. In England, the Circuit system still continues. It is the same in Canada and the United States, and this system is most beneficial, and here, I believe it would be more beneficial. In those distant localities the visit of the Court will greatly facilitate business. Of course I do not want to be told that the late Government on one or two occasions did not send the Circuit. Perhaps they did not, but I think it was a mistake not to send the Circuit. I think that the public ought to know if it is the intention of the Government to have the Circuit this year, and if the inclusion of this vote in the Estimates means that there will be a Circuit and that it will visit the different parts of the country. I, sir, think that the Circuit is necessary.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—Mr. Chairman, on this question there is a great difference of opinion, but, I do not intend to quote anything about the late Government. Personally, I have my own views on this matter, but I think my learned friend never heard me say anything about its moral effect, for the simple reason I have never spoken strongly in that direction. I have heard other members grow eloquent on it, but my attitude was different. I went on Circuit first 30 years ago, and from what I saw then, it seemed to me that the Circuit as then conducted was more like a pleasure trip. It was conducted in the months of September and October when people were not home from the fishery. Very little business could be got through, for the people could not get their witnesses. I did not come into contact again with it until about 1898 and 1900, when I took the Circuit as a judge, and what I saw then convinced me as to my former impressions, that to send the Supreme Court on Circuit during those months was not a convenience to people, and meant the expenditure of a considerable sum of money which I thought could be better expended in other directions. I suppose it all depends upon the way in which the particular Minister of Justice regards it. There is a considerable amount of argument in favor of continuing it, but not in the way as in the past, that is, to send a steamer around, with the judges, clerks, sheriff and lawyers with very considerable expense, and at a time of the year when the people are not at home. However, I think it is possible to evolve a Circuit, which will visit at the proper time of the year, places where business is to be transacted. Of course, the vote for the Circuit has to stand, because there are regular Circuits, such as to Brigus, Hr. Grace, Carbonear, and these places must be visited. I quite appreciate the fact, that sometimes a writ is returnable on circuit, and it is found that the court is not going there. But I think that this can be got over, and that a satisfactory and businesslike arrangement can be made, so that the circuit may visit places at times convenient to the people, and also with considerable less expense.

MR. KENT.—Mr. Chairman, as regards this vote for the policemen, I had hoped that after the discussion that took place here last year regarding it, that some provision would have been made to recognize their services, for it must be apparent to everyone that owing to the high cost of living,
their wages are inadequate and we must further recognize that the policeman does not receive anything like adequate remuneration for the work that he does. It is dangerous work, and we require the best specimens of humanity for it, and it is but natural to expect that if we do not pay well, we cannot get them. Why, sir, according to the present scale of wages, a man has got to be 15 years in the force before he earns $1.25 a day, and most probably he has a wife and family to support out of that. Besides, he is bound to keep himself and his family in a respectable condition of life, and he cannot do that on the wages given him. Another matter is the provision made for lodgings. Some are given $48.00 per year to cover lodging. I would like to know what kind of lodging can be got for $4.00 per month? You cannot get even a tenement in the back streets for that rental. I did hope that this vote would have received the attention of the Government during the past year, and that the estimates of this year would have contained some increase of wages in this department. Under the present scale, as I said before, a man has to be 15 years in the force before he gets $1.25 a day. He starts off first with $1.00. After 5 years he gets $1.15; after 10 years $1.20, and after 15, $1.25. A sergeant receives $1.37 a day. Those wages are too small to expect men to do the responsible work they have to perform. The policeman is the guardian of the town and country, of law and order. If we remove him, or have not a sufficient force, we loosen one of the safeguards of the regular life of the Colony. The cost of living has also gone up considerably, and this leans very heavily on the police. This has been pointed out by the Auditor General, and the Secretary of the Board of Works, but the public institutions have got the public purse behind them, and the police have not. It is true that some men are provided with lodgings at the Barracks, but these are few, and even in that case they are not allow the $48.00. I hope that some attention will be paid to this matter, and that the policemen will receive the best treatment they deserve.

**RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—**Mr. Chairman, I think that everyone is in sympathy with the hon. member on the general principle of reasonably remunerating the police force of this Colony, but we have to look at the question from every standpoint, we have got to consider the wages received in every branch of the public service. This matter has been considered by the Government very fully and also sympathetically by the head of the Department of Justice, and they would like to do something in this respect. The police force, however, are on a little better footing from what they were a few years ago, and while they sleep, their salaries are increasing. It may be slow, I admit. Now what are facts? It will be of interest for the Committee to know that in 1901, the Legislature was asked to vote 76 salaries for 76 Constables at $305 each. Tho same salary was voted in 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905. In 1905, I took the matter up with the late Inspector General. I was then Minister of Justice, and we succeeded in making the present rate, by which their salaries would be increased every day, until a certain point. To-day we vote $456.00 or $150.00 of an increase. And in addition to that we adopted a pension scheme, by which every one is now pensioned under certain conditions, and a certain amount of insurance is also provided for those who die in harness. Now when we come to consider the fact that since 1905, each man has received an increase of $150.00—that is over 50%—I think it cannot fairly be said that the Legislature is not doing very well for the
police. I do not mean to say that they are not entitled to every consideration, but there are many others, underpaid officials in every department, who have to be considered. Beside, the police who reside in the outports have perquisites over and above their salaries. They have house rent, fuel and light and they receive $40 or $50 a year in the way of uniform and clothes, which is another perquisite, and many receive fees for service of summonses. Taking all these things into consideration it will be found that they annually earn $450 in cash, with house rent, light and fuel and uniform and fees additional, so that they have double the salary of the class of public officials to which I have referred. I do not say this as against the police, but only as an answer to the demand for an increase in their pay.

MR. KENT.—I do not think it is fair to let that statement go forth unqualified that the police have received an increase of $150. Though it is true that a man who has been in the force fifteen years, receives $465 a year, still a young man only gets $365. Now that is only an increase over the amount paid in 1901 of fifty or sixty dollars. It would create a wrong impression if the statement went forth unqualified that the Police Force have received an increase of $150 some years ago. But I make this statement that it may go forth side by side with the statement that the Prime Minister just made. The Prime Minister has referred to the general need of increase throughout the Civil Service. I referred to that too and I think it was one of the duties of the Government to have taken it up before now. As I pointed out their revenue has been such that it ought to enable them, with a proper economic administration of the finances at their disposal to have provided adequate remuneration for members of the public service. If the Prime Minister will just turn up the figures he will find that the revenues that the present Government have been receiving have been unprecedented in the history of the Colony. Now let him take the revenues for the eight years for which the late administration was responsible. In the first year they controlled the Government of the country, the estimated revenue was $1,920,000 in round figures. In the last year for which they were responsible it was $2,781,000 in round figures, a difference of $860,000, or an average annual increase of $130,000. Now during the three years which the present Government have been in power the first year the estimated revenue was $2,781,000; and the present estimate is $3,493,000, a difference of $712,000 or an average annual increase of $237,000. Now I think, sir, out of that amount at least some provision ought to be made for the members of the public service. As everyone from the Prime Minister down knows they are underpaid.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—Compared with others they are not.

MR. KENT.—Not only compared to others but altogether they are underpaid. It may be that the public service is overmanned and that in this respect economies might be practised in order to give the remainder proper remuneration. Now, sir, the man in the lighthouse to whom my Rt. Hon. friend has referred, should be considered too, as well as the officials in every department in the Government service and I think the Government owe it as a duty to do this. I mentioned the Police because that particular vote is now before the chair; and I think sir, as I said before that if you are going to maintain an efficient Police Force in the country you must give them better pay than at the present time.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—As the hon. member for St. John's East has shown such anxiety this af-
ternoon to have the salaries of the policemen increased, I would ask him to look at the other end of the Institution and give the benefit of some of his sympathy to the Head of the Department.

**MR. KENT.**—He is able to look after himself.

**HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.**—Nevertheless he is deserving of sympathy from the hon. gentleman, and the more so since the hon. gentleman opposite also occupied the same position. If you go back twenty years you will find that the salary was $2,400, while to-day it is only $2,000, notwithstanding the increased cost of living. If the sympathy he has for the policemen is genuine, he ought to extend it to the Head of the Department and when we come in here next year he should be prepared to have this salary as well as some other salaries not only brought back to $2,400, but have some reasonable advance made to make up for the increased cost of living.

With regard to the Constabulary, I think it is only fair that the public should know the exact position, because every now and again we see something in the newspapers intimating that the Constabulary, as compared with other branches of the civil service, is not fairly paid, and that men are resigning and leaving the country because of the small salaries. When a constable enters the service he gets $365 per annum; and in addition to that he gets an allowance of $48 for fuel and light and he also gets a certain allowance in the way of uniform. The next year his salary is $401.50. If he stays in the force five years it becomes $419.75, if ten years $438.00, and if fifteen years $456.25. Then after that if he is fortunate enough to obtain promotion as an acting sergeant he gets $475.00; as a sergeant $500.00; Head Constable, $600; and as an Inspector $800 and as the Prime Minis-ter has said there are certain other perquisites received both in St. John's and in the outports—as for instance special duty in connection with the Police Court, which averages about $30 to the ordinary constable in St. John's. Then in addition to that he is entitled to a retiring allowance if he continues until the age of sixty-five years; or if compelled by disablement to retire before that period. Then upon his death, if in the service, his widow is entitled to an allowance, something the same as life insurance; beginning at four years service at $200 and ending up with fifteen years service at $250. I think that if anybody will take these salaries and compare them with those of other officials somewhat in the same position—Customs officials, lighthouse keepers, Post Office clerks and others—he will come to the conclusion that the Police Force are fairly well paid, and unless other salaries are increased it would be unfair to pick out the police and simply increase theirs.

Of course the hon. member for St John's East is hardly logical in his argument, for first of all he criticises us for spending too much; and then turns around and says we are not spending enough,—that we ought to give larger salaries to officials and do this, that and the other thing. Well, all we can do is this, between now and the time we meet here again next year we will look into the matter a little more carefully and see if we cannot comply with some of the ideas which the hon. member for St. John's East has placed before the Committee. I think it is only right that the public should know the real facts and figures as to the remuneration of the police by way of salary and allowances as compared with the salaries received by other officials of the public service.

**MR. KENT.**—Just one word. I am glad that the minister has at least consented to look into this matter before
the next session of the House; but I should like to deal with one or two other points raised by him. In the first place he finds fault with my logic. Well I do not know, but I think if the Minister will give the matter a little closer attention he will find my logic is quite correct. I criticised the expenditure and criticised also the want of proper expenditure. I criticised certain expenditures as improper and claimed that proper economic expenditures were not being made. You can be wasteful by not expending where it is necessary as well as by expending where it is improper, and one is as harmful to the public interests as the other. I think that if the Minister of Justice will bear these fundamental or elementary principles of political economy in mind he will find that my criticism with regard to expenditure and want of expenditure was perfectly consistent and perfectly logical. I did not mention the Head of the Department. I know of no one here in this House better able to speak for himself; or, if occasion arises, to take care of himself. I know also that the head of the Department is not depending on his salary. He is generally a lawyer of good standing and with a good private practice by which he is able to earn from private clients amounts to supplement his salary as Head of the Department. Besides this he may charge the Government with work done which does not come within the duties of his office, such as litigation which he conducts on behalf of the Government. Consequently I am not doing him any injustice in not pointing out that he is not being taken care of in this respect.

**RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.**—There is just one point I wish to make and it is this. As I have already stated the total vote for the Constabulary in 1901 was $50,000, and now it is $75,000, showing an increase of fifty per cent. That is not alone true of the vote but true of the individual salaries of the police force. They were getting $300 in 1901, and as late as 1905 the House voted their salaries at $300 a year; and they are now getting a voted salary of $450; and it has been pointed out by the Minister of Justice that in many cases it may go up as high as $600 a year. They have free fuel, free light, and in most cases perquisites in connection with magistrate’s offices, and for other personal services; whilst at the same time other departments of the service have been allowed to go on without any increase or any form of recognition.

**MR. KENT.**—My position covers all services.

**MR. ROBERTS.**—Mr. Chairman, may I ask, before the Lighthouse Vote passes, why the difference in certain salaries for keepers? The keeper at Little Bay gets $204, the one at Cabbage Head $250, and the one at Sergeant’s Head $528. Why this difference?

**HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.**—These salaries are voted on the recommendation of the Inspector of Lighthouses. He is our guide in this matter.

**MR. ROBERTS.**—I do not see why there is this difference. The keeper at Little Bay Island is a man with a family. How he can live on $204 I do not know. While on this point may I ask is the Government going to make any provision for a fog alarm on Cabot Island. I believe many petitions have been presented pointing out the necessity of this fog alarm. I see no provision for it in the estimates and I consider it an absolute necessity in the interest of the marine community of the country.

**HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.**—Mr. Chairman, with regard to the remarks made by the hon. gentleman as to the difference in salaries I will make enquiries as to why it should be so. It appears to me that the vote for Cab-
bage Head provides for a double salary. I think the keeper has to pay an assistant. However the salaries are voted on the recommendation of the Inspector of Lighthouses. The question of the fog alarm on Cabot Island is under the consideration of the Government.

MR. ROBERTS.—It has been under consideration for a number of years. I hope it will not be under consideration much longer.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Chairman, the great difficulty we experience is the impossibility to do everything at once. Last year we spent $15,000 in Twillingate District. We built five large lighthouses. Now these services need upkeep and we cannot do that without increasing the estimates. I should like to see lighthouses on every prominent point on the coast line of the Colony within reasonable distances of each other, so that those who earn their living by the sea may be as safe on the sea as they are on land. But we cannot do those things without money. About two years ago we borrowed $100,000 to build lighthouses round the Island—we built five in Twillingate, two in Bonne Bay, erected three fog alarms in Burin and so on without regard to the political representation of the Districts. We are now considering the question of asking the Legislation for another loan to carry on this work. But these services need upkeep and we cannot maintain them without increasing the estimates.

MR. ROBERTS.—Mr. Chairman, I do not ask for any increase of the estimates but I would like to know on whose recommendation these five lighthouses were built in the District of Twillingate. If $25,000 were spent on the erection of five lighthouses in Exploits Bay it is not to provide service to the people of Notre Dame Bay. There are no people living in that part where the lighthouses were erected, and they never go in there. These lighthouses can only be used for the conduct of steamers from the ocean to Botwood, where they have pilots and can come and go safely. But along the rugged coast of Fogo and Bonavista there is no such thing as a fog alarm and all the fishermen going north run enormous risks. I am not urging any increase in the estimates although it would be money well spent but if the $25,000 had been saved and a lighthouse put on Cabot Island, it would be of much more service to the people of the Island generally than the whole five in Exploits Bay.

MR. CLIFT.—Mr. Chairman, before the vote for Forest Fires passes may I ask is the $4,000 additional asked for, an increase. I have not seen any of the reports of last year yet. Have they been tabled? I asked for the Report of the chief Fire Ranger. That has not been tabled yet. I do not think that any of the reports have been tabled.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—Mr. Chairman, I tabled some of the reports three or four days ago and I think the one asked for by the hon. member was among them. The others will be tabled at the next sitting.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred: had made some progress, and asked leave to sit again.

It was ordered that this Report be received and the Committee have leave to sit again on Monday.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until Monday next, March 11th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.
MONDAY, March 11th.

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

PETITIONS.

MR. DOWNEY.—I am entrusted with a petition by His Honor the Speaker which I have much pleasure in presenting. It is a petition from Clarke's Beach on the subject of the Sunday Observance. I have also one from Wood's Island in my own district asking for the sum of $600 for the building of an agricultural road. Also a petition from Birchy Cove, also asking for a sum of money, $400, to build an agricultural road. These roads are of more than ordinary importance to the people of these settlements and I have much pleasure in giving them my hearty support. I move that these petitions be received and referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. PARSONS.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Shearston on the subject of a road. They wish to build a distance of 1½ miles of new road to join with the main line and for the purpose they ask for $150. I hope the Government will see its way clear to grant this money and I ask that the petition be referred to the Department of Public Works.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—I beg leave to present some petitions from Port de Grave, one from Cupids, one from Bareneed, one from Black Duck Pond, on the subject of the Sunday observance. I ask they be received, and referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

MR. LEFEUVRE.—I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Port au Bras in the district of Burin, asking for a dredge to improve the harbour. There are quite a number of schooners that fish from that place and the larger ones find it difficult to get in at all. I have also one from Fortune Bay dealing with the same subject and asking for a repeal of taxes. Also one from Lamaline, asking for the sum of $750 to build a public wharf. I have much pleasure in supporting these petitions and I ask that they be received and referred to the Department to which they relate.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Newtown in connection with an amendment in the Game Laws. The petition states that the laws are prohibitive in their application to Newtown and the surrounding settlements and I may say the people there cannot shoot or snare any wild game because of the strict enforcement of the law. This, sir, is a great hardship, especially when there is difficulty in obtaining fresh food of any description. Even in a time of illness these poor people are debarred from getting fresh meat. So that I have great pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition and I may remark that both my colleagues are strongly in favour of it. I ask that the petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. ROBERTS.—Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the nature of the petition or for what it prays except that it is asking for an amendment of the game laws. I have had a wire from Twillingate on the same subject and as the hon. minister states, the law is prohibitive, especially upon the poorer classes. I understand that similar telegrams have come from other districts on the same matter. It is a great hardship on all the people of Twillingate, as it is on the other districts, to be debarred from shooting rabbits when it is impossible to get fresh meat, especially now with this railway tie up when a condition almost verging on destitution, exists. I see no reason for protecting these animals. They are of no value to the
sportsman and the object of the protection I cannot conceive. I give the petition my hearty support and I hope that the Government or those who can will bring pressure to bear upon those who have charge of this matter and have the law changed.

MR. CLIFT.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from the residents of Moreton's Harbour on the subject of the Sunday observance and one from Little Bay Island on the same subject. I understand that similar petitions have already been presented to the House and I have no doubt that the prayer of the petition will receive early attention in the hands of those whose duty it is to see to such legislation.

HON. MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.  
—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of the South Shore, Upper Gullies and Topsail, in the District of Harbor Main, in reference to the Sunday observance. I ask that the petition be received and referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

HON. MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.  
Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Collier's in reference to the erection of a new wharf. It appears that last year during the fall in the heavy storms, the only wharf of that place was carried away. The petition asks for the sum of $400 to erect a new one. The prayer of the petition, sir, is a very worthy one and I have much pleasure in giving it my heartiest support. I ask that it be referred to the Department of Marine and Fisheries and it will no doubt receive the attention that its importance merits.

MR. PARSONS.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from the people of the South Side of Harbor Grace on the subject of a road. This road is about 100 yards in extent and would lead from Island Cove to the wharf. I ask that this petition be received and referred to the Department of Public Works.

HON. MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.  
Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from a number of inhabitants of Conception Harbor, asking for an agricultural road. They want a sum of $100, which I hope it will be possible to grant them. I ask that this be referred to the department to which it belongs.

Mr. Clapp gave Notice of Question.  
Mr. Roberts gave Notice of Question.

SUPPLY RESOLUTIONS.  
Mr. Chairman from the Committee of the Whole on Supply reported certain Resolutions, which were read a first time, as follows:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civil Government</td>
<td>$206,588.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pensions</td>
<td>1,436.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration of Justice</td>
<td>179,179.21</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Public Charities</td>
<td>367,542.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lighthouses, Blockhouses, &amp;c.</td>
<td>92,220.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

The Minister of Public Works laid on the table of the House the Report of the Poor Asylum to December 31st., 1911.

QUESTIONS.  
MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Prime Minister if, in any speeches made by him in the District of Burin last summer, he promised the extension of the Branch Railway system through that District; if so, is it the intention of the Government to proceed with this work, and is it proposed to bring in a Bill for that purpose the present year? Has the Reid Company issued maps showing a proposed extension of the railroad through that District, and were these maps issued with the authority of the Government or not?

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—In
the month of May last I visited Burin District, and, in public addresses made there, stated to the people that when the present Government again appealed to the country, it would be on a railway policy of further extension, bringing the branch line down from the present proposed terminus at Fortune Bay, namely Terrenceville, across to Boat Harbor, connecting Boat Harbor, Bay de l'eau, Baine Harbour, Rushoon, Jean de Bay, Spanish Room, Marystown, Mortier Bay, St. Lawrence, Lawn, Lamiline, Grand Bank and Fortune.

As then stated, and published afterwards in the daily press on my return to the city, this extension is only to be undertaken and commenced on our return from the country after the next General Election, which takes place in 1913.

Under these circumstances it will be seen that the Government will not be bringing in any legislation for that purpose the present year, or proceeding with the work until after 1913. The engineers are now in the field, and have been since December engaged in surveying the branch from the main line at Northern Bight to Terrenceville. That line will not be built before 1913.

On October 11th, 1911, speaking at Burin at the opening of the Agricultural Exhibition there, I made the further statement that when the railway touches the waters of Fortune Bay at Terrenceville, it would cross to Boat Harbor, and then go up the shore through the splendid agricultural land around Boat Harbor, Bay de L'eau, Baine Harbour, Rushoon, Red Harbour, Jean de Bay, Spanish Room, Rock Harbor, Marystown, Mortier Bay, Burin, Corbin, St. Lawrence, Lawn, Lamiline, Fortune and Grand Bank, which will be the terminus.

I have seen the Reid Newfoundland Company's last folder, in which the railway branches contracted for under the contract of 1909, and ratified by this Legislature, are laid down, and I notice that the Branch Line from Northern Bight is further extended direct to Fortune. That has been done entirely without any reference to the Government, or without any authority as far as the Government is concerned, and in no way binds the Government, and was laid down without any reference or correspondence with the Government; and the route from Terrenceville to Grand Bank is not the route which will be adopted after 1913, when that extension will be proposed to the Legislature.

I shall be pleased to furnish the hon. member with printed copies of both speeches, if desired, as well as the Railway folder.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines if the Agricultural Board has prepared its report; and, if so, to lay the same on the table of this House. Also, to table the original reports of all the Agricultural Societies formed under the authority of the Board. Also, to table statement showing all amounts paid to himself, to Mr. George Turner and to Messrs. Downey and Devercaux and Mr. F. H. Simms for services in connection with the Board or with the Agricultural Policy of the Government.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—In answer to the hon. member I may say that the reports and statements asked for by him are being prepared. While on my feet I may also say that the information asked for by the member for St. John's East, Mr. Kent, is also in preparation and will be tabled to-morrow.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Prime Minister where is Mr. Piccott, Minister of Marine and Fisheries? Are the Government aware of his whereabouts? Has anything been heard from him during the past two weeks? Is it known when he will be here, and
what has become of the dredge, if he has purchased one?

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.
—Mr. Piccott left here in the month of January to purchase a dredge for the Colony. As to whether the Government are aware of his whereabouts, if by his whereabouts is meant the exact point where Mr. Piccott is to-day, the Government are not aware. They only know that he was to leave London for here on the 10th or 12th March. The exact date of his arrival in the Colony will depend entirely on the route he may select. Mr. Piccott has purchased a dredge, which is now laid up at Milford Haven, awaiting the spring, when it will be brought here.

MR. KENT asked the Minister of Public Works whether the plans of the New Lunatic Asylum and of alterations in the building to make it suitable for a Poor Asylum have been prepared; if so, by whom and at what cost; if not, are they in course of preparation or have any instructions been given for their preparation, and by whom.

MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.—Mr. Speaker, in reply to the hon. member I may say that the matter is under consideration. I understand that a surveying party has been looking over the ground.

MR. KENT asked the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay on the table of the House a statement in detail showing all moneys spent on the Public Wharf at Cape Broyle in the District of Ferryland, from January 1st, 1911, to date, giving the names of the parties, dates and purposes of each payment; also copy of the returns for such expenditure; also the amount paid to, and the name of any persons, as commission in connection with such expenditure.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, in reply to the hon. member and on behalf of the Minister, I may say that the Department informs me that a statement is in course of preparation.

MR. DEVEREAUX asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a copy of the pamphlets written by Mr. P. T. McGrath, at the request of Sir Robert Bond, at the time of the Colonial Conference in 1902, and which were paid for out of the public funds of the Colony.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—In reply to the hon. member, I beg to say that there is no record in the Colonial Secretary’s Department that any such pamphlets were received, although, upon application to Hon. P. T. McGrath, I am informed by that gentleman that they were handed to Sir Robert Bond in person. I am consequently unable to table the copies asked for.

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.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Chairman, in connection with the Road grants, I should like to point out that the distribution of the grants for local roads will not be made until we have the figures of the new census, so that we can take the total vote only for the present. The exact figures will be known, if not before the end of the session, at least certainly before the first of July, when these votes come into operation.

MR. CLIFT.—Mr. Chairman, might I remind the Government we were promised that a preliminary census report would be laid before this House. This has not yet been done, so far as I remember, but publications of some statements have appeared in the daily papers. I submit that if any information is available from the enumerat-
ors on any point that information should first be tabled in this House before it is otherwise published. When the House is sitting the members of the House should be made aware of it before it is published in the papers.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Chairman, as soon as any authentic information is available it will be brought down to this House. I had hoped to table an interim report, but there are two districts that have yet to be heard from. Their returns may be held up on account of the snow blockade on the railway. The Deputy Colonial Secretary informs me that he expects the report in the course of a few days; meantime nothing has been officially published.

MR. KENT.—Mr. Chairman, before we leave this question of main roads I want to point out to the Committee and the Government the position of affairs in my district as regards main line roads. I have before put the matter before the Government, both directly and through this House, of the absence in many cases of main line grants for roads that are really main line roads. Take Bell Island for instance. There is one road in that island running the whole length of the island, and a road to the mines. During the last few years that road has deserved to be considered a main line road, and not what it was during the preceding 20 years, before the opening of the mines and the consequent increase of population. It is now really a main line, and should be treated as such. The road which leads from the city to Outer Cove, Middle Cove, is a main road and should have a main line appropriation. The road between Portugal Cove and Bauline is a main line road and receives a main line grant. The road on Bell Island is just as much a main line road as the roads which receive special main line grants and is deserving of treatment as a main line.

While I am referring to Bell Island I might take this opportunity to remind the Government of the petition that I presented to the House two or three years ago regarding the establishment of some sort of local or municipal Government for the island. I think the wishes of the people of the island in this respect should be considered and some notice taken of the petition. The matter has been mentioned once or twice each session, but nothing has been done. I now again draw the attention of the Prime Minister to the matter and I hope he will see his way to accede to the wishes of the inhabitants of the island.

MR. CLIFT.—Mr. Chairman, referring generally to this question of main line roads, I find this vote goes on from year to year, practically unchanged, without regard to new lines that have been made and without regard in many cases to the necessity for constructing new ones. In my district there is a crying need for a grant for several new lines that have already been opened up but have no annual grant for their upkeep. I take it that the time has come when something ought to be done in the way of establishing a regular inspection of all main lines throughout the districts. No allocations are made for new lines, and very often some of the old lines may perhaps have fallen partly into disuse, and still the old grants go on; or at least it is quite possible that this might happen. I would like to see an inspector go down into the district and go over the various main lines and consider the conditions, and see if the present system of voting round sums of money for their upkeep cannot be improved upon. I think it will be found that we are voting too much money for some lines and not enough for others; and not voting any at all for others. I know of some that do not get an annual grant, and it will be a step in the right
direction if the Public Works Department were, in the way I have indicated, to make itself aware of the conditions and see if it were not possible to do something to improve our main line system. Speaking of that reminds me that last session I presented here several petitions asking for sums of money to expend upon roads in various places. I have followed up these petitions as far as I was able through the Department, and took up the matter with the Colonial Secretary during the summer. But I find that a great proportion of the moneys allotted to the district have been expended in the construction of telegraphs, and the matter of the roads and the moneys asked for by the various petitioners have not been granted. One petition in particular about which I wrote a couple of letters to the Minister, was for the repair of a bridge at Boot Harbour, Hall’s Bay, and nothing has been done yet. The bridge has fallen down, and the people are put to the utmost inconvenience. It seems to me that petitions are presented to this House and referred to the various departments and to a great extent lie there unnoticed. I see from the returns that have been tabled as to the expenditure of the special grants for Twillingate District that with the exception of expenditure for telegraphs, which by the way is improperly charged to roads and bridges, and the balance of the grant for the district has been spent in small votes here and there, $40 and $50 at a time, and there has been no real substantial work done. It is only one really acquainted with the needs of a large district such as Twillingate who can begin to allocate the moneys to the best advantage. Whilst I know the custom has been for members on the other side to allocate the apportionments of the grants that belong to the districts of members on this side, I think in fairness to a district the members should be consulted as to the merits of the petitions that come before the House. These petitions I know in the past have been somewhat ridiculed; a petition is sent in and presented to the House and that is the end of it.

But, Mr. Chairman, I submit this is the only way in which the petitioners can make their demands known, and any of us who have studied these petitions and looked at the number of names that appear on them must realize the amount of labor and trouble that they entail on the people who get them up and get them signed. These petitions would not be sent on if the needs were not real, and all these parties would not sign them unless the amounts asked for were right and reasonable. But the point I desire to make is, in the first place, that some better system should be inaugurated as to the allocation of the moneys that we vote here for main roads. I think a great improvement might be made if an inspector were to go over these roads and report. It would not cost very much to have an annual inspection in each district. The inspector could then see what other main lines it was necessary to open up and what amount should be granted annually for cash. With regard to the petitions, I do not think that we give as much care and attention to them as we ought, and very often we find that allocations are made by people who really do not know the exact needs of the district or in what parts of the district the moneys might be expended to the best advantage. I hope that something may be done to improve the conditions under which our moneys are expended—particularly in relation to main lines throughout the Colony; indeed, there is room for improvement with regard to the local moneys also, but these are more or less in the hands of the Road Boards, and, of course, we must assume that the Road Boards are always the best judges as
to the expenditure.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Chairman, I quite agree with the hon. member, that road moneys are very often not expended in the way in which they would appear most likely to give the very best returns, but, of course, that is very largely due to a system that was not made today or yesterday or ten years ago but has been in existence for a great number of years. The local road moneys are voted per capita and go to the local road boards, and the Government in no way interfere with them. They are expended by these road boards under their local jurisdiction in the various settlements. As regards main lines, these are also voted from point to point and the Government know nothing whatever about them. They are fixed arbitrarily. We have been voting that sum now ($65,000) for main lines—well, for the last 25 or 30 years without any variation. They have been, as I say, settled arbitrarily—not on the basis of population, nor territory, nor size of district—and they have gone on and become practically a part of the law of the land; and the difficulty now would be to interfere with them. Take, for instance, the hon. member for St. John's East, who was speaking a few minutes ago about main lines in his district. Well, I don't suppose he has a grant of more than fifteen or sixteen hundred dollars for main lines.

MR. KENT—About that.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—Probably not more than $1500, while a district with a smaller population, like Trinity, has something like $9000. Well, that may have arisen out of the fact that Trinity had premiers representing it for a great many years and probably they may have been able to get more than the others. I don't know how it came about. The same is true of Twillingate; that district has five or six thousand dollars for main lines, while other smaller districts probably have more. Some of the districts got very little, and only certain roads are regarded as main lines. Now, take the district of St. John's West. We have a part of the Topsail Road—out to Quigley's, about two miles this side of Donovan's. We get $200 to keep that road up. On the other hand, we have no vote from St. John's to Petty Harbor, distance of about ten miles. It is a main line, and we have got to keep that in repair out of our local moneys. The same is, of course, true of a great many other of that class of road. Now, we vote here $20,000 every year that is largely in the allocation of the Government. That is outside the local vote and outside the main line vote. That has been going on for a great number of years too. My hon. friend, the member for Twillingate, will remember, I am sure, that the method which the Government employs in reference to allocations under that head is simply to obtain the very best information from time to time, the letters that come in from the various districts, the representations that are made—and with all this information before them, the Government allocate this amount. They do not always, of course, satisfy everyone, but the object is to do the greatest good to the greatest number.

MR. MOULTON—I would like to say a few words on main line grants. I can assure the hon. member for Twillingate that the grant of $65,000 is not expended in the district of Burgeo and LaPole. We get the magnificent sum of $250 a year for a coast line of 130 miles. In the meantime quite agree with what he says, and
consider that the amount should be shared in the various districts per capita, and that every district should get its proper proportion of that amount. It is not fair for one district to be getting a lot of money and another very little. I don't think that we have got ten miles of main line in the whole district of Burgeo and LaPoile. That has been going on for years, and I suppose it will go on. I think the Government should take steps to have this money shared out per capita. I quite sympathize with the hon. member for Twillingate in the medicine that they have to take regarding the grants. I took medicine for several years while in the Opposition, and it isn't very nice. I am sorry that he doesn't seem to care about it.

MR. ROBERTS.—Mr. Chairman, I was going to say that I agree with the observations of my learned colleague with reference to main line road grants, and it just occurs to me that petitions have been presented to the House year after year from Herring Neck asking for a sum of money, but there has been no recognition and no moneys have been or, I suppose, will be voted. I also agree with what he says in reference to petitions. We all know the way in which they are treated. The whole thing needs readjustment. As to road inspection, I have not seen any inspector in my district. I thought that the whole thing was to have been readjusted under a Department known as the Road Inspector's office. However, I would like the Minister of Public Works to take a note of the requirements of Herring Neck in particular in view of the petitions that have been presented to this House asking for a main line in that locality. The people would consider it a great favor, if, out of the moneys allocated, something were done towards main line road expenses in that neighborhood.

MR. GEAR—Mr. Chairman, from an answer I received to a question last week I find that the amount of money spent in Burin district during the past summer was forty odd thousand dollars, and the main line was considerably extended. I would ask, Sir, that another thousand dollars be put in the estimates for the purpose of keeping up the roads that were made in Burin district that cost $44,000. If that money was spent because the district was open and a member was wanted, well, then, alright; but if it was done for the benefit of the people, then I say it would be a shame to let the roads go down for want of adequate means to repair them. I would therefore ask, Sir, that a further sum of $1,000 be added to the estimates to keep up these roads.

If I did not think we were gone past the ferry vote. I would like to ask whether the increase of $90 for the Marystown ferry is intended to increase the wages of the ferryman, or if it is to run a motor ferry which I understand is to be placed there?

MR. CLAPP—Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask whether it is the intention of the Government to put in Supplementary Supply an amount for purpose of running a ferry on St. Margaret's Bay, in accordance with petitions presented to this House on several occasions, and which the hon. Premier promised he would see done, if possible. This is a very important matter. A good many people have to walk round this Bay, while it would only cost about $5 to run a ferry. I am not asking this with the object of putting any obstacle in the way of the Government, but it is a request of the Church of England mis-
sionary there.

MR. GEAR—But about Marystown?
HON. MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.—I may say that the vote was increased for the reason that traffic has increased to such an extent that no man would do the work for a less salary.

MR. GEAR—Is there to be no motor ferry there?
HON. MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS—I don't know whether there is to be a motor ferry or not.

MR. GEAR—I understood that that vote was for a ferry service from Marystown across the Tickle?
RT. HON. PR1ME MINISTER—No.
MR. CLAPP—Regarding the question I asked in connection with the ferry on St. Margaret's Bay, I would like to know whether it is the intention of the Government to take that matter up this year? It is very necessary that a ferry should be put on this Bay. It has been asked for several times, and was practically promised by the Prime Minister—a promise that has, so far, been unfulfilled—and I had an answer from the Minister that it was under the consideration of the Government. Now, that is very vague. I would like an answer—yes or no—whether it will be done or not and whether it is the intention to put a vote in supplementary supply or not.

MIN. PUBLIC WORKS—I have no doubt that the Government will grant that request. It is a promise of the Government, and as their promises are generally fulfilled I have no doubt but that this one will also be kept.

MR. CLIFT—I notice (I don't know who are occupying the positions I refer to), that the clerk in charge of the distribution department of the General Post Office, gets $800 while the Superintendent of Registration gets $1000. One clerk is raised from $800 to $1000 while the clerk in charge remains at the same figure. If these officials were of equal importance before this change, why is one salary raised and the other allowed to remain at the old figure? I assume that both the officials are equally competent and put in the same amount of time and labour at their work. Further on I notice that the Chief Accountant has an increase of $200—his salary was $800—while two other men at $800 are allowed to remain the same. Perhaps there is some explanation for it?

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—I think if the hon. member will give a little study to the question he will see that there are many good and sufficient reasons for these increases. Take the Chief Accountant. He has apparently received $200 increase, but as a matter of fact he has been receiving that amount on Executive responsibility for several years, and paid out of contingencies. And if the hon. gentleman will turn to the Post Master General's report and see the increase—the actual physical increase—in the work of that Department, he will be prepared to admit that this man is, even with the increase, underpaid. I refer to Mr. Martin.

MR. CLIFT—I am not objecting to Mr. Martin—only the principle.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—The principle is that it was strongly recommended by the Post Master General that the man was underpaid. He was handling millions, and if he went out to-morrow he could not be replaced. You could not replace him—absolutely reliable—a man whose word is his bond—sober, attentive—all the qualifications for the position. He has been there now a great many years, and has to do as much work in
the night as in the day in order to keep up—work that cannot be done by assistants—must be done by himself personally. Then there is the case of Mr. Kinsella. He has an increase from $800 to $1000. He has been in the department thirty-eight years. He went into the post office as a letter carrier at $100 a year. He is now getting up for sixty, and his salary, up to this increase, was the same as that of many clerks of six or seven years standing in the public service. This was recommended also—strongly recommended. He has the experience of the office, is thoroughly reliable, and is the head of a large department in the post office. In the old days, in the general post office "department" counted for very little, because the volume of work was not there, but now the whole service has been broken up into a number of departments. It has not been done during the last two or three years but during the last seven or eight years. These men are now practically deputies of the Post Master General in these various departments. You have to consider the number of years that a man has been there and the experience that he has gained as against another man who is probably doing fairly good work but has only been in the Department a few years. These are only a few of the considerations that led to the raising of some of these salaries and not all. It would really be necessary to have the whole list before us—the period of service, the class of work, the new duties that are daily being entailed on these men, to understand the causes underlying these increases. It has not been done haphazard nor without earnest consideration of all these details.

MR. CLAPP—Mr. Chairman, before this matter goes through, I would like to ask the Colonial Secretary for the names of the many others who have been recommended by the Post Master General for increases in salaries and who have been in the post office for years of service?

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—I am unable to give my hon. friend the information just now, but I shall endeavour to have it for him to-morrow.

MR. KENT—I do not think the hon. gentleman objected in any way to the increases for everybody recognizes that all who have received increases have no doubt deserved them, but from what I can gather, he objected against the discrimination against men equally experienced and hard-working as those whose salaries have been increased. That was the position that he took. There are men in the Post Office whom I have known for years, men who are heads of departments there, who have worked their way up through the service, who have not received any increase, and these are the men who deserve consideration at the hands of the Government. The Government might easily have given them the same increase of two or three hundred dollars that the others received and thus avoided this discrimination. Take the case of Mr. Aylward, one of the clerks there, who has been a life time in the service. Mr. Clarke is another, but neither of these men has received any consideration. Their work is quite as responsible as that of the men whose salaries have been increased. Why has such discrimination been made in this department when the salary of the assistant accountant has increased from eight hundred to a thousand dollars; the secretary to the Postmaster-General from $650 to $850; the
first clerk from $800 to $1000; the superintendent of Parcel Post from $800 to $1000 and the Junior clerk from $200 to $240. The clerk-in-charge is of the same standing as the assistant accountant and the superintendent of the Post Office, and yet he is left exactly as he was as far as salary is concerned. The same applies to Mr. Devereaux and other officials there and that is the objection that is raised.

I do not consider that it is any answer to say that these things were done in the past for we are not considering the doings of former governments. These are past and gone and we have only to deal with the present actions of the Government and the discriminations which have been shown. The contention that it has been the custom in the past to do a certain thing is a very weak one, and has been put forward too often by the Government. If the intention of the government was to increase the salaries of the heads of departments and those holding prominent positions, then I think that they ought to have given the whole matter more consideration and treated all deserving officials alike.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—
The Government does not rely on the tu quoque argument, but we merely give that as an additional defence to our position, if necessary. As a matter of fact, there has been no discrimination shown at all, and the argument that when we make an increase in the salary of one or two officials we must make an increase in the whole system from the top to the bottom is absurd. Because there is a man in one of the departments who deserves an increase of salary it is no argument that every man should receive it. On the contrary we might be employed in reducing some of the salaries at the Custom's House and increasing others. There has been absolutely no discrimination, but an attempt has been made to do justice to some of the officials whose salaries have not been sufficient remuneration for the services rendered by them. In each case the increase has been merely an advancement and not brought about by any personal motives. As regards the officials at the Post Office we have consulted with the Postmaster General, and have made other enquiries. It is impossible to state here all the reasons that have induced the Government to increase some salaries and not others. These reasons are good and sufficient, but they cannot be disclosed here. However, they must be taken into consideration by my hon. friends opposite who will appreciate the fact that they cannot be adduced here. The Government does not rely on the tu quoque argument. When speaking on this matter before I merely pointed out that during the eight years that the former Government was in power, the salaries of one or two officials were raised year after year, and the others received no increase whatever. If anyone is interested in the matter he can see the figures from 1901 to 1908, and he will find that some officials received an increase year after year of from fifty to two hundred dollars. We do not rely on that argument, as I have already said, but when we are placed upon our defence we add it as an additional plea.

MR. KENT—Just one word in reply. I have no doubt that when the estimates, to which the Rt. hon. Premier has referred, were before the House the Minister in charge of them was able to justify the
changes made in the salaries of some of the civil servants, and show that they were made on proper grounds. I was not a member of the House at the time and do not know to what particular salaries he refers. However, when the Prime Minister says that no discrimination has been shown, I do not agree with him, for I think there has been and that the cases which I have pointed out are very clear cases of discrimination. The Prime Minister has said that it is not necessary to go from the top to the bottom if we want to increase one salary. Certainly not. I do not claim it for I think there are cases and circumstances under which the salaries of individuals might be fairly increased, but that the increases now before us are of that kind. When the Clerk in Charge at the Post office is in practically the same position in every way as the Accountant, why should one have his salary increased and not the other? I do not think it is necessary to assert that if the salary of one is increased the salary of each man in the department must also be increased, but I do think that if the Government does justice to one of the officials it should do justice to them all.

MR. CLAPP—Do I understand that all the officials of the Post office who have been recommended an increase of salary by the Postmaster General, have had their salaries increased? I have asked that all correspondence between the Postmaster-General and the Colonial Secretary’s department on the matter be laid on the table, and I understand it will be tabled tomorrow. I ask the question because I know of some officials there who have been in the service for over thirty years, and who have worked their way up, and who have not received an increase, although I understand they have been highly recommended by the Postmaster-General. Take the case of one official, whose name I do not care to mention. He has been highly recommended by the Postmaster General, and is in every way as much entitled to an increase as any other man in the department. Why has he not received an increase? I cannot see why he has not received it, especially when he has been recommended by the Postmaster General.

MR. CLIFT.—Why is it that some of the clerks on the mail boats receive only $260 while others receive $330.

HON. MIN. OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—In some cases the steamers are running for eight months only and the clerks on these do not receive as much as those on steamers running all the year.

MR. CLAPP.—I am glad to see that the postal official at Bonne Bay has received an increase. He has been there a number of years and the increase is merited. I advocated this increase long ago, and I am glad to see now, that the Government has moved in the matter, for a more worthy or more honest man cannot be found in the service. He has to work very hard and has to get out of his bed at all hours in the night, when the “Home” calls there. I am very much pleased that the Government has made the increase. Flower’s Cove has recently been made a Money Order office, and I would like to ask whether any increase has been made in the salary of the postmistress there. I wrote the Postmaster General on the matter, and asked if any increase would be made, but I do not know definitely if it will be. I think she should receive it for she is a
very efficient official.

MR. ROBERTS.—Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask if any increase has been recommended by the Postmaster General for the postmaster of Twillingate. I do not suppose that there is a more deserving official in the whole Government service, than the postmaster at Twillingate. Year after year increases are voted for postmasters in St. John's, but no increase is given him, though his is an important office, as Twillingate is the port of call of the Labrador and Coastal Service and he has to work as hard as half a dozen men. If we look through the estimates, we will find that the outports postmasters have never been treated fairly in this respect. They do ten times as much work as they are being paid for. I would like to know, therefore, if there was any recommendation to increase his salary.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—I may say that I have no recollection of any recommendation. The Postmaster General recommended an increase in the salaries of the operator and telegraph messenger. I will make enquiries in this matter.

MR. KENT—I would like to know whether it is the intention of the Government, in view of the daily mail now in St. John's East, that is between the city and Torbay, Pouch Cove, Portugal Cove etc, to increase the salaries of the Postmaster in each of those places. I notice that the same amounts are in the estimates as formerly, but the work is now doubled. I hope that they will take this under consideration.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Up to the present time no applications have been received for an increase. I can assure the hon. member that any applications will receive every consideration from the Government.

MR. KENT—I understood that applications had come in.

MR. CLAPP—I would like to ask if any increase has been recommended by the Postmaster General for the Postmistress at Flower's Cove.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—I have no recollection of any such recommendation.

MR. CLIFT—Why are the increases in the votes for couriers?

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—There are very few changes in this vote, but they have been made on the recommendation of the P.M.G. There have been several changes in the routes, several couriers have resigned, and we could not get any one to take their places, except at an increased salary.

MR. CLIFT—I would like to know why the courier from Brigus and Railway has been reduced from $240 to $160. I happen to know something about the man, and the work that he is doing, and I think that it is very unfair to reduce him to this amount. He has to drive up to the station every time the train comes, and he has to keep a horse and carriage, and the sum of $160 is totally inadequate. It is very unfair to reduce him that amount. I mention it now in the hope that the Government will take it into consideration, and put this man on a better footing. He has had this position for a number of years, has given satisfaction, and a better man for the position could not be secured. I think that it is cruel to expect him to keep a horse and carriage, to drive to the station twice a day, on a pittance of $160. I sincerely hope that the Government will give this matter serious consideration.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—The reduction has not been made re-
cently, and I cannot remember the circumstances very well, so I speak subject to correction. I think, however, it is due to a division of the work. The mail for Georgetown was usually taken by this courier, now another man has charge of it, so that the work he has to do is very much less.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER—Does he do the same work?

MR. CLIFT.—He has practically the same amount of work to do, and he has to give the same amount of time. As regards the salary of the courier from Hants’ Hr., to Heart’s Content, I would like to know why this has been increased from $260 to $401.18.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—There is now a daily mail during the summer months.

MR. ROBERTS.—I would like to know why the salary of the courier from Lewisporte and Boyd’s Cove has been increased.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—The same reply as I gave to Mr. Clift’s question covers this.

MR. ROBERTS.—There is another matter. The Twillingate Courier gets $238 and the Lewisporte courier gets $300 for exactly the same work. The distance covered by both is exactly the same—18 miles in each case.

MR. CLIFT.—Perhaps the Colonial Secretary will find out the reason for that difference.

HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Certainly.

MR. KENT.—With regard to the Bell Island service I notice that there is an increase. What was the alteration that took place in the service there.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE—Lance Cove, has been added to the places of call.

MR. KENT.—Under the arrangement last year they were to call at Kelligrews, Lance Cove, the Beach and Portugal Cove. That was the time of the change of service, if you remember.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—The original contract was the Beach, Portugal Cove and Kelligrews. Afterwards, on the representation of the people of Bell Island, the upper end of the Island, opposite Kelligrews was included and $600 additional was added to the contract. It was first $2,800 and then it was raised to $3,400.

MR. KENT—I think that was done last year when the vote was $2,800.

HON. MIN. OF JUSTICE—No. $2,800 was the original tender, and Lance Cove was not included.

MR. KENT—I think you are mistaken. I would like to see the contract.

MR. CLIFT.—Why is there an increase of $2,000 for St. George’s Bay.

HON. MIN. FINANCE—It is the intention to provide a better steamer.

MR. CLIFT.—What is that monthly allowance to Telegraph Offices?

HON. MIN. JUSTICE—It is $1.50 a month for light and cleaning of each office. The increase is to provide for the new offices.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

The chairman from the Committee of the Whole reported that they had considered the matter to them referred, had made some progress, and asked leave to sit again.

It was ordered that this report be received and adopted, and the Committee have leave to sit again on to-morrow.

The Hon. Minister of Justice gave notice that he would ask leave to introduce a Bill to amend the law relating to copyright.

Mr. Kent gave Notice of Question. It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until
to-morrow, Tuesday, March 12th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

TUESDAY, March 12th.

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

PETITIONS.

MIN. PUBLIC WORKS—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition, an important one, largely signed by the leading residents of the South Shore of Conception Bay, Kelligrews and other settlements, with reference to the installation of a system of telephones upon the South Shore. It is well known that the last few years, large numbers of the people of St. John’s resort to Kelligrews in summer, and there is no public telegraph office at that place, only the one belonging to the railway company. The people believe that a telephone system would be more convenient, and they pray this House to consider their request, and if possible have a telephone system installed on the South Shore between Kelligrews and St. John’s. It can of course tap the intervening localities along the shore. I give this petition my hearty support, and hope that if possible its prayer may be acceded to.

MR. PARSONS—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Coley’s Point on the subject of a road to the public wharf there. Also a petition from Courage’s Beach, on the subject of drainage or sewerage. This section is very thickly populated there, and the extension of the sewerage is an absolute necessity in the interest of the public health. I ask that these petitions be referred to the Departments to which they relate.

MR. DOWNEY—Mr. Speaker, on behalf of His Honor the Speaker I beg to present two petitions,—from Clarke’s Beach for $100 and from North River for $150 respectively. The former allocation is wanted for a very necessary road; I know the place and can appreciate what a great advantage it would be to the people. I beg that these be referred to the Department to which they relate.

MR. LEFEUVRE—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from Frenchman’s Cove for a breastwork or breakwater to protect the meadows and gardens at that place from the salt water, the soil, being very low and sandy; also from Greenview and vicinity, asking for $200 to complete a road commenced there some years ago and now falling into disrepair. Also a petition from Lamaline and adjoining places asking for a grant to erect a public building there, including Court room, post office and telegraph office. The present Court room is only the upper flat of a store and the Post and Telegraph offices are in a small dwelling house, dilapidated and long since unfit for human habitation. I beg that these petitions be referred to the department to which they relate.

HON. MIN. AGRICULTURE AND MINES—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from Middle Amherst Cove asking for $110 for necessary improvement to a landing place, also a petition from Salvage praying that sealing captains be forbidden to take seals from 12 o’clock on Saturday night to 12 o’clock on Sunday night. I ask that these be referred to the departments to which they relate.

MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Harbour Main proper in reference to the granting of
a sum of money for repairs to a road known as Hickey's Road in that place. They ask for $400. This road has been neglected for some years; I suppose the funds did not enable the district representatives to allocate money for it, but hope that this year if possible money may be found for the purpose. I beg that this be referred to the Department to which it relates.

Mr. Kent gave notice of question.

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 entitled "An Act to Prevent Promiscuous Spitting," to which they requested the concurrence of the House of Assembly.

On motion, the Bill was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

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 amend Chapter 120 of the Consolidated Statutes (second series), entitled "Of Harbour Master and Harbour Regulations for the Port of St. John's", with an amendment, in which they requested the concurrence of the House of Assembly.

On motion, the Council's amendment was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

Mr. Chairman from the Committee of the Whole on Supply reported certain Resolutions, which were read a first time as follows:-

Roads, Bridges and Ferries, $180,293
Postal and Telegraph Department, $592,555.40.

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

QUESTIONS.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary whether any action has been taken by the Government to appoint the parties named in his letter to him of December 13th, 1911, to be a Road Board from Brown's Cove to lower end of Sop's Island, White Bay, in the district of St. Barbe, and in compliance with the request of the electors residing in that section, as communicated to him in his said letter.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—In reply to the Hon. member I would say that no action has been taken by the Government.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House all correspondence between him and the Postmaster General within the last six months in relation to the increase of salaries in the Department of the Post Office.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—In reply I beg to state that there has been no correspondence.

MR. ROBERTS asked the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of expenditure on bridges at Shoal Tickle, Twillingate, during the year 1911, giving names of parties to whom amounts were paid for material and labor.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—In the absence of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, I beg to lay upon the table of the House the statement asked for by the hon. member.

MR. ROBERTS asked the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of travelling expenses paid to Thomas Wells out of Special Grant
for Marine Works in the District of Twillingate on 5th June last.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—In reply to the hon. member I beg to table the statement asked for.

MR. ROBERTS asked the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay on the table a statement in detail, showing the number of light houses built in the District of Twillingate from June 1st, 1909, to date, and the total cost of each; also giving dates and names of parties to whom payments were made for material and labor in each case.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—In reply to the Hon. member I beg to state that I am informed by the Department that the statement is in course of preparation.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a copy of all correspondence, contracts and other documents relating to the Coastal Mail Service to Bell Island from June 30th, 1909, to date.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—In reply to the hon. member I may say that I am having the papers copied.

EDUCATION RESOLUTIONS.

Pursuant to order, and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider certain Resolutions respecting Education.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Parsons took the Chair of Committee.

RIGHT HON. THE PREMIER.—There can be no doubt that Education, the subject of the Resolutions which I am about to submit for your consideration, is of the very highest importance to the people of Newfoundland. Underlying and at the root of all our national life lies the proper education of our people—education in the true sense of the word. We have reached a point in our educational system to-day when the poorest boy may leave his home in any district in the Island, and enjoy free for three years the advantages of an Oxford University education.

The present occasion is one on which we may be justified in taking a retrospective glance at our systems, and what we have accomplished for the past twenty years, which is the period during which we have had the Council of Higher Education amongst us, the Teachers' Pension Fund, the Augmentation Grants, and those other new departures in our educational system which have done so much to bring the blessings of education to every man's door.

Some may ask if we are not taxing ourselves too much for education. I am of the opinion that we are not, when we consider what we voluntarily spend on amusement, luxuries and other unnecessary expenditures, reaching millions. Every thinking man in the country must admit that every dollar spent on education will return a hundred fold. If we only enter into the spirit of the work, we will get more real pleasure out of assisting education than from any other occupation we are likely to engage in. It should be our aim and our ambition to see that no child shall pass into manhood or womanhood, maimed intellectually for the battle of life through lack of education. We should not alone provide schools, but we should also encourage and foster a spirit of education. We must interest every man, woman and child in this educational movement. It is called a tax on our people, but in reality we merely collect the money from the people to pay teachers to educate their children. Educated people—those who have had the advantage of receiving an education—can appreciate what is lost to the man or woman who cannot
read or write. The garnered wealth and treasures of centuries are shut out from them.

We cannot claim to be leaders in this matter; we are merely followers. Fifty years ago, when very little money was expended on education, private effort erected the splendid educational institutions which we have now in this country. The great advance that is being made to-day in the industrial world; the application of science and technical education all round, makes it necessary that we should have well-equipped schools for our children, if we are to hold our place in the great industrial battle which has to be waged in the very near future. Any money that we may spend on this work will be the best investment that could possibly be made, from a citizen's standpoint. We have in this country, 1,000 teachers whom we must all admit are underpaid, especially when we have regard to the importance of the work which they perform. The teaching profession is foremost amongst the great agencies of civilization: Rulers, magistrates, we legislators here, all who govern the state, deal with man when his mental and moral characteristics are fully developed. We may coerce, restrain or destroy the individual subjected to our control, but the power of altering the nature is restricted within narrow points.

The teachers, however, deal with the child in its plastic condition. They are at the fountain head of society, where the slender stream may be easily diverted into any channel which they may choose to trace. All others run below where the broadened waters flow between fixed banks which human power is impotent to change.

We must educate our children in the true sense of the word—that is, attend to the proper development and training of the faculties, physical, moral and intellectual. I place physical training first, because that must ever occupy the foremost place. Physical education is to the man what fuel and water is to the locomotive. "Know Thyself" is the foundation of physical as well as of moral and intellectual education. Physical education will embrace hygienic studies, physiology, fresh air, bathing, and cleanliness. Every child should be taught the normal, proper and healthy functions of his body. These studies should be in the front rank of the curriculum of education. Too much study and insufficient physical exercise will turn out cripples. Our motto should be, a sound mind in a sound body.

Then comes the moral teaching, in relation to the family, to society and to the state, and this training must be carefully looked after. Intellectual education or book learning is subsidiary and subordinate to physical and moral training, and that raises the very natural question as to whether the curriculum or list of branches of education which our boys and girls are studying to-day fits them best for the battles of life upon which they have to enter. That is too broad a question to deal with at present, and may be safely left in the hands of those Boards of Education, the Council of Higher Education and others who are giving such splendid voluntary work, and devoting so much of their time to the cause of education. In connection with the question as to whether this Legislature is doing all that it is called upon to do, in the way of making provision for education, and the providing of money grants, the following tables will be interesting, showing, as they do, the cost per head for Education in the various countries named, as compared to Newfoundland:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Cost per Head</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>$9.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manitoba</td>
<td>7.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Columbia</td>
<td>6.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.A. (all services)</td>
<td>4.27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In making this comparison, it is only fair to point out that these votes are made by countries where the people are much more prosperous than we are, and can afford to pay much higher taxes. For instance, it is not fair to directly compare our donation of $1.50 per head with the $3.71 paid by New Zealand. For the people of the latter country are three times as wealthy as our people. And read in that light, we are really paying more than New Zealand. The population to-day of Newfoundland is roughly a quarter of a million, and our revenue for the past year $3,500,000. Now, the population of New Zealand is one million, or equal to four times the population of Newfoundland. Basing the revenue on the same proportions, New Zealand should have received the past year $14,000,000. But really that country collected $50,000,000 in revenue last year, showing that the people from which it was obtained must be very wealthy. This is evidenced from the fact that the average income per family in New Zealand is $1,500, while in this country it is questionable if the average reaches much more than $400. It is not fair, therefore, to compare the two countries, for one is so much wealthier than the other; but basing the educational grant on the income received, we are paying more in proportion. The same thing applies with regard to Nova Scotia, where the average family income is $1,000. Even as it is, we are not last on the list, for in Cuba they pay $1.50 per head, while in Prince Edward Island the contribution is only $1.23 per head. Another interesting comparison is the expenditure per pupil in some of the principal countries of the world. I will not delay the Committee by reading them all:

**Newfoundland** 1.50

Nevada .................. $72.34
Montana .................. 58.44
California ............... 54.93
New York ................. 51.26
District of Columbia ...... 51.24
New Jersey ............... 48.93
Washington ............... 45.47
North Dakota ............. 47.41
Arizona .................. 45.31
Colorado .................. 43.64
Massachusetts ............ 43.12
South Dakota ............. 42.14
Illinois .................. 41.01
Rhode Island ............. 39.28
Wyoming .................. 38.39
Utah ..................... 37.03
Ohio ...................... 36.70
Connecticut ............... 35.75
Pennsylvania .............. 35.94
Minnesota ................ 35.58
Wisconsin ................ 33.39
Nebraska .................. 32.58
Idaho ..................... 31.54
Indiana ................... 31.40
Iowa ....................... 30.99
New Hampshire ............ 30.67
Michigan ................... 30.44
Vermont .................... 30.10
Ontario ................... 29.65
Oregon .................... 29.54
Missouri ................... 26.20
Kansas .................... 26.22
Maryland .................. 24.76
Maine ..................... 24.31
British Columbia .......... 20.02
It will be seen by these that Newfoundland is a long way behind, though there are four places with a lower figure, namely Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina and Mississippi.

But the same argument holds true. We must have regard to the wealth of the countries and the taxable powers of the people before we institute comparisons. So I think that the question as to whether we are doing our duty, whether we are voting sufficient sums, is answered by a just comparison with the countries I have quoted. As I have already said, there is no necessity to justify this expenditure. Whatever doubts there may be regarding expenditure in other ways, this Legislature is always ready to reasonably vote a sufficient sum to carry on the education of the people.

It will be interesting for the Committee to know the gradual growth in this country of the educational grant for the past seventy-five years. The first grant for schools was made in the session of 1836, just three years after the granting of Representative Government. That year $12,500 was voted. Between then and the year 1880 the grant had grown to $88,860. In 1890 the grant had advanced to $143,500. Eleven years later, in 1901, it amounted to $163,692, while in 1908 it had reached $262,123, and, with the increased grant which I shall ask this Committee to vote, as well as what we have already voted this session in Supply, the total vote for 1912 will be $364,023, showing an increase within the past three years of $101,900, or over $100,000 more than was voted in 1908, and double the increase between the years 1901 and 1908.

In other words, we have in three short years added to the education vote of 1908, by over one-third, a larger increase than that which took place in all the years from 1836 to 1880.

I am not altogether unmindful of the fact that there are many well-deserving persons in the country, who are not altogether in favor of the present list of studies, that is, the curriculum of syllabus taught in our schools. As I have already said, that is a matter entirely in the hands of the Council of Higher Education, who are the present judges of the subject. Now, who are these gentlemen? In the first place we have the Rev. Dr. Pilot, President of the Council; Rev. Bro. Kennedy and Rev. Dr. Curtis, Vice-Presidents; the heads of the various colleges, Messrs. Wood, Harrington, Culhane and Garrock, and the Superintendents and Inspectors of Education, Messrs. Blackall, Burke, Hanrahan, Curtis, Cave, Thompson, and Lodge, as well as Rev. Canon Pilot, Rev. M. Fenwick, Rev. Veitch, Rev. Roche, Rev. Pendergast, Rev. Godden, and Messrs. Harvey, Withers, Woods, Lloyd, Kent and Bray.

These men devote a great deal of time to the work, and they do it entirely free. It will be noticed that the list not only includes several clergymen, but also the educationalists, heads of colleges and school superintendents and inspectors; and if, in their serious,
solemn opinion, knowing as they do or ought to the requirements of the people, the system we are pursuing is the best, it would be indeed difficult for a layman to improve upon it.

The main features of the present Resolutions are to provide for the retirement of teachers when they have reached the age of sixty years. This is not altogether a novel principle, for the reason that it was instituted in 1892, and found a place in the Education Act on the recommendation of Rev. Dr. Pilot who was practically the father of it. It is a system composed of an annual contribution by the Government, as well as by the teachers, and the result of its working out has been that a fund of $6,000 has been created, which is now being taken over by the Government. During the twenty years that the scheme has been in operation, only two teachers have, I think, availed of it; the amount of the pension being so small, namely, $100 for males and $80 for females, that there is no temptation on the part of the teachers to retire and give up their salary, in every case larger, merely to avail of the pension.

It may be asked, "What is the object and value of such a retiring scheme?" In the first place, if placed on the basis which is now proposed, namely, that a teacher who has reached the age of 60 years and who shall have completed 30 years of service as a teacher, and shall have, during all these years paid in his contribution to the fund, he will be entitled to two-thirds of the annual average salary during the ten years previous to his being pensioned. Such an inducement will not alone attract the very best men and women to the profession, but it will serve to keep them in it. Further, it will spur every teacher on to greater effort to obtain promotion and a higher salary, as of course the larger the amount of the salary, the more, proportionately, will the teacher receive as a pension. This is not a scheme for the big salaried man, but rather for the sons and daughters of the fishermen of the outports, from which class we have largely drawn the 1,000 teacher that now preside in our schools.

Unfortunately, to-day one-tenth of our 1,000 teachers leave the profession annually for other occupations; many leave the country. The teacher says, "I will get out and seek other employment, because if I remain in the teaching profession and break down in the service, I and my family will be on the poor list. The colleges and schools where our pupil teachers are being trained are turning out 100 teachers annually. If we could bring this down to 30 or 40, we should have a very large contribution from the fund that is now devoted to the training of pupil teachers to go towards these pensions. Besides, we shall have the advantage of a permanent class of teachers. At present it is a continuous change, and teachers are constantly being changed from one school to another on account of the resignations of many of the best men and women in the profession who are giving up the work owing to the poor remuneration and cheerless prospects.

It will well repay the State to make this small contribution towards this retiring allowance scheme for teachers, because it will only be paid to them when they reach an age at which they cease to be effective and are no longer valuable to those who are taxing themselves to pay their salaries. It is far better to pension a worn out teacher than to retain him
after he has outlived his usefulness and injure the service.

To convey some idea to the Committee of the ages of some of our teachers at present teaching in our schools who have not availed of the present system of pension, I need only quote the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annie Collins</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Parsons</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerald Whelan</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William North</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Moore</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Tulk</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Thompson</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hy. Miles</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. E. Coffin</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Legge</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke Pittman</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Billard</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belinda Crocker</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas French</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Hiscock</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John N. Haddon</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Curtis</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Committee will not consider it necessary that I should go at any length into the question of the retirement of teachers or teachers' pensions in other parts of the world. Almost every civilized country on both sides of the Atlantic has dealt with this matter. The United States have been particularly fortunate in having the splendid private benefactions of Carnegie which have practically made it almost unnecessary for the State to do anything for teachers in many of the States of America. Notwithstanding this, however, the States of Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Wisconsin, Cincinnati, New Jersey, Illinois and Indiana have all dealt, in the most generous and lavish manner, with the teachers. The same is also true of Germany. In Austria the minimum pension is $162. Hungary also has an interesting scheme. In Denmark the pension can be claimed after ten years of service, two-thirds of the average salary being allowed. In Norway, the Parliament decides each pension claim. Sweden gives three quarters of the last year's salary after thirty years of service, at the age of 55. The Netherlands have pensioned teachers as far back as 1855, after ten years of service, and an age limit of 65, and also provides for the widows and orphans of teachers. Belgium gives as high a pension as $1,000, two-thirds of the average salary for the last five years. France, since 1876 has granted pensions after 55 years of age, after service of 25 years. In 1878 Italy established teachers' pensions. In England there are several local pension funds established by the Government to which teachers annually contribute. The maximum pension for men is $568 and for women $364. Spain, Portugal and Greece have no pension schemes. In Russia teachers are entitled to a pension after 25 years of service, receiving $400.

How can this proposed pension scheme be worked out?

According to the statement annexed to the paper which I have tabled to-day, showing the names of the teachers and the amount of their pensions, supposing the age to be 55 years, the total number of pensioners in 1911 would be 17 if they all availed of it. There would be an additional pension in 1912, one in 1913, one in 1914, 3 in 1915, 1 in 1916, 2 in 1919, 1 in 1920, 3 in 1921, 2 in 1922, 4 in 1923, 5 in 1924, 5 in 1925, 6 in 1926, 3 in 1927, 2 in 1928, 5 in 1929, 8 in 1930 and 7 in 1931. By reference to this statement the
amounts to be paid on the basis of 55 years is shown for each year. The basis now is 60. According to that statement the Government would not be called upon for anything until 1925, and then the fund of $60,000 would be bringing interest amounting to $2,400, while in addition to this there would be the $2,000 now voted specially for Teachers' Pensions. Nor has any deduction been made for those who will not be alive after 1924. Thus, in 1930, under the proposed scheme, with the age of retirement fixed at 65, it would not cost the Colony more than $6,000 a year to the present cost, without allowing for the number of deaths between 1912 and 1930. It will be noticed by Schedule "A" and by the Notes on Schedule "A" that the Teachers' Pension Fund, at present in hand, and to be transferred to the Government, is placed at $55,692.83. This is not correct, as the fund now amounts to $59,320, and I am informed by Mr. Currie that on the 1st July, it will amount to $61,820, which will, of course, increase the income during all the following years, and will affect favourably the calculations of the teachers as laid down in Schedule "A."

Further, the sum of $2,000 now voted annually for teachers pensions, and broken down teachers, is not taken into consideration; so that, in reality, the Government will not be called upon for any contribution at the very least before 1937, or for 25 years, if even then.

Let us see how this will work out. According to Schedule "A" the income from the Pension Fund of $55,692.83 will pay all pensions up to 1925, and leave the principal intact, which principal will be $61,820, and will also leave intact the fund which will have been created by the annual deposit in the Bank of the $2000 a year now expended in pensions for broken down teachers now outside the teachers' pension scheme.

This $2,000 will have grown between now and 1925, with compound interest, to at least $40,000 (the total deposits will amount to $28,000), so that we shall have in hand a sum of $100,000 on July 1925 to pay the teachers down to 1931. Now, if we were to pay them out of our capital, and not invest it, we should have more than is required, but in addition to the capital we shall have the interest added to that capital, and in addition we shall have the contributions from the various teachers, as well as the contributions from the Government, so that I think it may be safe to say that there is no likelihood of the Government being called upon for any contribution whatever, above what they are paying to-day, for the next 25 years, if even then, because we have to remember that this whole calculation is based on the principle that there will be no increase in premiums from the teachers, that there will be no deaths between 1912 and 1930, a proportion of the teachers not eligible for augmentation, and not coming under the pension scheme. In addition to the present contribution from the Government, to the old Teachers pension scheme, which has aided materially in bringing the amount up to $60,000, there is at present $2,000 voted annually within the last three years for broken down teachers. This will no longer be required, once we have this pension scheme regularly working; and, if placed at compound interest will, in 1925, when the Government will be called on for the first pension, amount to almost a
sufficient sum to pay for many years any sum that the Government is likely to be liable for.

It is not claimed for the present scheme that it is at all perfect and it may be necessary to make still further amendments next year, to provide for a revision and readjustment every five years, so that the country and the legislature may intelligently understand exactly what our obligations are.

The next important question dealt with in these Resolutions is the Council of Higher Education. I have already referred to the personnel of that body, and I need hardly remind this Committee that it has now been working in the country since 1892, or 20 years. I had the honour of introducing the measure myself. It was the creation of the late Brother Slattery, the late Principal Holloway and Mr. Blackall. There can be no doubt whatever about its effect on the whole educational system of the Colony during all these years. It has had the effect of lifting our entire educational system up onto an entirely new plane. Those of the Committee who have followed the reports of the Superintendents from year to year, as well as the report of the Council, must have been struck with the growth and increase in popularity of this institution. Teachers and children become more attached to it every year and approve the means by which it is carried out.

It will be found in the Resolutions I am proposing that the Committee will be asked to vote an increase of $1,500 for the funds of the Council. This is rendered absolutely necessary if the Council is to continue its work. Originally the first vote in 1893 was $4,000, but it has gone on increasing until last year the vote was $8,500, although for the year 1907 it went up as high as $9,800. The following table, showing the amounts voted each year since its inception, will probably be of interest:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1893-94</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1894-95</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1895-96</td>
<td>(Crash.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1896-97</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1897-98</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1898-99</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899-1900</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900-01</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901-02</td>
<td>5,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902-03</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903-04</td>
<td>5,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904-05</td>
<td>5,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905-06</td>
<td>5,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906-07</td>
<td>9,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907-08</td>
<td>7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908-09</td>
<td>7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909-10</td>
<td>7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910-11</td>
<td>8,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Special vote, $2300.
*Special vote, $1000.

When we consider that three items on the Council's expense account, viz.: Examiners in England ....... $5,040 Superintendents of Exams.

in Nfld. ............. 1,860 Premiums to Teachers ....... 530 exhaust its whole vote it will be understood how very little is left to pay the running expenses of the Council. Three items, as I have said, account for the entire grant.

As I have previously remarked, I am aware that there are a great many who do not look with favour upon the Council of Higher Education. As a matter of fact the name itself is a misnomer. It is called the Council of "Higher" Education, but in reality it deals with every primary school in the Island. The objections to the Council, however, are confined to a few, and
have had no effect in lessening the interest in the Council's work either in the town or in the outports.

There must be an examination system and the present system appears to be the best that the Council has been able to devise so far, within the confines of its charter. Then, too, it must be borne in mind that these examinations are entirely voluntary. The Council has no power to compel candidates to take up this line of work, and the fact that so many are availing themselves of the examinations is the best proof of the Council's popularity, and of the inefficacy of anything that may be said against the Council.

As an evidence of the feeling shown in the outports to the Council's work I need merely mention the number of children eligible who take the exams. I find, from the reports of the Superintendents, that the average enrolment of pupils in Standard 5 and over in the schools and colleges of the country is under 5,500 and the total enrolment nearly 6,000. Of these, 4,100 take the Council's examinations—that is at least two-thirds of the pupils eligible for examination.

It will be remembered that on the occasion of the holding of the Teachers' Convention one session was given up to the C. H. E. The teachers who spoke all stated that the work of the Council in the outport schools has created a stimulus and increased education more than any other source. The argument is sometimes put forth that some of the children in the schools are neglected in order to advance the brighter ones. Now the answer to that is this. The schools in the Colony are of three classes—Colleges, High or Superior Schools, and Elementary or one-teacher schools. The objections offered under this head cannot affect the Colleges. In the Superior or High

Schools nearly all the pupils in the Superior departments go in for the examinations, so in this case, too, these objections have little or no force. In the one-teacher schools, where there may be anywhere from 20 to 100 pupils, and the same number of classes as in the other schools, there may be neglect in a few cases, which would take place whether there were examinations or not.

Again it is of great advantage to the schools in keeping up the standard of the schools, as a considerable number of our teachers being young and inexperienced, require the directing force of the Council. Further, the C. H. E. is a certificate-granting body essential in the Colony, and the certificates of the Council are now taken by the Law Society, the Medical Society, and the Canadian and British Universities, and in that way are of great value to boys and girls leaving this country. Under our denominational system of education, we have in the Council the only means of securing a common standard by which to measure the work being done in the schools.

Another test of the use and popularity of the Council is the manner in which it has been availed of by every district in the country. This is shown by the memorial recently presented by the Vice President of the Council, Rev. Dr. Curtis, and reads as follows:

February 17, 1912.
The Memorial of the Council of Higher Education Humbly Sheweth:
That the Council of Higher Education was established by an Act of the Legislature passed in May, 1893:
“(1) To promote sound learning and to advance the interests of Higher Education by holding Examinations and by awarding Diplomas, Prizes, and Scholarships to successful candidates at such examinations:
(2) To encourage teachers in the preparation of Candidates for Examinations prescribed by the Council by awarding Premiums to teachers."

To carry out these objects the Council was authorized by the above Act to prescribe the manner, time, and place of examinations, and to make such rules and regulations as should be considered necessary in connection therewith, the Legislature at the same time undertaking to provide an annual grant of $4,000 to defray the cost of the Examinations.

The work thus delegated by the Legislature to the Council has steadily grown, so that from time to time the Council has been compelled to seek an increase in the annual grant—an increase that has on all occasions been readily granted.

The following figures will indicate the growth of the work of the Council as well as shew the increase in the grant that has thereby been rendered necessary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1894</th>
<th>1900</th>
<th>1905</th>
<th>1911</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of Centres</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No of schools presenting Candidates</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of Candidates,—</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. A. ........</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior, (or Inter.) ..</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior, (or Prelim.) ...</td>
<td>864</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>711</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary ....</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>872</td>
<td>1700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals ...</td>
<td>923</td>
<td>1269</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>4023</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Governm ent Grant ... $4000 $5500 $7500 $7500

To-day the Council is examining approximately 2,000 candidates a year more than in 1905 (just double the number) drawn from double the number of schools, while the grant has remained stationary, with the inevitable consequence that in spite of retrenchment and economy the Council is today as it was in 1900 and again in 1905 unable to meet its liabilities.

On December 31st. of last year (1911) the Council was in debt to the extent of $1387.50 (see Statement A. herewith) and on December 31st. next the Council will be unable to meet its obligations by $3587.60 (see Statement B. appended.)

On the present scale of work the Council will require not only an additional annual grant of $2500 but likewise an additional special vote of the same amount to place it in a position to meet its liabilities on December 31st. next and to continue its present work; and the Council respectfully requests the Government to make the necessary recommendation to the Legislature so that the duties imposed upon the Council may be performed without financial anxiety.

Humbly submitted on behalf of the Council,

L. CURTIS,
Vice President.

Its value is also attested by the following statement, which shows the names of the centres at which candidates sat in 1911, showing that there were 4,008 candidates from 412 schools, and 155 centres, embracing every important settlement in all the Districts:

Names of Centres at Which Candidates Sat, 1911.

Allan’s Island, Argentia, Avondale, Barr’d Island, Bay Bulls, Bay de Verde, Bay L’Argent, Bay of Islands, Bay Roberts, Bellooram, Bell Island, Blackhead, Bonavista (2), Bonne Bay, Botwood, Branch, Brigus, Britannia Cove, Burin North, Burin South, Great Burin, Burgeo, Burgoyne’s Cove, Campbeltown, Cape Charles, Carbonar (2) Carmanville, Catalina, Cat Harbor, Change Islands, Channel, Clarke’s Beach, Clarke’s Head, Conception, Crabbes, Cupids, Current Island, Dan-

And in St. John's:—Parade Street, Mercy Convent, Springdale Street, Centenary Hall, Episcopal Library, Presbyterian Hall, Synod Hall, Bishop Feild College, Methodist College, St. Bonaventure's College, Littledale, S. A. College.

What is true of merchandise is true of schools. We want standardization. It is good for the schools, good for
the country, and good for the pupils, no matter in what walks of life they may go. It is a brand which cannot fail to be of great value.

Is the request, then, for this increased grant reasonable? The figures show that it is. Does it pay to vote this money to the Council, and do the circumstances which I have pointed out justify it? The answer is that the country is availing of the examinations, and continues to avail of them, and by the approval and use and adoption of the examinations, the country has endorsed the work. This was the very idea of inaugurating the Council; to stimulate and give new life to our whole educational system.

As I have said, there is no danger of giving too much attention to promising pupils. That will always occur in schools, even if no examinations are held, and the statistics of the various schools since the Council was started belies this statement.

I now desire to refer briefly to the building loan of $100,000 granted by this Legislature 3 years ago to the various denominations. I have here a brief report from Mr. Blackall, which is as follows:—

Church of England Building Loan, '08.
(a) We have erected 62 fine new buildings.
(b) We have 24 more in course of erection.
(c) We have renovated and enlarged 15 others.
(d) We have improved the equipment and furniture of a large number of elementary schools.
(e) Our share of the capital was, in round numbers, $33,000.
(f) We have our money coming back to us at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum to continue the good work.

The Methodist School Building Committee have also expended $30,000, 6 schools in St. John's east, 2 in Harbor Grace, 3 in Carbonear, 5 in Bay de Verde, 10 in Trinity Bay, 16 in Bonavista Bay, 9 in Fogo, 31 in Twillingate, 8 in St. Barbe, 2 in Burgeo, 1 in Fortune Bay, 8 in Burin, 4 in Placentia and St. Mary's, and 1 on the Labrador, representing new schools or renovation and improvement of old ones.

The same is true of the Roman Catholic grant for St. John's Diocese, in which Diocese some 27 schools were erected or repaired, and as many as 30 in Harbor Grace Diocese. Both Health Commissioners and Superintendents of Education are loud in their praises of the advantage of this grant, and the erection of new school buildings, and the renovation of old ones must have a very beneficial effect upon the health of the pupils.

There is one other matter to which I should like briefly to refer, and that is the grant for sparsely populated localities. I have not been able to obtain the full return for these grants, but I have received the following memorandum from Mr. Blackall:—

Church of England S. P. L.
(Since June 30th, 1908.)
(1) The Church of England share of the S. P. L. has increased by $7,666.00.
(2) We have opened schools in 62 new settlements.
(3) The enrolment has increased by 1,150.
(4) We are therefore educating at least 1,200 thousand more of our children every year in consequence.
(5) Our average attendance has gone up nearly 1,000.
(6) As some of the schools are open for a part of the year only, it is likely that we are touching 1,200 thousand more yearly.

What is true of the Church of England is, I think, also true of the other denominations. The other Resolu-
tion of importance to be noted is the additional $20,000 to be apportioned amongst the several religious denominations proportionately, according to per capita basis, for the general boards of education, special grants for outports, grants for higher education in the outports, for education of pupil teachers, for augmentation of teachers salaries, and for colleges.

This will give an impetus to education in all these various branches, but it will have a special effect in preventing the schools from having to curtail their work in those districts where the population has decreased. The Government felt that they could not allow the educational system of the country to be in that way hampered or impeded, and they now accordingly recommend to the Legislature the voting of such a grant as will not alone reduce the present grants by boards in districts where the population has decreased, but give them an actual increase in the present grants, and, at the same time, preserve the same per capita proportion in the whole Island.

MR. KENT—I do not propose to comment at the present time on the Resolutions which are now before the Chair, as the Prime Minister stated in his remarks that it was the intention to raise the Committee and postpone the discussion of these Resolutions until a later sitting. However, Sir, I think a few remarks from this side of the House would not be out of place. In the first place I think it is only fair to say that I listened with a great deal of interest to the address which has been delivered by the Prime Minister. He has given a very interesting and instructive address on the subject of education, and he has placed before us more or less briefly the facts relating to the history of education, and of the relations of the Governments, through its grants, to the educational system of the country. I had expected Mr. Chairman that at this session the opportunity would have been availed of to consolidate our Education Acts. I do not think that in the whole motley conglomeration of our acts as they stand at the present time, any of them is in a greater tangle than our Education Acts. This is the case from the very commencement. If you take up the Act of 1897, and have to go into the details and apply principles you will find it almost an impossibility,—because since then amendments have been made year after year up to the present time until now the Act is almost incomprehensible. I am sure that the gentlemen that have to do immediately with the administration of this Act must have their labours increased tenfold by its unsatisfactory condition. Some effort ought to be made immediately to consolidate the law relating to education. Regarding the expenditure on education I do not think Sir, that any party in the House questions the advisability of spending money when available for educational purposes. All parties at all times have united in the effort to place whatever funds were available to the promotion of education in this country. The scheme which we have before us at the present times relates practically to an extension of the Teachers' Pension Scheme. Well, Sir, that scheme, of course, as the Prime Minister pointed out is not new. There are some differences of opinion regarding it, and no doubt if they exist in this House they will be placed before the Committee when the subject comes up for debate. As to the merits of a teacher's pension scheme, I think it is absolutely essential to have something of this kind, if teachers are to remain in the profession for any length of time,
and if we are going to make it anything else than a stepping stone to some other profession for the very best of our teachers. There is one matter outlined here which I should like to point out. It makes the working of the scheme a little confusing to my mind. The Bill, or Resolution, proposes that a certain fund, to be called the Teachers' Pension Fund, shall be established. Now there is no such fund established by the Resolution at all. The idea of the Resolution is that the present Teachers' Pension Fund shall be taken over by the Government and be placed to the credit of the Exchequer Account, and that by making certain payments the Teachers will be entitled to pensions along the lines of the pensions voted by this House to members of the Civil Service.

RT. HON. THE PREMIER.—It is proposed to continue the annual premiums.

MR. KENT—That is not provided by the resolutions. It is not incorporated in these resolutions. They provide for the distribution of a fund but no fund is provided.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER. —You will find that in sections one and two.

MR. KENT—Sub section 1 provides: From the Appropriations made under Section 6 of “The Education Act, 1903,” to each teacher who has received a certificate of grade from any Board of Examiners appointed under “The Education Act, 1903,” or under any Act in amendment thereof, the Governor-in-Council shall deduct on the 1st day of July, in every year, the annual premium required to be paid by such teacher, according to age, as fixed in the six per cent. columns in Schedules J and K of “The Education Act, 1903,” which sums so deducted shall be placed to the credit of the said fund; and sub section 2 provides teachers in any of the public schools or colleges who do not receive any amount in augmentation of their salaries from the appropriations made under Section 6 of “The Education Act, 1903,” shall also be entitled to pensions under the provisions and subject to the conditions hereof, if they so elect, upon payment of the premium required, according to their respective ages, as fixed in the six per cent. columns in the said schedules, such premiums to be paid annually, in advance, on the first day of July, in each year. It shall be lawful for the Governor-in-Council to deduct from the grant to the different public schools or colleges as aforesaid the annual premiums payable under this sub-section, which sums so deducted shall be placed to the credit of said fund. Any moneys deducted as premiums under this sub-section shall be a debt from the teacher on whose account such premium was paid to the Board from whose grant the amount was deducted.

That provision refers to those who do not receive under the augmentation fund, but does not establish this fund—the present fund is destroyed largely in the Resolutions. You will also notice that it is a contributory scheme, and the only clause that refers to that is the one which says that in consideration of the payment by teachers of certain premiums they shall be entitled to receive a pension.

If the scheme is a contributory one then the pensions should be secured. The Fund should be as secured as the interest on the public debt. By such a scheme you are entering into contractual obligations with the participants in this scheme, and the annual payment to them when the
pension is earned should be secured by a Statutory Fund and not depend on a precarious annual vote. The obligation is contractual, made in consideration of the payment of a premium. It is the same as a life insurance; the teacher is a contributing party to a scheme to provide a pension. It is not a voluntary scheme. I do not think the Government was properly advised in destroying the fund and substituting no security for it. I take the opportunity to point it out to the committee.

There is one other matter to which I would like to refer, and that is the vote to the Council of Higher Education. I happen to be a member of that body though I have not unfortunately been a regular attendant at its meetings, but I generally know the work it is doing and the expenses under which it is laid. I know further that no body in this country no other branch of the public services spends its vote more economically than the C.H.E. The figures which the Prime Minister has read to the committee show the extent of the work which it does, and show further that three items of expenditure of the C.H.E. which have been carefully conned over by the Council, and of which every one is satisfied with the fairness and justice, three items of expenditure take up practically the whole vote. I am pleased to see an increase in its vote, and I think it will be well and judiciously spent. On the work of the Council there can be only one opinion although there may be a difference of opinion on its aims. There can be little doubt that some amendment in its constitution is most desirable and a change granting an increase of scope may be made with some advantage. The work of the Council may be somewhat limited. It is incorporated "for the purpose of promoting sound learning, and to advance the interests of higher education by holding examinations, etc." Many people, among whom are people of high standing in educational matters, are of opinion that the method of examination is generally a bad plan. Personally from the small experience I have had in the matter I cannot agree with this opinion. I believe that no matter what system you adopt you will ultimately return to examinations. But whether the examinations held here are the proper ones or not is a question which ought to be considered by those properly experienced in the conditions which prevail in this country. There is another branch of education to which I think we ought to turn our attention. I refer to technical education and technical training. This subject opens up such a large field that it is almost impossible to deal with it within the limits of this debate. But I think the time has come, when we should deal with the question of technical education and training of those who are engaged or are intending to engage in the development of the industries of the country. There is a small amount voted for manual training, but this is distinct to my mind from what I refer to as technical training. Technical training may be made one of the biggest assets in the development of the country. We have great resources in this country, Sir, capable of development and unless we intend to continue importing trained mechanics for the different industries, we ought to establish schools of technical training within the country. Our own mechanics now learn in the hard school of experience. They enter upon their industries without any of that skilled knowledge that should be theirs if
there were properly equipped schools for technical education, and I think that an increased vote in this direction would be its own justification. The other matters will come up for debate during the subsequent session of the committee, and I will then take an opportunity to make what remarks may appear to me necessary.

HON MIN. OF JUSTICE—Mr. Chairman, I do not wish to debate these resolutions, but would just like to reply to one or two points made by my learned friend the member for St. John's East. It is very gratifying to find that these resolutions meet so fully with the acceptance of the Hon. member, and I have no doubt that the same will be the case with other hon. members on the other side of the House. It is quite correct what he says that any resolutions brought in here for the advance and encouragement of education will meet with the general support among members of both sides of the House. But there are just two points upon which the hon. member offered a word of criticism—First as regards the necessity for consolidating the Education Act. This is very apparent not only to the Government, but also to those who have to administer the Act, and particularly the C.H.E. This consolidation will be done during the coming year as it is proposed to undertake a general consolidation of the acts. Hon. members will remember that the last general consolidation of the laws was in 1892, and the previous one to that was in 1872. Since 1892 there have been a great many Acts, and many amendments, especially to such general acts as the Crown Lands Act, and the Municipal Act. A number of these Acts have long required consolidation to make them intelligible, but they have not been touched because it was felt that it would be more advisable and more convenient to leave it until the general consolidation which in the ordinary course of affairs would take place next summer. The other point that the Hon. member made was that it was a misnomer to call this a Teacher's Pension Fund. I may say that if no more serious criticism can be made upon the resolutions then we can afford to rest very content. But I do not think that it is a misnomer. It is still the idea to keep up the present old teachers' pension fund—it is still a contributory scheme and no teacher can make any claim for any pension unless he pays his premiums and pays them regularly. He may serve for any number of years he may arrive at the age of 60, but if in addition to this he has not kept up the payment of his premiums, then he is not entitled to any pension, and these premiums as they are paid have to be placed to the credit of the Teachers' Pension Fund, and that fund will be kept so that we may know every year how it stands, how much to the credit or debit, and how much has been paid out, and for that reason it is necessary for it to be kept up the same as it was in 1892.

There is no question of the importance of these resolutions, Mr. Chairman, and I trust there will be a full expression of opinion from most of the members of both sides of the House, as in my opinion no more important resolutions have come before the House during the present session than those for the advancement and encouragement of education.

MR. KENT—Mr. Chairman, what I said was only to raise a point or two while the subject was in my mind as to the effect of the resolutions, and was in no way intended as a criticism, and I think if the hon. minister will
read the resolutions again, he will find that only in one part of one resolution is mention made of the teachers pension fund, and there is nothing to give effect to its establishment. The present amount to the credit of the fund is to be paid into the general revenue of the country, and I suppose there will be an annual vote for these pensions the same as the other votes in the supplies. It may be the intention to establish such a fund, but these resolutions do not give effect to such intention. What I say is not meant for criticism—any criticism I may have to make will be reserved.

HON. MIN. OF JUSTICE—Mr. Chairman I know that the hon. gentleman's remarks are meant in the best spirit and they are taken by the Government in the same way, but if he will study the resolutions carefully he will find that the fund is fully secured. The hon. member may rest absolutely assured that if the resolutions go into force there will be no difficulty about the pensions. If the teacher will pay his premium and live the allotted time he will come into his pension of two-third salary. It appears to me to be of very little account what you call it so long as the hard dollar is back of the scheme and this is secured on the credit of the Colony.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred, had made some progress, and asked leave to sit again.

COPYRIGHT LAW.

On motion this Report was received and adopted; and it was ordered that the Committee have leave to sit again on to-morrow.

Pursuant to notice and leave granted, and on motion of Hon. Minister of Justice, the Bill to amend the Law relating to Copyright was introduced and read a first time; and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

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 entitled "An Act to amend "The Boiler Inspection Act, 1899," without amendment.

Mr. Dwyer gave Notice of Question.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Wednesday, March 13th., at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

WEDNESDAY, March 13th., 1912

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

Hon. Colonial Secretary laid on the table of the House the annual report of the Department of Marine and Fisheries for the year 1911.


Sir R. Bond gave notice of question.

PETITIONS.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I ask leave to present a petition from the residents of Heart's Content, referring to Sunday observance. The petition is similar to others which I have presented. I ask that it be referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

MR. PARSONS—I ask leave to present a petition from Coley's Point, Country Road, on the subject of sabbath observance. I ask that it be received and referred to the Department
to which it relates.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—
Mr. Speaker, on your behalf I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Bareneed, asking for the sum of $500 to complete the public wharf at that place. I ask that this petition be received and referred to the Department of Marine and Fisheries. I also ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of North River on the subject of an agricultural road to back lands. I ask that this petition be received and referred to the Department of Public Works.

MR. SQUIRES—I ask leave to present petitions from Norman's Cove, Thoroughfare, Hant's Harbour and Elliston, on the subject of Sabbath observance. These several petitions are similar to those already presented by the Hon. the Colonial Secretary and various other members of the House. I ask that these several petitions be received and referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINES—I ask leave to present a petition from the residents of Bonavista, asking for a sum be allocated for a road. I ask that this petition be received and referred to the Department of Public Works.

I also beg to table reply to the question of Mr. Kent, hon. member for St. John's East.

MR. SQUIRES—I ask leave to present several numerous signed petitions from Hickman's Harbor, British Harbor and vicinity, in the district of Trinity, on the subjects of telephone extension, the calling of the S. S. Ethie, light house and sundry other matters of considerable public interest to that section of the district. I ask that the various petitions be received and referred to the Department to which they relate.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—
I beg to lay upon the table the statement in reference to lighthouse construction at Twillingate, also the returns of expenditure on bridges in Twillingate, which were asked for by the hon. member for Twillingate, Mr. Roberts.

QUESTIONS.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. the Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a statement showing in detail amounts paid to Mr. Walter Crosbie for salaries, services and expenses or any other purpose in connection with the Postal Service since his appointment to date; also to state in what sections of the Postal Service he is employed, and the number of days he has been actually employed since June last, and also whether he is at present doing Postal work or under pay of the Department.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—
I beg to lay upon the table the statement asked for.

MR. DWYER asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines to lay on the table of this House a statement showing the manner of distribution of Live Stock from May 30th, 1911, to date, showing name and address of persons to whom each was given, the terms upon which each was given and copies of reports from the persons to whom they were assigned.

HON. MIN. AGRICULTURE AND MINES—Mr. Speaker, the statement is in course of preparation.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—
I beg to lay upon the table of the house copy of the enquiry into the loss of the S. S. Bruce.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL.

Pursuant to Order and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister the House resolved itself into Committee
of the Whole to consider the Bill entitled "Of Weights and Measures and the Inspection of Lumber."

Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Parsons took the Chair of Committee.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Chairman, the last day this matter was before the House it was suggested by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition that a section might be added to the bill providing for the publication of a list of all parties whose weights were inspected annually. I said at the time that I thought it was a suggestion that was well worthy of consideration, and I now beg to move that a section be added, covering the suggestion.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

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

It was on motion ordered that this Report be received and adopted; and that the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

HARBOR MASTER'S BILL.

Pursuant to Order and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister the amendment made by the Legislative Council in and upon the Bill sent up from this House entitled "Of Harbor Master and Harbor Regulations for the Port of St. John's" was read a second time and concurred in; and it was ordered that a message be sent to the Legislative Council acquainting that body that the House of Assembly had passed the said amendment without amendment.

Committee on Education Resolutions.

RT. HON. SIR ROBT. BOND.—I have not had an opportunity of reading the Resolutions for no mail went out to Whitbourne yesterday, and I did not receive Mr. Clerk's communication till this morning. As the question is one of much importance I should like to have an opportunity of perusing the resolutions, before offering any observations thereon. There will be no unnecessary delay so far as the Opposition is concerned and my remarks will be very brief. I have not gone into the matter but from a cursory glance at the Resolutions it appears to me that they do not carry out the intentions of the Government as set forth by the Rt. hon. Prime Minister.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—It seems to me that the request of my Rt. hon. friend is a reasonable one and we have no desire whatever to rush this or any other matter through the House. I am willing to grant a postponement till to-morrow or longer. It is quite true that some days ago, having regard to the importance of the measure, I directed that a copy be furnished the Rt. hon. gentleman at least a day before the resolutions were brought in by me. I am sorry that circumstances have made it impossible for him to receive them and I have no objection whatever to a postponement. In reference to my Rt. hon. friend's point that the resolutions do not carry out the intentions of the Government I can only say that he came to this conclusion after merely glancing at the Bill, but I am sure that a more careful perusal will convince him that such is not the case.

RT. HON. SIR ROBT. BOND—Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the adjournment of the House in order to bring to the notice of the Government the fact that I am in receipt of a telegram from Botwood informing me of the very serious condition of affairs
there and asking to have a train rushed through to that point. The telegram informs me that there is a shortage of provisions and the consequences may be serious unless something is done in the matter at once.

I am also in receipt of a message from Twillingate saying that no mail has been received there during the past month and this has resulted in complete disorganization of business. From my own personal observations, I do not hesitate to say that a proper effort is not being made by the contractor to operate the railway.

I went out to Whitbourne from here at noon on Friday and we had no difficulty whatever in reaching our destination. There was no snow fall between Friday and last night and yet no mail was sent over the line. I understand that the Government Engineer is now looking over the line from here to Carbonear, and it seems a pity that he did not do so at an earlier date, for probably, if he had, the present condition of affairs would not have occurred. I hope the Government will see the seriousness of the present position and make a special effort to have the lines re-opened.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—In seconding the motion of my Rt. hon. friend I may say that I have received from Botwood a message similar to the one to which he has referred. I immediately replied that I would do everything possible to relieve the situation, and I as speedily forwarded the message to the company. They have informed me that a train will leave for Botwood to-morrow evening. So far as the Government is concerned I may say that we are in almost hourly communication with the contractors through the Government Engineer, who reports that everything humanly possible is being done to relieve the situation. There is no necessity to impress upon the Government the seriousness of the situation for we realize the hardships that are inflicted upon the people. What can possibly be done that has not been done? That is the point. Hundreds of men are employed on the line, but what is done to-day is undone to-morrow by snow and frost. The company do not gain anything by the blockade for not alone are they under heavy additional expenses, but their income is totally stopped. They have four hundred men engaged between here and Carbonear alone. At a dollar a day this means $400 and then there are the other expenses. As a matter of fact, the company are more interested than anyone else in having the line cleared and they are doing all they can to have that accomplished. As regards the inspection which the Government Engineer is now doing I may say that he has gone to see if the company is making a proper effort to clear the line. It was unnecessary for him to go before the blockade and if he had gone, he would have been detained as others have been. This has been a very exceptional winter, the circumstances have been extraordinary and some little allowance ought to be made. We sympathize with those who have suffered severely through the blockade, but we have done all we could do.

RT. HON. SIR ROBT. BOND—I do not think my Rt. hon. friend has understood entirely the point that I wished to make. There may have been hundreds of men employed during the past week in clearing the lines, but there have not been a dozen men employed by the company during the past month or six weeks; in fact, no effort was made till two or three days previously.
ago to run a train to Placentia or over any of the branch lines,—no properly organized effort. I do not hesitate to say that if an ordinary push plough had gone over the Placentia and Broad Cove Branches every time there was a fall of snow, the lines could have been kept open. The trouble has been that the snow has been allowed to remain and accumulate on the track. The Rt. hon. gentleman says that the Government has been in communication with the company through the Government Engineer and he states that he relies on the engineer to see that everything possible is done. The Government Engineer has reported to the House through the Hon. Colonial Secretary that he cannot even get a reply to the letters which he has written the company. Surely this is a conclusive proof that the Government cannot be informed of the correct state of affairs.

**RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.**—The matter is not made infinitely worse. The Government Engineer was instructed to serve a notice on the company whenever a train arrived late and he has carried out these instructions. The Government has a reason and an object in view for serving these notices, but it is not convenient to state them here. When the correspondence was asked for these communications were tabled and there is no other correspondence.

**MR. KENT.**—Just one word as to the notices to the company drawing their attention to the late arrival of trains. I think if my Rt. hon. friend will hunt up the records he will find that correspondence between the government and the contractor took place in 1908 on the same subject and the contractor was required at that time to furnish all explanations as to the delays of trains. When I was Minister of Justice with the late Government, I wrote letters on this very matter. Proceedings were instituted, but I am not aware that anything further has been done.

**RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.**—It was never for a moment my intention to take away any credit due to the late Government. I said that what was done as regards those notices, originated entirely with me. As to the question of legal proceedings, those are matters not germane to the question here. I was asked for all correspondence since Jan. 1st and all
the correspondence since Jan. 1st. was laid on the table. Daily notices were given by the Government Engineer to the contractors.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—
In rising to support the motion, I would like to say that just before I left my office I was informed by the contractors that a train would be leaving for the north to-morrow morning.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Thursday, March 14th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

THURSDAY, March 14th, 1912.

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

PETITIONS.

MR. BENNETT.—I ask leave to present a petition from John Ellis and other fishermen of St. John's, praying that an amendment be made to the rules and regulations governing the carrying on of the fishery off this port.

The petition sets forth that owing to the present regulations certain fishermen have to set their traps very early in order to secure their berths and consequently run a great risk of losing their property. The petitioners ask that a set day be fixed for the securing of berths so that all may have an equal chance and be on the same footing. The petition sets forth the different localities that they wish the amendment to apply to and also those that they do not wish to be included. It is largely signed and in supporting it I would ask that it be referred to the Department of Marine and Fisheries where no doubt it will receive careful consideration.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—I would like to endorse what my hon. colleague has said in reference to the petition. I may say that he, Mr. Kennedy and myself met a deputation of the fishermen on the matter and we have been looking around for a way to accomplish what they desire. That is not at all an easy matter but there can be no doubt that the men are under a considerable hardship and are greatly handicapped by the present regulations in the setting of their traps. The petitioners think that if a given hour is set for the putting out of traps it will be the means of stopping the practice of putting them out too early in the season, but it is possible that the suggested alteration would mean that some would be on the grounds hours before the time appointed or in any event there would be a race from here to the grounds and a scramble for berths. However, we are hoping that when the whole matter is referred to the department some means may be devised whereby the prayer of the petitioners will be granted. They feel very keenly about the matter as they are unable to go to any distant points to fish and are therefore very considerably handicapped if the best places are taken up.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—I beg leave to present a petition from Jacob Quinton and others of Red Cliff Island, in relation to the general election; also a petition from the inhabitants of Keels on the same subject; also a petition from Richard Mesh and others of Keels on the subject of a connecting road from Newman's Cove to the half way house and on other road matters. I would ask that these petitions be referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. LEFEUVRE.—I ask leave to present petitions from the inhabitants of Grand Bank, Fortune and Burin on the subject of Sunday observance. These petitions are similar to those that have already been presented from other places on the subject and I ask that they be referred to the department of the Hon. Colonial Secretary.
HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Newman’s Cove and Amherst Cove on the subject of a connecting road. I would ask that the petition be referred to the department of Public Works.

MR. CLIFT.—I ask leave to present a petition from D. J. Rowsell and other inhabitants of Ward’s Harbor and Cutwell Arm asking for the allocation of the sum of $400 to be spent on the Ward’s Hr. section of the main road from Ward’s Hr. to Little Bay. This section of the line of road has never been completed and it is impossible to do so unless a sum of money is granted for that purpose. It is a very necessary road and petitioners hope that the House will see its way clear to grant the amount asked for. I have, therefore, much pleasure in presenting the petition and in supporting its prayer. I have also to present a petition from the same petitioners asking for the allocation of $200 to be expended on local roads around Ward’s Harbor. The petitioners say that it is quite a few years since the first part of the road was completed and it is now in need of considerable repair. I trust that the prayer of this petition also will be granted.

I also beg leave to present a petition from Samuel Brett, Jr., and other inhabitants of Moreton’s Harbor asking for the sum of $125 for repairing a road that was made some years ago partly for agricultural purposes. Fifteen families use the road in order to reach their gardens and it is of great benefit to them. Unless repairs are made shortly it will be of no further service to them as it passes through a marsh and consequently will be obliterated. I have much pleasure in supporting this petition also and I would ask that all be presented to the departments to which they relate where, I trust, they will receive favorable consideration.

The several petitions were on motion received and ordered to be referred to the several departments to which they relate.

QUESTIONS.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND asked the Hon. the Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of this House a copy of all communications received by the Government from the Newfoundland Teachers’ Association and Superintendents of Education in relation to the Teachers’ Pension Fund, and the Resolutions now before the House in relation to the same.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—The copy is being prepared and will be furnished as soon as possible.

MR. PARSONS asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of this House a report in detail of the Harbor Grace Industrial School for 1910-11.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—I have made enquiries of the Commissioner of Public Charities in relation to this matter and he advises me that no details had been received since August, 1909, when the report for 1908 was handed in. The grant for the school has not been applied for this year.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL.

Pursuant to Order and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister the Bill entitled “An Act to amend Chapter 102 of the Consolidated Statutes, entitled ‘Of Weights and Measures and the Inspection of Lumber’” 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.

EDUCATION REGULATIONS.

Pursuant to Order and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider certain Resolutions on the subject of Education.
Mr. Speaker left the Chair.
Mr. Parsons took the Chair of Committee.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—Before these Resolutions proceed further, I desire to express my views in respect to them. Education, with which they deal in part, does not require any lengthy effort to commend it to the careful attention and sympathy of this House, for every thoughtful man fully recognizes that it is the duty of the State to do all in its power to bring the advantages of a sound, practical education within the reach of the very poorest of its citizens. The only question that can cause conflict of opinion is, how best to accomplish the end that all have in view, namely, the creation of clean, honest, thrifty and intelligent citizens. But we are not called upon at this time to deal with this general question. If we were, then we might with advantage traverse the wide range of educational effort through Europe and America, and possibly in the educational system of Switzerland find the best model upon which to build, for that great educationist, Matthew Arnold, declared that Switzerland possessed the best educational system in the world. If my memory serves me right, that State devotes about fifty-three per cent. of its educational grants in the direction of technical education. I could have wished, sir, that these Resolutions dealt with that subject, for I am convinced that they are not going to have their position improved under these Resolutions. I think that when the teachers have fully considered them they must arrive at the conclusion that whereas they asked for bread, they are given a stone. Unless I entirely misunderstand the working out of the scheme proposed by the Government for the adoption of this House, the mass of teachers in this country will hereafter stand in a most unfair and inequitable position as regards those who hold first places or highest rank in the profession. Such a scheme as this should have been submitted to an actuary or other competent authority. It is quite evident to me that this was not done, and the consequence is this unjust, inequitable and utterly preposterous suggestion. I am aware that the undertaking of agriculture upon a scientific basis, for education so-called, will not—cannot—so fit them, and the result of this failure is that the stranger comes within our gates and seizes those prizes, while our youths have to go without our gates and become strangers in foreign lands. Last year in this House I expressed my views as to the desirability of our taking up the matter of technical education without further delay, and I intimated that this session I would bring forward resolutions so as to draw out a discussion on the subject with a view to something of a practical nature being done. Upon reflection I concluded that unless the Government were in sympathy with the movement it would simply be waste of energy and time to do as I intended.

Now, sir, to come right down to the subject matter of the Resolutions before us, namely, Teachers' Pensions. It would appear that this proposed legislation is the outcome of a movement on the part of teachers throughout the Colony to improve their position. I do not think that they are going to have their position improved under these Resolutions. I think that when the teachers have fully considered them they must arrive at the conclusion that whereas they asked for bread, they are given a stone. Unless I entirely misunderstand the working out of the scheme proposed by the Government for the adoption of this House, the mass of teachers in this country will hereafter stand in a most unfair and inequitable position as regards those who hold first places or highest rank in the profession. Such a scheme as this should have been submitted to an actuary or other competent authority. It is quite evident to me that this was not done, and the consequence is this unjust, inequitable and utterly preposterous suggestion. I am aware that the
Government consulted the Superintendents of Education in this Colony on the matter of this proposed scheme, but I am also aware from a perusal of the correspondence that passed between them and the Government that these gentlemen based their reply upon the assumption "that the figures furnished in connection with the proposed pension scheme are correct." They say so in their letter to the Premier of date January 5th, 1912. Let me state, sir, the actual position from my point of view, and it will then be the duty of the Government to show wherein I err. If I am correct in my view, then these Resolutions should be amended or withdrawn. If I am not correct in my conclusions, then, sir, I shall be delighted to have my error pointed out.

The present position as regards "the Teachers' Pension" is, that at the age of sixty years every teacher, male, after payment of certain annual premiums, varying according to age, secures an annuity of one hundred dollars.

The teachers in approaching the Government by petition suggested that at the age of fifty-five years, provided he had served thirty years, a teacher shall be entitled to receive an annuity of two-thirds of his salary at time of retirement. This suggestion was based upon the following reasons, namely:

1. Educational success depends upon the work of the teachers.
2. That at present salaries are so low that teachers cannot save from their earnings to make provision for old age.
3. That large numbers of teachers leave this Colony owing to the smallness of stipends and present outlook as regards pension.
4. That new teachers have to be educated to take their places, and this makes a demand upon the training fund of ten thousand dollars per year, so splitting it up that new teachers do not obtain adequate training.

There is force and cogency in the reasons advanced, but it might be observed that they affect the whole scheme of education, and form an argument not so much in support of the prayer of the petition as for a more equitable distribution of the vote for education under which the teachers would receive a larger stipend than they do at present.

The scheme which the Resolutions proposed by the Government are supposed to embody, provides,—

1. That at sixty years and after thirty years of service, a teacher shall receive two-thirds of his salary averaged over the years immediately preceding his retirement.
2. That the amount at present standing to the credit of the "Teachers' Pension Fund," under section 68 of the Education Act, 1903, shall be paid into the Treasury for the use of the Colony.

Now, sir, this is not in accordance with the prayer of the teachers' petition, or in accordance with the amended petition received by the Government from the Executive of the Teachers' Association.

The teachers asked "that the present Teachers' Pension Scheme be discontinued, and that all the teachers who have claims on the fund be allowed to withdraw the amount of their claims; and that the balance of the fund then in the hands of the Government on account of Teachers' Pensions go towards a sick benefit fund for teachers. The amended petition sent to the Government by the Executive of the Teachers' Association suggested "that the accumulated funds of the present Pension Scheme—amounting to nearly sixty thousand dollars—be handed over to the Government as a nucleus from which to pay the pro-
posed new pensions; and that teachers continue to pay the same premiums as under the present scheme."

Neither of these proposals have been met, for the second Resolution before us provides “that the amount now standing to the credit of the Teachers’ Pension Fund shall be paid into the Treasury for the use of the Colony.” On the other hand the first Resolution provides that “there shall be established a fund to be known as the ‘Teachers’ Pension Fund.’” This is apparently a new fund, but there will be no fund on the first of July next, the old one having passed into the general revenue, and nothing will be paid into the new fund until twelve months after July next. It is quite evident that the Government have become muddled in considering the two proposals and the Resolutions before us portray this fact. With regard to the proposed new “Fund,” I would observe that the original teachers’ petition does not ask for the establishment of such a fund, and neither did the teachers contemplate the payment of any premiums. They evidently desired and expected that the payment to the Treasury of sixty thousand dollars contributed by them to the “Pension Fund,” and taken over and passed into the general revenue of the Colony for general purposes, was to be regarded as a payment in full of all demands, and that hereafter they would be placed on precisely the same footing as civil servants, who do not contribute anything out of their salaries towards their pensions.

What a keen disappointment then awaits the teachers under the operation of the Government’s proposed scheme. The Government have adopted in this particular the recommendation of the Executive of the Teachers’ Association, and in sub-section 1 of their Resolutions it is provided that teachers shall continue to pay the same premiums as under the 1903 Pension Scheme. Now without disputing the principle of the contributory scheme, there are two classes of objections to the adoption of the 1903 premiums in order to provide for pensions proposed under the Government’s Resolutions. The first objection is that Schedule J. of the 1903 Act provided that teachers could be beneficiaries under that scheme at any age between sixteen and fifty, and serving up to the age of 60. In other words, the premiums are based on services varying from forty-four years to ten years; for instance, a teacher serving forty-four years pays an annual premium of $4.29; a teacher serving thirty years pays $10.84, and a teacher serving ten years pays $64.92; while under the Government’s proposed scheme teachers are called upon to pay the same varying premiums and to serve for at least thirty years. That might mean that a teacher entering service at thirty years of age must pay for thirty years an annual premium of $10.84, while a teacher entering at fifty must pay for thirty years annual premiums of $64.92. In principle there is no reason for this difference, because the scale of Schedule J. is based on a varying term for payments and not on a fixed service of thirty years. The second objection is that the scale adopted in Schedule J. is based on the principle of all contributions receiving the same amount of pension, namely, one hundred dollars per annum. It is not only based upon a fixed pension of one hundred dollars but the contributories purchased by their annual premiums the annuity provided, whereas under the Government’s proposed scheme the contributories receive annuities not according to the purchase value of the premiums, or according to their contributions, but according to a standard which has no relation whatever to the premiums they are called upon to pay. For in-
stance, two teachers of the same age, say thirty years, enter at the same time; both are called upon to pay an annual premium of $10.84 for thirty years. The two teachers therefore pay into the funds exactly the same amount. One teacher however, has an average salary during the last ten years of service of eighteen hundred dollars per annum in one of our colleges, the salary of the other teacher is say three hundred dollars per annum; under the Government's proposal the highly paid teacher would be entitled to a pension of twelve hundred dollars per annum. Yet the poor man has contributed as much to the scheme as his richer brother in the profession. Does the Government deem this equitable or just? I deem this unjust and preposterous. The teachers I venture to say never contemplated such an injustice when they petitioned the Government for a redress of their grievance. I do not think that the Executive of the Teachers' Association contemplated it, and I should hope that the Government do not intend to inflict the injustice. I would prefer to hope that they did not understand the working out of their own scheme. The fact is that the working out of a proper scheme should engage the attention of an actuary. The Government have attempted what they are incapable of dealing with. That is entirely clear. I shall not further criticise these Resolutions until the Government have answered the positions I have set up, and if they cannot answer them, then the whole responsibility in this matter shall rest with them alone.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—In replying to the Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Opposition in relation to his criticism of these Resolutions I should like in the first place to say two or three words before referring to the points raised by him and they are in relation to what he says as regards technical education. I understood him to say that in Switzerland fifty per cent. of the total revenue is devoted to technical education.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—Not the total revenue. I said that 53 per cent. of the vote for education was devoted to technical education.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—I am not in a position to say whether that is correct, I have no doubt that in a country like Switzerland—or indeed, coming nearer home—in a country like Nova Scotia, a very large percentage of the vote for education—in fact I should not suppose that fifty per cent. would be a high percentage—would be devoted to technical education. But we have to remember in drawing these comparisons that Switzerland has had an educational system certainly for two centuries; and when comparing Nova Scotia with Newfoundland it must be remembered that when it was illegal to plant a potato in Newfoundland Nova Scotia had a university; and that Nova Scotia was granting Degrees before an elementary school existed in Newfoundland. We are not dealing to-day with the question of universities or with the question of technical education. We are really dealing with elementary education; and whilst we are doing a little in technical education, and whilst every person concerned with our educational system from the Superintendents down to the teachers, the Educational Boards, the Council of Education, this Government the late Government and every Government would desire to spend considerable money if we could afford it on technical education, at the same time we all recognize that we have to be just first and generous afterwards, and that we are under an obligation to give every child in Newfoundland whose parents are paying taxes an opportunity to learn to read and write.
I should like to see schools in every important settlement in the country teaching technical studies. I recognize, as I stated here yesterday, that the battle of the future is going to be a great industrial battle—not a battle of armaments, of armies and navies, but an industrial battle; and industrial countries like Japan, Germany and the United States, the state and private individuals are lavishing money on technical education, because those who are going to remain in the industrial race have to depend largely on scientific and technical education as applied to the industries. That is particularly so of the great die works of Germany, the large silk operations in Japan and other complicated—almost scientific—industries. All these depend on the highest point of attainment as regards scientific and technical education. We are doing a little here, just a little. We have had a vote for a number of years in our educational grant. But what does it amount to. For an hour or so a day some of the little boys in St. John's—I do not know if it extends outside St. John's—are shown something in the nature of woodwork. It is of some advantage I suppose. It trains the eye and the hand. The pupils are able to make little frames and little boxes from appropriate designs supplied them by the teachers. That is as far as we have got with technical education. If we ever hope to develop that system we have to remember that we shall have to spend a great deal of money; not alone in teaching in the schools, but also in training the teachers; because it is perfectly idle to expect that the five or six hundred lady teachers we have all over Newfoundland can give our children an industrial education unless they are taught it themselves. We can do a great deal in manual training and in the way I have pointed out, but if we are to adopt technical education—that is industrial education—to fit our boys to go into the workshop and into the engineering shop or the locomotive works or whatever it may be, we must expend thousands of dollars, and we cannot rest by applying this to St. John's alone, but we must do it in all large centres as well. Even then we would not be just to thousands of settlements that to-day are suffering from lack of elementary education. That is the position we are in. My learned friend, the leader of the Opposition, stated here this evening that technical education was not the same thing as higher education. A stranger listening to him would think it was a new principle we were introducing this evening—that we were making new departures and not following the beaten road that has been followed for years. There is not a vote in these Resolutions for Higher Education beyond the vote of $1000 additional vote for the Council of Higher Education in order to enable them to pay their bills; in order to pay for the examining of children all over the country who avail of these examinations. Whilst the Council of Higher Education exists and whilst this Legislature continues them under their charter it is not in keeping with the dignity or the decency of the country or the Legislature that they should be dunned over town for any bills that they may have incurred in carrying out their work. As far as the Council are concerned I am not specially here to defend them. As I said yesterday it was a misnomer to call them the Council of Higher Education; because they are concerned with elementary as well as Higher Education. If there has been any stimulus imparted into our educational life the last twenty years, if our schools have been lifted to a higher plane, if to-day we have standard of education, then we have to thank the Council of Education for it. As I have heard stated in this House
before, “By their fruits shall they be known,” and you can apply no more satisfactory test to the value of the Council of Higher Education than by looking around for its fruits and the way their examinations are availed of by teachers and pupils all over the country, as can be seen from the number of centres where children take them and by the adoption and approval of their system by the Teachers’ Association. “Education,” my hon. friend said, “should be fitted to our industries to enable our children to go forth from the schools into the various industries of the country and into agriculture.” I entirely agree with him in so far as the various schools are prepared to teach these branches. But until the whole country is provided with elementary education we are not in a position, I submit to vote any very large sums for the establishment of technical education in one or two centres in order to teach trades to the children who happen to live in those centres. I would like to see schools established in St. John’s, in Harbor Grace, in Bonavista Bay in Placentia and in every other district around the Island to teach the boys everything in the way of technical education to train them for any industries they may desire to pursue. But what about the other children in the country who are receiving no education at all. Our present condition will not permit anything like that. Further, our teachers, as I have said, could not impart this knowledge, and it would not be fair to ask them. We must first teach the teachers, and give them some elementary knowledge of technical education so that when they go forth to schools they may be prepared to impart to their pupils what they themselves have learned. But to enter to-day, before we have completed our system of elementary education, and embark on a large policy of industrial education all over the Island, is a policy I am afraid which would be very difficult to carry out. I am not acquainted with what is being done in Nova Scotia as regards technical education. I know they are making advances and are making very great strides, and that they are doing the same all over Canada. I have been in communication with Professor Robertson who for the last two years has been in Europe associated with a dozen others appointed by the Canadian Government to visit Europe and enquire into the whole question of technical education. I have been in touch with their work through Professor Robertson who has been good enough to furnish me with copies of what has been done. Their work has not been adopted by the Canadian Government, but I have no doubt it will be adopted, and the knowledge gained by them will be applied as far as possible in the way of technical education both in the universities and in the high schools of Canada. My learned friend wanted to know if the Government was in sympathy with technical education. Why, certainly we are in sympathy with technical education, and every other kind of education likely to advance the children of this country who are to be its future citizens. We have increased the education vote in three years by $100,000—double the amount of the increase for the previous eight years, and more than was voted in the first sixty years of representative government, and double the sum ever voted in any ten years by any previous government, and that money will be spent, with very little exception, in the same channel as it has been spent before. If any plan can be worked out by which the whole of this country can participate in the advantage of technical education, the Government will be very glad to consider it; but nothing is at present before the Government and no scheme has been
worked out or proposed beyond the little attempt that is being made in St. John's. It is all very well to talk about technical education. It is a very nice, highsounding phrase, but when you come to analyze it and try and apply it to the 1300 settlements in Newfoundland, then you will find that you are assuming a policy of robbing Peter to pay Paul. And in this case you have 99 Peters as against one Paul. Then my learned friend passed from that point on to the question of teachers' pension fund proposed in these resolutions. "They have asked for bread" said my learned friend, "and you have given them stones." Well, they must have been in a very remarkable condition when they had to come and ask for bread, and if they have been left in that condition it has been no fault of this administration. They asked for bread. It is quite true. And we claim we have given them here bread and butter or bread and jam—something better than they asked for. We have not given them stones. I have to-day a letter in my pocket that I received from the President of the Executive of the Teachers' Association entirely endorsing what we are doing here in relation to this pension fund.

March 12th.

"Dear Sir Edward.—The Executive of the Newfoundland Teachers' Association, fully appreciating the benefit which your Government proposes to bestow on the teaching profession by the introduction into the Legislature of resolutions which in broad outline embody the petition for pensions presented to the Governor in Council.

That does not look as if they were nibbling stones, but on the contrary pleasantly engaged eating bread and jam or bread and butter. I think I have heard that phrase before—asking for bread and receiving stones. It is a nice phrase and may please the ears of some people, but has no meaning or application in relation to the present case? Now what are the facts? The teachers of this Colony have never been regarded as civil servants, and accordingly have never been pensioners. Why, I do not know. I am not prepared to give to the Committee, Mr. Chairman, any very satisfactory reasons as to why they have not been regarded as civil servants from a pension standpoint. Every other public servant, from the Chief Justice down to the courier who carries the mails all the year round for $100 a year, receives a pension, but the teacher was never regarded by this Legislature as a pensioner and no pension has ever been voted from the public funds for the teachers. It may be from the fact that the moneys voted are voted to the boards and teachers are employed directly by the boards, and we have no control over the teachers and do not come in actual contact with them. Originally there was only one grant, and that to the Boards. The other funds have grown up of late years. Consequently we have never had the teachers' case before us here, and we have only been voting a sum in globo for education. In 1892 a scheme was devised known as the Teachers' Pension Fund, the father of that was the present Canon Pilot, and though that has been in operation for twenty years it has been availed of by only two teachers. The total amount paid under it was $100. The teachers make a contribution and the Government also make a contribution. Now the Teachers' Association have come in and pointed out to the Government the failure of this scheme, and they ask practically to be regarded as civil servants, that is, to receive two-thirds of their salary; and in consideration of our making a distinction between them and civil servants by retiring
them at 60 and in some cases at 55, and in other cases after 15 years teaching, they say, we will bear a fair proportion of the cost. They do not claim to be in the same class as ordinary civil servants, who must remain at work as long as they are physically able to perform it, but they come in and ask to be retired at 60 and under certain circumstances, on the certificate of the proper inspector at 55, and in other cases after fifteen years, and they say in consideration of these very special advantages, which are not accorded to the ordinary civil servants, we think we ought to pay a premium to you and are satisfied to pay the same premium as we have been paying for the last 20 years.

The resolutions that are now before the legislature are practically, if not identically, the same as we have had in force for the last 20 years. My learned friend has attacked most unsuccessfully the principle upon which the premiums are based. Originally the schedule which was fixed in the scheme of 1892 by the Government of that day, was the result of actuarial work and Canon Pilot on that occasion had the benefit of actuarial advice in connection with the scheme. I was close in touch with him at the time and I think he will bear out what I say that as far as the schedules of that act are concerned they are almost perfect. They are applied according to age to the two classes, ladies being paid a little more than men because their salaries are a little less. But my learned friend pointed out that we may have a case of a man getting a salary of $1800 paying the same annually as a person in a school with a salary of $300 or $400. As a matter of fact the schools in the outports have a higher average salary than the schools in St. John's and they are not getting a higher average than $700 in the whole island. The average salaries paid in St. John's are not as high as the average paid in the outports in that class of high schools. I do not mean the average of all the schools in the Island but the average of that class of school. Now I am not making that statement as an opinion, but as a fact which I have learnt from Mr. Wood the President of the Executive of the Teachers' Association. But as regards the colleges it is almost impossible to imagine a case where any of the professors would come under the pension scheme. They have to teach for thirty years and we have never had a professor in St. John's, who has taught for thirty years. When you take an $1800 salary you are endeavouring to conceive a position, not likely to occur, almost impossible, very improbable and in all the experience of fifty years a case has never occurred in which a professor in St. John's has ever come under the scheme and if statistics are worth anything that is a complete answer to the contention. And it will be found by an examination of the schools, by examination of the amounts paid according to the period of teaching, and examination of the pension to be paid, that the two-thirds pension scheme works out as equitable, as just and as fair as it is possible to work it out. There has been no change whatever in relation to the 1892 schedules and under this act there is a fund created although the Leader of the Opposition has made a most unsuccessful effort to show that there is not. Now what are the facts. The teachers come in and say, "Here is $60,000,"—or to be absolutely correct, $61,000.—when it comes into effect on the first of July of a fund to be paid into the revenue of the Colony. It does not follow that it is not going to be a fund. Is it any less a fund because it is paid into the revenue of the Colony? What they say is we hand over to you that fund and if you continue the same contri-
bution as you now make the interest will supply all the pensions that will be required for 14 years. Fourteen years will pass before we will be called upon for anything beyond what we are at present voting and the $60,000 will still be intact. And then, if we like we may pay out of the principal, which adding the $2,000 we are annually voting, will have accumulated in 14 years to $100,000. And if you figure out you will see that this accumulated fund of $100,000 will be all that is necessary for pensions up to 1950 because it must be borne in mind that every year a certain number of pensions will be dropping out.

The Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Opposition pointed out that these resolutions do not embody what was asked for by the Executive of the Teachers' Association. Well, as a matter of fact it was not considered by the Association at all because before the time arrived to consider the petition the amendments had come in from the Executive. These came in not as a result of the refusal upon the part of the Government because before ever the petition came from the teachers and the amendments upon the petition by the Executive could be attended to another petition came into the Government. As far as I understand the teachers in session had not sufficient time to consider the matter and left the question to the Executive who drew up the present proposals with certain modifications. If it is desired to find exactly what fund should be in existence in 1925 we have to calculate first what fund the $61,000 will bring in, because we must remember that that $61,000 will be an earning fund. We are not going to be called upon to pay the pension entirely out of that fund but out of the interest payable on the fund by the Government. Now in the first year we will be called upon to pay $3,000 and we will have $7,000 with which to pay it. Consequently we shall have $4,000 over and above what we have to pay, which we can put out at interest again. Next year we shall have to pay $3,000 more, that is an additional $3,000. In 1913 we shall have to pay $7,000 and we shall have 14,000 to pay it with. In the 3rd year we shall have to pay $10,000 and we shall have $2,000 to pay it with, in the fourth year $15,000 and $28,000 to pay it with, because the income is $7,000 a year and so if we follow out this scheme in the schedule it will not be until 1925 that the income will not pay the pensions and then we can fall back on the principal. But we have not alone that principal but also this fund of $2,000 a year accumulating, so that in all these years we have three sources to meet our liability in 1925. First the profits over and above the payments, out of the fund. Second the contributions from the teachers and third the accumulation of the annual $2,000 vote. And in addition to this we have to remember that we have not allowed anything for the dropping out of certain pensions owing to death. These calculations are based upon figures without allowing for the death of any of the present pensioners and if they live up to that time some of them will be over 90 years of age.

Now let us look at it in another light. In 1931, what will this House be called upon to vote in pensions? It will be called upon to vote $18,000, that is without any deduction for contributions, even if no income were to come in and no one were to die. According to this list and according to the number of teachers now on the rolls and those who will be added in 1931, the total amount will be $18,000 or in other words an increased cost of less than $1,000 a year. From now on the whole increase up to 1931 will not average $1,000 a year because by that time it will have been in operation 20 years and we will only have
to vote $18,000. As a matter of fact I believe that if this were worked out by actuaries we would find that the Colony will be able to pay a pension of ½ the salary to all teachers in the Island for fifty years and not be called upon to pay one cent more than they are paying to-day. And this is the scheme that the Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Opposition called inequitable, unjust and preposterous. It is what the teachers asked for as modified by the Executive of the Teachers’ Association and is practically what has been in force for the past 20 years, with some improvement and will practically place the teachers on the same basis as every other civil servant with the exception that they are called upon to pay a small annual contribution, which this Legislature stops from their salary, so that they can retire at the age of sixty and in some cases at the age of 55.

Now, Mr. Chairman, that ought to be satisfactory to this House and satisfactory to the hon. members on the other side of the House and especially to the Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Opposition, because I should be sorry to feel and believe that the Rt. Hon. gentleman is endeavoring to understand and appreciate the spirit in which these resolutions are introduced by the Government. We have practically made no change in what the Executive of the Teachers’ Association has asked for. I tabled their petition and that of the teachers as modified by the Executive. One has only to look at the prayer of those petitions to see that what they ask for has been borne out to the letter.

MR. CLIFT.—Mr. Chairman, I assume that these resolutions like all resolutions tabled by the Government, are more than likely to be passed by this committee without any amendment regardless of anything that may be said on this side of the House.

RT. HON PRIME MINISTER.—Is that your experience?

MR. CLIFT.—That is my experience and I have been here a long time. Perhaps it is a good principle, perhaps it is the right thing to do, but it is also right for those who sit on this side of the House to criticise and point out any error that may be apparent to them in the matter before the chair. Now, sir, I am not attacking the principle upon which these resolutions are based. Upon that I do not propose to express any opinion but I am going to say this that I regard these resolutions to be, as already said, “filled with irregularities.” The Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Opposition pointed out that the whole scheme which we are now about to abolish was more in the nature of an annuity. The teachers could come in at any time and contribute a certain annual premium based upon their then age and at the end of a fixed time they would receive an annuity of $100 or in the case of females $80. That was a scheme, as pointed out by the Premier, worked by an actuary and advocated by him—whether that scheme is general or whether only one or two are receiving the benefit of it I do not know. But if they are not receiving benefit under that scheme it is because they either have not been contributing sufficiently long or perhaps the contributors have passed away. At all events they are entitled to the payment of this sum at the end of a certain period on the payment of the prescribed premiums. Now what is proposed under this new scheme? It is proposed to ask the teachers to contribute at the same rate and instead of paying an annuity of $100 you will pay a pension of ½ their average salary. So that the man who pays his premium for 30 years and at the end of that time, his average salary for the past ten years being say $1200, he will get a pension
of $800, whereas another man goes in at the same age receives a lesser salary, say, one-half that amount, although contributing the same amount of premiums will still only receive one-half the pension of the other man. That, sir, is inequality surely. That position has not been refuted by the hon. introducer of these Resolutions. I want to point out also that there is nothing in these Resolutions to compel a man to contribute for any period or number of years. They do not say that he shall contribute an annual premium for 30 years. They say that before he is entitled to the pension he shall have 30 years of service, but it says nothing about requiring him to contribute 30 years premiums.

RT. HON THE PRIME MINISTER.—But it is deducted from his salary.

MR. CLIFT.—The first section says that every teacher who has received the augmentation shall contribute a certain amount to this fund. The second section says that any teacher may avail of the advantages of this fund. The first section is compulsory, the second is not; so that a teacher may come in in the 29th year and pay a premium at his then age for one year and he will complete his 30 years of service and then be entitled to his pension.

The Rt. Hon. Prime Minister says that this scheme is practically the same as the one that we have had in force for the last 20 years. I say it is not so. It is very different. The one in force the last 20 years was a mutual scheme by which the Colony contributed a certain amount and the teachers a certain amount, and under which a fixed annuity was purchased. It was improperly called a pension scheme; it was more in the nature of an annuity. It was a scheme by which a teacher was entitled to purchase an annuity. It was a scheme which created a fund which now has amounted to about $60,000. That fund virtually belonged to those who had been contributing to it. It was a teachers' fund. It was the fund to which they had to look for their annuity. Now that fund is to be abolished and we are told that it is to be placed in the general revenue of the Colony. And then the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister tells us that though the fund goes into the general revenues of the Colony it remains intact and will be there at the end of a given number of years. Well, Mr. Chairman, I have never known any funds to go into the general revenues of the Colony and to remain intact. If it goes into the general revenues I say that there is no fund. It ceases to be a fund, and the teachers under these Resolutions will be dependent annually upon the vote of this House for their interest upon that fund. And this House will have to vote, not, as the Premier has stated, the same amount as we hitherto have voted, but we will be called upon to vote a sum of 6% interest upon that amount whereas hitherto we have only paid 3%. Three per cent. is now paid by the Savings Bank and the Government. The fund, I repeat, ceases to be a fund the moment it goes into the revenue. And the contribution which is now derivable from that fund will have to come before this House and be voted annually. The Premier also stated that the fund was so intact that it would continue to be an earning power. I submit that it ceases to be an earning power as soon as it goes into revenue. It must of necessity be so. If it were placed in trust, or if debentures were purchased with it, then it would be an earning power. It would earn 4 per cent. But if it goes into the general revenue then it ceases to be a fund, and therefore ceases to have any earning power.

Now, sir, there is another section, the section in which the proportion of
the pension to the salary is computed, which may also be open to question. It says, "Each teacher who shall have reached the age of 60 years and who shall have completed 30 years of service as a teacher shall be entitled to receive during the remainder of the life of such teacher a pension equal to two-thirds of the average annual salary." Well, some question may arise under that. A teacher may have an addition to his salary, he may be provided with a house, or fuel or light or some other thing which is really a part of his salary. Would these things be taken into consideration in computing his salary?

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—They would not. His actual cash salary.

MR. CLIFT.—It might be contended otherwise. The teacher may be given a stated salary and in addition to that he may have a house. But now we have it from the Minister of Justice that it is not the intention of these Resolutions to fix a pension upon any other basis than that of actual cash salary. Then in subsection 6 we find, "Any teacher who shall become disabled after 15 years of service and who shall have obtained a certificate of such disability or incapacity signed by a medical practitioner, the Chairman of the proper Board of Education, and the proper Superintendent of Education, shall be entitled to receive during the remainder of the life of such teacher a pension equal to one-half of the pension provided by subsection 4 and so on in the same proportion during succeeding years." Now the point I want to make is this. Why is there fixed a period of 15 years? "After 15 years of service." Now supposing the case of a teacher becoming incapable of work at his 28th year, after contributing 28 years to this fund. Then he has got to step out of all the benefits of this fund and be content with a pension of one-half salary?

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—No, he will get twenty-eight thirtieths of it.

MR. CLIFT.—I am stating it as it appears to me now. It says, "a pension equal to one-half of the pension provided by sub-section 4.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—Yes, go on. It goes on to say "and so on in the same proportion during succeeding years."

MR. CLIFT.—Well, that might be made a little clearer. Very much clearer. Then in the next section it says that in the case of the death of any contributor to the fund before he shall have entered upon his pension, the whole sum to be contributed shall be returned to his legal representatives with compound interest at 3 per cent. provided he has not forfeited his interest. Under the old scheme it will be found that they were entitled to have it returned with 6% compound interest. Perhaps there is some good reason for the change, but the teacher who has been contributing to that fund, (or rather his widow) for 29 years will not think that there is good reason for the change. The legal representatives under this scheme will only get it back with 3% interest, whereas under the old scheme they got it back with 6% compound interest.

Section 8 says: "Any contributor to this fund who shall cease to follow the occupation of a teacher after five full years service as such and payment of five annual premiums, shall be permitted to withdraw from the fund all his contributions with compound interest at 3 per cent.” Now supposing he contributed for 30 years, what would happen? Would be be entitled to the same thing?

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—Yes.
MR. CLIFT.—Why should he not be allowed to continue as under the old act, to contribute the amount necessary to obtain his annuity?

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—If he wishes to withdraw he can take out all he paid in with 3% compound interest.

MR. CLIFT.—The next section provides that the augmentation grant shall be paid quarterly. In connection with that I would suggest that any contributor that these augmented teachers have to make to the fund should be paid by them quarterly instead of only in July. Perhaps the quarterly augmentation on the 1st July may be just sufficient to pay the amount, but it may be more convenient to divide that into quarterly instalments instead of annual instalments. I do not understand what is the meaning of sub-section 3 of the first Resolution, where it says, “For the purpose of fixing the annual salary of a teacher who by reason of being a member of a religious order does not receive a salary, the average annual salary during the past ten years of a teacher in a similar position in other colleges or schools shall be determined by any three of the Superintendents of Education.” A certificate under the hands of such Superintendents shall be conclusive of the annual salary of such first named teacher.” I do not know exactly what that means. It was not explained by the hon. introducer. How far reaching may it be? It seems to me very far reaching. It should have some explanation and some limitation. Any member of a religious order would include a clergyman or some such person who may be teaching, and perhaps it intended to include anyone who may come in under this scheme and get the benefits of this fund though he may be teaching for 30 years and not during the whole of that period receiving any pension from the educational grants, or who may not during the whole of that period have been contributing to this pension fund. I would like some explanation of that. I have no doubt that hon. members on the other side of the House will afford the information that I asked for. I particularly want to know if the hon. introducer and the Minister of Justice are satisfied with the liability of a teacher in order to obtain the benefits of this fund to contribute for a period of 30 years.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—Mr. Chairman, I will endeavour to answer the questions put by the hon. member as concisely and directly and clearly as possible.

The last question he asked may be taken in connection with the first subject he referred to, and that was the schedule. He says, must a teacher serve 30 years and also pay premiums for 30 years in order to be qualified? The answer is yes. There must be 30 years service and payment of 30 years’ premiums. If he will look at Schedule J, he will see. He will find that that scheme is calculated practically upon an annuity basis. A teacher coming in at 20 years of age will pay $5.54 a year. Coming in at 30 he will pay $10.84; at 40 $23.31; at 50, $64.92; and these premiums are calculated upon the well-known tables of mortality and expectation of life at these ages. Take a teacher coming in at 20 years of age and making 40 payments of $5.54 up to the age of 60, and the teacher coming in at 40 years of age and making 20 payments of $27.31; each would be paying exactly the same amount upon his expectation of life at that age, according to the tables of mortality. My learned friend asked, why did we commence the pensions at 15 years service? He will appreciate the difficulty we often find in connection with all civil pensions. We have no regular pension rules, and we often find a
civil servant at the end of say 5 or 8 or 10 years becomes absolutely dissatisfied, beyond all possible usefulness. The Government are faced with the position that this person has to be pensioned, and according to the rules we give him a ⅔ pension. So that when we came to make out the pension scheme we thought it only fair that there should be a definite rule and that a teacher should not be entitled to any pension until he had completed fifteen years of service and fifteen payments of premium. And after that he can withdraw his whole contribution, with compound interest at 3 per cent., if he so desired. At the end of fifteen years he gets one-half, or fifteen-thirtieths of what he would get at the end of thirty. That is, supposing his salary is $300.00. At 30 years he would get two-thirds,—$200.00—at 15 years, he would get half of that—$100.00—and so on in a sliding scale;—at 15 years, fifteen-thirtieths; at 16 years, sixteen-thirtieths; and so on until he has served 29 years, when he would get twentynine-thirtieths. If he served the whole thirty years, then he would get the full two-thirds pension. Then my learned friends asks: If a teacher dies before he is entitled to his pension, why are his legal representatives not paid the amount contributed by him, with interest at 6%, as formerly? Simply this, that we thought if the Government acted as banker for the teacher and paid him his money back with 3% compound interest, that that was as much as could reasonably be expected and was more in accordance with a pension scheme. The old pension scheme put in the 6%, no doubt, for the purpose of encouraging the teachers to remain in the profession. That was the great object of the old pension scheme and that is the main object of the present scheme, to put something in front of the teacher that will encourage him to remain in the profession until the time comes for him to be pensioned. Then my learned friend asked whether a teacher can withdraw his deposit of premiums at any time? Yes. Under these resolutions he can withdraw at any time up to the time that he enters upon his pension, and can take out what he has paid in with compound interest at 3%. We have a very harrowing illustration of that in the case of a teacher here in St. John’s at the present time who has come near the time when he can claim his pension, and who is now in such bad health that it is quite probable that he will die before he will qualify for the pension; and he has got to make up his mind now, in his own interests and those of his family, whether he will take out the amount that he has paid in or whether he will take the risk of living for a sufficient time to get more than that amount of pension. That is one of the accidents that will happen in connection with a scheme of this kind. Then my learned friend suggests that the premiums should be paid quarterly. Well, I think if he will ask the Superintendents of Education and the clerks who have to handle that work he will find that it would entail a tremendous amount of work, and work really that there is no object in at all. The amounts paid in range from $4 to $8, and to divide that into quarterly payments would mean a great amount of extra clerical work. There are hundreds of teachers who receive augmentation from the funds, and each time that augmentation is payable the Superintendents have to make out a list giving the name and grade of each and the contribution that is payable to each. The Superintendents complain enough about that at present, and it would really mean a tremendous amount of trouble to have to do that four times a year. At any rate, both the Superintendents and the teachers are perfectly satisfied that the proper pro-
The only other point is the question under subsection 3, as to the fixing of the annual salaries of teachers of religious orders. If my learned friend will look at the old pension scheme, under the Education Act of 1903, he will see that under section 72 the provisions of section 68 (that is, the pension section) shall not apply to teachers who are members of any religious order unless they so desire. That is, in the cases of teachers of religious orders the pension scheme would not apply and the Government would not deduct a premium from their augmentation allowance unless any particular teacher came and said: I desire to join this scheme and to become a contributor to it. Now, there are some teachers belonging to religious orders—you can take the teachers of the Salvation Army or the Christian Brothers as an illustration—that don’t get a regular salary from the denomination to which they belong. They devote their whole lives to teaching and for that they get their board, lodging, clothing and expenses, but no regular salary. Under these resolutions any teacher of that kind who chooses to do so can come in and say: I wish to become a member of the pension fund. And if he puts in thirty years of service, the same as other teachers, and pays the premiums, he is entitled to the pension. Then comes the question of fixing his pension, and the method is formulated there in sub-section 3. The amount of the pension shall be determined by the average annual salary of a teacher of the same grade in a similar position in some other school or college, to be determined upon the certificate of any three of the Superintendents of Education. That, we thought, was a satisfactory and fair way of ascertaining what would be the average salary of a teacher in such a position. These, I think, answer all the observations of my learned friend.

In reference to the point I raised about the fund. I would like to know what you had to say in reply to that. And in reference to the observations of the hon. gentleman about the person living up to pretty near the time when he would be entitled to the pension and becoming seriously ill, I think that in a case like that a person ought be obliged to withdraw, otherwise he may not live long enough to get the pension.

Oh no, he knows the situation, and that, I say, is the harrowing part of it. It is one of the unfortunate situations which only happen once in a thousand cases. In relation to the fund, that is the same difficulty which occurred to the mind of the hon. and learned member for St. John’s East, and to some extent still seems to be fixed in the mind of the Rt. Hon. Leader of the Opposition. Now, I want to speak exactly about that. We don’t say that that money goes in as part of the annual revenue. If you look at the section you will notice it states that the amount now standing to the credit of the pension fund under section 68 of the Education Act of 1903 shall be put into the treasury for the use of the Colony, that is, it goes into the treasury and it is there dealt with. It is put to the credit of the Teachers’ Fund account, and to the credit of the same account will be placed all the contributions and premiums; and when the time comes for the payment of any pensions, that will be charged upon the other side. The Government can put that amount in the Savings Band of the Bank of Montreal, or invest it in Government debentures at 4%, or deal with it in such other way as they think best.
MR. CLIFT.—I thank the hon. member for this explanation, but it does not at all satisfy me that it will remain intact.

HON. MINISTER JUSTICE.—We will not run away with it.

MR. CLIFT.—Now, I don't want to insinuate that for one moment. I would be very sorry, Mr. Chairman, to think that the hon. member or any of his colleagues would run away with it.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—No, no.

MR. CLIFT.—I don't believe that the Premier would allow them. He would probably want to run away with it himself. But I claim that that resolution distinctly says that this money shall be placed into the treasury for the use of the Colony, and that destroys it as a fund. If it is the intention, as the Hon. Minister of Justice says, to let it remain intact as a fund, then this resolution should certainly say so. It should say: Be put into the treasury and there to remain a fund. Then I could understand it. But when it goes into the treasury for the use of the Colony it has no other meaning than that which I have attached to it. However, I don't propose to make any further comment on it.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—I would ask to add as sub-section 14 the following:

"The provisions of sub-section 1 shall not apply to teachers who are members of any religious order unless they so desire."

Sub-section 1 is the section which authorizes the Government to deduct from the augmentation allowance of any teacher the premium required, and unless this provision were added here the Government might be deducting premiums from teachers who are members of a religious order and who might not desire to become connected with the fund, and this provision will avoid that. In other words, it will put this class of teacher in the same position in which he was under the old pension law.

RT. HON PRIME MINISTER.—I would like to add after section 6 a slight amendment that has been suggested by the Teachers' Association and to which I don't see any objection. A teacher who has reached the age of 60 years but has only served fifteen could get a pension, but it would be on the basis of fifteen years service. The object, of course, is to prevent a man from staying on who ought to retire. In other words, it gives him a pension at the age of 60 although he has only served fifteen years. I think it is a reasonable suggestion.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred; had passed the Resolutions with some amendments; and recommended that a Bill be introduced in accordance therewith.

On motion this Report was received and adopted.

On motion the Bill entitled "An Act further to amend "The Education Act, 1903," was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

Hon. Minister of Justice gave notice that he would to-morrow ask leave to introduce a Bill to provide for certain Retiring Allowances.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Friday, March 15th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

FRIDAY, March 15th.

The House met at three of the clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

PETITIONS.

"HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present four petitions, one from King's Cove, and the others from
different portions of the District of Bonavista, in relation to a general election in November, 1912. I would ask that these petitions be received and referred to the department to which they relate.

HON. MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.—I beg leave to present a petition from Michael Hickey and others of Hr. Main in reference to a public wharf at that place. The wharf was situated at the head of the harbor, but was carried away by the storm last fall. Petitioners ask that a new wharf be built. This matter shall have my best attention.

HON. C. H. EMERSON.—I beg leave to present petitions from the Postmistress of Rencontre for an increase of salary and also one from the telegraph operator in the district of Fortune Bay, in relation to same matter. I ask that they be received and referred to department to which they relate. I also beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Garnish on the subject of the construction of an emergency hospital at Burin. Petitioners are of opinion that the hospital which has been erected at Grand Bank, will not be of sufficient service to meet the requirements of Burin and Garnish, and they think it would be better if it were erected at Burin. I would ask that this petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—I ask leave to present petitions from Musgrave Town, Alexander Bay, Fair Islands, on the subject of the prohibition of killing seals on Sunday. I would ask that these petitions be received and referred to the department to which they relate.

Pursuant to order and on motion of 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; had passed certain votes; and asked leave to sit again.

On motion this Report was received and adopted; and it was ordered that the Committee have leave to sit again on to-morrow.

Pursuant to Order and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister the Bill entitled "An Act further to amend 'The Education Act, 1903'," was read a second time and ordered to be referred to a committee of the Whole House on to-morrow.

MR. CLAPP gave Notice of Question.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask leave to introduce a Bill in relation to the St. John's Municipal Council.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until Tuesday next, March 19, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

TUESDAY, March 19th, 1912.

At fifteen minutes past three of the clock in the afternoon of this, the 19th day of March, the names of the members present being taken down by the Clerk, namely,—The Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, The Hon. the Minister of Finance and Customs, The Hon. the Minister of Agriculture and Mines and Messrs. Moulton, Parsons, Downey and Murphy,
Mr. Speaker declared the House adjourned for want of a quorum until to-morrow (Wednesday), the 20th day of March, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

WEDNESDAY, March 20th.

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

Hon. the Colonial Secretary laid on the table of the House Returns of The Reid Newfoundland Company under schedule “E” and accident Returns required under Section 25 of the 1901 Contract, up to June 30th., 1911.

PETITIONS.

MR. DOWN- EV- On behalf of the member for Burgeo and LaPoile I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Cape Ray and vicinity asking that a Railway Station be established at Cape Ray. The people experience considerable inconvenience by having freight lying around there in stormy weather. Furthermore many people take the train there for distant stations; and oftentimes have to wait there for five or six hours and it would be a great convenience if a station were established. Personally I know the locality and would endorse the facts set forth in the petition.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a petition from Rev. J. G. Joyce, Elisha Button, J.P., and other residents of New Melbourne, District of Trinity, praying that a sum of money be granted to construct a road to the new school now in course of erection at New Melbourne. The former school house, which had become too small for the settlement, and was in a worn out condition, has been abandoned, and an up-to-date building is being erected in a more pleasant locality. The petitioners ask that provision be made for a road to the building. I also ask leave to present a petition from Luke Pittman, and other residents of New Perlican on a similar subject, namely, a grant for a road to the new Superior School at New Perlican. Among the many who have signed this petition is the Rev. Frank Smart, Rector of Heart’s Content. Also a petition from Rev. G. S. Chamberlain, Mrs. Julia Anne Guy, and others, of Catalina, asking that a well, which is on the property of Mrs. Guy, be purchased for the use of the public. Also a petition from James P. Lynch and others, of Bellevue, Colliers’ Bay and Chance Cove, praying that a Ferry service be established at Bellevue for the convenience of school children, mail courier, and travellers generally. I desire to support the foregoing petitions, and would ask that they be referred to the Department of Public Works.

MR. SQUIRES—I rise to support the various petitions presented by my colleague. It is to be noted with pleasure that the people of New Melbourne and also of New Perlican have taken advantage of the special grants for education and have constructed new schools as a result of these grants. I feel certain that further effort will be made to assist education in these places by suitable allocations for the new school roads.

I beg to present a petition from Green’s Harbour, District of Trinity, upon certain matters pertaining to the Seal Fishery and Mail Service. Also a petition from Sibley’s Cove, Lead Cove, Brownsdale and vicinity on the same subject. Also a petition from the inhabitants of Random Island on the same subject. Also several petitions from Hickman’s Harbour, Britannia Cove, Burgoyne Cove, upon certain matters appertaining to the Civil Service and Railway Extension. Also a petition from the reas-
dents of Hant's Harbour calling attention to the necessity for the extension of a lighthouse on Grate's Cove Point. The petitioners state that the light on Baccalieu is often invisible on account of fog and point out that the erection of this lighthouse would be a great advantage to the residents of the south side of the District of Trinity and also schooners from various parts of the Island visiting Trinity Bay. I would ask that these several petitions be referred to the several departments to which they relate.

MR. CLIFT—I beg to present a petition from the residents of Herring Neck, district of Twillingate on the subject of Sunday Observance. I would ask that these petition be referred to the department of the Colonial Secretary.

HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINES. (Mr. Blandford).—I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Sweet Bay on the subject of branch roads.

RT. HON. SIR ROBT. BOND—I would ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Lush's Bight, district of Twillingate, asking for a sufficient sum of money to erect a public wharf at that place, to accommodate the mail, passengers and landing of freight at that important port. There is no wharf in the place at the present time at which the steamer may call, and freight has to be landed in boats, which is exceedingly inconvenient and sometimes impossible. The steamer often has to leave that port with freight owing to there being no wharf. I ask that this petition be referred to the Department of Fisheries, and I hope that out of the special monies voted to the district of Twillingate the prayer of the petition will be acceded to. I also ask leave to present a petition from representatives of the Society of United Fishermen at Herring Neck, on the subject of a road. The petitioners ask for a grant of money to construct a road leading around the harbour and towards the new Fishermen's Hall, which has been erected at that place. They state that not only will this road be of advantage to the members of the S. U. F., but will also be of general utility. I trust that the Minister of Public Works may be able to allocate, out of the large sum of money which I hope will be devoted to the interests of my district the sum of $100 for this work.

MR. SQUIRES—Through the courtesy of the Speaker of the House I have been asked to present a petition from the residents of Brigus and vicinity dealing with certain matters in connection with the Seal Fishery. I beg also to present a petition from Brownsdale and vicinity on the subject of mail couriers. Also a petition from Hodge's Cove, South West Arm, Random, calling attention to the fact that last year there was an outbreak of typhoid fever in that neighbourhood due to the unsanitary condition of the wells. They now ask for a sum of money for the improvement of the water supply in that locality. I have also a very numerously signed petition from the residents of settlements between Trinity and Ireland's Eye, both inclusive calling attention to the great benefits to be derived from opening up a waterway between Trinity and Cuckholds Cove, a distance of about one hundred and fifty yards. The effect of doing this will be to put these settlements in easy water communication with one another. It would be of great advantage to fishermen and others frequenting these waters, and it would shorten the distance by quite a few miles.

MR. BENNETT—I beg to present a
petition from Samuel Ruby, Ml. Joyce Allan Williams and others of the Goulds, St. John's West. They ask that two bridges be placed across the stream leading from Cochrane Pond. The country in that vicinity is very largely used for cattle grazing, and great difficulty and danger are experienced in crossing these streams going to and from the grazing ground. Petitioners ask for $120, or $60 for each bridge. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition and ask that it be referred to the department of public works. I am sure my colleagues and myself will be prepared to do all that is possible.

MR. KENNEDY—I have much pleasure in supporting the petition just presented by my colleague.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.—I desire to support the prayer of the petition. I know the locality and I think the petition deserves the consideration of the department of Public works.

MR. SQUIRES—I have also to present a petition from New Harbour, district of Trinity with reference to the Seal Fishery, the mail service, and sundry other matters affecting the inhabitants of the South Side of the District of Trinity. It is similar to the one I have already presented. I ask that it be referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

MIN. OF PUBLIC WORKS—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from the people of Collier's and Conception Harbour, very largely signed and especially it may be remarked endorsed by Rev. Monsignor Veitch in relation to the salary of the Postmistress. Her present salary is $24 per annum and the petitioners ask that it be doubled, that is increased to $48. She is a widow with five or six children, her husband being dead now nearly twelve years. Most of her time is taken up with the work of the Office. A few years ago a money order office was opened in the post office and the work has in consequence greatly increased, to such an extent that her duties in the office take up nearly all her time. I really sympathize with her, and ask the hon. members of the House to give the petition their earnest support and have her salary increased to the amount asked for. It is a very small amount to ask for, and considering the size of her family, I feel sure the members of the opposition will agree that the petition deserves their consideration. I feel sure that the Rt. hon. the leader of the Opposition, who is always in sympathy with the poor, the widow and the orphan, will give this petition his hearty support and I know that the other members will not object to the increase. I feel sure my colleagues will support the petition and I hope this small amount will be granted. I ask that the petition be received and referred to the Department to which it relates.

MR. MURPHY—Mr. Speaker, I have the greatest pleasure in giving my support to the Petition just presented by my colleague. Although this lady has been in charge of the office for a number of years she has had no increases, but on the other hand the work of the office has materially increased by the men of the settlement finding new avenues to make a living away from home at Bell Island and other industrial centres, and her work has in consequence increased. But there has been no increase of salary. In addition to that a money order office has been opened there of late. I think this request for an increase of $24 is a very mild one and I hope that that small amount will be granted.
Hon. Minister of Justice gave notice that he would on to-morrow ask leave to introduce the following Bills—

"An Act to amend "The Customs Act" 1898."

"An Act to amend the Act 10 Edward VII, Cap. 4:"


Mr. Clapp gave notice of Question.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—

Mr. Speaker in reply I may say the statement is being prepared and I hope to table it to-morrow.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary what amount was expended upon the breakwater in the point of the beach in Carbonear and to give a detailed statement as to whom the amounts were paid.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—

Mr. Speaker, I may say that nothing was expended last year on the breakwater at Carbonear.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary what was the cost of the extension of the Water Service in Carbonear and to give detailed statement of payments of same.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—

In reply I beg to state that there was no extension of the water service.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay upon the table of the House a copy of all correspondence that passed between the Colonial Secretary's Department and that of the Minister of Justice in relation to the claims of the Reid Newfoundland Company against the Government of this Colony since date 1900.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—

Mr. Speaker, the correspondence is in the Department of Justice, but it is being prepared and I hope to table it to-morrow.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BILL.

Pursuant to notice and leave granted Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister introduced a Bill in relation to the St. John's Municipal Council; which was

lighting Harbour Grace, Carbonear and Victoria Village. What amount is paid for the Telephone Service in Carbonear and from what grants the payments were made and to furnish a statement of the payments for the last three years.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—

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 the Treatment and Prevention of Tuberculosis," with some amendments, in which they requested the concurrence of the House of Assembly.

On motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister the Council's amendments were read a first time and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

QUESTIONS.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary what amount the Government is paying the United Towns Electric Co. in each town for...
on motion read a first time; and ordered to be read a second time on to­
morrow.

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.

HON. MIN. OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—Mr. Chairman, I table today the statement showing the supplemental supply for the present fiscal year, amounting altogether to $248,643.59; or in round figures $250,000. But to offset this there will be, I estimate a drop balance to the amount of $50,000 so that the net increase will be about $200,000.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—May I ask what that drop balance will be.

HON. MIN. OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—I will come from the whole collective Civil Service vote of last year. Under the head of Civil government there is a vote of $2000 for the Premier's Office and the same for the Colonial Secretary's Office. This is for the general purpose of the departments and is in addition to the original vote. Under the head of Public Works, is a vote for office contingencies $1400. This is for an overdraft on contingencies account. Insurance and keepers $265. This amount is required by the government for the rental of the building at present occupied by the Admiralty Survey. This will cover the half year's rent which will fall due during the present fiscal year. Fuel and light—$1900. This amount is for the Post Office and Postal Telegraph buildings throughout the island. $1500 of this amount is to cover the cost of the coal in the new offices and $400 for the Museum as the present vote is insufficient. Since the Museum has been opened to the public it has been found that the present vote is not enough to properly heat the building. Repairs—$17200. Of this $2600 goes to repairs and renovating of Government House. During the absence of His Excellency, Government House was thoroughly renovated from top to bottom. Carpets were taken up, painting done, hot water apparatus renewed and wherever necessary the building was renovated. Of that $17,200 $2500 goes to the building of a Coachman's lodge at Government House. This is now nearly completed. It was done by contract and the above amount includes painting, plastering installation of sewer connection and water connection with the city main. Water and sewerage connection was also made to the gardener's lodge. This building is occupied by the gardener and his family, and up to the present time it has been supplied with water from a well and it had no sewerage connections. Garbage was consequently accumulated in the vicinity and the matter was the subject of special request by the Governor and the Superintendent of the Public Works. This necessitates an outlay of $500. Government House furnishing $2800. The explanation of this is the same as before. During the Governor's absence he was authorised to purchase furniture, carpets, curtains etc., in England to replace those damaged or unfit for use. Those still fairly good were removed to the servants' quarters and bedrooms. Post Office repairs $3800. Alterations were made to the interior of the Post Office and the Government wishes to add this amount to the vote as the contractor's account is outstanding.

For the basement of the Post Office $2000. It is proposed to fit up the basement to meet the increase of
work in the Department—St. John’s Court House $1500. Besides the ordinary repairs to the building interior repairs were necessary to the Colonial Secretary’s Department and the Police Station. A new fire place and outlet to the office of the Chief Justice and the ventilators received attention and the engines needed renovation. Besides this the roof received repairs. There was a large quantity of snow shovelled and removed from both entrances and it was necessary to employ a number of men after each snow fall. In the Fever Hospital has been placed a new entrance in the basement. This cost $500. There was no entrance from the back of this building and all the ashes etc., from the cellar had to be carted up through the building.

Museum $400. Since this building has been opened to the public a carpenter has been constantly employed putting up fittings, tables etc. It is estimated that $400 will cover these items. Head IV. Administration of Justice salaries $85. This is due to the change in the standing of officials. Material for brooms $1500. The broom output has been constantly increasing, the revenue last year being $12000. This increase in the revenue calls for an increase in the materials. Repairs to this institution were estimated at $300, but owing to the fences being blown down and additional repairs being necessary $500 more will be required.

The Harbour Grace Courthouse and Gaol was contracted for at $8000. The Supt. of Public Works had great difficulty in keeping the contractor up to his work and as a matter of fact a lawsuit was the result. Since then it has been discovered that the roof is faulty and it can only be put in condition by a new roof. This, it is estimated, will cost $800. Old Pelican, additional $250. Court is held in a building used and occupied by the jailer. The quarters are limited and entrance is through the gaoler’s quarters. An addition has been authorised at a cost of $250. During the year a number of pines were planted round the Colonial Building which required more fences to protect them. The fences were repaired and painted and repairs were made to the keepers’ quarters. Lunatic Asylum. The late engineer received $312. The new man will receive $360. Extra attendant for eight months $170. Maintenance $4,500. This amount covers the increased cost of clothes, food and general living. Fuel and light $500. This amount is to supplement the annual vote which is not sufficient. General Hospital. Salaries, Watchman $360. There is now a watchman at the hospital. It is a new position and appointment. Cook $130. A new cook has been imported and this vote is to supplement the amount voted.

Poor Asylum is receiving $1000 extra for maintenance, made necessary by reason of the high cost of provisions etc. Repairs to the Poor Asylum $600. These improvements are in the way of lavatories, bathroom etc. The new asylum will not be ready for two or three years. These installations will be used in the new buildings.

Lazaretto. The matron’s salary has been increased $120. Maintenance $2000. This increase is due to the large number of patients treated there and to the increased cost of provisions, repairs, painting, etc., $200.

Fever Hospital. Maintenance $4000, fuel and light $500. A large quantity of coal is used in heating this building Head VIII. $620. This amount was expended on the Placentia service. It was a new service last year. Under Head VII there is a sum of $25,000. This amount is
asked for to meet the "overdrawn amounts unprovided for in the estimates and was expended until the beginning of 1912. It includes medical attendance to paupers $2000, Magistrates $1000, Conveyance of sick poor $4500. Sick fishermen on Labrador $1000. Small-pox in the outports, sent on to St. John's, $5000. Tuberculosis $500. In all $25,000.

Agriculture and Mines. Timber Inspection $375.00, Forest Fires $4,200. This amount was expended on account of prevalence of forest fires in some sections; and also on account of the new railways, requiring 18 wardens instead of 10.

Marine and Fisheries. S.S. Fiona $9,000. This is to pay her expenses up to the end of June. Lighthouse construction $12,000, to complete lighthouses all over the island. Postal and Telegraph. A large part of the new salaries are connected with the new branch railways. There is $4000 for stamps, the amount voted last year being insufficient. In the contingencies department we had to ask for $35,000. The amount voted is only $10,000, and for the past 20 years this has been insufficient and we have had to ask for a supplementary vote.

The $100 under the head of elections is for the by election in Burin.

Mr. Chairman, I think I have given all the explanation on these general votes for supplementary supply tabbed here this afternoon, and I shall be ready to give any explanation that is possible to any member of this House who requires any further information on the matter.

R.T.: HON. SIR R. BOND—Mr. Chairman, I have already dealt with this same subject matter which is now before the chair, so that I shall not now enter much upon it. This is merely a repeat of what he had previously said in his former reports regarding the failure of those in charge of the financial affairs of the colony to make due provision in supply for the public service. There has ever been a tendency to underestimate the public expenditure of the Colony, and such over expenditure must necessarily lead to what we are dealing with this afternoon, namely indemnity. A few days ago I ventured to say that large as the estimates were for the coming year I did not think they would be sufficient for the public service, and that opinion was based upon experience of short estimates; and no man can have any doubt whatever, but that next year we shall have to go through this same performance of passing an indemnity and supplementary supply to meet over drafts upon estimates. However, I do not rise for the purpose of repeating what I have already said, but to draw the attention of the House to Head V, namely legislation, and particularly to the sum of $8000 voted for printing and binding and publishing debates of the House of Assembly. Last year towards the end of the session I made an appeal to do away with the system then prevailing of publishing the official debates, and to substitute therefor a Hansard, which would be an official report of the debates of this House. The Leader of the House promised me that during recess the matter would be taken into consideration, and an effort would be made to bring about reform. I have had placed in my hands a copy of the report of the Internal Economy Commission;
the contrary, while my suggestion in relation to the establishment of a Hansard has been in part accepted, it is only going to lead to an extra expense, because the old system is being continued as well, namely the publication of the debates or a digest of them in every newspaper in the Colony with the exception of the Evening Telegram, Evening Herald, Hr. Grace Standard and Gazette. I do not think there is any other exception. Every other paper is retained by the House to publish the official debates. What in the name of common sense is the use of paying out money for debates that do not find a place in the papers for weeks or months? Last year they ran into the late summer; or rather into the early autumn months, when no one would dream of paying any attention to them, and when all interest had long since been lost. What purpose could they serve in the way of influencing public opinion at the time, as they should do? And what time does the synopsis reach the outport journals? It is not as a matter of fact published at all in many cases; and this House is paying out money for which it gets no return whatever. I hope, Sir, that this will not continue. The bill now before us is an indemnity to pay for the past; the future is in our own hands; and once again I beg and pray this House to put a stop to a condition of affairs that reflects no credit on any of us. I said last year, speaking as an old Parliamentarian, that considering the circumstances of papers in this Colony it is quite legitimate for any Government to give legitimate patronage to the newspapers that support it. But this is not legitimate patronage, for we get no return in connection with it. Then Sir, let us not perpetuate a thing that is a disgrace to this Assembly. Give the patronage in an honourable and proper fashion. I appeal to this Committee, sensible business men for the most part, and I ask if it is common sense or business to continue a state of affairs which is quite useless and a waste of the public revenues of the colony. There is another matter that I should like to draw to the attention of the Committee, in connection with the journal as printed last year. First I will observe that into last year's journal every conceivable document that could be was crammed into it. For instance, the Budget Speech appeared in the Journal for the first time, while we still pay a large sum of money for the publication of that in pamphlet form. Again, the quality of the paper used in connection with that Journal is far from being what it should be. It is not a paper that should be used for the Journal of this House, which is required to last as long as printed matter can last, as the public records of the colony. It is unfit for its purpose. I ask my hon. friends opposite who are in charge of the Internal Economy Commission of this House to see that the work is not done in the same way this year. The work is bad, the book is too large, and the whole work does not reflect credit on anybody.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the spirit in which the criticisms of my Rt. hon. friend in relation to these several items have been made this evening, and in so far as it is desirable to make any improvements and possible to do so, I can assure him that it will be done. But I should like to point out in relation to the two matters to which he has just referred that the remedy is not easy in one way, and secondly that I do not think the difficulty exists to the extent pointed out
by him. First in relation to the Journal. The Journal is of course the record of the proceedings of this House, and it is very convenient to have that Journal as full as possible of valuable matter without having it too cumbersome and too expensive. He will remember that the Journal this year is probably about half the size of the Journals that were published in the sixties and seventies and eighties. If anyone is sufficiently interested to make the comparison he will find it about half the size. I know that a practice has grown up of publishing nothing in the Journal except the mere record of the Clerk, the Public Service Act and it may be a dispatch or two. If we go back to 1898, from that up to 1906 we had a small journal containing little more than the Clerk's record. Now that is sinning on the other side. I consider that our Journal here should contain every public record likely to be referred to, and any document that has been referred to in debate. During the ten years previous to 1907 many valuable documents were laid on the table of this House. If you want one of them for 1904 or 1901 or 1898, where are you to go for them? The only place you might get it would be in the papers of that time, and even then you would be narrowed down to one copy in the Colonial Secretary's Office, with the chance that it might be loaned or taken away. You have no way to refer to an old Budget Speech. And what document is more important than that? It tells the whole story of our financial position for the year that is past, the present year and the year that is to come. It is the history of three financial years. Apart from any party statement that may appear in the Budget Speech of any administration, the figures are there. It is true that in the last ten years a system has grown up of publishing the Budget Speech in pamphlet form also. In the old days the Budget was published in the shape of a sheet of paper and laid on the desks of members, and in some cases published in the Debates, but never in the Journal. It ought to be in the Journal even if other documents have to be omitted. In the old days almost every document that was tabled found a place in the Journal, and the volume was very cumbersome. Of late years it has been cut down. I do not think any one has any real objection to the Journal as it stands. Possibly some would include one document and some another, but that is a matter of detail. As regards the quality of the paper. My attention has not been called to that before. I agree that the work should be done on good paper. It is not printed for to-day, but it may be required 100 years from now. Every year we are referring to the Journals so that they need to be of the best material; and at the first meeting of the Internal Economy Commission I shall bring up that matter. As regards the other matter referred to by the Rt. Hon. leader of the Opposition, namely, an alteration in the present system of distribution of patronage by allowing the outport papers to publish the debates, well, that is not a very easy matter to deal with. A great deal can be said on both sides. It is a matter that has been the subject of debate ever since I can remember in this House. I think the Rt. hon. leader of the Opposition will agree with me that it was one of the first matters that he heard debated when he came into this House thirty years ago. Now, we are only following the old rule that has been in force for the last fifty years. It is quite true that recently we have gone
a little further. I don't mean to say this administration only but the late administration and this administration—and have allowed some of the outport papers to publish the debates. In the old days the debates were confined to the papers in St. John's supporting the administration of the day, and, I think, in one case, the Harbor Grace Standard. The late administration published the debates not alone in the Herald and Telegram, but also in the Twillingate Sun, the Harbour Grace Standard, and, I think, one other outport paper. I am not sure whether the Trinity Enterprise was then in existence or whether the Western Star copied the debates, but my recollection is that the debates were copied under the late administration by at least three outport papers and two papers in the city. And the same I think, is being done today—it may be that there is an increase of one outport paper. It is very difficult to justify refusing any community the small patronage of having a paper in their midst publishing the debates. Now, I don't altogether agree with the Rt. hon. member that the debates of this House are not interesting. I think in many cases they are very interesting. He appears to lay particular stress upon the fact that they are not up-to-date. Well, it seems to me that some of the speeches that we hear delivered in this House can be read with interest during the winter or the summer following. It is entirely a matter of taste. Some people like to read the speeches immediately after they are delivered, others like to keep them a little while, thinking that like wine, they improve by being laid aside. However, it is not the fault of the Committee if the debates are not published promptly. They are taken down by the stenographers, and they so interlace that one speech tained by one member of the House can keep back the work of the session; and that very often happens. The point is that in relation to all important matters, speeches of any length are generally handed to the members delivering them for revision and sometimes a considerable time elapses before they are sent back. We are all anxious, I am sure, whatever else we may differ upon, that this vote should not go beyond reasonable limits; but just so long as it is desirable to publish these debates, and to extend them to the outport newspaper and not confine them to St. John's, so long will there be an over-expenditure. These supplementary votes that we are dealing with this evening represent the old story that has been going on here for 25 years to my recollection, but they do not tell the whole story. If we merely had to vote short supplies it would be narrowed down to a very small amount, but we are dealing here with extraordinary expenditures, expenditures that this House could never have anticipated. We were only closed a few days last year when we were right into the middle of a large expenditure in connection with the smallpox on board the sealing steamers. I think that epidemic cost the Government seven or eight thousand dollars. We afterwards sold nearly all the materials and got back a considerable portion of that amount, but that was an expenditure that we could not have estimated on. And the same thing applies right through the estimates. Take the case of Government House. After this House closed last year it was found necessary to make very considerable repairs there that entailed a very large expenditure. The place had not been repaired for a very long while and repairs were necessary in the interests of the building and
of those who live there. That was a matter that could not have been anticipated; and so it goes on in every Department. The House is hardly closed when something happens, and then at the end of the year we are found with very large supplementary estimates that we had no idea of when closing the House. Now, I candidly and honestly say here that in addition to what is being voted I have not the remotest idea of any other item that it is necessary for the Government to provide for, and yet I am absolutely certain that when we meet here twelve months from now we will have another supplementary supply covering items that cannot be anticipated. Matters that will crop up and that will not brook delay; matters involving life and death that must be dealt with. And that is what the Executive are for. They are merely a Committee of this House, to do for the Legislature what they would do themselves if in session. I agree with the Rt. hon. leader of the Opposition that it would be very much more in keeping with business principles if we could come in here to-day and say, —Now this represents every possible expenditure that will be needed for the coming year. But you cannot say it. That has been the history of the past year to prove it. It is all very well to speak of extraordinary expenditures such as smallpox and the like. That is perfectly true, but we have a vote to meet that. The Legislature provides the Government with a vote of $10,000 to meet extraordinary circumstances. But these are not extraordinary circumstances. Supplementary supply deals with the conduct of the civil government, and therefore I say that it is no justification to say that smallpox or some other epidemic takes place which demands a large expenditure. That is provided for in the contingency vote of $10,000, but this represents a short estimate throughout the whole civil government, and we know, absolutely know beyond any peradventure whatever, that we shall have to come into this House next year and repeat this work. I am free to admit that it has been going on for

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND—I know. In other words, he is not aware of any account in connection with the civil government that is underestimated. Sir, the fact that we are here today voting this supplementary supply is a proof that they are underestimated, because out of the 41 accounts that were overdrawn last year there are only three that you have made the slightest provision for at all. It follows then, as the light follows the darkness that if you were short in your supplies as regards public institutions last year to the extent of $200,000, and if you have not brought up your present supplies to meet that shortage for the year 1913, you are going to have to meet them by a bond of indemnity at the end of the next fiscal year. How then can any of us say—how can we justify to-day by our observations—that we don't know what is going to take place. We do know. We know it because we have the history of the past year to prove it. It is all very well to speak of extraordinary expenditures such as smallpox and the like. That is perfectly true, but we have a vote to meet that. The Legislature provides the Government with a vote of $10,000 to meet extraordinary circumstances. But these are not extraordinary circumstances. Supplementary supply deals with the conduct of the civil government, and therefore I say that it is no justification to say that smallpox or some other epidemic takes place which demands a large expenditure. That is provided for in the contingency vote of $10,000, but this represents a short estimate throughout the whole civil government, and we know, absolutely know beyond any peradventure whatever, that we shall have to come into this House next year and repeat this work. I am free to admit that it has been going on for
years, but that is no reason why it should continue. We have an Auditor General who says that it should not continue and must not continue; he points out where the leak is and says that it should end. And what is our answer? We throw his report back to him and say we will please ourselves; we will come in and ask for indemnity, and we will spend what we chose over and above what is voted in this House. That is the declaration in fact if not in words. My observations in reference to a Hansard were that a Hansard should be established and the publication of debates by official organs of this House done away with. Private enterprise should do that. Then if you want to give patronage, give it in some legitimate manner. That is a fair and square statement. I ask that a wrong be remedied. I don't ask that bread be taken out of the mouths of anybody; I would not do that myself. I would endeavor to do what is right, but you are not doing what is right. You are intensifying the evil, and can only perpetuate the evil by giving those papers the work of a Hansard. If you are going to continue the publication of the debates in the official organs, then don't let us have a Hansard at all, because the record is in those papers and we don't want two records. Let us have one or the other.

With regard to the Journal, I know that until a little while ago the custom was to fill out the Journal by every conceivable thing the Clerk could lay his two hands upon. Of course it was. But that day has gone by years and years, and attempts have been made by succeeding governments in this colony to reduce the cost of the Journal to something like a legitimate figure. And we have done so. Take up the Journals of the last ten or twelve or fifteen years and you find a convenient, handy, respectable book—just what a journal should be—containing only matter germane to our proceedings here and leaving out documents that have been put in pamphlet form and can be obtained whenever required. But here we go on multiplying these things, printing them in the papers, and so on until we are printing a thing over and over again merely for the purpose of piling patronage into the printer's hands. Everybody knows it. I say it is not proper and I think we ought do away with it. Now in regard to the expenditure under the head of repairs, the leader of the Government has special reference to an expenditure at Government House. Well, I submit that could have been foreseen and ought to have been foreseen, because at the end of the year it is the duty of the Department in charge to see what is required in connection with those buildings, and that amount should have been placed in the ordinary estimates. It was just as easy to discover on the 30th December that these things would be required as it was to discover it in the month of May, after the House closed. It only meant an application to the Government. The same argument applies not only to Government House but to every other Department of the Public Service. The facts can be ascertained at the time, but the truth is you don't want to face these large accounts. You want to keep down the estimates, to go on with the expenditure, and then come in here and endeavour to bulldoze the public at a later date by stating that you did not know the accounts were going to be overdrawn. But you do know—absolutely do know.

**RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER**

—Just one or two words. The Rt. hon. gentleman has pointed out the
fact that of late years attempts have been made to reduce the volume and size of the journal of the House. Now I have sent for the Journal for 1911, and I make bold to say that there is very little difference between that journal and the journal for the last year that the hon. gentleman was in power—very little difference.

**RT. HON. SIR R. BOND**—Any extraordinary publications?

**RT HON THE PRIME MINISTER**—No, ordinary publications. It would depend on who is there to call it extraordinary. Some might consider the report of Sir William MacGregor on Labrador a very extraordinary publication. That will be found recorded in the journal of 1907. It is entirely a question of who is making the statement. I don't condemn anyone for having filled the journal of 1907 to the extent of nearly 600 pages with all sorts of material and all sorts of documents—documents that were tabled and documents that were not tabled—because a great deal of the matter contained in this journal was never tabled at all. As a matter of fact the whole journal of the clerk only occupied 56 pages and the other 500 pages consist of documents that it was never necessary to place in the journal at all. But I consider that it is a very valuable journal, and I believe that the cost of preserving this report of Sir William MacGregor and those other documents that find a permanent resting place in this journal was money well spent. The same is true of the journal of 1911. A very strong case can be made out against some of the selections in the 1911 journal and the same may be said of the 1907; so that there is nothing really in that point. Now, I don't agree with the Rt. hon. member that in the old days the clerk padded the journal with every conceivable docu-
Well, as long as she is being kept on fishery service and revenue service she must be kept in repair, but no one would have expected that she would have cost as much as that seeing that it is only two or three years ago that something like seven or eight thousand dollars were spent on her. Then you have an amount here of $111 for interest on teacher's pension Fund and $2500 for the Council of Higher Education. These are matters of which the Government had no idea until a few days ago. It was only within the last month that it was discovered that these were outstanding bills contracted by this body and we have to pay them. It may be that by an effort it might be possible to bring in an estimate here that would more exactly cover the expenditure but I want to say this in defence of supplementary supply, that my experience is that if you vote large estimates they will be spent, and that your only salvation is to keep the estimates down even though you have to come in and ask for supplementary supply. If you vote large sums they will all be spent and it is very much better to tie the various services down as tightly as possible in the interests of the public, and then if there is an over expenditure, come in and ask the Legislature to grant it to you and explain why it is. No matter what sum you vote here (and I speak now from 25 years experience) there will be an over expenditure, and it is very much better to be close without, of course, sacrificing the public interests.

MR. SHEA—Before supply passes this House I would like to ask the Rt. hon. leader of the Government if the Government intend to take into consideration the question of a revision of the whole of the civil service of this colony, because there is no doubt about it, Sir, that the civil servants of this colony are about the worst paid civil servants in any colony under the Crown, and I don't think that is any exaggeration. If you will look at the civil service list you will find that the salaries paid are very much below those that are paid civil servants in any part of the world under the British Crown. When I say a revision, I mean a revision of the whole service from the Governor down. We hear every year in this House of salaries being increased and discriminations being made. I think the Government ought to appoint a commission to go into this whole matter thoroughly. Why in the West Indies, countries with an income of only four or five hundred thousand dollars a year, the Governor and the officials—Attorney General, Colonial Secretary, and all the other civil servants—get forty or fifty per cent. more than the gentlemen occupying these positions in this colony. The cost of living in this colony now is about 40 per cent more than it was 25 years ago, the earning power of the laboring man is 100 per cent. greater than it was 20 years ago, the wages of the tradesmen have materially increased and the earning power of the fishermen is something like 40 per cent. greater than it was 25 years ago, and in the history of the colony they were never better paid for the produce that they pull out of the water, indeed the only man who remains in the same position as regards salary that he was in 25 years ago is the civil servant of this colony. There are dozens in the civil service today, (and I say it with all respect), who are in debt from the first of January to the 31st of December through no fault of their own. The cost of living has increased so much that they have found
it absolutely impossible to live on their salaries. The earning power of the fisherman, the laborer and the mechanic has increased and the only one whose salary has not increased is the civil servant.

I do not want to occupy the attention of the House on this matter, but I think it is well worth the consideration of the Government during recess. They could appoint a commission to go into the whole matter of payment of salaries of civil servants from the Governor down. The people do not wish civil servants to do their work for nothing and if the position is placed before the people in a proper way they will support it. Personally, I cannot see why the civil servants should be neglected when the earning powers of everybody else have materially increased and the cost of living has also advanced. To come closer home, let us take the members of this House. They are receiving the same stipend as they have received for years and I think it is time that they received some stipend that would remunerate them for their services. There is not a British colony where the members do not receive much more than $200 a session. In the Dominion Parliament members receive $2500.00 a year and their travelling expenses. In the provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick they receive at least three times more than the members of this House receive. I cannot see why this Government or any Government has neglected the matter so long. Both this and the matter of civil servants' salaries, to which I have referred, should be taken up at once and a substantial increase made all round. If the Government does this, it will prove to be one of the best things that the Government has ever done.

of the meagre salaries which civil servants receive up comes the question of fees which are paid to officials. It is absolutely wrong in principle whether the fee be collected by an official in the customs department, the law department or the Crown Lands department. I understand that hundreds of dollars are collected in this way and my contention is that the money thus received does not belong to the individual who collects it but to the office. Every fee collected should go into the revenue of the colony. The fee goes to the official because he holds the office and there is no reason why five cents of the money should go to him personally. If his salary is not large enough to remunerate him for his services, it should be increased to an amount that will place him beyond temptation. Under present circumstances you cannot blame some of these men if they accept fees, but I am told that in some cases these amount to three or four hundred dollars a year. This is wrong but it has been the practice for the past eight or ten years, although an attempt was made some years ago to abolish the system. The attempt proved successful for a time, but of late years it appears that the custom is becoming prevalent again, and it should be stopped. I think the Rt. hon. the Prime Minister might take the matter up during recess. He must see the hardship inflicted on many of the civil servants and he must see the truth of what I am saying. I just make these observations with the hope that the Government may look into the matter so that civil servants may receive proper remuneration for their services and that the customs officials and others who are in receipt of fees may receive a salary sufficient to place them beyond temptation. If all
these fees are paid into the Treasury the Government will know exactly what the official is receiving from the Crown and make such changes in the different salaries as may be fair and reasonable.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—The hon. member desires to know if the Government intends to make a general increase in the salaries of civil servants. Up to the present time there has never been any general demand for a general increase but from time to time there have been special cases where servants of the Crown have asked that their salaries be increased and when such occasions have arisen the Government has endeavoured to meet the requirements of all. There is a great deal in what the hon. gentleman has said in relation to the amount paid to civil servants in this country as compared with the amount paid by other British colonies but, as I pointed out a day or two ago, we have to bear in mind that this country is poorer than the most of these dominions. Take New Zealand for instance. Last year a revenue of fifty million dollars was collected from a million people, that is a population roughly four times as large as our own. In other words, where we collected three and a half million dollars from a quarter of a million people they collected fifty millions from one million people. The reason of that is that the people of New Zealand have a greater earning power than our people and consequently are able to pay more revenue and so their Government is able to pay higher wages to Government officials. I have never made a close calculation of the earning power of our people but I should say that the sum of $400.00 would be the outside figure for each family, taking all classes into consideration. In New Zealand the earning power of each family is $1000.00 per annum and consequently they are able to pay more taxes. When we speak of making a general increase in the wages of civil servants we have to remember that it is the people who will have to pay it. Go to the homes of our people. Go around the country and come in close touch with them and see if they can afford to pay more. I would like to have everybody happy and in receipt of a good salary, far removed from temptation and I can sympathize with the sentiments of my hon. friend for they are worthy of him and worthy of the impulse that has actuated him. However, he will appreciate the difficulty as he has himself been Receiver General for a number of years and also a member of the Executive Council.

As regards the fees I was not aware of any case where fees were collected at all. I have always understood that of late years all fees collected by the officials of the various departments went into the revenue of the Colony. I understand that when the law was passed in 1899 there were a few special fees which were collected by individuals but this did not apply to many officials nor can it be said to be in any way general. If my hon. friend knows of any officials in any of the departments who are collecting fees and holding them for themselves I shall be glad if he will let us know. No official has any right to collect any fees for himself either in the Crown Lands Department or in the Customs House. I speak subject to correction but I understand that when the Customs officials do night work as, for instance, when an official goes on board a ship in the night to oblige the firm that owns her, then they collect an additional amount. That is only right for the office is supposed to close at six o'clock and when an official goes on board a ship after that hour he is doing it more to oblige the owners than the public. I am not
very conversant with the facts of the matter but I understand that this is the case. The same applies to the law department for no fees are collected by individuals there. If any are collected it is wrong and the Government ought to know it so that it can be stopped. As regards the general principle of increasing salaries, at the present time we are not in a position to appoint a commission to make recommendations but we shall be glad from time to time to consider any applications that are made for increases and deal with each on its merits.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—I am thoroughly in accord with what my hon. friend opposite has said in reference to paying civil servants fixed salaries instead of allowing them to collect fees. My hon. friend is mistaken when he says that fees are collected in my department for as a matter of fact no fees are collected.

MR. SHEA.—I just mentioned it in a general way and am quite prepared to accept my hon. friend’s statement. I wish to make no charge but wish merely to point out that all officials should receive a definite salary and no fees be given them.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—Some years ago a lot of fees were taken by court officials but a change was made about twelve years ago and now all these fees are paid in stamps. No fees whatever are now paid in cash. At the time the change was made the salaries of the clerks were increased to compensate them for the loss of these fees and, as the Hon. Premier has said, if there are any officials receiving fees in cash at the present time it is contrary to law, except those taken by a few Customs officials.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—It has been told me on a number of occasions that clerks in my department receive fees but, as far as I know, no clerk receives any fees.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred; had passed certain votes and asked leave to sit again.

PROMISCUOUS SPITTING BILL.

MR. SQUIRES.—A draft of this Bill, which I have the honor to present, has been placed in the hands of hon. members and they have had an opportunity of considering the provisions contained therein. I may say that the Bill has been handed to me by the Hon. Mr. Harvey and he has requested me to lay it before the House for consideration. This it gives me great pleasure to do.

This Bill is an outcome of the splendid work which the hon. gentleman and his associates have been doing and are doing in the matter of stamping out the dread disease of Consumption which is unfortunately so prevalent among our people. The Association for the Prevention of Consumption is well known to this House and to the people of the country and it has our strong support in its active and aggressive campaign. The present bill does not attempt too much but is merely a practical attempt to show our people by educational and other means the general danger to health that results from spitting and how essential it is in the fight against Tuberculosis that spitting be prevented as much as possible. From the general expression of opinion which one hears one is naturally led to believe that public sentiment is in favor of any measure that might be introduced by the Hon. Mr. Harvey and those associated with him in the noble work which they have entered upon. The object of the Bill is rather educative than preventive. It has been passed by the Legislative Council already and now comes be-
The object of the Bill as I have already intimated, is not that the measure should be used for the punishment of those who spit, but rather for the education of those who might be addicted to such a habit, and as a suggestion that those in authority should be able to take a more definite attitude on this question than at present. In its original form this Bill was more stringent, as it was drafted upon the more exacting legislation of the United States and Canada, but the measure as it stands at present is the result of our own particular requirements, amended so as to be educative rather than punitive. It is one which I feel sure is worthy of the consideration of this Legislature, in view of the general movement towards the prevention of consumption, and towards the support of those who have given their time and efforts so unstintingly in that direction.

The various sections of the bill can no doubt be fully dealt with in Committee, but on the general principles of the bill, I have very much pleasure in moving its second reading.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE. — I beg to second the proposition.

The Bill was thereupon read a second time and it was ordered that it be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on tomorrow.

COPYRIGHT BILL.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE. — The object of this Act is to bring our Acts in relation to copyright in conformity with a Copyright Act which was introduced last year in the Imperial Parliament. The Bill proposed here is very short, and contains 3 sections. Section 1 brings into force the Imperial Act. The 2nd. repeals Chap. 110 of the C. S., and the 3rd section repeals Chap. 111, which deals with the “Importation of Books and the Protection of the British Author.” As the English copyright Act has not yet been printed for the Committee, I would suggest that the bill be allowed to pass its present stage without debate, and I will have the Act printed before it goes into Committee of the Whole House. The Bill was read a second time, and it was ordered that it be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on to-morrow.

EDUCATION BILL.

Pursuant to order and on motion of the Hon. Prime Minister the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on “An Act further to amend the ‘Education Act, 1903’.”

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 had passed the Bill with some amendments.

On motion this Report was received and adopted; and it was ordered that the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

RETIRING ALLOWANCES BILL.

Pursuant to Order and on motion of the Hon. Minister of Justice the Bill, “An Act to provide for certain Retiring Allowances” was read a second time; and it was ordered that it be referred to a committee of the Whole House on to-morrow.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

The Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs gave Notice that he would on to-morrow move the House into Committee of the Whole to consider certain Resolutions to provide for the raising of a sum of money by loan for the extension of the railway system of the Colony.
The Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs gave Notice that he would ask leave to move the House into Committee of the Whole on to-morrow to consider certain Resolutions to provide for the raising of a sum of money for the construction of telephones in Newfoundland in connection with the Postal System of the Colony. Also for the further extension of the lighthouse service of the Colony.

The Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs gave Notice that he would on Monday next, March 25th, ask leave to move the House into Committee of the Whole on Ways and Means.

The remaining Orders of the Day were deferred.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Thursday, March 21st., at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

THURSDAY, March 21.

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

PETITIONS.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from Newtown, District of Bonavista, from the Fishermen's Protective Union on the subject of a general election in 1912.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a petition from Robert J. Matthews and other residents of New Perlican, District of Trinity, praying that New Perlican be made a regular port of call for the S.S. Ethie. Petitioners point out that, in the past, persons wishing to take passage or send freight by the Ethie, could only connect with the steamer at Heart's Content, a distance of three miles from New Perlican. If it is found impossible for the Ethie to call regularly at New Perlican, the petitioners ask that the steamer call once each week on her return from Clarenville.

Also a petition from Frank Single, and other residents, of New Chelsea, praying that the settlement, which was formerly known as Seal Cove, be given telephone connection with Hant's Harbor, where there is a Government Telegraph office. Petitioners also pray that the Post Office at New Chelsea be also made a Money Order Office, as at present it is very inconvenient to travel to Hant's Harbor to transact Money Order business. I have pleasure in giving my support to these petitions and ask that they be referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

MR. LEFEUVRE.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from Burin asking for the sum of $600 to rebuild a road leading to Burin Bay. Also a petition from Burin Bay on the subject of a road. Also a petition from Lawn and the adjoining settlements on the subject of a public wharf. I have much pleasure in supporting these petitions and I ask that they be received and referred to the department to which they relate.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Indian Arm on the subject of holding an election during the coming fall, and other public matters. Also a petition from the inhabitants of Salvage Bay on the same subject. Also one from the people of Bonavista on the same subject. Also a petition from Badger's Quay and Valleyfield on the question of the necessity for legislation in relation to Sunday observance in connection with the seal fishery and coastal service. Also a petition from Charlottetown on the same subject. Also a petition from Salvage Bay in connection with a road and other matters. Also a petition from Indian Arm on the same subject. A petition
from Bonavista on the subject of a wharf. Also a petition from Keels pointing out the necessity of a public wharf at that place and asking for a grant of $1,000 for that purpose. The petitions show their bona fides by saying that if this grant is made they are prepared to give free labour to the work. I ask that these petitions be received and referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. PARSONS.—Mr. Speaker, on behalf of His Honor the Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Brigus, asking that the steamer going north or south call at Cutthroat. It would be a great convenience to the people of that locality. The time taken would not be half an hour and it would mean much to the fishermen who go out to their fishing operations from there. I ask that this petition be received and referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

HON. MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS. —I beg leave to present a petition on the same subject as that just introduced by my friend, Mr. Parsons. It is from the people of Port de Grave and Harbor Main asking that the Labrador boat call at Cutthroat. They state that over 100 fishermen in that locality are at a great disadvantage through the steamer not making a call there. This matter has, I understand, been the subject of agitation for a few years and I hope the department of the Colonial Secretary will give the question its grave consideration.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from Martin Phillips and a large number of other inhabitants of Twillingate who are, as petition states, officers and members of the Fishermen’s Protective Union of Newfoundland. The main prayer of the petition is that a general election be held in November 1912, for the purpose of enabling the people to express their views in reference to matters of very great importance that are set forth in the petition. The petitioners state they view with the gravest concern the great expenditure of public moneys and especially in connection with the policy of branch railways. They ask that no new loan bill be introduced until the people express their views on public expenditure and that no new railway work even under existing contracts, be done without proper surveys being submitted to the Legislature. This, Mr. Speaker, as you will observe is a petition of unusual import and I think that it deserves at any rate so far as expenditure is concerned, the gravest consideration of this House. The question of holding an election in the autumn of 1912 is one, of course, that rests entirely with the Government themselves, but the holding of an election after the first of June, 1913, is a matter that rests entirely with His Excellency the Governor. I would ask, sir, that this petition be read for the information of the House. Also a petition from Reuben LeDrew and others of Pilley’s Island, officers and members of the F. P. U. of Nfld. Also a petition from George J. Normore and others of Port Anson, Twillingate, officers and members of the F. P. U. Also petitions from Leander Rowsell and others of Leading Tickle; Ed. J. Richards and others of Pike’s Arm; Alfred Hussey and others of Moreton’s Harbor; Simeon Cull and others of Comfort Cove; Robert Boone and others of Clarke’s Beach in the district of Port de Grave; Jas. Noel and others of Freshwater, Bay de Verde District; Garland Cloutney and others of Catalina, in the District of Trinity; Thomas Sparks and others of Sibley’s Cove, Trinity Bay; Arthur Hiscock and others of Hant’s Harbor, Trinity Bay; William Harris and oth-
ers of New Melbourne; Samuel Adey and others of Hant's Harbor, Trinity Bay; also from Patrick Larkin and others of of Broad Cove in the District of Bonavista, on the same subject; also from Ernest Tilley and others of Newman's Cove in the District of Bonavista; also from Eliot Greening of Musgrave Town, Bonavista; also from John Reilly and others of St. Brendan's, Bonavista; also from Joseph Kean and others of Shalloway Cove, Bonavista; also from Albert Howe and others of Brooklyn, Bonavista; also a petition from Robert Evans and others of Northern Arm in the District of Twillingate, on the same subject.

It is very evident, sir, from the number of these petitions and the numerous signatures attached thereto, that there is at present a widespread feeling of alarm in this country as regards public expenditure, and every one of them supports the position that I have taken in this House in reference to public expenditure since the opening of this session. I move that these petitions lie upon the table and be referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

I also beg to present a petition from Abel Anstey and others of Kettle Cove on the subject of a landing place in that locality. Petitioners point out that it is extremely difficult for boats to land freight at Kettle Cove at present when there is no launchway, no landing place or other convenience of any kind. They are a thriving and enterprising community, and I hope the Department of Marine and Fisheries may be able to make sufficient provision for them. They do not say what sum is required, but no doubt the Department can make an estimate as to the probable cost of the undertaking and allocate such amount.

Also a petition from George Weir and others of Twillingate North, asking for a sum of money to construct a bridge on the main line from Perry's Harbor to Kettle Cove. Petitioners think it would be well to remove the old structure at present there and construct a new bridge in another position altogether. The distance is about 360 feet and for a sum of $500 a substantial bridge could be erected there. I beg that this be referred to the Department of Public Works.

Also a petition from J. B. Osmond and others of Moreton's Harbor, on the subject of bultows. Petitioners ask that bultows be permitted on the waters of Notre Dame Bay in certain limits at present prohibited. The people in that part of the District were never consulted in the matter; and since the law was passed many years ago many more people have moved there. They feel it an injustice to be debarred from prosecuting the fishery in the immediate neighborhood of their homes. I beg to refer this to the Department of Marine and Fisheries, and that if the request is a reasonable one the Government may be pleased to accede to it.

Also a petition from Alfred Hussey and others of Moreton's Harbor, officers and members of the F. P. U. This petition is of a general character; it asks for $500 to construct a public wharf at Herring Neck, $500 to complete a wharf at Moreton's Harbor, $500 for a road at Lewisporte and so on. Also a petition from H. G. Cull and others of Comfort Cove upon the same subject. Also a petition from Daniel Rideout and others of Twillingate Long Island on the same subject. Also a petition from Edward Richards and others of Herring Neck on the same subject. Also a petition from Leander Rowsell and others of Leading Tickles on the same subject. Also a petition from Peter Anstey and others of Twillingate on the same subject. Also a petition from Jacob Evans and others of Northern Arm, Twillingate, on the same subject. Also a peti-
tion from Reuben LeDrew and others of Pilley's Island, Twillingate, on the same subject.

These petitions all emanate from the F. P. U., and I trust that an endeavor will be made to meet the prayer of the petitioners. I move that they do lie upon the table and be referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

Also a petition from Patrick Larkin and others of Broad Cove, Bonavista, members of the F. P. U. These petitions ask for telephone extension, the connection of Newman's Cove and Amherst Cove and other places, and other local requirements.

I commend these several matters also to the consideration of the Government, and move that they lie upon the table and be referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

Also a petition from Joseph Kean and others of Shalloway Cove on the same subject. Also a petition from Eliol Greening and others of Musgrave Hr. on the same subject. Also a petition from Ernest Tilley and others of Newman's Cove on the same subject. Also a petition from Thomas Hogan and others of St. Brendan's on the same subject. Also a petition from Henry Bartlett and others of Amherst Cove in the District of Bonavista on the same subject. Also a petition from Albert Howe and others of Brooklyn, Bonavista, on the same subject. Also a petition from Arthur Hiscock and others of Fox Harbor, officers and members of the F. P. U., praying for telephone and telegraph connection and other matters of public interest. Also a petition from Archibald Targett and others of Hant's Harbor on the same subject. Also a petition from Thos. Sparkes and others of Sibley's Cove on the same subject. Also a petition from New Harbor, Trinity Bay, on the same subject. Also a petition from Isaac Gully and others of Catalina on the same subject. Also a petition from William Parsons and others of Bay de Verde District, members of the F. P. U., asking for the extension of the branch railway to Grate's Cove and various public works required in the several settlements mentioned in the petition.

I beg to move that all these petitions lie upon the table and be referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Speaker, in supporting the last petition in relation to extension of the railway I may say that that has already been decided on, and provided for, and a survey made as far as Grate's Cove. Coming as it does from the Fishermen's Protective Union, represented by my Rt. Hon. friend, it is especially worthy of attention. I may add a few words in relation to the first petition presented by my hon. friend, the one in relation to an election next fall and the raising of any further money for railway purposes, and the propriety of an election in the spring of the year, and other matters. I need hardly say that a petition so largely signed and by so many representative men and from an organization such as the F. P. U. must always have the very best attention of the Legislature, and I feel there is no necessity for me to invoke that attention, for the reason that it is already most gladly given. I desire to assure the Rt. hon. member that the facts set forth in the petitions themselves do not endorse the alarm that he claims to have found to exist. There is no alarm to-day in Newfoundland in relation to public expenditure or the policy of the Government. The petitioners say that they are alarmed to find that when the branch railways to Bonavista and Trepassey are completed, with their terminals, extras, and right of way, the four million dollars will be exhausted.
That is because the facts set forth in these petitions are not fairly represented to those who signed them. I have no doubt that every signature to these petitions would be withdrawn and cancelled without a moment's hesitation if I or anyone in this House had an opportunity of explaining to the petitioners that the facts set forth here are not correct. All these people have signed these petitions on the representation that the facts stated in them are true while as a matter of fact the statements are gross misrepresentations in relation to the Government and in relation to myself. The petitioners say: "We believe from the speech delivered by Sir Edward Morris at the opening of the Burin Agricultural Exhibition and by other members of the Government at the ceremony of turning the first sod of the Trepassey branch that it is contemplated to enter into new and larger contracts with the Reid Newfoundland Company." I never made any such statement and neither did any minister at the opening of the Trepassey branch or the turning of the first sod or at any other time. That is an absolutely false statement and should not have been placed in a petition and sent to parties to sign without an explanation. The statement that I made at Burin and that I have already made in this House (in reply, I think, to the Rt. Hon. Leader of the Opposition) was that when this Government appeals to the country again it will be on a further railroad extension policy. That is what I stated in Burin; that is what I have stated over and over again; and that is what has been in the press; but the Government has been misrepresented. Everyone knows that a mile of railway can't be built without the sanction of this House, without legislation. This Government went to the country three years ago on a well-defined policy as regards railways. We named the branches. We stated in our manifesto, not alone in the Spring but in the Autumn, that we were going to build five branch railways; and the country had ample time to thoroughly understand what that policy meant almost to the mile, at least those who were competent to judge. The Leader of the Opposition in the Autumn election raised that question in his own manifesto, a week after ours came out. He pointed out to the country—as he had a perfect right to do—what that policy meant. He pointed out that the construction of these five branch railways meant 190 miles of new railroad at a cost of fifteen thousand six hundred dollars a mile or nearly two million eight hundred thousand dollars. It is only a matter of making calculation as to the mileage. My own estimate was something like 250 miles. I did not tie myself down to that because I stated that it might be more, and that I thought it would be more. The Hon. Mr. Anderson, speaking in the T. A. Hall for the then Government and sitting between two members of the Executive Council, fixed the mileage at 275 miles in his manifesto; and the present Leader of the Opposition, the then Leader of the Government, thought, and, as he has stated in this House during the present session, on the estimate of the Government Engineer, 190 miles. We were all out to some extent. I said 250 but I said I thought it would be a little more and now I find that it will be nearer 340; but it would not be 300 if it had not been for the necessary detours made in order to connect settlements. Take one case. We could have built a railway to Heart's Content that would not be more than 15 miles long if we had gone across the barrens from Carbonear, but that railway would have served no one. Instead of that, we went down from Dildo to Heart's Content and connected 6,000 persons but we had to lengthen
the road 15 miles. So that it is not
fair, not just, and not honest to put
such a statement into a petition and
send that petition broadcast all over
the country and ask men to sign it.
Now I have seen a great many of these
petitions, I have had some of them
sent to me, and I know many of the
signatures—honest, respectable, honor­
able fishermen of Newfoundland that
would cut off their right hands before
they would sign a petition if they be­
lieved that the statements they were
signing were not correct. There is no
intention to extend railway one mile
further than we have contracted for
or than has been sanctioned by this
Legislature—not one mile. It was
never stated by me or by any other
minister or by any member of the
Government or by any newspaper sup­
porting it, and it was put in here
merely for the purpose of misleading
and deceiving those who had not an
opportunity of testing the statements
and judging for themselves. I say it is
not fair to these people and it places
them in a false light. If those state­
ments were true—if the railroad were
going to be extended hundreds of miles
without the authority of the Legisla­
ture, then there could be no possible
objection to such a petition being
signed. These people would be well
occupied in signing the petition and
even taking harsher measures. But
there never was any such intention.
No one in this House and no one out­
side the House ever heard of such a
thing. What, then, is the meaning,
what is the object, what possible good
can come from making these misre­
presentations and asking these people
to subscribe to facts that are absolute­
ly untrue? As I have said, there is not
a man whose signature is to one of
these petitions but that if I could come
into contact with him to night and
point out to him that the statements
contained in that petition which he has
signed are absolutely untrue but would
withdraw his name, and then I
would not care to undertake to say
what would happen to the parties who
made these statements and deceived
these people. It is unfair to them, be­
cause they have no means of testing
these statements. I sit down and
write out a petition and send it out to
my constituents in Petty Harbor to be
signed—a petition reflecting on hon.
members on the other side of the
House—and the people out there,
knowing me for a great number of
years, naturally assume that the state­
ments which I have put into that peti­
tion are correct, and they sign it.
That is the position. Some hundreds
of these petitions are prepared in St.
John's—written by one party—and
then sent broadcast all over the coun­
try. If there is any alarm it is in the
individual who wrote these petitions,
and who, a few days ago, in his or­
gan, endorsed the whole policy of the
present Government in relation to
railways. Why the last petition pre­
sented by the Rt. Hon. Leader of the
Opposition this evening is one praying
for the construction of a railway to
Grate's Cove

Then, again, another absolutely in­
correct statement: "In the speech de­
ivered by Sir Edward Morris in in­
troducing the railway resolutions into
the Assembly on February 3rd, 1910,
the country was assured that the
branch railways would be completed
by a charge of $4,000,000 to the public
debt." I never made any such state­
ment. I pointed out that $4,000,000
would pay for the cost of construction
at $15,000 a mile. I made no estimate
of the cost of right of way, of fencing,
of stations, of additional rolling stock.
Why any man with even a rudimentary
knowledge of the subject knows that
the cost of railways in this country
up to date has been $19,000 a mile.
That is what the railway to Port aux
Basques cost—$19,000 a mile. The
contract was $15,600 for bare construction; then we paid for the right of way, which cost about $1,000 a mile—that is what the right of way cost from here to Carbonear—that brings it up to $17,500; then you have fencing, you have stations, you have wharves, and additional rolling stock over and above what is provided for under the contract. In speaking on those resolutions I made it perfectly clear as to what my calculations were. I said 250 miles of road at $15,000 a mile—that brings you within a few dollars of your four millions. I never said that that amount would complete the whole thing; and it is not fair to the people who signed these petitions to make these misrepresentations. But, like chickens, they will come home to roost. These statements will prove a boomerang to those who made them just as surely as I am discussing them here this evening. People are not as easily gulled now as they were, and when they come to understand that they are merely being used as tools they will resent it in a way that will not be pleasant for those who are endeavoring to use them.

Then the petition goes on to say: “In view of the possible danger ahead of our beloved country arising from his unparalleled reckless expenditure,”—What reckless expenditure? What expenditure is going on in this country to-day that has not been paralleled by other administrations, I should like to know? We have no deficits. We not alone pay our way but we have large surpluses that we hand back to the people—hundreds of thousands of dollars that go back every year to the very people from whom we collected them, with this difference, that the whole surplus goes back to the poor while we collect it from rich and poor alike, and in that way we get to some extent even with the well-to-do, who only pay the same taxes as the poorest fisherman in the country.

And then, speaking of the election, the petitioners ask: “That no amendment may be made to the Act respecting the House of Assembly and the powers and privileges thereof, or the possible exercise of the powers of His Excellency the Governor to lengthen the life of the present Parliament, and that it be not prolonged beyond November, 1912.” Another misrepresentation. These people must have been informed that we were going to prolong the life of Parliament by an amendment to the Act, and that we were going to interfere with the prerogative of His Excellency. There is no such intention. Then they are alarmed about a spring election. It is not the policy or intention of this Government to have a spring election, and outside this petition no one ever heard of it; and it is put in here merely to create alarm, misrepresent the facts, and deceive those who signed these petitions. Now, I have already stated, Mr. Speaker, that the next general election will take place in the autumn of 1913. I made that statement early in the session so that there might be no misunderstanding on this important public matter, and so that it would not be possible for the Opposition to say that an unfair advantage was taken of them or that an election was rushed on them. That is the constitutional time to hold an election; and no vote will be taken for the voter’s list or for the holding of an election until next session. I entirely agree with the petitioners—and I would have signed this petition myself on that point if I were a member of the Fishermen’s Union or any other Union—when they say that if an election were held in the spring, when large numbers of fishermen are looking for supplies, the merchants would have an undue influence over those needing fishing outfits; but is it fair
or just to put a statement like that into a petition and send it broadcast all over the country, as if we were looking for or courting a spring election? Everyone knows that although we have had representative government in Newfoundland since '33—nearly eighty years—and over 25 general elections, we have only had three spring elections, and that in every case these were necessitated by some accident. We had one three years ago. Everyone knows why. The general election took place in the autumn and we came back 18 to 18, and a dissolution took place in the spring. It was necessary that there should be a general election because there was no supply. Supply had been voted up to the June following the general election and would have run out on the 30th June, and it was necessary to have a new Parliament. That cannot arise in the present case. When we adjourn here next session Supply will have been voted until July, 1914. Yesterday we voted supply until the 1st July, 1913; and when the session closes next March or April we will have voted every item of supply until the 1st July, 1914—ten months after the holding of the general election in 1913. The argument does not apply at all. The people have been deceived—unfairly deceived.

"That no new railway work, even under existing contracts, be undertaken without the surveys being submitted to the Legislature." Another case of deception. There never was a mile of railway survey submitted to this Legislature since we began to build railways. I have no doubt that the people signing that petition were told that something wrong was being done and that surveys were being withheld from the Legislature. It would be impossible for this Legislature to spend months and months and months, day and night, over all the intricacies and mazes of a railway survey. That can only be done by the Government Engineer and by a Committee of this House in the shape of the Governor in Council.

The Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs laid upon the table of the House the following statements:—

Colonial Secretary's Departmental Trust Account, 1910-1911; Telegraph Extension, Twillingate, 1910-1911; Railway Arbitration Awards, 1910-1911; Marine Works Trust Account, 1910-1911; Teachers' Pension Fund, 1910-1911.

SUPPLY RESOLUTIONS.

The Chairman from the Committee of the Whole on Supply reported certain Resolutions, which were read a first time as follows:—


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

QUESTIONS.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Minister of Justice if a Mrs. Crawley, in the District of Harbor Main, was convicted last Spring of shebeening; and, if so, why notice of the same was not published, and what fine was imposed on Mrs. Crawley, and if it was paid; also, if after the said conviction Mrs. Crawley was again summoned for a similar offence, and to lay upon the table a report of the Magistrate in relation thereto and a copy of all correspondence that took place between the Constable and Magistrate and Superintendent Sullivan and the Department of the Minister of Justice in relation thereto.

HON. MINISTER JUSTICE—In reply to the question asked by the hon. gentleman I beg to say that Mrs. Crawley was convicted before Magistrate O'Toole in January, 1911, of a breach of the 15th section of the Temperance Act. I am not aware whether notice of the conviction was published.
I have enquired from the Magistrate and have been informed that he sent the usual notice to the Daily News. Mrs. Crawley was fined $50, which amount was paid. Subsequently Mrs. Crawley was again summoned for a similar offence and the case was dismissed. It has not been possible since yesterday to look up the correspondence, but I will attend to that and will get a copy of same for the hon. gentleman.

MR. CLAPP asked the Minister of Public Works to lay upon the table of the House a statement of all Special Grant expenditure in Chapel's Cove, District of Harbor Main, 1911.

HON. MIN. OF PUBLIC WORKS—Mr. Speaker, in reply to the hon. member I beg to say that the statement is being prepared.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines what areas of the Oil Shales, near Deer Lake, have been leased or granted, and when and to whom such areas were leased or granted.

HON MIN. AGRICULTURE AND MINES—Mr. Speaker, I beg to say that I will give the hon. gentleman the information to-morrow.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary if the Government has entered into any agreement with any person or persons respecting the working of Oil Shales in this Colony; and, if so, to lay a copy of such agreement upon the table of this House.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—In reply to the hon. gentleman I beg to say that no agreement has been made.

RT. HON. SIR R. BOND asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary if the Railway Contractors, under the 1910 Contract, have taken up the lands to which they are entitled under that Contract; and, if so, to state where the lands are situated.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—In reply to the Rt. hon. gentleman I would say that no lands have been taken up by the contractors under the 1910 contract.

MR. GEAR asked the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of this House a statement showing amount of all special monies for roads and bridges, District of Carbonear, and by whom spent, since May, 1909, and for what purpose; also, statement of repairs, with cost, to the Carbonear Postal Building since May, 1909, to date.

MIN. OF PUBLIC WORKS.—The statement is in the course of preparation.

MR. GEAR asked the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of this House a statement showing amount of all special monies allocated for Marine Works, District of Carbonear, since May, 1909, to date, by whom spent and for what purpose; also, to ask the Hon. Colonial Secretary for returns of the Carbonear Postal and Telegraph Office for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1911.

MIN. OF PUBLIC WORKS.—I beg to lay on the Table the statement asked for.

MR. GEAR asked the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay on the table of this House a statement showing salary of Inspector of Pickled Fish; also what increase, if any, in his salary for the past two years.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—On behalf of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries I beg to say that the salary of the Inspector of Pickled Fish is $600. There has been no increase.

MR. GEAR asked the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of
this House statement showing length of time the Inspector of the New Public Building at Harbor Grace has been employed, how much has been paid him and how long is the position to last.

MIN. OF PUBLIC WORKS—I beg to lay on the table the statement asked for.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs if the last local loan authorized by the House has been fully taken up; if not, how much remains to be taken up.

HON. MIN. OF PUBLIC WORKS—I beg to lay on the table the statement asked for.

MIN. OF PUBLIC WORKS—I beg to lay on the table the statement asked for.

Pursuant to notice and leave granted, the Hon. Minister of Justice introduced a Bill "to amend the Customs Act," which was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

Pursuant to notice and leave granted, the Hon. Minister of Justice introduced a Bill "to amend the Act 10 Edward VII, Cap. 4"; which was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

Pursuant to notice and leave granted, the Hon. Minister of Justice introduced a Bill "to amend the Act 2 Edward VII, Cap. 14"; entitled "An Act respecting the control and management of the Harbour of Grand Banks"; which was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

Pursuant to Order and on motion of Rt. hon. the Prime Minister, the amendments made by the Legislative Council in and upon the Bill sent up from this House entitled "An Act respecting the Treatment and Prevention of Tuberculosis" were read a second time and concurred in; and it was ordered that a message be sent to the Legislative Council acquainting that Body that the House of Assembly had passed the said amendments without amendment.

RETIRING ALLOWANCES BILL.
Pursuant to Order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Justice, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider "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 had passed the Bill without amendment.

On motion this Report was received and adopted; and it was ordered that the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

MUNICIPAL BILL.
Second reading of Bill "An Act further to amend the Municipal Act."

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—This is a small amendment to the Municipal Act dealing with the Municipal affairs of St. John's and it is rendered necessary in order to enable the Municipal Council to hold property outside of its present jurisdiction.

Under the St. John's Municipal Act the Council has jurisdiction only within its limits which are described in the Act as follows:

Commencing at Chain Rock, thence in a straight line to the north-east corner of Deadman's Pond; thence in a straight line to the north-east angle
of the Penitentiary grounds; thence to the north-west angle of the Roman Catholic Cemetery; then in a straight line to the bridge over Mundy Pond Brook, not inclusive, on the Mundy Pond road; thence following the said road to its junction with Hamilton Street; thence in a straight line to Syme's bridge, not inclusive; and thence in a straight line to the Quarry on the South Side Hill, known as Cuddihy's Quarry; thence in a straight line to fort Amherst; and thence to the place of commencement. Consequently they cannot deal with property outside of these boundaries. It is within the knowledge of all that recently Bowring Brothers Limited, of St. John's, Liverpool New York and London, have donated to the city of St. John’s, for the use of its inhabitants as a park, a large piece of land situate beyond Waterford Bridge. On another occasion probably and at a more suitable time and place the proper eulogy will be bestowed on the donors and grantors of this truly magnificent gift. They have made an example which, I trust will be followed by others, and it is a splendid tribute to the character of the men who have carried on a business in Newfoundland for over one hundred years. It is a very fitting monument that they are erecting for there is no way in which moneys could be expended with more likelihood of return than in parks and similar public utilities that will tend towards the improvement of the health of the people. Here we have a fairly large town with a population of over thirty thousand people and yet the people have no place to go except perhaps to the little gardens which we have dignified by calling Bannerman and Victoria Parks. Messrs. Bowring have expended the sum of $4000 in the purchase of Rae Island Farm near St. John's, which is an ideal park in itself—a large natural park without any improvements being necessary. However, they intend to spend five or six thousand dollars more and when it is handed over to the city we shall have an ideal up-to-date, fully equipped little park. No other place could be selected which meets all the requirements better than Rae Island. There are lovely trees on the grounds and beautiful shady walks; a river runs through the ground and the train also. The general public have merely to get on the train at the station and in a few minutes they are in the centre of the park. There are many other advantages which the park possesses which add to its intrinsic value and redound to the credit of those who have given it to the city. I feel that not alone the people of St. John's, but unborn generations will bless the name of Bowring for this generous and munificent gift. We shall not appreciate it perhaps as much as those who come after us will for now it seems a long way off, and we shall have to go there by rail or carriage, but by and bye when the street cars run there and when the public have other and quicker facilities for travelling, the distance will be made shorter, and it will become a part of the city. That is what has happened in other cities and I feel sure it will happen here.

The Bill proposes that it shall be lawful for the Council to hold this property, and I have very much pleasure in moving the second reading of the Bill. I trust that this splendid example may be an inducement to others to make similar gifts to the people not only here, but all over the Island. Of course, it may be said that many of our outports have natural parks and hundreds go there every year to recuperate and to regain their
lost these, but there are many large settlements which would be glad to have a little park such as that which was given to Hr. Grace some years ago by Mr. J.S. Munn.

On motion the Bill was read a second time and it was ordered that it be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on to-morrow.

PETITIONS.

MR. CLIFT—I ask leave to present a petition from John Hynes and others of Twillingate on the subject of the dissolution of the House. A number of petition were presented this afternoon on this subject by the Rt. hon. leader of the Opposition, and in presenting them he caused one to be read to the House. These petitions are exactly the same as the one which was read and I feel that it is unnecessary to add to what was said by the Rt. hon. gentleman in introducing that petition. I would ask that this petition and the others which I shall mention presently, be received by the House and referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary. The others are from R. Jones and others of South Arm, New Bay; from J. M. Andrews and others of North West Arm, New Bay; from J. T. Welshman and others of Shoe Cove; from T. J. Wells and others of Boyd’s Cove and from Henry Andrews and others from Farmer’s Island.

I also ask leave to present a petition from H. Lilly and others of Exploits on the question of Sunday Observance. Also a petition from H. Lilly and others of Exploits on the matter of the regulations as to cod-traps. The petitioners ask that the present regulations with regard to the use of cod-traps be amended so that they may be enabled to use them within certain prescribed limits. I trust that all petitions on this matter will receive the careful consideration of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries and that the prayer of the petitioners will be complied with, if possible. The petition is very largely signed and it seems that all the people there wish to have the present law amended. I hope that the matter will be taken up at an early date for it is a matter of urgency for these people to know whether they can use the waters during the present season or not. If they are not allowed, they will have to make their arrangements to fish elsewhere. I also ask leave to present a petition from J. T. Welshman and others of Shoe Cove asking for the grant of several sums of money to be allocated to certain district requirements. Petitions on this matter have already been presented from other places and one of them has been read. This one is in the same form as are others which I have received. I would ask that all these petitions be received and referred to the several departments to which they relate.

The remaining Orders of the Day were deferred.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Friday, March 22nd., at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

FRIDAY, March 22nd.

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

PETITIONS.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a petition from Adam R. Randell, and other residents of Port Rexton, District of Trinity, praying that arrangements be made for the dredging of the waters of that portion of Port Rexton which was formerly known as Ship Cove. Petitioners state that
there are twenty-two schooners owned by the residents of Port Rexton, the estimated value being between thirty and forty thousand dollars. At present only one-half these schooners can moor in safety, which is a great inconvenience to the owners and crews, and the dredging of Ship Cove would therefore be of considerable benefit to the fishermen of Port Rexton. I also present a petition from Moses George, Richard Burgess and other residents of Witless Bay, district of Trinity, asking that the setting of cod traps be prohibited on the fishing ground at Witless Bay, as petitioners claim that the cod traps are an injury to the fishermen with hook and line. The cod traps, I understand are placed there by fishermen who are not residents of Witless Bay, and there is consequently a good deal of ill feeling on the matter. I beg to support the prayer of the foregoing petitions, and I would ask that they be referred to the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

HON. MIN. AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from residents of Newtown, Bonavista Bay, Officers and members of the F.P.U., similar to those presented yesterday by the Rt. Hon. leader of the Opposition, namely, in regard to a general election. Also a petition from the inhabitants of Wesleyville on the same subject. Also a petition from the inhabitants of Safe Harbour on the same subject. Also a petition from the inhabitants of King's Cove on the same subject. Also a petition from the inhabitants of Pool's Island and Valley Field on the subject of Sunday observance.

HON. MR. EMERSON—Mr. Speaker I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Jersey Harbour, Fortune Bay, asking for the sum of $400 to clear a road; also from Great Harbour for the establishment of telegraph or telephone connection, and the people of that place, also for $50 for a public road, and $150 for a wharf. I have much pleasure in supporting these petitions and beg that they be referred to the Departments to which they belong.

HON. MIN. OF JUSTICE—Mr. Speaker, I beg to table the report of the magistrate in the case of Const. Quinlan vs. Elizabeth Crawley as asked for the other day.

MR. CLAPP—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from N. Torraville and others, of New Bay, officers and members of the F. P. U. of Newfoundland. Its main object is to point out the necessity of holding an election in November 1912. It also deals with the over expenditure and extravagance of the Government in connection with Branch Railways and matters generally. It further asks that no further railway loan be obtained; and various other matters. This petition is very largely signed. A number of similar petitions were presented here yesterday by the Rt. Hon. leader of the Opposition, so there is no necessity for me to go into it at length. Also a petition from inhabitants of Fleur-de-Lys, officers and members of the F. P. U., on the same subject. I trust that these petitions will receive the consideration they deserve at the hands of the Government, and beg that they be referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

HON. MIN. AGRICULTURAL AND MINES—Mr. Speaker, following on the other petitions which I presented I beg to present two others from the Fishermen's Protective Union, asking for telegraph and telephone extension, lighthouses, and railway extension.
One is from the inhabitants of James-town, the other from Bunyan's Cove and vicinity. I beg that these be referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

MR. CLIFT—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of New Bay on the subject of the dissolution of this House. As many petitions have already been presented on this subject, I need make no further comment at present. Also a petition from the same petitioners asking for sundry district requirements namely a wharf at Herring Neck, a bridge at Farmer's Arm, a wharf at Moreton's Harbour, a road at Lewisporte, telephone connections, and other matters. Also that various places be made ports of call for the Bay steamer; also several requests for the construction of additional roads; also that logging on the three mile limit be prohibited. They do not ask for any additional railway extensions. Also a petition from Israel Duff and others of Twillingate, asking for a landing place to be erected near Shoal Tickles in that harbour. The petition sets out the great necessity for such a landing place and points out that there is no public wharf or other convenience of any kind, and it is frequently very difficult to effect a landing. Petitioners ask for $900 to construct a landing place; and I would ask that these petitions be referred to the Department of Marine and Fisheries. Also a petition from the inhabitants of Head's Harbour asking for the sum of $200 for the purpose of repairing a main road between Head's Harbour and Pilley's Island. This is a most necessary work, and I have much pleasure in giving it my most hearty support. I trust that when the District allocations are made the request of these petitioners may if possible be complied with. But, Sir, I may say in this connection that if the Government pursues the policy that it has pursued during the last two years of using the allocations which have been made out of special grants for the district of Twillingate for the purpose of constructing cables, nothing will be left for the roads, bridges, landing places and the various other public works which usually form the subject of petition to this House. I submit, Sir, that whilst I quite agree with the establishment of cable connections with the mainland for both Little Bay Islands and Exploits, that those cables should be paid for out of the telegraph funds and not out of the district allocations. I also ask leave to present a petition from residents of Tilt Cove, asking for the sum of $1,000, to be expended on a road from Tilt Cove to LaScie. That is a road that could be very frequently used by people going from LaScie to Tilt Cove and vice versa and it would be of very great benefit to those who have occasion to travel in that direction. I also ask leave to present a petition from residents of Moreton's Harbor, asking for the sum of $200 to be expended on the road to Beechy Cove. Beechy Cove is a place where the people of Moreton's Harbor own some agricultural land, and in order to get to their land it is necessary to have a road. The construction of this road would be of considerable importance to the people of that locality. I also ask leave to present a petition from Abram Bursey and other residents of Kettle Cove, asking for the sum of $100 to be expended on the roads at that place. I also ask leave to present a petition from Thomas M. Bouzane and other residents of St. Patrick's,
asking for the sum of $250 to be expended on the wharf and in the erection of a freight shed at St. Patrick's. I know that the wharf there requires considerable repairs, and that the erection of a freight shed is absolutely necessary. I trust that this petition will receive careful attention at the hands of those who have control of district allocations.

I also ask leave to present a petition from Herbert E. Cull and other residents of Comfort Cove, asking for some amendments to be made in the fishery regulations relating to that locality so as to enable the fishermen to use cod traps and bittows within defined limits. Three other petitions have already been presented on the same subject, and I trust that the Fisheries Board will take that matter into their consideration and comply with the request of the petitioners. I have also, Mr. Speaker, to present a petition from John Gillard, of Twillingate, which is endorsed and recommended by a large number of the citizens of that town. The petition sets out that Mr. Gillard is a one-armed man, having lost his arm some years ago in a gun accident; that he is now over 80 years of age, and that for 37 years he has been ferryman between Gillard's Cove, Twillingate, and Tizzard's Harbor; that he is no longer able to face the storms that often rage in that dangerous locality; that last year he was granted the fisherman's pension, which amounted to $50, but that amount is altogether insufficient to keep himself and his family from want; and he therefore prays that the ferryman's pension to which his 38 years of service to the public entitled him, may be granted to him. I feel sure that when this petition is referred to the Department of Public Works, it will receive consideration at the hands of the Minister. I would ask that these several petitions be received and referred to the Departments to which they relate.

MR. SQUIRES—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a petition from Rev. Edgar Taylor, Caleb Tuck, J.P., and other residents of Shoal Harbor and vicinity, on the subject of seal-killing, the calling of the mail steamer at certain ports of call, etc., on Sunday. This petition is similar in tenor to one already presented by me to the House. I would ask that it be received and referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary. I also ask leave to present a petition from Jacob Adey, Alfred J. Pelley, and a number of other residents of Shoal Harbor on the subject of telephone connection, the calling of the S.S. Ethie, the erection of a lighthouse and fog alarm, and the construction of certain other public works. Also a petition from Abram Bussey, Zebedee Stanley and a considerable number of residents of Shoal Harbor and Clarenville on certain matters appertaining to the public service similar to that referred to in the petition immediately preceding it. I ask that these petitions be received and referred to the Departments to which they relate.

MR. EARLE.—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Change Islands similar to that presented to the House just now by the hon. member for Trinity. The petitioners view with a great deal of concern the desecration of the sabbath in connection with the seal fishery and ask that legislation be enacted to stop it. They also deplore the fact that the sanctity of the sabbath is violated by the running of steamers on that day, and desire that
steamers be compelled to remain at whatever port they happen to be from 12 o'clock Saturday night to 12 o'clock Sunday night. I also ask leave to present similar petitions from Change Islands, Carmanville and Indian Islands, and would ask that they be received and referred to the proper departments. I have in my hand several petitions. The first is one from the inhabitants of Doting Cove on the subject of a general election, etc. I have no doubt that several petitions of the kind have been presented to this House, but to carry out the wishes of my constituents I consider it my duty to make a few comments upon which I consider to be one of the most important petitions presented to this House for some time. Evidently the petitioners are of opinion that an election should not be withheld until the fall of 1913, and that as the present Parliament expires in June, 1913, the election should be held in the fall of this year. They consider that it would not be right for the members of this House to hold their seats any longer than June, 1913, and they submit that neither by an amendment to the Act respecting the House of Assembly and the powers and privileges thereof or the possible exercise of the powers of His Excellency the Governor should the life of the present Parliament be prolonged beyond November, 1912. They consider that a general election should be held in 1912, and that no loan bill should be introduced until the people have had an opportunity of deciding upon the enormous expenditure involved in connection with the branch railways; that no new railway work even under existing contracts be undertaken without proper surveys being submitted to the Legislature; and that a sum of money should be placed in these estimates to cover the cost of a general election in November 1912. I have been given to understand, by the public despatch and also since my arrival, that the Prime Minister has made a statement in the House to the effect that it is not the intention to have a general election this fall and that no election will be held until 1913. Probably when he hears that so many petitions have come in from the important district of Fogo—from Doting Cove, Ladle Cove, Carmanville, Tilting, Joe Batt's Arm, Seldom-come-By, Victoria Cove, Gander Bay, Indian Islands and Musgrave Harbour—probably, I say, when he hears of these petitions he will reconsider the matter and decide upon having the election this year. I would ask that the petitions be received and referred to the proper departments, and that the wishes of the petitioners be carried out.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Mr Speaker, I ask leave to present a petition from Samuel Ruby, Archibald Chafe and a number of other farmers on the subject of a grant towards the opening up of a limekiln out in the neighbourhood of Mount Pearl Station. A number of the petitioners are regular farmers at the Goulds and that vicinity, in fact they represent the principal farmers in the West End, Kilbride, Topsail Road, and that part of the country. The petitioners set out that if a grant were given them a very large limekiln could be opened up in that vicinity and that it would be very beneficial as a fertilizer. This refers to a matter in connection with which the Agricultural Society of St. John's are doing such very good work, and we may hope to find that they would be prepared to co-operate with the petitioners. I have already discussed this
matter with my colleagues, Mr. Bennett and Mr. Kennedy, and I am sure we shall be very glad to do what we can to assist the petitioners. Whilst speaking on this petition, Mr. Speaker, I might be permitted to say that the petition presented a moment ago by the hon. member for Twillingate, Mr. Clift, in relation to the old ferryman, John Gillard, makes out a very strong case. The old man appears to be 80 years of age, he has only one arm and has been a ferryman there for a great number of years. He goes on to say that last year he was granted the fishermen’s pension of $50. It does not appear from this petition exactly what his salary was.

MR. CLIFT—I think $110.00.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—I just want to say that as far as the Government are concerned they heard nothing whatever of this old man’s case, and that the pension which he has received as an old fisherman has no connection whatever with the ferry. If he had come before the Government as a civil servant and set forth the facts that are stated here, I don’t suppose there would have been any question of his receiving the regular allowance in such cases, because, after all, as long as the principle of pensions in the public service is recognized an old ferryman who is no longer able to perform his duties is just as much entitled to a pension from this Legislature as a Judge on the bench. There is not a bit of difference I want to make it clear that there is no connection whatever between the old age pension which he has received as an old fisherman and his position as ferryman, and that if his case had come before the Government in the ordinary course he would, on the Government being satisfied that his case was a deserving one, have received his regular two-thirds of salary.

MR. CLIFT—Might I be permitted to say, Mr. Speaker, that I thank the Premier for his reference to this petition. The reason why I presented it to the House was because I was asked to do so. I had intended to follow up the matter in the Department of Public Works, and to ask the Minister of that Department to have the matter enquired into and brought before the Government, who would, no doubt, in the ordinary course of events have complied with the prayer of the petition. Probably I should have sent it direct to the Government in the first place, but I was asked to present it to the House and did so.

MR. BENNETT—Mr. Speaker, I wish to support the petition just presented by the Rt. hon. leader of the Government in connection with the building of a limekiln in the district of St. John’s West. It is to fill a long felt want in that part of the district, namely, in around the Goulds and Kilbride, so that the farmers might be able to readily secure lime for their grounds, as it is extremely difficult just now for these people to get fertilizer. The petitioners claim that if a kiln were constructed in that part of the country it would not alone be a benefit to St. John’s West, but also to the districts of Ferryland and Harbor Main, whose farmers would be able to avail of the opportunity of securing that fertilizer that they have been so much in need of. This has been a matter that the farmers in that section have been talking of for a number of years, and I am sure that the time is now opportune for this very important matter to receive the consideration that it deserves. I have very much pleasure in giving my support to the petition, and feel that we
will be most ready to act in conjunction with the Agricultural Society in carrying out the wishes of the petitioners.

**MR. KENNEDY**—I also, Mr. Speaker, wish to give my support to the petition just presented by the Rt. hon. leader of the Government and supported by Mr. Bennett.

**RT. HON PRIME MINISTER.**—I ask leave to present a petition from Rev. W. W. Clarkson, Rev. William Muir, and Rev. P. Dwyer, and about three hundred other inhabitants of Grand Falls, Millertown, Badger, Glenwood, Botwood, Bishop Falls, and Norris Arm. I may say that I mentioned this matter to the members representing the district of Twillingate, as it is usual when members receive petitions from a district which they do not represent to inform the members representing the district from which the petition has emanated, and it is with the approval of the members for the district of Twillingate that I present this petition this evening. I make this explanation so as to avoid any misunderstanding. The petitioners ask that the Government take into consideration the advisability of granting the towns named, that is, Grand Falls and Norris Arm, a representative in the House of Assembly and that the district be known as the District of the Interior. In the past these settlements have been included in the electoral district of Twillingate, but the petitioners submit that in order to accede to their request it would not be necessary to increase the number of representatives in the Legislature and they ask that Twillingate district be reduced to two representatives. The population of the places named is upwards of 4,000, and the petition asks that the prayer be considered. I need hardly say that this is an important petition—most important—not alone in that it affects quite a number of persons whose names are appended hereto, but the subject matter also is important, involving as it does the whole question of the desirability of establishing one-man districts, or one-man and two-men districts. It only requires a little consideration to see that this question is such a comprehensive one that it would not be possible for anyone to express an opinion right off upon the matter. A great deal has to be enquired into and considered, but I suppose that, everything else being equal, very little can be said against the general principle. Three men might probably be able to do much better work if they represented each a division of a district than the three representing the whole. I suppose it might be argued that we who represent a division of the district of St. John's do better work for our constituents under the present system than if we represented the whole district. If a man has a small territory to look after he is more likely to do that well, but then there are so many other questions involved that it is not easy to make up one's mind or express an opinion on the prayer of the petition without very great consideration. All we can say is this, that the petition will receive every consideration at the hands of the Government, and, if it is possible without affecting existing rights, the matter will be dealt with.

**MR. CLIFT.**—As one of the representatives for the district of Twillingate, to which this petition refers, I want to thank the Premier for his courtesy in this matter. I had already been informed, however, by some of the petitioners that they had forwarded the petition direct to the
Premier in the hope that by doing so it would receive more immediate attention at the hands of the Government, and I was asked if I would support the prayer of the petition. I am not at the present time in a position to say whether I would be in favor of a redistribution of the seats in that district or not. I agree with the Premier that the petition opens up a very large question, namely, that of redistribution, and until the Government is prepared to come down with some well-defined policy in that connection I would prefer to reserve my opinion. I am glad to know, however, that the Petition is about to receive the attention of the Government, but I cannot expect any decision to be arrived at in time to take any action during the present session.

The several petitions were on motion received and ordered to be referred to the Departments to which they relate.

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.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER

—Mr. Chairman, in the Estimates for this year the sum of $5,000 has been placed for the encouragement and preservation of the Lobster fishery. I am very sorry that the Minister of Marine and Fisheries is unavoidably absent from the country and is not here to place the Committee in possession of those facts which are necessary to convince the Legislature and the country of the importance of this vote.

In his absence I propose to make a statement in relation to the history of the lobster fishery in the past, with the present position, and what is necessary to be done if it is to have a future. I have caused certain tables to be prepared in relation to the products of the lobster fishery for the past twenty years. They have been tabled, and are on hon. members' desks; and a perusal of them will in itself be sufficient to convince members of the importance of the matter. These figures are conclusive as to the immense importance of this industry, the value of the industry to-day, and what it is capable of being developed into.

No subject that can come before the Legislature is so important as are our fisheries, and although many other industries are on the increase, and are being developed, they must for a very many years remain subsidiary to the fisheries. It is not what our fisheries are at present that we must consider, but what they can be developed into if proper attention be paid them.

Although Newfoundland is essentially and pre-eminently a fishing country, it was not until the year 1889 that we first had a Fishery Department. It was in that year, I think, that the services of Captain Adolph Nielsen were availed of by the Fishery Board, and the reports that he has left behind him are all of immense value, and suggest the possibilities of what might have been done for the fisheries of Newfoundland the last fifty years, if we had had competent persons, practical as well as scientific, to guide us in relation to these fisheries. At the present time any adventurer can start a petition affecting our fishery laws; and, unfortunately, people are always ready and willing to take this class of individual seriously.

The prolific fisheries along our immense coastline, as well as on the banks and fishing grounds are from the standpoint of prosecution only in their infancy, and are capable of enormous possibilities in adding to the wealth and prosperity of the country.
At present, however, we are only concerned with the Lobster fishery. The present Government takes the position that by careful protection this fishery could be made as valuable as the cod-fishery, extreme as that statement may appear. Unlike the cod, which is so prolific, the lobster may be exterminated. In this year's report of the Inspector of Lobsters I find the following interesting statement as to the origin and growth of the lobster canning industry with us.

"It appears that, about forty years ago, through the excessive fishing and canning of lobsters on the North-east coast of the United States, the supply became exhausted there. The capital invested in the enterprise on that coast was at that time transferred to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick by the United States' packers, thence on to Newfoundland, thereby practically becoming the pioneers of the industry in Canada and this Colony. But the experience of the United States was sufficient to suggest to the Canadian authorities that some stringent measures were necessary to avoid a repetition of conditions.

"Thus we find that as early as 1873, the Government of Canada enacted laws to protect this fishery, and have continued to foster and propagate the industry to the present time.

"In the year 1874 the first factory was operated in this Colony, by the Portland Packing Co., at Long Harbor, Fortune Bay. In 1876 this Company extended their operations to Placentia, with the result that they had more lobsters brought to the factories than they could pack.

"In the year 1878 Messrs. Staner & Co., of Halifax, operated a factory at Grand Bank, packing from the catch of 22 fishermen 6,200 cases of lobsters; and another at Garnish, Fortune Bay, packing for 20 fishermen, 6,000 cases of lobsters.

"At the same time Messrs. Foote, of Grand Bank, operated at Boxey, or the west side of Fortune Bay, packing between 5,000 and 6,000 cases. Thus, in three factories in one bay, for the season of 1878, there were packed almost equal to the total production of the country at the present date.

"In time the American and Canadian packers abandoned the business, and, between 1880 and 1885, the whole lobster industry was in the hands of local packers—chiefly the outport merchant—and continued so until about 1895, when the lobster fishermen began to realize that they could pack for themselves, and thereby make any profit that was in it, and one by one all the large factories had to close for the want of fishermen.

"In 1894 there were 284 lobster factories between Cape Ray and Cape Race, and between Cape Race and Cape John. While in 1908 there were 2,604. Showing that the fishery and canning is now completely in the hands of the fishermen, and with very much better results as to the quality of the article packed.

"In the early years of this fishery, a fisherman, with forty or fifty lobster traps, would consider the season a failure if he could not catch and sell to the factories from 40,000 to 60,000 lobsters. The price paid for the fish continued at 50c. per 100 until about the year 1900.

"During all these years there was no attempt made to stay the wanton destruction of spawning lobsters. The lobsters were of a very large quality, particularly in the outside waters of the Bays, and at least 40 per cent. of them full of spawn.

"It has been long ago realized that the destruction of this fishery was but a question of time, if some measures were not adopted for its preservation.

"In the year 1892 the Fishery Commission of that year had between 400 and 600 floating incubators distributed to the different packers along the
Horse of Assembly Proceedings.

In other words the lobster fishery in Newfoundland fell from 76,226 cases in 1889 to 22,654 cases in 1909, or in 20 years a decline of 53,572 cases, or an industry, at the price of lobsters to-day, $17 per case, of $909,959, or nearly a million dollars. The total value of the lobster fishery for 1911 was $486,905.50, that is for 28,581 1/4 cases at $17 per case. Now if we had to-day the number of cases exported in 1889, that is 76,226 cases at $17 per case, we should have a fishery worth $1,295,842, so that in round figures we have lost a million dollars this year, and have practically lost half that amount, on an average, every year since 1889. Putting it down at half a million annually, a very conservative estimate, it gives the enormous total of $6,000,000 for the past twenty-two years. Here we have an industry that has declined annually $1,000,000, one-fifth of the value of the codfishery, and double the value of the sealfishery, at least the value that goes to the men. And it is important now to remember that this is essentially a fishery belonging to the individual fisherman, for it must be borne in mind that in the year 1889 there was less than 200 factories, all owned by merchants, while in 1909 there were 2,604 factories nearly all owned by the men who caught the fish, or a factory for every 2 persons engaged in the industry.

The decrease in the lobster fishery has not come upon us suddenly. As I have pointed out, the decline has been gradual since 1889, reaching its lowest point in 1909 when it fell to 22,654 cases at a valuation of $283,150. Since that year, 1909, I am glad to say that the fishery has steadily increased, and in 1911 had increased 6,000 cases and had risen in value from $283,150 in 1909 to $486,948 in 1911.

In 1901 it was recognized by the Bond Government of that day that the decline in the lobster fishery was a very serious matter. In the Speech
from the Throne at the opening of the Legislature on May 23rd, 1901, the following pronouncement was made,—

"The lobster fishery appears to be a gradually failing industry and from the experience of other countries as well as our own it would appear as if this industry will be entirely destroyed unless more vigorous measures than we have hitherto tried be adopted for its protection. The prices realized were high during the whole season, but the quality of the pack left much to be desired, and reduced considerably the total value of the catch."

Nothing was done, however, to deal with this serious condition of affairs and we are beginning to-day a policy of protection which should have been inaugurated years ago.

I have caused to be printed, in such a way as to be conveyed at a glance, the distribution of the lobster fishery over the Island. It will be found that St Barbe heads the list with $145,911 as their share, or 8,583 cases, with 1,116 men employed, averaging $130 per man. From St. Barbe then there is a gradual fall in the districts in the number of cases packed, St. John's being at the foot of the list with one case.

By comparison with the table for 1908 it will be seen that St. Barbe has practically doubled her fishery in two years and the real question for us to consider is whether nearly every district in the Island cannot average as much as St. Barbe if properly protected. Let us see what the industry would be worth. St. Barbe has a population of 8,000 or one-thirtieth of the entire population of Newfoundland. Last year the average amount per man earned in St. Barbe was $130. If every district in the Island had earned the same, we should have a lobster industry worth $3,900,000. Is not this something to work for and to strive for, because I know of no reason why every district in the Island should not produce as many if not more lobsters than St. Barbe; and why the District of St. Barbe should not, after a few years protection, double the present amount of its catch.

I have had the accompanying statements prepared and a perusal cannot but be instructive as to the history of this fishery.

Of course it is of no use hoping that much can be accomplished in a few days—it will mean years. We must look beyond to-morrow. In 1907 there were 6000 men engaged in the lobster fishery in Newfoundland, and they averaged only $56 per man. In 1908 the average was $52 per man. In 1911 it was $102 per man.

This, in itself shows what can be accomplished. If we are to improve our lobster fishery, and maintain it as a great source of wealth for our people, we must preserve the seed lobster. In his interesting report for this year Mr. Dee, Lobster Inspector, says—

"Although Fortune Bay has the distinction of being the first lobster packing centre in Newfoundland—the business commencing there in 1875 by the Portland Packing Co.—not the least attempt was made to protect the industry; but a continual process of destruction was maintained, until last year, when this Department gave special attention to that part of the coast, and had the Fishery Rules and Regulations enforced, consequently more of the spawn bearing lobsters escaped, to work out their procreative course, and more of the undersized and immature were spared, to give better value the present year."
"The laws governing this fishery are as near perfection as it is possible to make them, but the system of carrying them out does not give the desired effect.

"It is impossible for a lobster catcher and packer to make an efficient officer. In prosecuting his own calling he cannot look after others—especially those prosecuting the same fishery—and the small amount paid for such work is not enough to make the warden independent.

"I would respectfully suggest that the police officers be entrusted with this duty wherever practicable, and in sections such as Placentia Bay, where there is no officer, a competent man be appointed, with a salary he will appreciate and render efficient service for.

"The lobster fishery requires more attention than any other fisheries of the Colony. Owing to its peculiar nature, it is easily destroyed; but it is capable of immense possibilities in wealth to the people living in our great bays, and a source of revenue to the Colony, if intelligently cultivated and the Rules properly observed—the fishermen working with the officers to attain that object.

"In my report of last year to the Department, I submitted some suggestions, with figures, showing the possible cost and results of a system of propagation, which might be instituted by the Department of Marine and Fisheries, should the Government consider it and give the experiment a trial.

"In travelling around the coast, and visiting the different bays, I made all possible enquiries, together with strict personal observations, of all the conditions re the number of spawn-bearing lobsters to the hundred in each locality, and the facility such locality afforded for the impounding and preservation of the same.

"The system will not be workable in all parts of each district, nor in the districts of Bay de Verde, St. George's, and St. Barbe. The shores of these three districts are not indented with bays and arms, nor dotted with islands, such as exist in the other bays.

"Taking Twillingate first, there were caught in Notre Dame Bay the past season 250,234 lobsters; in size from 8 to 12 inches, as is shown by the average it takes to fill a case of 48 lbs.

"The average of spawn bearing lobsters to the hundred in the last week of June was 14; in July the percentage went to 23. If we take 8 per cent. as a working basis, it would give us 20,018 lobsters, capable of yielding, according to scientists, at least 5,000 eggs each, which would be 100,000,000 particles. With the minimum of 3 per cent. coming to maturity, it would mean to Notre Dame Bay 3,002,700 lobsters hatched in the season; equal to 15,709 cases, at the average of 204 lobsters to the case; and, at this year's current price of $17.00 per case, the creation of additional wealth in and around Green Bay of $267,055, for a comparatively small expenditure.

"The estimated cost would consist in the fencing in of about eight suitable coves, such as exist in Badger's Bay, New Bay, Exploit's, Burnt Bay, and in Dildo Reach, or anywhere about the numerous islands that dot that bay.

"Taking 8 per cent. of the total catch of 250,234 lobsters as spawn-bearing, this would mean: 20,018 lobsters to be purchased, at 5c. each...$ 1,000.90

Fencing eight coves at $10 80.00
Motor boat, 90 days, at $5 450.00
Competent man, 3 months,  
at $50.00 per month ... 150.00  
Incidentals ... ... 200.00  

_______________________

$1,880.00

"In collecting these lobsters, the boat could make two rounds each week dropping the lobsters in the pounds as she went along with the necessary supply of food.

"Fogo District does not offer any such facilities for the natural propagation of lobsters, but would be benefitted by such an undertaking in Twillingate. In the meantime, such operation could be extended to Gander and Dog Bays.

"Bonavista Bay, contains the largest lobsters of any packing centres. Here the same system could be adopted under similar conditions but with much greater results than in Twillingate. The average number of lobsters to fill a case, the past season, in this district, was 155. Of the 206,241 lobsters caught, take 8 per cent as spawning, or 16,499 multiplied by 5,000 would be 82,495,000; with 3% coming to maturity, would mean 2,749,830 lobsters hatched, or 15,906 cases; at $17 per case, $269,702 possible increase created in Bonavista Bay, for the consideration of fencing some pounds in the different parts of the Bay.

Eight coves, fenced with wire netting, at $10 each $ 80.00  
16,499 lobsters, at 5c each 824.95  
Motor boat, 90 days, at $5 per day ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... 450.00  
Competent man, 3 months, $50 per month ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... 150.00  
Incidentals ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... 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Motor boat, 90 days, at $5 450.00
Wages competent man 150.00
Incidentals 200.00

$1,970.00

"If the cost doubled the above amount, and gave only half the results, it would pay the Colony to undertake it.

"Fortune Bay District has all the conditions existing within it for the cheap cultivation of lobsters, in localities such as Hermitage Bay, Bay D'Espoir, Connaigre Bay, Harbor Breton, Bay de Lieu, and all along the shore from Belleoram to the bottom of the bay.

"The catch of lobsters in this District the past season was 983,401. They are a smaller quality than those caught in the other bays, consequently, the percentage of spawn-bearing lobsters was correspondingly low. However, from the first week of July to close season, the average was from five to fifteen, according to locality, but nothing less than 5 per cent. are spawn-bearing.

"Owing to the low condition of this fishery in Fortune Bay, we take but two per cent. of the total catch this season; it would mean 19,668 lobsters, capable of the minimum yield of 5,000 eggs each, or 98,349,000 particles. With three per cent. coming to maturity would be 2,950,200 lobsters for Fortune Bay—equal to 9,834 cases—300 lobsters to the case. At prices ruling this year ($17.00), would be wealth created to the value of $167,188.00, for the following expenditure:
Fencing 12 coves or pounds $120.00
Cost of 19,668 lobsters, @ 5c. each 983.40
Motor boat, 90 days, @ $5.00 450.00
Wages competent man, 3 months, $50 150.00
Incidentals 200.00

$1,903.40

"A comparison of expenditure and results may be interesting at these conservative figures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spawn-bearing Expenditures</th>
<th>Lobsters.</th>
<th>Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Twillingate 20,018</td>
<td>$1,880.00</td>
<td>$267,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonavista 16,499</td>
<td>1,704.95</td>
<td>269,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Placentia 21,000</td>
<td>1,970.00</td>
<td>223,125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortune Bay 19,668</td>
<td>1,903.00</td>
<td>167,178</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

76,185 $7,457.95 $227,055

"Thus showing 76,815 spawn-bearing lobsters preserved for future years in these four Bays for the cost of $7,457.95, beside the hatching and protection of at least 11,577,550.

"I have in all cases confined myself to these conservatively low figures, not because higher figures would appear impossible, but to show even at this low estimate what can be done.

"It is only fair to assume that very nearly three per cent. of the ova deposited in the natural and unprotected element comes to maturity.

"It would not be unreasonable to expect a very large percentage of the spawn fully developed and born of its mother according to the methods of nature within these enclosures would grow to good vigorous lobsters when protected, until self-protecting, by the fencing, from the ravages of all other fish of different kinds, which prey in the waters along the shores during the summer months, such as perch, flatfish and sculpins, tomcods, eels, and the millions of other shrimps, etc.

"It must however be borne in mind that the figures herein quoted are the minimum, because, according to scientists on fish culture, an 8 to 9 in. lobster is capable of yielding 5,000 eggs, and 12 to 14 in. as much as 40,000. It will therefore be seen that we are well within the range of possibility.

"It must be also remembered that the lobster is not a schooling or migratory fish. It is always there, just moving in and off with the seasons, therefore, if intelligently cultivated, is capable of unlimited possibilities."
"This proposition would seem incomplete without the necessary explanation as to how it was going to be carried out.

The fishermen should be notified by necessary legislation that the Department of Marine and Fisheries would purchase a given number of spawn-producing lobsters in each District or Bay. The fencing of the ponds or coves to be done as early as convenient in the spring, so as to keep them clean and free from all the live matter possible. It should be arranged for the fishermen to have a separate pound to place any spawn-bearing lobsters in every day, to facilitate the collecting in his round, which should be at least twice a week.

"Leaving with the fishermen or some member of his family a cheque for every lobster taken—sufficient to pay his living—saying cheques to be similar to the transfers used on street cars. The fishermen presenting his cheque to the Department of Marine and Fisheries at the end of the season and receiving his money—thus doing away with any chance of fraud of any kind.

"A food, in the shape of lightly corned herring, cut in pieces, should be supplied at least twice each week, or oftener if possible. In July month very little food is necessary.

"After the close of the fishing season, the fencings should be removed, allowing the lobsters to go free—those of them that had not cast their spawn in the pond to do so in their native element—and the fencings stored for another year.

"It should also be borne in mind that these coves or ponds should not be placed on the same ground the second year.

"The motor boats used at such work should be the property of the Government. Boats suitable for this work could be procured for about $300.00 each. An ordinary fish-skiff, which would cost about $100, and an engine, which would cost about $200, would be sufficient to meet all the requirements.

"The experience of all other countries has shown that unless seed lobsters are protected, the fishery will be annihilated. As shown in the report which I have quoted, extensive excessive fishing and non-protection killed out the fishery in the United States and to-day that fishery has not yet revived, but strenuous efforts are being made to restore it."

The lobster fisheries of Canada, which next to those of the codfish and salmon are most valuable to the dominion, have yielded, from 1869 to 1906 inclusive, a grand value of $83,291,553. In 1897 the produce of this fishery was 23,721,000 pounds, valued at $3,485,265. Ten years later, in 1906, the yield had dropped to 10,132,000 pounds, but though less than one-half as great, it had nearly the same estimated value, namely, $3,422,927.

Notwithstanding the increased cost to the consumer, the total value of the fishery has begun to fall, the product for 1906 being less by half a million dollars than that of 1905.

The lobster grounds of the Atlantic coast were the finest the world has ever produced. In Canada alone 100,000,000 lobsters have been captured in a single year. If properly dealt with it would seem as if this vast natural preserve should have yielded lobsters in abundance and good size for generations and even centuries to come. But instead lean and still leaner years soon followed those of plenty, first in the older and more accessible regions of the fishery until the decline, which has been watched for more than three decades, has extend-
ed to practically every part of this vast area.

The official statistics for the state of Massachusetts afford pertinent illustrations of the older and newer phases in this history. Thus, in Massachusetts in 1890, 373 fishermen, working 19,554 traps, caught 1,612,129 lobsters of legal size and 70,909 egg-bearing females, with an average catch per pot of 82. Fifteen years later it required 287 fishermen, using 13,829 traps, to produce about one quarter of this number, or 426,471, and less than one seventh the number of egg-lobstersom, or 9865; while the catch per trap had diminished by nearly two-thirds, and was only 31. No substantial increase followed until 1907, when the legal length was reduced to 9 inches, and this was undoubtedly due to the large number of small lobsters caught.

The total product of the lobster fisheries in the United States for 1892 was 23,724,525 pounds, about three-fifths of which were furnished by Maine, and valued at $1,062,392. It is significant to notice that 13 years later, in 1905, the total yield, had fallen to 11,898,136 pounds, with a value of $1,364,721. In other words, during this comparatively short interval, the supply was practically cut in two, but the value greatly enhanced.

The alarming decrease in the number of lobsters in Massachusetts and Maine waters has been apparent for the last two or three years and the report of the State Board Commission on Fisheries and Game as submitted to the House of Representatives has caused an important bill to be introduced this session to conserve the lobster industry of Massachusetts. The Board realizes, that unless heroic measures are resorted to, the time is not far off when few, if any lobsters will be found along the Massachusetts shores. The Board of Commissioners under the proposed new law, is directed and empowered to purchase at a rate not exceeding twenty-five cents above the market price any female lobsters bearing eggs caught or taken from the waters of this State. Any person licensed under this proposed legislation may, after receiving a permit from the Lobster Commissioner, safely retain all female lobsters in lobster cars or sections of cars used for that purpose, as shall be designated in the permit, and shall keep the same separate from other lobsters until such time as the said Commissioner or some person authorized by him will gather and pay for them.

It will be noticed from the quotations that I have given from Mr. Deeds report that he proposes to purchase 76,000 spawn bearing lobsters at five cents each, at a cost to the Colony of $3,800 which he estimates will return to the Colony $927,055, so that we find when making an experiment on his proposal that we are entirely in line with what is now being proposed by the new law of the State of Massachusetts, introduced there in January 1912. We find that the Legislature of the State of Maine is also realizing the value of this fishery, and the importance of protecting and re-stocking. Whatever else may fail, the Maine lobster crop would seem to be safe, for these shellfish are being planted faster than they are being caught. Last year about seventeen million pounds of lobsters were taken from Maine waters and sold by the fishermen for $2,145,204. To make up for that catch, and fully as large a drain on the supply this year, the State Fisheries Department, in connec-
tion with the United States hatchery at Boothbay Harbor, has planted the enormous number of 152,295,000 baby lobsters in lots of 500,000 to 8,000,000, at seventy-two localities along the coast. If the usual proportion of these youngsters live to grow up, there will be more lobsters by far in a few years than ever before, and, as the chances of their development are very good, no one need fear a lobster famine.

The State sends its little steamship the Sheldrake along the coast in early spring, buying from fishermen the mother lobsters, which are taken to the Government hatchery at Boothbay Harbor and there stripped or theit eggs. The eggs are hatched in April, May and June, in large jars through which sea water constantly circulates and then they are distributed in the localities from which the mother lobsters were taken, in the proportion of 15,000 to one. The mother lobsters are also returned to their home waters, in order that the supply of breeders may be maintained. This work costs the State of Maine only about $5,000 a year, and it is regarded as the best investment the commonwealth can make.

Here it will be seen that the berry or female lobster is purchased from the fishermen and then taken to the United States hatcheries, where the young are planted out. But, it may be argued, why not carry out the law and render this expenditure unnecessary. Here is the law, rule 14,—

"No person shall kill, catch, take, trap, buy, sell or can, or have in his possession any female lobster carrying spawn, or any lobster less than eight inches in length."

This law prohibits the catching of the female lobster by the fishermen, or the purchasing of it or selling by any person and prohibits him having it in his possession; but, notwithstanding that rule, which is honoured more in the breach than in the observance, we know that not a solitary seed lobster is put back into the water. If the law was properly carried out, every seed lobster found in a pot should go back into the sea.

Speaking on this rule 14, Mr. Dee writes as follows:

"It is physically impossible to carry out Rule 14, as the fishermen themselves show little desire to observe it. Even though there were an officer at every factory, they would defeat the object, by brushing the spawn from the lobster when taking it from the trap, where it is as effectively lost to the stock as if boiled in the factory.

"Although at the present time every fisherman knows it is wrong to take the producing lobster, yet he is afraid if he throws it back into the sea his neighbour will catch and pack it. The fishermen openly admit that this rule is not observed.

"With the rapid decline of this fishery and the growing demand for its product, it is evident that the present mode of protection is not sufficient, and that some system will have to be adopted in the near future for its preservation and propagation."

No better proof can be adduced of the way in which the lobster can be fished out than the following extract from Mr. Dee's report shows:

"In the year 1878 Messrs. Stainer & Co., of Halifax, operated a factory at Grand Bank, packing from the catch of 22 fishermen 6,200 cases of lobsters; and another at Garnish, Fortune Bay, packing for 20 fishermen 6,000 cases of lobsters.

"At the same time Messrs. Foote, of Grand Bank, operated at Boxey, on
the west side of Fortune Bay, packing between 5,000 and 6,000 cases. Thus, in three factories in one bay, for the season of 1878, there were packed almost equal to the total production of the country at the present date.

"In time the American and Canadian packers abandoned the business, and, between 1880 and 1885, the whole lobster industry was in the hands of local packers—principally the outport merchant—and continued so until about 1895, when the lobster fishermen began to realize that they could pack for themselves, and thereby make any profit that was in it, and one by one all the large factories had to close for the want of fishermen."

As Mr. Dee says in its report,—
"Owing to its peculiar nature the lobster fishery is easily destroyed, but it is capable of immense possibilities in wealth to the people living in our bays, and a source of revenue to the Colony if intelligently cultivated and the rules properly observed."

What we have to do is to try and get the fishermen to co-operate with those carrying out the law, to look beyond to-day. Catching and canning the mother lobster is killing the goose that lays the golden egg. If we were to kill every female calf born in the country for the next twenty years, by that time we would not have, except what we would import, one cow in the country—and what is true of the land is also true of the sea.

Lobsters are by no means so plentiful around the coasts of England as they used to be, the reason being that it was only recently that laws have been passed to protect them, and in England to-day the greater number of the lobsters sold in the shops are imported from Scandinavia. Nearly three-quarters of a million of lobsters are imported from there every year. Scotland, by strictly enforcing the law still seems to maintain her position as a lobster producing country, and the Orkneys and Hebrides send from one to two million lobsters in the course of twelve months to Billingsgate. Of course these all go fresh, and are not canned. Canned lobsters go to the markets from Newfoundland and British Columbia. Lately, however, we have had a new competitor enter the field in South Africa who are now large competitors for the tinned lobster trade, and it is probable that the Cape Colony will not stop at lobsters, but will, in years to come, develop into one of the world's great fishing centres. It has hundreds of miles of coastline, latitude about the same as Western Australia, and the fishing banks run out to the end of the cold current which sweeps down the East Coast from Madagascar, and which ensures a perennial and bountiful supply of fish. The chief Norwegian export centres are Bergen and Christiansund, probably the most productive lobster grounds in the world. Here thousands of small boats are at work during the greater part of the year. The law is strictly enforced, and no female lobsters are taken. In this country, as I have pointed out, for many years the berry or seed lobster has been wantonly destroyed, and the law has never been carried out.

I feel, however, that it only required to have this matter prominently brought to the notice of the fishermen of the country to have an increasing number become alive to the necessity of protecting this lobster industry. Through the kindness of the Fishery Commissioner for the State of Maine I am in possession of the Thirty-first report of the Commissioner of Sea and Shore Fisheries for 1910 in which he says:—

"The lobster business for the past two years has been very satisfactory, not only to the Department but also to all persons engaged therein. There has always been a difference of
"opinion as to the best methods to adopt for the protection of lobsters, but from results of experiments that have been made, the lobster fishermen generally believe that the present methods are right, and they are co-operating with the Department. The method of handling breeding lobsters as adopted by this State is now almost universally acknowledged to be the best, and for the benefit of those who are not familiar with the system I will make an explanation.

The State law authorizes the Commissioner to buy the seed or egg-bearing lobsters from the fishermen, after which they are to be liberated or taken to the hatchery pound, and held there until the following spring, when the eggs become ripe and are fit for hatching. They are then taken into the hatchery and stripped of their eggs; the mother lobster is then returned to the vicinity from which it was originally gathered, and there released, thus not decreasing the stock of breeding lobsters in a particular locality. After the young lobsters are hatched from the eggs and in proper condition for liberating, they are taken to the locality from which the mother lobster originally came and there liberated in the proportion of 15,000 small to every mother lobster. It is generally believed that this system is of great benefit to those localities, and it is at present having the hearty co-operation of the fishermen who report large numbers of very small lobsters as being caught in their traps in the vicinity of where such plantings are made, as they attribute this to the small lobsters planted from the hatcheries. A large number of the fishermen have in the past believed that it was better to allow the lobsters to hatch naturally in their native waters; but since they have learned that all young lobsters, whether hatched artificially or naturally, go to the surface and drift about subject to the elements and enemies for several days, have decided that the artificial way of hatching and the Department's way of handling is better. It liberates the young lobsters in the protected coves among the eel grass, and if possible holds them until they have passed the floating stage. The percentage that matures must necessarily be larger than if hatched naturally, subject to several days of the floating period in the unprotected places wherever hatched. The United States hatchery at Boothbay Harbor is doing remarkable work for this State, having hatched this season 120,000,000 young lobsters, all of which have been planted in the waters of this State. At present we are not in a position to go to the expense of hatcheries, but we have got the great natural hatcheries in the bays and harbours of the country, which according to Mr. Dee's report are likely to give us better returns at very little cost.

Although the lobster is found from the Straits of Belle Isle right down to the capes of Delaware, the Newfoundland shores are probably the finest breeding places for the lobster. In the Report of the Lobster Fishery made to the State of Massachusetts for 1911 by George W. Field, the great authority on lobsters, he says on page 9:

"Down in the Buzzard's Bay region, more particularly about Cuttyhunk, where the fishermen have the reputation of utilizing everything in the shape of a lobster that comes from the sea, the decadence has been something startling; and conditions have reached a point on that part of the coastline of this State where the reproductive possibilities of the animal have been reduced to such a degree that it seems as if the lobsters are soon to be exterminated or nearly so."
On page 24 of the Newfoundland Fisheries Report for 1898-99 we have the following:

"In almost every lobster producing country this favorite crustacean is threatened with extermination. The quantity secured each year is lessening and the price advancing, notwithstanding the efforts made to arrest the decline. Many high authorities hold that the lobster is destined to extinction, like the great auk, the dodo and the buffalo. Newfoundland, unfortunately, is no exception to the decline in the lobster fishery, and the utmost care and vigilance are called for to prevent its destruction. The export each year is lessening, and the size of lobsters taken is diminishing in most districts. Great stringency in enforcing the rules which regulate the fishery is called for, and, above all, a continuation and extension of artificial propagation are needed. In fact it is desirable, wherever there is a lobster factory of any considerable extent, that incubators should be at work, and none of the ova should be destroyed. There is no surer sign of a declining fishery than the diminution in the size of the lobsters taken; and this is the result of their capture before they have reached the spawning age. Very large numbers of our people are now dependent to a certain extent on this fishery for their subsistence. There is, in consequence, a more urgent call for our best efforts to arrest its decline."

The following statement, taken from Mr. Field's report for 1011 above referred to, is still more striking—

"Of most serious import, however, is the fact that there has been a distinct and alarming diminution in the number of egg lobsters caught in proportion to the total number of lobsters taken. For the entire coast of Massachusetts in 1889, one lobster in every 22 was carrying eggs; in 1905, one in every 43 was carrying eggs; in 1906 one in every 46 was carrying eggs; in 1907, one in every 100 was carrying eggs; but in 1909 only one in every 114. Another most significant fact, still further elucidating the alarming situation, is indicated in the report of the United States Bureau of Fisheries, relative to the total number of eggs secured annually from a stated number of lobsters. Comparison of these returns, in the two years the figures of which are readily available, and therefore taken really at random, seem to show that while in 1903, 1,323 lobsters yielded 22,983,000 eggs, or an average of 17,300 per lobster; in 1908, 2,792 lobsters yielded 23,337,000 eggs, or an average of only 8,300 eggs."

One matter of supreme importance is that the number of lobsters required to make the case is becoming smaller. For instance in Bay de Verde the past year the total average to the case was 108 lobsters, Harbour Main 117, Bonavista 140 as against 144 last year Fogo 146 as against 167 for 1910 Trinity Bay 153, Saint Barbe 195 as against 207 last year, Burgeo and La Polle 204, same as last year, Burin 212 as against 224 last year, Placentia Bay 221 as against 260 last year, and Fortune Bay 279; going to show how important it is to give great attention to the rule in relation to the size of the lobsters to be taken.

Rule 14 says:—

"No person shall kill, catch, take, trap, buy, sell, can, or have in his possession any female lobster carrying spawn, or any lobster less than eight inches in length."

If this rule was observed, and the small immature lobsters allowed to grow, the fishery would grow by leaps and bounds and we should not
have, as at present, 279 lobsters going to a case, but we should have an average considerably less than Bay de Verde of 108 lobsters, which appears this year to be the lowest in the Island.

I do hope that every person interested in the lobster fishery will read Mr. Dee's excellent report, and endeavour to co-operate with him and the officers carrying out the fishery regulations in order to protect the industry. It is not a merchant's fishery or a rich man's fishery. By the simple manner in which the lobsters are now caught and canned, the poorest fisherman can carry it on, and it may be well termed the "fisherman's fishery." The present proposal is an earnest effort to convert the lobster fishery into a very large industry. We must not look for results in a year or two or three or four years; we must have patience, and our efforts will be ultimately rewarded.

### LOBSTERS

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Reports of Newfoundland Lobster Fishery for the Following Years
1907

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<th>Average Per Case</th>
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<th>Traps</th>
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**Total:** $353,892 50 | 27,222 2 | 6,722,680 | 6,744 | 258,715 | 2,604
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<th>Men</th>
<th>Traps</th>
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1911

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY PROCEEDINGS.
# Recapitulation

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MR. CLIFT—Mr. Chairman, the address given by the Premier in introducing this Resolution has been a most interesting one, and it has opened the eyes of a great many members of this Committee. I can quite understand how utterly impossible it would be to enforce that law which requires a lobster fisherman to put back into the water the female lobster and all lobsters under a certain size. As to the report of the Inspector, I have not had an opportunity of perusing it. It has only been placed in my hands a few moments ago, and I only know what it contains, by hearing extracts quoted by the Premier. Of course the value of such a report, the value of any report, depends to a very large extent upon the person making the report. I have no knowledge of Mr. Dee's qualifications to make a report upon this matter, but the Premier has pointed out that Mr. Dee has had a very large experience, and I have no doubt but what he says is correct, but I cannot imagine that Mr. Dee has any very great scientific knowledge of the subject. Personally, I hope it is not the intention of the Committee to pass this vote immediately, but to give time to study it. I do not think that this is an unreasonable request. I am sure that it is a matter on which there will be no controversy, as far as the members of this Committee are concerned. All ought to be united in enacting any measure that has for its object the preservation of our fisheries.

We may differ in the form or method to be prescribed for their preservation, but we all agree that steps should be taken for the preservation of this fishery. It is fraught with many possibilities, and from the report tabled today it is quite evident that by judicious legislation in the course of reasonable time the preservation of this fishery may produce results which would not only bring that fishery back to its former importance, but even put it on a larger foundation than ever it was before. I must say that as far as I am concerned I have never given the matter that consideration which its importance merits and I was surprised when the Premier told us that the value of the Lobster Fishery was greater than that of the seal fishery. It is only by giving one's attention to these things and comparing one fishery with another that we can begin to appreciate the value and the importance of legislation, for the preservation of these fisheries. The amount asked for, to my mind does not seem to be an unreasonable amount to carry out the proposed work. At the same time I would like an opportunity of perusing the full report before committing myself to this vote.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—There is just one word I have to say. My learned friend just stated that I said the lobster fishery was of more value than the seal fishery. That is not exactly what I said. What I did state was that if we had to-day the lobster fishery we had in '76, that is 75,000 cases at last year's prices, we would have an industry worth about a million and a half dollars, which would be double the value of the seal fishery.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred; and asked leave to sit again.

On motion this Report was received and adopted; and it was ordered that the Committee have leave to sit again on to-morrow.

Pursuant to Order, and on motion
of Hon. Minister of Justice, the Bill "An Act to provide for certain Retiring Allowances," 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.

MUNICIPAL BILL.

Pursuant to Order, and on motion of Rt. hon. the Prime Minister, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the Bill "An Act further to amend the Municipal Act, 1902."

Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Parsons took the Chair of Committee.

MR. BENNETT—Before this motion is put I should like to say that the bill now before the Committee has my very fullest and heartiest support. I am sure that the representatives of St. John's feel pleased that they have an opportunity to support a bill of this kind. It is a well known fact, Mr. Chairman, that the St. John's Municipal Council as it is to-day is very much restricted in its powers. I have no doubt that those who originally framed the St. John's Municipal Act, and those who have introduced amendments thereto from time to time had the best interests of the city in view when those restrictions were placed there. But, sir, I have felt for some time that the time is about to arrive if it has not already arrived when some larger powers should be placed in the hands of those who are in control of affairs in this City with a view to improving the conditions that exist as regards municipal matters in general. I have no doubt that the present Council are according to their means, doing what they can to carry out the work imposed upon them in as thorough and efficient a manner as possible, but it must be apparent to every thinking person, and it must be apparent to every person who has the interest of the city at heart, that there is something lacking and that there is necessity for some drastic improvements to be brought about, if not at the present time then in the very near future. I am not in a position to state here this evening what should be done, and I am not in a position to state how the money should be raised to meet the cost of these improvements, but I have always held that St. John's is to-day a city that requires an improved condition both as regards its sanitary arrangements and general upkeep and care of the city. Comparing St. John's with other cities of similar size, I am afraid the comparison is very bad as far as we are concerned. With the revenue the Council have at their disposal I have no doubt they are doing the best they can, but, sir, that revenue is yearly increasing, and I question very much whether the general condition of affairs is improving proportionately with the revenue. I know from experience gained when I was a member of the Council that the calls are many and great on the funds of the City Council; but I can claim that when the Council of which I was a member took over the affairs of the city they were not in the condition when we left them. Up to that time, sir, the interest on the Civic Debt was only half met, instead of paying fifty thousand dollars a year for which the city was responsible to the general Government for interest they were only paying half that amount, and on our assumption of office the first thing we took in hand was providing means whereby we could meet the full amount of our interest, and the idea that permeated the Council at that time was that to
meet our interest was the first step toward civic independence. Whilst we were not paying our just debt to the Government we were not in a position to make any demands on the Government for further consideration. However, as I have said, within two years of taking that matter up we met the full amount of the city's indebtedness in the way of interest, and it has been met every year since, and I think, Sir, that from that date up to the present time things might have improved a great deal more than they have. It is true that the establishment of a new water service took place which cost the city I think in the neighborhood of one hundred and fifty or two hundred thousand dollars. That new water service was only completed within the last two or three months,—I mean as regards bringing it into actual operation—and I hope Mr. Chairman that the inauguration of this new water service will have the effect it was originally intended to have, a more efficient water service and a means to make the city purer and cleaner and more healthful and comfortable for its citizens. I hope the Municipal Council will make a very stringent endeavour to bring about reforms in the way of sanitation for this city that are so desirable, and the necessity for which must be apparent to every member of this house and this community. We have heard a great deal, Mr. Chairman during this session about the cure and prevention of Tuberculosis. A great deal has been said recently about spitting on the streets and other things that might be construed as dangerous to the public health; but I submit, Sir, and I think that my words will be endorsed by every member of the community, that the conditions of the streets of this town are not conducive to the prevention of consumption. I think the citizens of St. John's have not been sufficiently active. I do not think they are awake to their responsibilities. I do not think our leading citizens have taken sufficient interest in civic affairs. After all the civic affairs should be second only to the private affairs of the individual citizens. Indeed the civic affairs are the private affairs of its citizens, who are anxious to have their homes comfortable and attractive and everything desirable. But while active in our private affairs we have no public spirit about the affairs of the city. However, I trust Mr. Chairman that the time is not far distant when public opinion will be awakened, and a proper effort will be made to bring about these much desired improvements, and I am sure that any legislation the Council ask this House for to enable them to bring about these improvements will be gladly given and endorsed by every member of the House. As I intimated when the Tuberculosis Resolutions were before the Chair, Messrs. Bowring with commendable generosity have donated to the city a public park in the suburbs of St. John's within easy access for those who live in town. I said then, Sir, it was a sign of an awakening on the part of our more wealthy citizens that there are responsibilities and privileges that wealthy people might assume and confer by doing something for the less fortunate of our people. I can imagine, Mr. Chairman, the advantage this park will be to the citizens of St. John's both East and West on fine summer evenings, when, if the Street Cars run in that direction, a poor man, may for a small fee take those of his family out, who require that fresh air and sunlight that is conducive to good health. As I have said before the people of St. John's must have been pleased to hear of
the generosity of Messrs. Bowring and their action should be an object lesson to those who are more largely blest with this world's goods to follow their example, and help to make the city more attractive and more healthy. I hope my remarks will not be looked on as a criticism of those conducting the affairs of the city; but rather as the views of a representative of part of this town, who is trying to awaken the feeling or sentiment that the affairs of this city should be the affairs of every man, woman and child that lives in it. Pride should be taken in our city, and I hope the time is not far distant when we will be able to make it a city that we can feel proud to live in. I appreciate it will be necessary to have additional money for these works. Before we can come to have a clean city a considerable amount of paving is yet to be done. Water Street has been paved, but in the spring of the year it is covered with mud inches deep which almost destroys the use of the splendid pavements on that Street. This condition of things is brought about by the fact that the street immediately adjacent to it is as a rule nothing but a quagmire. Now Sir, we have plenty of paving material in the suburbs of St. John's, and one of the first things that I would advocate would be the paving of Duckworth Street from the east to the west end, and also the paving of those cross streets which lead to Water Street. At the same time, the paving of Water Street should be continued to the Cross Roads and to Hoylestown, when we have all that done, we may hope to have a clean city, till that is done we can expect nothing better than what has existed here for the last twenty years. After we have paved those streets attention can be given to the side streets and those running at right angles from the main thoroughfares. I think that the revenue of the Council would be sufficient to keep these streets in repair, and I think the present sanitary staff would be sufficient to look after the sanitation and general clean up. There is one thing that the Council has to contend with and that is the want of desire on the part of many citizens to connect their houses with the sewerage system. I submit that this should be made compulsory. I know main streets in this city, where the sanitary cars go day after day to visit one or two houses of people who are openly violating the law. Should those houses be compelled to connect with the sewerage system it will be unnecessary for them to go to these localities any longer and they will be able to pay attention to localities where it is impossible to have that sewerage system installed. I think, Mr. Chairman, that if these matters are taken up in a spirit of reform with the ultimate idea that the city should be made a credit to the people of St. John's and not a place to be sneered at by every person that comes in, these improvements would soon be brought about. I have much pleasure in giving this Bill my hearty support and as the representative of the district of St. John's West, I would express my hearty thanks and appreciation to Messrs. Bowring for their magnificent gift to the city and I hope when the Park is completed and in operation it will be availed of by hundreds of our citizens and that the name of Bowring will go down to posterity as a benefactor of the poor and less fortunate citizens of this town. I have very much pleasure in giving my hearty support to the Bill now before the Chair.

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

On motion this Report was received and adopted; and it was ordered that the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

CUSTOMS BILL.
Second Reading of Bill to amend "The Customs Act, 1898."

HON. THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the second reading of this Bill. It is introduced to make two small changes to increase the efficiency of the service. The first section proposes to amend section 2 of the Act passed in 1907, by applying that section to the United States. The section provided "In determining the dutiable value of goods, except when imported from Great Britain, Ireland and Canada there shall be added to the cost or the actual wholesale price or fair market value, at the time of exportation, in the principal markets of the country from whence the same have been imported into this Colony the cost of inland transportation, shipment and transhipment with all the expenses included from the place of growth, production or manufacture. Whether by land or water to the vessel in which shipment is made either in transitu or direct to the colony, subject to such regulations as are made by the Governor in Council."

Now to the exception of Great Britain, Ireland and Canada, the Customs authorities propose to add the United States, both in the interest of the trade and of the service. The second section deals with a small point which was found to be of some importance and needed to be attended to.

Section 207 of the Act of 1898 was taken from the Canadian Act and some words were left out. The present section reads every person who by any contrivance gains access to bonded goods in a railway car, or to goods in a railway car upon which customs duties have not been paid, shall be subject to certain penalties. The authorities found that it often happened that goods arriving here for places like Bell Island, were taken from the car to Bell Island, but were transferred on the way to some other person at say Portugal Cove. In other words they are taken possession of before actual payment of the duties. This section proposes to insert the words "Or in any other conveyance or place" after the words "railway car" and this will cover the position that I have outlined.

On motion the Bill was read a second time and ordered to be referred to committee of the whole House on to-morrow.

PHARMACY BILL.
Second Reading of Bill to amend the Act 10 Edward VII, Cap. 4.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE—Mr. Speaker the object of this Bill is to make a small amendment in Section 13 of what is known as "The Pharmacy Act" passed a couple of years ago and has reference to the sale of poisons. The Act did not prevent the importation of poisons into the Colony. That is that while an individual cannot sell poisons in the colony, he is allowed to import them and the customs authorities find that persons are importing them in small quantities. They now ask that this amendment be made in the Act.

At present section B reads as follows: "No persons shall sell or attempt to sell or expose for sale or keep open shop for retailing dispensing or compounding any of the drugs or medicines mentioned in schedule A to this Act." The Customs officials ask now for the insertion of words preventing the importation. This does
not in any way affect the importation by chemists wholesale.

On motion the Bill was read a second time and ordered to be referred to a committee of the whole House to-morrow.

GRAND BANK HARBOR BILL.

Second Reading of Bill to amend the Act 2 Edward VII., Cap. 14, entitled "An Act respecting the control and management of the Harbour of Grand Bank."

HON. THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE—Mr. Speaker, in moving the second reading of this bill I beg to say that the Act 2 Ed. VII. Cap. 14 entitled "An Act respecting the control and management of the Harbour of Grand Bank" provides for the appointment of a board of Commissioners whose duties are to manage and control the Harbor of Grand Bank and provides for a tax payable for all vessels belonging to Grand Bank as follows: "On vessels over forty tons—five cents. "On all vessels under forty tons and over ten tons two dollars." This tax is leviable once a year, and is payable to the Board for the improvements of Grand Bank Harbour. In addition to this, some time before 1909, I think during the term of the late administration, the sum of $15,000 was voted by way of loan to Grand Bank and $5000 for the harbor improvements of Fortune, making $20,000 altogether. It was raised by the loan Act of 1909, and under an arrangement made at that time, or made at the time the money was spent a tax was placed upon coal going into Grand Bank and that tax as collected was applied to the paying of the interest of the loan and any balance whatever was applied to harbour improvements in Grand Bank. The general public of this place have represented to the Government the unfairness that exists because while all the other settlements in the country are getting their public works proportionately out of the revenue, Grand Bank is taxed for the ordinary improvements in the harbour, and the Government has decided to take the responsibility for this debt and not to collect the interest on the vote. The difference will be very small as Hon. gentlemen will see. In 1907 there was collected at Grand Bank $1222.05, in 1908 $1130, in 1909 there was collected $1186 on coal and $905 in water rates, in 1910 $534 on coal and $148 in water rates, in 1911 $982.30 on coal and $333 in water rates, making a total of $4781. Out of this $3779.08 was paid into the Treasury for interest on the loan, leaving $1001.92 to be spent in Harbour improvements or about $250 a year. The amount collected at Fortune less the amount paid in interest only left $141.90 to be expended in harbour improvements, or about $35 per year. This Act then merely proposes to repeal the tax which was placed on Grand Bank vessels by the Act of 1902, and when the Revenue Bill comes down it is proposed to repeal the tax on coal so that improvements made at Grand Bank and Fortune will be made in the same way as in any other settlement in the colony.

On motion the Bill was read a second time and ordered to be referred to a committee of the whole on to-morrow.

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 amend Chapter 102 of the Consolidated Statutes entitled "Of Weights and Measures and the Inspection of Lumber," with some amendments in which they requested the concurrence of the House of Assembly.
On motion the amendments were read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

Mr. Clift gave Notice of Question.

Mr. Clapp gave Notice of Question.

The remaining Orders of the Day were deferred.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until Monday next, March 25th., at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

MONDAY, March 25th., 1912.

House met at three of the clock in the afternoon, pursuant to adjournment.

PETITIONS.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a number of petitions from the Officers and members of the Fishermen's Protective Union, in the District of Trinity, having reference to the General Election and Railway matters. The petitions, which have been forwarded to me from Little Hearts Ease, Champeens, English Harbour, Elliston, Bonaventure, Hatchet Cove, Trinity East, Long Beach, Snooks Harbour and Scilly Cove, are similar to those which were presented to this House on Friday last by the Leader of the Opposition, and I have nothing to add to what was said on that occasion by Sir Edward Morris, the Prime Minister. I would ask that these petitions be referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary. I also beg to present a number of petitions from the same settlements on the subject of Telephone connection, Public wharves, Lighthouses and Fog Alarms, and ports of call for the S.S. Ethie. I ask that these petitions be also referred to the Colonial Secretary's Department, in order that they may receive due consideration by the Government.

MR. DOWNEY—Mr. Speaker, I have been entrusted to-day with two petitions. The first is of more than ordinary importance and I don't think I could do justice to it without asking the indulgence of the House to read two paragraphs.

This petition is signed by the entire inhabitants of the Bay of Islands and deals with the most important subject of roads. Accompanying it is a voucher signed by the clergymen, the Manager of the Bank of Montreal, the heads of the different mercantile firms and some of the more important citizens stating that if the Legislature grants the prayer of the petition that they will without any fee or commission constitute themselves into a committee to see that the money is expended to the greatest advantage and that the very best returns in labor and value are given. Knowing the importance of this petition I give it my earnest support and ask that it be referred to the Board of Works in the hope that its prayer may be granted. I also ask leave to present a petition from Bay of Islands asking that the question of granting a subsidy to the steamer "Seal" may be favorably considered. The petitioners think that during the present year she could be of very great value, and could be utilized to convey a weekly mail. I would ask that this petition be received and referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary and that it be favourably considered.

HON. MIN. AGRICULTURE AND MINES—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a petition from Gooseberry Islands, praying that a light-house be placed there. Needless to say, I give the petition my hearty support, and ask that it be referred to the Department to which it relates. I also ask leave to present a petition from Deer
Islands asking that a light-house be placed on West Point.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE—I ask leave to present a petition from Squid Tickles in connection with the running of mail steamers on Sunday and other matters. I ask that petition be received and referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

MR. F. J. MORRIS—I ask leave to present a petition from Richard Car­een and about 150 other residents of Point Lance, Cape St. Mary's shore and St. Bride's on the subject of a road from Branch to Point Lance. There is quite a thriving settlement out there, and up to the present time they have never had a road. There is a path, but it is not passable for a vehicle at all. These people have been promised a road, I understand, for the past 20 years but nothing has been done. I would, therefore, ask that this petition be received in the hope that a start may be made this year.

MR. CLAPP—I ask leave to present a petition from Stanley Grieve and a number of other residents of Horse Islands, and also from LaScie. These petitions ask that a motor-boat be substituted for the present system of carrying the mails from La Scie to Horse Islands, a distance of from 12 to 14 miles. It appears that it takes a very long time at present and the trip is hazardous and men are liable at any time to lose their lives. I would ask that this petition be received and referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary and that it receive the consideration which its importance deserves. I also ask leave to present a petition from E. Butler, J.P., and a number of other residents of South-west Pacquet, asking that a post-office be established there. These people suffer very great inconvenience having to travel three or four miles over a rock road, in fact there is practically no road there at all. They also ask that in the event of a steamer being put on White Bay this season that South West Pacquet be made a port of call. I also ask leave to present a petition that has just been handed me, (I may say I have already presented a similar petition to the Legislature), on the subject of making Fleur de Lys a port of call. Now when I first received a petition on this subject I had some communication with the Government on the matter and Captain Kean thought it undesirable that the steamer should call at Fleur de Lys, but I hope that now that a smaller steamer is being put on White Bay the Government will see its way clear to deal with this matter. The petition also asks that the telegraph wires be extended from Coachman's Cove to Fleur de Lys. I have no doubt this matter will also receive consideration at the hands of the Government. I also ask leave to present a petition from William Duggan and others of LaScie. The petition is numerously signed and asks that LaScie be made a weekly port of call. It is a growing place, and the people feel the need of a weekly visit from a steamer instead of a fortnightly one. I am sure that the Government will also consider this matter as soon as a steamer is put on White Bay. I would ask that the petition be received and referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

Mr. Clift gave notice of question.
Mr. Kent gave notice of question.
Hon. Minister of Justice gave notice that on to-morrow he would ask leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the appropriation of lands required for public purposes.

QUESTIONS.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table a state-
HONORABLE COLONIAL SECRETARY—In reply to the honorable member I beg to say that (1) Dr. Grant was paid $110.25 for 882 vaccinations at 12½ cents; (2) the amount paid for vaccine was $114.66; (3) I table herewith a detailed statement of cost of cable laying between Ramea and Burgeo, including hire of schooner Duchess of Cornwall; also (4) to state if the said cable has been connected, and is now in operation or not; if not, why not.

MR. CLAPP asked the Right Hon. the Prime Minister whether it is the intention of the Government to build and improve the road in White Bay, District of St. Barbe, leading to the Railway line, the present year, 1912.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—The road in question, namely, the road in White Bay, District of St. Barbe, leading to the Railway line, was, I understand, in the year 1898 undertaken by the Winter administration, and partially constructed. Upon assuming office, the present Government found that for the previous ten years not a dollar had been expended on the work; that it had been entirely abandoned; and that the whole road would require to be rebuilt. At the present time, nearly the whole of the road is overgrown with trees, and a great portion of it that had been made has been washed away. They also found that the roads in this District had been entirely neglected, and were in a wretched condition. For the past three years they have been improving the roads, and have spent some thousands of dollars each year over and above the regular grants for repairing the roads and bringing them up to a standard to enable the people to avail of them. There is not a mile of main line to-day in the entire District from Trout River to La Scie, extending over nearly 600 miles; and the Government propose, in their general policy of the improvement of our main roads, and the extension of the same through Districts now lacking these facilities, to include St. Barbe therein.

WAYS AND MEANS.

Pursuant to notice and leave granted, and on motion of 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.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—Mr. Chairman, in rising to-day to perform the duty of presenting this, my fourth Budget, it is my pleasing privilege to be able to again congratulate the Legislature and the
people on the unexampled condition of prosperity which our Colony enjoys and which is due very largely to the results of the policy of the Government that are now beginning to bear fruit abundantly. The story of the Colony's progress the past three years is most encouraging and the promise of the future is even more so.

When twelve months ago I presented my third Budget, it was my fortunate position to be able to invite you to rejoice in the fact that the fiscal year 1909-10 had broken all records in our financial history—by showing a total trade greatly in excess of any previous year's, a revenue by far the largest ever realized, and a surplus enormously exceeding any previously attained. It would almost seem impossible that this unique state of affairs could be improved upon this year, and yet I am proud to be able to announce today that the Colony's total trade for the fiscal year 1910-11 was substantially in excess of that of the previous year, both as to imports and exports; that the revenue again reached a figure outranking anything previously recorded; and that while the surplus did not, of course, duplicate the phenomenal one of the previous year, it is still the largest with one exception, in the Colony's annals. To the present Government I think I am justified in assigning a substantial share of the credit for this highly gratifying situation, because when we took office, just three years ago, we inaugurated a policy of real progress. Hon. members will be able to see from the printed documents which are laid on their desks, and from the figures which I shall quote in the course of this review, that simultaneously with the advent of the present Administration to office, this country took on a new lease of life, so to speak, and began an onward march along the paths of well-being and contentment, that seems destined, as the years go by, to promote more and more widespread and abiding prosperity among those who dwell within her borders.

As you are aware, Mr. Chairman, the fact that our fiscal year closes on the 30th of June, necessitates the consideration, in a Budget Speech, of the accounts of three fiscal years—the year that closed last June, the year that closes the coming June, and the year that will close twelve months after that. I propose, though, before entering into the details of these accounts, to state, briefly, that for the past fiscal year, namely, that which ended on the 30th of June, 1911, the revenue from all sources was $3,527,126.43, and the expenditure was $3,354,746.52, leaving a surplus of $172,379.91. For the current fiscal year I estimate a revenue of $3,700,000 and an expenditure of $3,525,000, which should give a surplus of $175,000; and for the subsequent fiscal year, ending with June, 1913, I estimate a revenue of $3,700,000 and an expenditure of $3,600,000, which should leave a surplus of $100,000.

Three factors contribute to make up the growth in the trade of any country—increased imports, increased exports, and expansion of local industries. Let us, then, apply the test of the import and export trade by noting the records for the past six fiscal years. During the first four of these years our predecessors held office, including within the previous Government's term the last four months of the fiscal year which ended on the 30th of June, 1909, for the first eight months of which that Government was in office. These figures show as follows:

**Under Bond.**

1905-6, Imports, $10,414,274; Exports, $12,086,276; Total, $22,500,550.
1906-7, Imports 10,426,040; Exports, $12,101,161; Total, $22,527,201.
1907-8, Imports $11,516,111; Exports, $11,815,769; Total, $23,331,880.
1908-9, Imports, $11,402,337; Exports, $10,848,913; Total, $22,251,250.

Under Morris.

1909-10, Imports, $12,799,696; Exports, $11,824,997; Total, $24,624,692.

1910-11, Imports, $13,383,910; Exports, $11,975,747; Total, $25,359,657.

It will be seen, Mr. Chairman, from this table, that the year the late Ministry went out of office was the poorest in the whole term of six years, in point of total trade. The exports were the smallest in value of the entire period, and while there was an improvement in the value of imports, over the first two years, it was due largely to the bringing in of materials for the building of the pulp and paper mills. Since this Government, though, has taken office, there has been a marked increase in the value of the exports, which means that more money has gone into the pockets of our people; while the value of the imports has also shown a corresponding increase, a proof that out of their enhanced earnings they are purchasing more largely of all forms of imports, in order to enjoy more extensively the material comforts, in the form of food and clothing and household goods, which naturally appeal to those whose circumstances will enable them to procure such.

What a contrast, Mr. Chairman, to the gloomy predictions of those political opponents who, in their campaign speeches, pretended to see in the advent of this Administration to power the most calamitous consequences to this Ancient Colony. Newfoundland's total trade in 1910-11 was valued at about three-quarters of a million dollars more than that of the previous year, which was itself the best in our history up to that time. To show how widespread was the improvement, I would point out that the Customs Duties collected at Grand Falls increased from $49,324 in 1908-9, to $101,374 in 1909-10, and to $123,345 in 1910-11; those received at Bell Island in 1910-11 amounted to $41,000, though large imports of machinery for extending the plants were made in 1909-10; and those collected at the various outports, which in 1909-10 amounted to $373,487, reached $387,445 in 1910-11, an increase of $14,000. The imports last year increased $600,000, and the exports showed an increase of $150,000. Pulp and paper exports are now coming to figure as substantial factors in our shipments abroad.

The revenue of the Customs Department continues to increase largely and to prove a constant source of surprise to even the most optimistic students of our fiscal and economic advance. Applying the same test as previously, that is to say, making an exhibit of the record of the last four years of our predecessors, with the two completed years that have transpired of the present administration, we find that it works out as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Cust. Rev.</th>
<th>Increase</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1905-6</td>
<td>$2,335,238</td>
<td>$39,278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906-7</td>
<td>2,354,056</td>
<td>18,818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907-8</td>
<td>2,472,074</td>
<td>118,018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908-9</td>
<td>2,455,393</td>
<td>$46,681</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$176,114 $46,691

Net increase for 4-year period $129,423
Average increase for 4 years 32,356

Under Morris.

Year Cust. Rev. Increase Decrease
1909-10 $2,743,364 $317,971
1910-11 2,898,615 155,251
Increase ............... $473,222
Average for two years .... 236,611

In other words, the Colony, under the present Administration, has averaged an increase in Customs Revenue for each of the two years completed of more than $200,000 annually in excess of that realized by the same Department during the last four years of the Bond Administration. It may be argued, however, that in these amounts are included the revenue derived from the
tax on iron ore, but, if, Sir, we take out or allow for these amounts, which were $22,201.74 in 1909-10 and $66,280 in 1910-11, we have still an enlargement in 1910-11 of $89,000 due to increased importations. What is true of Customs Revenue is equally true of Postal Revenue, Telegraph Revenue, Taxes and Assessments, and Miscellaneous Revenue. The Postal Revenue increased almost $27,000 last year, partly, of course, through the sale of Guy Centenary and Royal Coronation issues, but apart from this there is a steady normal increase, and the Auditor General, who has followed this subject closely, says: "I feel confident that the Postal Revenue for the current year—which will not be affected by what I may call speculative issues—will fully equal, if not surpass, last year's." The Telegraph Revenue has increased $12,000. The Revenue from "Taxes and Assessments" shows an increase of $16,000, due to the payment by the Western Union and Direct Cable Companies of the sum of $8,000 each for landing taxes on their cables, and the "Miscellaneous Revenue" is increased almost $60,000 principally by the receipt of $49,485 as interest on the credit balances of the Railway Loan in the Bank of Montreal and Bank of Nova Scotia, besides which the Government has received in interest on the credit balances of the other accounts in the Bank of Montreal some $6,549 over 1909-10.

The Crown Lands Revenue for the past year was $191,334, a sum nearly four times as great as that which our predecessors obtained from that Department during the last year they were in office, while the best year of their term saw a receipt of only $59,000. The development of our forest wealth has also had the gratifying effect of making our pulp and paper exports one of the chief sources on which we can rely in future for a valuable industry, subsidiary to the fisheries; as the export of pulp and paper for the year which ended on the 30th of June last was valued at $1,194,747, and the value of these products exported during the six months of the current fiscal year, which ended on the 31st of December last, was $1,136,199. In other words, during the calendar year 1911, pulp and paper were exported from this Colony to the value of our mineral export during the same period, and the current calendar year, with the enlargement at Grand Falls and at Bishop Falls, now under way, will probably see these figures almost doubled.

Such, then, were the conditions, Mr. Chairman, which gave us a surplus of $173,000, in round figures, at the end of June last; and the Government proposes to utilize this amount in constructing roads and marine works, the necessary legislative authorization for which will be invited in a day or two.

For the current fiscal year, now somewhat more than eight months gone, I estimated last year a revenue of $3,460,000, which estimate, I am glad to say, is being very materially exceeded. For instance, the Customs Revenue for the eight months, which ended on February 29th, showed an increase of $180,000 over the same period last year and, in view of the prospect of larger imports for the Spring trade and for the various industries that are developing, I think it not unreasonable to estimate that the same proportion will be maintained for the remaining four months, which would give an increase in this Department alone of $270,000, an expansion in normal Customs Revenue never equalled in the Colony. The Postal Telegraph Revenue for the eight months was $112,694.01 against $110,125.52 for the same period last year, an increase of $2,568.49. I think it is safe to assume that the other revenue-earning departments will yield as
much as last year, but to provide for
the contingency of this not occurring,
it will be seen that in the following
statement I have made ample allow­
ance, thus:—
General Revenue of 1910-11 $3,527,126
Plus estimated increase in
Customs Revenue this
year .................. 270,000

-----------
$3,797,126

Less possible shortage in
other sources of revenue
of, say .................. $97,126

Leaving a Revenue of .... $3,700,000

The expenditure I estimate as
follows:—
Principal Estimates, as vot­
ed last session ........ $3,327,442
Supplementary Estimates,
as voted this session 248,643

-----------
$3,576,085

Less dropped balances, say 50,000

Total Expenditure ... $3,526,085
Excess of Revenue ... 173,915
Or a surplus, say (in round
figures) ................ $175,000

For the fiscal year which begins on
July 1st, 1912, and ends on June 30th,
1913, I again estimate a revenue of
$3,700,000, and an expenditure of about
$3,600,000, so that there should be a
surplus of virtually $100,000. Seeing
that, as appears from the statement I
have just read of the Revenue outlook
for the present year, the prospect is
for a revenue of almost $3,800,000
(disregarding the deductions I have
made for unforeseen contingencies,
which may reduce the total receipts
somewhat), I consider myself war­
ranted in estimating that we will re­
ceive at least $3,700,000 again in the
next fiscal year, taking into account
the normal increase in Customs, Post­
al, Telegraph, Crown Lands and other
sources of revenue the past three
years. The estimates of expenditure
for the coming fiscal year, which I
have already submitted to this
House, total $3,493,989, and the ad­
tional estimates which have been sub­
mitted amount, in round figures, to
$110,000, made up as follows:—
Interest on additional Rail­
way Loan of $2,000,000 .. $70,000
Interest on Local Loan for
Telephone System of
$150,000 ................ 6,000
Interest on Local Loan for
Lighthouse System of
$100,000 ................ 4,000
Increase of Education Grant
following Census ........ 22,500
Increase of Road Grant, do.,do. 7,310

-----------
$109,810

The two together make a total ex­
penditure of slightly over $3,600,000,
which would give a probable surplus
of about $100,000.

Having thus, Mr. Chairman, dispo­
ed of the fiscal situation for the three
years embraced within this Budget, it
is again my privilege to invite this
House and the country to note the
splendid advance in all forms of pros­
perity made by our Colony during the
past twelve months, the degree of mat­
erial advancement reached during the
year having exceeded that of any other
season that preceded it.

Conclusive testimony as to the pro­
gress which the Colony has made is
afforded by the last Report of the
Newfoundland Board of Trade, which
organization, in the course of its
valuable annual review of conditions
within the Colony, says:—

"Newfoundland has experienced for
the past two or three years, and is
still experiencing, a period of very
great prosperity. It would almost
seem as if all nature had conspired
this year to make Newfoundland the
one place of all cod-producing coun­
tries where success should attend the
efforts of the people. The success of
the Colony doubtless depends in the
largest degree upon the successful outcome of the fisheries, and this year the voyage has been a fairly good one, for which, in consequence of the poverty of the voyage in other countries, there has been a very keen demand at extraordinary prices, which has increased the earnings of the fishermen very largely and enabled them to spend freely; but the other resources of Newfoundland are making themselves felt and are contributing substantially to the general prosperity of the Colony. Amongst the various industries may be mentioned, first, the splendid pulp mills of the Anglo-Newfoundland Development Company, and the equally good but smaller ones of the Albert Reed Company, and the Iron Mines of Bell Island. These industries are subjected to fewer vicissitudes than the fisheries, and are calculated to provide a more regular source of labor, and to, in some degree, do away with the fluctuations in the prosperity of the Colony which were experienced in years gone by. The importance of these industries may be gauged from the fact that the Anglo-Newfoundland Development Company are at the present time employing about 2,000 men, in addition to which the loading of the ships employs between 100 and 200 more, according to requirements. The total amount of wages paid is not less than $900,000 a year, while the mills are expected to have an annual output, when the new machines are installed, of between 35,000 and 40,000 tons of ground wood pulp, and about 60,000 tons of paper. The Albert Reed Company also employ a considerable number of men in similar work. Another large pulp industry is in process of formation at Bay of Islands.

Similar testimony to the prosperity of the Colony is adduced from various other quarters, and I think I may say without fear of successful contradiction that it will be admitted on every hand that there was never a time in its history when its people were so well-off or contented, or when the outlook for the future was more encouraging than it is to-day. Newfoundland has been free for years from financial unrest, commercial depression or industrial discontent; self-contained and independent, she has been working out her economic salvation in a fashion to evoke the admiration of all observers; and by the development of her natural resources, she has been enabled to see her fishermen, her farmers, her miners, her lumbermen and her working people of every class attain to a degree of comfort that has never been equalled. To this splendid result the railway policy has largely contributed, and as the completion of the various branches authorized by this Legislature is carried out, we may look for the same results to follow in equal degree as have ensued from the construction of the trunk line across the Island, which was the great outstanding feature of the policy of the late Sir William Whiteway. Through this railroad policy our forest, mineral and farmland resources are being utilized as they never could be otherwise. The pulp and paper enterprises along the line are conclusive testimony to this, and the towns growing up about these mills are large consumers of agricultural products; so that these centres, as well as others, are having a decided effect in stimulating the agricultural industry amongst us. Already one of the branch railroads has been opened, and it is expected that two others will be completed during the present year; and the people of the districts which these will serve, as well as the people of the whole Colony at large, will, I am sure, be proud for all time to acclaim Sir Edward Morris as the father of this phase of the railway policy and as a worthy successor to the late Sir William Whiteway.
Nothing better emphasizes the prosperity of this Colony than the growth of its imports and a study of the progress of the Island for the sixteen years that have passed since, for reasons which it is not necessary to detail here, the fiscal year was changed from December 31st to June 30th, shows a very marked advance. The increasing value of exports, too, is an index to the rapid material advance of the country, and in order that all may realize the progress this Colony has made since that time, I supply tables here of the imports and exports, at four yearly periods:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended</th>
<th>Imports</th>
<th>Exports</th>
<th>Total Trade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 30</td>
<td>$5,986,861</td>
<td>$6,638,187</td>
<td>$12,625,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>6,311,245</td>
<td>6,936,315</td>
<td>13,247,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>8,479,944</td>
<td>9,976,504</td>
<td>18,456,448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>10,626,040</td>
<td>12,101,161</td>
<td>22,727,201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>13,383,910</td>
<td>11,975,747</td>
<td>25,359,657</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Another table covering the same period gives the value of the free imports and of the dutiable imports in the same years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended</th>
<th>Dutiable</th>
<th>Free</th>
<th>Total Imports</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 30</td>
<td>$5,396,995</td>
<td>$589,866</td>
<td>$5,986,861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>6,667,887</td>
<td>643,358</td>
<td>6,311,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>8,82,432</td>
<td>1,597,512</td>
<td>8,479,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>6,545,612</td>
<td>4,080,428</td>
<td>10,626,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>8,165,165</td>
<td>5,218,745</td>
<td>13,383,910</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The foregoing table, which shows the great increase of late years in the value of the free imports into this Colony, is an effective answer to the argument that this Government is increasing taxation. This Government is not increasing and has not in any way increased taxation, and I have already placed in this House a statement which proves how the Bond Administration increased the duties on articles generally and removed the duties from certain commodities, and then tried to make out that it had lessened the burden of taxation on our people; whereas the actual records, which cannot be disputed, show that as a result of this "robbing Peter to pay Paul," there were actually $33,558 a year more gained in revenue annually afterwards than before this double-dealing was begun nine years ago. For the information of those who have not seen this statement, I summarize its effective features here:

**Statement showing augmented Customs Receipts in the following years, through increasing the Duties generally and through reductions effected by placing Salt, Flour, Molasses and Kero Oil on the Free List.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Increases</th>
<th>Decreases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1903-4</td>
<td>$218,052</td>
<td>$98,389.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904-5</td>
<td>230,281</td>
<td>217,328.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905-6</td>
<td>238,292</td>
<td>219,427.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906-7</td>
<td>240,527</td>
<td>217,903.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907-8</td>
<td>234,002</td>
<td>230,842.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908-9</td>
<td>236,614</td>
<td>212,535.34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$1,397,768 1,196,419.00

Total increase in six years by raising duties ...... $1,397,768
Total decrease in six years by lowering duties ...... 1,196,412
Excess of increases in six years ......... 201,349
Average annual gain to the Treasury in six years by this pretended reduction of taxation ......... 33,558

I will, however, doubtless be met with the argument that if this Government has not increased taxation, it has not reduced taxation; and I answer that by saying that if we have not actually taken the duties off any articles of importance we have so improved the conditions of existence in this country that we have made it possible for the people of Newfoundland to earn so much more that they are better able to pay the duties than before and also to materially enlarge their savings, as I shall show presently from the record of the deposits in the Savings Bank the past two or three
years. Furthermore, I maintain that by our ore-tax policy, which has brought in nearly $100,000 a year; by judiciously advertising our dormant natural resources and thus increasing the Crown Lands Revenue by another $100,000 a year; and by inducing the Western Union and Direct U. S. Cable Companies to come in, by extending our telegraph lines and otherwise, we will have a third $100,000 a year; so that by these hitherto untapped sources of revenue, which do not affect the average taxpayer at all, we have secured $300,000 a year to carry our large progressive policy without increasing taxation; but with a substantial increase in the earning possibilities of our people. The proof of this is found in the fact that the Customs Revenue, for the eight months of the present fiscal year that have expired, outstrips anything under normal conditions hitherto.

I supply here another table, which shows the value of the fishery exports during the four-year periods I have stated above, and the value of the other exports, as distinct from the products of the fishery, and the very marked advance the Colony has made of late years in the value of its non-fishery exports will be realized from this:

Year Ended, June 30,—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended</th>
<th>Fishery Exports</th>
<th>Other Exports</th>
<th>Total Exports</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>$5,474,933</td>
<td>$1,163,254</td>
<td>$6,638,187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>$5,889,135</td>
<td>$1,047,180</td>
<td>$6,936,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>$7,807,971</td>
<td>$2,168,533</td>
<td>$9,976,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>$9,862,361</td>
<td>$2,238,700</td>
<td>$12,101,161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>$8,523,131</td>
<td>$3,452,616</td>
<td>$11,975,747</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From this table it will be seen that whereas in the past 15 years the increase in the value of our fishery exports has been only about 50 to 60 per cent., the value of our other exports has trebled. In other words, they have advanced from $1,100,000 to $3,400,000. The main contributories to this, of course, have been—first, the output of iron ore from Bell Island; and, second, the production of pulp and paper at Grand Falls and Bishop Falls. It follows, therefore, that, assuming our fisheries to maintain their present position, the degree of advance the Colony is to make henceforth is to be measured by the number of new industries that we can establish amongst us, which will provide employment for our people at seasons when fishing is not possible, and make it feasible for them to largely supplement their annual earnings as they now do in the iron mines and in the pulp mills.

It is gratifying to observe that the price of fish continues to maintain itself at a high figure, and that in spite of the fluctuations in the catch, it is proving the greatest factor in our well-being. I supply a table herewith which shows the catch, the value and the price for the past five years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended</th>
<th>June 30 Qtls.</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Per Qtl.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>1,422,445</td>
<td>$7,873,172</td>
<td>$5.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>1,502,269</td>
<td>7,820,092</td>
<td>5.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>1,732,337</td>
<td>7,398,536</td>
<td>4.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>1,502,269</td>
<td>7,307,378</td>
<td>4.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>1,182,720</td>
<td>6,544,604</td>
<td>5.53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During last Fall still another contributory towards the maintenance of the price of fish manifested itself when American dealers began to purchase largely on our coast and opened what is hoped will develop into an industry of substantial importance and one that will prove a valuable addition to the various markets which this country possesses abroad. The various other fisheries were prosecuted with an average degree of success, and the
high price offered for the Labrador catch more than offset the shortage in quantity and will probably stimulate a much larger prosecution of that industry the coming season. The industrial outlook last year was very gratifying. It is well known that there never was such a Fall in the history of St. John's as that of 1911, in point of business and amount of money in circulation.

The progress of the pulp and paper industry can be seen by this table of the exports of these products since the opening of the industry at Grand Falls, which has been as follows:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended June 30th, 1909.</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>7,866</td>
<td>$352,155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulp</td>
<td>6,853</td>
<td>69,164</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$421,319

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended June 30th, 1910.</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>21,064</td>
<td>$943,699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulp</td>
<td>27,177</td>
<td>251,048</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$1,194,747

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Six Months Ended Dec. 31st, 1911.</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>17,184</td>
<td>$769,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulp</td>
<td>31,933</td>
<td>366,218</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$1,136,139

The Harmsworth Company has just completed the construction and equipment of a second paper mill at Grand Falls, which will enable it to turn out twice the quantity of paper produced last year. The Albert Reed Company, at Bishop Falls, is at work on the extension of its pulp-making plant and contemplates further extension within a year, which will result in the manufacture of various grades of paper there. It is consequently certain that the result of this industry will be seen in a steadily increasing output of pulp and paper in the years to come, while there is every prospect of witnessing during the coming summer the starting of construction work on a new mill at Bay of Islands, which will be little, if at all, inferior to either of these in the scope of the operations contemplated. There is also reasonable expectation that as soon as the Spring opens the development of shale and bitumen areas near Deer Lake will be undertaken, and if the expectations of those who are interested in the project are realized, an industry will be set on foot there that will within a year or two result in the employment of from one to two thousand men.

The Dominion Steel Company, too, has actually begun work for the opening of a limestone quarry at Port au Port, which will call for the permanent employment of at least 500 men, so that all these factors in the industrial situation contribute to make the outlook most encouraging for the country at large.

During the calendar year 1911 the receipts from Bell Island ore royalties amounted to $87,899.43, against $59,947.76 in 1910, and during this year a still larger sum is looked for, as the companies are extending their works at Sydney and New Glasgow and will require for their needs an increasing supply of raw material.

The railroad system, too, is proving a valuable factor in stimulating the general trade and industry of the country, and as the branches are extended and bring more and more places into touch by this auxiliary, the same result will be correspondingly increased. From the returns furnished by the Reid Newfoundland Company, it is possible to illustrate how the railroad traffic has grown in recent years; and this summer when a daily express is inaugurated and two steamers are plying on the route across Cabot Strait, we may look to see a still more notable increase in the activities of the Reid Newfoundland
Company. This corporation, as everybody is well aware, has within the past few weeks put on this route a new Bruce, finer and more costly than that which preceded her; and has let the contract for the construction of a still finer steamer to be completed by the end of this year, which ship will alternate with the Bruce next season, and also for a modern Labrador boat of the finest class to improve the service on that seaboard, displacing the Invermore and the Solway, which cover these routes at the present time.

The figures of railroad traffic I give below, for the year 1903-4, the first complete year under the existing railroad contract, and for the year 1910-11:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of passengers carried</th>
<th>Tons freight carried</th>
<th>Miles run by passenger trains</th>
<th>Miles run by mixed trains</th>
<th>Passenger traffic earnings</th>
<th>Freight traffic earnings</th>
<th>Mail traffic earnings</th>
<th>Other earnings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1903-4</td>
<td>136,010</td>
<td>102,935</td>
<td>31,296</td>
<td>200,821</td>
<td>$206,940</td>
<td>$286,484</td>
<td>41,812</td>
<td>22,724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910-11</td>
<td>213,115</td>
<td>130,510</td>
<td>43,067</td>
<td>273,419</td>
<td>$249,731</td>
<td>$477,697.09</td>
<td>42,000</td>
<td>48,088</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This improvement finds expression in the advance made by the Postal and Telegraph Department. During the past fiscal year the progress of that Department has been specially remarkable, as may be seen from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Ordinary Postal Revenue</th>
<th>Postal Telegraph Revenue</th>
<th>Total Receipts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1909-10</td>
<td>$90,388.41</td>
<td>67,771.75</td>
<td>$158,160.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910-11</td>
<td>$117,259.85</td>
<td>79,956.80</td>
<td>$197,216.65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Expenditure ... \$374,276.58 \$395,224.20
Telegraph Expenditure ... 90,362.32 102,348.12
Marconi R'ylties 2,436.37 2,433.33
Telegraph Construction ... 10,621.82 23,295.53
Marconi Construction .... 9,097.45

Excess of Postal Expenditure over Revenue ... \$277,964.35
Excess of Telegraph Expenditure over Revenue \$22,391.36

It will be seen from the above figures that the increase of Postal Revenue over that of last year is \$26,871.44, and the increase of ordinary Postal Expenditure is \$6,403.71. The time has therefore at last arrived when the Post Office is more than self-supporting, for its ordinary Revenue is \$117,000 and ordinary Expenditure \$103,000, leaving \$14,000 to go towards the payment of subsidies, while the same result may be looked for as soon as the extension of the Telegraph System is completed.

The summary of the Money Order business of the Colony for the fiscal year 1910-11 is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of Money Orders issued in Nfld.</th>
<th>No. of Money Orders paid in Nfld.</th>
<th>Total for 1911</th>
<th>Total for 1910</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1910-11</td>
<td>58,941</td>
<td>55,343</td>
<td>114,284</td>
<td>95,173</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Increase for 1911 ... \$19,111
Value of Money Orders issued in Nfld. ... \$765,209.71
Paid in Nfld. ... 817,817.37

Total for 1911 ... \$1,583,027.08
Total for 1910 ... 1,374,456.67

Increase for 1911 ... \$208,571.41

Total Commission on Issues 1911 ... \$5,881.68
Total Commission on Issues 1910 ........ 5,061.29
Increase for 1911 .......... $820.39
This increase in the Money Order business has apparently made no decrease in the number of registered letters, as will be seen by the following statement:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Incr, Registered letters posted St. John's</th>
<th>Incr, Registered official letters</th>
<th>Incr, Received from other offices</th>
<th>Incr, Delivered in St. John's</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1910-11</td>
<td>21,269</td>
<td>17,701</td>
<td>18,475</td>
<td>93,548</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total ........ 150,993 16,161

The sale of stamps increased during the fiscal year more than in any two previous years, owing to the great demand for our new issues abroad. The total value of the postage stamps and post cards sold in the year amounted to $115,813.16, an increase of $28,858.20 over the sales of the previous year. The Parcel Post business is growing with equal rapidity. The local parcels for the year amounted to 112,000, an increase of 10,156 over the total for 1910.

The Foreign Parcel Post business is increasing in similar fashion, as may be seen by the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of Parcels</th>
<th>Increase over previous year</th>
<th>Duty collected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>13,607</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>$16,796.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>14,212</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>$17,099.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>15,340</td>
<td>1,137</td>
<td>$20,685.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>25,261</td>
<td>9,912</td>
<td>$26,361.49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Duty collected, $26,361.49; Increase over previous year, $5,675.68.

I might direct the attention of the Committee to the evidence of better times in this Colony afforded by the increase of 11,000 in the number of parcels and of over $9,000 in the duties collected thereon, since the present Government assumed office—a virtual doubling of the business of this branch of the Postal Service.

The same highly encouraging conditions continue up to date, as the figures of the Postal and Telegraph Revenue up to the end of February, just past, will show, by comparison with the figures for the eight-month periods of the three preceding fiscal years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>$80,387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>88,903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>110,125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>112,694</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The same seems to be true of the Postal Telegraph Department. The revenue is increasing at an equally rapid rate and is the best justification of the Government's policy in extending the system. I might ob-
serve here that during the past three years since the present Administration assumed office it has extended the Telegraph System by over 400 miles, or an average of 135 miles annually. In view of the expansion of the business of the Parcel Post and Money Order Department, which conclusively proves how the public are coming to avail of the Post Office as a business agency, it is a question whether the time has not arrived when the Colony should take up the subject of establishing branches whereby express orders and express packages could be handled. I think one may fairly argue from the figures cited above, that a great and profitable business could be done in these directions if the Government were to undertake the work.

During the fiscal year 1911 some 138 miles of telegraph lines were constructed from Port Saunders to St. Anthony, and 29 miles in other directions, while two miles of cable were laid and 15 miles of telephone line put in operation. Three new Marconi stations for the Government were built on Labrador—at Cape Harrison, Macovic and Grady—while another is being built at Fogo. The Postmaster-General repeats his complaint noted by me in last year's Budget of the unsatisfactory working of the Marconi stations and of the failure of the Company to supply the annual report of their operations, and suggests that provision should be made for the inspection of their stations or that they might be placed under the control of the Postal Telegraphs as a department of the Government system. The station at Fogo will connect with Belle Isle and the Labrador stations, and in the future obviate the necessity of the frequent repetitions hitherto inevitable in sending messages to Labrador and receiving them from Labrador by way of the Canadian lighthouse stations on the West Coast.

**Savings of our People.**

The savings of our people still continue to increase amazingly, thereby further attesting to the enhanced prosperity of the Colony. Thus the showing for the Colonial Savings Bank has been one of the best in the history of the institution. There was a net increase in deposits of $221,416, which was the largest total in its history, except in the year following the great fire of 1892. The total of deposits now in that bank is $3,015,000, which amount is larger than was held there at the end of 1894, after which the Crash caused a very decided reduction in the total, though of late years there has been a gradual return to the old standard. This institution made last year a profit of $16,096.46 and had at the end of the year a reserve of $80,818, of which it has been decided to utilise $50,000 for the redemption of that amount of debentures, thereby reducing the Public Debt by that amount and yet leaving a handsome reserve still available.

The returns made by the Canadian Banks that do business in this Colony show that on May 31st, 1911, these banks had in their Savings Bank Departments $3,853,306.55, and they had on deposit at interest (which may also be regarded as savings) $3,263,153.75. The first of these figures represents an increase of $528,491.41 and the figures of money on deposit show an increase of $708.78 over last year, so that there is a net increase in the savings of our people, as shown by the deposits in the Colonial Savings Bank, and by the savings branches and deposit receipts of the Canadian banks of some $750,000, against $415,000 the previous year, and about the same amount the year before that. Moreover, the value of the debentures
and bonds of the Colony which are held locally to-day amounted to $3,449,733 at the end of the calendar year 1911, an increase of $239,753 during that year, against an increase of $185,199 the previous year; and the reserve or re-insurance value of life insurance policies to protect the interests of the owners is now $1,302,042.

In other words, our people invested during the past year, by means of deposits as savings or at interest in the banks, and the purchase of debentures, almost a million dollars. Today our Colonial Savings Bank has deposits totalling as much as it had when the Crash occurred—$3,000,000; the Canadian banks have in “savings” or “deposits” nearly two and a half times as much—$7,000,000; and debentures are held locally to the value of almost $3,500,000, against little more than a million dollars then; making savings of over $13,000,000 now against not more than $5,000,000 then, not to speak of the increased volume of life insurance and the investments in local industries, estimated at some $10,000,000 more.

It is encouraging to know that the Census figures recently completed show that the population of the Colony has increased from 221,000 to 243,000 during the past ten years, an increase, in round figures, of 10 per cent. during the decade. This is slightly better than the advance for the previous ten years, and it becomes all the more a matter of congratulation by contrast with the conditions in the neighbouring Maritime Provinces of Canada, where the total increase was only about 4 per cent. during the ten years. We have, therefore, cause for congratulation that the Colony has been able to retain so large an element in its increasing population during that period and we may reasonably hope that with the conditions of enhanced prosperity now prevailing and likely to continue there will be a still larger proportion of our people retained within our borders during the next ten years.

As there has been a slight decrease in the population of some sections of the Colony, the Government has decided that, in order that these localities may not suffer from a reduction of the amounts which they would receive for education and for local roads, to make the standard for the next ten years that represented by the existing amounts provided in these localities and to increase the appropriation so that the rest of the Colony may be on the same basis. This has involved an addition of $20,000 to the education vote and $7,300 to the vote for local roads, as already explained.

Slightly more than three years ago, Mr. Chairman, the present Government assumed office, when, as this House is aware, it found itself faced with large unfulfilled obligations, that is to say, for the building of the wing to the General Hospital, which the late Administration started, the completing of the Museum, and other public works, representing, in order to finish these undertakings, an additional sum of $175,000. The first thing, therefore, the Government had to do was to dispose of those obligations and then to begin to write its own record on a clean sheet, starting this new era on the first of July, 1909. Two full years of that period have now been completed and eight months of a third have transpired, reflecting a condition of things which enables one to form a fairly accurate estimate of how the Colony's affairs will exhibit themselves at the end of June next, when the third of our full fiscal periods will have ended. In the first year of the present regime, that is to say, from July 1st, 1909, to June 30th,
1910, the Colony entered upon a new era of prosperity, and its fiscal operations resulted in realizing a surplus revenue of $420,000, the greatest by far in our history, almost twice as large as in any previous year. The second of these years, with which I have been dealing to-day, that which began on the 1st of July, 1910, and ended on the 30th June, 1911, saw the Colony attain still greater prosperity and saw a surplus of $173,000 which, though considerably smaller than the previous year's, still outranked any in our previous history. The reason why this surplus was smaller is not that there was any falling back in revenue, in trade or in the general betterment of the Colony. It is simply that our expenditure was increased by $140,000 for interest on the four million dollars raised to undertake the construction of branch railways and by $150,000 on other public services—old age pensions, $20,000; census, $20,000; public charities $6,000; lighthouses, $7,000; agricultural development, $20,000; fire patrol, $4,000; post office extensions, $10,000; new steam subsidies, $7,000; telegraph extension, $8,000; education, $7,000, etc. For the current fiscal year which will end on 30th of June next, I estimate, as already stated, a surplus of $175,000, despite all the increases of expenditure we have undertaken, and I am satisfied from all the signs and omens that indicate the trend of the Colony's progress, that for the fiscal year which will end in June, 1913, we shall witness a surplus nearly as substantial and testifying with equal effect to the financial stability of the Colony and to the confidence of the country in the policy of the present Government.

That the people are justified in cherishing such a confidence will, I submit, be conclusively proved by a study of what the Government has done since it took office. In the session of 1909, it added $30,000 to the vote for education. In 1910 it added $25,000 more. In 1911 it voted the first instalment—$7,000 of a sum of $20,000 to be spent in three years, to provide schools for sparsely populated localities, another $7,000 being voted this year, and the remainder to be put in the estimates for next year, this arrangement being made at the instance of the educational superintendents, who pointed out that it would not be possible to get enough teachers to establish all these schools in one year, besides which it is adding another $20,000, as the census figures show an increased population. This will make a total of $100,000 additional for education during this Government's term of office, whereas in the nine years our predecessors held power they voted increases of less than this amount altogether. But we have done more than this—we have set aside another $100,000 to be expended in erecting new school buildings or improving old ones on hygienic lines, the only expenditure for such a purpose made since this Colony obtained Responsible Government, except a similar, but smaller, appropriation of $40,000 in 1875. But the Government has done yet another thing for education—it is providing in the present session for a state-aided insurance scheme for the teachers, whereby every member of the teaching profession will be assured of a retiring allowance at the age of 60, under certain conditions. Therefore I claim that so far as education is concerned, this Government has done much more for the people of the Colony than was ever done before. Moreover, it should not be forgotten in regard to these expenditures for education, that they are not a tax in the
ordinary sense of the term, but that really the Government merely acts as an agency for collecting from the people certain amounts for the carrying on of their schools and then disburses these amounts through the country in the various school sections where the expenditure is required.

Its record regarding Old Age Pensions calls for little comment. Though others talked about this question and tinkered with it, this Government was the first to grapple with it in practical fashion and last year provided for 400 Old Age Pensions, this year is providing for 400 more, and next year will provide for a third contingent of the same number, a fact which means that 1,200 old men in this Colony can always in future be assured that their declining age will be freed from the taint of pauperism and they will be able to maintain their self-respect and a certain degree of comfort; and this involves 90 per cent. of the old women also. It is no doubt to be regretted that more cannot be done, but this Government has at any rate accomplished its part. It has made a creditable beginning and it hopes in the future to greatly widen the scope of this project. Moreover, in the present estimates there is a sum of $25,000 provided to enable the appropriation for the maintenance of old men and women and widows in need to be so augmented that they may be able to have their allowance increased one-fourth as compared with what it is at present, a provision that will mitigate the difficulties of existence for these hapless people who, through no fault of their own, are reduced to depend upon the State for such help as can be afforded.

In line with the social departure represented by Old Age Pensions, I would point to what this Government has undertaken in connection with the General Hospital, the Lunatic Asylum and the Poor Asylum. The Hospital has been completely remodelled, equipped in the most modern fashion, enlarged through the building of a Nurses’ Home alongside, so that fifty more beds can be provided, and it has been generally brought up to the standard of the finest institution of its class on this side of the Atlantic. The Poor Asylum is to be abandoned and the existing Lunatic Asylum is to be used instead of it in future, because the eminent English specialist who was here last summer reports the Lunatic Asylum as being unfit for use as an Hospital for the Insane any longer, and a new institution for the latter purpose, therefore, is to be provided. The carrying out of these improvements is essential, in order to afford relief to our people who suffer from mental or bodily ills, and this policy has involved and will involve a considerable expenditure; but this Government can point with pride to the fact that it is grappling with those problems in a thorough and whole-hearted fashion. It is also this session laying the foundation for a vigorous and comprehensive campaign against tuberculosis, towards the machinery for which the Reid brothers have provided the princely gift of seventeen sanitariums, and the projected battle against the Great White Plague is soon to be put into effect, the necessity for which will be very generally recognized as inevitable.

Never in the history of the Colony has a Government been able to provide for such large extensions for public and marine works as this Government found itself able to carry out. From the surplus of $420,000 available last year, $200,000 was set aside for such purposes, $100,000 of that being ear-marked before the year was
complete, as the Government knew this amount was absolutely available; and it was utilised to make good the damages wrought by storms in the Fall of 1909. The second $100,000 was used for general purposes in these respects during the next year. The surplus of $173,000, remaining from last year, it has been decided also to expend in the same way, and the House will be invited to make the necessary appropriation to this effect when the Public Service Bill is enacted. This means that in addition to the ordinary grant of $175,000 for roads every year and the ordinary marine grants of $20,000, the outport districts, for it is to them, really, that most of the money will go (though St. John's receives its just share), will have received during these years the sum of $370,000 additional for the upkeep of these public services, which are so essential to the favorable pursuit of their avocations by our people. This gives them $3 for every $2 they formerly had, and the Government is now considering plans whereby, in addition to this outlay, the construction and extension of roads on more modern lines may be undertaken, so that concurrently with the construction of branch railroads into the several districts that are to be served by these auxiliaries of progress, highways may be built which will still further spread the benefits of these agencies through the external districts.

The Government, too, has not been unmindful of the possibilities of agricultural development and has provided as expenditure of $40,000 a year for this purpose, with results admittedly highly satisfactory. The success of the Exhibition held in St. John's in the Autumn of 1910 was repeated in the series of district exhibitions held in Burin, St. George's and Harbor Grace in the Autumn of last year; and the distribution of high class stock, seeds and implements, and the enthusiasm engendered through the formation of agricultural societies all round the Island are influences operating to materially promote the development of our farming industry and the consequent retention at home of large sums hitherto sent away for the purchase of food stuffs.

The Government has, during the past three years, constructed 23 lighthouses and fog alarms, for which extension of the lighthouse system they obtained from the Legislature authority for a loan of $100,000, in addition to which the sum of $12,000 has been spent out of current revenue this year, and to further extend these coast aids another loan of $100,000 is now being asked, the judicious disbursement of which will satisfy the claims of practically the whole seaboard for these facilities. The Government has purchased a dredge for the Colony, which is expected to arrive here in the early Spring, and will begin a comprehensive dredging policy that will be carried on for a period of years and should prove of material benefit to our fishermen by deepening many of the harbors from which, though they suffer materially from this drawback, they are carrying on their hazardous avocation.

The funded public debt of the Colony was increased by the sum of $4,272,933.33 during the fiscal year, viz—

Under Act 9, Ed. VII., Cap. 3, $249,750.


Under Act 10, Ed. VII., Cap. 7, Municipal, $90,000.00.

Under Act 5, Ed. VII., Cap. 1, Conversion, $39,750.00.

And reduced by this amount for surrender of debentures under the
Conversion Act .... 39,750.00
Net Increase ...... $4,233,083.33
Balance July 1, 1910 $22,943,196.85

Leaving the Gross Public Debt on 30th June, 1911
at ...... $27,176,280.18
Of the addition to the debt above noted, the sum of $90,000.00 is chargeable to the Municipal Council Guaranteed Debt, making the same $1,393,341.22.

The net Public Debt of the Colony stood as follows at the close of the fiscal year under consideration, viz—
Gross Debt, $27,176,280.18.
Less owed the Colony by the St. John's Municipal Council $1,393,341.22; Scrip of the Harbor Grace Water Company's Stock owned by Government $13,700.00; Paid off by the operation of the Sinking Fund established under 56 Vic. Cap. 13, as on June 30th, 1911 $546,861.13.
Leaving the Net Debt at $25,223,377.83.

As already stated, it is proposed to raise a loan this year in London of $2,000,000 more, to complete the branch railways authorised in 1910, and a local loan of $250,000, of which $150,000 is to go to the establishing of a telephone system for the outports and St. John's, and $100,000 for the further extension of lighthouses.

The position of the Surplus Trust Fund at the close of the fiscal year 1910-11 was as follows—

Dr.
Total received from 1901-2 to 1909-10, both years inclusive ..... $773,145.19
And received from 1910-11 account ..... 172,379.91
$945,525.10
Expended on Roads to June 30th, 1910 ..... $213,601.08
Lighthouse Construction ..... 45,000.00

Harbor Improvements ..... 10,000.00
Carbonar Government Building ..... 7,500.00
Extension Marconi System ..... 14,000.00
New Postal Telegraph Offices ..... 10,000.00
Outport Court Houses ..... 5,847.82
Finishing Fever Hospital ..... 3,000.00
Construction New Museum (part cost) ..... 30,000.00
Extension General Hospital (part cost) ..... 30,254.49
Marine Works ..... 85,590.16
Encouragement Herring Fishery ..... 25,710.63
General Elections, 1908 ..... 40,328.59
To cover part deficit Current Account, 1908-9 ..... 6,786.92
Festival of Empire ..... 10,213.90
$537,833.58
Balance ..... 407,691.52
$945,525.10

The following amounts, included in the above, were expended on Surplus Trust Account in 1910-11, viz—
Encouragement of Herring Fishery ..... $3,328.76
Marine Works ..... 46,355.55
Roads ..... 34,690.15
Festival of Empire ..... 10,213.90
$88,588.36

The balance to the credit of the Surplus Trust Fund at the close of the fiscal year 1910-11 was $407,691.52, made up as follows, viz—
Encouragement of Herring Fishery ..... $10,357.31
Old Age Pension Fund ..... 200,000.00
Construction and Repairs of Roads and Marine Works, including Surplus for 1910-11 ..... 197,334.21
$407,691.52

The following statement shows the
position of the several Loan Accounts on the 30th of June, 1909, viz—
(a)—Loan Act, 1898, $10,000.00—$10,000.00;
(b)—Loan Act, 1911, $10,000.00—$10,000.00;
(c)—Agricultural Bonus Act, $1,199.19—$1,079.69;
(d)—5th Ed. VII., Cap. 1, $3,922.52—$3,022.52;
(e)—9th Ed. VII. Cap. 3, $80,250.00—$249,750.00;
(f)—Railway Act, $3,690,388.85—$1,695,000.00, $1,985,388.85.

The explanation of the foregoing is—
(a)—This sum of $10,000.00, raised in 1898 for the erection of a new Market House, still remains in the Bank of Montreal.

(b)—This sum was raised under 1st George VII., Cap. 32, for sundry public services. The sum of $28,128.18 expended on this loan was carried on the Treasury Books until July, when it was covered by further amounts from the loan coming in. This expenditure was for addition to General Hospital, $10,185.71, and Lighthouse Construction, $17,942.47.

(c)—$1,079.69 represents the balance to the credit of the loan under Acts 61, 62 and 63 Vic., Cap. 33, for agricultural purposes.

(d)—This, the balance of the Debenture Conversion Act, represents the adjustment arising out of the exchanging of Debentures for Bonds. Debentures amounting to $39,750.00 were exchanged for coupon-bearing bonds during the year, making a total of $1,584,424.48 converted since the passing of the Act.

(e)—This sum, $249,750.00, was raised under 9th Edward VII., Cap. 3; it represents, with the balance from 1910-11, viz—$80,250.00, the balance expended under this Act for the following, viz—

Repayment of Temporary Loans $15,000.00
Grand Bank Pier 15,000.00
Fortune Harbour Improvements 5,000.00
New Museum and Extension to Hospital 64,354.00 $99,354.00

Advances from "Treasury for Extension to Hospital—
In 1909-10 ... $23,584.15
In 1910-11 ... 7,840.28 $31,424.43

Bank of Montreal, for debit balance of Exchequer Account, 1908-9 (which included $44,221.57 advanced from the Treasury in 1908-9, account New Museum and for extension of Hospital) ... 199,221.57

$330,000.00

The above $330,000.00, together with the $100,000.00 paid in 1909-10 to the Municipal Council, closes out the loan.

(f)—The balance of the Railway Loan is self-explanatory. The expenditure of $1,695,000 is made up as follows—

Paid for Construction, etc., $1,590,000.00; Paid for Arbitration Awards, $105,000.00; $1,695,000.00.

The balances to the credit of the Colony at the close of the year 1909-10 were as follows, viz—

In the Bank of Montreal.
1—Surplus Trust Fund... $407,691.52
2—Agricultural Bonus... 1,079.69
3—Debenture Conversion Account ... 3,922.52
4—Loan 61 Vic., Cap.
10 (Market House) ... 10,000.00
In addition to the foregoing, there were, at the close of 1910-11, the following credit balances to the several Trust Accounts in the Bank of Montreal, viz:

Marine and Fisheries Department—
Marine Works, to cover allocations issued, the work on which was not completed at close of the year $1,057.62
Musgrave Harbor Breakwater, the work on which, I understand, has been abandoned 2,087.30 $3,144.92

Colonial Secretary’s Department—
Constabulary, for the purchase of machinery 597.05
Education, balance of votes 255.94 $823.99

Agriculture and Mines Department—
Railway Arbitration Awards, viz, balance 1909-10 $11,561.83
Received from Treasury in 1910-11 75,105.50

Received from Treasury in 1910-11 $86,667.33
Paid in 1910-11 $83,278.95

Post Office Department—
For extension Telegraph System in Twillingate District $3,388.38

Treasury Department—
Outstanding Letter of Credit Cheques of the several departments for 1908-09 and 1909-10 being provision for payment of same ... $1,670.15

Treasury Cash Notes, viz:—
Total amount received from departments for purchase of notes 158,250.00
Total amount of notes paid off and cancelled 103,399.00 $54,860.00

Public Works Department—
Harbor Grace Public Building, for completion of construction $6,164.14
Burin District County Councils, for redemption of outstanding cheques 293.09
Cash Notes to meet old issue of Cash Notes from Public Works Department still in circulation 14,216.01 $20,673.24

And in Savings Bank—
Teachers’ Pension Fund established under the Education Act $54,950.59

5—Loan 1st George V., Cap. 32 10,000.00
6—Reserve Fund 500,000.00
7—Railway Loan 995,388.85 $1,928,082.58

In the Bank of Nova Scotia.
8—Railway Loan

In the Harbor Grace Water Company.

9—Stock

and to the Colony's debit in the Bank of Montreal—

10—Temporary Loan Account

11—Imported Copper Coin

The titles of most of the foregoing explain their nature.

With regard to No. 5, viz—Loan under I George V., Cap. 32—this sum represents the amount subscribed of the loan authorised at the last session of the Legislature.

No. 9, Harbor Grace Water Company Stock, is the amount of scrip held by the Government in the said Company.

No. 11 is the amount still owing to the Bank of Montreal on account of the purchase of and expenses in the issue of copper coinage; against this there is $1,280.00 worth of copper coins in the Treasury vaults.

The Opposition have called attention to our increased expenditures, and have sought to represent them as unwise and unwarranted. The question for the country to consider is: Are these expenditures judicious, do our circumstances warrant them, and would it be preferable to reduce taxation on certain articles, with the inevitable consequence that the present march of progress would have to be stopped and the pulsating energy and advance exhibited by the Colony the past three years give place to stagnation? Under existing circumstances and after carefully surveying the whole situation, I maintain that the policy of the present Government is the wiser one, and that it is better for our people to be assured of a continuance of the good times and widespread progress now existing than for this career of advancement to be checked. We might have reduced taxation by $100,000, but that would have meant that the education grants could not have been increased and which would the people prefer? I think they would prefer to bear the taxes which, be it remembered, are no greater than heretofore, and gain this extra $100,000 for the spread of education. We might have reduced taxation by another $60,000 and abandon the idea of Old Age Pensions, but which would be preferable in that case—to leave 1,200 of our people without the pension now assured to them or take the duty off some article, which would mean that the whole population would have to pay twenty-five cents apiece less in taxes a year? We might reduce another $100,000 in taxation, but it would mean the abandonment of the improved system of Lighthouses and Marine Works that we have established, the increased votes for roads and public works, the improvements in the hospitals and asylums and all the other undertakings that we have been able to carry into effect.

Personally, under these circumstances, I should hesitate to assume the responsibility of advising a general reduction of taxation at the present time, contending, rather, that such reduction, whenever made, should be gradual, and should depend upon the
state of the revenue and of the public services, so that it might not dislocate our economic and industrial machinery. Wise expenditure, within the limits of the revenue is, in my opinion, the truest economy. To illustrate this I supply here a comparative statement showing the principal estimates voted by the Bond Administration in 1908 and what we are voting this year, which will serve to indicate the services whereon increases have been made—

**Comparison of Appropriations.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Under Bond in 1908-9</th>
<th>Under Morris for 1912-13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Debt</td>
<td>$871,572</td>
<td>$1,124,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Government</td>
<td>148,798</td>
<td>233,188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>183,612</td>
<td>197,279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pub. Charities</td>
<td>262,123</td>
<td>363,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Age Pensions</td>
<td>278,814</td>
<td>367,542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lighthouses</td>
<td>73,657</td>
<td>92,220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>31,420</td>
<td>76,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fisheries</td>
<td>92,940</td>
<td>103,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads and Bridges</td>
<td>172,396</td>
<td>187,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postal and Telegraphs</td>
<td>423,620</td>
<td>592,755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customs</td>
<td>145,991</td>
<td>217,040</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The lesson of these figures is that, as I have said, wise expenditure within the limit of the revenue is the truest economy. The country is now bounding ahead at a rate never before approached. All our industries are flourishing and our dormant resources are being developed. Investments in steamers, in vessels and in local enterprises are larger than ever before. The outlook from every point of view is most encouraging. We should, therefore, all patriotically recognize our obligations to the state, bear our share of the burdens which are involv-

ed and continue to encourage every movement for the developing of our resources and the uplifting of our people. I trust that in this statement I have made clear to the Committee the salient facts as to the Colony's financial position. However we may differ as to political matters, we can all, I hope, rejoice in its present prosperity and join in the prayer that it may continue to enjoy even greater good fortune in the future. With staple and progressive industries contributing to supplement the proceeds of the fisheries, and with the further development that is assured, I see no reason why the Colony should not continue to increase in material welfare henceforth and attain as marked and abiding an advance in the future as it has witnessed in recent years.

I now propose the following Resolutions, which embody the amendments we propose to make in the tariff. They are—

Resolved—Section 31 of the Revenue Act, 1905, as already amended by subsequent Acts, is further amended by striking out thereof the words “Grand Bank” and “Fortune.”

Resolved—Sections 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Act 7, Ed. VII., Cap. 27, entitled “An Act to amend the Revenue Act, 1905,” are hereby repealed.

Resolved—Schedule A to the Revenue Act, 1905, as already amended by subsequent Acts, is further amended: By striking out of Item 56 the word ‘Churns,’ and by striking out of Item 154 the word ‘Churns.’

Resolved—Schedule B to the said Act, as amended by subsequent Acts, is hereby further amended by adding thereto the following items—

Churns of all descriptions.
Poultry when imported for breeding purposes.

The purpose of the foregoing Re-
solutions, which I now table, is to relieve the towns of Grand Bank and Fortune of the tax on coal, now levied to pay the interest on the sums spent there for harbor improvements; and to allow churns and live poultry for breeding purposes entry here free of duty.

I propose to have this Speech printed to-morrow and meanwhile I move that the Committee rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again on Wednesday.

Balance Sheet Treasury Account for the Year ended 30th June, 1911.

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<tr>
<th>DR.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bank of Montreal, General Account</td>
<td>$13,922.52</td>
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<tr>
<td>Imported Copper, Bank of Montreal</td>
<td>4.62</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temporary Loan, Bank of Montreal</td>
<td>100,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank of Montreal Railway Loan</td>
<td>995,388.85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank of Nova Scotia Deposit Account</td>
<td>1,000,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank of Montreal Trust Account</td>
<td>918,771.21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harbor Grace Stock Account</td>
<td>13,700.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Debt</td>
<td>27,176,280.18</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$30,218,067.38</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Debenture Conversion Account</td>
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<td>Loan 1 George 5th, Cap. 32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank of Montreal, Imported Copper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank of Montreal, Temporary Loan</td>
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<td>Railway Loan 10 Edward VII., Cap. 39</td>
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<td>Deposit R. Account, Bank of Nova Scotia</td>
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<td>Stock Account, Harbor Grace</td>
<td>13,700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry Accounts, Public Debt</td>
<td>27,176,280.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$30,218,067.38</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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M. P. CASHIN,  
Minister of Finance

Examined by me and found correct,  
F. C. BERTEAU, C. & A. G.
Public Debt Account on 30th June, 1910-11.

**DR.**

1910-11—June 30. To Balance, viz—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Loan at 3 per cent.</td>
<td>$1,581,666.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loan at 3½ per cent.</td>
<td>$16,958,879.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loan at 4 per cent.</td>
<td>$8,635,733.53</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$27,176,280.18</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**CR.**

June 30—By Act 54 Vic., Cap, 8, at 3 per cent. $1,581,666.66

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<th>Act</th>
<th>Vic.</th>
<th>Cap.</th>
<th>Description</th>
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at 3¼ per cent. $16,958,879.99

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at 4 per cent. $8,635,733.53

**Total** $27,176,280.18

*NOTE—$546,861 of this Loan has been paid off by Sinking Fund established under this Act.
Municipal Debt, $1,397,104.22.
Harbor Grace Water Company Stock, $13,700.00.

Examined by me and found correct.

F. C. BERTEAU, C. & A. G.

M. P. CASHIN, Minister of Finance.

DR.

REVENUE.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>Customs Revenue</td>
<td>$2,768,526.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Light Dues</td>
<td>28,948.89</td>
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<td>Harbor Dues</td>
<td>991.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>11,666.89</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royalties</td>
<td>88,481.72</td>
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TOTAL FROM CUSTOMS: $2,898,615.25

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<tbody>
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<td>Postal Revenue</td>
<td>117,259.85</td>
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<td>Telegraph Revenue</td>
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<td>Crown Lands</td>
<td>192,334.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stamps</td>
<td>14,479.33</td>
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<td>Liquor Licenses</td>
<td>5,829.00</td>
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<td>5,854.45</td>
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<td>88,684.84</td>
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<td>23,112.47</td>
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<tr>
<td>Direct Cable Company Tax</td>
<td>8,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Union Telegraph Co. Tax</td>
<td>8,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Tax</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Express Company's Tax</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbor Grace Water Company</td>
<td>548.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbonear Water Company</td>
<td>1,260.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Bank Harbor Board</td>
<td>356.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortune Harbor Board</td>
<td>118.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance Assessment</td>
<td>443.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance Licenses</td>
<td>250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imported Copper</td>
<td>160.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

628,511.18

$3,527,126.43

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loan 9 Edward VII., Cap. 3</td>
<td>7,840.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan 1 George V., Cap. 32</td>
<td>28,128.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus Trust</td>
<td>88,588.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Bonus</td>
<td>119.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

124,676.32

$3,651,802.75

Examined by me and found correct,

F. C. BERTEAU, C. & A. G

CR.

EXPENDITURE.

Expenditure under the following Heads—

Head | Description | CR.
---|---|---
I. | Interest, etc., Public Debt | $1,025,302.88
II. | Civil Government | 180,913.31
III. | Pensions | 17,019.12
IV. | Administration of Justice | 198,641.52
V. | Legislation | 43,647.16
VI. | Education | 317,963.90
VII. | Public Charities | 321,148.32
VIII. | Lighthouses | 78,396.97
IX. | Agriculture and Mines | 57,592.57
X. | Marine and Fisheries | 74,550.55
XI. | Roads, Bridges and Ferries | 177,170.87
XII. | Postal and Telegraph Depts. | 555,397.61
XIII. | Customs | 155,659.52
XIV. | General Contingencies | 35,271.79
XVI. | Coal and Water Refunds | 64,021.48
XVII. | Additional Estimates | 7,700.00

| Total | $3,311,297.67

Audit Act | 43,448.85

Surplus—

Revenue in excess of Expenditure | 172,379.91

Loan 9 Edward VII., Cap. 3 | 7,840.28
Loan 1 George V., Cap. 32 | 28,128.18
Surplus Trust | 88,588.36
Agricultural Bonus | 119.50

| Total | 124,676.32

$3,651,802.75

M. P. CASHIN,
Minister of Finance.
## Trade Statistics for the past Sixteen Years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year ended June 30th</th>
<th>Imports</th>
<th>Exports</th>
<th>Total Trade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>$5,986,861</td>
<td>$6,638,187</td>
<td>$12,625,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1897</td>
<td>5,838,334</td>
<td>4,925,789</td>
<td>10,764,123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>5,188,863</td>
<td>5,226,933</td>
<td>10,415,796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>6,311,245</td>
<td>6,936,315</td>
<td>13,247,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>7,407,147</td>
<td>8,627,576</td>
<td>16,024,723</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>7,746,503</td>
<td>8,859,978</td>
<td>16,606,491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>7,836,685</td>
<td>9,552,524</td>
<td>17,389,209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>8,479,944</td>
<td>9,976,504</td>
<td>18,456,448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904</td>
<td>9,448,664</td>
<td>10,381,897</td>
<td>19,830,561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>10,279,293</td>
<td>10,669,342</td>
<td>20,948,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>10,414,274</td>
<td>12,068,276</td>
<td>22,482,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>10,626,040</td>
<td>12,101,161</td>
<td>22,727,201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>11,016,111</td>
<td>12,315,769</td>
<td>23,331,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>11,402,373</td>
<td>11,848,913</td>
<td>23,251,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>12,799,696</td>
<td>11,824,997</td>
<td>24,624,693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>13,383,910</td>
<td>11,975,747</td>
<td>25,359,657</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Movement of Imports for the past Sixteen Years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Imports</th>
<th>United Kingdom</th>
<th>Dominion Canada</th>
<th>United States</th>
<th>Other Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>5,986,861</td>
<td>1,875,754</td>
<td>2,231,641</td>
<td>1,473,721</td>
<td>405,745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1897</td>
<td>5,638,384</td>
<td>1,969,999</td>
<td>1,593,931</td>
<td>2,135,008</td>
<td>248,396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>5,188,863</td>
<td>1,591,253</td>
<td>1,823,238</td>
<td>1,671,134</td>
<td>175,238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>6,311,245</td>
<td>1,935,025</td>
<td>2,088,002</td>
<td>1,928,834</td>
<td>359,293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899-9</td>
<td>7,497,147</td>
<td>2,224,353</td>
<td>2,805,040</td>
<td>1,993,505</td>
<td>473,799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>7,476,503</td>
<td>2,328,622</td>
<td>2,489,499</td>
<td>2,088,465</td>
<td>569,917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900-1</td>
<td>7,386,685</td>
<td>2,244,178</td>
<td>2,612,042</td>
<td>2,501,806</td>
<td>478,659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901-2</td>
<td>8,479,944</td>
<td>2,143,464</td>
<td>2,869,898</td>
<td>2,920,914</td>
<td>545,668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901-3</td>
<td>9,448,664</td>
<td>2,479,138</td>
<td>3,423,225</td>
<td>2,991,002</td>
<td>555,279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901-4</td>
<td>10,279,293</td>
<td>2,654,908</td>
<td>4,105,669</td>
<td>2,750,114</td>
<td>768,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901-5</td>
<td>10,414,274</td>
<td>2,651,196</td>
<td>3,521,939</td>
<td>3,609,192</td>
<td>631,947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901-6</td>
<td>10,426,040</td>
<td>2,669,934</td>
<td>3,669,098</td>
<td>3,417,359</td>
<td>639,649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901-7</td>
<td>11,516,111</td>
<td>2,668,802</td>
<td>4,257,647</td>
<td>3,859,892</td>
<td>729,730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901-8</td>
<td>11,402,337</td>
<td>2,493,670</td>
<td>3,937,009</td>
<td>4,232,680</td>
<td>739,977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901-9</td>
<td>12,799,696</td>
<td>2,940,401</td>
<td>4,559,789</td>
<td>4,571,192</td>
<td>728,314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910-1</td>
<td>13,383,910</td>
<td>3,092,429</td>
<td>4,607,720</td>
<td>4,943,874</td>
<td>739,887</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Movement of Exports for the past Sixteen Years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Exports</th>
<th>United Kingdom</th>
<th>Dominion Canada</th>
<th>United States</th>
<th>Other Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1895-6</td>
<td>6,638,187</td>
<td>1,727,852</td>
<td>638,782</td>
<td>489,027</td>
<td>3,782,567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1896-7</td>
<td>4,925,789</td>
<td>1,347,273</td>
<td>478,110</td>
<td>533,518</td>
<td>2,564,888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1897-8</td>
<td>5,226,933</td>
<td>1,355,920</td>
<td>482,512</td>
<td>427,478</td>
<td>2,961,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1898-9</td>
<td>6,936,315</td>
<td>1,443,266</td>
<td>541,727</td>
<td>620,056</td>
<td>4,331,266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899-0</td>
<td>8,627,576</td>
<td>1,942,093</td>
<td>520,137</td>
<td>1,005,525</td>
<td>5,159,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900-1</td>
<td>8,759,978</td>
<td>1,831,941</td>
<td>711,746</td>
<td>834,068</td>
<td>4,932,223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year ended</td>
<td>Value</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901-2</td>
<td>9,552,524</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902-3</td>
<td>9,976,504</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903-4</td>
<td>10,381,897</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904-5</td>
<td>10,669,342</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905-6</td>
<td>12,086,276</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906-7</td>
<td>12,101,161</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907-8</td>
<td>11,815,769</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908-9</td>
<td>10,848,913</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909-0</td>
<td>11,824,997</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910-1</td>
<td>11,975,747</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exports of Codfish for the past Sixteen Years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year ended June 30th</th>
<th>Quintals (112 lbs.)</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>1,436,083</td>
<td>$4,297,699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1897</td>
<td>1,312,008</td>
<td>2,824,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>1,145,540</td>
<td>3,230,928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>1,226,336</td>
<td>4,445,031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>1,300,622</td>
<td>5,453,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>1,233,107</td>
<td>5,171,910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>1,278,955</td>
<td>5,509,728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>1,429,274</td>
<td>5,633,072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904</td>
<td>1,360,373</td>
<td>5,943,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>1,196,814</td>
<td>6,108,618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>1,481,025</td>
<td>7,864,719</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>1,422,445</td>
<td>7,873,172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>1,509,269</td>
<td>7,820,092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>1,732,387</td>
<td>7,398,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>1,502,269</td>
<td>7,307,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>1,182,720</td>
<td>6,544,604</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exports of Seal Products for the past Sixteen Years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year ended June 30th</th>
<th>Seal Skins</th>
<th>Seal Oil</th>
<th>Total Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>$166,306</td>
<td>$174,690</td>
<td>$340,996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1897</td>
<td>117,204</td>
<td>246,263</td>
<td>363,467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>129,840</td>
<td>218,279</td>
<td>348,119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>136,563</td>
<td>252,036</td>
<td>387,599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>162,330</td>
<td>433,605</td>
<td>595,935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>282,895</td>
<td>424,632</td>
<td>707,527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>420,869</td>
<td>379,445</td>
<td>800,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>325,236</td>
<td>453,684</td>
<td>778,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904</td>
<td>250,150</td>
<td>303,067</td>
<td>562,217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>370,636</td>
<td>374,974</td>
<td>745,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>314,189</td>
<td>297,430</td>
<td>611,619</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>194,300</td>
<td>447,967</td>
<td>642,267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>140,137</td>
<td>308,997</td>
<td>449,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>433,620</td>
<td>252,262</td>
<td>685,882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>460,220</td>
<td>459,814</td>
<td>920,034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>385,250</td>
<td>275,287</td>
<td>660,537</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Exports of Lobsters for the past Sixteen Years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year ended June 30th</th>
<th>Case of 48 1-lb. tins</th>
<th>Total Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>45,662</td>
<td>$376,711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1897</td>
<td>58,873</td>
<td>529,947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>61,957</td>
<td>619,510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>56,166</td>
<td>565,362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>37,523</td>
<td>491,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>36,271</td>
<td>448,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>38,369</td>
<td>412,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>31,881</td>
<td>387,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904</td>
<td>31,575</td>
<td>440,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>43,522</td>
<td>512,062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>31,328</td>
<td>376,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>26,661</td>
<td>379,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>26,060</td>
<td>418,605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>25,826</td>
<td>343,619</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>26,058</td>
<td>337,835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>23,803</td>
<td>360,495</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Exports of Herring for the past Sixteen Years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year ended June 30th</th>
<th>Barrels</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>57,846</td>
<td>$100,363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1897</td>
<td>63,244</td>
<td>102,176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>61,779</td>
<td>101,013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>121,316</td>
<td>245,869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>92,557</td>
<td>200,989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>112,274</td>
<td>231,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>156,970</td>
<td>361,324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>192,759</td>
<td>457,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904</td>
<td>151,865</td>
<td>328,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>176,633</td>
<td>379,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>146,032</td>
<td>344,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>153,809</td>
<td>406,409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>152,504</td>
<td>413,817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>100,891</td>
<td>237,026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>139,228</td>
<td>302,355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>169,897</td>
<td>388,832</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Export of Salmon for the past Sixteen Years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year ended June 30th</th>
<th>Fresh Salmon lbs.</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Salt Salmon tiers</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>......</td>
<td>......</td>
<td>2,973</td>
<td>$58,669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1897</td>
<td>......</td>
<td>......</td>
<td>4,009</td>
<td>76,801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>......</td>
<td>......</td>
<td>2,601</td>
<td>49,532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>22,003</td>
<td>1,318</td>
<td>3,690</td>
<td>72,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>118,500</td>
<td>7,072</td>
<td>4,961</td>
<td>95,626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>91,103</td>
<td>6,710</td>
<td>6,647</td>
<td>139,101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MR. KENT.—Mr. Chairman, before the motion to rise is put, I would like to refer to the speech that we have heard with great interest from the Minister of Finance and Customs. It is always a great satisfaction to look forward to the annual statement of the finances of the Colony, which is placed before the House by the Minister of Finance. Of course, I cannot expect to deal with the figures or the statements made by the Minister this afternoon, but when the House goes into Committee again, I shall refer to them. I could not, however, help being struck with the fact that during the whole course of the remarks of the Minister there was nothing, not a single act to which he could point, which brought about the prosperity to which he refers, not an act to which he could point which was performed or brought into operation by the present administration—not an act that in any way helped in this direction. On the contrary all the Acts that have been referred to, all the causes which tended to create this prosperity were put in force and operation by their predecessors in office. The figures to which the Hon. Minister has referred are large, larger in the bulk than any figures ever submitted to this House before. I do not know whether the Hon. Minister has come to believe all that he has stated, but that is the impression which the speech has left upon my mind. I shall
refer briefly to the trade returns to which the Minister referred. He based upon these returns the conclusion that the country is enjoying very great prosperity, and that that prosperity was attributed to the present administration. Well, Sir, I am glad that the Minister takes that view of it from the figures. It struck me differently. I have here a statement of the total trade returns for a number of years, beginning in 1897, and going down to 1910-11, and I think that if we examine these figures we will find that the prosperity of the country is not so assured as we are led to believe. In the first place, you will notice that during the years that preceded the advent to power of the present administration, the balance of trade was in favour of the Colony, but if you examine the figures submitted to the House during the past two years, the balance has been adverse to the Colony. Now, I have the figures here, as I say, and I shall compare the figures of the two years of 1905-06 and 1906-07 with those of the past two years, and I think that from those figures the Committee will see that a favourable balance of trade has been converted into an adverse one. In 1905-6 the exports were valued at $12,086,276 and the imports at $10,414,274, making a total trade of $22,500,550, and giving a balance in favour of the Colony of $1,672,000, and in 1906-07 the exports were valued at $12,101,161, and the imports at $10,426,040, making a total trade of $22,527,201, and a balance in favour of the Colony of $1,675,121. During those two years, the trade operations of our people show a balance in favour of the Colony of $3,347,121. Now, if you turn, Sir, to the figures of the years 1909-10 and 1910-11, you will find that the results are not so reassuring as the Minister would have us believe. In 1909-10 the exports were valued at $11,824,997, and the imports $12,799,696, making a total trade of $24,624,696, and giving a balance adverse to the Colony of $974,799. In 1910-11 the exports were valued at $11,975,747, and the imports at $13,383,910, giving a total trade of $25,359,657, and a balance of trade adverse to the Colony of $1,308,163. In other words, the trade operations of the two years just past, show a balance against the Colony of $2,282,962. In other words, the favourable trade balance of 1905-6 and 1906-7 of three and one half millions, has been converted into an unfavourable trade balance of two and one quarter millions. These figures have been taken from the records compiled by the Minister. It may not be appreciated as to what these figures mean, but I should like to point out to the Committee that an adverse balance of trade means that we have imported more goods than we have exported, we have bought more than we have sold. Now, Sir, the consumption in a country of articles of commerce must be either equal to, greater or less than what she produces. If it is greater —then in order to make up the deficiency we must either draw upon our accumulated capital or mortgage our future trade. This means that during the past two years, a constantly increasing favourable balance of trade has been converted into an adverse balance; in other words, that the extent of the increase in the adverse balance of trade necessitates your either drawing on your accumulated capital or borrowing on the strength of the future. Under the circumstances, Mr. Chairman, I think it is fortunate for the Colony that the gentlemen who at present have charge of the administration of its affairs were preceded by an administration which brought about this condition of prosperity upon which they are now able to trade. They are depending on their
predecessors for the sources of prosperity. The Hon. Minister laid down the principle that "you must measure the prosperity by the number of new industries that you have started." Sir, the only new industries that I can see are those that were established before the present administration came into power. And as I said before, there has been nothing done by the present administration which would justify their claiming that they have done anything to add to this measure of prosperity. Again, Sir, I notice that the Minister is about to again go into the markets to look for money. Of course, as I said when the railway contract was submitted to this House in 1910, I did not think any sane man who read that contract believed for one moment that the estimate of the Prime Minister that $4,000,000 would cover the cost of the railway was anyway near the mark. I think that the estimate made by me at that time, that $7,000,000, would not be much above our liability, was under the mark. Two years ago we borrowed $4,000,000, and now we are going to borrow half as much again, that makes a total of $8,000,000, and from the returns tabled in this House some time ago, showing the expenditure to date on construction work, it would appear that all the payments made have practically all been made on account of construction work, with the exception of a small payment on the Bonavista line for extra work under sections 34 and 37 of the contract, amounting to $35,000. That is the uncertain element in this contract, and as I pointed out then, that the estimate of the Prime Minister, both as to distance and price was far too conservative that his estimate of $15,000 a mile would barely cover actual construction, and that when the bill for construction and extra work and materials necessary to the construction and operation of the lines, is furnished we will find that the Colony will be called upon for more than double the amount that the Prime Minister estimated for the construction of the whole line. Again, Sir, I find that not only for railway construction is the Minister going into the markets to borrow, but also he is going to borrow money to the extent of $250,000 for other purposes. This, Sir, will make a total borrowing by this Government since coming into power of about seven and one quarter million dollars, an addition to the public debt of the Colony of seven and a quarter millions in three years, or over two and one-third millions per annum. In addition to this, the Government has been receiving bountiful revenues, revenues which, I submit, should, with proper economical expenditure, meet all the public services, as well as those to which the Minister referred as "useful services," those for which he is now about to borrow more. If the expenditure was reduced to what he has called "useful" and "economic" expenditures, then there would be no necessity to borrow or curtail any other useful public service which he claims that his Government has instituted, or an ample margin would exist to enable the Government to carry out the pledge which they gave the people of the Colony last election to reduce their burden of taxation. If we take the total amount of money expended, including the loans by the present Government, and if we add to that the loan now asked for, the total amount of money expended and received by the present Government would be about $18,000,000 in 3 years; 3 years revenue and the amount of the loan. In other words, nearly as much as the whole public debt of the Colony at the time they assumed office. And then they claim that there is money in circulation. If there is money in circulation, it is money which repayment will be called for
some day, and for which we will have
to account to those from whom it was
borrowed, and for which we shall
have to pay dollar for dollar with in-
terest added. I did not intend, Mr.
Chairman, dealing with the matter at
any extent this afternoon; but there
is one other feature of the Minister's
Budget which I will take an oppor-
tunity at a later sitting of this Com-
mittee to develop; that is, the position
of the pulp and paper mills as com-
pared with the gross or staple trade of
the Colony, and I think if the Minister
will consider the figures in this con-
nection he will have little reason to
feel reassured by the condition of
things which he has painted for us
this afternoon. The Minister closed
his remarks by an announcement of
the policy of the Government namely,
that there was to be no reduction of
taxation. I think that this announce-
ment of the Minister's is a publication
of the failure of the Government to
carry
out the promise which they
placed second in their manifesto to
the people last election. I do not
think the people of
the
country when
they come to consider the condition
of affairs and when they come to read
the Budget, are going to be satisfied
with platitudes. They will require
sound reason, backed up by properly
analyzed figures, to convince them.
The Minister says that the policy of
the Government is to use economy in
the public expenditure and to handle
public affairs on economic lines. Well,
Sir, I do not think that the Minister in
that statement is reflecting; what is
the general public opinion of the
country on the expenditure of the
present Government. The general op-
inion, and it is warranted by the re-
turns presented to this House from
time to time, is that the expenditure of
this Government has been the most
extravagant and the most unnecessary
ever made by any Government. Take
the Agriculture vote. The Minister
says it has increased from $31,000 to
$76,000. I ask the Committee if the
people are getting 150 per cent. better
returns to justify this 150 per cent.
of increased expenditure. I do not
think that when the people come to
realize that the vote has been in-
creased to this extent they will agree
with the Minister's statement, that
the policy of the Government has been
economic and safe expenditure. I
shall not further discuss the matter,
this afternoon, as the Minister intends
to raise the Committee to have his
speech printed, when we shall be able
to give the matter the consideration
which it merits.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND
CUSTOMS.—Just one word, Mr.
Chairman, before the Committee rises.
The hon. member began by congratu-
lating me on the manner in which I
had dealt with the Colony's financial
affairs. He then went on to criticise
my statements,
but to my mind his
criticisms were not clear either to him-
sel
or to the House. He had to labor
very hard in the effort to pick holes
in my address. He argued
that the
"ground tier," so to speak,of what we
are now building, was laid by the out-
going Government. I take issue with
him as to that, because the Govern-
ment that preceded us did nothing
whatever to forward the interests of
the fishermen of the Colony, nothing
to forward the interests of the Colony,
nothing to promote the general wel-
fare of the Colony. They simply col-
clected the revenues and spent them
in due course, and left behind them
nothing to their credit for their nine
years in office. We are told that the
Colony is now spending over $3,000-
000 a year. Well, if such, is the case,
we are carrying on the public ser-
vices on a scale never before ap-
proached, and we are building rail-
ways also. Our predecessors spent
$3,000,000 a year, and they had not a
thing to show for it when they went
out of office after nine years' control of public affairs. They added $5,000,000 to the public debt, and what has the Colony got in return? Absolutely nothing. They spent this money because of their own blunders and mistakes. The Leader of the Opposition told us here a few nights ago that it cost $5,000,000 to fight the railway contractors. That is poor satisfaction for the people of the Colony to-day, or for those who are to come after them, to spend $5,000,000 of public money in order to try and defeat two or three individuals and then to fail in doing it. The present Government has done more since taking office than any previous Government in this Colony. We are told now that we are too lavish in our expenditures. Is it over expenditure to give an extra $100,000 for education in this Colony? I think the time has come when that sort of argument will be tolerated no longer. The time has come when appeal should be made to the intelligence, and not the prejudices of this House and this country. Look at the spectacle that has been witnessed in this House the past few weeks. Look at the innumerable petitions that members on the other side have brought in here asking for a general election the coming Fall. If the outside public could see a sample of those petitions, I think they would say it was justification enough for our spending an extra $100,000 a year on education. I have in my hand a petition presented the other day by an hon. member opposite. If we had a photograph of that petition, the public would say it was time to double the education grant. These petitions are printed wholesale in St. John's and sent around to the people in the outports for signatures to be procured, and according to the one I have before me, every name on them appears to have been signed by the one individual with crosses against the names, showing that the parties were illiterate. Is not this a deplorable circumstance? These petitions are either bogus, in which case the parties who concocted them ought to be prosecuted, or they reveal a lack of education, which is most regrettable. Personally, I do not believe that half of these petitions ever went to the outports at all. I believe they were signed in St. John's and sent to members of this House (most of them were sent to Opposition members), and these, willing to do anything to injure the Government, lent themselves to become dupes for schemers outside, to get up and represent that the country is alarmed at the rate that expenditures are being carried out by the Government. There is no alarm in the country; there is no cause for alarm; the country is quite satisfied with the outlook and has every reason to be satisfied. The only people who are alarmed are these political tricksters outside, and the members of the Opposition in this House who realize that their chances of ever getting into the Government are growing less and less every day, because the present Administration is doing so much for the benefit of the country and the people who live in it. I could enumerate at great length the number of things done for the country and the people by the present Government that were never even contemplated by our predecessors. The late Government merely pretended to deal with some of these things for political purposes. They appointed a commission to consider Old Age Pensions two years before they went out of power. That Commission never reported. It was only formed to throw dust in the eyes of the electors, and help to get the party back into power. With us, on the other hand, every promise we have made has been carried out. We have been criticized here for not reducing
taxation. We have reduced taxation—not by taking anything off, but by giving more back to the people for what they are paying. We are giving back our surpluses in improvements all over the Island. I challenged the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. Kent) some time ago to say whether he was not getting more from this Government for his district than he did from the Government of which he was an Executive member. Did he deny that? It is the same way with everything else. The Opposition says that the country is alarmed, but I repeat that the country is not alarmed. We are building railways, and we shall go on building railways, because they are the greatest agency of advance any country could have. We are told that our estimate of their cost is a false one. If it is, it has at any rate the merit that it is more correct than the statement Sir Robert Bond made when he was considering the same railway we are building, and said they would only come to 197 miles. The present Premier’s estimate was 250 miles, and it was only a rough estimate, but we have had no difficulty in finding the money to finance these railways, and we shall carry our undertaking through in a creditable manner. We had the authority of the Legislature to build these railways, and we were justified by public opinion throughout the Island. What would be the good of building a railway from here to Trepassey, for instance, over the woods and the barrens? We wanted to build them so that they would serve the people all through the districts in which the lines run if it did take ten or fifteen more miles to build. What would be the use of building a railroad through the wilderness, miles from the settlements and without giving any benefit to the people? The hon. member’s statements, of course, are only made from an opposition standpoint. He heard the Budget Speech and he felt he had to say something in opposition and so he got up and laboured very hard, but without very much result. I think when the matter comes before the Committee again, I can convince the House and the country that every statement I have made this afternoon is correct and justified in every particular.

...RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Chairman, there are one or two points in the remarks of my hon. friend, the member for St. John’s E., that I should like to correct, although what I had intended to say has been very largely said by the Minister of Finance, who has just spoken, so that little is left for me to say. I think it important that some of the hon. member’s remarks should not go forth to the country uncontradicted. In the first place he stated that I said in this House that $4,000,000 would cover the cost of the five branch railways. That is not correct. I never made any such statement. If the hon. member will recollect the facts, he will see by a little calculation that even at the estimate I made then of 250 miles at $15,000 a mile, nearly all that $4,000,000 would be taken up. And I made no reference at that time to right of way, rolling stock, stations or any of the other expenditure that brings the cost of railway building in this country up to at least $18,000 a mile. It is not the case, and it is not right to insinuate to this House that false statements were made here. There never has been a mile of railway built in Newfoundland that did not cost at least $18,000 a mile. We paid Reid’s $15,600 a mile for construction, and in addition we paid for the right of way, stations, rolling stock, snow fences, walls and all that makes up the line of railway from here to Port aux Basques. In some cases it may only have cost $17,000, but generally more. When I said $4,000,000, I made it clear
to this House that I was speaking on 250 miles at $15,000 a mile, which would come to about $4,000,000. I never attempted to suppress the fact that additional amounts would be required to pay for additional necessaries and equipment. It is not fair to make such a statement, because of the effect it may have outside amongst those who are not and cannot be acquainted with the facts, in forming in their minds an entirely erroneous and wrong view of what is going on. The hon. member went on to say the general opinion of the public is that this expenditure is most extravagant. I should like to know what are his sources for finding out what the public thinks. Does he represent the public? Could the Opposition that we have here before us this evening possibly represent any possible public opinion outside? Every member of the thinking public in this country to-day, although I say it myself, is in favour of the present Administration, and if it were not for two or three agitators who have been turned out and are in the position of dismissed servants, trying to get back, we would never hear a word. You take up the papers and you see article after article of the foulest abuse and the grossest misrepresentation against us. What do those papers represent? The opinion of two or three needy individuals who had to fly their districts. They represent the individual opinions of two men and no others. There is no feeling whatever of unrest outside nor feeling of alarm. We were told that in 3 years we had spent $18,000,000; and that calculation was made by adding in the total revenue of the 5 years with the loan raised for the railway branches. What does the hon. member want us to do; tie up the public service, and stop paying our debts? What were we sent here for but to collect the revenue and expend it to carry on the public service? Does he want us to refuse to pay our public debt? Was it not necessary for us to raise a loan to build the railways? The Legislature commanded it and the public endorsed it. And we have been able to find all that money without increasing taxation by one cent. We have been able to pay the total interest on that loan and on the money we are now going to borrow out of money we have found where our predecessors could not find it, and it is one of their regrets now that they did not; out of revenue that has been created by this Government, and not with one cent of ordinary taxation, not one cent out of the pockets of the people. When we have completed our five branches and equipped them and paid the contractor, and finished the lines and paid our last bill we shall have incurred a total expense of $6,000,000. Interest on that at 3½ per cent would be $210,000. I think that is very simple, and capable of being understood, by anybody. Now $100,000 out of that $210,000 comes from Bell Island; found money that others were unable to find, one of their lost opportunities. When we came into power, in the last year that Mr. Clift was Minister of Agriculture and Mines, his total revenue was $59,000. I do not say that to his discredit; he collected all he could. We got last year $191,000 from that Department. $140,000 of found money; it was not there when the other side went out of power. I suppose I will be told that that is the revenue we are deriving from the lands taken back from Reid. I have taken the precaution to ask Mr. Turner; what is the revenue we now get from those lands taken back from Reid. And he says $3000 a year. We have taken back those lands from Reid, and we have had them ten or eleven years,
and the total income from them has been three thousand dollars a year. How has this Government found a way of obtaining $140,000 more from that department? By judicious advertisement of the Colony. By making the Colony better known abroad and at home, and by the investment that has taken place in our lands. Speculation it would be termed; but is not that what has happened in every new country in the world? In Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the United States and every other country? If we were to sit down and do nothing with the Crown Lands at all on account of speculation we would have nothing. I can tell my hon. friend that we are in a position to show the country that our policy of branch railways has not and, when completed, will not call upon the ordinary taxpayer for one cent. But he conveniently winks that out of sight when he gets up here and talks about gross extravagance. Let me tell the hon. gentleman that he does not represent public opinion. He is not in a position to understand what public opinion is, nor are those associated with him. They have no more idea of what is going on around them than they have of what is happening in the planet Mars. And the people who are agitating and trying to make trouble in this country to-day are either men who have been dismissed from the positions which they held or men who are trying to get in here. I know every one of them. That is the "public opinion"; and I want the public to know that when they take up the Opposition papers and read editorials, letters or any other class of information that these represent the individual opinions of men who have been turned out of districts, men who represent no opinions except their own; and the same is true as regards this House. And, as far as I am concerned, I will not permit the Hon. gentleman or any other gentleman to get up in this House and say that the general opinion of the public is that extravagance is going on until he has, at least, established the fact that he is in a better position than those who sit on this side of the House to say what public opinion is. It is usual on an occasion like this for the Opposition to make some attempt to criticise the Budget, and I did not expect, it would not have been fair to expect, that my hon. friend would not try to answer it; but if he was not able to do that it was a very poor substitute to get up and read us an essay on political economy, and tell us what has been said since the days of the earliest political economists—if not the earliest, at least the earliest of the great English political economists, Adam Smith. Volumes and libraries have been written about those matters in dealing with the wealth of nations. We are told here this evening that is an evidence that a country is on the downward grade when her imports are greater than her exports—that it is a sign of decay when we are sending out more than we are bringing in—and my hon. friend put two or three years together to show that during the time when he and his party were in office the imports were less than the exports. That was the principle laid down, as I understand it. Well, the reason why the imports were less than the exports in the days that he has referred to was because there was nothing to send out to buy anything with. The man that could get a bag and a barrel and keep his body and soul together was achieving a triumph and he ran up a flag and thought he was doing something wonderful. It
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY PROCEEDINGS.

may surprise the hon. men1ber
to
know that last year in England the
total exports were only £500,000,000
while the total imports were £700,000,000-a difference of £200,000,000.
~Tow, I don't think that England
is
yet on the verge of insolvency
or
about to assign. I think that she is
able to bobble along for a few years
more. She has been going down, and
almost on the verge of destruction,for
years in the opinion of so1ne people,
but still she manages to get along,
and to-day she is the nucleus of the
greatest empire in the world.
And
last year, as I say, there was a balance of £200,000,000 against the principle contended for by
my
hon.
friend here this evening. Now, that
principle might be a safe one and a
sound one, if other things were equal
-if it could be shown that this country was on all-fours with the
countries for which that princi'ple
was
laid down. I have no doubt that
if
you go to the "\Vealth of Nations, :you
will find a principle of political economy almost on the lines laid down by
my hon. friend.
It appea.rs at
a
first glance that it ought not be good
for a country to be bringing in more
than it is sending out-to have
the
balance of trade against the country;
but it depends entirely on circumstances.
It is conceivable that a country
Inight put up a wall right round itself,
and liYe within itself-that it might
not be necessary to send out anything
at all.
Tllere are countries that aro
able to do' that to-day. It n1ay be that
Newfoundland, from climatic or other reasons, is not and
may never
become self-contained. We may never
be able to produce all our
people
want; but I can easily
understand.
·without any violation of any political
economy axioms, that this
country
may go on for years in1porting Yery

much moTe than it exports and yet be
thriving and prosperous.
So that
there is nothing whatever in
these
principles unless you know the facts
and circu1nstances, and unless
the
country to which you are
applying
them is on all-fours "\Vith the countries
for which they were 1nade.
Then again, reference was made to
Grand Falls, and we are told
that
they were created by the late administration. These industTies seemed to
be ear-n1.arked, mortgaged to the late
administration: no one has a right even to 1·efer to them; you must not
make a reference to Grand Falls and
Bishops Falls, because the moment
you do the Opposition are up in arm~"!.
Now, I want to know what had ~he
late administration to do with the
establishment of these places? Tb~y
l~acl about as much to do with it
.1~
they bad to do with the discovery of
tho North Pole .
If anyone wants to
know the history of these towns I ~; an
tell it in a few words.
Mr. Beeton
came here as the representative ~f a
number of English capitalists
who
wanted to buy land.
Before he left
for Newfoundland he had had no nPgotiations with any government
ol'
anyone in the country. He came as
the guest of Sir Cavendish Boyle, who
was an old fellow student of his, and
the day he came here the Governor
sent for me. I went up and met Mr.
Beeton; and froJn that day until the
mills were opened I worked for the establishment of that industry here as
if I were the paid solicitor of the concern. In fact, so much did I interest
myself in the work that the Opposition
of the day charged me with
being
Harmsworth's solicitor and in
their
pay. They came here and they paid
half a million dollars for private lands
to old l\1r. Miller and a few
others;
and then this Legisa.ture-not
the


Government of the day but this Legislature, Opposition and Government—gave them certain other concessions. To talk about that industry being the work of the late administration is simply nonsense. The Opposition must have very little indeed to rely on if hour after hour and day after day they have to fall back on what was done years ago. It would be much better for them to outline their proposals, and not be playing the part of the potato policy—the best part under­ground. That sort of talk is all very well for a debating club for a lot of boys, but not for serious legislatures—not for those who want to try and construct a policy even though mistakes are made in that construction. The Harmsworth industry and the A. E. Reed industry are all contributing, all doing good work, but don’t let us be carried away with the idea that they have been the main causes of the prosperity of the country to-day. If these industries did not exist the men employed there would be working elsewhere and we have really only to account for the difference between what they are making at Harmsworths and what they would make where they were. What difference does it make to this country or to our revenues whether the money is earned at Chidley or at Grand Falls? I admit that it is one of the sources of supply of the general revenue, but it is only a substitution. Those that are working at Grand Falls to-day were working at the fisheries before. They are doing better now because they have got work all the year round.

It is not correct, either, to say that the Minister this evening in any way abandoned the policy of reduction of taxation. No such statement was made, and no such suggestion. What he said was this, that it is very much better to give back the surplus to the people than to reduce taxation. He showed, for instance, that in three years we have increased the education vote by $100,000. Well we could have reduced taxation by $100,000 and not increased the education grant. Do I understand the hon. gentleman to claim that that is his policy? Now that is something we could debate. If we were to reduce taxation three or four hundred thousand dollars then we would have to reduce the education vote; we could have no Old Age Pensions; no extensions of tele­graphy; no extension of the Marconi system; no relief to the poor; you could have none of the extensions in the public service for which this money is now being spent. It is a very easy thing to reduce taxation. I was a member of the late administration for eight years, and I think I can say without boasting—I don’t think it will be denied—that I had a little to do with the policy of decreasing the taxation on flour, and salt, and lines and twines, amounting to nearly $200,000; but whilst I admit that, and claim a portion of the credit, I have also to admit, and share the blame for having put on $300,000 on other items. There was no reduction of taxation during the eight years which I was a member of that administration—no reduction, that is, as to the ultimate result. Taxation was simply taken off one article and put on another. Now, that might appear as if something very wrong was being done. Not at all. The policy was to try and make it easier for a certain class and that was why these items were listed; but as far as the general revenue was concerned, we collected probably fifty to sixty thousand dollars more. The public records show that. We often hear of what was
taken off, but we never hear anything about what was put on. It is about time now, I think, that we became a little serious and gave up the policy of quoting one side of the argument and forgetting that there is another side. It is not creditable to ourselves, nor is it fair to the people; it is an insult to the intelligence of those outside who want the facts. What is the object of this misrepresentation—because everywhere you turn it is gross misrepresentation? I don't know whether it is that the law is defective that parties go unpunished for that sort of thing. Statements are made every day in the public press in relation to government members, and if they were true, these men ought to be in the penitentiary; on the other hand, if they are not true, then those who make them ought to be there. That is a very simple proposition. I say, if those statements are true, the parties referred to should be in the penitentiary; if they are not true, those who make them should go there. These statements should be investigated. The vilest charges, the lowest insinuations, emanate day after day from one individual, or, it may be, from those who use him as a sort of letter-box. People talk about financial embarrassment and gross extravagance and expenditure who are not capable of running a bullseye shop, and who would no more be able to understand the statements made here this evening than they would be able to understand a proposition in Euclid; and yet there are those who take them seriously. Thousands of people read their papers who would not trust them tomorrow to act for them in a disputed claim on the tail of a herring. They are taken seriously, as I say, by people who don't understand them, who have never seen them, and who probably never will see them; by people who take up a paper and read an article and think that it represents public opinion, while as a matter of fact it merely represents the prejudiced view of the individual who wrote it—who was made to write it, who can only hold his job just so long as he can slander the other side, who is here today and gone tomorrow, and whose salary is governed by the slander that he writes. These are the people, we are told, that represent public opinion. Is it from these sources, I would like to know, that my hon. friend forms his opinions? I would invite him, during this debate, to tell the Committee what are the sources of information from which his opinions are formed? Does he form them from the information gathered from the people he talks to, or from reading the Opposition papers? Perhaps he will be good enough to tell us who it is that writes these articles, and let us get down to a business basis?

Now, Mr. Chairman, to conclude, let me say that there is no alarm in this country as regards expenditure: there never was an administration in power, although I say it myself, in which there was such universal and supreme confidence in relation to every question, whether it be expenditure or confederation, or anything else. The public were duped before, and if they are not careful they will be duped again. Ever since this Party was formed the vilest calumnies have been printed and circulated about us. When we were 18 to 18 we saw charges appearing in the press every day about the men that we were attempting to buy. And what were the facts? The only proven case was that of Mr. Downey, who was offered the position of Speaker with the reversion
of the job in the Marine and Fisheries Department. That is a fact that can be proven, because we have the letters. That was the extent of the bribery and corruption when we were 18 to 18. I hope the people will be careful—they will have to be more careful now than ever to prevent themselves from being duped by false misrepresentations. We are in a prosperous condition today, and our people are prosperous, happy and contented. If the causes that have brought about that prosperity are not in accord with the principles of political economy which guide my hon. friend, all I can say is that I am sor­ry, but "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof," and sufficient for us to know that the people are better off than they ever were before and that our abounding revenues and large surpluses can only come as a result of our people being able to buy more—their purchasing power has increased. A man cannot buy more this year than he bought last, if his income has not increased. And that is the true test of the prosperity of a country. It matters very little how it is brought about, that is the test; and when this country meets bad times and our peope have ceased to be able to earn what they are now earning, and what I hope they will earn in the near future, then it will be time enough to curtail.

MR. KENT—Mr. Chairman, just one word in reply to the Rt hon. gentle­man who has just sat down. I was not aware, Sr, that I had said anything during the course of my few remarks on the Budget of the Minis­ter of Finance to justify the great heat that has been displayed by the Prime Minister. Of course, the speech which we have heard from him this afternoon is one which he has repeated two or three times, each session since his government assumed power; so that so far as the subject matter of his speech is concerned, it has been dealt with on various occasions in this House. But I want to tell the Prime Minister that when he says that I have got no right, or words to that effect, to express what I consider to be the feeling of the public in relation to public affairs from my place in this House, I take issue with him.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—I did not say that. I said you should at least tell us the sources from which you obtained your information.

MR. KENT—You asked what part of the public do I represent.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—Yes.

MR. KENT—Well, I can tell the Rt hon. gentleman that I represent here a larger section of the public than he does, and I will express my opinion on the public accounts and the public affairs of the colony as long as I hold a place in this House, and I am not going to be silenced by any such talk as that which the Prime Minister has indulged in this after­noon. I made a plain, clear criticism of some of the items in the Budget and not one statement that I made has been refuted. There has been no attempt to answer any of the criticisms which I have made. And yet I am told that I don't know what I am talking about.

HON. MR. CROSBIE—Mr. Chair­man, I would call attention to the fact that it is now 6.30.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—It doesn't matter. (To Mr. Kent). Will we adjourn and come back after tea.

MR. KENT—No, I only want to say a few words more. I was saying, Mr. Chairman, that not one subject to which I referred has been dealt with,
as I think the public would expect that they should be dealt with by either the Minister of Finance or by the Prime Minister.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—That is your opinion.

MR. KENT—That is the position.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—That is your opinion.

MR. KENT—Further, Sir, I was going on to refer to the petitions which were presented here the other evening. I was not here when they were presented and I have not seen any of them. I saw by the public press that they were presented but beyond that I know nothing whatever about them; and why they should be brought up in reply to remarks that I made here regarding the Budget I fail to see. except it is to try and draw away attention from the criticisms that I have made. The Minister of Finance, I think, on a previous occasion said he challenged me regarding the money spent in St. John's East. Well, I certainly say, Mr. Chairman, that if that is a specimen of the manner in which the Government is returning the money to the people, it is a very poor specimen and a very poor premises upon which to base the conclusion, Sir, to prove that the money is returned to the people when it is shown that out of $5,000, $1200 goes to one man.

HON. MIN. FINANCE & CUSTOMS—That is your business, not mine.

MR. KENT—I may tell the Minister of Finance and Customs right here that I have no control of the moneys spent in St. John's East. When I did have control every cent of the grants found its way into the pockets of the people and were used in public works. The records of the Public Works Department will show that. The Minister of Finance or myself at that time did not find it necessary to appoint an expensive official to spend $5,000 at a cost of $1200, or nearly a quarter of the grant. If that, Sir, is returning the money to the people, and if that is what is going on through the whole public service, as it probably is, I think that economy might well be practised, and to such an extent that the Government would be enabled to meet all the public demands out of the surpluses without going into the market to borrow money and piling up a public debt beyond the capabilities of the people of the country. I do not propose to detain the Committee any longer, Mr. Chairman, but when the Committee meets again I shall have something further to say on this matter.

The Committee rose, reported that it had made some progress and asked leave to sit again.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred; had made some progress; and asked leave to sit again on Wednesday.

On motion this report was received and adopted; and it was ordered that the Committee have leave to sit again on Wednesday.

The remaining Orders of the Day were deferred.

The Hon. Minister of Justice gave Notice that he would on to-morrow ask leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Act 4 Edward VII., Cap. 8, entitled "An Act respecting Banks."

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Tuesday, March 26th., at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

TUESDAY, March 26th.

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

PETITIONS.

MR. CLIFT—I beg leave to present a petition from John W. White and others of Harry's Harp. on the subject of Sunday observance; also a petition from Daniel Rideout and others, officers and members of the F.P.U. of Newfoundland, on the subject of the dissolution of this House. Also a petition from John Peddle and others from the same place on a similar subject. Also a petition from William Boyd and others of Tizzard's Harbour, on the subject of certain district requirements. I would ask that these petitions be received and referred to the departments to which they relate.

QUESTIONS.

Mr. Clift gave notice of Question.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs to lay on the table a statement of the Loan of £80,000 sterling, raised under the Railway Act, 1910, showing in detail (1) The total amount of loan raised under the said Act; (2) The total amount received by the Colony as proceeds of said loan; (3) Particulars of the difference between the face value of the loan and the amount received, with names, dates and purpose of each such particular; (4) Amount paid out of said loan, to whom, for what purpose, date and on what authority; (5) Balance now to credit of said loan, and where such balance is now deposited.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—Mr. Chairman, in submitting to-day these Resolutions for the raising of a sum of money to complete the Railway system of the Colony, I think it is unnecessary for me to offer any lengthy explanation of them, for since the opening days of the House this matter has been before us in debate nearly every second day. Why this loan is asked for is apparent, sir. At the time of raising the loan two years ago to construct the railway branches contracted for with the Reid Newfoundland Company, it was estimated that their total length would be about 250 miles. After the surveys were completed, however, it was found that, to bring the railway in touch with many important places the line would have to be considerably lengthened. For instance, when the estimate of the length was made two years ago, the Bonavista Branch line was estimated at about 70 miles. Well, to build the road from St. John's to Trepassey according to that estimate, would have resulted in a number of the most important settlements on the Southern Shore being cut out such as the town of Bay Bulls, with a thousand people; Witless Bay with a thousand; Mobile with several hundred; Tor's Cove with several hundred; Brigus and Cape Broyle with several hundred;
Caplin Bay, several hundred, Ferryland, the capital of the district, Fermeuse, Renew and Broad Cove. After the surveys were made and completed the government found that the total mileage would be about 102 miles, a large increase over the estimate. Then there is the branch to Heart's Content. The estimated number of miles, I think, was about 25, but the Government found after the surveys that instead of 25, it would be about 35 miles. The same is true of the Fortune Bay Branch. The estimate for the Bonne Bay Branch was 25 miles, and the surveys will show 30 miles. The total mileage therefore, instead of 250 miles, will be something like 350 miles. It has been apparent from the opening days of the House that it would be necessary to bring in another loan bill of £400,000 sterling to complete these branches. As I stated before it is not necessary to go into details this afternoon for ever since we opened, this matter has been debated, and we have been told by the Opposition that we cannot afford to raise this money. They have presented petitions circulated by themselves for signature, that we should not raise it; but we do not have to take any notice of these petitions. We were sent here three years ago by the people of this country to build railroads. We came here under contract, as it were, to build these lines and they will be built. The Rt. hon. the Premier, Sir Edward Morris, in his manifesto to the people stated that it was his intention, with their permission to build branch railways to the several places stated, and that permission was given him. It was clearly stated to the people of the island when this government went to the country, Sir Edward Morris stated that he would do certain things. Three years have passed since he came into power, and he has carried out the several promises that he made to the people. We came back with a mandate from the people, and with authority from them to carry out this work, and that we shall do. We have been told by the members on the other side of the House, that we should not raise this loan, unless we have the permission of the people. This argument is all bosh. We have been given that permission and we intend to carry out the promises made. I heard a member state outside of this House, when in political debate, that a railway would ruin this colony, that it would be grown over with weeds, and that it would be two lines of rusty iron. I heard that statement made 10 years ago in the district of Ferryland, by a member who sat on the other side of the House, and who is there now, but I was glad to see a few nights ago, that he has been converted altogether from that belief, and that he was now prepared at any cost to support railroad building throughout the island, support it, no matter where the rails went. We all know that 25 years ago only the coast line was inhabited. Twenty five years ago parts of this island, where there are flourishing communities today, were not trod by the foot of a white man. Take Grand Falls for instance. Twenty five years ago, very few individuals trod the site on which that flourishing town is now founded. To-day it is a hive of industry, and another flourishing town is growing up next to it. Well, now, would all this have taken place, if the policy of railroad building was not followed out? And if this be the case during the last 25 years, what great results will follow through the expansion of this railway policy in the next 25 years. Look at Bell Island, 25 years ago, and look at it to-day. We can
safely assume that great benefits will accrue from the policy of this Government. I take it, Sir, that we are only birds of passage. We are here to do our duty while we are here. We do not come here simply to obstruct and idle away time. In introducing these resolutions to-day, I am not in any way frightened at the sum to be raised. I am not in any way alarmed at what is going to take place. I cannot see that gloomy outlook that is being perceived by the members on the other side of the House. We ask to-day, Sir, to raise the sum of $2,000,000 to complete those branch railways around the Island, and why do we ask for this? Because those branch railways are necessary to the growth of the country, and if the country is to benefit, if it is to expand, it will be only through the agency of the railroads. The Government do not fear criticism; they know that they cannot please everybody. They are doing their duty. But we are doing more than that. We are building railroads without increasing taxation. As was pointed out last evening by the Premier, we have collected a large amount of money that was allowed to go to waste by the previous administration. Look at the number of years iron ore was allowed to be exported from Bell Island without any tax. What did the people of this country, may I ask, receive from that mine? A paltry dollar and a quarter a day for going down into the mines and digging out the ore. The principal amount received from that Island was sent abroad to line the pockets of wealthy foreigners. But when we came into power, the first thing we did was to ask those Companies to pay a tax on that ore. That tax amounts to $100,000 a year. As was pointed out here last evening, that was not the only amount that was going to waste. We were told here in this House this year that we gambled in land grants, and that the Crown Lands' Department was a gambling den; but I repudiate that statement, Mr. Chairman. I do not know what that Department might have been four years ago. I know, however, what it earned, and what we have made it earn since we attained office. That Department earns practically $200,000 a year more than under the late administration; and that added to the $100,000 that we receive from Bell Island, makes $300,000 a year that we receive that was allowed to go to waste by the previous Government. Now, I would further like to point out that since this Government took charge, we have collected between three and four million dollars a year revenue; and we can afford to-day to pay the interest on six million dollars and have a surplus of one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars to our credit. I think every right-thinking man will agree with me that that is doing good work. Besides, we are giving back a large share of the revenue to the people, in improvements they should have had years ago, and it is costing them nothing extra. Since this House opened we have heard a lot to the effect that one of the principal planks in the manifesto of Sir Edward was that he would reduce taxation, and it is charged he has not done so. It has also been stated in this House that his predecessors reduced taxation; but I took it upon myself, as being in the Department of Finance and Customs, to prove to this House and to this country that our predecessors did not reduce taxation. I proved that instead of reducing taxation by the amount of $180,000 a year, they increased taxation during the term they were in office to the amount of $330,000 a year on an average. I told the story before in this House how, when our predecessors assumed office, enquiry was made at the Custom
House to get a quarter of a million dollars additional revenue from the taxpayers of the Colony without arousing the suspicion of the people. A list which I submitted here a few days ago was made out by certain individuals in that Department, submitted to the Government and brought down here, and taxation was increased practically a quarter of a million dollars on articles that did not arouse the suspicion of the fishermen of this Island. That went on for three years. The eve of an election came round. The Government members assembled and consulted as to what was the next move on the board to deceive the electors. They concluded that if they reduced taxation on flour and salt and molasses and kerosene oil that the people would not mind or would not know about the quarter of a million dollars extra that had been taken from them for the last three years. The duty was, therefore, taken off these articles shortly before the election of 1904, and then the Government went back to the people claiming that they had reduced taxation. I speak with authority, because I was with them at the time and I know what I am talking about. And I may tell you, Sir, that I felt it keenly, but I was only one member and did not count. But, Sir, when I went back to my district I did not try to fool my constituents by saying that we had reduced taxation. I was elected and came back to this House, and when further injury was about to be put upon the people that I represented, I left my place and walked over to the other side of the House and took the seat next to the one now occupied by Mr. Dwyer. These are facts, Sir, that cannot be contradicted. But, Mr. Chairman, to get back to the resolutions before the chair this evening. There is no alarm amongst the fishermen of this Colony to-day that the Government is guilty of reckless expenditure. We have spent money, it is true, but how? Last year we spent $100,000 in building lighthouses and other aids for the fishermen of this Island. In a few days we will be asking this Legislature to grant another $100,000 to do similar work. Now, who are we doing this for. We are simply carrying out, as I stated before, what we were sent here to do. And we are not causing any alarm, as was stated by the Opposition a couple of days ago. The only people who are alarmed are the members of the Opposition. They see that if we keep on as we are going at present and keep up the work that we are at present engaged in that they will have to remain where they are for a long time. And, Mr. Chairman, we have done more. During the three short years this Government have been in power we have given the people throughout this Island educational grants for their children to the extent of $100,000. Is that money wasted? Is not lack of education our greatest misfortune to-day? The material is there if it were developed, and is it not our duty to do it? We have given $100,000 to the education grant in two years. That is more than was accomplished by our predecessors in ten. Well, if we have piled up expenditure in that form, Mr. Chairman, I think the people of the Colony will reap the benefit in the very near future. May I ask the gentlemen on the other side of the House what would be their intention to-morrow if the Govt. went out of office and they came in. Would they tear down the lighthouses which we have erected? Would they stop the grant for education which we have voted? Would they destroy those branch railroads that we have built throughout the island? Apparently that must be their policy if the arguments which they have put up mean anything. Otherwise their arguments have no sense and are
only made to throw dust in the eyes of the people and get back where they left. We are piling up expenditure but we are making improvements throughout the island; and we are going to make them; and if another Government were to come in they could not stop these improvements; they could not reduce the education grant or take back the branch railroads or tear down the lighthouses or tear up the railway track. They would have to go on increasing the education grant, building lighthouses and building railroads, because if they did not they would soon find themselves in the same position as they were before. The demands of the people would make them do it and if they did not others would soon come in and take their place.

We were told here last evening, Mr. Chairman, that we had raised the loan two years ago practically under false pretences. That is the meaning of what was said here. That we raised four million dollars and told the people of this Colony that it was sufficient to build all the branches throughout the island. Now, that was not so. The same number of branches which we are building to-day was calculated upon by the Rt. Hon. the leader of the Opposition in his manifesto. He set the mileage of these branches down at 199 miles. I may be misquoting him when I say all the branches; but he covered practically the same route and put the mileage down as 199 miles. When we came in here two years ago we put the estimate at 250 miles at $15,000 a mile, but then we found ourselves in this position that while we could build the road as surveyed at a mileage of 250 miles yet if we were to connect the various settlements and build the railroad to suit the needs of the people and the business of the country we would have to build 350 miles of road. And each and every man in this House and outside this House knows that while the road was to be built at $15,000 a mile, or in round numbers 250 miles of road for $4,000,000, you could not build it perfectly for that; you could not put rolling stock, snow fences, etc., on it for that $15,000 a mile. It was stated in this House last evening by the Prime Minister that no railroad in this island to-day has been built less than $19,000 a mile. Now the Opposition members of this House are trying to make capital by saying we misled the people by promising to complete these railroads for $4,000,000. That is a mistake. We promised to do it as cheaply as possible. We promised to build these roads and put rolling stock on them, and we promised to raise the money to do that, and any business man or half business man knows you cannot do that for $15,000 a mile. What is the use of building these roads if you don't put rolling stock on them and finish them right out. I think if we get them for $18,000, or $19,000 or $20,000 a mile we will be doing very well. In Canada they have railroads that cost them from $40,000 to $100,000 a mile. On the other side they cost from £20,000 to £30,000 a mile. We have a mandate from the people of this country to build these roads, and we have promised to raise that money, and we are going to raise it. We have promised to finish these roads, and at the end of four years we will go back to the people with our contract with them carried out and then, and not till then, will we have to answer for our actions.

MR. KENT—I have listened with considerable interest to the speech which the Minister of Finance has
just delivered. The interest of course was not what one would call a fresh interest arising from any originality in his remarks or his methods, because we have heard the same speech already three or four times this session. Sometimes from the Minister of Finance and sometimes from the Prime Minister going over and over again the same subjects, containing the same statements and arguments. In fact the Minister has gone over this ground so often that I believe he has actually convinced himself that what he says is true—a story oft repeated becomes a truth to the person repeating it, but this delusion does not give the story a foundation in fact. If the Minister will examine the subject of the Resolutions now before us for debate, he will find that the whole subject of his remarks is utterly irrelevant to the matter under discussion utterly unnecessary to its explanation and utterly uncalled for.

In the first place, Mr. Chairman, the time when the contracts for Railway Extension was entered into and ratified two years was the time when the decisive step was taken by this House. It was then we committed ourselves to the expenditure involved in these contracts. I said at that time that these contracts were such that no responsible administration should present to the Legislature. They are too indeterminate as to the nature and extent of the works to be performed and too indefinite as to expenditure and the rights and duties of the parties. The very resolutions we have before us this evening accentuate the uncertainty of the country's position and the utter want of knowledge that exists as to the obligations and liabilities of the Country under these Railway Contracts. Two years ago when the Prime Minister introduced the Resolutions to confirm the Contracts for the Construction of the Branch Railways I told the Committee when dealing with the cost of constructing and equipping the five branch lines contracted for that the estimate of $4,000,000, then made by the Prime Minister as to the cost of completing these railways was far below the amount that would be required for the purpose. He then stated his opinion of the cost of these railways—by the cost he meant, the contract cost, the cost of construction and equipment when the lines would be completed and final certificate given. This is what he said at that time. "Now, Mr. Chairman the Committee is entitled to know what our Branch railways are going to cost and how that cost or the interest upon it is going to be met without increased taxation. That is after all the vital question we have to answer to the people of this country. I have made an estimate and have had an estimate made of the likely extent of these branches. Some differ from me and think my mileage too high. I do not think so. I think it will be two hundred and fifty miles for the five branches and possibly a little more. But to be perfectly safe I will put the estimate at two hundred and fifty miles. This at $15000 per mile will cost $3,900,000, or in round figures $4,000,000 creating an annual interest charge of $140,000.00 a year. In other words when all these lines are built the interest on the cost which we will have to pay will be $140,000 a year." He then goes on to show how this interest is to accrue year by year during the period of construction. In 1911 the charge he places at $28,000 in 1912 $56,000, in 1913 $84,000 in 1914 at $112,000 and in 1915 in which year he expects the five lines will be completed at $140,000. He then says:—"The whole of the branches will then be completed and the
question must naturally arise what will the revenue be in 1915? Will it be sufficient to meet this interest charge of $140,000 and pay for all the other public services in their increased votes—this increased interest of $140,000 will be more than made up by what we shall receive in increased revenue—our revenue for 1915 will be $3,600,000 or $600,000.00 more a year than we receive to-day and seeing the outlay for interest on the branch railway construction will only be $140,000 a year—it is quite evident we shall have abundant money to meet the cost of these branch railways." Now that is what the Prime Minister said two years ago when dealing in this House with the total cost of these five Branch Railways when completed equipped in operation under the contracts then submitted by him to the House for approval and ratification. I do not think any member of the House understood him to mean anything else than the total cost to the Colony of these lines when completed by the contractor and handed over under the contract. It is now claimed he was only dealing with the cost of constructing the mileage included in the $15,000 a mile and not with the total cost to the Colony under the contract. He did not so express himself. His words clearly indicate the total cost to the Colony, the full interest charge to be provided to meet all expenditures under the contracts if his figures related only to the mileage construction and he did not clearly distinguish between the contract price of $15,000 per mile for road construction and the cost of equipment and extra work included in the contract when making his estimate two years ago he left the House and the Country under a misconception which was highly improper under the circumstances. There is no doubt about that, this House and the Country were not able to get behind the mind of the Prime Minister. They could only judge by the words he had used. His words were intended to convince this House and the country that the total cost of these railways would be $4,000,000 and no more. No person went away from the House on that occasion with any other impression whether they agreed with his figures or not. Now, Sir, at that time there were no surveys before the House and the Government was criticised for not having surveys of the proposed routes made and placed before the House. Two years have passed since then and the estimates made then of mileage and cost are now admitted to have been erroneous, yet we are asked to vote a further loan of $2,000,000 though no surveys are yet made or placed before us. The criticisms of this matter made two years ago may now be repeated with increased force. No excuse can now be offered for the want of full and accurate surveys and estimates. There has been ample time to procure them. A session of the House was held in June 1909, at which a vote was taken for surveys of the route of the new railways. The summer and fall of that year were available and sufficient to enable the Government to undertake and complete the survey of these lines. There was sufficient time before the Contracts were brought down two years ago for the Government to have collected and furnished this House with reliable information as to the route the lines were intended to take, indicating the point of departure from the main line and the terminus of each branch. There was sufficient time for them to make
up their minds whether the railway would enter the settlements along its route on each branch to which the Minister of Finance referred this afternoon. For the Government to submit to the House a contract for the construction of five railways in five different bays of the Colony, and in estimating the mileage of the railways not to include the length of line required to touch these settlements was to my mind highly improper especially as the Government had the whole summer and fall and part of the spring of that year to ascertain the mileage and determine the settlements into which the railway would enter. These settlements were there then. Surely the Government did not then purpose running the railway from point to point as the crow flies, the idea of going to the settlements along its route being an after thought. We are in no better position to-day as regards information than we were two years ago. We expected this evening from the Minister of Finance at least a more detailed account of the work done and expenditures made under the contract and of what remains to be done, whether any and what surveys have been made. The Bonavista line is the only one about which we have been given any figures. He now estimates the mileage of the five lines at 330 miles instead of 250 miles. Two years ago he did not tell us anything about this 350 miles. It is still a mere estimate of the Minister. It is not based on any survey. If it is where are the surveys? If there are any in the Government Engineer’s Office why are they not tailed for the information of the Committee during this debate. Now Sir, the Minister of Finance is here asking for another loan of $2,000,000 in addition to the $4,000,000 voted two years ago, but I can tell him that that $2,000,000 additional will not cover by a long way the cost of our obligations under these contracts. On his own calculations Sir, this extra two million will cover the mere mileage construction of 350 miles. I think it very unfair and highly improper for the Government to come to this House and ask for another loan for these works without giving the members and the people of the Colony ample information to enable them to form, and express intelligent opinions upon the matter. We do not know where the railways are going to be placed, and the Minister if he knows is afraid to tell us. He said just now if this new loan is not sufficient to cover the cost of these railways he will come in again and get more money. Are not the people entitled to know the extent of their obligations before they grant a new loan? Two years ago a loan of four million dollars was raised which realized $3,690,388.85 net, according to the figures given by the Minister. Allowing Sir, that the present loan will realize the same rate it will give a net result of $1,845,194.00. In other words both loans will thus realize a total of $5,535,582.00. The cost of the 350 miles estimated by the Finance Minister at $15000 a mile will be $5,250,000 without any charge for equipment extra work or right of way. According to the statements already tabled the contractor has already been paid in addition to construction work for materials and extra work $261,000 and for right of way $195,000. In other words the cost of the mileage and extra work and right of way paid for to date is $5,706,000. Against this the total of the two loans is $5,535,582, leaving a balance on mileage construction and expenditure to date of about $160,000 to be provided in addition to the proceeds of both loans. These are the figures tabled by the Minister.
himself. The statement that these loans will cover the cost necessary to complete these railways is ridiculous and absurd. I said two years ago when the contracts were before the House that at least seven million dollars would be required, but it is now evident that even this figure will be far below the actual amount required to complete the work. What amount will be required to cover the total outlay on these Branch Railways when the contracts are completed is very difficult to say in the absence of the information which it is the manifest duty of the Government to furnish the House. Let us look at the contracts again and see where we stand under them. The contract was to build five branch railways to be paid for at the rate of $15,000 a mile. Up to the present time in addition to the expenditure on mileage construction we have already paid on the right of way on the two lines which have been started—the Bonavista and Trepassey lines—and not yet completed a sum of $195,000. Besides that we have to date for extra work which is not yet complete, an expenditure of $261,000. The Government in addition to paying the contractor $16,000 a mile have to provide a right of way for the railway and pay for materials and extra work. The expenditure for right of way will not perhaps be as great on the remaining branches as on those already provided because those already paid for run through cultivated and improved lands, whereas the others pass through a proportionately larger quantity of public or unimproved lands. However that may be, that the provision of right of way for the remaining lines will be a large item no person can deny. The cost of providing that right of way must be added to the $160,000, which I have already shown to be the difference between the cost of these lines to date and the amount realized as the net result of the two loans authorised by the House. Beside these matters the obligations under Sections 34, 35, 36, and 37 of the contract are such as are going to bring difficulties to this Colony. These sections to my mind make this contract one of the most preposterous contracts ever presented to this House or that I have ever read.

Section 34 is as follows:—"The Contractor shall erect all stations, piers, wharves, fences and snow fences along the line of the Branch ways to which this Contract refers, and shall erect, construct and perform all other works which the Government shall require, which are not included in, or incidental to the completion of the works comprised in this Contract, as the Government in this discretion may consider necessary and appropriate; and for the purpose of obtaining their approval, the Contractor shall submit designs, specifications, and estimates of the said erections and works. The approval of the Government shall be a condition precedent to commencing any work upon or in connection with the erections and works comprised in this clause. At the completion of each of the Branch Railways aforesaid, the contractor shall also supply and construct, subject to the conditions and restrictions of this clause, all rolling stock, tools, machinery, coal sheds, engine sheds, workshops and turntables as the Government may require. It is clearly understood that it is the intention of this clause that the said Branch Railways shall be completely and effectively equipped with all the erections and works, rolling stock and other equipment comprised in this clause, and that approval of the same by the Government shall in no
"case be unreasonable withheld."

You will notice, Mr. Chairman, how broad and comprehensive the language of that section is. All the works provided for here were extra works to be paid for specially. The first words relating to stations, piers, wharves, fences and snow fences are taken from the Contract of 1893. The latter words "and shall erect construct and perform all other works which the Government shall require, which are not included in or incidental to the completion of the works comprised in this contract as the Government in their discretion may consider necessary and appropriate" confer additional powers of great extent upon the Government to those contained in the 1893 contract. Consequently the construction of stations, piers, wharves, etc., as provided for in the 1893 contract will be paid for as extra work under this contract and besides these the Government has permission under this contract to agree with the Contractor for any other works they may consider necessary and capable unless carefully safeguarded of much abuse. Take, for example, the Trinity Spur Line, if it should be agreed between the Government and the Contractor that the Spur line was not included as part of the Bonavista Branch line in the principal contract, they might agree for its construction under this clause upon such terms and for such amount per mile as they might arrange. This wide clause and the power conferred by it upon the Government applies to any part of the construction work and to the carrying out of any other works under the contract.

The last part of the section reads, "It is clearly understood that it is the intention of this clause that the "said branch railways shall be completely and effectively equipped with all the erections and works, rolling stock and other equipment comprised in this clause, and that approval of the same by the Government shall in no case be unreasonably withheld."

That of course provides for the complete equipment of the line. It does not state what complete equipment means. There is no specification, no limit to what is included as equipment entitling the contractor to be paid extra cash now, under the construction contract instead of being provided under operating contract under which it would be included in the assessment made at the end of the contract in forty years time. The question of what is sufficient equipment to complete the line is left entirely to the Contractor and the Government. The Government are absolutely uncontrolled as to when the line is to be completely equipped.

Section 35 of the contract, provides: "The Contractor shall as part of this contract, provide rolling stock, tools, machinery, and sheds, buildings and water stations of the same general character and description as those provided under the Construction Contract with the late Sir R. G. Reid dated May 16, 1893, and in quantity and capacity proportionate to the total mileage of branch railways to be constructed under this Agreement."

The rolling stock, etc. mentioned in this clause will be paid for in the $15,000 a mile for construction. In the 1893 contract the equipment called for by the contract was specified in detail. Section 49 of the contract of 1893 provides what rolling stock had to be provided. It reads as follows:

49.—The Contractor shall provide the following stock when required, viz:—

Two locomotives, Standard American pattern, weighing twenty-five tons each, exclusive of tender.
Two Mogul locomotives; weight thirty tons each exclusive of tender.
One Consolidation Engine, weight thirty-four tons, exclusive of tender.
Four iron snow ploughs for attachment to buffer beams of locomotives, and interchangeable for either of the locomotives.
Three first class passenger cars.
One first and second class, combined.
Two second class cars, divided partition in centre if so ordered.
Two Mail and Baggage cars.
Three sleeping Cars, of approved standard size and finish and fitted with well equipped buffet.
One official Private Car.
Ten Box Freight Cars.
One Conductor’s Van.
One Flanger Car.
One Heavy Standard Snow Plough (Russell or other approved design.)
Thirty Flat Cars.

That is the equipment called for under the 1893 contract. If you take the amount of the mileage under the present contract and take the figures given by the Minister the total length of railway will be nearly the same in both cases, you will have three passenger cars for five railways paid for by the $15,000 a mile all the others will be extras. If you take the last of the equipment specified in Section 49 of 1893 and apply the principle of proportion to the main line and to the branch railways, you will find that the provision of Section 35 is utterly unsuited to the five branch lines. And the proportion will have to be calculated on an entirely different basis. This is provided for in Section 36 which reduces the proportion to a cash basis. This Section reads:—

“36. Inasmuch, however, as the quantities and descriptions of rolling stock, tools, machinery, coal sheds, buildings, engine sheds, work shops, turntables, and water stations shall be made, applicable to each branch railway and that the amount of such valuation shall be deducted from the gross valuation of all rolling stock, tools, machinery, coal sheds, engine sheds, work shops, turntables, buildings, and water stations to be supplied or erected under the provisions of clause 34 hereof for each branch railway and the balance only shall be paid to the Contractor as an addition or extra to this Contract.”

Now I think the meaning of that is perfectly clear. The meaning of these three sections taken together is that the Contractor is to build and fully equip these five branch railways. He is to be paid $15,000 per mile including the value of equipment on the basis of the 1893 contract. On the basis of the sections I have already read an estimate is to be made of the value of the equipment equivalent to the 1893 contract and the difference in value between the equipment under the 1893 contract and the actual outlay on rolling stock, etc. necessary to completely equip the five branches under Section 35 is to be paid for in cash as extra in addition to the contract price of $15,000 a mile.

There are three different items upon which the Colony will be called to pay in addition to the contract price of $15,000 a mile. The total cost at $15,000 a mile for 350 miles will be $5,250,000. The right of way upon which for two branches we have already expended $190,000. We have
also to pay for stations, piers, and wharves, under section 34 and again we have the difference between the valuation of the proportion of the rolling stock, etc. of the contract of 1893 and the actual cost of the complete equipment of the lines. These three heads will I believe vastly increase the amount which the Colony will have to pay for these branch railways. I have taken the Minister's own estimate of mileage but I believe it will be greater.

Section 37 provides for the payments of these extras.

"37. The Government shall pay to the Contractor the fair value of all works, constructions, articles and things provided and constructed by him under the provision of clause 34 hereof, subject to their approval of the same, and to the provisions of the next preceding clause. Payment on account hereunder to be made monthly on the certificate of the engineer for all works, constructions, articles and things completed and furnished at the date of such certificates."

That of course only provides for the payment of the items mentioned in the preceding sections.

It is impossible to estimate the amount of the claims which will be made under these clauses. We have already had experience of what these claims are in connection with railway contracts. This Colony has had claims going up into the millions of dollars and we cannot now estimate what amount will be necessary in connection with the five branch railways. It stands to reason that the equipment of one main line with but two terminals is a different undertaking to the equipment of five branch lines with at least five terminals and five junctions to provide for. The building of piers, wharves, stations &c., will come to a much larger item in the building of these five lines than could possibly be the case in the building of the main line. Take the branch line to Trepassey. A greater number of stations per mile are needed than on the cross country line. The same applies to the Bonavista branch, the Fortune Bay branch and the Heart's Content branch. The stations are more numerous and more equipment will be necessary in the way of rolling stock and accommodation on such branch per mile than on the cross country railway. Altogether the cost to the country in these items alone will be very much in excess of any claims made in connection with the equipment of the main line.

I had hoped that the correspondence I asked the Colonial Secretary to table at the beginning of the session would have been tabled before this debate came on. It was with a view to the debate which would take place upon these Resolutions that I asked for it, and I hope we will have it before the Resolutions have finally passed the House.

Of course, Mr. Chairman, when the Legislature passed the railway contract in 1910 we were then bound to all expenditure which an honorable performance of that contract entails, and any expense that follows legitimately from that contract this country and Legislature are in honour and law bound to provide. But I think it might at least be expected that the Minister of Finance and Customs when he came here this afternoon asking for authority to raise a loan of $2,000,000 more should have given us a detailed statement of the expenditure of the original loan item by item, payment by payment, audited and certified. I do not think that is an unreasonable request. This matter involves a very large sum, and we are a small people. Six million dollars, with every prospect of two or three million more to follow is a great
deal to us. I think at least this Committee should have had more information with regard to the expenditure, full and complete reports from the Government Engineer upon the five branches, an exact and detailed account of the money already raised. I do not intend to follow the Minister further in the speech which he gave us this afternoon. I think it was entirely uncalled for. I think the matter is too serious for the people of this country to be dealt with in the manner that has been done. We have very serious obligations under this contract, which will be brought before us again from time to time. The minister only went over ground which he has debated over and over again, and instead of a speech of the kind we heard this afternoon we had hoped that we would have had some justification for this call now being made upon the taxpayers of this country to provide $2,000,000 more. It has been generally recognized that the position presented to this House in 1910 has not been fulfilled by conditions as they actually appear. The evidence is before us this afternoon, when we are asked for $2,000,000 more to carry out that contract. I have only to say in conclusion that this is not the last $2,000,000 we shall have to pay under that contract.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Chairman, in relation to an important debate like that of this afternoon, involving large expenditures, and affecting the whole colony and its development, I am sorry that my hon. friend on the other side did not make an effort to rise to the occasion; all that he has succeeded in doing is to repeat the speech we heard here two years ago, and that without any improvement. On many points that speech merely raised facts and details which it is reasonable to assume the committee at last understands. It reminds one of the story of a legislator once here in this House, who, talking of obligations the colony was under, said we would give some one his pound of flesh but no more; and then he went on to explain what that meant as if no one in the House had ever heard of the “Merchant of Venice.” We may reasonably assume that the Legislature and the country outside have at last discovered that the cost of railways in this country is about $18,000 a mile. I thought I had made that clear. I have repeated it over and over again, and I hope I shall have to repeat it no more. Every mile of railway from St. John’s to Port aux Basques has cost the country $18,000 when fully finished and equipped.

Now these Resolutions propose a loan of $2,000,000, in addition to the loan raised in 1910 to pay for and complete the five branch railways, the building of which, it will be remembered, was authorized by this Legislature in February, 1910. These five branches are as follows:—

(1) From Shoal Harbour, via Trinity and Catalina to Bonavista.

(2) From Broad Cove to Heart’s Content, and from Carbonear to Grate’s Cove.

(3) From St. John’s to Trepassey, via the Southern Shore.

(4) From Come by Chance to Terronceville, Fortune Bay.

(5) From Deer Lake to Bonne Bay.

It will be remembered that when these Resolutions were introduced in February, 1910, I intimated that the length of the entire five branches would be something more than 250 miles. The exact words used by me were:—

“I have had an estimate made of the likely length of these branches. Some differ from me and think my mileage is too high. I do not think so; I think it will be 250 miles for the
five branches and possibly a little more, but to be perfectly safe, I would put the estimate at 250 miles."

In his Manifesto to the country in 1909, the Leader of the Opposition made the following statement in relation to the mileage of the proposed branch lines:

"I have had an estimate made of the mileage of the branch lines of railway promised by the Leader of the Opposition, and it amounts to 192 miles. At the figure required by the Reid Newfoundland Company, namely, fifteen thousand dollars per mile, the cost of the construction and equipment would mean a charge upon the people of the Colony of $2,985,200, and the interest thereon, at 3½ per cent., would mean a cost to the Colony of $104,482 per year.

Hon. John Anderson's estimate was somewhat higher. Speaking for the Government in the T. A. Hall, in October, 1908, and in the presence of the executive members of the Government, he put his estimate at 275 miles, made up as follows:

- Fortune Bay branch ... 50 miles
- Bonne Bay branch ... 45 miles
- Trepassey branch ... 55 miles
- Grate's Cove branch ... 35 miles
- Trinity branch ... 90 miles

Total ... ... 275 miles

Of course all these estimates were only approximate. I felt myself that they were all too low, and stated so when I was introducing the Resolutions. But, notwithstanding, if it were not for the fact that the surveys have lengthened the road in the interests of the public, my original estimate of about 300 miles would have been very close.

The increased mileage over the original estimate was brought about by the desire on the part of the Government to connect as many settlements as possible with the railway. This policy extended the length of the branch to Heart's Content by 16 miles, by building it down the shore from Dildo, in that way connecting over 5,000 people with the line, instead of crossing the uninhabited barrens from Carbonear to Heart's Content.

The Bonavista Branch was increased 13 miles over the original estimate by connecting settlements in both Trinity and Bonavista Bays. The same is true of the survey for the Bay de Verde Branch Railway, where a very considerable increase on the length of the line is accounted for by the fact that the railway passes through every settlement in the District of Bay de Verde. If the railway had proceeded along the north shore of Trinity Bay to Trinity, and thence to Catalina and Bonavista, the road would have been 13 miles shorter. If it had followed the present route as far as Southern Bay, and cut across to Trinity direct, leaving out Seal Cove and Indian Arm, five miles would have been saved, but the detour was thought to be advisable and justifiable by reason of the traffic, and the easier working in getting the line through in that vicinity. Several detours were rendered necessary on the Trepassey branch railway, owing to the physical conformation of the country.

We now find that the total mileage of the five branches will be in the neighbourhood of 340 miles.

When the loan of $4,000,000 was asked for in 1910 by the Minister of Finance and Customs, none of the surveys of the branches were completed, only one having been commenced, which was not completed. Accordingly the amount asked for was based on a mere estimate. Now, we are in a position to go within a very few miles of the total length of the lines, and know, accordingly, what the total cost will be. One branch railway is built and is being operated to-day, namely, the Bonavista Branch. Two of the other branches are surveyed and par-
tially constructed. The surveyors have surveyed two-thirds of the branch from Come By Chance to Fortune Bay. There will then only remain the short branch from Deer Lake to Bonavista Bay to be surveyed. When completed, the branches will probably represent the following mileage, according to the estimate of the Government Engineer:—

Bonavista (survey completed) 88 miles
Trepassey (survey completed) 102 miles
Heart’s Content, Grate’s Cove (survey completed) 85 miles.
Fortune Bay (% survey completed) 43 miles.
Bonne Bay, 25 miles.

Total number miles, 343.

It is necessary, therefore, to know, what is going to be the total cost of these five branches:—

(1) The amount to be paid the contractor for the mileage cost of construction.
(2) Right of Way.
(3) Ordinary fencing.
(4) Snow fencing.
(5) Stations.
(6) Additional rolling stock.

In our Loan Act of 1910 we only provided for the construction price. Estimating at 343 miles, the total cost of construction to be paid the contractor, at 15,000 dollars per mile, will be $5,145,000.

We shall have to provide the right of way on the Bonavista, Trepassey and Heart’s Content and Grate’s Cove branches. Figuring the average cost of right of way per mile to be the same as on the Bonavista Railway, viz., $1,000 per mile, the total cost will be $275,000 for the three branches. There will be no payment for the right of way on the Fortune Bay or Bonne Bay branches, as they will go through unoccupied Crown Lands.

Ordinary wire fencing through settlements, say 100 miles for the three branches, will amount to at $285 per mile, to $28,500.

It is not in the interests of the public that the details of the cost of snow fencing, stations and additional rolling stock should be stated here, as these matters that will have to be adjusted as they arise from time to time, between the Government Engineer and the Contractor; but I have gone over the matter carefully with the Government Engineer, and a liberal estimate under those three heads—Snow Fences, Stations, and Additional Rolling Stock—will be $300,000. This gives us a grand total of $5,748,500.

However, we have to make a charge of 4% on the $6,000,000 loan, which represents the difference between the bonds at 96 and 100. This deduction leaves us a balance of $5,760,000 clear. In other words, our total indebtedness on account of the construction, right of way, fencing, stations, and rolling stock will be $5,748,500, and to meet this we will have the loan of $6,000,000, less four per cent. the difference between 96 and 100, which gives us $5,760,000, or a balance in favor of the Colony when all bills are paid of $11,500.

The annual cost to the Colony of these five branch railways will be 6,000,000 at 3½ per cent., or an annual interest of $210,000, which will have to be met after 1914. We have now been three seasons constructing—1909, 1910, 1911. To date the Contractor has been paid, on the certificate of the Government Engineer, for:—

Bonavista Branch . . . 85 miles
Trepassey Branch . . . 55 miles
Heart’s Cont. Branch . . 5 miles
or a total of 145 miles; in all, an average for the three seasons’ work—1909, 1910 and 1911—of 48 miles per year. At the end of the season of 1912.
we shall probably have the Trepassey and Heart's Content branches finished and ready to open and operate, or a mileage of 220 miles for the three branches, or an average for the four building seasons—1909, 1910, 1911 and 1912—of 55 miles per year. We shall then have the Fortune Bay Branch to build, or about 100 miles more, which will take till the end of the season of 1914. In other words, the total interest of $210,000 will not be all payable until 1914, as we shall have the balance of the loan continuing, from season to season, and bearing interest in the local banks at the same rate as we are paying for it, but at the end of that year we shall have to pay $210,000 a year, or an average annual increase, from 1909 to 1914, five years, of $42,000 per year, less interest on loan on deposit in local banks. It is to be remembered that the loan is now bearing interest in the local banks at a little more than we are paying for it in England.

The real question we have to answer is, Can the Colony add to its interest account for railways annually a sum of $40,000 or $50,000? In other words, can we afford to build railways to the extent of 50 miles a year, which at $15,000 per mile, and including cost of right of way, fencing, stations, rolling stock, may reasonably be put down at $18,000 per mile, or an annual expenditure on capital account of $900,000 for 50 miles of railway completed.

What we can afford to spend on railway extension, as a developing and earning agency for the country will best be estimated by looking at what amounts we annually add to our expenditure under other heads.

In introducing the Resolutions in relation to Branch Railways in 1910, I pointed out the development which had followed as a result of railway construction in this Colony in former years. In 1870 the entire revenue of the Colony amounted to only $883,000. We had then enjoyed Representative Government for 37 years. In 1833 we had our first Representative Assembly in this country, and our first Revenue Bill was passed. In 1872, forty years after, we only had a revenue of $890,000, although in those years the total catch of codfish was nearly as much as it is to-day. The seal fishery was then worth four or five times as much as it is to-day. Ten thousand men annually prosecuted the seal fishery then, where only 4,000 do so to-day and 400 vessels left here every spring for the icefields, whereas only 20 are now engaged in the work. In those days 500,000 seals were brought in some springs, while only 350,000 are now landed, and $8 and $9 per quintal was paid for seals which now sell for $4.50. At those figures the seal fishery represented an industry of four or five million dollars, and yet despite this and the large cod and herring fishery, the revenue, up until 1872, was less than $900,000.

Now let us take the next decade from 1870 to 1880. The total revenue in 1880 was only $1,000,000, or an increase of $120,000 in ten years, giving an average annual increase of $12,000. In other words, the total increase from 1870 to 1880 was $120,000.

From this period we enter upon the era of railway construction, for it was in 1881 the first sod was turned; and we find during the next ten years, from 1880 to 1890, that is the first ten years of railway enterprise in the Colony, the revenue had permanently increased to $1,800,000, an increase of
$800,000 in that ten years, against an increase of $120,000 in the previous ten years. Thus whilst in the decade between 1870 and 1880, the average annual increase was $12,000, the average annual increase between 1881 and 1890 was $80,000.

In 1900, ten years after, the revenue had jumped to $2,210,234, an average increase of $41,027, and between then and 1910 it had risen to $3,447,000, or an average increase for ten years of $123,676. The largest increases, however, have occurred during the last four years, as will be seen by the following statement:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>$2,829,078.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>2,947,868.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>3,447,988.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>3,527,126.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>3,700,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In other words, in the last four years there has been an increase of $870,922, representing the difference in the revenue between 1908 and 1912, or an average annual increase for the four years of $217,730. We have already seen what the other average increase of revenue has been for previous years, but a comparison will be instructive—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Avg. An. In.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1870-1880</td>
<td>$12,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880-1890</td>
<td>80,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890-1900</td>
<td>41,023.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900-1910</td>
<td>123,676.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908-1912</td>
<td>217,730.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further, we have, for the last three years, the three years this administration has been in office, a surplus over expenditure as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Surplus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>$310,214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>172,379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>175,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and these surpluses are over Estimates that include interest on Railway Loan.

Now, it must be remembered that these surpluses might have been very much larger if it had not been for the very large necessary increases that were made in the various services of the Colony the past three years. The following statement is a summary of the estimated expenditure for the financial year ending the 30th June, 1908-9, showing the total estimates voted for the year 1912, and a further column showing the amount of the increases under the various heads:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>1908-9</th>
<th>1911-12</th>
<th>Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interest on Public Debt</td>
<td>$871,512.25</td>
<td>$1,042,180.14</td>
<td>$170,667.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Government</td>
<td>148,798.33</td>
<td>194,672.33</td>
<td>45,874.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pensions</td>
<td>12,856.00</td>
<td>19,294.55</td>
<td>6,438.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration of Justice</td>
<td>183,612.68</td>
<td>199,012.52</td>
<td>15,399.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation</td>
<td>33,315.00</td>
<td>33,405.00</td>
<td>90.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>262,123.66</td>
<td>318,023.66</td>
<td>55,900.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Charities</td>
<td>278,814.00</td>
<td>296,142.00</td>
<td>17,328.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lighthouses, etc.</td>
<td>73,651.00</td>
<td>86,329.00</td>
<td>12,678.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture &amp; Mines</td>
<td>31,420.00</td>
<td>71,420.00</td>
<td>40,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine &amp; Fisheries</td>
<td>92,940.00</td>
<td>84,940.00</td>
<td>8,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads, Bridges, etc.</td>
<td>172,396.00</td>
<td>175,126.00</td>
<td>2,730.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Office &amp; Telegraphs</td>
<td>423,620.00</td>
<td>520,499.00</td>
<td>96,879.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customs</td>
<td>145,391.00</td>
<td>146,051.00</td>
<td>60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contingencies</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coal and Water Refunds</td>
<td>67,550.00</td>
<td>67,550.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Election</td>
<td>40,000.00</td>
<td>67,169.00</td>
<td>40,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Estimates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$2,848,599.92 $3,331,814.20 $483,214.28
It will now be instructive to take out of these various services a few of the principal items of increase, in order to show the Committee the services for which the increased votes have been taken, and, as I have said, would not have been voted if it had not been for the abundant revenues, and that the country could well afford it. In other words, the total sum voted by Sir Robert Bond in the last Estimates submitted by him to the Legislature in 1908, was $2,848,599.92. The estimates voted by the Legislature this year amount to $3,331,814, showing an increase of $483,215.

Now, the principal items making up the increase are as follows:—

**Education** ........................................... $101,900
**Public Charities** (Increasing Widows allowance 25 per cent) ........ 42,000
**Tuberculosis** ......................................... 30,000
**Old Age Pensions** .................................... 40,000
**Postal Telegraphs** .................................... 96,000
**Interest Loans** ......................................... 170,000
**Lighthouses** ........................................... 12,000
**Agriculture** ........................................... 40,000
**Interest on Loans for new Lunatic Asylum, Outport Telephones and Lighthouses** .................. 14,000

It would appear from these large surpluses, and surpluses of revenue over absolute expenditure, and for the last three years, including the charge for interest on our railway expenditure, that we are not adding too much to our annual expenditure when we put down the sum of $45,000 a year as interest on railway expenditure, because it must be remembered that there are very many of the public services, like education, lighthouses, relief for the poor, etc., which, whilst they are necessary, only give us an indirect return. Railways, on the other hand, are large developing earning factors, and, as I have shown, the large revenues we have recently had, are entirely due to the opening up and developing of our resources by these nerves of trade and commerce.

Where would the country be to-day if our people continued to live entirely out of the fisheries along our seaboard, and allowed the interior, as heretofore, to remain entirely locked up? To put it another way, every dollar that we expend on railways and docks and the creation of new industries, comes back to the revenue, because they are great wage producers, and every dollar we enable our people to earn means revenue for the Colony. If, then, since 1908, without increased taxation, the revenue has increased $870,000, is it too much to ask that out of that $870,000, $200,000 should be taken to pay the interest on railways which are going to develop the country, and allow the other $670,000 to go towards the other public services. Railways are essential if we ever hope to develop the country. Every other increased service embraced in the $670,000 might have been curtailed.

We must not lose sight of the fact that out of this sum of $6,000,000, the labouring people of the Colony are getting $1,500,000 more than they received under any previous contract for a similar amount.

In 1897 the Contractor paid $1 per day to the men working on the railway. Under the contract for the construction of the present branches he is compelled to pay them $1.50 per day. I am informed by the Government Engineer that, with a line like ours, costing $15,000 per mile, labour may fairly be said to represent half that amount. Therefore, where the contractor spent $7,500 per mile for labour in 1893, he has to spend $3,750 per mile more to-day, and if you multiply this sum by 340 miles of road, it means that on the entire road the contractor will have to pay his men $1,275,000 more for labour than he would have to do under the contract for the con-
struction of the railway in '93. Here we have $1,500,000 more for our people to spend in the Colony on dutiable goods, and as the revenue receives on an average of 30 per cent., the Colony gains $500,000.

But we go further and say that we have, within the last three years, by three sources, created an annual revenue, not in existence when our predecessors left office, which will be more than sufficient to pay the interest on our entire railway expenditure.

I refer first to the contribution of $100,000 annually to the revenue made by the companies on Bell Island, by arrangement with the Government, towards the public services of the Colony in consideration of the advantages the companies enjoy in this country.

Secondly, we have $16,000 a year from two cable companies that have come in here within the last two years.

Third, by judicious advertising of our public lands, mines, timber, and other natural resources and attractions, we have been able to bring up the revenue of the Crown Lands Department from $55,000 in 1908 to $200,000 (estimated) in 1912.

The following are the receipts from this Department for the years 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911 and 1912, and the principal sources from which the revenue was derived each year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Revenue</th>
<th>1908</th>
<th>1910</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mineral Leases</td>
<td>$13,960.00</td>
<td>$34,288.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber Leases</td>
<td>30,028.25</td>
<td>165,714.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricul. Leases</td>
<td>2,607.12</td>
<td>2,171.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$46,593.37</strong></td>
<td><strong>$192,174.15</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase, $145,580.78.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUMMARY.**

Total increase, Crown Lands Office $145,580.78

Revenue from Cable Co.'s 16,000.00

$ 261,580.78

This is absolutely new revenue, or money found which did not exist when this Government came into power, and is not the result of increased taxation. When we take out of this sum the $210,000 which we have to pay as annual interest on the Loan for Railway Construction, we shall have a balance of $51,580 left to our credit.

However, it is unnecessary for me to refer to the matter at greater length for the case of the Government is so clear that the simplest child can understand it. The only question is whether the colony can afford to spend $35,000 a year for the equipment of the branch lines. We can afford it for everything else and we can afford it for this, for we are expending it with the certainty that it will come back to us again and that those who are now opposing it in a few years will say it was a splendid thing for the country and throw up their caps in praise of it.

**MR. CLIFT**—Mr. Chairman, when the House rose we were considering the Resolutions that were tabled this afternoon by the Minister of Finance on the subject of raising a further loan for the purpose of railway extension or for the purpose of carrying out the contract that was entered into in 1910 to build 5 branch railroads. The Rt. Hon. the Premier had replied to some observations that were made on this side of the House by my learned colleague, the member for St. John's East, Mr. Kent. I had expected Sir, that in the reply of the Premier, we would have had something more definite than he gave us as to the necessity for raising this additional loan that was pointed out by the member for St. John's East that the construction and equipment of those branch lines
would cost more than the amount raised under the present loan, and the amount now contemplated to be raised. In other words by the time these branch railroads are constructed and equipped stations and all necessary rolling stock and snow fencing provided they will have cost, in his estimation, something considerably over the amount intended to be raised. And the Rt. Hon. the Premier in reply to that gave us an estimate of what he thought would be sufficient to finish the contemplated work. The Rt. Hon. member began by referring to the remarks of Mr. Kent as being similar to the speech which that gentleman made two years ago when the original Resolutions were before the House. Well, Sir, all that I can say is that the result up to the present has shown that the estimates then made by the learned member for St. John's East, were more correct than those made at that time by the Premier. The Premier told us in introducing these Resolutions two years ago that $4,000,000 would be sufficient to construct and equip these roads. I may be told that he said nothing about equipment or about stations, or about additional expenses, but this Committee was certainly led to believe that these five branch railroads would not cost more than $4,000,000. The hon. member for St. John's East, as I have said, Sir, contended that they would cost seven million. Now that is a great discrepancy in figures, and it seems to be admitted by all sides, that an error was made on both sides of the House as to the extent in mileage of these five branches. It has been said here that Sir Robert Bond in his Manifesto to the country in 1909 stated that the mileage of these contemplated roads would be 192 miles. Another great authority was quoted here,—the Hon. John Anderson, and he was quoted as being a financier or a man sufficiently well versed in finance, to be able to advise on these matters, and it was stated that his figures or estimate of the mileage of these roads was two hundred miles. But these were merely estimates—practically straight lines drawn on the map, lines from a given point to another given point, in some cases as the crow flies, for the purpose of roughly estimating what the distance would be. When the Government however, came down to the House in 1910 with this Railway Contract for its approval it was stated that the mileage would not exceed 250 miles, and on that the calculations were based. We now find that the mileage will be nearer 250 miles, and hence it is that we are to-day asked to vote authority to raise an additional loan of $2,000,000. The Rt. hon. the Premier this afternoon stated that when he said two years ago that these branch lines would not cost more than $4,000,000 he meant they would only cost four millions to construct; and did not include in that estimate the right of way and necessary fencing as well as stations, and that he at that time knew that instead of costing $15,000 a mile to construct and equip the cost of the road would be nearer $18,000 a mile. Well Mr. Chairman, if the Rt. Hon. gentleman at that time knew that the construction and equipment of these branch lines would cost $18,000 a mile why did he come down here and take a vote to raise four millions. Why did he not come in then and ask for six million dollars instead of coming down to-day and asking for an additional loan of two million. That position has not been explained although the Rt. Hon. the Premier knew that it was going to cost more than $15,000 per mile for a mileage of 250 miles. Why did he not ask for a sum suffi-
cient to construct the road and equip it with stations, fences, and snow fences? Now, Sir, I submit also that in coming in today and asking for this additional authority to raise an additional loan of two millions we should have been furnished with some better authority and some better estimates than those which were furnished us by the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister. The Government Engineer has had considerable experience now in railroad construction in this country; and we ought to have laid before us tonight a statement over his signature as to what he thought would be a sufficient sum of money to complete those roads. I do not propose to make any comment at the present moment on the question of the railroad policy. We are committed to it now and have to carry out that policy. We have to carry out that contract—a contract solemnly entered into between this colony and the Reid Nfld. Company; and we have to live up to the letter of that contract; and it is not for us to come in here tonight and discuss its merits or demerits; but our duty is to find the necessary funds for the purpose of carrying out our part, and for arriving at an estimate as to what amount is necessary to fully complete and equip these branch lines in every particular. However, Sir, we have only to deal with what is before the House, and we have to make the best of the statements that are before us. Now I do not agree with the Premier’s estimate. I suppose I have as much right to make an estimate upon this subject as the Rt. Hon. the Premier, or any other member; while at the same time I would not pretend to back my estimate against the estimate of an expert, or the estimate of a railway engineer having experience in railroad construction and equipment in this Colony. The Premier told us this afternoon, Sir, that he estimated—and he gave it as his own estimate—that the completion of these several branches of railroad, would cost altogether, including right of way, stations, fences and everything else $6,748,000 and he based his estimate on the assumption that they would have to construct altogether 343 miles. That number of miles at 15,000 a mile would be 5,145,000. Then he went on to estimate the cost of three of these branches: Bonavista, Trepassey and Grate’s Cove to Heart’s Content branches. He said the right of way so far had cost a thousand dollars a mile. Now at these figures the right of way for these branches would cost $275,000. I would like to believe those figures, and would like to feel that they are correct. But I cannot believe that they are correct, because I find in looking over the information I have before me—tabled in this House in reply to a question—that the right of way up to the present has cost $195,000 materials and extras have cost $271,000. In other words, we have up to the present time spent $466,000, as against $275,000 estimated by the Premier. I am taking this from figures tabled in this House.

RT. HON PRIME MINISTER—I will give you the official figures.

MR. CLIFT—I would be very grateful, I am anxious to know what it is going to cost.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—I gave the cost of the only branch completed. It stated that the 88 miles to Bonavista averaged $1000 a mile for the right of way.

MR. CLIFT—I have no means of separating the figures for Bonavista from the other figures.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—There are no other branches completed

MR. CLIFT—I am talking of the to-
tal expenditures and in that way estimating what the total expenditure will be before the completion of the work. Now, Sir, at the present time the department, according to this detailed statement, paid in awards, fees etc., $195,000 on account of the right of way. That is for the Bonavista Branch. Trepassey Branch and Heart's Content Branch.

RT. HON PRIME MINISTER—What mileage do you allow?

MR. CLIFT—150 miles.

HON. MINISTER MINANCE—It is 205 miles.

MR. CLIFT—I am talking of construction up to date, Bonavista, 88 miles; Trepassey 60; that is 148 miles, I am calling it 150 miles.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—The right of way is purchased ahead of the point of actual construction.

MR. CLIFT—I am only taking the figures as I find them. I am only calculating on the 150 miles that have been constructed. As I have stated the cost of right of way, materials extras etc., up to the present has been $466,000. There have been 150 miles constructed. That leaves 200 to build, and assuming that the remaining 200 cost at the same rate as the 150 already constructed. I estimate the right of way alone will cost $450,000. I take the stations and snow fences, and additional rolling stock at the figures given by the Premier, $330,000. Now I do not think that that sum will cover the cost of these works; more particularly rolling stock and stations, because on branch lines such as we have under construction there will be considerably more rolling stock than on the trunk line; and also considerably more stations. However, I will take these figures as the Premier gave them, and you will find Mr. Chairman, these items that I have estimated will cost in all $6,496,000, or in round figures $6,500,000, whilst the previous loan which we have raised and the loan we are about to raise will bring $5,535,582. The proceeds of the first loan were $3,690,388.85 and if the present loan of $2,000,000 is estimated at the same rate then you will have $1,845-194.92 or a total of $5,535,583.77, so that the total cost of our five branches will be about $960,000 over and above the contemplated amount. In other words after you raise your loan of two million dollars and after these branch railroad are constructed and equipped and finished with the stations, snow fences, rolling stock, you will at the lowest calculation have to come in to this House and ask for another million dollars to complete the work. Now, Mr. Chairman, please do not misunderstand me. I may be entirely wrong in these figures, and I do not think we ought as members of this Committee to be asked to vote for these figures, or vote upon these estimates as to the cost of the completion of these roads when it ought be possible to get a correct statement or estimate from the Government Engineer. I do not propose Mr. Chairman, to reply to observations that were made here by the Premier or the Minister of Finance in relation to these Resolutions, other than what I have said with regard to the figures as they appear to me. Both these gentlemen have defended the position that they have taken on this railroad question, and on other questions of the general policy of the Government and have thought it fit to make remarks which were not at all complimentary to those who have the misfortune, if I may so term it, to be on this side of the House.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—Good fortune.

MR. CLIFT—Perhaps it is good for-
tune, because I know that "uneasy lies the head that wears a crown." I have not the slightest desire to change places with any hon. member in this House at the present moment. The criticisms that were made by the Hon. member who sits on my left were made by him without any feeling of bitterness I am sure. He criticised the measure, he criticised the contract and he referred to statements he made two years ago when this measure was before the House, and did it without any reflection on members of the House. We have as much interest in this railroad legislation and in all other legislation that comes before this House as any of the members of it. We may not have to take the same responsibility of the measure as members of the Government, but nevertheless some responsibility rests with us as with other members. We are frequently told by the other side that the Government courts the closest criticism for all their acts, and every time we begin to criticise, even in the mildest terms, we are charged with bitterness. There has been bitterness in the past in the debates of this House, but I think that the time has now come when members should be able to get up and express their opinions upon the various subjects brought before them in discussion without indulging in personalities. I do not accuse one side more than the other, but I say it is a great pity for the honour and dignity of this House, that we cannot at times discuss matters upon which we are called to express an opinion without forgetting whom we represent. A member of this House has a grave responsibility thrust upon him. He is here to represent not the particular district for which he was elected, but the country, not ourselves and not our districts, and if we can look at the various matters that come before the House from that standpoint and from that standpoint alone, I think our debates as a rule will be fraught with more general good in the interests of the country and every body connected with it. I shall be very glad indeed, Sir, if the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister can convince me to-night that the cost of equipment of these several railroads with the necessary stations, piers, wharves, etc., can be constructed and obtained at the cost of 6 million dollars.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Chairman, just one word in reply to the very fair and reasonable criticism of the Hon. member. In relation to what he said last of all, I do not think there can be any question whatever, but that one and all in this committee will agree with him that it is a matter of regret that better temper cannot always be expected from members in this House towards each other than is sometimes shown. It is a fault that belongs to both sides of the House, and I suppose we are all equally to blame. But there is such a thing as mistaking earnestness for ill-temper and the use of words which, although they may appear strong, are nevertheless not intended to be in any way offensive. He referred in his remarks to the fact that statements were made this afternoon by both gentlemen who defended these figures, and other questions of policy which were mere personalities. Well, Sir, speaking for myself, I do not think that I made any remarks even savouring of personality, and I certainly never so intended any of my remarks. And if I ever said anything in reply, it was never intended to reflect upon the personal honour or integrity of any member of the other side. I have been in this House for 27 years without a break, and I never on one occasion used any language.
which necessitated my having to apologize. I have never had any words of mine taken down by the Clerk. I may at times have used words which, on another occasion, I would not use, but it was always when acting on the defence. Now, Mr. Chairman, the Hon. member who has just sat down said that he had hoped that something more definite would have been given to the Committee before calling upon them to vote for this additional loan. I do not know what statements or figures can be supplied to the Committee beyond that I supplied this afternoon. I have informed the Committee of the details of the branches within a foot. I pointed out that the Bonavista Branch represents 88 miles, the surveys to Trepassey 102 miles, the survey to Grate’s Cove represents 85 miles, that the line to Fortune Bay when completed will be 43 miles, and that the one to Bonne Bay will be about 26 miles, making a total of about 340 miles. On that mileage at $15,000 a mile, the cost of the line will be $5,145,000. Then I pointed out that the right of way on the Bonavista Branch had cost something in the neighbourhood of $87,000 or $1,000 a mile. And on that figure, according to the Government Engineer—I quote him as my authority—there will be 275 miles of right of way to be paid for, leaving out the other two branches. This amounts to $275,000 for the right of way. He then stated that up to the present, we had paid $195,000 for the right of way. The statement from which he took those figures is not a fair estimate, because that represents us as having paid $195,000 to date for the three branches, Bonavista, Heart’s Content and Trepassey. That is not a fair estimate, because that might show the cost as more than $1,000 per mile, for it will be found that after the Branch to Trepassey leaves the last settlement on the shore, it runs across the barrens and woods to Trepassey for a distance of nearly 30 miles, and the right of way there will not cost one cent. It will be found that the cost per mile on that branch or any other branch will not cost more than $1,000 per mile, the same as on the Bonavista Branch, so that on that point there can be very little difference of opinion as to the cost of the right of way. He then went on to point out that the additional estimate for extra rolling stock, stations, piers, etc., would have to be paid for in addition to the construction price. My reply to that was that an outside figure for that would be about $300,000. I then went on to point out that it was not in the interest of the Colony for anyone now to put any price on these three items of extra work, because any estimate we make may be used against us afterwards; but I pointed out that these items and the other amounts will leave a balance of at least $11,000 to the credit of the Colony after all the bills have been paid. Speaking of mileage, Mr. Clift referred again to the fact that his leader had estimated 192 miles, and that I had estimated 250. I made that estimate three years ago, and it would be practically correct to-night if it were not for the fact that we have intentionally lengthened it. We might have gone straight to Heart’s Content as originally estimated. We went around by Dildo instead to connect with settlements with a population of 5,000 people. We might have gone direct to Bonavista; we lengthened the line to tap Catalina, Trinity and a number of other places. The surveyed line to Trepassey shows 102 miles, but you could drive there on the main line 75 miles. But every settlement from here to Trepassey is to be connected. It benefits the whole district of Ferryland, and that is its main object. And the same is true of the other branches. It would have
been useless to go down through the interior and be miles away from every settlement. My original estimate is not astray, but we have simply decided to build more railway. The Hon. member has told us that the contract is preposterous, but I say, Mr. Chairman, and I say it without fear of contradiction, that this is the best contract that was ever made for railways in Newfoundland. It is good for the country, good for the labouring man, and the best proof of it is going to be the great development. The contractor has taken the branches and is going to operate them for 40 years practically free. We give him land, but the land is less per mile than was given him under the old contract. And for that he is going to operate these branches in addition to the main line for 40 years. What has been our experience in relation to that land? In '98, when the contractor had finished the line to Port aux Basques and had packed his bag and was going away, the Government of that day looked about for a way by which they would be relieved of the cost of operating that railway for the next 50 years. We had built a railway; and it was heroic on the part of 220,000 people to build a railway for 600 miles—an act that was not appreciated as much as it should be. There was our Railway, and to operate it would mean a very large loss to the Colony. We turned to the Contractor. He said I will operate your railway for 50 years free. I do not want a dollar for it. But I will take land that is of no use to you, and will be of no value to me unless I make it valuable to you and the country; land that I cannot take away. And I will take on each side of the railway alternate blocks with yourselves. We agreed, Everyone knows the furore that followed, the petitions that were hawked round the country, the misrepresentation that was practised, how the people were grossly deceived, how they were told that we were giving away their graveyards to Reid. Petitions were sent in, begging the Government of that day not to sell the graveyards to Reid! He was given every alternate block on each side of the railway; and to-day, 15 years after, there is not one of the blocks settled. That is a test of the earning power of the lands as an asset to the Reid-Newfoundland Company. And to-day you can have any piece of that land you want, if you will settle on it. Every agriculturist that is settled on those lands is a feeder to the railway. Anyone that wants them can have them tomorrow, and I wish they were all taken up. And now he is building the five branches for land which he cannot make valuable to himself without making it valuable to us. What good is it to him or to the country until it is settled? And what could be better for the country than to have it settled? And then, when you try to settle some of it or give it away, to have it settled, you are told that you are giving away the country. When we had built the main line, which cost $7,000,000, we gave him a lease for 50 years. Then the Government of that day sold him the reversion of it for a million dollars. What difference did that make to the country? What difference would it make to a man to-day if he had a horse and carriage that cost $1,000 and he could get any one to buy that horse and carriage from him for $5, and feed the horse and keep the carriage and let him ride in it for the next 50 years? That is the position in a nutshell. The Reid Company is feeding the horse and repairing the carriage, and we can ride in it for 50 years as cheap as if we had it ourselves. But there is another aspect that must not be lost sight of; I referred to it this evening. I repeat it because it is important that the whole country should
know it. It is this. When the five branch lines are built and finished, whether they cost 6 millions or 7 millions, we have found the interest to pay for them, without taxing the people of this country one cent. We might have increased taxation as other Governments have done, and said to the country, if you want Branch Railways you must have them and you must pay for them; and we have got to tax you. You have asked for railways, and you will have to find $210,000 for interest on them. We have not done that. We have got Bell Island to pay us $100,000 towards it, and we have increased the revenue of the Crown Lands Department from $50,000 to $190,000. These two additions alone, not to talk of others, will pay the interest on the whole $6,000,000 or $7,000,000; and in addition we have the value to the country of the large proportion of the money spent on construction, and the large expenditure which will take place in the operation. And we said to the contractor, every locomotive, every car, everything for the railway must be made in this country. We must not send away for them. If anyone had said ten years ago that we were going to build locomotives here they would have been laughed at. But they would have believed in a Fog Free Zone! Go up to the works there, and see the 500 men going home to their dinner with smiles on their faces. Those men are left at home with their families, where otherwise they would be working underground in the mines of Nova Scotia. Nothing has been left undone to make this contract perfect, and if any warmth is excited in the discussion of it, it is warmth which can be justified and excused, because it is born of earnest belief and faith in the future of the country. And this measure that we have before us is destined to improve that future.

MR. KENT.—Mr. Chairman, just a few words regarding what the Premier has said. I quoted this afternoon the position from which I viewed the proposal now before the Committee, and I do not intend to repeat the arguments which I then used. I was not aware that anything I said during the discussion could have the slightest personal reflection on the Premier or any of his colleagues. I said we would probably hear from the Premier a speech which we had heard before. I leave it to the House and to this Committee to say whether I have been borne out by the facts. He repeated what he said this afternoon and last night and the night before. I am told I said that the contract ratified here two years ago was preposterous. I did, and I believe it is preposterous. We are not dealing now with the last request that will be made to this House for money to carry out the obligations of that contract. We have obligations under it that we cannot shirk. They are binding on us in honour and in law, and we have to carry them out. We have been informed on a previous occasion that these branch lines would cost $4,000,000, and now we have a further request for $2,000,000. We asked that information should be laid before the Committee to enable them to judge of the manner in which the previous $4,000,000 has been expended, and that would satisfy them that the other two millions is required for the purpose of completing this contract, and that it is necessary to go into the markets for this money. The Premier told us this afternoon that at that time he believed that $4,000,000 would suffice to complete the railway, but now they are adding more mileage to the contract as originally planned. Does the Prime Minister wish to understand that when he was making his calculations for spending millions of dollars he did not know even then what route the lines were going to take? Did he not know those
settlements were there then? Did he not know the line would have to tap them? Does not that justify the criticism offered here two years ago, that the contract should not be entered into without proper surveys? Public surveyors should have been sent down; a route should have been fixed. They had the whole summer of 1909 to make that survey, and to decide whether they would construct the line as the arrow flies or tap the various settlements along its course. I see that the Bonavista line has been opened to traffic. Does that mean that the Bonavista contract is closed?

HON. THE PREMIER.—No.

MR. KENT.—At the completion of each of the Branch Railways afore-said, the contractor shall also supply and construct, subject to the conditions and restrictions of this clause, all rolling stock, tools, machinery, coal sheds, engine sheds, workshops, and turn-tables as the Government may require. Have all these items for the Bonavista line been supplied? I should also like to know, Sir, whether in relation to the Bonavista line, an estimate for valuation has been made of the proportionate share of the rolling stock, that would be paid for on the basis of the 1893 contract and the full equipment of the line for efficient and complete service, and whether the difference between these two items has been ascertained and fixed as between the Contractor and the Government. These are the items, Sir, as I pointed out this afternoon, which are the uncertain elements in this contract. We have no information before us upon which to base an opinion, and we can only look back to what these various items have cost us in the past. We are told, Sir, that we are not to go into these questions for fear it may prejudice the interests of the Colony. Why, Sir, no discussion that takes place here can in any way prejudice the interests of the Colony. No expression of opinion regarding this matter by the Prime Minister or by anybody else in this House can in any way affect the obligations or rights of the Colony under the contract. As I pointed out this afternoon, the country has had to pay, under the 1898 and 1901 contracts about one and a half million dollars, with claims still outstanding; and, Sir, these sections are more comprehensive than the similar sections in the other contracts. In my opinion therefore, Sir, this contract, instead of being an advantageous one for the Colony, is one which is going to involve us in a much larger expenditure than the people of the country believed when they authorized the building of these railways. The contractor does not take the risk of the increased cost of material, because you will notice that under section 36 of the Contract the estimated value of the rolling stock under the 1893 contract is to be deducted from the actual outlay under the present contract and the difference is to be made up in money. In other words, the Colony is to take the risk of all increases in the cost of material; the contractor takes no risk whatever in this respect. He takes the risk of laying down the road-bed, $15,000 a mile, but he takes no risk whatever regarding the rolling stock and other equipment mentioned in these sections. This is not the time, Sir, to discuss the operating contract. We discussed that two years ago, and it is now law, and nothing that we can say is going to remove our obligations under that contract. The present discussion upon this loan bill is simply for the purpose of defining our position as nearly as we possibly can with the meagre information which is before us. We should have here this evening, Sir, a full and detailed report by the Government Engineer, and then we would know ex-
actly what mileage is finished, what
right of way has been acquired, and
an estimate of the rolling stock and
other equipment—stations, wharves,
piers, etc. We have got no such infor-
mation, though I think it is due to the
Committee that the Minister of Fin-
ance, when he was introducing these
resolutions, should have been prepar-
ed with such information. As I have
said before, Sir, our obligations are
fixed. We are voting this loan under
the sense of our contractual
obligations to the contractor. It
is not open to us now to refuse any money that
is required to carry out these
obligations; but I think that the
Committee has not been supplied with the
information which was due to them,
and I think that the Minister of Fin-
ance should have furnished the
particulars to which I have referred.

RT. HON PRIME MINISTER.—Mr.
Chairman, just a word in reply to the
hon. member. Regarding the question
of the amount, I stated this evening
that in my opinion $300,000 for equip-
ment, accommodation, rolling stock,
fencing, snow fencing, and all that
sort of thing, for the 340 miles, would
be the outside figure. The hon. mem-
ber has just stated that the 1898 and
1901 contracts have cost the colony
about a million dollars. That is not
correct. In the first place the arbitra-
tion to which the hon. gentleman
referred did not touch the 1901 con-
tract at all.

MR. KENT.—Either or both.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—No,
pardon me. The Lyttleton arbitration
dealt entirely with the 1893 contract.

MR. KENT.—And partly with the
1898 contract.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—Par-
don me, now. The Lyttleton arbitration
dealt with a claim of the Reid Nfld.
Co. for moneys that were owed for
the line of railway from Whithourne
to Port aux Basques, built under the
contracts of 1893, and then for rolling
stock, equipment and accommodation
between 1898 and 1901; in other
words, under the three contracts.
Now, let us make this clear. Lyttleton
made an award in favor of the Reid
Nfld. Co. of $960,000. That was for
rolling stock, equipment and accom-
modation, snow fencing, stations, and
everything outside the contract con-
struction price. That only worked
out at about $1500 a mile for all the
liability under these contracts. Now,
I have put it down at $1,000 a mile,
which I regard as an outside figure.
Nothing that we say here, the hon.
gentleman says, can prejudice the
colony in relation to these various
items. I quite agree with him, from
the standpoint of evidence, but what
I said this evening was this: That I
do not think it is in the interest of the
colony to come in here with a de-
lailed statement—to put a price on
stations, rolling stock, fences and
everything else. I made, however,
what I believe to be a conservative
and fair estimate, namely, $300,000
under all these various heads.

MR. KENT.—Mr. Chairman, I did
not ask that prices be put on the items
at all; I simply asked that a state-
ment be supplied showing what would
be required—what stations, wharves,
piers, rolling stock, and such like,
would be required. That is what I
asked. One other point. With regard
to the arbitration. I referred to the
1898 and 1901 contracts. Now, the
98 contract includes the '90 and the
93 contracts. All were made one un-
der the contract of 1898. It is true
that that arbitration covered the roll-
ing stock that was supplied by Reid
during the time that he owned the
railway, from 1898 down to 1901 when
it was taken back; but, Sir, the roll-
ing stock that was supplied during
that time was supplied by Reid in
order to completely and efficiently equip the railway and bring it up to the standard which the state of traffic then required; while the present branch lines have to be equipped in as efficient and complete a manner as the traffic, in the condition it will be when the lines are in operation, will require. It is the same thing, Sir; the difference between Tweedledee and Tweedledum. The result is the same. The conditions perhaps are slightly different. The amount of traffic has developed and a larger equipment will be required now than was required in 1898 or 1901. I merely want to make these explanations regarding the matters referred to by the Prime Minister.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter referred; had passed certain resolutions, and asked leave to sit again.

On motion this Report was received and adopted; and it was ordered that the committee have leave to sit again on to-morrow.

MUNICIPAL BILL.

Pursuant to order and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, the Bill "An Act further to amend 'The Municipal Act, 1902,'" 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.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL.

Pursuant to order and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, the amendments made by the Legislative Council in and upon the Bill sent up from this House entitled "Of Weights and Measures and the Inspection of Lumber" were read a second time and concurred in; and it was ordered that a message be sent to the Legislative Council acquainting that body that the House of Assembly had passed the said amendments without amendment.

CUSTOMS BILL.

Pursuant to order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the Bill to amend "The Customs Act, 1898."

Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Howley took the Chair of
COMMITTEE.

The chairman resumed the chair.

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

On motion this report was received and adopted, and it was ordered that the Bill be read a third time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion of the hon. minister of justice, the house resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the "Bill to amend the Act 10, Ed. VII., Cap. 4."

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Squires 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 had passed the Bill without amendment.

On motion this report was received and adopted, and it was ordered that the Bill be read a third time on tomorrow.

GRAND BANK HR. BILL.

Pursuant to order and on motion of the hon. minister of justice, the house resolved into Committee of the Whole on the Bill to amend the Act 2, Edward VII., Cap. 14, entitled "An Act respecting the control and management of the Harbour of Grand Bank."

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Squires 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 had passed the Bill without amendment.

On motion this report was received and adopted, and it was ordered that the Bill be read a third time on tomorrow.

Mr. Kent gave notice of question.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Wednesday, March 27th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

WEDNESDAY, March 27.

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

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.

I beg to lay upon the table of the House Report of the Superintendent of Church of England Schools for year ending 30th June, 1911.

PETITIONS.

MR. DOWNEY—I beg to present a petition asking that a subsidy be granted the steamship Seal in order that she might make Codroy a port of call. Codroy is so situated as to be entirely isolated from the railway service and the western boats do not make it a port of call. I would ask that the petition be referred to the proper department.

MR. DEVEREUX—I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Trepassey on the subject of telegraph extension. It is signed by the clergyman, the magistrate and several of the prominent inhabitants of that place. Trepassey is an important fishing settlement, with a safe Harbour and sometimes a large number of schooners are there and it would be of great advantage if the Government would grant the prayer of the petition. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition and would ask that it be referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

HON. MIN. AGRICULTURE AND MINES—I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of St. Brendan's on the subject of a light house.
MINISTER OF MARINE & FISHERIES—I have much pleasure in presenting a petition from the inhabitants of Bay Roberts. It is a largely signed petition, containing about eight hundred signatures. Petitioners ask that the Government grant them a sum of money to erect a public building at Bay Roberts. This is a long felt necessity to the town of Bay Roberts. Bay Roberts people are not behind in any way, and as Newfoundland is improving under the present Government they consider they should not be left out in the cold. I think the same. And I know that the Government will take this matter into consideration and I hope they will be able to grant the prayer of the petition. There is a public building at that place at present, that is a Court House and Post Office, but the building is very small and does not at all come up to the requirements of the people. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition.

MR. PARSONS—Mr. Speaker I also wish to support this petition. It is very largely and influentially signed by some hundred of the inhabitants of the settlements named therein, and I hope and trust that the government, knowing that the present building is totally inadequate for the purposes for which it is required, will be able to grant the prayer of the petition. The petitioners, who constitute the adherents of the Methodist Church, have recently purchased a lot of land in the town of Catalina for the erection of a new Parsonage, and they are desirous that Church Lane, which extends from the main street at Catalina to the Methodist School Hall, and thence to the Parsonage, shall be widened and made straight. It is pointed out in the petition that the lane has been continuously a public thoroughfare for many years, and that its improvement will be a very great convenience, not only to the Methodist denomination but to the general public. I understand that the
lane is in places only from ten to twelve feet wide. This certainly is most inconvenient for those who use it, particularly as in the winter it invariably becomes blocked with snow. I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petitioners, and I would ask that the petition be received and referred to the Department of Public Works.

MR. SQUIRES—Mr. Speaker, I have much pleasure in supporting this petition. The matter referred to is not one of merely local importance for although a matter of convenience to the people of Catalina and Little Catalina, it will nevertheless affect the people of all the surrounding settlements. The old road is very narrow and short. It also connects with the school, and the widening of it will be of much advantage to the parents and children. The school is a large one and a very successful one. It is under the superintendence of Mr. W. Halfyard, and it has attained great success in the examinations. Consequently any road improvements under existing conditions is a matter which merits the consideration of the Department of Public Works.

MR. CLIFT—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from P. H. Knight and other residents of Moreton's Harbour in the district of Twillingate which sets out that the petitioners are officers and members of the Fishermen's Protective Union of Newfoundland and asks that a general election be held in November next, and states the reasons why they make that request. Petitions similar to this have been presented to the House and read to the House so that it is not necessary that I should make any reference to their contention. I may say however, that it is largely signed by the residents of the locality to which I have referred and they have forwarded the measure for presentation to the House and at the request of my constituents, I present their humble petition to this House. As a petition, it is as genuine and important as any petition that has been tabled in the House this session. I make these observations in view of the fact that there have been statements made that these petitions are got up by the opposition and presented by the opposition, and that the signatures are not genuine, and that they cannot be regarded as proper petitions. All I have to say about the matter is that the several petitions that I have presented from this institution are genuine so far as I know. The signatures are genuine because many of them I can absolutely vouch for. I ask that this petition be received and obtain that consideration which its importance merits. I also beg leave to present a petition from P. H. Knight and other residents of the same place on the subject of certain district appointments; also a petition from the residents of Shoe Cove on the subject of telephone communication. The petitioners point out that telephone communication between Shoe Cove and LaScie would be of great importance in the conduct of business, and they humbly ask that that connection be made as there is a telegraph office at LaScie. As I notice on the order paper a motion for resolutions to provide for extension of the telephone service, I draw the attention of the Government to this petition, and I hope that they will be able to grant the prayer of this petition. I have much pleasure in supporting this petition.

MR. CLAPP—Mr. Speaker, I have much pleasure in supporting the petition from Shoe Cove asking for telephone connection with LaScie. We all know the great advantage of telegraph
HOUS OF ASSEMBLY PROCEEDINGS.

communication, and with a telegraph office at LaScie the people would obtain a great advantage. The distance is only 3½ miles and the benefits derived would more than pay for the outlay.

DESPATCH RE TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITALS.

HON. THE PRIME MINISTER, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table of the House the appended despatch to His Excellency from Rt. Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies:

Downing Street,
Newfoundland, 22 February, 1912.

"No. 34.

"Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 4, of the 27th of January, transmitting a copy of correspondence between your Prime Minister and Mr. W. D. Reid, on the subject of the provision of Hospitals for the campaign against Tuberculosis.

"2. I need hardly say that I have voted with satisfaction this proof of the great interest taken by Mr. W. D. Reid and his brothers in the measures on which your Ministers have decided with a view to the prevention of the spread of Tuberculosis, and I shall be glad to receive in due course reports on the work done in the Hospitals which will be erected as the result of their generous gift. I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your humble servant,
(Signed) L. HARcourt.

"Governor,
Sir Ralph Williams, K.C.M.G.,
QUESTIONS.

Mr. Kent gave notice of question.
Mr. Clift gave notice of question.

MR. GEAR asked the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay on the table of this House a statement showing cost of Concrete Block built last year in Marshall's Dock, Burin, for what purpose was it built, by whom, names of those employed and rate of wages given.

MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES—Mr. Speaker, I beg to table the information.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines to lay on the table a detailed statement of all awards made for lands taken for right of way or other railway purposes; also all amounts paid for arbitrators' fees and other expenses in connection therewith, giving names of parties and amounts paid to each from July last to date.

HON. MIN. AGRICULTURE & MINES—This statement is being prepared.

MR. CLAPP asked the Minister of Marine and Fisheries whether it is the intention of the Government to act upon the Report of Mr. George H. Badcock, tabled last year, respecting the prosecution of the lobster fishery on that part of the coast from Currant Island to Poverty Cove, St. Barbe District, wherein he recommends the abolition of the use of the single lobster pot, in accordance with the wishes of the lobster catchers in that part of the District.

MINISTER MARINE AND FISHERIES—The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House copy of all advertisements in English, Foreign or Colonial newspapers, which have been paid for out of funds of the Colony, and names and date of the paper in which they appear from January 1st, 1911, to date.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY tabled the information requested.

VOTE FROM SUPPLY.

The Chairman from the Committee of the Whole on Supply reported certain Resolutions, which were read a
first time as follows:

Marine and Fisheries. $103,040.00

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.

WAYS AND MEANS.

Pursuant to order, and on motion of 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 considered the matter to them referred; had made some progress; and asked leave to sit again.

On motion this Report was received and adopted; and it was ordered that the Committee have leave to sit again on to-morrow.

CUSTOM'S BILL.

Pursuant to Order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Justice, the Bill entitled "An Act to amend "The Customs Act, 1898," was read a third time and passed; and it was ordered to 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.

PHARMACEUTICAL BILL.

Pursuant to order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Justice, the Bill entitled "An Act to amend the Act 10 Edward VII., Cap. 4" was read a third time and passed; and it was ordered to 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.

GRAND BANK HR. BILL

Pursuant to order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Justice, the Bill entitled "An Act to amend the Act 2 Edward VII., Cap. 14, entitled "An Act respecting the control and management of the Harbour of Grand Bank," was read a third time and passed; and it was ordered to 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.

PROMISCUOUS SPITTING BILL.

Upon the motion of Mr. Squires that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the Bill entitled "An Act to prevent promiscuous Spitting" It was moved in amendment by Mr. Devereux, seconded by Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee of the House; and the question being put, the amendment was carried, and Mr. Speaker appointed the Select Committee as follows:—

Mr. Squires, Hon. Minister of Justice, Mr. Devereux, Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, Mr. Clift, Mr. Earle.

COPYRIGHT BILL.

Pursuant to notice and on motion of Hon. Minister of Justice, the House resolved itself into committee of the Whole to consider "An Act to amend the law relating to Copyright."

Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Parsons took the Chair of Committee.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—

The object of this Act is to bring into operation in Newfoundland the Imperial Act passed last year, 1 & 2 George 5, Cap. 46, dealing with the subject of Copyright. In Newfoundland the protection of the rights of the author has not in the past been of
much practical importance and very little advantage has been taken of it under our local Copyright Act which has been in existence since 1890. In Great Britain, however, the subject of Copyright has, particularly during recent years, been of great national and international importance and from time to time during the past century and a half has been the subject of legislation. For instance in 1775 a general Act was passed dealing with the subject and again in 1836 and 1842 and a large number of other Acts have from time to time been passed dealing with various aspects of the question. All these Acts have now been repealed by the Act of 1911 which covers the whole subject of Copyright in all its aspects. This Act is imperial and international in its scope and is intended to harmonize and adjust the law relating to copyright not only between the United Kingdom and the Overseas Dominions but between British subjects and subjects of foreign countries. In this connection I may mention that in 1886 a treaty was made between Great Britain, France, Germany and other countries with regard to international copyright which is known as the Berne Convention 1886 under which reciprocal rights in relation to literary and artistic works were given to the subjects of the countries which were parties to the Convention. With this by way of preface I will now explain shortly the meaning and effect of the more important sections of the proposed Act which I fear will only be interesting to those members of the House who happen to belong to the legal profession. It will be necessary to keep in mind at the outset that the author of any unpublished composition of a literary or artistic character has at Common Law a proprietary right or interest in his composition which enables him to restrain any person by legal proceedings from publishing it without his consent. This proprietary right has been added to, and made more definite by Statute and the Statutory right so created is what is usually referred to as Copyright. Usually the statutory provisions deal with the fixing of a term for the life of the copyright and the necessity for the registration by the author of his composition. For instance before the Act of 1911 an author in Great Britain was protected during his life and for seven years after his death or for forty two years from the date of first publication, whichever period was the longer. In Newfoundland the rights of the author under our present law are protected for twenty eight years from the date of registering his work and for fourteen years after the author's death. In a general way I may say that the radical difference between the English Act of 1911 and our present law is that the English Act bases the copyright upon authorship and proprietorship while our law bases it upon registration. Turning now to the Act itself, members will find that Section 1 defines what is meant by copyright and attaches this right to every original literary, dramatic, musical or artistic work. Section 2 defines in detail how copyright may be infringed. Section 3 provides that the term for which copyright shall subsist shall be the life of the author and a period of fifty years after his death. Section 5 provides that, subject to certain limitations, the author of a work shall be the first owner of a Copyright in it. Sections 6 to 13 deal with the remedies for infringement of copyright. Section 14 prohibits the importation of reprints of copyright works which have been made contrary to law upon the owner
of the copyright giving notice to the Customs authorities that he is desirous that such copies shall not be imported. Section 15 deals with the delivery of copies of all books published to the British Museum and to certain libraries and Section 16 defines the rights of joint authors. Section 17 protects for a period of fifty years, works which are not published until after the death of the author. Section 18 creates copyright in Government publications and Section 19 deals with copyright in records, perforated rolls and other means by which sounds may be reproduced mechanically. Section 20 may be of interest to the House inasmuch as it excludes political addresses from the protection of copyright if published in a newspaper. Section 21 deals with copyright in photographs. Sections 22 to 24 are not of importance to Newfoundland. Sections 25 to 28 deal with the application of the Imperial Act to British possessions, and it is under Section 25 that the present bill is introduced. Sections 29 and 30 provide for International Copyright and give power to His Majesty by order in Council to extend the protection of the Act to the works of foreign authors who are subjects of a country which is prepared to give reciprocal copyright protection to the British author. Section 31 abrogates the Common Law right of the author and provides that in future no person shall be entitled to copyright or any similar right in any literary, dramatic, musical or artistic work, whether published or unpublished, except under the Imperial Act which is under discussion. Sections 32 to 34 are not important. Section 35 is the usual interpretation clause of an Act of this kind. Section 36 repeals practically all existing copyright legislation in the United Kingdom. Section 37 provides that the Act shall come into operation in the United Kingdom on July 1 next and in a self-governing Colony at such date as may be fixed by the Legislature. I may say Mr. Chairman, that in addition to our local Copyright Act we have in force an Act for the protection of the British author under which an ad valorem duty of 20 per cent is collected by our Customs authorities upon reprints of copyrighted books imported here. This duty when collected is paid over to the author or to the proprietor of the copyright in the particular book imported. This phase of the subject is dealt with by Section 14 of the Imperial Act which gives the right to an author to notify the Customs authorities that he is desirous that unauthorized reprints of his works made abroad shall not be imported, whereupon the importation of such reprints shall be automatically prohibited under the operation of the Customs laws. It is proposed, therefore, to repeal Chapter 111 of our Law which deals with this subject and in future to deal with the importation of unauthorized reprints under the Customs Acts. I also propose to add a section to bring the Act into force in Newfoundland on the first day of July next.

MR. KENT.—I think that the introduction of this Imperial Act and the adoption of it is a step in the right direction. It is the carrying out of a principle that is becoming more and more acceptable throughout the British Empire, namely the tendency to unify the law throughout the whole Empire. I do not think that any stronger means could be evolved for keeping the Empire united than the uniformity of the principles of law and making the people think and act alike upon matters of law. The question of copyright is not of as much importance in Newfoundland as it is
in Great Britain, but we have many original literary and musical works and the output of these is increasing annually. As time goes on we hope they will increase still more and I trust the adoption of this Act will encourage the producers of literary and musical works to still further efforts. There are other branches of law of an international character which, I think, ought to be taken in hand by the Minister of Justice, for while a number of English codifying acts, such as the Bills of Exchange Act, the Judicature Act and the Companies Act, have been adopted in this country there are others outstanding which could be adopted here. One branch of the law in particular which is in a most unsatisfactory state is that which deals with the naturalization of aliens. This question has been receiving the consideration of the Legislature at home and if the law which was adopted on this question were accepted here it would tend to avoid much confusion on the subject. A man who becomes a Newfoundlander in Newfoundland is limited to that Colony but the tendency is to extend the naturalization throughout the whole Empire. The matter is under consideration in Canada and in the United States and legislation along the same lines could be adopted here with advantage.

Of course, the present Act is a step in the right direction for it brings the law of copyright in the Colony into line with that which has been adopted by the Imperial Parliament.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

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

On motion this Report was received and adopted; and it was ordered that the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

**RAILWAY LOAN BILL.**

Pursuant to order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, the Bill entitled “An Act to provide for raising a sum of money by loan for the extension of the railway system of the Colony,” was read a second time and ordered to be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on to-morrow.

**BANK BILL.**


**HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.**—The object of this Bill is to make a small change in the present Act, namely the date on which returns are to be made to the Minister of Finance. Under the present law the banks are required to furnish a statement each year to the 31st May on or before the 15th June. This has been found to be inconvenient and we think that if statements are furnished to the 31st December in each year within fifteen days from that date it will be more convenient to the banks and to the Department of Finance and Customs.

**MR. CLIFT.**—Has this change been made at the instance of the banks?

**HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.**—No, Mr. Chairman, it is at the instance of the Department.

**MR. CLIFT.**—I remember when the former act was being discussed it was considered that May 31st would suit the banks better than any other date.

**HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.**—The change will not inconvenience the Banks in any way.

The Bill was thereupon read a second time and it was ordered to be referred to a Committee of the Whole House to-morrow.

The Bill was thereupon read a second time and it was ordered to be referred to a Committee of the Whole House to-morrow.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Thursday, March 28th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.
THURSDAY, March 28th, 1912.
The House met at three of the clock in the afternoon, pursuant to adjournment.

PETITIONS.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Heart's Delight, Heart's Desire, Islington, Cavendish, Witless Bay and Green's Harbor, in the District of Trinity, asking that a lighthouse be erected on the western point of Heart's Delight. Petitioners point out that there is no lighthouse between Random Head, on the North side of the Bay, and Heart's Content, on the South side, and they state that on dark and stormy nights it is extremely difficult for mariners to locate their exact position on the coast, particularly near Heart's Delight, where the land lies low, and where shoals extend a considerable distance from the land. In the past, owing to the absence of a light on this part of the coast, schooners have been lost, lives and property have been endangered, and many nights of hardship and anxiety have been spent.

I also ask leave to present a petition from the residents of Little Heart's Ease, asking that two small wharves be erected, one on each side of the harbor, for the convenience of people who land from the ferry boat.

Also a petition from the inhabitants of Cavendish, on the subject of a hauling place for fishing boats. Petitioners state that for some years the Church authorities have permitted them to use a portion of Church land as a hauling place, but this permission is now about to be withdrawn, as the land is required for building purposes. The Church authorities, however, offer to dispose of to the public a portion of another piece of property held by them, and the petitioners pray that a sum of money be allocated to purchase what they describe as the only available land at Cavendish suitable for a hauling place for fishing boats.

I would ask that the foregoing petitions be received and referred to the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

HON. MR. EMERSON.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from John Lee and others of McCallum Harbour, Fortune Bay, asking for the establishment of a ferry between McCallum Hr., Indian Cove, Taylor's Island and Pool's Island. These three places are within half a mile of each other and of McCallum Harbour. The school is at McCallum Harbour and there are quite a number of the school children residing on these three islands, who find great difficulty in getting over to the school, owing to the want of a regular ferry service. I ask that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates and that on its being brought before the Government something may be done in the matter.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Deer Island, on the subject of the prosecution of the seal fishery on Sunday. Also a petition from the inhabitants of Plate Cove asking for $120 for a road. I have pleasure in giving these petitions my hearty support.

MR. GEAR.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from the Rev. A. Tulk, Geo. Bartlett, L. Cheseman and a large number of the inhabitants of Burin on the subject of a hospital. I have already this year presented a petition on the same subject. This is a very largely and influentially signed petition from clergymen, business men and fishermen of Burin. They ask that a cottage hospital be established at Burin where patients from all places in the vicinity may come to be treated. They want a building with five or six beds, and a
kitchen, with a woman in charge, so that a patient may come in and be treated there by a doctor, and pay the doctor's fees. I would ask, Sir, that this petition be sent to the proper department, and that it be given the consideration which is its due.

MR. LEFEUVRE.—Mr. Speaker, I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition which has just been presented.

MR. HOWLEY.—Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the petition. It is one of great importance to the people living on the west side of Placentia Bay inasmuch as the nearest doctor available is the doctor at Burin, and the people often find it very difficult to secure medical attendance. It was only the other day that there was a gunning accident up there and although every effort was made to secure the services of a doctor, the patient had eventually to be sent to Burin to be treated by Dr. Smith, and there was trouble in securing a place for the patient to remain during the two or three weeks that he will be under the doctor's treatment. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition, on the condition, of course, that if the prayer is granted, the people on the west side of Placentia Bay may be able to avail of the benefits.

MR. GEAR.—Certainly, sir. The petition states that Burin can be reached by steamer or boat from all parts of the Bay and the hospital is open to anyone.

HON. MR. EMERSON.—Mr. Speaker, I have very much pleasure in supporting the petition. I presented a petition the other day from Garnish on the same subject. The people of Garnish ask that an hospital be placed at Burin, as Burin is easy of access to them, there is a doctor there, and it is a port of call.

MR. EARLE.—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a petition from the copy it, and it has not been possible
to table it until to-day.

HON. THE SPEAKER.—It has been brought to my attention that members are in the habit of taking away from the House originals and copies of documents laid on the table by Ministers. While some of these papers are of less importance than others yet they are all the property of the House and should not be removed, especially is this the case as regards the Auditor General’s Report and the Public Accounts, which I understand have left the custody of the Clerk and have not yet been returned.

QUESTIONS.

MR. CLIFT asked the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of all moneys, including local, main line and special, allocated to and expended by the Road Board at Burnt Head, Cupids, in the electoral District of Port de Grave, during the years 1910 and 1911.

MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.—I beg to table the statement asked for.

Mr. KENT asked the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of the House a statement in detail, giving names of parties, amounts paid and purposes of each payment in connection with the Smallpox Observation Hospital erected last spring on Qidi Vidi Road; also a statement in detail, showing the amount realized by the sale thereof, giving the names of purchasers, item purchased and amount paid in each case.

MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.—I beg to say that I will have the statement to-morrow. It is in course of preparation.

MR. CLAPP asked the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of the House a statement showing, in detail, the names of parties, amounts, dates and purposes of payment of all moneys spent in the District of Fer­
HON. MIN. AGRICULTURE AND MINES—I beg to say that the information is in course of preparation. It will take a week or more before it will be ready.

MR. KENT—I understand the House will be closed by that time. I think an effort should be made to have it ready before the House closes.

HON. MIN. AGRICULTURE AND MINES—There is only one person in the office who is able to look after that, namely, Mr. Turner, and I think it is certainly going to take him a week.

MR. KENT—I would like the hon. member to make a special effort to get this information, if the House is going to close within a short time. He ought to get an additional clerk.

HON. MIN. AGRICULTURE AND MINES—that would not be any use. There is only one man who can look after this work. Two or three could not do it. The hon. member will certainly get the information before the House prorogues.

MR. KENT—that is all right.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary whether the enumerators appointed in connection with the taking of the Census in the district of St. John's East and West have been paid to date. Whether such payment is in full for their services, and the amount paid to each. If they have not been paid, why not.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—In reply to the hon. member I beg to say that the enumerators have all been paid to date in full for their services.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a statement, in detail, showing the amounts expended in connection with the outbreak of smallpox at Western Bay, in the District of Bay de Verde, on the 1st January, 1911, to date.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—In reply to the hon. member I beg to say that the Commissioner of Public Charities informs me that he will let me have a statement in time for tomorrow’s sitting.

TELEGRAPH LOAN BILL.
Pursuant to order and leave granted, and on motion of Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider certain Resolutions to provide for the raising of a sum of money for the construction of telephones in Newfoundland in connection with the Postal System of the Colony, and for the further extension of the Lighthouse service of the Colony.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Parsons took the chair of Committee.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—I submit to the Committee to-day, Mr. Chairman, Resolutions asking for a sum of money for the extension of the lighthouse system around our sea board, and the inauguration of a telephone system throughout the Island.

As far as the telephone system is concerned, practically the only telephone installation we have is that in St. John's. There are small semi-
private telephone systems in two or three other places, but they are within individual neighbourhoods and have no inter-connection. The Government has been receiving petitions and requests for a long time from various parts of the Island, asking for telephone connection where it is not possible to extend the telegraph line, and it has been decided by the Government to accede to the prayer of these petitions as far as possible, and with that in view a loan of $150,000 is now being provided for these requests coming from all parts of the Colony, and it is not difficult to see the force of the argument of those who plead for such a concession. The larger outport towns have telegraph offices, but it is impossible to establish them in the smaller places, as the result in business would not warrant the salary that has to be paid to a trained operator. By installing telephone connection, however, from the post offices in the various smaller settlements to the principal telegraph offices in the neighborhood, it would act as a sort of feeder to the telegraph system which would result in a good deal of business being done, and the need for a skilled operator would be obviated, because as we know any person of intelligence can operate a telephone. We should not alone be able to secure a good deal of additional business for the telegraph system by this means, but we should also be doing the public a great service in providing such facilities. If you will look back, Mr. Chairman, to ten years ago, you will find that the revenue of the telegraph system of the Colony was only half of what it is today. The reason for this is that our people are being educated into doing their business by wire thereby saving time and money, instead of, as in the past, doing it all by letter. The same thing has shown itself as a result of providing more mail facilities and reducing the postal rates, and the Government is satisfied that the proposal to extend the telephones to the smaller outports will be followed by a substantial increase in the business. It will take $6,000 a year to meet the additional obligation now being undertaken, the interest at 4% on $150,000, but I am satisfied that within a year or two after this system of outport telephones is put in operation the returns therefrom will more than suffice to meet that amount. There will be little or no expense in operating such telephone system outside of St. John's, as each outport post office can be the telephone office and the Postmaster or Postmistress, as the case may be, can handle the traffic, being sworn in the same manner as the telegraph operators are at present, therefore, any person wishing to send a message from any small settlement throughout the Colony to any other place in the Colony will simply go to the Post Office, write his message and hand it to the Postal official and he will transmit it by telephone to the nearest telegraph office and thence it will be sent to its destination. You can see at a glance what a benefit this new departure will be to the small settlements by bringing them in touch with the larger places and with the Colony as a whole. For instance, at the present time, if an accident happens in any small settlement and the services of a doctor are needed those interested have to send to the nearest place by carriage or by boat or else walk there, whereas, with the telephone system in operation, they would only need to telephone a message and the physician could be on the scene in half the time it takes at present. It would be the same way with every other matter in an outport calling for action of this kind, and I have no doubt whatever that this telephone system will be a great feeder to the
telegraph lines and will greatly add to the conveniences of existence in the outports of the Colony in the future. It may be argued that it would be as easy to put a telegraph at each station as a telephone, but such is not the experience of the Government. There were many instances in the past in which telegraph offices were established in settlements with operators receiving from $200 to $400 a year while the receipts amounted to not a tenth of that sum. In 1909 the total number of offices was 133 and of these only 23 paid. There was a loss on the entire service of $10,939. Some offices returned as little as $17 for the year while costing several hundred dollars to operate. This state of things will not continue; it is not businesslike. In a private concern it would not be tolerated for a moment. Offices of this kind have been kept up, not so much for the interests of the general public but because of political pull and the Colony has suffered in every case. Under our proposed system those conditions cannot continue as the Government intends to have the telephones installed in the Post Offices and have the Postal officials to do the work. During the past year, I may say, the Government Engineer has gone into this matter very fully, under the direction of the Government, and has imported three or four systems of telephones, and it is the Government's intention to decide very soon upon that which will be adopted, the intention being to secure the most upto-date system that can be advantageously used in this Colony. To-day there are about 1200 villages in Newfoundland and about 130 telegraph offices, and if the larger number of the 1170 villages that are in the Island and are without telephone system to-day were connected by the telephone with the 130 telegraph offices there would be an immense addition to the business of the department, besides the great enhancement of the facilities under which the people will exist.

I am also asking, sir, in these Resolutions, for the sum of $100,000 to continue the erection of new lighthouses and fog alarms throughout the Island. Within the past few weeks we have talked a lot in this House about these and other public services, and it is not necessary for me to speak at length as to the reason why we are asking this amount. The present Government has inaugurated a policy of lighthouse extension and under that system substantial progress has already been made and a number of new coast aids have been provided. The advantages accruing therefrom are such that the Government is now of opinion that further extension would be equally advantageous, and it is for this reason that a loan of $100,000 is being asked. I do not think that anyone in this House will question the desirability of providing safeguards for our people in their hazardous avocation. Our lighthouse service, improved though it has been of late years, is not to be compared to that of our neighbours. Take Canada, you can stand at one lighthouse and see another, there being an endless chain of navigation aids all along the sea board. I hope the time will come for this Colony when it will be possible to sentinel its coast in the same way. It may be asked where are we going to build these lighthouses and fog alarms? I answer that we are going to build them wherever they are most needed. Petitions regarding them have been sent in from all parts of the country, and the advantages of them are so great that it is easy to understand why the people should be desirous of them. So backward were we in this matter years ago that the Canadian Government came down and offered to build a number of lighthouses on our sea board. The
light and alarm at Cape Pine at the entrance to Trepassey Bay were erected by the Canadian Government. In that vicinity during the past 20 years more than 300 people have lost their lives and wrecks would be as frequent to-day as they were formerly but that the Canadian Government undertook the erection of the lighthouse and fog alarm at this point. The same is true of various other parts of the Colony. It is true that our fishermen as a rule did not in the past meet with many accidents because their local knowledge protected them and they knew the coast exactly, they could tell just where they were, the depth of water they were in and how many miles they were off, but in the case of foreign vessels not knowing the coast and with nothing to attract their attention, they went ahead and came to grief. At the same time our own people did not escape entirely, and at any rate there is a moral obligation on us to make the approaches to our coast line as safe for our own people and for others who may come there as it is possible to do. Considering the demands of the other public services the Government think that this amount can be safely asked for, safely, I mean, with regard to our financial position. They believe that there is no disagreement in this House as to the need of more lighthouses and as to the desirability of providing them, but the Government recognizes that there may be differences of opinion as to whether such a loan can be raised. Personally, I have no doubt on that point at all. The Colony is well able to finance this proposition and the Government is contented that it will be returned a hundred fold.

MR. KENT—In the first place, Mr. Chairman, I have to express my regret that the Minister has not taken the Committee more into his confidence, or into the confidence of the Government, in regard to the proposed expenditure of this money. I think Sir, that there can be no two opinions regarding these services. What I mean by that is that the usefulness of the extension of the telephone system is beyond doubt.

HON. MIN. FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—Hear, Hear.

MR. KENT—And as regards the building of lighthouses in such places as will be of advantage to our fishermen and sailors, that is also a matter that is beyond doubt. In anything that I say, then, I don't wish to be understood as in any way opposing these two propositions; but at the same time, Sir, I must say that the attitude and action of the Government in this matter cannot meet with my approval, at least until I am more fully satisfied regarding the matter. I think, Sir, that this is a most objectionable way of bringing in a loan bill—to be asking in a broad manner for large sums of money for certain services. For instance, if you take the telephone service, I think it is wrong in principle to come in here and ask, in the uncertain, vague, large way in which the Government is asking at the present time, for $100,000; and the same thing applies to the lighthouse service. Now, Sir, no other legislature in the British Empire would be treated in this way. I submit that if such resolutions as this, in which loans are asked for, were brought into other legislatures, that the plans and details of the work to be undertaken by the Government would be laid before the House, and they would be told that this is the work that we propose to carry out and we want the money to carry it out, and we come to you as the only authority that can give us this money. Here we are simply told that the money is needed to establish a telephone ser-
vice and increase a lighthouse service. I think, Sir, that it is arrogating the rights of this House and conferring upon the Governor in Council rights which properly belong to the representatives of the people. This is exactly the same, Sir, as if the Government came in here and asked for $100,000 to carry on the Marine and Fisheries Department, or the Customs Department. You don't, when supply is being voted, ask for $100,000 to carry on the Marine and Fisheries Department for instance. You come in and you give item by item what the money is wanted for; and when you go beyond your ordinary rights and come in and ask for permission to go into the market and borrow money for any purpose, a detailed statement of what you want the money for is essential. I think, Sir, that under the present conditions, this is even more necessary than would ordinarily be the case. According to the figures that were given by the Minister of Finance the other day in his Budget, the full amount of the loan for these services—the $100,000 for lighthouses and the $150,000 for telephone extension—might, I submit, with all due respect to the Minister of Finance, be appropriated out of the general revenue if economic expenditure would be practised during the coming year. If we are to judge from the experience of the past, however, Sir, I don't think that we can expect that economic expenditure, particularly if we give the government this large sum of money in addition to their ordinary revenue for purposes which, when the revenue permits, should be taken from the revenue itself. The Minister estimated the revenue for the year at $3,700,000, and it must be remembered that to that must be added a surplus of $172,000 from the year before. That means that the revenue for the year, including the balance with which it starts, will amount to about $3,872,000. Now, Sir, with a population of 240,000 people, to expend these large amounts and not to provide for services such as these with which we are dealing is, I think, entirely wrong. This Government, since it came into power, has introduced loan bills here year after year for expenditures over and above the amount of its general revenue, and the revenues which the Government have received have been unusually large. The first year's moneys were borrowed for the hospital.

HON. MIN. FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—And to pay your debts.

MR. KENT—For the museum, for advances on exchequer account, railway award, Grand Bank pier, and the Municipal Council, amounting to $430,000. The next year there was $4,000,000 for railway extension purposes. In the same year there was a loan of $350,000. That loan was repealed the following year and included in the bill for 1911, amounting to $520,000. This year we have a loan bill of $2,000,000, which we dealt with the other day, and now we have got a loan of $250,000; making a total loan during the present administration of nearly $7,500,000, with every prospect of obligations under the railway contract entailing large future borrowings. Under these circumstances, Mr. Chairman, I think that the people of the country have a right to expect that the revenues which we are enjoying at the present time should be used, while they last for the purpose of building such public utilities as those with which we are dealing; because, Sir, we must bear in mind, in connection with our present revenues, that they are due entirely to temporary conditions—conditions brought about by the expenditure of borrowed moneys.
broadcast throughout the colony. These very loans are tending to create a temporary revenue which, when the expenditure ceases in connection with these construction works, must necessarily fall short. I submit to the Hon. Minister of Finance and his colleagues that, if these public utilities are to be increased, he has ample money in the general revenue of the colony to finance the necessary expenditure. If it can be paid for out of the general revenue it is due to the people of the colony that it be paid from the revenue and that no loan be added for the purpose of meeting the expenditure. Why should we be piling up the public debt when we have revenue enough to pay for these utilities. I have already said that this House should know what number of light houses are to be erected, where they are to be placed, what the cost of them will be and how they are to be constructed. All this information should be before the committee. The Government cannot put forward the excuse that they do not know where they are going to place them, for we know where the lighthouses are at the present time, we know the geography of the country and we know where they are most needed. The Government should also be able to give the Committee an estimate of the cost of each. This information is due to the committee and I submit that the Government is not warranted in recommending this loan when the large revenues that we are enjoying exist. These revenues are sufficient to enable the government to meet these obligations and to provide for the public necessary and useful improvements in the public service. They can be met without sacrificing grants for Education or anything else if unnecessary expenses are curtailed. If the revenue is properly spent there will be a balance left more than sufficient to meet the capital amount proposed to be obtained under this loan.

We cannot go on from year to year piling up by hundreds of thousands and millions of dollars the public debt of the colony for the country is a small one, and already the people are overtaxed and heavily burdened. The cost of living has gone beyond bearing and everything bears heavily on the poor. Every man in the island is paying between $15 and $18 a year towards the revenue and every family from $80 to $100. If a man has a family and makes a salary of $300 a year, he has to pay a third of it to the Government. The present loan will add to the debt and the taxpayers will have to pay the interest on it. No matter how low the revenue may drop any year this will be a charge on it that will have to be met and the other services will have to wait. If the grant is taken out of the general revenue, (and there is no reason why it should not be), there will be no further charges in connection with it to be met by the colony.

HON. MIN. FINANCE AND CUSTOMS—Just a word in reply to my learned friend, the Acting Leader of the Opposition. When I introduced these Resolutions I did not think he would support them, though he admitted the need for erecting Light Houses and installing Telephones. He claims that we have not given him any information. My answer is that we have given him all that we have, and what more does he want than to know that both Lighthouses and Telephones are urgently needed in different parts of the Island and that the Government will try as far as possible to satisfy this need for public utilities. To-day there are so many places so badly in need of these conveniences that it is difficult to say where we shall begin
to erect them. We shall, of course, endeavour to do so in the most important places, but we have many localities at present without such accessories. This work has to be done either by this Government or by the one that succeeds it. My hon. friend opposite can easily learn where Lighthouses are to be built, because if he will consult with his friends from the various districts he will find that many localities are asking for such. Our purpose is to build them as fast as the funds at our disposal will allow, and in the places where expert testimony shows that they are most needed. It is the same way with the telephones, the present Government inaugurated a policy of telegraph extension, it purposed to follow that up with a similar policy of telephone extension. My hon. friend's criticism is merely for the purpose of making a show in the newspapers, supporting the Opposition party. His claim is not a reasonable one. My only regret today is that we have not enough money to build Lighthouses and Telegraphs everywhere that they are needed.

His next point is that we ought to build these utilities out of the surpluses and not raise another loan. He then went on to argue that the country is not as strong today financially as it was a few years ago and that we have raised loans every session. Well, if we have, we have done something with these loans, we have something to show for the money we spent, except for our first loan of $160,000 which we had to raise to pay the bills of the late Government that went out of office with a shortage of that amount occasioned by over expenditure in various department. The argument that we ought to build Lighthouses out of the surplus revenue is an unreasonable one. Our surpluses are being spent on improvements necessary to the daily occupation of the people. For instance, we are voting $20,000 a year more for education than we did last year, and we have increased that vote alone by $100,000 since we came into power. Then we are spending $60,000 on Old Age Pensions and we are acting in the same way in the other departments. Who ever heard of a Government building railways or Lighthouses out of the current revenue? I am not aware of any case where it has been done. The Bond Government nor the Whiteway Government never did it, and my learned friend cannot point to one instance, unless, maybe, it was a small Lighthouse. If we were to build Lighthouses out of the current revenue then we should carry out all other large schemes in the same way, which would be impossible. I take issue with him as to his claim that the country is not in nearly so good a position financially as it was two years ago. I say, on the contrary, that the country was never in a better position than it is today. He went on to tell us the other day that the difference between the exports and the imports is proof that we are not in a better condition than two years ago. He is quite mistaken in his deduction. When he made that statement he forgot to consider a few things, notably the amount of money invested in the colony and which remains here; the many industries that are established and do not show in the exports, the agricultural products that are raised by our people and are given no account in what we send away. He should take these three factors into consideration and if he had he would alter his argument completely. Let him then look at other countries. Take the Dominion of Canada for instance. During the past
ten years the exports never equalled the imports. Last year Canada's exports were but little over half her imports. Will he dispute that Canada is one of the most prosperous and progressive countries in the world—one of the most solvent and secure. Canada's record completely destroys his argument, for if, according to him we are losing ground because our imports were somewhat more than the exports the past year, then Canada must be hopelessly involved. I supply here the figures of the total imports and exports of Canada during the past ten years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Exports</th>
<th>Total Imports</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>$211,640,286</td>
<td>$212,270,158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>$225,849,724</td>
<td>$241,214,961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904</td>
<td>$213,521,235</td>
<td>$259,211,803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>$203,316,872</td>
<td>$266,834,417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>$256,586,630</td>
<td>$294,286,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>$205,277,197</td>
<td>$259,788,007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>$280,006,606</td>
<td>$370,788,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>$261,512,159</td>
<td>$308,756,608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>$301,358,529</td>
<td>$391,852,692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>$297,196,364</td>
<td>$427,247,540</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This table shows that Canada's imports have exceeded her exports every year since 1902. It follows logically according to him again that Canada is losing ground; but will he seriously contend this before the House. If he will read a Speech delivered by Sir Wm. MacGregor on the opening of the Agricultural Exhibition in St. John's in 1906, he will find that the then Governor made it clear that there was an enormous local investment through farming which got no recognition in the table of exports. In the same way if he considers the lumbering industry he will find that this is immensely valuable although not a dollar's worth perhaps may go outside the colony. Does he mean to say then that after putting all these things together we are not in a better financial position. The present Government has no intention of following in the footsteps of its predecessors, because this would mean ruin.
MIN. MARINE AND FISHERIES.—

Mr. Chairman, I could not let this opportunity pass without having a word to say on the subject matter of these Resolutions, namely, the building of lighthouses and fog alarms throughout this country. I have listened with much pleasure to the speech of the hon. the introducer, the Min. of Finance, and also to the speech of the Hon. member for St. John's East, but I was surprised to hear him contradict himself. When he rose in his place, he said he approved of lighthouses being built, and no doubt he did because it was only a few days ago, he had the pleasure of presenting petitions from the Fishermen's Union regarding light houses, and in these petition were set out the places where the Fishermen's Union wanted them to be put. Then he said that he considered a statement should be brought down here and laid upon the table of the House, so that he and the other Hon. gentleman opposite may know where those light houses are to be built. I am afraid, Sir, that in the past we have not done anything like what we should have done in this connection. Outsiders, Canadians have stepped in, and built lighthouses for us, and to-day around this colony, Canada owns and sustains 15 lighthouses and fog alarms. I think, Sir, that such a state of things is a disgrace to this country. We dare not attempt to go to the Government of Nova Scotia, and ask them if we can build lighthouses for them. They would tell us that they were well able to look after their own country, and without our assistance. Since I have had the honour of filling the position of Minister of Marine and Fisheries, as far as lighthouses and fog alarms are concerned, I have take the Captains of the Coastal steamers, of the merchants ships, of the trading schooners, and of the fishing schooners into my confidence, and I have obtained their opinions, and these are the men who are able to give information, and added to that is my own little knowledge of this coast, so I do not think that we have misspent our time. Look around this coast, and the Labrador coast. There are only 5 or 6 light houses there, and it is only Newfoundlanders that can get around this coast without an accident. They are superior seamen to the foreign, and are like the Indians on the prairies, they almost scent the place they want to go to. I was once on the Glencoe with Capt. Drake, and he blew his whistle, and by hearing the echo, he was able to judge where he was. During the 8 years that the Rt. Hon. gentleman opposite was in office, very little was done in the way of lighthouse extension. I say this, and I say it without fear of contradiction that from Cape Race to Cape Ray there never was a coast more neglected than that coast, until last year and the year before, when this Government assumed office. I do not think that there will be any trouble in getting the money for these services, and in no better way could money be spent. We are able to raise this money. I am not an old politician, but I can remember when this colony found it very hard to raise money. But to-day Newfoundland has not any difficulty in raising this amount or any moneys that are required. Therefore the colony is in a better standing than ever it was before. I will guarantee my friend that if he calls at my office, I will show him where those lighthouses are to be built, and if he has any suggestions as to better places to build them, I will be ready to act on his suggestions, but I can assure him that they will be built where they are most needed. As far
as the telephone system is concerned, I hope that the Government will extend it to the Labrador, particularly in that section between Batteau and Domino. It is true that there are wireless stations there, but there are a number of fishermen and planters in important places, that cannot reach those stations, and if they want to send a message, they have to send men quite a distance by boat, which is a great inconvenience, and means a great loss of time. Batteau Harbour on the Labrador is a great place of resort. It is a port of call for the coastal steamers, trading schooners, and fishing schooners. The Ryans of Bonavista, Delaney of Cupids, and others make it their scene of operations, and I know they have paid as high as $25 to men to bring a message to Domino. In such a locality, telephone communication would be a great convenience. A line from Domino to Red Point, would be a great benefit to the men fishing at Wolf Island and White Point, and they would not have to row 25 or 30 miles to send a message. Then a line between Smoky and Indian Harbor, would also be of very great benefit. Last year at Emily Harbor two men died for want of medical attendance, who, if there had been telephone connection, and the services of a doctor could have been obtained, might be alive to-day. It is only those who have seen such things, and have gone through similar trials themselves, can recommend these things. There is a wireless station at Cape Harrison, but you have got to climb a steep hill to reach it. A telephone there would be of inestimable benefit. I have very much pleasure in supporting the Resolutions and hope to see soon Labrador linked up by the telephone.

MR. C. H. EMERSON—I rise for the purpose of giving my hearty sup-
months. Scores of fishermen have often told me that the finest public work along the south-west coast is the Fog Alarm at Rose Blanche. It frequently happened in the past that fishing boats and schooners during thick and rough weather were obliged to remain at sea all night before that alarm was constructed, but now they are enabled to enter port in all weathers. Taking this particular aid as an illustration, and its manifold blessings and advantages, is it not reasonable to assume that many other parts of the country are badly in need of the same. I would go so far as to vote for the raising of a much larger amount than the one asked for now for this purpose, because I consider that the lot of our fishermen is sufficiently hard under the very best of conditions, without being added to by absence of lights to guide them in their way. My learned friend Mr. Kent tells us that the Government has not taken this House sufficiently into its confidence, and has not informed its members as to the particular places where those lights are to be placed. I think the hon. the introducer of the resolutions was sufficiently explicit when he told us that they would be constructed on Points and Headlands where they would be most required. That is simply a question of detail, and no doubt the advice of persons best capable of judging on this matter, will be taken. We must bear in mind that the great majority of our people derive their living from the sea, and it is enough for us to know that they are without the necessary public facilities for carrying on their works to warrant this legislation in making the contemplated expenditure. I cannot agree with the hon. member, Mr. Kent, when he says that we should pay for the construction of these lighthouses out of our surplus revenue. This is bad in principle for the reason that these lighthouses will be for the use of future generations as well as for the present one, and it is only right and equitable that those who will come after us, should bear their share of the burden of the payment of the interest on the cost of these works. We have other requirements for our surplus revenue. We are yearly increasing the vote for education which is paid out of it, and also providing a large amount for old age pensions and such other necessary matters. We will also be obliged, and it will be sufficient for us, to pay for the maintenance of these additional lights out of our revenues. Since we assumed office we have given back to the people for marine and road works a large proportion of the surplus revenue. This course of action has greatly benefited our people particularly those who live in the smaller places in the districts. I can point to dozens of smaller settlements in the district of Fortune Bay whose people now enjoy landing places, breakwaters, and better roads which have been built out of the surplus revenue. The great necessity for spending so much of the money in this way is occasioned by the neglect of these smaller places by former administrations. The ordinary marine and road grants have been too small in the past, and in many instances were not equitably distributed. I trust that the extra special grants which this Government have expended in the districts will be continued until the smaller settlements in particular will have received their just rights. In 1900 when I was elected to represent the district of Burgeo and La Poile, I found that very little public money was spent in the smaller settlements, but that half a dozen of the larger places had absorbed nearly the
whole of the grants. In 1898 I found that a similar state of affairs had existed in the district of Fortune Bay, and I have no doubt but that the same condition of things was prevalent throughout the Island. I am safe in saying that to-day the smaller settlements in the district of which I have the honour to represent are receiving attention, for evidences of public improvements are to be seen on all sides. These things could not have been done if we did not utilize some of the surplus revenue for the purposes. I have also very great pleasure in supporting the resolution for the raising of a sum of money to provide for the establishment of a telephone system throughout the Colony. The hon. Minister of Finance has pointed out that nearly all our telegraph offices are a failure from a commercial standpoint. He has told us that in some cases the annual expenditure for maintenance has run into the hundreds of dollars while the receipts amounted to something very trifling—in one or two cases under twenty dollars. It seems absurd to continue these offices at such a great loss to the colony, when the cost for maintenance can be greatly minimized by placing a telephone in the post office. I know of several places today in my district where telegraphic communication is badly needed, but telegraph offices could only be maintained there at a great loss. The requirements of the public would be amply met by the establishment of a system of telephones placed in the post offices and connected with telegraph offices. We must ask ourselves the question, are we justified in raising this money for those purposes? I do not think that any right minded person, who has an appreciation of the manner in which this colony is steadily progressing, will hesitate to say, what should be done. It is well within our means to pay for the interest on these amounts, as well as that on all amounts which we have raised without increasing the taxes in any way. The Hon. the Premier has repeatedly pointed out to this House the sources from which our revenue is to be derived to pay for the interest of all loans raised for these necessary purposes as well as for our branch lines of railways. The objections of hon. members on other side of the House are simply made from an opposition standpoint. Since we assumed office they have opposed every measure introduced by the Government, and I presume they imagine that by doing so they are acting conscientiously and would be remiss in their duties were they to do otherwise. The late government—the party which the opposition represents in this House, raised large loans from time to time and piled up a huge debt, but what had they, in the way of public works to show for it at the termination of their term of office? They did not build one mile of railway, nor successfully carry out one line of policy during their tenure of office—simply collected the revenue and paid public servants their salaries, and left a large debt to be provided for and liquidated by their successors. The opposition seem to be very much agitated, because this government has shown an honest desire to do something to advance the interests of the people and make the country prosperous, and have carried out a liberal and progressive line of policy. We have now been in power over three years. The country has been given full value for every dollar of money expended, and when the time will have arrived when we shall be called upon to give an account of our stewardship we shall not require many ar-
guments to convince the people that we have done more for the public good than any of our predecessors. With these few remarks I have much pleasure in supporting the resolution now before the Committee.

MR. F. J. MORRIS.—I rise for the purpose of recording my approval of the proposition now before us to raise this sum of $250,000 for lighthouses and telephones. I do not think that a more necessary vote has been asked for in this House during the present session or in fact for very many sessions past. The only point of difference I have with the hon. Minister is in the amount to be raised. I think the amount should be two or three times the sum asked for. No country in the world is so badly lighted as Newfoundland and Labrador; and there is probably no country in the world that so badly needs to be lighted. I can bear testimony to the remarks made by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries relative to the coast of Labrador. There are only five or six lighthouses on that coast altogether. As a matter of fact there should be a hundred. I am also in accordance with his remarks concerning telephone connection, and the great necessity there is for some method of communication. I must also say that the district I have the honor to represent has during the past year been accorded the boon of having a fog alarm established at Point Verde. The people have been requesting this favour from the Government I think for the past twenty years, and never until the present year has it been acceded to. During the past ten years no less I understand than a petition every year has been presented to this House on the same subject; and although one of the late representatives was an Executive officer, nothing was ever done till we promised to look after the matter, and I am glad to say that after we were a year in power the promise was fulfilled. I am proud to be in a position to-day to thank the Government for putting that fog alarm on Point Verde, and I am sure that thousands of fishermen who frequent that locality during foggy weather are equally thankful.

Again, sir, as to the question of telephones. At Cape St. Mary's during the summer, in a place called Golden Bay there must be no less than three or four hundred boats, each with a crew of from five to eight men. They stay in that place for five or six weeks during the fishery and are cut off from all source of communication. When I went over that Cape ground four years ago I saw a number of telephone poles lying on the ground rotting. They had been sent out there on the eve of an election with a promise that they would be erected and wires placed on them and a telephone put at Cape St. Mary's to connect the shore with Placentia. To-day I am pleased to be able to say that new poles are laid along that road; and before next summer I hope that those men who frequent that locality will be able to communicate with their homes. Then again there is another place in the N. E. Arm of Placentia. For four or five weeks in the summer it is the home of hundreds of fishermen who go there to seek bait. Request after request was made to the late representatives to have a telephone erected there, and promises to that effect were made but never kept. I am happy to state that ere these fishermen come there again this spring there will be a telegraph and telephone office in communication with Placentia where they will be able to find out where the bait lies around the Bay. This will be of great importance to them.

As regards lighthouses the great trouble is to find where we do not need a lighthouse, and I am sorry the
Minister is not asking for $500,000 instead of $100,000 and I am sure that everyone familiar with conditions around Newfoundland would gladly accord his support to such a vote. It is disgraceful the way the fishermen have been treated up to the present time as regards these aids to navigation. If we walk down Water Street on a dark night and have not a large arc light to see the way around we make complaint. What these arc lights are to the citizens of St. John's the lighthouses are to the mariners seeking their way home. We have a road to walk on and know where we are, but he very often does not know where he is. As my friend the hon. member for Fortune said, if you go up to Canada you find the coast line a blaze of light during the night. I have been there two or three times and I can bear testimony to all he says. They have thousands of lighthouses all along the coast. The only good lighthouses around our coast are those built by the Canadian Government on Cape Race, Belle Isle and other places. We put a light on Quirpon a few years ago and it was about as useful as a candle. There was a light on Point Verde in Placentia, and St. Mary's. It was there 40 years. It could not be seen five miles off the coast. It is time some improvements were made. Up in Branch, St. Mary's Bay, where every man is a fisherman they have two old antiquated lights. When I went to the district the first request they made was for a new lighthouse. They have been looking for it for the past ten or fifteen years. Now their wants will be attended to.

Placentia Harbor, to-day is probably visited by more ships than any harbour outside of St. John's. It is visited by the coastal boats; by the Glencoe, Argyle and by a number of coal boats. These boats are continually going there, and yet there is not a harbor light at Placentia. We have provided for it in this year's estimates; but previous to that no provision was made. Why? Perhaps the answer is because, as my learned friend, the member for St. John's East has said the late Government were building these lighthouses out of current revenue. If that is the case the result has not been very successful; and as it is absolutely necessary that all these lights should be erected the money must be obtained for building them. It is altogether impossible to do it out of current revenue. I think my learned friend will see that if you build one or two or three each year that is the best you can do out of current revenue. You cannot have a large policy, a progressive policy, a policy absolutely necessary in the interest of this country unless you raise a sum of money by a loan act. It gives me great pleasure to-day, sir, to support the Minister's proposition, and I am sorry he has not asked for $500,000 instead of $100,000, because I believe that if we were to build all the lighthouses required in Newfoundland you would want that or a larger amount.

MR. CLIFT.—Before the last section passes, I would like to draw the attention of the Committee to the fact that although there has not been any difference of opinion in this debate as far as I can see as to the desirability of extending our lighthouse system, or as to the desirability of extending our telephone system, yet we come in here and sit down and vote for the raising of a loan of $250,000, without asking ourselves any questions as to the possibility of getting that money within the immediate future. We come in and vote authority to raise loans without asking ourselves whether we are justified as legislators in increasing, even for necessary services of lighthouses and telephones, our obligations in the
way of loans. Now at the present
time there is an authority for a loan
of $520,000 which was passed in the
session of 1911. Of that loan only
$295,000 has been taken up, and there
is a balance remaining to be taken up
of $225,000. That loan has been ad-
vertised for some time and there still
remains that balance to be subscribed.
Of that $295,000 taken up $200,000
was taken up by the fund set aside
for old age pensions. That would
leave $95,000 taken up by the pub-
lic. Of that I understand some was
taken up by the Savings Bank. If
that is so I would like the Minister
to inform me.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND
CUSTOMS.—No portion of that
loan was taken up by the Savings Bank.

MR. CLIFT.—Was some taken by
Old Age Pension Fund?

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND
CUSTOMS.—Yes.

MR. CLIFT.—The Minister adver-
tised $520,000 in 1910 and only $95,000
has been subscribed by the public;
and now we are going into the local
market asking for $250,000. I think
we ought to pause and consider this
matter before we place more loans
on the market. As a matter of fact
there is a 1910 loan of $400,000 that
still appears on the Statute Book.
There is a 1911 loan of $520,000. I
presume it was intended when pass-
ing that loan bill in 1911 to repeal the
previous authority, but I do not think
the 1911 act repeals it. It is all well
enough for us to talk about expend-
ing money for aids to navigation and
in other necessary work; but we
should first of all make sure that we
know where that money is to come
from, and should make sure that we
are in a position to pay the interest.
It is not because we receive petitions
from all over the country for lighthouses and telephones and other
necessary public works that we
should always accede to these peti-
tions. We are only justified in acced-
ing to them when we know we have means at our disposal.

And we ought to be quite sure when
we are dealing with a matter of this
kind that it is within our means and
that we are not unnecessarily placing
upon the necks of our people a burd-
en which they cannot bear. I do not
think there is anybody prepared to
deny the great necessity that exists
for the erection of lighthouses and
fog alarms—anyone who has travel-
led, anyone who knows this coast,
anyone who has been at sea in the
night knows what a great boon lighthouses and fog alarms are but we
ought to consider first whether we
can afford the outlay.

MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.
—Mr. Chairman, I do not desire to
delay this Committee any longer, but
before the bill passes I should like to
to say that I think the Government de-
serve every congratulation for their
attempt to carry out this very exten-
sive work, this building of the neces-
sary lighthouses and fog alarms round
this coast and the coast of Labrador
and also the extension of the tele-
phone system. As regards the raising
of the loan necessary for this work
it is a matter of indifference to us in
one sense. If the work is necessary
the Government should raise the
money. There is no doubt of the
strong financial condition of the
country, the times are prosperous, the
outlook for the future is bright and
there should be no difficulty whatever
in raising the necessary capital for
this worthy purpose. I think it a
great mistake to be dickering with
measures of this kind and waiting un-
til the eve of an election to propose
to the public the building of these
services. And I think this Govern-
ment deserve credit for not waiting
until the eve of an election before
carrying out this necessary work. And
I hope they will succeed.
me very forcibly while my learned friend, Mr. Clift was speaking that he represents a tremendous number of fishermen and that we ought to give every attention to the wants and requirements of this valuable asset of the Colony, these men who carry on the industry upon which our very existence depends, the fishermen of the Colony; and if we erect these lighthouses it will be a great benefit and blessing and help to them in the carrying on of their dangerous avocations. As I said before the time has come to cease dickering with this work and I believe the electorate will sustain our action in carrying it out. Only a few days ago I had the pleasure of presenting petitions in reference to the District of Hr. Main on the very subject of telephone and telegraph communication and all I wish to see now is a telephone line along the extensive shore between St. John's and Holyrood. And I may say that it would fully pay the interest on the installation, if we charged a small nominal fee for the use of the phones. The petitioners stated in their request that it might be advisable to charge a small nominal fee of say 5 cents for the use of the phone. But that is a matter merely of detail. I hope the Government will be successful and I am glad to see that they not only contemplate this valuable work but also are arranging for the extension of other services that have been asked for from time to time. As to the question of building them out of revenue that is absurd. Why, sir, we had to sit here for an hour or two last week and listen to the Rt. Hon. the Leader of the Opposition presenting petitions from the F. P. U. and other unions, asking for the building of lighthouses, telephones, roads, marine and other works of all kinds and how could we construct these works out of revenue. It is absolutely necessary to raise these loans and if the Government of this Colony can see its way clear to deal with this important matter it should do so with all speed. The Hon. members opposite should not throw any doubt on the Government's ability to raise the money but should on the contrary give us all the support they can and encourage the Government in raising the money for these valuable necessities.

MR. MURPHY.—Mr. Chairman, I have much pleasure in supporting this bill and in thoroughly endorsing what has been said by my colleague. I have been associated with this telephone work for some time and have had a little experience in the last few years so that I can speak on the matter from actual contact. Some two years ago the South Side of Hr. Grace asked the Government to erect a telegraph office and unfortunately the Government could not do it. They then asked for the telephone connection, so that they could get in communication with a telegraph office. This was done. The actual upkeep of that office comes to about $40 per year and in one month they collected at that office over $40 and 5% of that business would never have been done by telegraph had they not had a telephone communication. This is a matter that I consider of great importance to the country. And if the Government were not paid a cent extra for the telephone, the extra facility for telegraph business would make it really worth it and the Government would be actually repaid even in an indirect way. I do not think that these connections by telephone would in any way increase the Government's expenditure. With regard to the other matter of lighthouses and fog alarms, we in our district are not directly interested in it—we do not mind if we never have another one added to the District. Fortunately we are not dependent alone upon fish-
ing and if we never caught another fish in the district. I do not think it would be much loss because my experience of the fishery has been that it is the cause of a great deal of the poverty in the country. Whatever one may say about lighthouses and fog alarms there can be no doubt as to the value of the telephone system. If you are going to benefit the fishermen by putting up fog alarms and lighthouses, then you will also benefit the other people of the island by putting in a telephone system. As to the question of the way to pay for it, I would like to know if you are raising $100,000 this year and another $100,000 next year, how can you take this out of current revenue and pay for the upkeep of these works and the cost of operating them. That will come out of supply. I take it that 30 of these fog alarms &c. (I have no figures, this is only a guess) but suppose there will be only 20 built out of this money, I reckon it will take about $2,000 a year for their upkeep and maintenance. This would mean $40,000 which must come out of revenue. If we put up 30 and they cost $2,000 a year it would mean a still larger amount. I think the present generation is doing right to provide the money to pay the interest and pay for the upkeep, support and maintenance. I think it unreasonable to expect that we should build and operate these works out of the annual revenue.

HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.—

Mr. Chairman, I just want to say two or three words. I had taken considerable notes in relation to statements made by Hon. members but the Hon. gentlemen who have just sat down have dealt with most of them, so that I will not delay the Committee very long except as regards one or two statements which I think should not go on record without a contradiction. In the first place, the hon. member for St. John's East, Mr. Kent, stated that we should take them more into our confidence. In other words upon this matter we have not given sufficiently full explanation. I think, sir, he ought to feel satisfied after the various explanations that he has had. It would be perfectly impossible to give any greater detail than has been given here this evening. The Minister of Finance has stated that there are 1300 settlements in the island and only 133 postal telegraph offices, leaving nearly 1200 settlements without these conveniences. It would take a great deal of time and a great deal of care will have to be exercised, a thorough knowledge is necessary, to say where these offices will be placed to best advantage. It is a matter that will take some time to decide and a competent person will have to be put in charge. As the Minister pointed out, during the last twelve months the Government Engineer has had four experts looking into the whole matter, four gentlemen representing four different systems of telephones. Each of these has made a report to the Government Engineer. Now it is not from any desire to hide any information that this report has not been tabled. It will be seen at once that it is a question of tender and estimates and a question of what particular system will be installed so that it is a report of a confidential nature which the Government is hardly in a position to table. He then went on to condemn the principle of borrowing money for these purposes, to point out that the proper way to build these would be out of current revenue. The remarks of my hon. friend, Mr. Murphy have fully disposed of that contention. There is no precedent for the position taken by the hon. member. There is no such precedent in any British Colony or in any country in the world, where permanent works to be used by future generations are built out of revenue of the present
day. Why it is monstrous to think that the present generation should build for posterity. It only requires to be mentioned in order to show what an absurd and inequitable a principle it is. If you are going to build for posterity, posterity must pay the interest. If you are going to build lighthouses and fog alarms for posterity then posterity should be allowed to contribute by paying the interest. We will make the improvements, carry out the building operations and pay the interest and upkeep during our lives while posterity bears the interest and cost of upkeep in their turn; but to say that we should bear the burden of building as well, is absurd. It was not done for us. We are bearing the interest today that was borrowed 70 years ago. It was in 1834 that the first loan bill was introduced into this legislation to build the lighthouse at Cape Spear. We bear the interest on that debt today and rightly so. We have the light today. The light was built just as much for us to-day as it was for the fishermen who plied their trade 70 years ago. And this system has gone on ever since. The hon. gentleman then went on to refer to the number of loan bills passed. Why, sir, does he not know that during the late administration not alone did they borrow but they nearly actually averaged two loan bills a year. And they were not loan bills for developing purposes either. In 1902, the year after the administration took office there was one loan act. In 1903 and 1904 there were two. In 1905 one; 1906 two, and so on borrowing money every year. There is nothing improper or out of the way in getting this loan. One would think from the objections raised to it that it had never been done before. The hon. member for Twillingate, Mr. Clift, asked the question, what prospect was there of our getting the money. Well he ought to know the prospects as well as any of us. He has been connected with the financial operations of the Colony and he ought to know that the prospects are as good as they ever were. Mr. Kent then remarked on how heavily taxed we were. Every family paying nearly 1/3 of their income. We are not paying any more to-day than we were paying in 1908. When his administration came into power in 1908 the estimate of taxation was about $13 per head. We have about 240,000 people to-day and the estimate is about the same. It does not follow that because we are getting a larger revenue that we are also paying larger taxes per capita. The hon. member then went on to point out that all our prosperity was the result of our borrowed moneys. In other words, that when this labour is over, when the railway work is finished everything is going to fall flat. We have had the same argument here for the past 25 years. What are we going to do with the men on the railway? It has been asked over and over again until it has become nauseating. What are we going to do with these 3,000 men? This was asked when we were building the railway to Port aux Basques and when railway operations were in full swing. Between 1890 and 1900 all this work was under way. Every mile to Port aux Basques was built between 1890 and 1900. The last mile was finished in 1897. During that ten years the revenue only increased $41,000, notwithstanding the expenditure of $7,000,000 in building the railroad. In the next ten years when there was not a mile being built, when there was no Harmsworth and no A. E. Reed what happened? Between 1900 and 1910 there was an average increase of $123,000 per year. Now, sir, what can be more convincing than that? In the years when not a solitary mile of railway was built, between 1900 and 1908 the increase
of revenue averaged $123,000 per year while in the previous years when all the railway was being built and all the money spent the increase only averaged $40,000 and now in the last three years we have had a yearly increase of over $200,000. And then we are told that our prosperity is due to a few miles of railway we are building. What nonsense! But what does it mean? It means that the men who are working on the railway for six months of the year, if not working there, would be working elsewhere in the Colony and so there is hardly any increase due to the working on the railway. Now if a thousand men were imported, or if three thousand men were imported to the Colony, there might be something in the argument, because they would then be actual additional earning and spending factors in the community. But our prosperity is not the result of that at all and so there is nothing in it.

I should further, Mr. Chairman, like to reply to the statement made in relation to our imports and exports but that was so fully and completely replied to by the Hon. Minister of Finance that there is nothing left for me to say. I merely wish to repeat what I said on the spur of the moment the other evening that if the hon. member will look at the figures for the last 50 years in England he will find that the imports were far ahead of the exports, something like £100,000,000, while this year the excess was £230,000,000. In other words the exports were £400,000,000 while the imports were over £600,000,000 and you will notice, sir, these figures mean pounds sterling. The Finance Minister quoted the figures for Canada. Looking at these you will find that for the past 40 years there has been a large increase in the imports over the exports. In 1869 the total imports into Canada were $74,000,000 and the exports $73,000,000. Now what has happened since then. They have been practically side by side up to the past few years. But take the year 1868. The total exports were $60,000,000 and imports $70,000,000 or a difference of $10,000,000. Last year 1911, exports were $297,000,000, i.e. exports of fruit, wheat, grain, fish and everything else, while their total imports were $472,000,000. An increase of from $10,000,000 in 1868 to $200,000,000 in 1911. And Canada today is probably the first country in the world from the standpoint of progress and prosperity. Yet, sir, according to my learned friend's argument Canada should be steering a direct course for the rocks.

My learned friend forgets that, in making up his argument, if you are going to compare imports and exports you are merely looking at the trade of the country from the standpoint of duties collected, leaving out of your consideration the earning powers of the people of the country, because, as I said the other evening, it is quite conceivable that the country should be self contained, importing or exporting nothing or on the other hand raising nothing and importing everything. Suppose a country like England were entirely self supporting, filled up with financial magnates, drawing their incomes from abroad, the effect would be that these people would be living not out of anything which the country produced, but out of an income independent of the country, with nothing raised and everything imported, so that in making up this balance of trade we must take into account the purchasing power of the people and the means of getting their income. Now what are we raising here. The Receiver General has said that there are $13,000,000 invested in Debentures and in the Savings Bank which carries interest. Does not this mean $500,000 a year of income? Further, sir, an important
point which my learned friend has entirely lost sight of is the fact that the value of our exports is only the value on board and is not the price they will bring at the port of destination or sale. I do not know, Mr. Chairman, what is the object of bringing forward this argument. I cannot see what possible meaning it can have or what can be learnt from it. We are told that the balance of trade is against us by $3,000,000. In other words the imports and exports should be equal. Then I should like to know who is going to pay the bill? Who paid for that $3,000,000 of imports. As to the matter in hand, I do not think there is any need for me to labour this question of the necessity for lighthouses, fog alarms and telephone communication. For if any argument is wanted in favour of lighthouses and fog alarms I think the statement of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries that 13 of our lighthouses round the Island were built and equipped and are being operated by Canada, would be sufficient justification, if any were needed.

MR. KENT.—Mr. Chairman, I do not intend to delay the Committee any longer in reply, but there is just one matter that I ought to deal with. Nothing, of course, has been shown by any member who has spoken on the Government side to justify or excuse the providing of these services other than out of current revenue. I fully dealt with that question this afternoon, and do not intend to deal with it again. But I would just like to refer to the matter of trade conditions to which the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance have referred. The conditions which I pointed out in connection with trade were such, as I then stated, as should make those concerned with the business affairs of the country pause and think, and I still think so, notwithstanding the position put by the Minister of Finance. I pointed out further that I desired to place before the Committee and the country a matter that I considered important, and I think that if those figures struck me in the light in which I stated, that I should be lacking in my duty in not coming in here and stating them. I do not think, Mr. Chairman, that the parallel between England or Canada is at all in point when considering the position in Newfoundland. Canada is a country that is building up large industries from the Atlantic to the Pacific every year, for which enormous quantities of goods are imported on borrowed money. These imports are represented by lasting industries, which are permanent assets to the country. As in the case of Canada, so in the case of England. England is a manufacturing country, importing large quantities of raw material and exporting manufactured goods. There is no parallel. In this country, within the last few years with which I am dealing, what has been imported for permanent industries except the imports for construction of Grand Falls and Bishop's Falls. If we put away altogether the imports of the Grand Falls and Bishop's Falls Companies, what do we find? First, let us take the imports of these two companies under two heads: those admitted free of duty, those subject to duty. In 1909-10 the imports free of duty were valued at $616,000, and in 1910-11, $178,000. Of the value of imported goods of a dutiable character, I have no figures. The returns do not give any figures, but I think I can give a fairly accurate valuation. We can get a fair estimate by reference to the amount of duties collected. In 1909-10 the duties collected from these concerns was $104,000. Well, if we admit that these figures bear the same proportion in value to the dutiable goods imported
by these companies, as the duties bear to dutiable goods in the Customs revenue, which, I think, is a fair assumption, the imports of dutiable goods would amount to 4 2-3 the amount of revenue collected, making the dutiable goods on these figures about $485,000 for the fiscal year 1909-10. Taking the same proportion for 1010-11, the duties collected from these concerns amounted to $127,000, and the imports of dutiable goods would be about $592,000 for that year. That would give a total of goods imported free by these concerns, $795,203, and of goods of dutiable character, $1,087,976; making in all, $1,883,187. Now, the exports from the same source in 1909-10 were $421,319, and in 1910-11, $1,194,747. These figures go to show that, excluding the A.N.D. Company and the A. E. Reed Company, we have the same condition existing as I pointed out, and even taking away the amount imported of railway material for construction work under the contract, which amounted, according to the Minister of Finance, to $571,000, we still have the same adverse balance of trade. If we take away the figures of the only two permanent industries established here, you still have an adverse balance of ordinary trade. The adverse balance independent of the Harmsworths and the A. E. Reed Company, in 1909-10, was $303,894, and in 1910-11 $1,831,847; or for the two years, $2,135,741. I give these figures as they struck me as showing a condition of affairs which should make us pause and consider. The Minister of Marine and Fisheries (I am sorry he is not here now) in his remarks referred to what had been done during the administration which preceded the present one, and he assumed that I had been a member of that administration during the 8 years it was in power. Well, Sir, unfortunately, I was only a member of it for a very short time. I took the position vacated by the Hon. Prime Minister, but I only held it 13 months, so that whatever was done during the earlier period of the administration I am afraid the present learned leader of the Government and the Minister of Finance and Customs must bear their share of the responsibility. However, with regard to the Hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries, one thing his remarks showed, unfortunately for this Committee, that he was in the same position as other members of the Committee, lacking any definite information. He was evidently not consulted in the matter. All he seemed to know was that we were going to vote $100,000 for lighthouses and fog alarms and $150,000 for telephones, and he knew nothing further. Now, Sir, the Prime Minister stated he had a detailed report by experts made to the Government Engineer upon this matter. Perhaps it would not be fair to ask that that report be tabled in toto, but I think that sufficient information could be given from that Report to allow this Committee to judge whether they were voting on the matter intelligently or not. I asked for a statement which I think a Minister in power all these years should be able to give, a statement of the conditions along the coast and what facilities there existed in the way of lighthouses and fog alarms and where it would be necessary to place these fog alarms, etc. We are asked to vote this sum of money, and I think it is only due to the Committee to give some idea where these services will be installed, how this $100,000 is to be spent, and why it is voted over and above the ordinary revenue. The hon. member for Harbour Main, Mr. Murphy, referred to the cost of the upkeep. That, of course, is an item that must be taken into account, but the cost of the upkeep of these lighthouses and fog alarms would be much less if we
did not provide a lasting interest charge. If a man is going to build a house, he will, if possible, build it without borrowing money. The Hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries referred to the District which I represent. He said that my criticisms arose from the fact that I want no lighthouses in my district. But I do. There is a most important site in my district upon which a lighthouse should be built; I mean on Bell Island. This matter I have already brought to the attention of the House. The amount of shipping and trade done at Bell Island is second to none in the Island. And it is on this point that I take exception that the Government has given us no information. If they would only generally indicate what is their intention, where they intend to build, in what districts, and roughly estimate what they consider is required for these purposes, then I think the Committee would at least have no fault to find in that respect. For years back there have been large public works of this kind built from current revenue. During the years between 1903 and 1908 there was a sum of $500,000 taken from the revenue by the administration that went out of power in 1909, out of which a number of lighthouses, fog alarms and other facilities were erected. more than had ever been done in the previous history of the Colony. During that administration, there were thirty-six lighthouses erected around the Colony, and seven fog alarms. When it went out of office there were others under construction, and including these there were fifty-two in all. That, Sir, exceeded all the lighthouses that had been built by all the previous administrations in the history of the Colony. Of course, these were largely, if not entirely, built out of revenues without incurring debts. Now, you have large revenues, revenues which exceed those of the former administration. There is over three-quarters of a million increase in revenue, comparing the current year with the year 1908-9, and still you cannot afford to build any lighthouses to the extent of one hundred thousand dollars. Another matter which was referred to was the number of lighthouses that had been built on the coast by the Dominion of Canada. Well, I am not familiar with the history of these lighthouses, but as the matter strikes me at the present time, I fail to see why the Dominion of Canada should not help in their erection; and, further, I think that the Empire should help in the building of these main lighthouses which are beacon lights for the traffic of the Atlantic. I fail to see why a small Colony like Newfoundland should be burdened with the erection and maintenance of these safeguards of traffic between two Continents. I think it not unreasonable that some contribution should be made to these lighthouses by those who participate in their benefit. There is no reason why Canada, whose trade benefits by these lighthouses, should not build or help to build them. There is no reason why the United Kingdom should not help to build and maintain them. They are Imperial aids, and help the whole trade of the Empire, and it is not unreasonable that the Dominion of Canada should help in their construction. I do not know, Mr. Chairman, that anything further has been said that I need dwell upon. Of course, as I said in my opening remarks this evening, as far as these lighthouses are concerned they are necessary, and I think there is no question at all about the advisability of constructing them. The only difference that exists between the members of the Government and myself, is as to the manner in which it should be done.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—I do not think for
one moment that the argument put forward within the last few minutes by the member for St. John's East was at all sound. He made a statement in this House the other evening that our imports exceeded our exports by two million dollars, and argued from that that the financial position of the Colony was unsound. Now he tries to evade that position, because it has been shown by several members of this House that Canada and England were in the same position in proportion. I drew to his attention this evening some figures which he forgot when he made his statement the other day. He forgot to add the earning powers of the Colony to the exports; and if you add these to the exports it would show a balance in favour of the Colony to the extent of some ten or fifteen million dollars. Now, he claims the reason that Canada showed imports over exports to the extent of fifty or seventy-five per cent., was that Canada was developing so many new industries. That position is not sound.

In my opinion he has not shown to this Committee that the statement he made the other day in the House was a sound statement, and in backing up his argument this evening, he has not produced one tithe of evidence in favour of that argument. He has not shown that any Colony or nation in the world is in the same position that he would like us to believe Newfoundland is in. Does he deny that Canada is prosperous to-day? If Canada is prosperous with her imports ahead of her exports, there is no reason why Newfoundland should not be in the same position in proportion. Then I drew to his attention that the free imports into Newfoundland for the past year were over five million dollars, and most of that—in fact all of that on capital account—and that that five million should not be taken into consideration. Still he tries by having the last say here this evening to put it out to the country through the Reporters' Box that his statement is sound, and that the country should be alarmed because the exports are not up to the imports.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred; and had passed certain resolutions; and recommended that a Bill be introduced to give effect to the same.

On motion, this Report was received and adopted; the Bill—"An Act to provide for the raising by the sale of Debenture Bonds of a sum of money for the Public Service of the Colony"—was read a first time; and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

SUPPLY.

Pursuant to order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on Supply.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Parsons resumed the Chair of Committee.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred; had passed certain Resolutions.

On motion, this Report was received and adopted.

WAYS AND MEANS.

Pursuant to Order, and on motion of 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 considered the matter to them referred; had passed certain resolutions without amendment; and recommended the introduc-
tion of a Bill to give effect thereto.

On motion, it was ordered that this Report be received and adopted, and that leave be granted for the introduction of this Bill.

Whereupon the Bill entitled "An Act further to amend 'The Revenue Act, 1905,'" was introduced and read a first time; and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

COPYRIGHT BILL.

Pursuant to Order, and on motion of the Hon. Minister of Justice, the Bill "An Act to amend the law relating to Copyright," was read a third time and passed; and it was ordered that it be engrossed as above, and that it be sent to the Legislative Council with a message requesting the concurrence of that body in its provisions.

RAILWAY LOAN BILL.

Pursuant to Order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the Bill "An Act to provide for the raising of a sum of money by loan for the extension of the Railway System of the Colony."

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 had passed the Bill without amendment.

On motion, this Report was received and adopted; and it was ordered that the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

APPROPRIATION OF LANDS BILL.

Pursuant to Order, and on motion of Hon. Minister of Justice, the Bill, "An Act to provide for the appropriation of lands required for public purposes," was read a second time; and ordered to be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on to-morrow.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Friday, March 29th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

FRIDAY, March 29 1912.

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

Hon. Colonial Secretary laid on the table of the House Report of Public Schools of Newfoundland under Methodist Boards for the year ending December 31st, 1911.

MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.—I beg, Mr. Speaker, to lay upon the table of the House, statement of the Observation Hospital.

PETITIONS.

MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.—I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of the district of Harbour Main, signed by nearly every resident of Holyrood, Harbour Main, Avondale, Conception Harbour and Colliers, praying that a new road be constructed from Holyrood to Avondale. The road asked for would mean the shortening of the main line of road from Holyrood to Conception
Harbour by about five miles, so that it therefore becomes a necessary road. It seems that it was surveyed some years ago, but nothing further was done, and the people now think that it is our duty to endeavour to build this road, if possible, out of the money available, and they pray that the House may give this petition its most serious consideration. It is the policy of the Government to endeavour to meet the demands of all petitioners in that respect, and I believe that this will be one of the matters that the Government will take up. A road is for the general benefit of the public, and this one more especially will be a great convenience to people travelling around Conception Bay. If we can make the main line shorter by five miles by opening up this road, then I think that it is the duty of the House to take this matter into consideration. It is the privilege of the representatives to do the needful in the matter, and we will do our very best to meet the wishes of the petitioners in this respect.

MR. MURPHY.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to support the prayer of the petition. There is no doubt whatever as to the necessity for the road. It will be a very great benefit to the people in that vicinity, and I believe the petition will receive the consideration it deserves.

HON. MIN. AGR. AND MINES.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Salvage, on the subject of a road.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Hodge's Cove, Long Beach and Little Heart's Ease, District of Trinity, praying that an allocation of $500 may be made for the construction of a new bridge across Hodge's Cove Pond. Petitioners state that the old bridge is quite beyond repair, and it is absolutely essential that a new bridge be constructed this year. I also ask leave to present a petition from the residents of Hodge's Cove, on the subject of a well. Petitioners state that, owing to the difficulty of obtaining good drinking water, the settlement has suffered from time to time by outbreaks of fever, and they pray that a new well for the settlement be constructed at an early date. I also present a petition from William Smith and other residents of Apsey Brook, Smith Sound, asking for a special grant to be expended on the road between Apsey Brook and Apsen Cove. The condition of the road is mentioned in the petition, and it is pointed out that it will be necessary to devote a portion of the grant to the repairs of a bridge near Apsey Brook. I desire to support the foregoing petitions, and I would ask that they be received and referred to the Department of Public Works.

MR. CLIFT.—I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Rattling Brook on the subject of general elections; also a petition from the same petitioners on the subject of district requirements. I would ask that these petitions be received and referred to the Departments to which they relate.

MR. CLAPP.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition signed by two hundred people from Pistolet Bay to St. John's Bay. The petition is of such great importance to these people that I would ask the Clerk to read it. (Clerk read the petition). This petition deals with three important points in the alteration of the law. The first is by allowing the use of seines in the prosecution of the herring fishery on that part of the coast from Pistolet to St. John Bay. The request of the petitioners is a very modest one, for they point out that the water is shallow and the current through the Straits of Belle Isle very strong, consequently it is im-
possible to set out the ordinary herring net without great fear of its destruction. They therefore ask to be allowed to use the ordinary seine. In connection with the second request of the petitioners as to the extension of the period during which they can engage in the seal fishery, I may say the close time for the prosecution by steamers or vessels is from May 31st, but the seals do not appear on that coast until about that time, and therefore they ask that the time be extended until the middle of June. The most important is the third, which is that there will be an amendment made to the Deer Law. I had occasion in 1907 to petition His Excellency the Governor asking for a remission of the fines in connection with ten fishermen who had been caribou shooting during the close season at Port Saunders. Several times during the open season these men travelled very many miles, but failed to find any deer, and through dire want travelled during the close season some thirty miles inland and shot several deer for themselves and families. These men had done badly at the fishery, and unfortunately their families were in a destitute condition. Information was laid against the men, and they were fined by Magistrate Duder $10 each and costs. With your permission, Mr. Speaker, I shall read one or two extracts from the evidence of these men, showing their condition at the time they shot the deer. This evidence is taken before Mr. Goff, J.P., and I think it goes to show that the Magistrate gave a very harsh judgment against the men, when it is considered that by the Act he had the power of using his discretion in the matter in the case of settlers in need of animal food.

To His Excellency Sir William MacGregor, M.D., K.C.M.G., Governor of Newfoundland:
The petition of Joseph Humbolt humbly sheweth that in August last your petitioner was fined ten dollars ($10.00) and costs for hunting caribou in the close season in spring.

That at the time he committed the offence he had not sufficient food to enable him to satisfactorily perform the hard work at which he was engaged, as he had no butter, no fish, of any kind and only one or two pounds of salt pork. He had no money to buy food and was already in debt.

That he travelled about thirty miles from home to get the deer which fell to his share and a part of this he hauled on the snow without any sled, for about five miles, and brought same more of it on his back for about three miles.

That during the open season he hunted caribou several times without success.

That all of the venison which fell to his lot was used by himself and family.

That your petitioner heard complicating reports as to the legality of a poor settler's killing a deer and understood from Inspector O'Reilly that no magistrate would fine a man in impoverished circumstances for killing a deer in the close season.

And your petitioner herefore prays that the fine may be remitted, and as in duty bound will ever pray.

(Sgd.) JOSEPH RUMBOLT.
Port Saunders, April 25th, 1907.
To His Excellency Sir William MacGregor, M.D., K.C.M.G., Governor of Newfoundland:
The petition of John Gould humbly sheweth that in August last your petitioner was fined ten dollars ($10.00) and costs for hunting caribou during the close season in spring.

That in order to secure a supply of fresh animal food he travelled in the country five times with no success.

That your petitioner and all his
family had to work hard and felt keenly the need of flesh meat at the
time he committed the offence, as they had no butter, no vegetables ex-
cept potatoes and no fish of any kind, and up to the time referred to had
not tasted fresh animal food for several weeks.
That their impoverished condition intensified their craving for flesh meat
of which one of their number was badly in need, being afflicted with
scurvy.
That all of the venison which fell to his share was consumed by his own
family except a small portion which he gave to a poor woman in delicate
health who was greatly distressed in circumstances and who at the time
was living on the charity of neighbours.
And your petitioner humbly prays that the fine may be remitted, and as
in duty bound will ever pray.

his

JOHN x CAINES.

mark.

Port Saunders, April 27th, 1907.
To His Excellency Sir William Mac-
Gregor, M.D., K.C.M.G., Governor
of Newfoundland:
The petition of John Lavers humbly sheweth that in September last your
petitioner was fined ten dollars ($10.00) and costs for hunting caribou
during the close season in the spring.
That as judgment by default was entered against him owing to his ab­
sence from home, he had no oppor­
tunity of placing the following facts
before the magistrate.
Your petitioner was head of a fam­
ily of six, his wife was in delicate
health and craved for fresh animal
food which they had not tasted for two
months or more.
They had no vegetables except
potatoes and no fish of any kind.
He hunted caribou three times dur­
ing the open season without success.
That the quarter of venison which
fell to his share was entirely used by
himself and family.
That those of his family who were
capable had to work hard and felt
keenly the need of fresh flesh meat
which could not be bought on the
cost.
And your petitioner prays that the
fine may be remitted, and as in duty
bound your petitioner will ever pray.

his

JOHN x LAVERS.

mark.

Port Saunders, April 23rd, 1907.
To His Excellency Sir William Mac­
Gregor, M.D., K.C.M.G., Governor
of Newfoundland.
The Petition of John Hatchell humbly sheweth that in September last your petitioner was fined ten dollars ($10.00) and costs for killing caribou during the close season in spring. That as judgment by default was entered against him owing to his absence from home, he had no opportunity of stating the following facts in extenuation of his offence.

The Petitioner's mother who was 72 years of age, was ailing occasionally, and none of the family could keep up strength on a diet of bread and tea, with only an occasional meal of salt flesh meat.

They had no butter, no vegetables no fish, and not enough of any kind of food except flour to last till the traders came.

A part of the venison which fell to his share he carried on his back for about twenty miles, and his family's need of animal food was very great.

The Petitioner was in debt, and could not afford to buy a sufficient stock of provisions in the fall to last until the traders came.

His family had not tasted fresh animal food for about two months before he got the venison for which he was convicted.

He understood that when a poor settler's necessity was urgent he could lawfully kill a deer at any time.

The venison which fell to his share was entirely used by himself and his family.

And your petitioner humbly prays that the fine may be remitted. And as in duty bound will ever pray.

his

JOHN x HATCHELL,
mark
Port Saunders, April 23, 1907.

These poor fellows had to pay the fine with the help of outsiders. This is not the first time that Mr. Duder lacked discretion in trying such cases on the coast. The petitioners now ask that the law be altered. The law at the present time is that caribou can be killed from 20th of October and closes on January 31st, and they ask that the time be extended six weeks from that date. The position of these fishermen on that coast (that part of St. Barbe) is far different to Fortune Bay or Burgeo. The caribou begin to go south in October, except a few that may be sheltered in some parts of that country, but these are exceedingly few compared with the main herd. The caribou begin to come north again about the middle of April, so I do not think the Government would cause injury to the deer if the time was extended for the period asked for. The district that will be affected will be that between Pistolet Bay and Bay St. John. This petition is one which took a good deal of time to get up, for it takes in one hundred and twenty miles or more along the coast line, and I am sure that there is not a man who has signed the petition who is not in earnest about it. I have been down the coast myself, and the one cry that I have heard is give us some fresh meat for ourselves and families during the long winter months. Change the Deer Law. These people have not three or four head of cattle as some people in other parts of the Island enjoy, and they depend on the caribou for their winter supply of meat. It isn't fishermen who destroy the deer, but the sportsmen from abroad. We have seen it in the past. I have heard a lot this session about tuberculosis and sanitaria, but our first care to prevent disease should be to feed our people, to bring up healthy children. In a climate such as ours, which is in some parts of the year almost Arctic (I refer now to St. Barbe District), it is absolutely necessary to give the people a good supply of animal food if it can be obtained, and if fifteen hundred people on that
coast can receive that animal food by the killing of caribou without in any way exterminating that animal, or without unnecessary slaughter, then the Government ought to allow the people of St. Barbe to kill for their own consumption. If they are in earnest in their endeavour to stamp out tuberculosis, I think they should amend the law in this district as the petitioners have requested, and allow them to secure fresh meat for themselves and their families in such a severe climate where fresh meat is a primary essential to that good, vigorous blood which is the life and stability of the race.

What would the Prime Minister or myself do if we were placed in the same position as those fishermen who were fined by Magistrate Duder? What would we do if the deer came along and we had children who were starving for want of food? Would we look twice at the law before we went out and procured the necessary meat to ward off that starvation which was staring ourselves and families in the face? Isn't the deer sent there by Providence for these men to make use of them? I submit that the evidence which I have read shows a great lack of discretion on the part of the magistrate in fining these people. Now, Sir, I am not going to detain the House, but I would ask that the petition receive the serious consideration of the Government. No injury can possibly result from killing deer on this part of the country during the extra period that the petitioners have asked for. I trust the Government will give the matters the attention which they deserve, and I would ask that the petition be referred to the Marine and Fisheries Department.

HON. MR. EMERSON—I would like to say one or two words in reference to the petition and particularly with regard to that portion of it which getting deer in the winter time. Unfortunately the deer in this country divide themselves into two herds, the northern herd which does not come south and the southern herd, by far the larger of the two, which comes down to the southern fringe of our coast and in winter are to be found near the sea. In 1904 a number of people in Burgeo were prosecuted for killing a few animals and the people of that district were very sore about it because they looked upon the killing of deer as perfectly legal and legitimate, for their own use. They did not kill the deer to sell, but for their own use, for the practice of selling venison has gone out almost entirely; I remember in years gone by having seen hundreds of carcases of venison landed from the coastal steamer and sent to the Auctioneer, where it was sold at a very low figure, in fact, at a price that brought no profit to the man who shot the animals or to anybody else. Particularly was this the case when the weather was mild for then the venison was allowed to go at almost any price. The people along that coast are to-day unanimous in their opinion that hardship is inflicted upon them by the present law which does not allow them to kill deer when they are available and they ask, therefore, that the season for killing should be extended to the middle of March, so that they may be able to get some of this venison for food. At the present time it works out in this way. During the fall the people of the districts of Burgeo and La Poile and Fortune Bay are engaged in the fishery and they have no time to go after venison and the deer do not come along until the end of January, at which time the close season begins. They are thus prevented from killing any of the animals. I have very strong opinions on this matter and I
deals with the Deer Law.

Ever since I have been a member of this House and during the time that I represented Burgeo, I kept hammering away at the Government with which I was associated to alter the law in such a way as to give the people of the South coast a chance to believe our fishermen fully appreciate the value of our deer as an asset to the country. I would go so far as to say that if the season was open all the year round there would be no destruction of the herd by our fishermen and there would be no evil consequences to the herd. The calling of our fishermen and their engagements and pursuits would leave little time for the killing of caribou. The only danger of exterminating these animals comes from the sale of venison on a large scale as in former years, and if that is done away with and people are allowed to kill caribou for their own use at any time in the year, there need be little fear that the herd will be diminished to any appreciable extent. If the magistrates and Justices of the Peace of the colony used a little common sense in dealing with alleged infractions of the deer law, and a little more discretion, we would not hear such a lot of exaggerations about the indiscriminate slaughter of Caribou by our fishermen. If they took into consideration the 37th section of the Act of 1902 which allows the magistrate to use his own discretion when deer are killed by poor people for food, and which was put in the Act no doubt to take the place of the "poor settlers clause," under the former law, they would not inflict punishment on those who killed a deer to provide food for himself and his family. The magistrates must know what great hardships are endured by our people and especially the fishermen by the present law. As the representative of the people of Fortune Bay, I know the sentiments of my constituents, as to the Deer Law and, as I have said before, when any measure comes before me having for its object the extension of the time for the killing of deer and allowing the people of the district to have venison in their possession, I shall vote for it. The law is also a hardship on the people of the district of Burgeo and LaPoile, but it does not affect other parts of the country as much as it does these two districts. I know that people of the other districts will say that it is all very well for the district of Burgeo and Fortune Bay to advocate the killing of deer, but if the time is extended what will be the result? It will mean, they say, that the herd will be cut up and very few will be alive to return north. This is the argument that I was met with by all the representatives of the Bond Government, when I endeavoured to have the time extended, and I understand that hon. members representing northern districts hold the same views to-day. It sounds reasonable enough but if you can make a law regulating the lobster and the herring fisheries in the different parts of the island, why cannot the same be done in connection with the Deer Law. I would ask the hon. member the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to try and get the Game Board to take the matter up, and see if some means cannot be devised whereby the people of the districts interested will be allowed to kill deer for their own personal use, during the months of February and March. I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of this petition.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.— I would like to say a word in sympathy with the petition presented by the hon. member for St. Barbe. The petition is a well written one, contains
much material and to a certain extent the petitioners make out a fairly strong case. As regards the herring fishery, I am not of course as competent to speak on the matter as other members of the House, but if it is true that the use of seines along that coast does not cause any permanent injury to the fishery, I am sure the matter will receive careful consideration by the Fishery Board. As to the catching of seals, I may say that there never was any law against the taking of seals from the land, and the people on the coast have the right to take them at any time. The law applies to steamers only, and consequently on this matter my hon. friend has only to inform his constituents of that effect and this difficulty will disappear.

Now, regarding the Deer Law. As the hon. member of Fortune Bay has pointed out, the law at the present time is a little different to what it was. Under the old law any poor settler, who was a resident of the colony, had a right to kill a deer to provide himself with food, but sometimes this right was abused and in 1902 the law was amended. That Act of 1902 has been in force ever since and under section 37 of it a magistrate is allowed much discretion, for if he is convinced that the party who kills caribou out of season does so because he is in need of food he can look upon that as a sufficient answer to the charge and allow him to go free. The whole matter is one which might be considered by the Game Board for after all the chief object of the Act is to preserve the caribou, as they are a national asset and attract hundreds of tourists, every year. However, we should not preserve them for tourists at the cost of great deprivation to our own people. The great danger, as has been pointed out, arises from the selling of venison, for I have seen carcases piled many feet high in the auction marts of the city. To-day venison cannot be bought. This has caused some inconvenience to those who used to buy it at a cheap price for food, but it has meant that the valuable animal has been preserved. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition.

MR. CLAPP—I may say that if the magistrate at Port Saunders had shown any discretion when these people were brought before him, the people of the coast would not have felt so badly about it. Their condition was a serious one for they had nothing in their homes, and had not a cent with which to buy food, so that they were in every way entitled to be treated with leniency by the magistrate.

QUESTIONS.

MR. EARLE asked the Minister of Public Works to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the names of those supplying the feed for the horses in the Fire and Police Departments from April 1st, 1911, to date; whether the same is supplied under contract, and at what rate the same is paid for, and whether Public Tender was called for the same.

MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.—In reply, I beg to say that the statement is in course of preparation.

MR. EARLE asked the Minister of Marine and Fisheries for a statement showing the action taken by the Government or by his Department in connection with the American fishing vessel "Arathusa," seized in the month of July last, and the other American vessel seized about the same time, also showing whether any forfeiture of the vessel's tackle or her fishing gear and appliances, boats, dories or other property was enforced. If so, to place upon the table an inventory of the property so forfeited and to state
whether the property so forfeited was sold, and whether it was sold by auction or private sale. In either case stating, in detail, the names of the parties, the amount agreed to be paid and amount paid and the amounts unpaid, if any, in each case. If any of the said property has not been sold, why has it not been sold and where it now is.

HON. MINISTER MARINE AND FISHERIES—In reply I beg to say that in the case of the “Arethusa,” the sale of seized dories etc., realised $72.70, which with a fine of $850 paid by the vessel, was paid into the Treasury. Another schooner, the Harmony, was fined $800 for a breach of the Fishery laws, and $400 for a breach of Customs laws, both fines being paid.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines to lay on the table of the House copy of the report of the Agricultural Society established at Harbor Main for the year 1911, also a copy of all correspondence between his Department and any of the officers or late officers of that society; also a statement showing in detail, the expenditures made by that society during the said year, with names of parties and purposes of each payment; also details of the live stock and other agricultural grants in kind made to that society in the year 1911, with names of parties who received same from the Society.

HON. MIN. AGRICULTURE AND MINES—The statement asked for is in course of preparation, and will be tabled to-morrow.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs to lay on the table of the House a statement of Fines and Forfeitures received by the Government from January 1st, 1911, to date, and of the appropriation thereof.

HON. MIN. FINANCE AND CUS-
MR. KENT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a statement, in detail, giving the names of such persons as are permitted to practise telegraphy in the Postal Office at Grate's Cove. If such persons were sworn to secrecy; if so, of the Public Service for the financial year ending June 30th, 1913, the sum of $2,143,263.94 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony.

RESOLVED: That notwithstanding anything in the law to the contrary, it shall be lawful for the Governor-in-Council, in case of the districts or neighbourhoods having local Boards or Councils, to authorize the payment at any time after the 30th, day of June, 1912, to such local boards or councils of all the monies voted in respect of such districts or neighbourhoods, for public charities and for roads, bridges, and ferries, in Schedule B., and all such monies when paid them aforesaid may be expended by such boards or councils for such local needs and requirements as the boards or councils may determine.

RESOLVED: The monies hereby appropriated shall be paid by the Hon. 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 these Resolutions.

Ordered: That this report be received and adopted; and that leave be granted for the introduction of the said Bill.

Whereupon the Bill entitled "An Act for the granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for defraying certain expenses of the Public Service for the Financial years ending respectively, the 30th day of June, 1912, and the 30th day of June, 1913, and for other purposes relating to the Public Service," was introduced and read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

Railway Loan Bill.

Pursuant to order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs the Bill "An Act to provide for raising of a sum of money by loan for the extension of the Railway System 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.

Pharmacy Bill.

Pursuant to Order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Justice the Bill "An Act to amend the Act 4 Edward VII., Cap. 8, entitled "An Act respecting Banks," 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.

Pursuant to Order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Justice the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the Bill "An Act to provide for the appropriation of lands required for Public Purposes."

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 had passed the Bill without amendment.

On motion this report was received and adopted; and it was ordered that
this Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

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

REVENUE BILL.

Pursuant to Order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs the Bill "An Act further to amend "The Revenue Act 1903," was read a second time; and it was ordered that it be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on to-morrow.

Mr. Kent gave notice of Question.

Mr. Clift gave notice of Question.

The remaining Orders of the Day were deferred.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until Monday next, April 1st., at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

MONDAY, April 1.

The House met at 3 of the clock in the afternoon, pursuant to adjournment.

PETITIONS.

MR. SEYMOUR.—I beg leave to present a petition from Bishop March, Canon Noel and other residents of Hr. Grace asking for extension of the sewerage system there from Cochrane St. east. Quite a number of residents on Water St. have no sewerage connection, and some arrangements ought to be made whereby they can obtain it, as it is badly needed. The case with many is that they cannot get water in, because they cannot get it out again. I can see no reason why the prayer of the petition should not be granted, and I have much pleasure in supporting it.

MR. PARSONS.—I have much pleasure in supporting the petition. I also ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Bryant's Cove, on the subject of telephone connection. I do not wish to detain the House, but I would like to state some facts in connection with the telephone system in the district. In 1907 or 1908 we petitioned to the House for a telephone for the South Side and Carbonear, and we were told to put in a report. We did so, but it was not accepted, for it was estimated that it would cost $1,400 to put it there. From that time the only thing that we got were a few selections from political gramophones until the present administration came into power, when we took up the matter again and finally, after the matter was referred to my hon. friend, Mr. Murphy, President of the Electrical Company at Carbonear, we secured two 'phones, one at Riverhead and one on the Southside at $40 each. We got the whole thing for that amount, and Mr. Murphy said the other day that the Government had the best of the bargain. However, I believe that as a result, there are to-day about thirty private telephones now in use, and more are being added. I merely state this to show what can be done. The people of Bryant's Cove ask for extension to their place, which is two and a half miles from the Southside. They also ask for some mile posts to guide people towards that settlement. Two men went astray on their way there this winter, and if the Government can see its way clear to have the posts put there, it will be a great convenience to the people of the place, as well as to those living in the neighbouring settlements.

MR. SEYMOUR.—I have much pleasure in supporting the petition presented by my hon. colleague. The telephone is a great benefit to the
people when they wish to call a doctor or clergyman, and in other ways. I trust the Government will see its way clear to grant the request of the petitioners.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—I ask leave to present a petition from Ireland’s Eye, in the district of Trinity, on the subject of Telegraph extension. The petitioners are very desirous of having Ireland’s Eye connected with the Government telegraph system, and they ask that the telegraph wires be extended from Britannia Cove to Thoroughfare, a distance of ten miles, and that a cable be laid between Thoroughfare and Ireland’s Eye, a distance of about one mile. It is pointed out in the petition that during the winter months Ireland’s Eye has practically no connection with the outside world, and that a telegraph office would consequently be a great boon to the people. I also ask leave to present a petition from Hodge’s Cove, Long Beach and St. Jones Within, in the South West Arm of Random, District of Trinity, praying that Hodge’s Cove may be made a port of call for the S. S. Ethie. At present the steamer calls only at Fox Harbour, at the entrance to the South West Arm, and petitioners point out the convenience it would be to the residents of the Arm if one or more ports of call were added. I beg to support the foregoing petitions, and with regard to the latter would say that I hope that, when the schedule for the S. S. Ethie is revised, it will be possible to arrange for the steamer to call, not only at Hodge’s Cove, but also at Northern Bight. I would ask that the petitions be received and referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary, in order that they may receive consideration at the hands of the Executive Government.

HON. MIN. AGR. AND MINES.—I beg to lay on the table of the House reply to Mr. Clift’s question of March 27th.

Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister laid on the table of the House copies of correspondence between the Prime Minister and Sir Courtenay Ilbert, Clerk of British House of Commons, in relation to the constitutional issue involved in accepting the Reid Sanitarium.

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.

EDUCATION BILL.

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.

On motion the amendments were read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

QUESTIONS.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Minister of Finance to lay on the table of the House a copy of the Auditor General’s Report tabled in this House during the session of 1908 on the Appropriation Accounts and also on expenditures under section 326 of the Audit Act, and expenditures for which no legislative authority existed.

HON. MIN. OF FINANCE—The Report is being copied.

EDUCATION BILL

Pursuant to Notice and Leave granted, Hon. Minister of Justice introduced the Bill “An Act to amend ‘The Election Act, 1889,’” which was, on motion, read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

APPROPRIATION OF LANDS BILL

Pursuant to order and on motion
of Hon. Minister of Justice, the Bill "An Act for the Appropriation of Private Lands for Certain Public Purposes," 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.

PUBLIC SERVICE BILL
Pursuant to Order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, the Bill "An Act for the granting to His Majesty certain Sums of Money for defraying certain expenses of the Public Service for the financial years ending respectively the 30th day of June, 1912, and the 30th day of June, 1913, and for other purposes relating to the Public Service," was read a second time and ordered to be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on to-morrow.

LOAN BILL
Pursuant to Order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Finance, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the Bill, "An Act to provide for the raising by the Sale of Debenture Bonds of a sum of money for the Public Service of the Colony."

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 had passed the Bill without amendment.
On motion, this Report was received and adopted, and it was ordered that this Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

The remaining Orders of the Day were deferred.
It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Tuesday, April 2nd, at three of the clock in the afternoon.
The House then adjourned accordingly.

TUESDAY, April 2nd.
The House met at three of the clock in the afternoon, pursuant to adjournment.

Hon. Colonial Secretary laid on the table of the House the detailed accounts of the St. John's Municipal Council for year 1911.

PETITIONS.

HON. MIN. AGRICULTURE AND MINES—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from Cull's Harbor, asking for $250 to construct a road at that place. Also petitions from Greens pond, Flat Islands and Squid Tickle for telephone extension.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a petition from John T. Currie, J.P., the Rev. John T. Newman, Moses Currie, and other residents of Random Island, praying that a bridge be erected across the Bar at Bar Point, to connect the Western end of Random Island with the mainland. Petitioners consider that a bridge at the place referred to can be constructed without any great difficulty, and they
point out that, as the Branch Railway from Shoal Harbour to Bonavista passes within one hundred yards of Bar Point, the construction of the bridge has become very necessary for the convenience of the 1500 inhabitants of Random Island. It is stated in the petition that the distance from the Island to the mainland at Bar Point is only about two hundred yards and that the water is shallow, there being only six feet at high tide at the centre of the Bar and running very shallow on either end. The bottom is composed of mud and sand, making it easy to pile or build cribs, and as the Bar seldom freezes over, there would be no danger of running ice taking the bridge away. Petitioners estimate that a substantial bridge could be built for the sum of $2000. The western end of Random Island contains some valuable agricultural land which, in the opinion of the petitioners, would long ago have been under cultivation had the people easy communication with the mainland. This petition, Mr. Speaker, is one of more than ordinary importance, and I would ask that it be received and referred to the Department of Public Works, where I trust it will receive every consideration.

MR. DEVEREUX—I ask leave to present a petition from J. T. Williams and others of Woody Island, on the subject of Telegraph extension. Petitioners also ask for the sum of $100 for the purpose of building a public wharf there. Also a petition from the inhabitants of Haystack, which is largely signed, asking for the sum of $150 to construct a road, which would be of great benefit to the people. I give the petitions my hearty support.

MR. LeFEUVRE—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present petitions from Lamealine and High Beach, for a cottage Hospital, and also a petition from Burin and neighbourhood, asking that a sanitarium be erected at Burin proper. It gives me much pleasure to present these to-day, because the petitioners pay a splendid tribute to the donors of this gift, and because the petition is also an endorsement of the policy of the Government on this question of tuberculosis.

MR. CLAPP—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Old Perlican on the subject of a general election this fall. Also a petition from the inhabitants of Valleyfield, Bonavista Bay, on the same subject; also a petition from officers and members of the F.P.U. at Newtown on the same subject. A number of similar petitions have already been presented, therefore I need not say much upon the subject. I can however, assure the Prime Minister that those who signed these petitions knew perfectly well what they were signing. I beg that they be referred to the department of the Colonial Secretary.

LOAN BILL.

Pursuant to order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, the Bill "An Act to provide for the raising by the Sale of Debenture Bonds of a sum of money for the Public Service 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.

PUBLIC SERVICE BILL.

Pursuant to order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, the Bill "An Act further to amend "The Revenue Act, 1903," 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.

PUBLIC SERVICE BILL.

Pursuant to Order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to Consider the Bill "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, 1912, and the 30th day of June, 1913, and for other purposes relating to the Public Service."

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 had passed the Bill without amendment.

On motion this Report was received and adopted; and it was ordered that the Bill be read a third time on tomorrow.

EDUCATIONAL BILL.

Second reading of Council's amendment to Education Bill.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—I desire to explain to the House the meaning of these amendments. The first amendment occurs in sub-sec 4 of section 1, and is an addition. It provides, that no pension shall be less than that which is guaranteed under the Act of 1893. The next is sub-section 8, in which the interest is put back to the original figure, namely 6 per cent. The section in the Bill read: "In case of the death of any contributor to this fund before he shall have entered upon his pension, the whole sum he has contributed, with compound interest at three per cent shall be returned to his legal representatives etc."

The Council recommend that the rate of interest be six per cent.

In section 2 there is a mere verbal change. The bill reads: "That the amount now standing." The Council proposes to begin with "The amount now standing etc." It is necessary, Mr. Speaker, I think to point out that two of these amendments, if not all might be regarded as increases of the money provision in this bill, and as such the Council would not have power to amend. The Council of course does it subject to the approval of this House, and as the suggestions are all in favour of the Teachers and practically increase the liability of the Government very little, and with the understanding that this is not in any way to form a precedent, but merely in harmony with what we have done on similar occasions, I move the amendments be adopted with that understanding.

MR. KENT—Mr. Speaker, I did not happen to be here on the first sitting of the Committee on this Bill, but I understand that the question of the pension provided by this Bill was discussed; and I think the injustice which this pension scheme would work to many teachers was pointed out at that time. The amendment which the Council has made in no way removes that injustice.

The matter of the Council increasing the money charge under these Resolutions is I think a bad precedent, and no matter, how you hedge it around it is there and capable of being used as a precedent in after years when the relationship between the two Houses on matters of finance may be more acute and more serious than now. We all recollect how acute this question became between the Lords and the Commons at home and how every person who had different
views on the matter ransacked the records for centuries for precedents; and such a precedent as this no matter how hedged around, is capable, should the contingency ever arise of being quoted as a departure by this House from the usual practice. It is not safeguarding us by saying it is done without prejudice to the rights of this House. That is practically the position the Prime Minister takes. It is an increased charge in favour of the Teachers if you will, but the fact still remains that it is a charge, and it should be done in the ordinary way.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—I thought I made it clear that our approval of these amendments was with the distinct understanding that we did not recognize the right of the Upper Chamber to amend in any way legislation from this chamber in relation to money matters. They have power to draft amendments of course, and have done so before, but they have no power to amend, and they recognize that as clearly as we do. There are many cases and though I am not in a position to quote them I have my own recollection and memory of them, where the Council have suggested amendments and we have adopted them. They have always gone on the record as I intend to put this, that whilst adopting these amendments we do so with the understanding that we would be quite within our powers in refusing to recognize them. I have no objection to sending a message to the Upper House that it is on that understanding we adopt them.

MR. KENT—I have no objection, I merely wanted to assert the right of this House.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—I appreciated that, and answered you in that spirit. I move that after these amendments have been read a message go to the Council that we accept them on that understanding.

The amendments were thereupon concurred in; and it was ordered that a message be sent to the Legislative Council acquainting them that the House had concurred in the said amendments without prejudice to the ancient and undoubted privileges of the House of Assembly respecting Money Bills.

ELECTION BILL.

Second reading of Election Bill.

HON. MIN. JUSTICE.—Mr. Speaker, in moving the second reading of this bill I beg to say that the object of the bill is to make a slight change in the method of taking electorate lists under Cap. 3 of the Consolidated Statutes, better known as The Election Act of 1889. Under the law as it stands at present it is provided that lists shall be taken once in every four years and should an election take place within one year after the election at which this list is used, then the same list is used again; but if it does not take place till after a year has elapsed then a new list has to be taken and revised. Now this law has served its purpose and was enacted upon the consideration that elections should take place regularly every four years; but as hon. members know in consequence of the spring election of 1909 no election will take place now until the fall of 1913; and if the lists were taken this fall and revised, it would be 13, or 14 or 15 months before the general election of 1913, and there would be a large number of persons who would become entitled to a vote in the meantime and large supplementary lists would be required, causing a large amount of unnecessary trouble to returning officers who would have charge of the elections all over the Island. Now in addition to this, I would point out to the House that
this should be done at courts of general or quarter sessions of the peace, and, as we know, there are no courts of general or quarter sessions held, and it was thought advisable to amend the Act as suggested here, and provision is made for revising these lists before any election takes place. If there is a further election within one year from the time of an election, the same list is used as was used in the previous election. If a new election does not take place until after a year, a new list will be made as under the law at the present time. Section 9, which is substituted for the section of the same number in the 1889 Act, deals with the main part or object of the bill; and sections 2 and 3 of the bill are simply to make changes in the Act which depend upon that.

I beg to move the second reading of the bill.

MR. KENT.—Mr. Speaker, I rise for the purpose of protesting against the enactment of this measure. I consider that this measure is unnecessary at the present time; and I consider that the only necessity which the hon. gentleman who has just sat down can give for the enacting of this measure is the necessity which he and his colleagues feel of lengthening their term of office by twelve months. There is no other necessity, sir, under the law why such an amendment should be made to the Act. We have now, sir, a session of the Legislature open for the providing of any money that may be necessary for the taking of the list of voters. In the ordinary course of the law that list of voters would be taken during the coming summer; and now, sir, is the time to provide for the taking of that list. In the ordinary course of events and in due course of law, this Legislature which is now in session will come to an end on the 1st May next, the day upon which it was convened by proclamation. That provis-
taking the list of voters during the coming summer, and you do not take such lists during the coming summer, then, sir, you cannot take them during the winter and you can only take them in the summer of 1913. This renders it absolutely impossible for an election to be held, no matter what occurs between now and the fall of 1913. If you will notice, whenever an election is decreed, the list of voters must be taken. It must be taken before an election is appointed to take place. Now, sir, the only time that list of voters can be taken is in the summer of 1913; consequently this measure means that the Governor is not free to accept any position other than that which I have now stated: no matter what occurs or what emergency may arise for one and a half years from now, no election can take place unless a list of voters is taken, and unless it is taken during the present summer there is no other time but the following summer. That position, I think, is a very unusual position for this country. Under any circumstances we will have at least six months from the 31st May during which no Legislature can be convened, even should the necessity arise. Well, sir, we have had emergencies in this country when it has been necessary to convene the Legislature; and I think that the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister was himself a member of a Legislature which had to be convened on more than one occasion to meet such emergency. The Legislature had to be convened after the great fire of '92, after the Bank Crash, and on another occasion in connection with the French Treaty. All of this is within the recollection of some members of the House. Now, sir, we are tying the hands of the Governor and tying the hands of the Legislature during the period I have named. The election will not take place until at least the end of Oc-

tober or at the beginning of November in 1913. This means, sir, that it will not assemble until at least six months after the present Legislature has ceased. Should any emergency arise in that time there will be no Legislature, and I submit that is entirely wrong for the Government whose life as an administration depends upon the will of the people to shirk meeting the electorate at the time which according to law they were elected to meet them. They can meet them sir next fall or in the spring. The Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister was responsible, on the occasion of the last election for advising the Governor to hold a spring election. A spring election is feasible and preferable to allowing the country to go from May to November without any Parliament at all. The practice during recent years in this country has been that on the day the proclamation dissolving the Legislature appears the proclamation is issued calling together its successor. There is no reason, sir, why a long period should elapse between the death of one Legislature and the election of another, except the one I have given. In England the proclamation dissolving Parliament is accompanied by writs not only calling for the return of members but naming the day upon which the new Legislature is to sit, so as to avoid by all possible means any hiatus or period during which the country would be ruled or governed without a Legislature to which the administration would be responsible. Cases, sir, where dissolutions have taken place in former times in this country with a view to an election are on an altogether different plane. Here we are coming up to the termination of the Legislature and deliberately providing that a period of six months shall elapse between the expiry of this Legislature and the election of the next. The only good purpose that
can be alleged for that is that members of the Ministry now in power may shirk an obligation attached to their election, namely, the obligation of going back to the people four years from the time they were elected. We have had petitions presented to this House from various sources. These petitions have been spoken of scornfully by the Minister of Finance and the Prime Minister.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—That is not correct, and you know it is not correct. I did not speak scornfully of them.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—Neither did I.

MR. KENT.—That is not my opinion and my estimate of the words that were used. The Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance spoke of these petitions in a manner which I consider scornful. I think that these petitions are worthy of consideration at the hands of this House. Is it because many of the men who signed these petitions are unable to write their names and made their cross instead that the petitions are not to be received. I think, sir, that a man who is not able to write his name is as much entitled to approach this House as any other person in the Colony; and if you take up the petitions that are presented to this House from day to day you will find that many of the signatures are those of men who have signed the petitions by putting their cross to them. These petitions are numerously signed and they ask that an election be held next fall. This Bill is the answer which the Government is giving to those petitions. It is a refusal of their petition and makes provisions for the election not taking place until the fall of 1913.

The Hon. introducer of this Bill referred to it as a slight change. One would think that a comma was being dropped from the Act, or something of that sort. It is a change that is made entirely in the interests of the hon. gentleman and his colleagues. They are the only persons who will benefit by it; it gives them six months more in office. It adds six months to their existence as a Government. I do not regard it as a slight change. I regard it as a very serious change which can only be characterized as unfair to the electorate of this Colony. I wish personally to protest against the passing of this measure, and I have therefore to move that this bill be read a second time this day six months.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Speaker, just two or three words in reply to the hon. member. First, with regard to the petitions that he referred to. He stated that I had referred to those petitions "scornfully". That is not true. I am never "scornful" in relation to any matter that comes before this House. The House and the hon. member know it is not true, and he states it here merely for purposes of misrepresentation. He did not believe what he said; it was only intended to misrepresent me.

MR. KENT.—I believe what I said.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.—I repeat that the hon. member could not believe what he stated here this afternoon. The statement was made for the purpose of misleading the public. It is part and parcel of a campaign to grossly mislead the people. I pointed out that every statement in those petitions was false. I said there was not a man whose signature was on them but would have cut his right hand off before he signed it if he knew the facts were false. All those petitions were written by one individual and sent out broadcast. I said that before, and I say it now. I never spoke scornfully of petitioners to this House. I represent them here, and have done so for years. I pointed out that these people had been grossly deceived, in
an almost unparalleled manner; men who did not know when there would be an election, what it would cost, what money would be expended or what it was expended for. These petitions were printed in St. John’s, and in some cases every signature on the petition was written by one person, even without marks being put to them at all. We do not know that they even reached the settlements whence they are supposed to emanate. But as to treating genuine petitioners scornfully, I have never yet done so, and I hope I never will, inside or outside of this House. To come down to the immediate point: I entirely agree with the Minister of Justice, that the amendment is a very slight change. It will not give us six months longer, or one hour longer in office, and that the hon. member knows. But it relieves us of the absurdity of having to take a voters’ list this summer and another the summer after. That is the present position. The public are not taken in. Over a year ago I intimated that the election would be held in the autumn of 1913. I stated it here in this House months ago, and this Bill is a further public notice that no election will take place until the fall of that year. All my hon. friend has said here this evening is very interesting, but it is not law. I have to disagree with him upon it. What are the facts? Every time we have had a spring election in this country we have had a general election 4½ years afterwards in the autumn. If we wanted a precedent, there it is. In 1855 there was a spring election. Was there a general election 3½ years after? No. There was no election for 4½ years after. We are following exactly the same precedent. My hon. friend is either trying to keep that out of sight, or he is not aware of it; I do not care which. Either he does not know it or he is concealing it. He went on to point out that for some months we would not have a Parliament. We will not between the date of dissolution and the election. I stated that here months ago at the opening of the session. There is precedent upon precedent for it. Between the elections of ’55 and ’61, there was no Parliament for six months. The dissolution was in April and the election next November, in both these years. The question was never raised then, either in or out of Parliament, as the public records show. We were elected for four years. Our time will not be up until the first of June twelve months. That will be the end of the Parliament. Then we propose to hold the election within 5 months of that date. In ’55 and ’61 the election was not held for 4½ years, and there was no Parliament for six months. If there had been any such emergency as has been suggested, the Parliament could not have been called together. But it is almost impossible to imagine such an emergency now. We are living in entirely different times, as I have already pointed out. In those days we had an annual revenue. Now we have a perpetual Revenue Bill. In those days they voted supply terminating at the end of the current year. Now, we have voted supply up to July, 1913. Next session we will vote it up to July, 1914. Therfore, none of those emergencies can arise. We shall have no more fires, or bank crashes, or French Shore questions. We could not very well tell the Governor that we could not proceed in the regular constitutional way, because we were expecting a bank crash or a French Shore question. All these questions have disappeared, and we will not hear of them any more. The point for us is this: What is the object of this amendment that the Minister of Justice is asking to make? What is going to happen, supposing we do not make it? Under
the law as it now stands, we have to take the voters’ list next September. An election took place in 1908, and a new list of voters was made for it. There has been no list since. Next September a new list must be made, if this amendment is not made law. And if the election is not held until next November, it will be more than a year old, and useless. There was no necessity to bring this amendment in. We could have left it until the next session, but we did it now with the object of doing things openly, and concealing nothing. We are told the Governor’s hands are going to be tied, but it is exactly the reverse. Now, he will not have to sit down and see the spectacle of taking two voters’ lists for one election. This would have been rendered necessary by the action of members on the other side. When they came back in 1908, 18 to 19, they ought to have resigned within 24 hours, because they had been beaten by the country. The day after the result was known, I wrote to the Governor, calling on Sir Robert Bond to resign. What I expected then did not take place until March, and then we had to have a spring election. If the hon. members had resigned in November, we would have had another election in December. But they held on. They remained in office for 5 months, until the impossibility of meeting the Legislature drove them to resign. It is true, as my hon. friend says, that I had to advise the Governor to hold a spring election; but it was not my doings. My hon. friend’s leader held on until the very last moment, and then there was nothing left for me to do but that, because there was no Supply Bill. Supply would have terminated on the first of July. We would then have had no Supply, and the public service could not have been carried on. And now we are asked when the next election will be. It will be 4 1/2 years after the last, and if the Opposition do not like that, they know what their proper course is. I have given them notice, and I serve it on them again; there will be no election until 1913. The cases I have quoted are not the only precedents. Where Parliament goes on until November, the rule has come to be now to dissolve in May, or June or July; and I think under the late Government the dissolution was in July. That of course meant no Parliament from July to November. If you look back through the Journals of this House, you will find that over and over again Parliament has dissolved in May or June, or July or August. If it had not been dissolved, it would have gone on up to December, or later. The custom has been to meet after the General Election in February. That would mean that Parliament would run four years from that. The various Governments have held office up to within 3 weeks of the next election, and then voluntarily and intentionally dissolved Parliament. That will happen in 1913. Then the voters’ list will be taken in the regular way, and the election will be in the autumn. We are told that this Amendment serves no useful purpose. Well, it serves a very necessary purpose, and the Attorney-General would not be true to his trust if he did not bring it in. It does not give us five minutes longer term of office, because notwithstanding the change in the law, there might have been an election the coming year. We never know. Questions might arise this very night which would lead to an election before October. However, Mr. Speaker, the responsibility devolves on the Government and those who happen to sit on this side of the House. We alone are responsible to this country and to this House, and we propose to do what is right and what is constitutional. I do not object to the hon. member making a fair criti-
cism of any measure before the House, but I do object to the ascribing of unfair motives to those who bring in legislation here. As far as I am concerned, I do not care whether the election is this year or next year or next week. The fact that others may think differently, does not alter the case.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—
Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw attention to a point which I did not elaborate clearly because I presumed that the member for St. John’s East being a lawyer would have seen it. If this list were taken this fall it would be just that much money thrown away. The list would have to be taken in September; the election would not take place until the end of October or November 1913; the list would then by the present law be useless and a fresh list would have to be made. If the law were not altered the Govt. would have to spend $5,000 or $6,000 again next year. It is better that that money should not be wasted and that the law relating to the taking of that list should be put in a better position. I submit that this amendment places the law in a much more satisfactory position than before, even if the election took place every four years. It provides now for a list to be taken before any general election except where it is within one year after the last one. The Bill makes only a slight change in the law, and it makes no change in the principle; it merely enables the Government to avoid wasting $5,000 or $6,000.

MR. CLIFT.—Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the motion of my friend, Mr. Kent, that this Bill be read a second time this day six months. I do this as a matter of principle. I think that the principle that we have been working on all these years is one which we should not depart from. For many years past the custom and law has been to take the voters’ lists every four years. The reason given for the change by the Minister of Justice, namely, that it would save five or six thousand dollars, and the necessity of taking another list in 1913 should not influence us as a House in voting on a question of principle. The law is that the voters’ list should be taken every four years. Have any good reasons been adduced for making a change? I submit that they have not, and I am also of the opinion that it would be very much better for the interests of the country that the election should be held either this fall or in the spring of 1913, rather than to take the risk of being without a Legislature from the 1st of June until the 1st November. The Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister said that we must be expecting fires or Bank Crashes or French Treaties, or some other emergency which would require the House to assemble. We have no right to expect any such calamity, but we ought to be prepared for any situation. It might be that it would appear beneficial during that period for the Government to enter into some contract of the first importance to this country, and by reason of not having a Legislature to ratify its acts they would be debarred from taking advantage of that chance. I think the principle is a broad one, and I would prefer sticking as long as possible to the old condition of affairs, a change in which is a very serious matter; very serious indeed, and I think it is one which we should give a great deal of consideration to before we make any amendment. Why it has been left until this late hour in the session I cannot imagine. We all have in mind the petitions that have been presented to this House by a
large number of the electorate of this Colony asking for a general election to be held in the autumn of 1912, and stating their reasons. The Premier says that these statements are in many cases false and misleading; I take issue with him there. The petitioners who sent these petitions knew what they were signing, just as well as any petitioners who ever approached this House on any subject. They knew they were signing a petition asking that their privileges be not curtailed, and that they be given an opportunity to elect their representatives in 1912. For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I beg to second the motion.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Speaker, just one word in reply. I want to point out to the hon. member that he has misquoted the facts and the law. This measure has nothing to do with the general election, as he well knows. The holding of the general election is entirely a different matter. Nothing we can do under this Act can affect the general election in any way. Is this merely another part of the scheme to mislead the people? The hon. member talks of the risk of being five months without a legislature. Well, why did he take the risk of 4 months last election? Look back to other years and you will find that the House dissolved in April, May, June or July. As I have pointed out, there is no risk whatever, because the Revenue Bill is a permanent bill, and supply is voted for 18 months, and every possible emergency that could possibly arise in relation to the public service is amply provided for in the Audit Act.

MR. KENT—Mr. Speaker, just one word. I beg to point out with regard to this bill, that if the law remained as at present there might be a waste of about $8000 or $9000. The simplest way to avoid that would have been not to change the law, but to have a general election in 1912. It is only on the assumption that the general election will be in 1913—

HON. MIN. OF JUSTICE.—It is not an assumption, it is a certainty.

MR. KENT.—It is only on that assumption that it is necessary to change the law.

HON. MIN. FINANCE & CUSTOMS.—Mr. Speaker, just one word. The hon. member made a statement this afternoon with reference to me that is not fair. He stated that I referred in this House scornfully to petitions presented here. I did not. The scorn was not intended for the fishermen who signed those petitions; it was directed against the individuals who brought in those petitions after sending them abroad to deceive the fishermen. When I spoke it was in reply to the gentleman on the other side of the House on the vote for education, which he was criticizing. In my reply I asked had not the time arrived in this colony when we should increase the education grant, so that our people would be better educated and not give samples of their lack of education by signing petitions with crosses. My scorn was directed to the gentlemen who were opposing the increase of the education grant and other grants. Why should I express scorn for a fisherman or a fisherman's son? Am I not a fisherman and a fisherman's son myself? Mr. Clift presented a petition here this afternoon and said he did not know where it was from, but he recognized some of the names. Such statements made by men presenting petitions from time to time in this House are evidence of their insincerity. I held up a petition and asked if it were not evidence in favour of an increased education grant when it had 35 or
40 names all signed by the one man with a cross after them. I rise now simply to reply to Mr. Kent and set myself right in the eyes of the fishermen of this Colony.

MR. CLIFT.—Mr. Speaker, I rise to make a personal explanation. My hon. friend said that I presented a petition and said I did not know where it came from. I said it was not known to me from whence it emanated. It was asserted by the Hon. Minister that they all emanated from some one person and were sent broadcast over the country to be signed. I said that I knew that one was genuine because I knew several of the signatures and could personally verify them.

Upon the amendment that the Bill be read this day six months being put, there appeared in its favor six, namely—Messrs. Kent, Clift, Gear, Dwyer and Earle; and against, fifteen, namely—Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, Hon. Minister of Justice, Hon. Colonial Secretary, Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs, Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines, Hon. Mr. Emerson, Minister of Public Works, and Messrs. Devereaux, Goodison, Howley, Morris, Murphy, Parsons, Seymour, Moore.

So it passed in the negative; and was ordered accordingly.

The original motion was then put and passed with the same division; and the Bill was read a second time, and ordered to be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on to-morrow.

Mr. Kent gave notice of question.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Wednesday, April 3rd, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.
into early consideration by the Government, and if it is at all possible to accede to the request of the petitioners I hope it will be done.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a petition from Rev. George Paine, Rev. J. G. Joyce, J. W. Janes, J.P., Elisha Button, J. P., W. F. Plewes, M.D., Captain Samuel Short, and other residents of Hant's Harbour, New Melbourne, New Chelsea, Whales Brook, Brownsdale, Torquay, Sibley's Cove and Lead Cove, praying that the Branch line of Railway now in course of construction to Heart's Content may be further extended to Old Perlican. Petitioners point out that business in most of the settlements referred to is, owing to poor harbour facilities, difficult to carry on, especially in the fall of the year, when there is considerable danger to life and risk to property in landing provisions and in shipping fish for market. In addition to this the settlements, during the winter months, have practically no connection with the outside world. Petitioners also draw attention to the fact that a railway line from Heart's Content to Old Perlican would pass through very fine agricultural land. I desire, Mr. Speaker, to give this petition my hearty support. I have always been a strong advocate of railway extension, and it is a matter of gratification to me to know that the efforts of myself and my colleagues in the past to connect Heart's Content with the railway system of the Colony are shortly to be crowned with success. The Right Hon. the Prime Minister has stated in this House that, when the Government again appeals to the country, it will do so upon a railway policy. I trust that it will be found possible to include in the details of that policy the extension of the railway from Heart's Content to Old Perlican. By that time the line at present surveyed between Carbonear and Grate's Cove will no doubt be in course of construction. The building of the short branch asked by petitioners would therefore complete a loop line from Brigus Junction around the whole of the South side of Trinity Bay and the North side of Conception Bay. I would ask that this petition be received, and referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary, in order that it may receive due consideration at the hands of the Government.

MR. SQUIRES—Mr. Speaker, the petition just presented by my colleague, Hon. Mr. Watson, is one of more than ordinary importance. A very little while ago petitions were presented to the House signed by a large number of petitioners purporting to be antagonistic to the present policy of railway extension, and the development of Newfoundland by railway construction. These petitions were presented by the Rt. Hon. the leader of the Opposition, they came from the district of Trinity as well as from other districts. The fact that they were signed by people under a misapprehension of what the petitions contained is shown very clearly by the fact that we have now a petition from the South side of the district, supporting the policy, and asking for further development of the railway policy on that coast. It was my privilege to present similar petitions from that same section of the district. I think that a petition of that nature, in the line of continuation of this policy of railway extension is certainly worthy of the greatest consideration of the government, especially from that section of the country between Heart's Content and Old Perlican, one that is
inaccessible during the winter season, and which during the summer, has much difficulty in traffic because the harbour facilities are very bad. The idea of giving something in the way of a railway service on that section between Trinity and Conception Bays, branching off from Brigus Junction up by the South side of Trinity Bay, Old Perlican, Torquay, etc., and then down to Heart's Content making a loop line running through that section of the country, is one of no mean importance and receives my heartiest support. This petition is in direct conflict with the petitions presented, praying that Railway work should cease, and that the policy of the present Government in passing railway legislation is antagonistic to the best interest of the people, and shows that the people who signed the former petitions, as soon as their attention was drawn to the misrepresentation contained in them had no hesitation in coming forward and enthusiastically supporting the policy of railway extension. The Prime Minister the other day stated that when this government goes to the country again, it will be on a railway policy, and I hope that in that policy I shall see detailed this line of railway.

Mr. Goodison.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from the resident fishermen of the Straits of Belle Isle. They request that trawling be done away with within the 3-mile limit. They presented a similar petition last year. Their fishery was a failure last year, and they are quite sure that a similar state of affairs will exist this year, unless trawling be prohibited. Craft operating there last year had their supply of bait curtailed, and they were not able to carry on their own operations with success. I hope attention will be given to this petition, and beg that it be referred to the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

Questions.

 Rt. Hon. Sir R. Bond asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Mines what areas of the Oil Shales, near Deer Lake, have been leased or granted, and when and to whom such areas were leased or granted.

 Hon. Min. of Agriculture & Mines—Mr. Speaker, I beg to table the information desired.

 Rt. Hon. Sir R. Bond asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary if the Government has entered into any agreement with any person or persons respecting the working of Oil Shales in this Colony; and, if so, to lay a copy of such agreement upon the table of this House.

 Hon. The Colonial Secretary—Mr. Speaker, I should like to say this question was answered three weeks ago. No agreement has been entered into.

 Rt. Hon. Sir R. Bond asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary if the Railway Contractors, under the 1910 Contract, have taken up the lands to which they are entitled under that Contract; and, if so, to state where the lands are situated.

 Hon. The Colonial Secretary—Mr. Speaker, The same reply applies to this. It was answered three weeks ago. There are no lands taken up.

 Mr. Kent asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House all applications for the position of Superintendent of the Dredging Operations about to be undertaken by the Government, with all correspondence and recommendations accompanying or relating thereto. Also giving the names and addresses of the parties applying for such position and all correspondence between his
Department and that of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries in relation to the engagement of a Superintendent for this purpose.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, there have been no applications made in the office of the Colonial Secretary. I have asked the Department of Marine and Fisheries if there are any there, and I will answer that part to-morrow.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture if there are any there, and I will answer that part to-morrow.

HON. MIN. OF AGRICULTURE AND MINES—I beg to table the information asked for.

PUBLIC SERVICE BILL. Pursuant to Order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Finance and Customs the Bill "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, 1912, and the 30th day of June, 1913, and for other purposes relating to the Public Service," 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.

ELECTION BILL. Pursuant to Order and on motion of Hon. Minister of Justice, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the Bill "An Act to amend "The Election Act, 1889."

Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Parsons took the Chair of Committee.

MR. KENT—Mr. Chairman, before this matter is disposed of finally, I just wish to put myself right regarding some matters that were referred to by the Prime Minister during the debate on the Sections of this Bill.
The Prime Minister inferred from my reference to the bill that I was misleading the Committee, but I wish to assure the House that I had no such intention. I was aware of the precedents to which he referred, and I intended should they have been cited, as they were, to have referred to them at the first opportunity. Now, this is the first opportunity that I have had to deal with them, and I submit, sir, with all due deference to the Prime Minister that they are not at all in point in the present instance. In the first place a material change in the law has taken place since these precedents occurred. I wish to remind this committee that originally before parliament interfered with the existence of the Legislature, the Legislature existed and continued until dissolved, or until the demise of the Crown. That state of the law was changed in England about the end of the seventeenth century, when six months was fixed as the period after the demise of the Crown for the then existing legislature. Some years afterwards in the eighteenth century it was found that a parliament might expire before or after the death of the sovereign, but before his successor was appointed, and an Act was passed providing that the legislature which was in existence at the death of the sovereign should be revived. That was the state of the law when we got representative government in this country. The first measure dealing with the existence of the Legislature was passed in 1836, IV. William IV., Cap. 7. That Act consists of two sections dealing with the then existing Legislature, and providing that it shall expire in 1838. As a matter of fact it was dissolved by the Governor in 1836. The second Section reads as follows:

"2. All future Houses of Assembly to have continuance, notwithstanding the demise of the Crown, for the period of four years from the day on which they shall by proclamation be appointed to meet not to prevent dissolution by the Crown sooner if deemed expedient." And that Mr. Chairman, was the first change dealing with the demise of the Crown and providing that in such a case the Legislature should continue to run out its 4 years. That was the state of the law until the consolidation of 1872 when a natural change was made. There was no negative provision in the Act of 1836, an omission which was remedied in 1872. The 1872 Act reads as follows:

"The General Assembly shall continue, notwithstanding the demise of His Majesty, for four years from the day on which they shall by proclamation be appointed to meet, unless sooner dissolved, and no longer." Now, Sir, the first precedent referred to by the Prime Minister was in the first Legislature convened under responsible government. The legislature was summoned in 1855 and the subsequent legislature in 1859. The election was held in May 1855 and in November 1859. During the law as it then stood the legislature was in existence during the whole period from May until November. The same thing applies to the other precedent of 1861, but these precedents are in no way applicable to the present instance. In the first place the Committee should bear in mind that in those days the financial year ended in December at the end of the calendar year. And the House being dissolved in March 1861, the election was held in April 1861, but the House did not meet until January 1862. The next election took place in November 1865 well within the four year
period. That is another consideration that should be borne in mind in considering this spring election to which the Prime Minister referred.

It is unnecessary for me to read the law as it now stands because it is the same as it was in 1872, and there are no precedents to show that while this House expires on June first that the country should be kept without a House or a legislature for five or six months until the election takes place. The tendency of modern times is to bring the dissolution and the calling together of another parliament within a short time of each other as possible. In the case of the last three elections the same day that the House was dissolved by proclamation, before its existence terminated by law, a proclamation issued calling the next legislature to meet. Previous to that in 1900 the dissolution was in August, and the election proclamation in September. In 1897 they were respectively on the 16th and 17th of September. Now these are the last five elections held in this country. I submit that the precedents which the learned Premier quoted have no bearing on this point which necessitates this amendment of the Election Law.

I do not, Sir, intend to discuss this measure more except to say, as I said in the beginning to remove any conclusion which might be arrived at that I had attempted by not mentioning these precedents to mislead the Committee. I never had any such intention. These precedents were never brought forward before, and when brought forward I take this, the first opportunity to meet them.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—

Mr. Chairman, the hon. member knows very well that I did not bring forward these precedents on the point now raised by him. He did not discuss this question at all. I raised the question of the duration of Parliament, and he did not refer to it at all. The reason I brought forward the precedents was in answer to the point raised that we could be six months without a parliament.

MR. KENT—That is not so.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—

That is so, and I will prove it to the Committee. His argument yesterday was that if this parliament was dissolved on June 1st we would have no legislature for five months, and if there was a fire or a Bank Crash we would have no parliament to call together. Mr. Clift followed him in the same argument. And my answer to that was that he would find that the same thing took place in 1855 and after that in 1861, and there was no election for 4½ years. The proclamation dissolving parliament was issued in the month of May. In fact, I think in one case it was in April, so that in 1859 and 1864 there was no Parliament in this country, from April until the following December. So that in reality for seven months there was no parliament following the four years after 1855 and 1861. The same would have occurred in 1837 when there was a spring election, but an Imperial Act was passed, suspending the constitution. This House did not meet in 1842 at all; the constitution was suspended. The other two spring elections were followed by a period of 4½ years. Parliament died after 4 years, and the Government of the day held office for 4½ years. I quoted these precedents, not on the broad question of the duration of a Parliament, but on the right of a ministry to continue to hold office and exercise its powers for six months after Parliament has died. That is the point. Nothing whatever about the duration of Par-
The Parliament was raised by my hon. friend. If he refers to the official debates he will find every precedent he quoted quoted by me on an entirely different point. The tendency in modern times has been to have the dissolution, a little later; I think on the last 4 or 5 occasions we were dissolved as early as May. In '73 or '78 Parliament was dissolved in May, and there was no Parliament for six months. It was not dissolved by efflux of time, but the Government of that day dissolved it. Our case is entirely different.

What I said yesterday with reference to my hon. friend was in connection with the bill introduced by the Minister of Justice. My words were that the effect of the hon. member's statements was to mislead the House. I did not say he was doing it; but that was the tendency of what he said. I pointed out that if he was aware of these precedents the effect of not producing them was to mislead the House. I must assume that he knew yesterday afternoon what he is acquainted with this afternoon; and not to have stated it must have that effect. I further pointed out yesterday what to my mind completely buttresses our position, that none of the risks referred to by my hon. friend, Mr. Kent, can now arise. In the years we have been discussing we had an annual Revenue Bill passed every year. Now we have a permanent Revenue Act, which can go on for ever unless we intentionally interfere with it. The same is true of our Supply Bill. We vote supply for 18 months ahead. We voted it lately up to the 1st July, 1913, so that even if Parliament did not meet until 1913 supply is voted. Next year we will vote it up to July 1st, 1914, eight months after the assembly of the new Parliament. In those days we had no Audit Act. Now we have a special section in the Audit Act to empower the Governor in Council to expend money for any political emergency that may arise, for that very purpose of enabling it to assume the powers of Parliament in such a case. The member for St. John's East says that this Act is for the express purpose of giving us six months more in office. He must have known that it could bear no such construction. That is why I say the effect of his words was to mislead the House. This Act has nothing to do with the general election. I want to emphasize that and make it clear to every one. I cannot permit any statement to go from here unchallenged that is not correct. This Act is merely to prevent the absurd position of taking two voters' lists for one election. If this Act is not passed that is what is bound to happen. If the late Government had resigned in November it would not have been necessary; but they did not resign until they were on the verge of being kicked out. That is what brought about the confusion; and now they want us to clear it up by going out after 3½ years because they stayed for 4½ years, and for six months of that time did not know the moment they would be turned out. Everyone knows what their position was. Within a week after the election I wrote to the Governor asking him to call on Sir Robert Bond to resign. He carried on for nearly six months, and now we find that at the end of 3½ years the time is almost up for taking the voters' list. It has nothing to do with the election, and there might be an election within a month, or two months. But if it stands over till the full period it will not be until Nov. 1913.

MR. KENT—Mr. Speaker, the position I stated has nothing to do with
the argument. I think that the measure now before the House, taken in view of the fact that no vote has been taken for the list of voters during the coming summer, is intended for the purpose of prolonging the period between the two elections from 4 years to 4½ years, because if we do not take the list of voters this summer we cannot take it until next summer, and consequently there can be no election until after next summer. If that were not the intention, the proper thing would be to include the vote in the Supply Bill of this session. The precedent of 1862, as I pointed out before, is not even on the facts similar to the present position. In that year the House was dissolved in March. The election was held in April. Once the election was held the members of the House were in existence and capable of being called together, at any moment. Parliament was not called together until the 28th January, 1862. The election was held in November, 1865, or within 4 years from the date on which the previous Legislature had been convened. On the facts this takes 1862 out of all similarity except on the fact that there was a spring election. All through the summer there was a Legislature elected and ready to be called together at any moment. I do not think that the remarks of the Prime Minister regarding the political crisis four years ago were relevant or pertinent in any way. I think the result of that deadlock showed that under the conditions then existing, even if the Prime Minister had taken office earlier, he would not have been able to accomplish anything further. When he did assume office and assemble here there would have been no progress made. That deadlock could only have been broken by a dissolution of the House, and that was the proper course to have taken. I believe that the point raised by the Prime Minister in this connection was not pertinent at all to the present situation. Neither, I submit, have any of the precedents any bearing which were previous to 1872, when the law was changed regarding the period of existence of the Parliament.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER. —Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for St. John's East misunderstands me in my reference to the political deadlock four years ago. My point was that the proper course for the late administration would have been to resign when there was a deadlock, and not remain in office for six months, because then we should have had a dissolution in November. When we came in in March we had to hold an election. The late administration went to the country with 27 members and came back with 18. They ought to have resigned within a week, and then we would have had none of this trouble. But all the trouble can be laid at the door of the late Government. The hon. member has just referred to the election in 1855. He says that in '55 the Parliament did not meet, and there was a spring election. The House met on the 22nd May, right after they came back from the election.

MR. KENT.—I referred to 1862.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER. —I took him to refer to 1855. For four and a half years after that there was no general election, and for six months of that there was no Parliament. The Executive of that day from April to December had no Parliament behind them.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred, and had passed the Bill without amendment. On motion this Report was received and adopted; and it was ordered
that this Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister gave notice that he would on to-morrow move the House into Committee of the Whole to consider certain Resolutions in relation to the establishment of a paper and pulp industry at Deer Lake, in the District of St. George.

The remaining Orders of the Day were deferred.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until Tuesday next, April 9th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

TUESDAY, April 9th.

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

Hon. Minister Agriculture and Mines laid on the table of the House the Report of the Newfoundland Agricultural Board for year ended 31st December, 1911.

Hon. Colonial Secretary laid on the Table of the House the Report of the Postmaster-General for the year 1910-1911.

Hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries tabled the information asked for by the Hon. member for St. John's East, Mr. Kent, in regard to the application for Superintendent of Dredging operations. Also the statement asked for by the same hon. member in regard to the material and property of Mr. Flett sold and the amounts received.

PETITIONS.

MR. CLIFT—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of the electoral district of Twillingate, on the subject of a road. The petitioners ask for the sum of $1,500 to enable them to construct a road between South West Arm and the main line leading from Little Bay to Springdale. It leads to the railway, and if this connection is made, it will enable all the people of that locality and further down the shore to make railroad connection. I have much pleasure in presenting these petitions and recommending them to the favourable consideration of the Government.

MR. CLAPP.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from Port de Grave, from Isaac Bussey and others, officers and members of the F.P.U., asking for the establishment of a telephone system, a motor ferry and several other district requirements. I have also a petition from Patrick Walsh and others of Nameless Cove, near Flower's Cove, asking for the sum of $100 to build a road to enable them to reach their farms. As a matter of fact their farms are generally some distance from their dwelling houses, and the road is very rugged and very difficult to pass. Considering the amounts of money spent on the encouragement of agriculture by the present Government, I consider this request for the sum of $100 is a very modest one.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present petitions from Snook's Harbour, White Rock, Lady Cove, Hickman's Harbour, and Clarenville, District of Trinity, praying that a road be constructed from the end of Snook's Harbour Road, on Random Island, to the Bar, a distance of about 4½ miles; and that a breakwater be erected, either at Gin Cove or Snook's Harbor, in order that schooners may be moored in safety during the winter months. Also a petition from Hant's Harbour, asking for a grant of $3,000 to complete the public wharf at that place.
Also a petition from Clarenville, asking that a road be constructed between Clarenville and Shoal Harbour. Also, petitions from White Rock, having reference to the General Election and various district matters. The foregoing petitions are signed by members of the Fishermen's Protective Union. I beg to ask that the petitions be received and referred to the departments to which they relate.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Newtown, B.B., on the question of Sunday sealing.

QUESTIONS.

MR. KENT asked the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay on the table of the House a statement, in detail, showing all moneys spent on the Public Wharf at Cape Broyle, in the District of Ferryland, from January 1st, 1911, to date, giving the names of the parties, dates and purposes of each payment; also copy of the returns for such expenditure; also the amount paid to, and the name of any persons, as commission in connection with such expenditure.

MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES.—I beg to table the information asked for.

Mr. Clift gave Notice of Question. Mr. Kent gave Notice of Question.

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 Municipal Act, 1912’”, with an amendment, in which they requested the concurrence of the House of Assembly.

On motion, the amendment was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

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 the Appropriation of private lands for certain Public Purposes,” with an amendment, in which they requested the concurrence of the House of Assembly.

On motion, the amendment was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

PULP AND PAPER RESOLUTIONS.

Pursuant to Notice and Leave granted, and on motion of Hon. the Prime Minister, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider certain Resolutions in relation to the establishment of a paper and pulp industry at Deer Lake, in the District of St. George.

Mr. Parsons took the Chair of Committee.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Speaker, in moving these resolutions I desire to say that I regret exceedingly that I was not able to furnish the members of this House during recess with a copy of the agreement, as it was only to-day that the agreement was signed, and on the present occasion I merely propose to ask the House to read the resolutions and the agreement, and then ask the Committee to rise so that ample opportunity may be afforded to everyone for the fullest discussion of what will be seen at once is a very import-
ant matter. I had hoped on Wednesday last that the agreement would have been signed on the next morning, so that I would be able during the week to furnish a copy to the members of the House, but nearly all the principals live in the States, and some of their associates live in England, and they had consequently to be cabled and some of them were away from business for Easter.

It is a matter of congratulation to this House and to the country that we have now every assurance that we are to have established at Deer Lake another large Paper and Pulp industry. The timber is there and if the Legislature grants the water power asked for by the parties, all the necessary power can be generated, sufficient to operate a very large paper and pulp mill. We have all heard and read, and by this time I hope we all know enough about the value of a new industry like that to make it unnecessary for me to say much in relation to it. The future of this country depends very largely on our efforts to increase the labour of the people. In the past what we have suffered from is, first the enforced idleness of our people for a large portion of the year. They fish only for a few months, and practically in the late autumn, winter and early spring there has been very little for them to do, their earning power, therefore, being restricted to a few months. The earning powers of our people are the lowest that I know of in any country in the world, certainly in any British Colony. Our families probably earn about $400 a year, while in Nova Scotia, our next door neighbour, the average family earns $1,000. Our future prosperity depends on increasing that power. To bring that about I know of no other way than to encourage manufacturing, turn our wood into paper and pulp, extract our minerals, manufacture our fish products upon the spot, and develop our agriculture. I lay special stress upon the development and manufacture of our fishery products. Take the ordinary seal skin. I understand that about $1.00 worth of labour goes into one seal skin to prepare it, and in a good year we get 400,000 skins. All these go away to be manufactured in the United States, a dead loss of a $400,000 industry. Then take our codfish. There is a large traffic between us and Gloucester. The Americans buy our fish, take it to Gloucester and there manufacture it, and turn it out into boneless cod and other things. I hope some day to see all that done at home, giving labour to our own people. The resolutions we are considering to-day must constitute a step in that direction, and I think the concessions asked for are reasonable. The parties who form the Company at present are H. C. Dykehouse, of the Acme Lumber Company, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, President; R. G. Williams, of the Eastern Basket and Veneer Company, Buffalo, N.Y.; W. C. Grobhiser, of Holland, Michigan; and B. C. Crittsinger, of Niagara Falls, N.Y. They have formed themselves into a company known as the American-Newfoundland Pulp and Lumber Company of Grand Rapids, in the State of Michigan, United States of America. These people as far as financial standing is concerned, are vouched for by two banks in Michigan, which I think will be found to be responsible and first class institutions. I had a cable sent to them enquiring, and these are the replies:

"Dear Sir Edward—Officers and directors of American Newfoundland Pulp and Lumber Company regarded men good business ability and reliable. Estimated worth two to four hundred thousand dollars each. Do not think they would undertake proposition they could not see way clear to handle.
"KENT STATE BANK,
"Henry Idema, President."

"Dear Sir Edward.—The American Newfoundland Pulp and Lumber Company, its officers and directors, are known to this bank. Outside any interest they may have in the Company, these gentlemen are worth up into the hundreds of thousands. From what we know of them they would not enter into an agreement of any kind without proper consideration, and we believe would be able to consummate any proposition entered upon.

"OLD NATIONAL BANK,
"Clay H. Hollister, V.P."

These then are the people who are agreeing with the Government, and these are the people who have vouched for their standing. Now, how did they acquire the title to the property? The lands they have they have acquired by purchase. They are not asking for any timber or other lands from the Crown. They are already the owners of and have a title in the properties upon which they propose operating. They acquired the properties by purchase by various assignments, and own over 600 square miles of timber lands along the shores of Deer Lake. These properties were originally leased to R. B. Job in 1904; Robert G. Pike in 1903, and Christopher Fisher, of Bay of Islands, in 1903. These people now have assigned to these Americans, who have paid something over $300,000 for the properties, as I am informed. For the convenience of the Committee I have brought copies and plans with me, so that the Committee may have the fullest possible information. The position, however, that the Company is confronted with is that, having acquired these very large areas around Deer Lake, they found there is not sufficient natural water power to justify them in erecting their mill, and it is doubtful whether it would pay them to operate it as a steam concern. They therefore ask to be permitted to raise the waters of Grand and Deer Lake, and some other minor concessions to which I shall refer later in more detail. The important concession is the maintaining of the water at Grand Lake at its high spring level, and the raising of the waters of Deer Lake 15 feet over high water mark. They hope by this means sufficient head of water will be obtained to give them power to operate the mill electrically.

In the first place the company have asked and the Government have granted them for a term of 99 years the right to maintain the waters of Grand Lake at their highest point, and to raise the waters of Deer Lake fifteen feet over high water mark. Now, dealing with Grand Lake first: In order that the House may be informed approximately, or as nearly as may be without detailed survey, I have made inquiries from Mr. Howley, the Geological Surveyor, who knows that country fairly well, and also Mr. Bayly, who lived near Grand Lake and had a farm there, and they both agreed that raising the waters of Grand Lake 10 feet above low water mark will mean keeping it at full spring tide. By damming Grand Lake and keeping the water as it is today we will not flood any new country; so that we can put aside the question as to damage to public or private property. I have also made inquiries from Mr. Joyce of the Reid Nfld Co., in charge of the engineering department; he says they have taken observations there for some years of the rise of the water in Grand Lake, on account of their bridge lower down; and he informed me that 10 feet is about a fair average. Mr. Howley is very clear on this point. He says:—
LETTER FROM MR. HOWLEY, F.G.S.

Geological Survey Office,
March 26, 1912.

Dear Sir Edward,—

In reply to your communication of yesterday's date, 1st, "as to the difference in height of the water of Grand Lake from its lowest summer level to the highest point attained during the early spring freshets," I may say, I cannot give any definite figures from my own personal knowledge. I have never been at the Lake in the early spring time, and can only speak from hearsay. I have seen the Lake in the month of June, when the water was close up to the bushes which fringe its shores, and again in mid-summer on several occasions, when at its lowest level. As near as I can judge, the difference in height on these occasions was between 6 and 7 feet. How much higher it may reach during the spring freshets I cannot say, but judging from the debris washed ashore and even piled up in the woods, at some points I should judge it to be fully 4 or 5 feet more. This is confirmed by the section men on the railway and others who have seen the waters at their highest.

In reference to the last part of the query, I do not think a rise of ten feet would submerge any more country or indeed as much as that covered by the highest spring floods.

No. 2. As regards Deer Lake. "If permission were granted to raise the waters of that Lake fifteen feet above high water mark, what extent of country would be flooded, etc."

I am equally at a loss to say what height the waters attain during the highest spring floods.

If we take the normal level of the high water mark and raise the level fifteen feet above this, and allow at least five feet for the extraordinary height in early spring, then the fifteen foot dam would cause a rise over all about ten feet. This would back up the water on the Upper Humber at least as far as the entrance to Junction Brook and render that portion of the River smooth water.

As to the amount of land along the sides of the Lake that may be submerged, nothing short of a series of levels taken from the lake shores inland could accurately determine this. On the northwest side of the lake, where the land rises rapidly inland, there being a few points where the shores are quite low, I do not think the submerged area would exceed on an average more than a couple of hundred yards, if indeed so much. The same applies generally to the south side of the lake, where the land slopes upwards still more rapidly from the shore. I believe there are only two or three points along this side where the waters would reach the level of the Railway track, viz., at South Brook and Pinn's Brook Crossings, and at Little Harbor.

I do not know of the existence of any mineral indications along the shores of the lake which would be injuriously affected. The oil shale deposits on the south side of the Lake are not exposed for some distance back from the shore, and the rise from the Lake to these outcrops is considerable.

Some portion of the lands so submerged are, or were, well timbered, but the best timber has long since been culled out. By far the greater portion of the land so submerged would consist of low lying flat land near the mouths of the small inflowing Brooks, and the numerous low, rocky or sandy points jutting out into the Lake.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

JAMES P. HOWLEY.

Here is what Mr. Bayly says:—
LETTER FROM MR. BAYLY.
St. John’s, Nfld.,
25th March, 1912.
Rt. Hon. Sir E. P. Morris, K.C.,
Prime Minister.

Dear Sir,—I have lived at Deer Lake for about ten years. Deer Lake is about nine miles from Grand Lake. I know the country around Grand Lake, having been there frequently each year, and have gone around the Lake while on a survey with Mr. J. P. Howley, Geological Surveyor. Speaking from memory, and without any statistics before me, I should say that the waters of Grand Lake rise at flood tide in the spring over the level or mark of low water in August and September about ten feet. The land is very high everywhere at Grand Lake, excepting at the eastern and western ends. At the eastern end it is low.

I know Deer Lake and the country in that neighborhood very well. Raising the Lake fifteen feet above the level of mark of high water, would, in my opinion, (of course without any exact plans or statistics), flood the Lake somewhat as follows:—On the north side I should suppose there would be an average of half a mile all along the shore, excepting at a few places where the land rises from the shore. The character of this area is average agricultural, timber, and shale lands. On the south side the railway travels right down the Lake from end to end, and is never away from the shore of the Lake one quarter of a mile. My opinion is that the track will be flooded in many places, and the land between the track and the Lake covered by the rise of fifteen feet of water. The eastern end of the Lake will become submerged fully half a mile from the shore of the Lake.

Your obedient servant,

ALBERT J. BAYLY.

We may fairly gather from this evidence, Mr. Chairman, that the raising of Grand Lake 10 feet above low water will practically have the effect of maintaining the water at the level it attains in the spring; perhaps not as much, because Mr. Howley thinks that flood tide in the spring is probably a little more than 10 feet. The evidence we have from Mr. Joyce shows that it is probably correct to say about 10 feet. As regards Deer Lake I have had a map prepared which will be of interest to the committee, showing the portions round Deer Lake which will be submerged. Much of it belongs to the Humber River Pulp Company under consideration, some to the Reid Nfld. Co., a little to the Telegraph Co., and some small farms like those of Mr. Nicholls and Mr. Bayly. Some of the lands then likely to be flooded belong to private parties, some to the Crown. It will be noticed that in the agreement provision is made for arbitration for the compensation for any lands flooded, either to private parties or to the Crown. In section 3 of the agreement compensation is provided for any public damage that may be caused. The Crown will have to be paid damages for all the lands flooded that are of any value to the Crown. Land that is let for agricultural or timber or mineral purposes is an earning power, but land flooded is absolutely lost, except indirectly so far as the industry is an earning power. The same provision is made regarding lands belonging to individuals in which the Government may have an interest, reversionary or otherwise. Then again as regards the railway; the contractor has it for 40 years, but then it comes back to the Government, and the Government must take care that nothing may be done now which when that time comes would increase the expenses of maintenance. As regards compen-
sation for private parties, section 4 provides for that. Any lands injured by the construction of these dams will have to be compensated for by arbitration. The Government have made the clause for arbitration a little different from the usual arbitration clause in that they have provided that the matter must be settled by arbitration. Private parties may agree instead of arbitrating if they can do so; but the rights of the Crown have to be settled by arbitration. Then if the amount is objected to there is an appeal to the Supreme Court. Section 5 of the agreement relates to private lands in connection with sewerage rights, etc. That, practically, is a verbatim copy of the Harmsworth agreement in that respect. The other sections that I have referred to deal with compensation in relation to land that may be flooded by the construction of this water power, but section 5 deals with the land that may be required to be taken from private parties in relation to the construction of their telegraphs, telephones, railways, tramways, and flowage rights along the banks of streams. Now, you will notice that there is a slight difference between this section and that of the Harmsworth contract. Under the Harmsworth contract, they can go in and take the land, while in this contract the Government has to be satisfied that the land is required for the purposes referred to in the section before the Company is permitted to negotiate or do anything at all in relation to the matter. That was considered necessary so that the parties might not act arbitrarily. Section 5 deals with the mill sites. The Company is given 2,000 acres, at the usual rate of thirty cents an acre, for the site of its mill. Under section 7 they are given 5,000 acres of unoccupied Crown lands, should they require it, for their telegraphs, telephones, railways, tramways and roads, and sites for mills. That provision is practically the same as that of the Harmsworth contract in that respect, except that the Harmsworths were given 10,000 acres while in the present case only 5,000 is given. You will note also by the wording of the section that the Government will allow this 'upon being satisfied that such lands are required for the purposes aforesaid.' The next section, 8, deals with arbitrations. That I have already explained. An arbitrator will be appointed by each party—one by the Company and one by the individual affected—and the Minister of Agriculture will be the umpire; and then provision is made for appeal direct to the Supreme Court. Section 9 merely calls upon the Company to use diligence in arranging with the parties in relation to any land to be taken. Section 10 provides that security of $250,000 shall be put up by the 1st October next, and this whole agreement will cease and determine if that security is not put up. The Company, having fully considered what they are going into, have agreed to that. They have also agreed, as you will notice by section 11, to commence actual construction work not later than the 1st May, 1913. By sections 12 and 13, provision is made for the construction of fish ladders, so that the fish will be able to get up into these lakes, and also for the passage of small boats up through the dam. Section 14 merely deals with the general vested rights of parties around the lakes, so that their interests will in no way be affected. Section 15 is the same as the Harmsworth contract in relation to the appointment of a chief Fire Warden. Section 16 is the same as the Harms-
worth contract in relation to the admission of materials duty free for the original installation of the mills; and Section 17 merely contains the covenant for peaceable possession. Sub-section "A" deals with the renewal of their lease every 99 years, the same as the Harmsworth contract; "B" and "C" are also the same as the Harmsworth contract, providing that the property at Deer Lake will be exempted from municipal taxation; and sub-section "D" gives them the right to construct telephone and telegraph lines on their premises in connection with their mills. Section 18 deals with forfeiture. Should the lease or license to cut timber on the limits described in section 1 be forfeited at any time, then the rights under section 2 lapse also; in other words, if the rights to cut timber under the licenses which they have acquired by assignment cease at any time, or lapse, then the rights under the other section follow also. I trust, Mr. Speaker, that the initial work of this Company may be speedily accomplished. Every one of us, I think, has had some experience of the difficulty of enlisting capital in relation to the development of our timber. Up to the present time we have only been successful in two cases—the Harmsworths at Grand Falls and the Albert E. Reed Co. at Bishops Falls. We are glad to note that both of these companies are now safely launched and prosperously advancing, and, from all I can learn, carrying out the best hopes of their promoters. It will be a great thing for Newfoundland if the present mill is established at Deer Lake. I understand that at the present moment two or three other pulp propositions are being worked up, and I hope that before the Legislature meets again we will be able to complete arrangements for two other pulp propositions. An English Company is now investigating a property near Little River, Burgeo, and from what I can learn they are satisfied that it is only a question of securing a good water power. The Government is also at the present time negotiating with a gentleman here representing some Americans, who have a very fine property down on the Gander River—property that they have acquired by purchase and under license. I have met Mr. Lloydson, the representative of that Company, who is now in the city, and he tells me that he has every reason for believing that the present season will witness the commencement of his operations. He has already got seven or eight thousand feet of lumber there to erect his buildings, and is going to build a certain number of miles of railway to connect with our railway so that he may be able to get his materials. On the whole, the outlook is bright as regards the development of our pulp areas. We have also to remember that there is a very fine proposition in connection with the Timber Estates that has not yet been developed but is capable, I believe, of affording all the necessary raw material for a successful pulp and paper concern; and then there is the big proposition at Grand Lake, a great portion of which is owned by the Reid Newfoundland Co., who have a very fine water power at Junction Brook. When all these properties are worked up we may look forward confidently to the establishment of a permanent industry in our midst which will give permanent employment to a large number of our people, and thus reduce the number of those who in the past have had to depend entirely on the fisheries. What we have suffered from, as I
have so often pointed out, is that we have been carrying all our eggs in one basket. We have had to depend entirely on the fisheries. When there was a good price for fish and we were able to make a fairly good catch, everything was prosperous; but when we met with a bad fishery, or bad prices, everyone suffered. Now we are gradually getting away from that. Every day witnesses the introduction of new industries, small and large, and they are all contributing something. They are like the small streams that act as feeders to the parent stream that makes the great river that produces the great flood. Let us hope, Mr. Speaker, that we are now about to come into this flood of prosperity, and that this enterprise, with others, will be fully considered and generously treated by those whose duty it is to do so. As I have said before, it is not my desire now to do more than to ask the House to go into Committee and read the resolutions. I shall then ask that the Committee rise, so that we may have every opportunity of discussing the matter in all its details. We are approaching the close of the session, but I am most anxious that a matter of such importance as this should not be in any way affected by that. It is not my intention to ask that the rules of the House be suspended until this measure has been fully discussed and passed through its various stages.

MR. KENT—Mr. Chairman, I don't intend to discuss these resolutions this afternoon for the reason that I have not read them yet. I listened attentively to the Prime Minister's explanation of the nature of the agreement which has been made with this Company—the American Pulp and Lumber Co., of Grand Rapids, in the State of Michigan. The proposal that this agreement embodies is a special arrangement that is being made with this Company; and I must say that the explanation which the Prime Minister gave in introducing the resolutions did not strike me as being of that definite character which one would expect in dealing with the subject. The reports of the engineers and the geological surveyors, to which he has referred, are based, as regards the spring tides, on both these lakes, upon hearsay. Mr. Howley, if I remember rightly, in the report which he made, said that he had not visited these lakes at the time of the year when the tide would be at its highest; and Mr. Bailey, who lived in the neighborhood of Deer Lake, stated that he knew the locality, but that his visits around the lakes were when he accompanied Mr. Howley on his survey. I think, Sir, that it ought first to be established that there is something peculiar in the conditions existing in this locality. It ought to be shown by real evidence that such a proposition as the present is necessary.

The Prime Minister has spoken of other propositions which are in course of negotiation or being considered. This leads us to the position that we are about to have a number of these pulp and paper mills established in this country, and I think, Sir, that the idea of dealing with them individually by contract or agreement in this way is wrong. It might have been justified, and probably was justified, in the case of the pioneer company—the company which came in first and really proved the possibilities of commercially turning these pulp areas to a successful result. Now, Sir, we have this Company coming in and getting special privileges, while the Albert E. Reed Company, established at Bishops
Falls, obtained no special privileges from this Legislature so far as I am aware; and next year we may have another Company coming here which may desire to establish a pulp or paper mill and may not be able to come to terms with the Government. Now, Sir, I don't think that is the condition in which this matter should be. I think it is the duty of the Government to make up their minds as to what they consider would be the most advantageous conditions, in the interests of the colony, upon which the pulp areas of the country could be turned to advantage and to have definite laws embodied in general enactments, so that those desirous of entering into the pulp industry would know exactly what they were doing and what conditions they would have to meet. Again, Sir, I think that the evidence which the Prime Minister has given the House regarding the effects of the flooding of these two lakes is unsatisfactory, to say the least of it, as regards its conclusiveness. I don't think that the Committee is very much wiser, from the explanation which has been given, as to the extent of the flooding which will take place as a result of the operations of this Company. It depends to a large extent upon the formation of the land surrounding the lakes. You are bringing it up to the flood tide in the case of Grand Lake, and fifteen feet above flood tide in the case of Deer Lake. Well, Sir, I don't know exactly what that means, and I don't think that there is anything before the Committee that will enlighten the members as to its meaning—as to the nature of the country to be flooded, the extent of the flooding, and so forth. It is true, Sir, that the agreement, as the Prime Minister said provides for compensation, but I think we ought to have some more definite idea as to what the nature of the injury to be compensated for will be before we accept this agreement. My remarks now are only directed to the statements which the Prime Minister has made in reference to the agreement, because I have not yet read it. I understand that it is the intention to consider the matter at a later sitting, when I shall have an opportunity of discussing the agreement on its merits.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Just one or two words, Mr. Chairman, in reply to the hon. member. In the first place I desire to emphatically say that I entirely disagree with him that we can make any law which will apply to the development of the timber lands of this country. If there is any one thing that requires a special agreement in every case, it is the development of this industry. If we were dealing here today with the fishing industry—the cure and export of fish—it might be possible to make a general law that would apply in all cases; but we are dealing with a matter that requires a definite agreement in relation to every case. Take the Grand Falls Company. All they had to do was to go out and build their dam, put in the flume, and build the power house, and the thing was accomplished. In this case, these people, after expending nearly half a million dollars, find themselves without a water power. They might as well have that property out on the prairies; and unless you want that property to remain as it is, and as it has been since the days of the aborigines—the 'home of the deer', as it has been termed—you have to do everything in your power to assist in its development. You have there fine timber and oceans of water, but no fall, and you could not create a power
out of the Atlantic Ocean, if you had it tomorrow, unless there was a fall. These people come in and they say, "Well, we can make a fall there at a very large expenditure. It would be very much better for us if there was a fall, but since there isn't, we will construct one." And they have to pay for every acre that is flooded. Is that the case with Harmsworths? Is that the case with the Reid Newfoundland Co., who have probably one of the finest pulp properties in the world over at Grand Lake, with a splendid water power at Junction Brook? These people, after having paid $350,000 for these timber properties, find themselves without a water power, and they ask us to allow them to keep Grand Lake up to its normal height at flood tide—to let them put a dam across the mouth and keep the water from flowing out. That is all they ask. In relation to Deer Lake, they ask to raise that fifteen feet above high-water mark, which Mr. Howley allowed to be about ten feet. In other words, he says that there is a difference of about fifteen feet between flood tide in spring and ordinary high water. This may on one side of the Lake flood the railway, but these people say: "We will raise the Lake and pay all expenses and all damages, and will give you a substantial sum to guarantee that payment for all time." Well what are we going to do? Are we going to allow them to leave the country, and give the country a black eye, as it were? or are we going to give them this concession, and convert a liability into an asset? By giving this concession we make valuable that which is of no value to-day. The evidence as to the flooding is unsatisfactory, my learned friend says—as to the extent of country to be flooded. Well, I admit that, but does he expect us to send out a staff of surveyors with an engineer next summer and spend $100,000 having surveys made over every part of that country? Why, Mr. Speaker, that Lake is over 60 miles long, and taking both sides, there would be 120 miles to be surveyed; and there is an Island in the centre of that Lake over thirty miles long; and every foot of that would have to be surveyed. It would cost, at the very least, $100,000 before we could come before this House with an exact statement of details. But while we cannot give an accurate survey. We do the very best thing. We go to Mr. Howley, who is the geological surveyor, who has lived in that country, travelled around the whole Lake, and we go to the man who was his assistant, and they give us a very fair idea of what flooding would take place and we must presume that they know what it would be for they are as familiar with that lake as we are with Quidi Vidi. If a man asked us what would be the effect of raising the level of Quidi Vidi ten feet, I think we could give him some idea of what would happen. My learned friend says that he has not read the Resolutions. This is not his fault for he has not had time, but I can assure him and the committee that the agreement was not executed, until it had received the most careful consideration and I venture to say that not one suggestion can be made to improve it from the standpoint of looking after the public interests. No grant of land in fee simple has been made to these people as in the case of the Harmsworths, but in saying this I do not wish to be understood as saying one word against the Harmsworth contract for I was a party to it. The land is given to these people by license, merely a license to cut tim-
ber, and where there is no timber people can settle to-morrow and be given a good title by the Crown. The proposition is an entirely different ones as regards the rights of the public. These people have the timber lands under their licenses and have paid their money. It would be gross dishonesty, therefore, on our part to withhold any reasonable concessions that may be necessary for the purpose of turning the timber into pulp and paper. They have paid their rents and they have told us that they cannot work the property without certain concessions. These concessions we are willing to grant and I hope that when my learned friend has had time to study the resolutions he will consider the agreement to be a good one for the colony.

MR. DOWNEY—I do not wish to start any discussion on the resolutions, which I am convinced will commend themselves to the common sense and good judgment of the House, but my reason for speaking is to set at rest the doubt which has arisen in the mind of my learned friend opposite with regard to the uncertainty as to the flood limit and the dangers that may arise when the waters of the lake are raised. I may say that I have been there on ten different occasions when the waters were at their full height, and I can give my personal assurance that at no time did they exceed the limits named by Messrs. Howley and Bayly. The undertaking opens up great possibilities to that part of the island, and I trust that when the plans of the parties materialize they will prove beneficial to the colony and to all the interests involved.

MR. KENT—I would like to point out to my hon. friend that it is impossible that anybody has seen Deer Lake fifteen feet higher than at ordinary flood tide. If my hon. friend is in a position to say what effect it would have on the adjoining country at that height, his remarks would be of value to us, but I do not think that he has seen the lake at that height.

MR. DOWNEY—In reply to my learned friend I would say that I am so familiar with the topography of the district in question that I can say without any hesitation that I cannot imagine how any possible injury can accrue, for which compensation will have to be paid, from the raising of the level of the lake. I know the country and I make this statement with absolute sincerity.

MR. KENT—May I ask the Rt. hon. Prime Minister if the company is registered in Newfoundland?

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—I am not quite sure, but I shall find out by next sitting of the House.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred, had made some progress, and asked leave to sit again on to-morrow.

On motion this report was received and adopted; and it was ordered that the Committee have leave to sit again on to-morrow.

ELECTION BILL.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—In moving the third reading of this bill I would like to make some observations on the remarks made by the hon. member for St. John's East, Mr. Kent, when we were last debating the bill. On that occasion my learned friend was replying to certain statements made by me as to the duration of Parliament. In referring to the Election Act, which has been amended, I merely pointed out that the amendment had no effect on the duration of Parliament. If we take the Voters List in September next it will
be of no use in November 1913 for it must be taken within a year of the date of the election to be of any use. My learned friend contended that the precedents which I named were not in point because, he said, the duration of Parliament was originally fixed by the Act 4 William IV Cap. 7, which said that Parliament could not exist longer than four years. Before that Act there was no limit to the duration of Parliament, and my learned friend had come to the House with a carefully prepared statement of the law and the facts, which, after the conclusion of the debate, he handed over to the Evening Herald for publication, after carefully writing and revising the article, and it was published in the Herald of April 4th, I do not blame him for writing the article, but I cannot think he wrote the heading, which of course must be blamed on the Editor. The heading was:

"Mr. J. M. Kent disposes of the Premier's Precedents, shows that they are not relevant to the present case." In his statement, Mr. Kent says,—

The Premier had referred to precedents. He did not think them precedents at all. In each of these cases the Legislature was in existence during the period named by the Premier, namely from May 7th, 1855 to November, 1859, and from April 1861 to November 1869, and they could not be applied to the present case at all. The law relating to the matter had been changed since then. In this colony the first law bearing on the duration of Parliament was passed in 1836, 4 William IV., Chapter 7. It is an Act in two sections.

"Section (1) provides for the term of the then existing legislature which it says will by law terminate "in 1838." The second section reads as follows: All future Houses of Assembly to have continuance notwithstanding the demise of the Crown, for a period of four years from the day on which they shall, by proclamation, be appointed to meet; not to prevent dissolution by the Crown sooner if deemed expedient."

"Prior to that date," Mr. Kent went on to say, "there was no law bearing on the duration of the Legislature, and by this Act, that is 4 William IV., Cap. 7, the House of Assembly was to have continuance notwithstanding the demise of the Crown, for four years. This remained law until 1872 when a natural change was made. There was no negative provision in the Act of 1836, an omission which was remedied in 1872. The Act reads as follows,—

"The General Assembly shall continue notwithstanding the demise of Her Majesty, for four years from the day to which they shall, by Proclamation, be appointed to meet, unless sooner dissolved, and no longer. It was in the period between these two enactments that the cases referred to yesterday by the Premier had occurred. The words and no longer were added to the Act of 1872, and that continues the law to-day. The law was not the same in 1859 or 1865, the elections in which years had been cited by the Premier, as it is now. Hence precedents of that date were not relevant now."

My learned friend, therefore, contended that it was not till 1872 that the words "and no longer" were added, and that therefore I was wrong in my contention. Now much as I regret having repeatedly to differ
from him, yet I wish to point out to the House that his law is entirely astray, absolutely and entirely. I say that the amendment to which he referred was not made in 1872. It was always the law from 1836, and he will be surprised to know that he has entirely misquoted the Act. Now, what does my hon. friend say to that? The fact is he has been entirely misled by quoting from an abridgment of our laws by the late Attorney General Archibald in 1847, and which omits those words. If my learned friend had looked up the original law of 1836, he would not have placed himself in the position in which he finds himself to-day. My hon. friend says the words “and no longer” were added to the Act of 1872, and that continues the law to-day, but I say that by reference to the statute of 1836, it will be seen that the words “and no longer” were then a part of the Act, and remains so until the present day. Now, what is the history of this legislation? On May 8th, 1835, an Act 5, William IV., Cap. 10, was passed regulating the duration of Parliament, and that provided that Parliament should continue for four years “and no longer”. The records show that this Act was disallowed, but was re-enacted the next year, 1836, and this Act, the Act of 1836, contains the very words that my hon. friend says were not in the Act till 1872. The Act of 1836, which was an Act of 6 William IV., c 7, was as follows:—

Sec 1.—That from henceforth each and every House of Assembly which shall at any time or times hereafter be convened, shall, notwithstanding the demise of the Crown, have continuance for the period of four years to be computed from the day on which by Proclamation, such Assembly shall first be duly appointed to meet, and

no longer.

Section 2.—Provided always that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to prevent His Majesty, his heirs or successors, from dissolving any Assembly, should he or they deem it expedient so to do. Now the Herald contained the statement that these words were first added in 1872. That statement was also made by Mr. Kent in this House, and in the Act of 1836 he left out the words “and no longer”. I have brought the original Act of 1836, as well as the Act of 1835, here with me, so that my learned friend may have an opportunity of perusing the same, and so that anyone that likes can see for himself that what I am saying is perfectly correct. Again, my learned friend says that the Act of 1836 was an Act of 4 William IV., but it is not 4 William IV., it is 6 William IV. I can quite sympathize with my learned friend on the manner in which he has been misled in this matter, because Archibald makes the same mistake and says that the year 1836 was 4 William IV., whereas it should be 6 William IV. In further proof of my contention, I have here an authority which my learned friend cannot but acknowledge, and that is “Little on the Constitution”. This was written in 1855 by the late Philip Little, at one time Attorney General and Prime Minister of the colony, and one of the Judges of the Supreme Court. On page 43 of this standard work, Judge Little states that the law dealing with the duration of the House of Assembly is as follows:—

“That from henceforth each and every House of Assembly which shall at any time or times hereafter be convened shall, notwithstanding the demise of the Crown, have continuance for the period of four years to be computed from the day on which
by Proclamation such Assembly shall be duly appointed to meet and no longer."

And it will be noticed that the words "and no longer" are contained in this section. Now this shows plainly that my learned friend has been misled. Perhaps I am anticipating his answer, but I feel that he was quoting, as already pointed out, from a digest of the law by Archibald, who was at one time Attorney General for the colony, and afterwards British Consul at New York, because in Archibald's digest on page 187 the section dealing with the duration of Parliament is quoted, and the important words relied on by Mr. Kent "and no longer" are omitted, and on the same page the mistake occurs of quoting the Act of 1836 as 4 William IV., which is the error into which Mr. Kent has fallen. There is no Act dealing with the duration of Parliament known as 4 William IV., because the year which the Act was passed, namely, 1836, would be 6 William IV. Archibald however corrects the mistake on page 226 of the same book, where he quotes the Act as "Duration of Assemblies, 6 William IV., Cap. 7, 1836." This knocks the bottom entirely out of the argument of my learned friend. It shows either that he deliberately misquoted for the purpose of deceiving or misleading the House and the public, or that he was entirely misinformed of what the law really was, and had been misled by the abridgment in Archibald. Now, Mr. Speaker, I have shown that the words "and no longer" were part of the original law, but even if these words were not there I would still contend successfully before any court, that the wording of the statute "For the period of four years from the day on which by Proclamation they shall be appointed to meet" must be read as words of limitation, and if the words "and no longer" had not been inserted in the original Act, there would have been no necessity to place them there. They were mere surplusage; words used by lawyers for charging more money, or to make sure that there would be no trouble. It would be impossible to word it any stronger than was conveyed by the words as quoted by Mr. Kent to limit Parliament to four years. Now in view of what I have said, my learned friend in future can give a little more consideration to his law than he has in the present case; but what is true of his law is also true of his facts, and I want to show to this House how far astray he is in relation to his facts. I stated here the other day that after the general election of 1861, held in April, Parliament met the following May. My learned friend said that was not so, that it did not meet till January 28th, 1862, and on that point he rubbed it into me in his article in the Evening Herald. He says, "That the House elected in April 1861 was not summoned to meet until January 28th, 1862; that it met on that date for the first time; the four years did not commence to run until that date; and did not expire until January 1866; that the election held in January 1865 was within the four year period; that there was no parallel between that case and the present; the members of the House were elected in April 1861; and might be summoned at any time by the Governor during the following summer or autumn should occasion require it." But what will the House think of my hon. friend's facts and law, when it is shown that he is entirely astray, that it is not correct that the House elected in April 1861 was not summoned to meet until Jan.
28th, 1862. As a matter of fact, that was the date of the meeting for the second session. I have brought with me the original journal in which the Proclamation of Governor Bannerman appears, dated the 7th March, 1861, dissolving the Legislature; and on the 6th April, 1861, a Proclamation for the election for the 26th April of that year; and the Proclamation dated the 3rd May calling the Legislature together for the 13th May for the despatch of business. The Legislature met on the 13th May, 1861, and sat until June 26th. That was the first session of the 8th General Assembly, 1861. My learned friend has quoted from the second session which opened on January 28th, 1862. Now that establishes my position clearly.

On two or three occasions I have pointed out in the House the various instances in which spring elections had been held, and in which no elections had taken place for 4½ years after the holding of the General election, with the result that there had been no Parliament in any of the cases, for six months. I have already pointed out the cases and it is not necessary for me to do anything further now except quote them again in detail.

The first was the case of May 9th, 1837; the next, May 7th, 1855; and the other, May 2nd, 1861.

The General Election in 1837 was held on May 9th. The 1st session 2nd General Assembly met on Wednesday, July 13, 1837; 2nd session 2nd General Assembly met Wednesday, June 20, 1838; 3rd session 2nd General Assembly met on Monday, Aug. 20, 1838; 4th session 2nd General Assembly met on Monday, May 17, 1839; 5th session 2nd General Assembly met on Friday, Jan. 31, 1840; 6th session 2nd General Assembly met on Saturday, Jan. 2, 1841.

On April 26th, the House closed by Proclamation.

There was no General Election held in the years 1841 or 1842 for the reason that the Constitution was suspended, and no Parliament was held until the year 1843 when it was held under an Imperial Act.

In the year 1855 the General Election was held on May 7th. The 1st session 6th General Assembly met on Tuesday, May 22, 1855; 2nd session 6th General Assembly met on Tuesday, Jan. 15, 1856; 3rd session 6th General Assembly met on Thursday, Jan. 29, 1857; 4th session 6th General Assembly met on Thursday, Jan. 28, 1858; 5th session 6th General Assembly met on Thursday, Jan. 27, 1859. On April 19th, 1859, the Legislature was prorogued. The dissolution took place on May 22nd, and on November 7th, 1859, the General Election was held.

In the case of the year 1861 the General Election was held on the 2nd May. The 1st session 8th General Assembly met on Monday, May 13, 1861; 2nd session 8th General Assembly met on Tuesday, Jan. 28, 1862; 3rd session 8th General Assembly met on Wednesday, Jan. 28, 1863; 4th session 8th General Assembly met on Thursday, Jan. 28, 1864; 5th session 8th General Assembly met on Friday, Jan. 27, 1865.

On April 7th, 1865, the House was prorogued till May 1st. On May 2nd, 1865, Proclamation of Dissolution; and on November 11th, 1865, the General Election was held.

It is quite clear from these records that six months elapsed between the time of the dissolution of Parliament, and the date of the holding of the General Election.

My learned friend has also referred in this now celebrated article of the Herald, to certain precedents which have occurred in recent times, viz.,
in 1897, when the Legislature was dissolved in September; in 1900, and in 1904, but he has conveniently winked out of sight the other precedents against his case, which I quoted here in the House during the present session, and which have not been answered, and which are:

In 1869 Parliament was dissolved on June 29th; the General Election took place on November 8th.
In 1873 Parliament was dissolved on June 17th, and the General Election was held on November 3rd.
In 1878 Parliament was dissolved on June 25th, and the General Election took place in the following November.
In 1882 Parliament was dissolved on the 22nd July; in 1888 the dissolution took place on the 1st July, and in 1889 on the 2nd July, and in each of these years the election was not held until November.

It simply means that during all these years there was no Parliament between the date of the dissolution, generally between June and July, and the following November or December when the General Election was held, and which, together with the quotations given for the years 1837, 1855 and 1861 completely established this position, namely, that it is perfectly constitutional for a period of six months to exist without any Parliament.

It occurred in 1859 when the Parliament was prorogued on April 19th, dissolved on May 22nd, and the General Election was held on November 7th after six months had elapsed; in 1861 the dissolution took place on May 2nd, and the General Election on November 11th. In the case under consideration we shall only have a period of five months.

And therefore our case is very much stronger in that Parliament will exist, and will not be dissolved until after the 1st of June.

MR. KENT—Mr. Speaker, just one or two words by way of explanation. I have no reason to dispute the statement made by the Prime Minister as to the Act of 1836, and I have to say that when looking this matter up the other day, I had recourse to Archibald's Digest, which is recognized as an authority amongst the profession, as a book of reference as to what the law had been. I did not think it really necessary to refer from Archibald back to the original Act. I find now that by not doing so, I was led into making a mistake. I do not wish to take a position in this House which I think might be misinterpreted, but when an honest mistake is made, I am prepared to admit it. Now, as regards the holding of the General Election in the fall of 1913. I do not think, Sir, that this question is at all affected, those precedents do not in any way affect the main argument, postponing the taking of the voter's list, until such time as a general election is held. As I pointed out before when the Bill came before the Committee, it prevents the holding of an election until 1913. The Legislature closes now, and consequently no election can be held during the present summer. It practically ties the Governor's hands, as to whether an election will be held between now and the fall of 1913.

Now as to the Journal of 1861. I find that the elections in that year were held in April, and the House was dissolved in March 1865. I had searched the records and could not find any record of any session between April and the following January. It appears now that there was a session held shortly after the Gen-
eral election. That of course would be a stronger argument, and instead of bringing the time within the four years, would extend the period from May in 1861, until the elections in Nov. 1865, a period of over 4 years. I said, Sir, I was not aware whether a session was held the year of the election, until the Journal was introduced here this afternoon, but, even, Sir, I want to state that these facts in no way effect the main objections which were raised to this Act. The precedents which were quoted by the Prime Minister do not in any way affect it. The list of voters could have been taken in the ordinary way, taken during the coming summer, and the elections held in the ordinary course of events in November next.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER—I do not think that my learned friend was very happy in his remarks. Archibald may be an authority up to 1847, but no one goes to him for the law after that time, especially for amendments to the Statute law. It may be an authority from an antiquarian’s standpoint, but a man to come into this House, and raise a question of law, and then consider it of sufficient importance to publish it in the Press, ought to look for his authorities somewhere else. Then my friend also took exception to my statement of the elections in 1861. He says that this is no way affects the main agreement. But he considered it of sufficient importance to have his remarks on it published. But my learned friend has now found that it was he that was wrong, and that I was right.

The bill was thereupon 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.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Wednesday, April 10th at three of the clock in the afternoon. The House then adjourned accordingly.

WEDNESDAY, April 10th, 1912.
The House met at three of the clock in the afternoon, pursuant to adjournment.

PETITIONS.

MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of South River in the District of Port de Grave, asking for a grant of $50 for the construction of a public well at South River. The importance of such a matter is evident in relation to public health and I hope the Government will be able to give it attention.

MR. KENNEDY.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from a number of farmers of the West End. It appears that the river up there rises in the spring and overflows, and very often tears up the Bay Bulls Road and makes it dangerous for horses. These people are industrious and deserving. They ask for $200 to deepen and widen the river so as to prevent this overflow, and now that the Government are devoting attention to agriculture I hope they will give them attention.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the petition presented by my colleague. I know the locality and it is really a deserving case. I hope that when we are making our District allocations we may be able to do something for it.

MR. WHITEWAY.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from a number of the inhabitants of Old Perlican on the subject of Sunday observance at the sealfishery and in connec
tion with the coastal service. This petition represents practically the whole electorate of Old Perlican. There are no two opinions on this important question, and I am sorry that my colleague is not here this afternoon, as I am sure he would have supported me. I had hoped that the many petitions on this subject this year would have brought forth something in the shape of a bill; however, from sealers returned from this year's fishery I learn that though on board one of the largest ships, with 270 men, where every inducement was held out to the men to work on Sunday, only about 20 or 25 were found to do so. I hope that this petition will receive the consideration it merits.

QUESTIONS.

MR. CLIFT asked the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of the expenditure of all monies allocated during the years 1910 and 1911 to the Road Board at Burnt Head, in the Electoral District of Port de Grave, for the construction or repair of the public wharf or landing place at that place.

HON. MINISTER MARINE AND FISHERIES.—A statement is being prepared.

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. Minister Agriculture and Mines to lay on the table of the House copies of the following: (1) Minute of Council with date under which a license to cut timber on certain areas of land situated on Terra Nova River and inland from Alexander Bay, held by one Sibthorpe, was cancelled; (2) Application of one B. McGrath for said areas; (3) Letter forwarding said application for consideration of the Government; (4) Minute of Council made in relation to same; and (5) All correspondence which has taken place since 1st Dec., 1911, and the present date, between the Minister and the said applicant or any other applicants in relation to said areas.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—The statement is being prepared.

MR. CLIFT.—May I ask the hon. member if the Minute of Council will be furnished.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—I do not think so.

MR. KENT asked the Hon. the Prime Minister to lay on the table of the House copies of all correspondence between the Government or any office or department thereof in relation to the negotiations for and the execution of the agreement between the Government and the American Newfoundland Pulp and Lumber Company now before this House, also of a memorandum and new articles of Association of said Company.

RT. HON PRIME MINISTER.—I beg to table the matters asked for. As regards the latter part of the question, the Company is not incorporated in this Colony, and I have not a copy of the Memorandum and Articles.

MUNICIPAL BILL.

Second Reading of Council's amendment to Municipal Bill.

RT. HON PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Speaker, in moving the adoption of the Bill I might say that it is merely a very simple amendment to allow the public to obtain any information that may be on file in the Council's office. The bill that went up to the Legislative Council was merely to authorize the Council to take and hold the property presented by the Bowring firm as a park. This other section is an addition made by the Upper House. I am not aware that the Council have any records at present but the titles to their own offices, but it may be that from time to time documents may be filed there. I see no possible objection to that section.

The amendment was thereupon read a second time and concurred in; and it was ordered that a message be
sent to the Legislative Council acquainting that body that the House of Assembly had passed the amendment.

APPROPRIATION OF LANDS BILL.
Second Reading of Council's amendments to appropriation of Lands Bill.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—Mr. Speaker, the amendment made by the Council in this bill is in the clause with regard to arbitration. The Bill provided that the parties shall appoint two arbitrators and the third shall be the Minister of Agriculture and Mines. The Council suggest adding "or some person appointed under his head," and I see no possible objection to this.

The amendment was thereupon read a second time and concurred in; and it was ordered that a message be sent to the Legislative Council acquainting that body that the House of Assembly had passed the amendment without amendment.

PULP AND PAPER RESOLUTIONS.
Pursuant to order and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the Deer Lake Pulp and Paper Industry Resolutions.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Parsons took the Chair of Committee.

MR. CLIFT.—Mr. Chairman, I don't want to offer any remarks in opposition to the contract which has been entered into, but I think that we ought to have some definite legislation upon our statute books to cover these propositions, now that we have some information and some knowledge as to what is generally required by companies coming here for the purpose of establishing these industries, and let the same law and the same principles apply to each. In the case of the Albert E. Reed Co., they came and established their works without the necessity of any special Act of Parliament. They have exemption from duty upon machinery, just as this Company has, and as the Harmsworths have, but they have no special statutory rights other than those contained in their licenses. I think it would be advisable, now that there is the prospect of other companies coming for the purpose of establishing these pulp and paper mills, to pass some general legislation which would enable those companies to know exactly what the law was and what the terms and conditions were under which they could come in and operate. It might have the effect—and I think that would be the desire of all—of facilitating these companies in establishing their mills. I can quite understand that in dealing with these matters the Government and this House is, to a very great extent, in the dark, that is to say, we do not know exactly what we are dealing with. A Company or an individual acquires a license to cut timber over a certain area of land. Whether that timber be for lumbering purposes or for the purpose of being converted into pulp or paper it matters not; but the Government approves an application to an individual or a company to cut timber over an area of land, and at the time the Government has no knowledge or information as to whether or not there is any timber upon that land. And the same thing applies to water powers. There is no information on file in any of the Departments as to our various water powers; and it is very unsatisfactory, I should imagine, looking at it from a Government standpoint, to be dealing in these matters and granting these licenses and concessions without knowing exactly what we are granting. I don't say it is the fault of the present or any other administration, but it seems to me to be a misfortune that the Government is not in possession of more information.
with regard to its timber resources and its water powers. I am aware that in order to make such a survey as would give all the information required, a very large sum of money would be required; but I would be inclined, from my limited knowledge in these matters, to withhold to some extent these licenses until some more definite information could be obtained. A person obtains a license from the Crown to cut timber over a certain area of land. He takes that license abroad and places it before capitalists in some other country, and the inference is that on that land there is timber to be cut, and that the Government would not grant a license to cut timber over land unless the land was well timbered. We know of cases where licenses have been issued to cut timber over land on which there was very little timber; and for that reason I think it would be advisable if the Government could, in the near future, have some report made upon our timber resources. I am aware that at the present moment nearly every inch of timber land in this Colony and on the Labrador is held under license by somebody, and probably now that the licenses have been issued it is too late to acquire the information that we ought to have; but I think it is a great pity that we should have to deal with these matters without that information. Now, we are asked here to pass resolutions which will enable the Company getting these concessions to raise the level of Deer Lake by some fifteen feet above low water mark. What the effect of raising that Lake fifteen feet above high-water mark is going to be, of course I cannot say; and I am only asked to approve of these resolutions and give the Company power to raise that water upon the assurance that they will compensate any parties, whether it be the Crown or the individual, for any damage that may be sustained. Well, that is alright, but I have no knowledge of the area that will be covered by water when that Lake is raised fifteen feet. We have the reports of Mr. Howley and Mr. Bailey, and, as the Rt. Hon. the Premier said yesterday, that is the best information that can be obtained. I quite agree with him that these gentlemen are probably the only two persons in the country who are able to give any information at all, but the information that they have given is not satisfactory. It is the best they can give, I grant you, but it is not sufficiently satisfactory to enable one to make up his mind as to the extent of territory that is going to be covered by water when this level is raised fifteen feet. These remarks do not apply so much to Grand Lake, because Grand Lake will not be raised much, if at all, above its normal height in flood tide, and we know, then, that the area to be flooded by Grand Lake will not be very great, but the area to be flooded by Deer Lake will be very considerable indeed. Possibly the Company's deposit of $250,000 may be able to satisfy those who will claim damages. Of course, on the other hand, if that amount is not sufficient to satisfy the claims, then it is only natural to suppose that the Company will pay the full compensation, or they will cease to go on with their operations, and the water will naturally fall back and no injury to any great extent will accrue. I say, Sir, that it is a great pity that we are not in possession of more information. I quite recognize
the difficulty in getting it, and know that it would cost a very considerable sum of money to make the surveys necessary in order to furnish us with the desired information. We have no information either as to the extent of the proposed operation. The amount of territory covered, I think, from a cursory glance, is about 399 miles. That is the amount of the area taken in by the three grants or licenses that have been issued, and which have been acquired by the Company; but no information has been afforded us as to the extent of the proposed operations; where the mill will be situated; exactly where the power will be generated; and where their shipping port will be. I assume the shipping port will be on the Humber Arm. Probably the Premier would be good enough to enlighten us upon those points. I have no further remarks to offer in criticism of this measure, and can only express the hope that if the Company does accomplish its object and establish its water power and mills, that its operations will be successful, and that it will tend to the good of the Colony, as other similar operations have done.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.

—Mr. Chairman, with a great deal of what the hon. gentleman stated, I entirely concur. I regret, with him, that we are not in a position, when dealing with these large operations, to bring in for the information of the House such exact detailed information as we ought to have. The very case that we are now considering furnishes us with a good illustration of that. To acquire that information might cost $100,000, or it might cost $200,000. No engineer of repute would commit himself to any definite opinion by going and looking at it. In fact, such an opinion would be of no value; and if he went out and made a detailed survey of 120 miles around that Lake, and about sixty miles around the Island in the Lake, and did the same with Deer Lake and the country around there, it would probably take four or five years; and after making that expenditure, nothing might come of it, because we have had sad experience of how many of these undertakings never come to anything at all. The great difficulty is to induce capitalists to come in and invest their money, and in some cases the expenditure is very large and the returns doubtful. We have got one case that we know something of—the Harmsworths. They spent, it is reported, about $8,000,000 before they got a dollar out of it. The people we are now dealing with have to undertake a very large expenditure to make a water power. The Harmsworths had their water power, and it was only a question of harnessing it. All they had to do was to put across their dam. These people have got to make an artificial water power, and that is where the trouble comes in. Now, when I was speaking on this matter yesterday I pointed out, in reply to the hon. member for St. John’s East (Mr. Kent), that it would be very difficult to frame a measure dealing with this question of the erection of pulp mills that would cover every case. I submit the same for the consideration of the hon. member for Twillingate who has just sat down (Mr. Clift). I am quite satisfied that from his acquaintance with this whole matter, having been at the head of the Department for a number of years, he will readily see how difficult it would be to make any fixed law that would cover every particular case, because nearly every pulp proposition in the country is of a different kind. Take the case of the Albert E. Reed Co. It was simplicity itself. They simply came in and bought the land: the water power was there, and all they had to do was to put across a dam. They had the same conces-
sions as regards importation as we are giving here. As I pointed out, yesterday, the present company are merely asking for the right to create an artificial water power. I agree with my learned friend, the hon. member for Twillingate, that it would be of very great value to us if we had definite information in relation to all these matters. There may be water powers in this country that we know nothing about—absolutely nothing. Take the case of the water-power of a number of lakes that formed the river running down into Petty Harbor. No one knew it was of any value until the Reid-Newfoundland Co. decided upon establishing an electric light plant and street car service, and then they built their dam and their flume, and now they have got a very good water power generating something like three or four thousand horse-power. If we knew of all these possible water powers—not alone the natural ones but those that might be created by the locking up of lakes and the building of dams—it would be of very great value indeed to the House in dealing with legislation of this sort; but, as was pointed out by my hon. friend on the other side of the House, to get that information would mean very great expense, expense that we could be hardly justified in entering upon. In Canada they are only now beginning to do what has been suggested by Mr. Clift. During the last two or three years they have appointed a Committee of Conservation there. A similar Committee exists in the United States, appointed by the President three or four years ago. It is a board which is intended to conserve and really look after the resources of the country—minerals, water powers, in fact everything that can be utilized in any way as an industry in the country or a possible power to develop these industries. We ought to know here today how many water-powers there are in Newfoundland. We are repeatedly asked for information concerning them, and are unable to supply the information. We don't know their value; we don't even know that they exist; we don't know the purposes for which parties ask for them. A man goes down to the Gazette Office and inserts a notice in the Gazette of his intention to apply for a certain water power to drive machinery; then puts in his application to the Governor in Council and obtains the right automatically. There is nothing in the law which suggests that he should be refused, unless there is a very good reason for refusing or unless there is a protest entered. The same thing applies in relation to timber. Day after day applications are made for timber, as the hon. member knows, and as everybody who has been in the Government for a number of years knows. Applications are made for timber rights on land on which there is not even a whort bush, and made by people who have never seen the land. Thousands upon thousands of miles are applied for, upon which there is not a solitary bush. The Government have no means of knowing whether or not there is any timber on the land for which applications are made. There have never been any surveys, and in order to have a survey of any value made, you would want a complete staff and a complete department. It would be of no use to appoint a person to go out and merely make a cursory examination. You would want to have a topographical survey, because if you had surveys, it would mean that, to a certain extent, purchasers would have a guarantee; and if we approved of an application for a certain property and it afterwards turned out that there was no timber there, the parties might have a claim—not a legal claim, but a moral one. Now, of
course, having no surveys and no information, the Government does not give any guarantee. In Canada, they are in exactly the same position. Our Crown Lands Act, it will be remembered, when it was originally introduced over 25 years ago, was almost a verbatim copy, I think, of the Canadian Act. We have, of course, amended it since in many respects, but I think that that portion of it dealing with applications for Crown Lands, licenses and grants, and also that portion dealing with mineral lands were, if I remember rightly, almost verbatim copies of the Canadian law. That is my recollection, and I think it will be found that the forms adopted by the Department are practically copies of the Canadian forms. I would like to be able to give more information, but all the information that I am in a position to give has been given. I hope the venture will prove to be a successful one, for a very heavy expenditure will be made by these people, and if it is not made they will be unable to go on. Mr. Hardy, the engineer employed, as will be seen by the documents, is the man who built the Harmsworth and Reed dams. He is the great authority on this work in the United States, and is known to the House as a man of very high reputation. He has investigated the locality, and he has reported that the only way in which the necessary water power is to be obtained is by creating it. He also goes into the matter of the damage that will be done on the south side of Deer Lake, and every possible safeguard will be made to protect adjoining property. If the railway line or lands are affected, compensation will be paid by the Company. Mr. Hall says that it may be that the track will have to be raised or removed, but in either event the expense will have to be borne by the new Company. When they get to work they will see what will be necessary to avoid a wash-out, and will then be in a position to make the proper arrangements. I am not in a position to say where the mills will be erected, but I presume that they will be at the bottom of Deer Lake, as that seems to be the most likely spot.

MR. CLIFT.—I want to ask, in reference to the giving of title under section 7, if it is the intention of the Government to undertake to give the Company five thousand acres in fee simple, reserving minerals only, for mills and other facilities?

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—This provision is the same as in the Harmsworth Contract, except that the Harmsworth Company received 10,000 acres. Another change is that in this agreement the following words are added: “And upon being satisfied that such lands are required for the purposes aforesaid.” Furthermore, in the Harmsworth agreement they have the minerals, but here the minerals are reserved.

MR. CLIFT.—The point that I wish to make is that this land is given to the Company under different terms than the other land is. Most of the land is held by them under license, but this is given to them in fee simple, reserving only the minerals. That is much different to a grant in fee simple under the Crown Lands Act.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—What my learned friend says is quite correct. In the event of the Company failing to go on with their work, this falls to the Government, but if they go on, all their holdings are practically fee simple, for they are under license renewable every ninety-nine years.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had considered the matter to them referred; had passed the Resolutions without amendment; and recommended that a Bill be in-
roduced to give effect to the same.

On motion, this Report was received and adopted.

On motion the Bill, "An Act respecting the Establishment of a Pulp and Paper Industry at Deer Lake," was read a first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

Mr. Clift gave notice of question.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Thursday, April 11th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

THURSDAY, April 11th.

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

QUESTION

MR. CLIFT asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a copy of the Minute of Council under which an application of one B. McGrath for license to Cut Timber over certain timber areas situated on Terra Nova River, inland from Bonavista Bay, formerly held by one Sidthorp was cancelled.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, copies of Minutes of Council can only be tabled in this House by permission of the Governor. I have asked His Excellency's permission to table this information, and on receiving it will be glad to do so.

PULP AND PAPER BILL.

Pursuant to Order, and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Premier, the Bill, "An Act respecting the establishment of a Pulp and Paper Industry at Deer Lake," was read a second time, and it was ordered that it be referred to Committee of the Whole House on to-morrow.

Rt. Hon. Prime Minister gave notice that he would on to-morrow move the suspension of the Rules of the House in relation to all business to come before the House.

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 Bills sent up, entitled respectively, "An Act to provide for the Raising by the Sale of Debenture Bonds of a Sum of Money for the Public Service of the Colony"; and "An Act further to amend 'The Revenue Act, 1905'", without amendment.

Mr. Kent gave Notice of Question.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Friday, April 12th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12th, 1912.

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

PETITIONS.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—I ask leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Tor's Cove asking that certain coves outlined in the petition be reserved for the preservation of bait fishes. They ask that no caplin seines be used within the boundaries which they have set forth. I would ask that this petition be referred to the Department of Marine and Fisheries. I also ask leave to present a petition from Wm. Trainer and about a hundred other residents of Fermeuse asking that no codtrap be placed in the waters within 100 or 200 yards of Deer's Cove Rock in the vicinity of Fermeuse Head. I would also ask that this petition be referred to the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

MR. MOORE.—I have much pleasure in supporting these two petitions.

MR. EARLE.—I beg leave to present a petition from the F.P.U. of Change Islands on the subject of the general elections. Similar petitions on the same subject have been presented
by other members as well as myself and I have already made some remarks on them. I find, however, that when previously speaking I made a slight mistake for I was given to understand that the petitions were from the members of the union only and not from the other inhabitants, but on referring to the correspondence I find that the petition from Ladle Cove is signed not only by union members but by non-union members as well. All were anxious to sign the petition. However, since the petitions were presented the Government has decided to hold over the elections till 1913 and consequently it is not much use to enlarge on the subject any more than to state that some who have signed may have thought that the cares and anxieties that fall on the Government should be curtailed as much as possible. This has prompted them to ask that they be relieved of their offices as soon as possible. I humbly ask that the petition be referred to the Colonial Secretary and I shall be glad to hear that the Government has granted the request contained in it.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a petition from certain residents of Heart's Content, who pray that an allocation of $200 may be granted to construct an agricultural road on the North Point of the town referred to. Also a petition from Little Heart's Ease, District of Trinity, asking that a new local road be constructed to connect with the main line. Petitioners state that the road will be a great convenience to a number of families who live on a point of land which at present does not connect with the main line. Also a petition from Britannia Cove, having reference to a road from Snook's Harbor to the Bar, and to the proposed breakwater in Smith Sound; this petition being similar to others presented to this House by me a few days ago. Also a petition from Chance Cove, asking that better arrangements be made with regard to the handling of freight at Rantem Station. The station, which is the connecting point for Rantem and Chance Cove in the district of Trinity, and also for Little Harbour in the District of Placentia, is only a Flag Station, and petitioners state that there was considerable loss and inconvenience this winter owing to the non-delivery of freight.

I beg to ask that the foregoing petitions be received and referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. KENT asked the Right Hon. the Prime Minister to state to the House, what, if any action has been taken in connection with Pecuniary Claims of certain American citizens, made upon the Colony through the Government of the United States in relation to loss alleged to have been suffered in connection with seizures for violation of the fishery laws of this Colony, and in what position the same now stands. Has it been agreed to refer them to arbitration, and who constitutes the tribunal?

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—On August 14th, 1908, a draft of a Convention for the settlement of Pecuniary Claims between the United States and Great Britain, together with a list of claims against the Government of Newfoundland, was furnished to the Newfoundland Government by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Considerable correspondence took place between the late Government, before leaving office, and the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in relation to the same. When the present administration assumed office the matter had not been concluded. The total claim made in 1908 amounted to about $40,000. An agreement has been arrived at between the United States and Great Britain for the submission to arbitration of those claims. The form of submission and
the constitution of the tribunal have not yet been made public.

**MR. KENT** asked the Minister of Justice to lay on the table of the House a copy of all correspondence between his Department and that of the Colonial Secretary, relating to any claim or claims upon the Colony by the late Sir R. G. Reid, or Reid Newfoundland Company, from July 1, 1898, to date.

**HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.**
The correspondence is being copied.

**SUSPENSION OF RULES.**
Pursuant to notice and leave granted, and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister the Rules of the House in relation to all business to come before the House during the Session were suspended.

**PULP AND PAPER BILL.**
Pursuant to order and on motion of Rt. Hon. Prime Minister the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the Bill, “An Act respecting the Establishment of a Pulp and Paper Industry at Deer Lake.”

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Parsons took the chair of Committee.

**MR. KENT.**—Before the Bill goes through I would like to draw the attention of the Committee again to the meagreness of the information regarding the water power which forms the foundation of the measure. I do not think it can be denied that the undertaking of these people at Deer Lake is one of unusual magnitude and the powers granted to them are of an unusual kind. These rights affect very large areas of water for Grand Lake is over sixty miles long and Deer Lake is probably twenty-five or thirty miles long. They are in fact the largest sheets of water in the country. Grand Lake would stretch from here to St. Mary’s and Deer Lake from here to Holyrood.

The kernel of the present measure is the power to raise these lakes. First to keep Grand Lake at a level of its ordinary spring flood. In considering that, it will be necessary to take into account the conditions formerly, and what will be the effect of the spring floods under the new conditions, that is, if it is to be kept at a level of its spring flood. I have no means of knowing, and from the evidence and the information before us, the House has no means of knowing and judging.

The other is the power to raise the water of Deer Lake, 15 feet above its spring flood level. Now to raise such a large surface of water, it must be admitted, a very large proposition. It means raising the surface of the lake a distance of 15 feet above the spring flood level. Now the spring flood level shows, according to the statement of Mr. Howley, a difference in height of 6 or 7 feet. How much higher the spring flood is, I cannot say, but he says that judging from the trees washed ashore, the water rises 4 or 5 feet more, that would be a total of about 10 feet. In the month of June it is 6 or 7 feet, in the spring flood 10 feet above, or make it 8 feet above the usual summer level, this would mean therefore that Deer Lake would be raised 25 feet above the summer and ordinary level which it maintains. Now that means the height of 4 men, one standing on top of the other. I think that in view of the raising of such a body of water and with the conditions it will bring, the committee ought to have more definite information before it. The only information before the House is that supplied to the Prime Minister by Mr. Howley, and that information has only been gathered from casual observations; but we know nothing of what the effect will be in the spring when the new conditions are brought about, and what will be the effect of raising those lakes. There are many directions in which it is conceivable
that results, effects, may be produced. First, there is the area of the flood, the damage physically that will accrue. There seems to be a difference of opinion as to what the effect will be. This is evidenced by the Prime Minister's reply to the Committee the other day. Mr. Howley says one thing. Mr. Bailey says another. They differ regarding the effect of raising the level of these lakes. For instance, as members of the Committee know, the railway track runs for a long distance by the margin of Deer Lake. Mr. Howley says that that will be flooded in 2 or 3 points. Mr. Bailey says in many points. Again, sir, I think that in other parts of the correspondence, the same difference of opinion will be found. But certainly these observations are merely of a tentative character. They are not definite opinions, though in a case like this, with so much at stake, definite opinions are necessary. Of course, Mr. Howley is perhaps the best authority in relation to this subject, but I do not think that even Mr. Howley would be able to give a proper opinion without spending a considerable amount of time in that locality, and taking levels. With all due respect to my friend, Mr. Downey, whose abilities I admit, I do not think that his visits would be sufficient to enable him to form any opinion which would carry weight in this committee. The powers which are given to the company are as I said before, such that will change the whole face of that part of the country; it will have an effect on the agricultural possibilities of that section. What other effects it will have, we do not know, on account of the unsatisfactory nature of the information before us. Again, it is quite possible that the company may raise Deer Lake and not raise Grand Lake. What effect that will have I cannot say. As to whether it will effect the water pow-

er that flow from Grand Lake, I think that the committee ought to have some information on this point also. It is probably true that this company has gone to considerable expense to acquire the lands, and it is putting up $250,000 as against any damage that may accrue, but I do not think that with the information before us, we are justified in going ahead. A survey can be made, and this information easily ascertainable. I do not think that the expense will be anything like $100,000 as was estimated by the Premier. The staff of the Geological Surveyor ought to be able to do this, and we could get quite a lot of information if they made proper surveys. Again, I think, sir, that as this company is asking for such concessions, which will simply change the face of nature, it ought to bear the cost of the surveys or at least part of it. I do not think that the expense of this would be $100,000. I have heard it stated by competent authorities that it would not cost anything like this sum, but I think that this committee ought to insist that the company should pay their proportionate share of the expense that would be incurred under a survey.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Chairman, there are just two or three points that I would like to reply to. In the first place, as regards the cost of the surveys. I stated here the other day, that I was informed, that to make a proper survey of the country surrounding Grand Lake, to get a diagram that would show the extent of the flooding, would cost nothing less than $100,000. We could get it done for that, but would we have any better information than what we have had from Messrs. Howley and Bailey. Now this proposition is not such a large one as the hon. member thinks. It would not be considered a large proposition, when the large engineer-
ing works that are being undertaken in other parts of the world are considered. It might have been a large proposition at the time of the flood. We cannot afford to sit down and wait until we have every detail, because we have before us, evidence ample enough to warrant us to go on. I should like to correct my friend as regards the length of Deer Lake. It is not 25 miles long, it is not alone not 25 miles long, but it is not 15 miles long. Now as regards his point that the information supplied to the Committee is most meagre. Well, all I can say, is that the Committee has been supplied with all the information available and the very best of information, and nothing can be gained by delay in order to supply the same class of information. The change in Grand Lake will mean practically no change. The dam proposed to be built at that Lake will only maintain it 10 feet above normal tide, and when it is built, no more land will be flooded than is flooded today. My learned friend wants to know what will be the effect of the spring floods under the new conditions. There will be no effect. The dams will be so constructed as to prevent it. The water has to be kept at a certain height, and to be maintained at that height. The waters at Petty Harbor by means of the dam are kept at a certain height. We may be assured that the Company recognizes, that if the water is allowed to go one inch over its height, it will be liable for damages. That, I submit is a sufficient guarantee. It is quite clear that the company has to construct that dam in such a way as to keep the water from escaping and flooding the country, and to keep it at a certain height. There can be no doubt about that, so that as far as Grand Lake is concerned, we can dismiss that entirely. Now as regards Deer Lake. The waters will be raised only 10 feet, although 15 feet is asked for here, because Mr. Howley says the abnormal flood is 15 feet. Now if we raise the lake 15 feet above high water, that means 10 feet above abnormal height, so that therefore none will go out over the dam. It will be maintained at that level. My learned friend says that there is a difference of opinion between Mr. Howley and Mr. Bailey. I do not think that there is any difference of opinion whatever. Mr. Howley says the land will be flooded at 2 or 3 points, at the south side of the lake. Mr. Bailey says many points, but Mr. Bailey probably means at 2 or 3 points. The statements are quite in harmony. Two or three might be held to mean 5 or 6. I think that if the hon. gentleman will look up his Stroud, he will find that 2 or 3 might mean 4 or 5. I only hope, Mr. Chairman, that this project will go through, It means an outlay of thousands of dollars for the construction of dams and works. It means a new industry, it means that the waters of those lakes will be utilised, and not allowed to go to waste, as they have during the last century.

MR. DOWNEY—There can be no doubt at all in my mind that we are attaching very exaggerated importance to the possible damage that may result in the vicinity of Deer Lake from raising the waters. As a matter of fact some damage will be occasioned. There is one farm at the eastern end of the lake a considerable portion of which will be flooded. Of course no doubt any damage done will be paid for. There are three or four houses on the southern end of the lake, but these belong to employees of the mill and
the mill goes with this property. There is one other clearing of about two acres that will be flooded, but the owner of that land is as anxious for the establishment of this industry at Deer Lake as anyone in this House. The land at the side of the lake rises sharply from the water and the only places that will be flooded will be at the eastern and southern ends as I have said. These are facts and can be verified by anyone.

**MR. KENT**—I do not intend to go over the matter again, but, as to the question of expense, I thought I made it clear that the Company should at least bear the greater portion of the necessary expenses; I think a little consideration will show that the cost of obtaining information to enable the Government to fix some definite idea of the character of the country, and the effects resulting from the raising of the waters of these lakes would be very small. I would like to ask the Prime Minister if he can give any information to this Committee as to the capital of the Company, whether it is divided into shares or not, and whether it is the intention of the Company to operate themselves in pulp or paper making.

**RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER:** I am sorry I am not in a position to give the information. If the hon. member will put what he requires in writing I will endeavour to have it for the Committee to-morrow.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

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

On motion this Report was received and adopted; and it was ordered that the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Saturday, April 13th., at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

**SATURDAY, April 13th.**

The House met at 3 of the clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

**PETITIONS.**

**MR. SQUIRES**—Mr. Speaker in the absence of the hon. members for Twillingate, I beg to present a petition from Joseph Cramm and others of Chance Hr., asking for the sum of $60.00 for the erection of a post office at that place. Petitioners state that such is badly needed there. I would ask that this petition be referred to the department to which it relates.

**MR. DEVEREAUX.**—I ask leave to present a petition from the residents of Little Paradise, asking that that place be made a port of call for the S.S. Argyle and also that a public wharf be erected there. The petition is numerically signed. Also petitions from Great Paradise, Little Bona, and Great Bona, on the same subject. Petitioners state that Little Paradise is the best place to build the wharf, as the waters surrounding the other place, are shoal. I give this petition my hearty support, and hope that the Government will not only erect the public wharf, but make Little Paradise a port of call.

**MR. F. J. MORRIS.**—I have much pleasure in supporting those petitions. I know the conditions prevailing at Great Paradise. The entrance is very narrow. I think that Little Paradise is the best place, it has a large entrance, and it is always accessible. I do not think there will be much trouble about the public wharf. The members can get together, and see that it is built. There may be some
little difficulty about the Argyle, owing to having so many ports of call, but I think that this can also be effected. I give these petitions my support.

MR. EARLE.—By the courtesy of the Prime Minister, I beg to present a petition from the residents of Joe Batt’s Arm, asking for the sum of $80 in order to place wooden stakes on the road, which is over a marsh, to Seldom Come By. I ask that this petition be received and referred to the department to which it relates.

HON. THE PRIME MINISTER—tabbed the following despatch received by His Excellency the Governor from the Secretary of State for the Colonies:

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE.
(Received April 3, 1912.)
H. M.'s Government are now in position to state names of members of the Royal Commission to be appointed under Resolution 20 of the Imperial Conference, 1911:

United Kingdom — Lord Inchcape, Chairman; Sir Edgar Vincent, Sir Charles Owens, Sir H. Rider Haggard, Mr. Thomas Garnett, Mr. W. Lorimer.
Dominion of Canada — Hon. G. E. Foster.
Commonwealth of Australia — Mr. Donald Campbell.
New Zealand — Sir Joseph Ward.
Union of South Africa — Sir David de Villiers Graaf.
Newfoundland — Hon. Edgar Bowring.
With Mr. W. A. Robinson, of the Colonial Office, as Secretary.

HARCOURT.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—In reply to a question put by Mr. Kent in the House on Friday, I beg to table the following information regarding the Company interested in the Deer Lake Pulp proposition. The capital stock of the Company is $800,000. Of this, $625,000 is subscribed and about $400,000 of it paid up. It is not the intention of the Company as now constituted to itself manufacture. Arrangements are completed between the Company and others for the formation of a large company to carry on the work. The new Company will be registered under the laws of this Colony, and will have ample capital to carry out the undertaking. All the necessary capital is arranged for, and the actual registration of the new Company and commencement of business will be proceeded with immediately.

PULP AND PAPER BILL.
Pursuant to Order and on motion of Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, the Bill “An Act respecting the Establishment of a Pulp and Paper Industry at Deer Lake” 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.

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 30th day of June, 1912, and the 30th day of June, 1913, and for other purposes relating to the Public Service,” without amendment.

Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister gave notice that he would on Wednesday next, April 17th, move for the suspension of the rules of the House in relation to all matters before the House.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until Wednesday next, April 17th, at three of the clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.
WEDNESDAY, April 17th, 1912.

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

Hon. Colonial Secretary laid on the table of the House the Interim Report on the Census of 1911.

PETITIONS.

HON. MINISTER FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—I beg to present a petition from Brigus South, in the District of Feryland, asking that a certain cove named Herring Cove be reserved for the hauling of caplin, or taking of caplin by caplin seines. Usually in the summer time about the end of July or first of August, when caplin are struck off in other places, they resort to this cove, and a number of fishermen from time to time go there for bait. A number of bankers resort to Cape Broyle and this amount of caplin remaining in this cove for some weeks are all taken by means of caplin seines and given to the bankers, and it is quite a hardship on fishermen on that part of the shore who are prevented from fishing for want of bait between the caplin school and the squid school. The boundaries of the cove are outlined in the petition. I would ask that the petition be referred to the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

MR. MOORE.—I have much pleasure in supporting the petition just presented by my colleague, the Minister of Finance.

HON. MR. CROSBIE.—I beg leave to present a petition from Bay de Verde in connection with the anchoring of vessels in the harbor during the fishing time in the summer. This is a very serious matter and interferes very much with a great number of vessels there.

I have also a petition from the inhabitants of Lower Small Point in connection with a wharf. Also one from Western Bay North re a public wharf. The wharf is a great necessity there and I think it should be built. I have also a petition from the inhabitants of Western Bay re Coastal steamers and sealing laws, also petitions on the same subject from Salmon Cove, Lower Island Cove, Freshwater, Broad Cove and Blackhead. I move that these petitions be referred to the departments to which they relate.

MR. WHITENAY.—I rise in support of these petitions, and hope that the departments to which they are referred will meet their wishes.

MR. KENT.—I beg leave to present a petition from Torbay in connection with a road known as Reddy's Lane. I may say, sir, that this is the third I have presented in connection with this Lane. It is one of the most largely used thoroughfares in Torbay and nothing has been done to it for the past two or three years. I have written the Minister of Public Works and seen the Secretary, but nothing has been done. I have had complaints from the residents of the locality during last summer and the summer before, but my wishes have not been observed, and the complaints of the people have been ignored. While I am speaking I would like also to draw the attention of the Minister of Public Works to the condition of the roads in the East End of St. John's. During last winter we had considerable snow, and the condition of the suburban roads is scandalous and they are a source of danger to those using them. People of the nearby outports come to St. John's at the risk of their lives, and it is almost impossible to bring any kind of produce into the town without danger of loss and it is also almost impossible to take home provisions, &c. in the evening. I think it imperative that these roads should be attended to at once. I would ask the Minister, as I see he is here in his place, to give the matter his attention as soon as possible.
MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS.—In reply I may say that I gave instructions yesterday for the Inspector to go over the roads and report on the repairs that required to be made. I may say that the other matter is under consideration, and will be attended to as quickly as possible.

RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Speaker I ask leave to present a petition from Thomas R. Voisey, President, William Butler, Treasurer, John J. Neville, Secretary of the St. John's Cabmen's Union. The petition reads as follows:—

To the Honourable the House of Assembly in Legislative Session Convened:

The Petition of the undersigned Cab-Driver Union of St. John's,

Humbly Sheweth as Follows:

1. At the last session of the Legislature a law was enacted, giving the Municipal Council power to make rules and regulations in relation to Cab Drivers and fares or rates to be charged for their work.

2. The Legislature, when giving the Council power to fix rates for Cab Drivers, presumed that in the making and fixing of same, due regard would be had for the rights of Cab Drivers, as well as the public, and that the reasonable wishes of those who earn their living as Cab Drivers would be ascertained and acceded to, but the vital principle which underlies the fixing of a price or rate for which Cab Drivers as well as any other class of workmen shall sell their labor, has been entirely lost sight of.

3. The scale fixed and published by the Municipal Council is a positive injustice to the Cab Drivers, and in some instances to the public as well, and if Cab Drivers will be compelled to charge the rates and be subjected to the vexatiousness and uncertainty of the schedule of charges, it will force many of your Petitioners to abandon a business by which they earn their living, and in which they have invested the savings of years.

4. The rates charged last year and the year previous by your Petitioners were the same as those charged twenty years ago by cab drivers in this city, when the expense and up-keep connected with the business was less than one-half. No complaints were then made about rates; if the rates were oppressive the public would have made it known. To ask that a Cab Driver shall charge a less rate for his work to-day than he did twenty years ago, is such a ridiculous and nonsensical position for any Board to take up that it needs no refutation. In order to engage in the work of Cab Driver now, it is necessary that the following expenditure be undertaken:

- Victoria Carriage ... $420.00
- 2 Horses ............. 500.00
- 2 Sets of Harness ... 140.00
- Rugs ................. 20.00

without taking into consideration the providing of a stable, etc.

Twenty years ago,—

A Carriage was provided for $200.00
2 Horses ................. 200.00
2 Sets of Harness for ... 60.00
or a difference of $620.00 from what it is to-day; then the difference in the cost of feed for horses is also very marked compared with twenty years ago, and it is so well known that it is not necessary for your Petitioners to set it out in detail.

5. Twenty years ago, if a Cab man drove a fare to Logy Bay, Outer Cove, Middle Cove, and Torbay he was paid $4.00; under the tariff he will get $2.70. If he drove to Donovan's he got $3.00; under the tariff he will be compelled to accept $1.50. There is no definition as to what all day means in the tariff, what an afternoon means, what trips for wedding parties mean, to and from steamers or trains to Asylum. For bringing a freight to Smithville, the tariff allows $2.00, and to Mt. Cashel or the Golf Links 70c.,
whereas the distance to the Golf Links or Mt. Cashel is very much greater than to Smithville. In some cases the tariff has increased the price to the public, notably, from steamers and trains, and driving by the quarter of an hour, which is an increase of 30 per cent., and in addition to this, it is very difficult to construe what the item really means.

6. Your Petitioners have made representations to the Municipal Council in relation to the injustice done, but the Council is not disposed to listen to any representations whatever. Your Petitioners would most earnestly pray that your Honourable House would take such action in the premises as will protect them from injustice and wrong, while at the same time protecting the interest of the public.

And as in duty bound will ever pray.

THOMAS R. VOISEY,
President.

WILLIAM BUTLER,
Treasurer.

JOHN J. NEVILLE,
Secretary Cab Drivers' Union.

It is quite evident, Mr. Speaker, that if the facts set forth in this petition are correct, and I have no reason for doubting their correctness, a grievance exists as regards the cabmen, and I should be very unwilling to believe that if this matter were brought to the notice of the Mayor, Mr. Ellis, and the Council, that it would not be further considered by them. Coming, of course, as this petition does, at this late hour, with the House adjourning to-morrow, it will be impossible for the Legislature to do anything in the way of legislation if legislation were deemed advisable; and it seems to me that the only thing that can be done is for the members of the Legislature here representing St. John's East and West to bring this matter to the notice of the Council with a view to having it re-considered;—without attempting in any way to override their rights and powers, for I feel that the men who compose that Council would not willingly do any wrong to the cabmen. I am aware an idea prevails that the public are very much in need of legislation as regards rates and fares for the cabmen. Well, of course, Mr. Speaker, there is such a thing as overdoing and overestimating a matter like this. There may be occasional complaints. An occasional man may suffer from extortion from some individual cabman; but it is not fair to try all the cabmen merely on the act of one. The Cabmen's Association or Union does not claim that every man in it is everything that might be desired. I suppose that even this House would not claim that every man in it is impeccable. And it is the same in every human institution. It is very unfair, therefore, to fix all the cabmen with any act of extortion that may be committed from time to time by some member of the body. Now I have had a good deal to do with the city cabmen. I have been driving with them for thirty years. There is hardly a cabman in the city I have not driven with some time or another. I have had business relations with many of them; and I think as a class they are just about as good and just, about as honourable and fair as any other class in the community. They follow a very difficult calling and one that takes them all their time from an earning standpoint to make both ends meet; and as set forth here they are only charging to-day the same rates they charged twenty years ago. We hear a lot about the cost of living going up. We know it is more expensive to live in St. John's to-day than it was twenty years ago. It is more expensive as regards clothes, as regards rents, food and everything else; the same is true of all callings. It is true of the
cabmen, and no one would have been surprised, if, as the rate of living increased, they in the same proportion had increased their rates, as has been done by every other calling. There is no other class of man in St. John's to-day working for the same rate as he worked twenty years ago. There is no labourer, tradesman, or professional man whose earnings have not gone up and it is only fair that the cabmen should get an increase in their rates. There is another standpoint from which this matter has to be viewed. The telephone has lessened the earnings of the cabmen considerably. Many a cabman in the old days got a fare around to the South Side, to the West End, to the Rope-walk or up to the Colonial Building when a person wanted a message in a hurry. Now that work is accomplished by the telephone, and hundreds if not thousands of dollars have been taken out of the pockets of the cabmen in that way. Of course this had to be. They could not stand in the way of progress. They have also suffered by the introduction of the street car. Not so much, perhaps, in some respects, because it is an educator. The more people ride in street cars the more they will ride in cabs. But were it not for the fact that we have now nearly all the year, weekly holidays and half holidays, and people going in a little more for pleasure in one form or another, the cabmen would be an extinct specie. It is now claimed in this petition that an injustice has been done, the fares have been reduced and if the present rates are continued the cabmen will have to abandon their business. Now, sir, that is a serious matter, involving nearly one hundred people, heads of families, all of whom have to make a living. Personally, and I think I speak for every member of this House, if an injustice has been done, I again express the belief that it has not been intentional on the part of the Council. Because, after all, they merely represent the public. They are placed there to represent the considered views of the public. The cabmen seem to be satisfied to be governed by a reasonable rate of charges as is done in every other town, but at the same time no injustice should be done to a class of men so necessary and so useful to the public. As I have already said, it is impossible to do anything in the way of legislation this session as we close to-morrow but I shall take the matter up with my colleagues in St. John's and have the question again brought before the Council and I feel that they will be glad to enquire into what is reasonable and just and to make some provision to prevent the injury complained of.

MR. KENT.—Mr. Speaker, I think that I can thoroughly agree with the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister in making any representations that may be necessary to the Council to reconsider the scale of rates recently published in connection with the Cabmen of the city. I know that the matter has been the subject of discussion and correspondence between the Cabmen's Union and the Council, and the Cabmen have placed their position and the effect of the present scale before the Council. I know that they have pointed out the points in the scale which are unjust to them, and at the same time unjust to the public. The Cabmen are in this position, that they desire as well as the public that the scale of rates which they will be able to charge shall be authoritatively fixed, but no injustice must be worked on them or on the public. They wish to have an opportunity of putting their position clearly and distinctly before the Council, and have the Council reconsider the scale now published, and which will come into operation in a short while. It is un-
necessary for me to go over the factors which come into the consideration of this matter. The calling of the cabmen is one which necessitates large initial outlay. The expenses are large, and they are increasing; not only the expenses in connection with the cost of living, but also with the cost of upkeep and repair of their outfit. The maintenance of horses and other accessories of the business have risen considerably during the past few years. I hope the Council will reconsider this matter and give it an impartial and judicial enquiry before they impose these scales upon the cabmen. At present, it is uncertain what the rates are, and no one can take a drive under that scale with any certainty as to the construction to be put upon it. No one will be satisfied, and they are now asking that the Council hear what they have to say, and judicially decide what is a fair charge to make to the public. Everything that I can do to bring this matter before the Council, or to assist in legislation, if necessary, I shall be only too glad to do. I have much pleasure in supporting the petition.

MR. HOWLEY.—Mr. Speaker, while I have not any immediate interest in this matter, some of the cabmen who are friends of mine have asked me to further the petition in any way that lies in my power. I thoroughly appreciate the position taken by the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister and the hon. member for St. John’s East, Mr. Kent, and I feel sure that a good result would be effected by a conference with the Council. It seems to me that the Cabmen ought to be entitled to some particular consideration at the hands of the Council, because the cabmen of this city are paying not only the ordinary Municipal taxes for water and sewerage, but also a special tax in order to carry on their calling; and it is only to be expected that the Council, who has the legal authority to do so, should so fix the scale as to give them reasonable remuneration for their work. It is exceptional, Sir, to have to pay taxes to carry on a business, but the Council has been given the authority to impose one, and under such circumstances, I think, with all due respect to the Council, they should as far as justice and the interests of the public will allow give as much protection to the cabmen as possible, and do everything to meet in any way the wishes of a body so useful and necessary to the public, a body paying such additional taxes and one whose livelihood is earned under such arduous conditions.

MR. CLIFT.—Mr. Speaker, I merely wish to say one or two words on this matter. I need hardly say that I am entirely in accord with the prayer of the Petitioners. I think that they have done right in coming to this House, although it is too late to take the matter up in the way of legislation; but I hope that the result of it will be that the Municipal Council will take our suggestion and reconsider the rates which are now imposed. Anyone who reads the scale will see that it is absolutely inadequate to meet the requirements of the case. There can be no doubt of the necessity, in the interests of the public as well as the cabdriver, of a scale of fees or charges, but this scale should be reasonable, or should be a scale that will not put the cabman in a worse position than he was before. I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition, and I hope that the Municipal Council will see their way clear to take the matter up and reconsider the rates which have been established.

MR. F. J. MORRIS.—Mr. Speaker, just one word. Of course, I recognize the right of the cabdrivers to come before this House and seek redress for any grievance they may have. Un-
doubted, from the wording and contents of the Petition, they have some grievance, but I do not think that the Council would take upon themselves to make a scale of charges without consultation with the cabmen. I think there were several consultations as regards the rate, because why should the Council take upon themselves to decide what rate should be charged? It is not in their interest alone, and I think that they intended to place a fair and reasonable rate to do justice to the people and the cabmen. I do not think the Council considered the scale unreasonable, in fact I am in a position to say that they had numerous consultations with the cabmen on the question, and a committee of the Council was formed to go into the matter fully. I do not see any reason why the Council should not; indeed I think that the Council will probably take our suggestion in the matter. I do not believe that any member of the Council would wish to cut down the legitimate charges of the cabmen, and I do not see why they should. Very probably some mistake has been made. I do not see, Sir, what necessity there was to come in here with a petition. I think the Council would be pleased to reconsider the matter had it been put to them. My opinion is that the Council was under a misapprehension, and that there was no necessity for this petition, but at the same time the rates that justice and equity demand should be given by the Municipal Council to the cabmen. I myself had nothing to do with the drawing up of the scale. I never saw it until it was published. I drew up the rules and regulations on the subject, but I did not see the scale until it was made public. All I know about it is that it is the outcome of eight or ten conferences with members of the Municipal Council, who gave the matter their best consideration. It was the desire of the Council to hold the balance between the cabmen and the citizens. Individually and collectively I feel sure that the Council would be the last people in the city to do anything that would work a hardship on the cabmen. The cabmen are exercising their right to come before this House by way of petition. My own opinion is that the same object would have been attained had they sent their petition to the Municipal Council, who would have been able to give it more consideration than is now possible to give it in the Legislature.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, I have been asked to say a word or two on this matter, and I have much pleasure in doing so. There can be no doubt as to the existence of the grievance, and I only hope that when the matter is laid before the Council they will see their way clear to remedy it, and give the cabmen rates which will be sufficiently remunerative, and at the same time protective to the public.

MR. CLAPP.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from Jacob Dawe and a number of members of the F.P.U., in reference to telegraph and telephone communication. Also a petition from Thos. Dower and other members of the F.P.U., dealing with elections, and asking that one be held in 1912. I have already presented a number of petitions on this subject, so there is no need for me to say anything more on the subject, except to remark that I know the signatories, and I hope they will receive the consideration which they deserve. Also a petition from the inhabitants of Trout River, asking for the establishment of a telegraph office at that place. This petition is accompanied by a petition from Bonne Bay proper. Trout River is about 12 miles from Bonne Bay, and is a growing settlement. It is practically a fishing settlement with a number of fishermen.
earning their livelihood there, and they have now to walk to Bonne Bay to send their messages, while if an office is opened there, not only will they have communication with Bonne Bay, but also with the capital. I can assure you, Sir, that this petition deserves every attention and consideration. I have also a petition from Woody Point and Norris Point. This petition, with the others, was handed to me by the Premier. The petitioners ask that a motor boat be placed to ply between Norris Point and Woody Point, a distance of about 2½ miles. At the present time the ferry is an open boat, and it would be a great convenience to the people going from one place to another. I may say that I have travelled by this ferry, and this portion of the water is very choppy, making a spray which in very many cases makes the occupants of the boat soaking wet. I have much pleasure in supporting all these petitions, and ask that they be received and referred to the Departments to which they relate.

RT. HCN. THE PRIME MINISTER.

—Mr. Speaker, I desire to support the prayer of these several petitions. I may say that they were sent to me for presentation, but I thought it only right that they should be presented by the hon. member who represented the district. In reference to the prayer for the extension of the telegraph, that is a matter which will receive the attention of the Government as soon as they have completed the circuit of the district. Until 1910 the telegraph service in St. Barbe consisted of an office at Bonne Bay on the S. W. side, and one at La Scie, one at Bale Verte, and one at Seal Cove and Western Cove in White Bay. Recognizing the necessity for telegraphic communication, and also the gross neglect of this important section of the Colony under previous administrations, the Government, after careful enquiry, decided upon a policy of systematic and thorough telegraph extension. Early in the summer of 1910 the important settlement of Coachman's Cove was connected with Baie Verte by a branch line, and at the same time extension from Bonne Bay began with the object of completing a circuit of the whole peninsula round to White Bay. The line was thus extended from Bonne Bay to Port Saunders, a distance of about 123 miles, and offices were opened during 1910 at Norris' Point, Cow Head, Parsons' Pond, Daniel's Harbor and Port Saunders. Last year the work was continued from Port Saunders to Griquet, on the N.E. coast, a distance of over 150 miles, offices being opened at Port au Choix, Brig Bay, Flower's Cove, Cook's Hr. (Cape Norman), and Griquet. As soon as the weather permits this season, the line will be extended south from Griquet to St. Anthony, via Lock's Cove, in Hare Bay, to Conche, Englee, and into White Bay, thus completing in a systematic and practical way the only business like telegraphic service ever attempted in St. Barbe. After the main line has been completed, branch lines may be extended as shall be needed by the various settlements, but the importance of first getting the main line finished will be obvious. During the past two years three hundred miles, approximately, of telegraph lines have been constructed, and eleven offices have been opened, and are now justifying their existence by affording to a very large number of deserving people the business convenience so long denied to them. In addition to telegraph extension, it is the intention to place a second steamer in the district this year, which should be of great advantage. In the past, St. Barbe has not received proper attention. The people there are industrious, and their contribution of lobsters heads the list of all other dis-
tricts in the Colony, and it is a pleasure to encourage any measure calculated to benefit the district and people. In fact it is the intention of the Government to see that St. Barbe is no longer the Cinderella of the districts. We are going to build for them a railway into the District, and as I say, arrangements are being made for a second boat on White Bay, and on the North side of Green Bay, so that that district in the early spring will have weekly connection with Lewisporte. In relation to the motor ferry, that is one of those matters that will need consideration. I should like to be able to say 'yes,' to every petition presented to the House, but it is a question of finding the requisite money. However, it is a matter that will receive grave consideration. My only regret is that we cannot grant the prayer of every petition that comes before us.

MR. CLIFT.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Cottel's Island, District of Twillingate, asking for the sum of $200 to construct a road at that place. I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition, and ask that it be referred to the Department of Public Works. Also a petition from Rev. Henry Scott and other inhabitants of Moreton's Harbour, asking that a motor service be substituted for the present service. I have already presented several petitions on the same subject from other parts of the district, and I have much pleasure in supporting this one also, and trust that it may be found possible to comply with the request of the petitioners.

MR. MOORE.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Brigus, Admiral's Cove and other places in the District of Ferryland, with regard to the selection of a site for a railway station. I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition, and I ask that it be received and referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

MR. KENT.—Mr. Speaker, I have been asked by some residents of Cape Broyle to say a word in favor of this petition. I am informed that the location selected by those interested is the one which would suit the greater number of people living in the neighborhood of the places mentioned in the petition, and I hope that it will be possible in the selection of the site to choose the one mentioned by the petitioners.

HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE.—Mr. Speaker, I table the correspondence asked for by the hon. member for St. John's East, Mr. Kent, between the Department of Justice and the Colonial Secretary's Department, with the exception of one letter. I have had it executed in duplicate, so that he may have one copy and the other can remain on the table of the House. At the same time, Sir, I beg leave to present a petition from the Rev. J. Scully and others residing on the south side of Bonavista Bay, pointing out that the main line of road is in very bad condition and very much in need of repair, and asking for $3,000 to do the work. This work is very necessary, especially now that the Branch Railway is being built. It touches at Seal Cove and from there turns off to Trinity. Now, between Seal Cove and King's Cove there are a number of settlements, and also on the other side of Seal Cove. These people desire to have the benefit of the railway, and they ask to have this main line between Seal Cove and King's Cove repaired, so that between these two places there will be a regular fast service, which would practically mean a daily mail between King's Cove and Seal Cove, these being the termini for this road. I trust that when the allocations are made this petition will be attended
to; and at any rate when the road improvements, which are contemplated to be made during the coming year or two, are begun, this road will be put in thoroughly good condition so as to make this daily mail service between Seal Cove and King's Cove.

HON. MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND MINES.—Mr. Speaker, I have much pleasure in supporting that petition. I also beg to present a petition from the inhabitants of Flat Islands, one of the series we have had lately on Sunday observance.

MR. WHITEWAY.—Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from Grate's Cove asking for a lighthouse to be erected on Grate's Cove Point; also a petition from Old Perlican on the same subject. The request of these people is deserving of very serious consideration on the part of the Government. This place is one of the most dangerous in the district, and there is no facility to enable the fishermen to carry on their work in safety. A lighthouse here would also serve Baccalieu Tickle and neighboring places. I hope the Department of Marine and Fisheries will be able to allocate something for this purpose. I beg that the petition be referred to that Department.

MR. CLAPP gave notice of question.

MR. KENT.—I should like to draw the attention of Ministers to various questions asked by me and not yet answered. There was one on March 11th about expenditure on a wharf; the Minister of Marine and Fisheries was not here at the time. There was one to the Minister of Finance about fines and forfeitures, and asking him for the Auditor General's report for 1908. Also one to the Minister of Public Works asking for the expenditure in Ferryland District, and in Western Bay, Bay de Verde. As the House will shortly be closing, we should have had the answers here today.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND CUSTOMS.—Mr. Speaker, I might say that the Auditor General's report is a record of this House, and the Clerk should have it, not my Department. The hon. gentleman was a member of the Government himself and should have it himself. If the Clerk has not got it then it should be obtainable at the Auditor General's office. Our Department has nothing to do with it. As to fines and forfeitures, and the Cape Broyle wharves, I have nothing to do with them.

HON. MR. SPEAKER.—The hon. member must not debate the matter.

MR. KENT.—Mr. Speaker, just one ward in explanation. I beg to say that I was quite aware that the 1908 report was a record of the House, and before I put the question I asked the Clerk whether it was amongst the records, and he said it was not. I then asked that a second copy of it be supplied. If the Minister is not willing to supply it I cannot compel him.

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 Election Act, 1889,'" without amendment.

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 the establishment of a Pulp and Paper Industry at Deer Lake," without amendment.

MR. CLAPP.—Mr. Speaker, in rising to move the adjournment of the
House I desire to bring before the House the disorganized condition of the mail service at Bonne Bay. I have been in communication with the principal men of Bonne Bay by telegraph, and they regard it as very serious. I refer the House to a telegram received and published in the Evening Telegram of 15th April. They consider the matter very serious, both for fishermen and for merchants. The mails at one time were hung up for six weeks. I do not say the Government are altogether to blame, but I do say that if they see the Postmaster General is not dealing adequately with the situation they ought to interfere. The Government may not be aware that at Deer Lake mails were dropped down and left unprotected in a small shed, mails which in some cases I am informed contained enclosures of as much as $10,000. Why were no precautions taken to guard those mails? Besides, Sir, there are merchants there wanting to get to St. John's, and they find it impossible; the road is not clear. I ask, why is not Millertown Junction made a place where mails should be dropped and taken by the mailman with a team of dogs? Why was not that done? It was quite feasible. That telegram I have referred to was sent by the leading men of Bonne Bay, men of both political parties. I am sure they would not do it if there were no reason. Bonne Bay is a place that deserves the consideration of the Government. I presume the Government is aware that it pays in $8,000 a year in revenue, and that in the two months of the herring fishery alone $100,000 is distributed there, and its lobster fisheries are the largest in the island. Now, Mr. Speaker, I consider it my duty to bring this matter before the House; if the Government have been slack in dealing with it, they should now give it immediate attention. I notice in to-day's Telegram a long article on the same subject. However, I have not got up with the intention of delaying the House at this late hour; but I consider it to be my duty to bring the matter up.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—
Mr. Speaker, I should like to say that the first intimation I had of any serious disturbance in the mails was the message published in the Evening Telegram, in which it was stated that no mail was received at Bonne Bay in the months of February and March. I at once telephoned the Postmaster General and asked for a report. The next day I received a letter from him stating that mails had been dispatched each week and been received in Bonne Bay, with the dates of dispatch and arrival. I sent that report to the papers. Next day another despatch was received from Bonne Bay repeating the statement, and sent by the same persons. I could not understand this, and sent to the P. M. G for a further explanation. He said he had received a telegram from the Postmaster at Bonne Bay stating that the mails were received each week as sent. In the face of this it seems extraordinary that these gentlemen should send these two telegrams, and I am unable to give any explanation of the discrepancy. With regard to the mails being left unprotected at Deer Lake, this is my first intimation of it, and it shall be looked into.

MR. CLAPP.—If you doubt it read the Telegram.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—
Is that your first intimation of it?

MR. CLAPP.—Yes.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—
I will have it inquired into.

MR. CLAPP.—I had a petition posted from Flower's Cove showing by the post mark that it took six
weeks to get here. The Reids passed a mail by and allowed it to remain.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—With regard to the statement of my hon. friend that mails could have been sent some other way, I can only say that the Government must rely on the P.M.O. It has been impossible to get the mails over the Topsails. However, it is expected that the line will be clear shortly, and an express will go out probably on Sunday. All the Government could do has been done.

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Speaker, I should like to add one word to what has been said by the Hon. Colonial Secretary. As far as the Government is concerned, the publication in the press was the first intimation we had. As regards the system followed, it is the same that has existed for a great number of years, and the trouble we have had is the result of abnormal conditions. I have the highest regard for the gentlemen that sent these letters to the papers, and I cannot doubt that a great deal of what they say is deserving of consideration. But of course people very often are misinformed. Here is one statement that of course the House will not agree with. They say, "There is not a single department of the public service as we know it in Bonne Bay that gives anything like satisfaction to the people for whose convenience it is supposed to be conducted, and our case has never been conclusively put before the House of Assembly in this or in any preceding session." The hon. member will hardly agree with that, I am sure, even if it were sent by the Prime Minister of England. However, Mr. Speaker, it will always be the willing duty of the House and the Government to take into consideration every such grievance with a view to giving it every possible redress.

In supporting the motion to adjourn I should like to say a word or two expressive of the sympathy of the legislature in the awful catastrophe which has paralyzed two hemispheres in the sinking of the steamship Titanic. We had hardly ceased rejoicing in the safe return of our own thousands of fishermen from their perilous pursuits at the ice-fields, when the wireless flashed to us from the ocean, three hundred miles away, the appalling marine disaster which overtook the Titanic, the leviathan of the ocean, a few days ago. History has no parallel to such an awful human holocaust, containing as it does all the elements of a great human tragedy. What a commentary on the uncertainty of all human affairs, and how impotent we are in altering those great eternal laws which govern and influence the world.

Here we have a great monster iceberg, born and cradled amidst the eternal snows of the Arctic regions, sailing majestically down from its home in the north to the southern seas. The Titanic leaves its cradle on her maiden voyage, with all the hope and buoyancy of childhood and youth, a staunch and strong and stately ship, built to laugh at all disaster, to wrestle with the whirlwind and the storm, with every prospect of a bright and useful future, when lo! when least expected, right in its path lies this apparently useless, inert mass of ice. A crash, a roar, and the human freight on board the Titanic are buried fathoms deep.

We are too near this awful, appalling catastrophe to measure and appreciate fully its terrible character. It is of the class which affords no element of consolation; except, indeed, it be that when the ship was in peril, those in charge, a British Captain and a British crew, sustained the best tra-
ditions of the Empire, and went down with the ship, giving their place in the boats to those entrusted to their care. There is nothing the British race so profoundly admire as a noble deed. It is

"Theirs not to reason why,
Their but to do and die."

The distilling of this small medium of consolation, whilst it will not go far to assuage the thousands of broken hearts who, on two continents to-day, mourn their cherished dead; those who, in taking to the boats, left behind them to certain death on the deck of their ill-fated home, the "nearer ones, still, and the dearer ones;" yet it is something to know that the best traditions of the race have been maintained, and that in this disaster, what the Empire expects every citizen to do has been done, namely—to remain at his post and do his duty. That is what is expected of all of us, no matter in what position we may serve, and let us so train ourselves that, should we ever be placed in such a position, we shall be ready for the emergency and die like men.

We can only give expression of the sympathy of this country to those who have met their death, and to the countries that they called their homes.

MR. KENT.—Mr. Speaker, I join with the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister in expressing sympathy with the victims of the awful tragedy that has been enacted in mid-ocean, the news of which has been flashed to our shores by wireless telegraph. On Monday morning, when the news was first circulated, those who heard it were at first shocked at the awful possibilities which it opened up in the terrible loss of life which had most likely taken place. Then followed the hope that the same medium which had flashed the news to the shore, had conveyed the intelligence to other ships and brought them to the rescue, saving the passengers and crew from the awful death which faced them. Later still this hope was almost entirely destroyed, for it is now clear, from the information which has been received, that the victims will number in the vicinity of 1,200 or 1,400 people. True, there is a certain amount of consolation to be obtained in the fact that some survive, for if this tragedy had happened about fifteen years ago, the steamer would have added to the list of those which had left port and were never afterwards heard of, and probably the whole of her crew and passengers would have been lost. The whole world is expressing its sympathy for the victims of the disaster. The ship left port with all the pomp and pageantry of the triumph of science, and skill, hoping to establish a record in communication between the two worlds. But all the pomp and glory have been dashed down by the inscrutable decree of Him, who rules over all human affairs. We have to bow to these decrees, no matter how much suffering and loss they may entail. As I have said, the circumstances are somewhat alleviated by the fact that some survivors are left to tell the story, and I think the details of that story will be such as will only add another link to the chain of heroism of the British seamen when called upon to meet danger. The survivors of the ship are the weak ones—showing that the crew and the stronger passengers willingly gave up to them the first opportunities of safety. I wish to join my sympathy with that of the Prime Minister, and express the very great regret with which we have all heard of this terrible disaster.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rises it adjourn until to-morrow, Thursday, April 18th, at two-thirty o'clock in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned accordingly.
THURSDAY, April 18th.
The House met at half-past two in the afternoon, pursuant to adjournment.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table of the House the Reports of the Public Schools of Newfoundland under Roman Catholic Boards for the year ended Dec. 31st, 1911.

MR. GOODISON.—Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Carbonear, signed by a large number of electors of that district, praying that Merchant's Hr. be made a regular port of call by the mail boat. They point out that this place has over 100 fishermen employed at their annual avocations there, and at present they have to go to Francis Hr. for mails and freight and passages have to be booked from that place, which is a great inconvenience. I have much pleasure in supporting the prayer of the petition, and I ask that it be received and referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

MR. CLAPP asked the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a statement showing all sums of money paid to or through Mr. F. D. Scott, of the district of Fogo, during the year 1911, on account of Public Charities.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Mr. Speaker, in reply I beg to say that no amounts were paid to or through Mr. F. D. Scott during 1911, on account of Public Charities.

CLOSING CEREMONY.

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 Chamber 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 1912, and the 30th day of June, 1913, and for other purposes relating to the Public Service.

An Act respecting Certain Retiring Allowances.

An Act further to amend "The Revenue Act, 1905."

An Act further to amend "The Education Act, 1903."

An Act respecting the Treatment and Prevention of Tuberculosis.

An Act to provide for Raising of a Sum of Money by Loan for the Extension of the Railway system of the Colony.

An Act to provide for the Raising by the Sale of Debenture Bonds of a Sum of Money for the Public Service of the Colony.

An Act for the Appropriation of Private Lands for certain Public Purposes.

An Act respecting Copyright.

An Act to amend "The Boiler Inspection Act, 1899."

An Act to amend "The Customs Act, 1898."

An Act to amend Chapter 102 of the Consolidated Statutes, entitled "Of Weights and Measures and the Inspection of Lumber."

An Act to amend the Act 10 Edward VII., Cap. 4.

An Act to amend the Act 2 Edward IV., Cap. 14, entitled "An Act Re-
speeting the Control and Management of the Harbour of Grand Bank.”

An Act to amend Chapter 120 of the Consolidated Statutes (Second Series) entitled “Of Harbor Master and Harbor Regulations for the Port of St. John’s.”

An Act further to amend “The Municipal Act, 1912.”

An Act further to amend “The Election Act, 1899.”

An Act respecting the Establishment of a Pulp and Paper Industry at Deer Lake.

His Excellency was then pleased to make the following Speech to both Branches of the Legislature.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

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

It affords me much pleasure to be able to terminate the session in so comparatively short a time. The substantial volume of business transacted by you attests your diligence and your keen desire to promote the general welfare of the Colony by the measures you have considered.

The enactment for the prevention of Tuberculosis is one which, I am sure, will be warmly welcomed by the people, since it follows the example of the most advanced nations of the world in making the conservation of the public health a duty directly undertaken by the State.

The Bill to Encourage the Establishment of Pulp and Paper Mills at Deer Lake affords a prospect of another important industrial enterprise amongst us, and I trust it may soon be our good fortune to see other similar projects inaugurated here.

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

I thank you for the liberal supplies you have made for the public service. They shall be expended with careful regard to economy.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

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

His Majesty has recently appointed a Commission to enquire into the possibilities of inter-Imperial trade, upon which this Colony is represented, and it is probable that we may have a visit from the Commission in the near future, in pursuance of the conduct of the investigation entrusted to them.

It appears to me fitting to take this opportunity of expressing my deep grief, shared, I am sure, by both Houses of Parliament, and by all whom they represent, at the International disaster which has befallen the English speaking races of both the Eastern and Western hemispheres by the loss of the White Star steamer Titanic, which has resulted in a loss of life probably unparalleled in Maritime history. I desire on your behalf as well as on my own to extend the unbounded sympathy of Newfoundland to all who are mourning for those dear to them.

In relieving you now of your sessional duties, I desire to congratulate you on the continued prosperity of the Colony, and earnestly pray that the blessings of Providence may assist it to still further prosperity in the future.

After which the Honourable the President of the Legislative Council, by command of His Excellency the Governor, said:—

“Gentlemen:

“It is His Excellency’s Will and Pleasure that this General Assembly be prorogued until Thursday, the Eighteenth day of July next, then and here to be holden; and this General Assembly stands prorogued accordingly.”
INDEX

ADDRESS IN REPLY,—
  Committee 31.
  Draft Address, 32.
  Debate 32.
  Amendments, 46.
  Division, 75.
  Reply to, 80.

AGRICULTURE & MINES, HON. MINISTER,—
  On Tuberculosis Resolutions, 143.
  On Supply, 271, 344.

AUDITOR GENERALS REPORT TABLED, 232.

APPROPRIATION OF LANDS BILL, 461, 496, 507, 546.

BOND, RT. HON. SIR R.,—
  On Address in Reply, 32, 63.
  On Tuberculosis Resolutions, 105, 135, 156, 167, 185, 187, 190, 194, 195, 196.
  On Supply, 209.
  On Boiler Inspection Bill, 210, 211, 212, 213, 215, 216.
  On Weights and Measures Resolutions, 227, 228, 231, 232.

BENNETT, MR.—
  On Address in Reply, 65.
  On Tuberculosis Resolutions, 152.
  On Weights and Measures Bill, 229, 230.
II. INDEX.

BLANDFORD, HON. S. D. (See Hon. Minister Agriculture and Mines.)

BOILER INSPECTION BILL, 200, 209, 232.

BANK AMENDMENT BILL, 461, 469, 496.

CASHIN, HON. M. P. (See Hon. Minister Finance and Customs.)

CONDOLENCE, RESOLUTIONS OF (Winter, McNeily, Greene), 7.

CORRESPONDENCE, RE DOMINION NAVIES, 25.

COMMITTEE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY, 31.

CLIFT, MR.—
On Tuberculosis Resolutions, 145, 147.
On Tuberculosis Bill, 217.
On Education Resolutions, 320, 325, 326.
On Lobster Preservation Vote, 384.
On Railway Loan Resolutions, 45.
On Bank Bill, 469.
On Telephone and Lighthouse Loan Bill, 486.
On Election Bill, 517, 519.

COLONIAL SECRETARY, HON.—
On Supply, 260, 270, 275, 276, 281, 284, 285.
Supporting Adjournment, 309, 567, 568.

CLAPP, MR.—
On Supply, 279, 280, 281, 283, 284.
On Adjournment, 566, 567.

COPYRIGHT BILL, 304, 345, 466, 496.

CUSTOMS AMENDMENT BILL, 355, 388, 461, 466.

CLOSE OF HOUSE, 570.
INDEX.

DEVEREAUX, MR. —
On Tuberculosis Resolutions, 160.
On Spitting Bill, 466.

DOWNEY, MR. —
On Weights and Measures Bill, 229.
On Supply, 258.

DESPATCHES FROM SECRETARY OF STATE, 465, 557.

EMERSON, HON. C. H. —
On Tuberculosis Bill, 218.
On Telephone and Lighthouse Loan Bill, 482.


EDUCATION BILL, 326, 327, 345, 355, 507, 510.

ELECTION BILL, 507, 511, 522, 538.

FINANCE AND CUSTOMS, HON. MINISTER, —
On Tuberculosis Resolutions, 169, 191, 192, 195, 196.
On Ways and Means, 392, 423.
On Railway Loan Resolutions, 433.
On Spitting Bill, 466.
On Telegraph and Lighthouse Loan Bill, 473, 478, 494.
On Election Bill, 518.

GOVERNOR'S REPLY TO ADDRESS, 80.

GOODISON, MR. —
On Tuberculosis Bill, 218.

GEAR, MR. —
On Supply, 279, 280.

GRAND BANK HR. BILL, 355, 389, 462, 466.
HARBOR REGULATIONS BILL, 31, 79.

HOWLEY, MR.—
On Tuberculosis Resolutions, 180.
On Boiler Inspection Bill, 210, 211, 213, 216.

HARBOUR MASTER’S BILL, 200, 209, 306.

INTERNAL ECONOMY COMMISSION, 80, Report Tabled, 233.

INSPECTION OF BOILERS BILL, 200, 209.

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE COMMISSION, 557.

JUSTICE, HON. MINISTER,—
On Hr. Master’s Bill, 200.
On Weights and Measures, 232.
On Education, 303, 304, 323, 326.
On Spitting Bill, 345.
On Copyright Bill, 345, 466.
On Customs Amendment Bill, 388.
On Pharmacy Bill, 388.
On Grand Bank Harbor Bill 389.
On Bank Amendment Bill, 469.
On Election Bill, 511, 517.
On Appropriation of Land Bill, 546.

KENT, MR.—
On Resolutions of Condolence, 7.
On Speech from Throne, 18.
On Address in Reply, 71.
On Harbor Regulations Bill, 79.
On Tuberculosis Resolutions, 140, 175.
On Boiler Inspection Bill, 212.
On Weights and Measures, 230.
On Education Resolutions, 300, 303.
On Education Bill, 510, 511.
Supporting Adjournment Motion, 308.
On Ways and Means, 420, 431.
INDEX.

On Railway Loan Resolutions, 437, 458, 460.
On Copyright Bill, 468.
On Telegraph and Lighthouse Loan Bill, 476, 492.
On Election Bill, 512, 523, 525, 543.

LeFEUVRE, MR.—
On Speech from Throne, 14.

LOBSTER PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT, 364.

LIGHTHOUSE AND TELEPHONE BILL, 473, 506, 508, 509.

MORRIS, RT. HON. SIR E. P.—
On Resolutions of Condolence, 7.
On Speech from Throne, 21.
On Address in Reply, 50.
On Harbor Regulations Bill, 79.
On Inspection of Boilers Bill, 200, 213, 215, 216.
On Tuberculosis Bill, 217.
On Weights and Measures, 224, 227, 228, 230, 231, 306.
On Education Bill, 326, 510, 511.
On Lobster Preservation, 364, 384.
On Ways and Means, 425, 431, 432.
On Railway Loan Resolutions, 445, 455, 460.
On Telephone and Lighthouse Loan Bill, 489.
On Election Bill, 514, 518, 524, 526, 538, 544.
On Titanic Disaster, 568.

MOORE, MR.—
On Speech from Throne, 11.
MOULTON, MR.—
  On Tuberculosis Bill, 219.
  On Supply, 278.

MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS,—
  On Tuberculosis Bill, 217.
  On Supply, 280.
  On Telephone and Lighthouse Loan Bill, 487.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BILL, 331, 355, 385, 389, 461, 545.

MINISTER MARINE AND FISHERIES,—
  On Lighthouse and Telephone Loan Bill, 481.

MORISON, HON. D. (See Hon. Minister Justice.)

MORRIS, MR. F. J.—
  On Lighthouse and Telephone Loan Bill, 485.

MURPHY, MR.—
  On Lighthouse and Telephone Loan Bill, 488.

PARSONS, MR.—
  On Address in Reply, 74.

PETITIONS,—
  Hon. Minister Agriculture and Mines, 112, 146, 198, 
    202, 233, 254, 272, 286, 305, 310, 326, 327, 329, 
    346, 358, 390, 462, 470, 497, 507, 508, 528, 566.
  Hon. Colonial Secretary, 112, 202, 220, 254, 272, 
    304, 305, 328, 346, 357, 390, 463, 470, 497, 507, 
    508, 520, 527, 552, 563.
  Hon. Minister of Justice, 146, 202, 309, 346, 391, 565.
  Mr. Moulton, 146, 202, 220, 233, 254.
  Mr. Kent, 198, 220, 558, 561, 565.
  Hon. C. H. Emerson, 198, 202, 220, 253, 327, 358, 
    470, 471, 501.
  Mr. Parsons, 198, 252, 272, 273, 286, 304, 347, 463, 
    506.
  Mr. Gear, 201, 470, 471.
  Mr. LeFeuvre, 202, 272, 286, 309, 346, 471, 509.
INDEX. viii.

Hon. Prime Minister, 201, 309, 330, 349, 361, 363, 463, 502, 544, 559, 564.
Mr. Dwyer, 220.
Mr. Clapp, 358, 391, 464, 497, 503, 509, 527, 563.
Mr. Goodison, 252, 521, 570.
Mr. Downey, 253, 272, 286, 328, 390, 462.
Mr. Clift, 254, 273, 310, 357, 359, 362, 363, 433, 464, 497, 519, 527, 562, 565.
Mr. Roberts, 254, 272.
Mr. Squires, 305, 328, 329, 330, 360, 464, 520, 556.
Mr. Bennett, 309, 329, 362.
Mr. Kennedy, 330, 363, 544.
Mr. Murphy, 330, 496.
Mr. Earle, 360, 471, 551, 557.
Mr. F. J. Morris, 391, 556, 562.
Mr. Devereauxe, 462, 509, 556.
Minister Marine and Fisheries, 463.
Mr. Seymour, 463, 506.
Mr. Howley, 471, 562.
Mr. Whiteway, 544, 558, 566.
Minister Finance and Customs, 551, 558.
Mr. Moore, 551, 558, 565.
Hon. J. C. Crosbie, 558.

PHARMACY BILL, 355, 388, 462, 466, 505.

PUBLIC SERVICE BILL, 508, 510, 522.

PULP AND PAPER RESOLUTIONS, 528, 546, 551, 553, 557.

PRIME MINISTER, RT. HON. (See Rt. Hon. Sir E. P. Morris.)

QUESTIONS.—

Mr. Kent, 30, 77, 79, 81, 82, 113, 115, 146, 147, 199, 224, 233, 234, 255, 275, 288, 305, 433, 465, 472, 473, 504, 507, 521, 522, 528, 545, 552, 553, 566.
Mr. Gear, 78, 235, 354, 465.
Mr. Clift, 81, 355, 391, 465, 472, 473, 522, 545, 551.
VIII.

INDEX.

Mr. Clapp, 113, 114, 147, 198, 199, 221, 234, 273, 274, 287, 331, 353, 354, 392, 472, 570.
Mr. Roberts, 198, 221, 235, 287, 288.
Mr. Devereaux, 275.
Mr. Dwyer, 305.
Mr. Parsons, 310.
Mr. Earle, 503.

ROBERTS, MR.—
On Boiler Inspection Bill, 210, 214.
On Weights and Measures Resolutions, 228.

RETIRING ALLOWANCES BILL, 327, 345, 355, 387.

RAILWAY LOAN RESOLUTIONS, 433, 461, 469, 496, 505.

REVENUE BILL, 496, 506, 508, 509.

RULES SUSPENDED, 551, 553.

SPEECH FROM THRONE, Opening, 3; Closing 571.

SHEA, MR.—
On Address in Reply, 47.
On Supply, 341.

SPEAKER, HIS HONOR THE,—
Ruling re Questions, 115.
Ruling on Motion to have words of Minister Finance taken down, 190.
Re House Records, 472.

SUPPLY, COMMITTEE ON, 203, 235, 256, 275, 327, 332, 364, 461, 495.

SUPPLY RESOLUTIONS Reported, 273, 287, 331, 353, 465, 504.

SPITTING BILL, 344, 466.

SQUIRES, MR.—
On Spitting Bill, 344, 466.
INDEX.

TUBERCULOSIS RESOLUTIONS, 82, 116, 147.
  Amendment to Tuberculosis Resolutions, 196.
  Division on Tuberculosis Resolutions, 197.

TUBERCULOSIS BILL, 197, 200, 216, 232, 355.

TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITALS, Dispatch from Secretary of State, 465.

TELEPHONE AND LIGHTHOUSE LOAN BILL, 473, 495, 506, 509.

TITANIC DISASTER, 568.

WATSON, HON. R. (See Hon. Colonial Secretary.)

WHITEWAY, MR.—
  On Tuberculosis Resolutions, 151.

WARREN, MR.—
  On Boiler Inspection Bill, 211, 212.

WOODFORD, MR.—
  On Tuberculosis Bill, 217.
  On Supply, 280.
  On Telephone and Lighthouse Loan Bill, 487.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES RESOLUTIONS, 224.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL, 232, 252, 305, 310, 461.

WAYS AND MEANS, 392, 466, 495, 504.
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

DURING THE

FOURTH SESSION

OF THE

TWENTY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF

NEWFOUNDLAND

1912
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

SESSION 1912

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 14th, 1912.

This being the day appointed by proclamation for the meeting of the Legislature, at three o'clock p.m. His Excellency the Governor, Sir Ralph Champneys Williams, K.C.M.G., 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's pleasure they attend him immediately at this House." Who being come with their Speaker, His Excellency was pleased to speak as follows:—

(Speech appears in first part of this volume.)

The Honourable the President reported His Excellency's Speech, and the same was read by the Clerk.

MOTION FOR ADDRESS IN REPLY.

HON. W. C. JOB.—I beg to propose that a select committee be appointed to draft an address in reply to His Excellency's speech delivered at the opening of the present session of the Legislature, but before doing so would like to congratulate the gentleman who has been elevated to the Presidency of this Council. I have been fortunate in being associated with him for some years in business operations and in the Council of the Board of Trade, and I can testify to his ability to carry on the work laid down by our late President. From my own personal knowledge and from the esteem in which he is held by the community, I am confident that he will preside over the deliberations of the Council with impartiality, dignity and courtesy. I cannot but feel regret that our late President, Sir E. D. Shea, who has presided so acceptably for over a quarter of a century, has retired from the active work of the Council, but we all, I feel sure, learn with much pleasure that he will remain a member of the Council, and that we shall have the advantage of his experience and ability. The great loss this Council has sustained through the death of the late Hon. D. J. Greene, K.C., has been already referred to at length, and I have nothing to say except to add my appreciation of what has been said as to his good qualities. His eminent qualities specially showed to advantage in discharge of his duties in this House, and we shall miss his kindly wit and manly criticism. His place has been filled by Hon. P. T. McGrath, a gentleman whose long journalistic career and large acquaintance
with public affairs should make him a decided acquisition to the debating power of the Council, and he will, no doubt, be heartily welcomed by hon. members.

In the speech you have just heard read His Excellency has been pleased to refer to the Coronation and the Imperial Conference. The former was no doubt the most important event of the year and was carried out with support from every ruler of the earth in a brilliant manner. It is satisfactory to note that Newfoundland did her part both in London and all over the island and I am safe in saying that in no part of the Empire have their Majesties more loyal subjects than in Newfoundland. The Imperial Conference which found this Colony well represented, no doubt hastened the day when all territories connected with the British Crown would agree to work together for the benefit of all. As a further result of this Conference a Royal Commission has been appointed to investigate the national resources and improvement of the trade of the Empire, and it is gratifying to learn that this Colony will be represented.

The reference in the Speech to the fight against the Great White Plague, is most opportune, and we are now all aware that this matter is of most vital importance to the welfare of the Colony. The campaign against this dread evil was gallantly started by the A.P. C. at a time when the disease was not only rampant, but little understood by our people and noble work has been done. I consider it right and proper that the Government should now take the matter up and on the principle that "a stitch in time saves nine," carry out a vigorous policy and stamp out the disease. It must be encouraging to Hon. John Harvey, Dr. Wakefield and their helpers to note that the last two years show a decrease in death rate from this enemy, but the real value will no doubt accrue to future generations and children yet unborn will reap the benefit of this unselfish work. The generosity of the Messrs. Reid at this time is singularly opportune, and puts the Government in a position to act effectively. This munificent gift wins the gratitude of all classes of the community. All that is wanted is for the people all over the island to assist the authorities in dealing with this scourge.

The reference in the speech to the Festival of Empire is a very happy one. Our participation in this affair was an honest effort on the part of Sir Edward Morris and the public committee to bring the Colony before the business world of the Empire. The old platitude that "it pays to advertise" holds good in the present case, and we shall no doubt reap good benefit in the future from the results of this effort. Mr. Joseph Outerbridge, Mr. J. P. Howley and Mr. Seymour deserve the thanks of the whole community for their efforts made to bring before the Empire our industries both active and dormant. It is claimed by some that the shale oil industry, about which many are so hopeful, was the result of the expenditure of this money and time.

The branch railway policy is evidently being carried out vigorously by the Government and is very clearly a boon to those whose territories are fortunate enough to be traversed thereby. The advantage generally is beyond discussion and it only appears to be a question as to how many miles we can afford to build. To my mind the changing of the contract which necessitated the Government operating the line themselves was a good stroke of business for the Colony and I cannot help feeling that had the Government been compelled to operate, it would have been a ruinous affair. Messrs. Reid are evidently carrying out their building contracts in their usual thorough style, and the beauty of the track from Clarenville to Bonavista was much admir-
ed by many who were fortunate enough to be present on the occasion of the opening of this line. The building of rolling stock in the country means extra employment, in addition to which the training of many apprentices in their machine shops gives new craftsmen to Newfoundland.

Telegraph extension has not been neglected, and it appears that 150 miles of line has been built from Bonne Bay north. This annihilator of space is of course an immense benefit to men in this far-away territory, and is conducive to more trade and settlement in these parts. It is hoped that the Government in the future will be able to circle the whole coast. The wireless system was again found to be of great value on the Labrador during the fishery there, and it is to be hoped that further extensions in this direction will take place. The telephone in most parts of the civilized globe is now looked upon as a necessity and if an efficient system can be introduced here it must be of great value as a time-saver.

Reference to Old Age Pensions is gratifying and it must be a selfish man indeed who will not delight to see this scheme put on a sound basis; and I hope that until every aged person who needs help is provided for, no efforts will be relaxed. His Excellency has been pleased to refer to the pension of teachers, and it is suggested to place them on the same level as ordinary civil servants. The future of Newfoundland depends upon the efficiency and intelligence of the masses, and when we come to think that there are still people in this country who are unable to read and write, we must realize that educational matters have not been attended to in the past as they should have been. The present Government are evidently face to face with the fact that the teaching profession is not popular and realize that a special effort must be made at once. The records show that in the past the teacher's have not remained any length of time in their situation and have apparently made the teaching profession a stepping stone to other things. The present attempt to popularize the situation by helping the teachers' pension scheme, is a wise one, and we hope will have the desired effect. $200 does not seem a very large sum for men who have spent the best part of their lives in a most tedious occupation, and in many cases away from the ordinary conveniences and refinements of life. I am of opinion that if it is possible a little more attention ought to be paid to the training of the teacher, so that the training may be reflected upon the future generation. I cannot help saying that I am of opinion that the present disjointed system of sectarian education is not conducive to putting future generations in a position to compete with those of the neighbouring nations, when one realize what a general system of education has done for people in the United States, and, indeed, I think it has been more or less responsible for their great success. This was clearly seen by legislators here in the past, and there is, of course an Act on the Statute Book making it possible for different religions in the out Harbors to combine and subscribe sufficient money to pay for a good teacher, but unfortunately the Act appears to be unworkable, though I hope that the day is not far off when an attempt will be made to introduce something of a more workable nature.

The fishing class should be interested to see that a special effort is being made to increase the lobster fishery by the preserving of seed lobsters. The lines upon which the matter is going to be conducted are those upon which our Canadian and American neighbours have been successful. There will be no experiment in the matter, and if the scheme is faithfully carried out, success is assured. The
Proceedings
of the
Legislative Council
during the
Fourth Session
of the
Twenty-Second General Assembly
of
Newfoundland
1915
canned value of this article is no less than $18.00 per case, as against $4.50 per case when the industry was started some 30 years ago. The prospect of higher values for their export fresh is good, so that it is clearly worth while for the Government to use a special effort in preserving the fishery. The reference to agriculture cannot but interest everyone, and it is to be hoped that the stimulus given to this great occupation will continue to bear fruit. The figures from the agricultural department showing progress made, will be awaited with interest. The erection of a new Lunatic Asylum and a Poor Asylum appears to have been of necessity, and their erection along modern lines will no doubt be desired by the whole community. The poor house is especially needed. All these advantages are very comforting, and personally I should like to see more generous pension schemes and telephones and telegraphs everywhere, but these luxuries can only be maintained at considerable cost, and it is the duty of every man in the Island to do what he can towards keeping the earning power of Newfoundland up to a high level.

The past few years have undoubtedly been very prosperous, and the wages of men engaged in fishing, lumbering, railway building and manufacturing have been higher than was ever known before; and it is the duty of the people of these two Houses to do all they can to see that the same scale is maintained; otherwise the most serious thing that can happen to Newfoundland will occur—her young people will leave her, as the attractions outside are great. How, Sir, can the present earning power of the people be maintained? Firstly, we have the price of fish. Some years ago it had been down to $4.00, or even lower, but what should be aimed at is to keep it at a six-dollar level. The $4.00 price for many years was thought to be what was called fair value. It may have been all right in days that are past, but the requirements of Newfoundlanders have increased; a few $4.00 years for the fishing classes would mean depopulation, unless catches were very large everywhere. That there is always a danger of this $4.00 price would be idle to deny, as a very large fishery might bring it about if it occurred at a time when our competitors had also a large catch to market. His Excellency remarks that the cause of the very high prices for fish the past season, was the short catch of our competitors, to which I agree, but it must further be added that an unusual and unexpected demand came from Bahia and other parts of Brazil at the end of October, to which market a larger proportion of the catch than usual has gone, and without which welcome aid the present high price could not have been obtained. This was the real cause of the advance. There is a general impression that the Newfoundland shipper wants to keep the price low, but this is quite incorrect. The commission that he aims at making for moving the crop of fish is more easily made at $6.00 than when it is low, and the general prosperity to the merchants’ establishments when the fish is high is very apparent. The normal catch of cod for this Island we might put down for 1,300,000, while the largest of recent years appears to have been 1,700,000, so that if we take 1,500,000 as a figure, and we should aspire to it, it appears that the difference between the $6.00 and the $4.00 level means no less than $3,000,000 extra divided broadcast all over the Island. This amount is surely worth taking a little trouble about, and all classes should do their utmost to bring it about and make it one of the burning questions of the day amongst politicians, as well as fishermen and merchants. All would share in the benefit, the grocer, the blacksmith, the clergy, the law-
yer and the newspaper man would all get a good slice, and even the merchant also would get a few crumbs after the rest are satisfied. Personally, I do not fear a reversion to the old $4.00 price, as the improved means of communication between this country and our markets, the better means of distribution in all the foreign markets, where railways have increased as they have in this Island, both assist to the better consumption, and the shipping of our fish in packages instead of in bulk, also means that we can market a bigger catch than in the days gone by.

Governments in the past have left the shippers of fish to look after the markets and have not assisted as they might have done in helping the trader to find new outlets for his produce, but since Sir Edward Morris has been in charge of the Government he has been enthusiastic on this subject, and the formation of the Board of Trade was greatly assisted by him. The Government’s appointment of Mr. Hawes as Trade Commissioner in Spain was a splendid move for trade, and his presence in this market has already shown what can be done in the way of consumption and the satisfactory realizations are indicative of what a little enterprise in this direction could do. The Government has further appointed Mr. Hugh LeMessurier in Italy, where a like result we are hoping will occur. The Government, on the recommendation of the Board of Trade, likewise appointed Mr. Arthur Dallas in Brazil, but, unfortunately, before he had properly got to work he died, so that for the present nothing is being done in this market. It is the untried markets of the world that I would like to see entered into, and the very best man in this country should be employed by the Government to travel to one or two places and personally experiment in the sale of fish and try to get a further outlet, as I am convinced that if these high prices are maintained, we shall increase the number of fishermen and consequently some day may be face to face with a 2,000,000 quintal catch to market.

Direct steam was employed more regularly again this year to our European markets, and it is some satisfaction to know that this has all been brought about without any Government subsidy, and when we consider that the Halifax merchants for years have had their steamers subsidized by the Government, it is a tribute to the merchants of this trade that such has been unnecessary so far. I am of opinion, however, that a line to the West Indies would be of great advantage, and I think the Government should offer some small subsidy in the hope that some steamship company would take up this regular service between fish consuming ports and this Island, so that we might have another safety valve in case of need. There are other outlets that we can provide and that will help to take away the strain. To begin with, the demand from the States, as evidenced this year, is likely to be a large one, and it is a matter of gratification to note that over 32,000 quintals were sold to these markets this year at from 2½ to 3c. per pound. I cannot help feeling that the labor, manufacturing, and processing of this fish should be accomplished here and that we should strive to get the duty, at present against us, removed in this market, so that we could supply the consumers direct ourselves. Cold storage is close at hand also, which will help us out. A more efficient system of procuring statistics for the trade is very necessary, and the prompt publishing of the same will help very much in keeping up prices. The Board of Trade propose to make further efforts to have this great advantage gained.

One of the greatest industries this country has known requires
serious attention. I refer to the Labrador fishery. The catches during the past two years have been very small and the number of men fishing lost season was also very small, many fine schooners being unable to go fishing on account of having no crews and many large fishing establishments from Battle Harbor to Cape Harrigan were deserted. Some fishermen say the price is too uncertain and others do not find it too easy to get to their destination. In addition to this, the method of fixing the current Labrador price is most unsatisfactory to both buyer and seller. The scarcity of bait is another great drawback, but this might be got over. I have not time to go into this matter to-day, but I would like to see these two Houses use their best ability to deal with this important industry and so encourage the bone and sinew of the country to follow up this fishery, instead of going away to dig coal and adopt other pursuits which he cares less about.

In conclusion, Sir, I have much pleasure in moving the appointment of a Select Committee to draft an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne, graciously delivered by His Excellency this afternoon.

HON. MR. ANGEL rose to second the motion, but before doing so wished to congratulate Hon. Mr. Harris, who had been appointed to fill the President's chair, made vacant by the retirement of Sir E. D. Shea, who for 25 years had, with dignity and grace, presided over the Council. The long experience of Hon. Mr. Harris, his ability, tact, keen judgment and knowledge of things in general would be of great assistance and he (Mr. Angel) had no doubt but he would be an ornament to the position. He regretted the retirement of Sir Edward Shea, which had been brought about by the weight of years, but was glad to learn that the Council would still have the benefit of his experience and knowledge from time to time. He congratulated Hon. P. T. McGrath on his appointment to the Chamber, as his knowledge of things general and immediate grasp of all public matters would be of great assistance to decisions of the Council. Mr. McGrath's record as a journalist, was widely known, he having climbed the journalistic ladder through persistence and integrity, and the success thus attained would no doubt be duplicated as a legislator. It appeared to him (Hon. Mr. A.) that after what had been said by the proposer, it was almost unnecessary for him to say more. Hon. Mr. Job had gone fully into the speech, paragraph by paragraph, and presented a picture of the condition of affairs in this Colony in a manner that left little to be said. He had shown what the Colony had done, what it was doing, and what was possible for it to do. Mr. Job had spoken with a knowledge brought about by his extensive business connections, and few were better qualified to speak on the country's affairs. He had outlined its possibilities, showed how its business could be extended, and it would be useless for him (Hon. Mr. A.) to go over the same ground. He (Hon. Mr. A.) would like to make a few remarks in reference to the events which had taken place since the death of King Edward two years ago. Many momentous events had occurred during that period, the most noticeable being the Coronation of King George and Queen Mary, the Festival of Empire in which this Colony was represented, the appointment of a prince of the
royal blood to the Governor-Generalship of Canada, the Imperial Conference, at which the representatives of the Empire beyond the seas were taken into council, and the defence of the Empire discussed which had never been done before, and at which immense interest was manifest; the visit of King George and Queen Mary to Delhi, where they were crowned Emperor and Empress of India at the great Durbar. It was true that Victoria had been Empress and Edward Emperor, but it remained for George to consummate and carry out the ceremony on the soil at Delhi, which was one of the great events in the history of the greatest empire the world ever knew.

When we saw war, pestilence and famine among the other nations and realize how near we were at war with Germany we have much to be thankful for. We know not what the future may bring forth, but let us hope, that the peace that followed the reign of King Edward will continue during the reign of King George, and that the success, the enterprise and the undertakings of the great British Empire will have the blessings of God.

He (Hon. Mr. A.) would pass along to that paragraph in the speech referring to the general prosperity of the country. He was glad to note the Government had not taken full credit for it all, but attributed it to natural causes over which they had no control. This was very wise on the part of the Government, as it was usual for Governments to claim full credit for our prosperity. To get to the root of the matter, the fishery had been only an average voyage, the prices were high, brought about by an over demand, caused by the scant catch of our competitors, the large purchases made by the American market; together with the great output from our forests and mines, placed the Colony in the prosperous condition that it had never before reached. He (Hon. Mr. A.) was somewhat pessimistic as to the building of branch railways, and was gratified to know that the Government had not gone further, but would complete the branches as outlined two years ago. It was a great satisfaction to him (Hon. Mr. A.) to know that the branches already completed had resulted in a benefit to the country even beyond the expectations of those who introduced the measure. He (Hon. Mr. A.) had been told that the amount of traffic on the Bonavista branch was something enormous. The wilderness had been turned into a hive of industry, and was having an enlivening effect on the people. They were given a new life and were able to step out into the world of action from which they had been isolated for years. He (Hon. Mr. A.) had voted for the policy because the people had asked for it, but he still had pessimistic ideas of the results of railway extension. The final result remains to be seen. Certain it was the Bonavista branch had been a success, but we must wait for the end, we must progress, however, and we could not progress by standing still. He (Hon. Mr. A.) was pleased with the interest being taken to stamp out consumption and proud that we had people in our midst, who not only gave their time and brains, but also their money to help to stop its ravages. That it had such a hold on the community was the result of the ignorance of our people, and lack of knowledge of how to prevent it. The recent gift of a sanitarium for each district was an indication of true generosity, and
the future looked hopeful. The present period was different from the past when merchant princes retired from the country with fortunes and without leaving a cent for any humanitarian purpose. This was a new age and those of means were only too willing to support a cause of this kind. He (Hon. Mr. A.) appreciated the generous Old Age Pension scheme. It was a step in the right direction. Last year 400 of the aged fishermen had been provided for, this year 400 more would be added, and he thought it a good policy to ask for a further sum of $20,000 for this purpose. He (Hon. Mr. A.) was gratified to learn that a scheme had been devised whereby teachers could avail of pensions as under civil service, and hoped that a salary would be provided to make it worth the while for the teacher to continue at his work, and use it as a profession. Young men had taken advantage of the profession as a stepping stone to some other position, and abandoned it because of the small remuneration. Some people had called the teacher's life a lazy one, but he (Hon. Mr. A.) thought differently. The teacher had a great task to perform in moulding the character of the children, and he should be paid accordingly. The most gratifying of all the speech contained he (Hon. Mr. A.) thought was that the expenditure did not exceed the estimates, and if it did there was a good surplus to offset the difference. Governments often expended large sums on Executive responsibility, and they came to the Legislature asking for indemnity. We had much to be thankful for in this matter. He (Hon. Mr. A.) did not think much more could be said, and had great pleasure in seconding the motion that an address in reply be forwarded His Excellency.

The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE ON ADDRESS.

HON. the PRESIDENT named the following Committee: Hons. Job, Angel, Harvey, Ryan, Ayre.

SPEECH OF PRESIDENT.

HON. the PRESIDENT—Hon. gentlemen, I thank you for the congratulations tendered me, both publicly and privately, on my appointment to the exalted position of President of this Chamber. I feel that in your generosity you will overlook my shortcomings in carrying out the duties of the position, especially when a contrast is made with the manner in which these duties were performed by my predecessor—a gentleman pre-eminently qualified both in ability and experience to occupy the position which he has, to the regret of every member of the House, now relinquished. I am sure it is the hope of us all that he may still have many years of life before him—years entirely free from the cares and responsibilities inseparable from any public position. I feel assured however, that in presiding over this Chambers in its deliberations I shall have the assistance and co-operation of every honourable member, and I am also convinced that the gentlemanly spirit which has always been observed in the discussion of matters coming before it will not be interrupted. However long it may please Providence to permit me to occupy the position, it shall always be my aim to perpetuate the usages and traditions of the House as they have impressed themselves on my mind during a membership of twenty years. Perhaps I ought to stop here. Yet the occasion would seem to justify me in trespassing a little longer on your patience for the purpose of
briefly referring to the honored dead who occupied seas in this honorable House during these full and eventful years. Their faces and forms pass before my mind's eye today, as vividly as when they were here in the fullness of their manhood. I again hear their voices in antagonistic discussion—yet seldom in a tone of acrimony or ill-will. The first that suggests itself to me is that of a gentleman whose name was for many years associated with the commercial and legislative life of this Colony, and whose mantle has fallen on his worthy son. I mean the Hon. A. W. Harvey. He it was who introduced me to this House in February, 1892. Then there is the face and form of my deceased friend, Hon. Moses Monroe, one of the ablest and most large-hearted men that ever made this country their adopted home. Following him in the array is the keen man of affairs and genial gentleman, Hon. A. M. Mackay; then the incisive debater, the wit and master of sarcasm, Hon. Thomas Talbot; the parliamentarian and scholar, Hon. M. Fenelon; the friend of the mariner and the successful agitator for the appointment of a Lloyds' Surveyor, Hon. Philip Cleary; and Sir Robert Thorburn, who for many years occupied such a high place in the commercial life of the Colony. Coming to a more recent period is the name of the representative of the sturdy men of the north—the men to whom this country is so much indebted. I refer to the Hon. Samuel Blandford. It is unnecessary for me to say anything respecting the two hon. gentlemen who last passed from us. I refer to the Honourables G. T. Rendell and D. Joseph Greene. Their worth and ability are too well known to every hon. member of this House to need any endorsement from me. These names pass across my mind on this (to me at least) memorable occasion, and whilst they remind us that at best our term here is but a short one, still I agree with the poet when he says—

"Look not mournfully into the past,
It comes not back again,
Wisely improve the present,
It is thine;
Go forth to meet the shadowy future
Without fear and with a manly heart."

Adjournment was taken at 5.35 until Friday next at 4.30 p.m.

FRIDAY, Feb. 16, 1912.

The House met at 4.30 p.m. pursuant to adjournment.
The Minutes of Wednesday, Feb. 14th, were read.

ADDRESS IN REPLY.

HON. W. C. JOB, from the Select Committee appointed to prepare an Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor, reported a draft of the same, which was received and read a first time, and on motion of Hon. Mr. Job the said Address was read a second time.

HON. P. T. McGrath—May I, Mr. President, before the motion for the adoption of the draft address is put, bespeak the kind consideration of this House for some observations which I feel that I should not allow the occasion to pass without making, tho, recognizing that I am the junior member of this Chamber, I have reserved them until it appears that all others desiring to speak on this question have had their say.

In the first place, Sir, permit me to associate myself with the previous speakers in extending to you very hearty congratulations on your elevation to the distinguished position you now occupy. As His Ex-
cellency has already declared that he has moved to select you for this post by the very general testimony borne by citizens of every class to your undoubted probity, high commercial repute and recognized standing as a leader in the community. It is needless for me to do more than to say that I feel certain that both inside and outside this Chamber that expression of His Excellency will be unqualifiedly endorsed as accurately representing the sentiments of the community towards you, and as reflecting the esteem in which you are held throughout the length and breadth of the land. To be chosen as the presiding officer of the Upper House of the Legislature of the oldest of all the British Colonies is a distinction of which any one might well be proud; and the distinction acquires an added value when attained in succession to one who was the oldest active legislator in the Empire, and who, by his conspicuous services in both our Houses for over sixty years, had won for himself especial recognition from his Sovereign and the rarest esteem of his fellow-countrymen, who have come to regard him with such pride and reverence. None will dispute that after your long association with him and because of your own merits, the usages and traditions of this body, the high standard set for its presidency by your illustrious predecessors, and the honored place that office fills in our legislative officialism will be admirably maintained by you; and that you will bring to its duties that dignity and impartiality, good judgment and ripe wisdom that have characterized it heretofore.

I join also with the gentleman who have already spoken, in the regret so universal at the withdrawal of Sir Edward Shea from the activities of the parliamentary stage. Standing, as I do, in this place to-day for the first time, it would be presumptuous of me to comment upon his conduct of the affairs of this Chamber or his relations with his fellow members, but it may be permissible to point out that embraced within the years of Sir Edward Shea's life is the record of the creating and perfecting of our parliamentary institutions. In 1832, when this Colony first secured legislative recognition, he was a youth of 12. In the battle for Responsible Government, that culminated in the Colony obtaining this concession in 1854, he was an active worker and gave all the powers of his early maturity. In the formative and constructive stages of our political system and the shaping of our earlier legislative foundations he played a prominent part; and when, at 66, he retired from the arena of Lower House politics, to enjoy well-earned ease and husband out life's taper to the close, he had won a name and a place in our affairs which have been further enhanced by his honored record in the presidency of this Chamber. His mind must be richly stored with such memories of the proceedings of these stirring and eventful years as were they available, would make a volume of rare historical value. Such records as do exist of that period prove that in patriotism and in intellect there were giants in those days among our public men. We of to-day, who enjoy the liberty of free speech and free vote, who see democracy thundering at the gates of privilege and the Jericho-walls of class interest fall before the trumpet-note of popular demand, can but ill imagine the moral courage,
the patriotic enthusiasm, the unselfish endeavor essential to the organizing and conducting of the long and laborious campaign which ultimately secured for Newfoundland the right to manage her own affairs. Of all that gallant band he is now the only one that remains; wearing the white flower of a blameless life and serving as an inspiration to the men of to-day, by his unsullied private and public record, to such services in the public behalf as he has given to his native land during his long and honorable career. Let us rejoice that he still retains his membership among us, for assuredly we shall not soon look upon his like again. In closing one may say of him that—

"It is not sad to turn the face towards home,
Even though it shows the journey nearly done,
It is not sad to mark the westering sun,
Even though we know the night doth come."

The sentiments voiced by previous speakers as to the loss this House has sustained by the death of the late Mr. Greene are echoed by the community in general, who feel that in him there has been removed a personality that is rarely met, and more's the pity! His ready wit and genial charm did much to mitigate the acerbities of debate. He was always open to reason and conviction, and he was a statesman before he was a partisan. He gave liberally of his knowledge and experience and his judgment was rarely at fault. He exhibited no rancor, nor carried away ill-feelings from any assemblage where his voice was heard in debate or counsel. My knowledge of him was gained more in his journalistic that in the political world, but what I knew of him enable me to recognize the truth of what has been so ably said here and elsewhere concerning him. His active political career in the other Chamber required of him in a time of exceeding hazard to his country that he should give his best and his utmost in her service; and he did this cheerfully and whole-heartedly.

It is rather a remarkable circumstance that within a month, in the autumn of last year, two of his associates, men similarly prominent in the legal profession and our political world, contemporaries in age and in life-work, should have been called to the other world. With the late Sir James Winter I enjoyed somewhat close relations during the period he occupied the Premiership of this Colony, and saw that he was a marvel in the way of industry and application; one who had wrested from Fortune knowingly, prizes by sheer pluck and native ability; his career being such as to make his example one that all might profit by. Perhaps I might here recall the fact that at the instance of one of the senior and most respected members of this Chamber, Hon. Mr. Baird, the colonial Hampden, as we are proud to call him, Sir James Winter successfully maintained before the highest Tribunal of the Empire the principle that the poorest colonial subject plying his avocation in his lobster factory on our western seaboard would be maintained in his rights against the very instruments of the Admiralty itself, though flying the flag of naval authority.

Of the late Mr. McNeilly, those whose political recollections do not extend beyond twenty years, have had little opportunity of knowing much, except as a member of the legal fra-
ternity or thru his writings to the press, but we are all aware that he shed lustre upon the legal profession by his attainments as a jurist, and that his scholarship was of so splendid an order as to earn him an unquestioned right to be regarded as a citizen in the Republic of Letters; while as a member of the Game and Inland Fisheries Board in recent years he brought to the Colony's service the enthusiasm of a true sportsman and the devotion of a lover of God's out-of-doors.

Finally, with reference to this phase of my remarks, permit me to offer my grateful thanks to the members of this House for the kind welcome extended to me in joining this ancient and honorable body, and the cordiality with which the right hand of fellowship has been tendered to me. To the gentlemen who spoke on Wednesday I am exceedingly obliged for the all too-flattering estimates they have been pleased to put on such abilities as they consider me to possess, and I can assure the House that if a loyal and earnest effort to assist in the proper carrying out of the functions for which it exists, can be of any value, I shall regard it as a duty, as well as a privilege, to give the best of my intelligence and capacity to the service of this Chamber, and, thereby, to the country of which I am proud to belong.

As His Excellency reminds us in the Speech from the Throne, the year that has passed, the Annus Imperialis or Year of Empire, is one that may well evoke proud memories both for the Mother Country and the English-speaking race throughout the world. The solemn rite of the Coronation at Westminster Abbey set the seal of completeness upon the succession of King George and opened another chapter in the record of attainment and renown which descends as a splendid heritage to the Greater Britain of today. Accompanying that solemnity, the trappings and pageantry of which but typified the majesty of the occasion, was the Imperial Conference where statesmen of the Mother Country and the Dominions beyond the seas—Englishmen all from the uttermost ends of the earth—met in council to consider the problem of Empire policy; and to prefigure in some slight degree the probability of our soon realizing Lord Rosebery's ideal of Imperial unity, described in his speech to the parliamentary delegations during the Coronation time—“the gathering of statesmen from far off lands for the strongest and most permanent co-operation in matters of Imperial concern.” The Festival of Empire, too, was an object lesson in the extent and power of the British possessions and the bounteous wealth and natural resources which may enjoy. That our Colony was able to make so satisfactory a showing therein is matter for congratulation, and that the greater knowledge and better understanding which it is believed to have awakened will speedily find expression in some material advantages, will be the hope of one and all; while too much credit cannot be given to the public-spirited citizens whose efforts aided so much towards our successful participation in this affair.

Following these historic events in the capital of the Empire, the scene moved in December to the sunlit land of India where, with every circumstance of state and splendor, with every accompaniment of oriental majesty, with impressive and dramatic magnificence, in a region of historic interest, heavy with the dust of empires dead and gone, His Majesty
was proclaimed King-Emperor in sight of the famous "Ridge" of Delhi, where 50 years ago the permanence of British rule in that vast domain trembled in the balance; and a land over some part of which the English flag has flown for more than three hundred years, since Queen Elizabeth granted a charter to the East India Company in 1600, has seen a British sovereign tread its shores for the first time, and enjoy therein such a series of triumphs as enabled his Majesty to cable Premier Asquith, when starting for home: "My highest hopes have been realized, and the success of our visit has exceeded all anticipations."

The self-governing Dominions on their part had their special recognition in this Year of Empire through the appointment of a prince of the blood royal, the Duke of Connaught, to be the Governor-General of Canada, an appointment that attests the more complete recognition by the Mother Country of the brotherhood of her sons in distant lands, and of the solidarity of the Empire whose never-ceasing drum beat echoes round the world. Tho His Excellency could not very well comment on another circumstance, which was not without its significance in this Year of Empire, it should not be overlooked that the result of the Canadian election in September was, I think it may be claimed, regarded by the world at large, whether rightly or wrongly, as a declaration by the people of the nearby Dominion in favor of British connection as expressed by the statesman who on a previous occasion declared: "A British subject I was a born, a British subject I shall die."

For our own Colony this Year of Empire had its recognition in the presence of its representatives at the Coronation and at the Imperial Conference and of a contingent of its naval reservists at the former function as well. The latter was specially appropriate recognition for a Colony whose proud boast is that it saw the beginnings of the Empire overseas, and that in its waters were trained the men who laid the foundations for Britain's naval supremacy; while that it is likewise particularly appropriate because our sovereign today is a Sailor King, who knows the life of a seafaring people and has himself proved that no training at such a period as the present could more befit the sovereign of "The people whose hope hath its anchor made fast in the sea."

Should His Majesty, who has already twice visited this Colony, once as a youth, and again as the heir-apparent, come to us again, as seems probable from recent reports, he will find that the loyal devotion of the people of Terranova to the British Crown has been intensified, if that be possible, by a contemplation of the fact that in him the Empire has now a constitutional sovereign, inspired by the sincere desire to uphold the best traditions of the monarchy and promote the best interests of his subjects, and that during his reign there will be witnessed the extension not alone of public liberty and of public virtue, but the advance of the Empire along the paths that lead to commercial ascendancy and the primal position in trade and commerce, the reward of the righteousness that exalteth nations. Whereas monarchs of old are champions of force and the resort to arms was the ultimate one, George V. has shown himself in nothing keener than in the desire to promote British trade, without loss of British martial
prestige,

This is the age of the shopkeeper and the trader, national rivalries are no longer subjected to the test of battlefields, but are shown in the struggle for new markets of trade; and the Napoleon sneezed at England once as a nation of shopkeepers, she has proved in many a hard-fought onset that shopkeeping is not incompatible with the defence of national honor, while her splendid achievements in colonizing the world's waste places and extending the bounds of freedom wider yet, in promoting civilization and establishing industries, may well make us proud to belong to a race that has won so deserved an eminence in the realm of commerce and social advancement.

It is gratifying, therefore, to us in Newfoundland to be able to congratulate this Colony, the first of her over-sea possessions, upon the success of its commercial, financial and industrial operations during recent years. Of 1911 it can be truly said that it has been our greatest of these. It has seen a degree of prosperity reached that was never thought possible before. It has seen the cod-fishery rendered specially successful by prices outranking all previous ones. It has seen agriculture becoming more largely enterprised than hitherto, the infant industry of pulp and paper spring almost at a bound into second place among our exports, mining development expand proportionately and manufacturing open to our people new and profitable sources of employment: besides which it has foreshadowed that there are in other directions vast possibilities of still further promoting enterprises calculated to increase the sum of our people's prosperity and enhance the well-being of the land we live in. It is good to know in this connection, that the Colony has been able to secure the services, as its representative on the Imperial Trade Commission, of Hon. E. R. Bowring, a distinguished member of this House, and one of the most enterprising of our merchants, whose splendid grasp of our commercial affairs is exhibited in the enlargement of its premises in St. John's, in its splendid coastal steamers, its palaial Red Cross liners, in its investments in all of our fishing and other industries. Moreover, I understand that with characteristic generosity, he is giving his services to the Colony in this capacity free of charge, asking no other return than the consciousness of assisting its people to advance further along the paths that lead to abiding prosperity—a decision that was only what might have been expected from one of the principals of a concern that only recently devoted fifty thousand dollars to philanthropic objects designed to celebrate the centenary of its connection with Newfoundland.

The figures of our total trade last year supply conclusive testimony of the Colony's prosperity. Our imports and exports aggregating more than $25,000,000, which figures show that our total trade has doubled in fifteen years, while the advance made latterly warrants the belief that ten years hence we may see it $35,000,-000. These conditions, though, should not induce any cessation of effort, any, resting on our oars. Rather should they stimulate us to greater exertions to still more firmly establish our commercial prosperity. Hence it is encouraging, to note the references to improved methods and better care of cod, to measures for conserving the lobster industry, to the further extension of telegraph lines and
wireless stations, the value of which to the fishery interests has been endorsed by the hon. mover of the Address in Reply, to the improvement and extension of our highway system, to the provision of more coast aids and marine works, and to the various other matters discussed in the Speech from the Throne, which bear upon the material welfare of our fishing and working classes, and tend to assist them in conducting their pursuits under conditions that will ensure greater convenience and less danger to life and property. I do not intend to refer at any great length to these matters, because the paragraphs dealing with them have been treated exhaustively by the mover and seconder of the Address whose right to speak with authority thereon none will dispute. My only observation further will be to express regret that we are not utilizing all the knowledge which science has placed at our disposal, through experiments and investigations undertaken by other fishing countries, so that we may further advance our own staple industry.

What His Excellency has so well said regarding the Bonavista branch railway will be fully confirmed by those fortunate enough to have enjoyed the pleasure of participating in the opening ceremony, and to those who know the sterling qualities of the men of Bonavista Bay and watch their progress in our industrial arena, it will occasion no surprise that, as stated by Hon. Mr. Angel, the line is developing a splendid freight and passenger traffic. The coming fall it is hoped that two other branches will be opened extending to other sections of the island the advantages of railway communication and helping to further promote the general prosperity as the main line has so conspicuously done, and coincident with this work the decision to provide a steamer on the Northeast Coast and re-arrange other coastal routes, will enable other promising communities to share in the benefits of railroad and steamboat services. Likewise the building of all the rolling stock in the Colony, the cutting of timber needed for sleepers, bridges, stations and cars, the maintenance of the completed lines, and construction of new branches, are all factors tending to maintain our industrial situation on a firm basis, and coupled with good fisheries and high prices to warrant the best outlook for the future of the Colony.

Gratifying, however, as has been our progress in these material respects—in the circumstances that make for increased comfort and contentment for the great mass of the people, there is no phase of our colonial existence in which we have made more marked advance than in the realm of social and humanitarian endeavor. In these respects the Colony has, it may be said, blazed a new trail for itself within the past three years. The widening viewpoints respecting the essentials of social justice and communal advance which are the outcome of modern democratic teachings, compel the consideration of proposals whereby the State should aid in the social betterment of the people. We are not, of course, able to do as much as other countries, but we are doing our best. Through recent efforts hope has knocked at the door of despair, old age is being robbed of its terrors, the undeserved stigma of pauperism is being removed from hundreds of the poor, the lot of the suffering and the afflicted is being improved, and provision has been made to better fit the rising gen-
eration for the battle of life by increased education grants, by generous provision for the improvement of school buildings, and now by ensuring to the school teachers the status of civil servants with retiring allowances when their usefulness has passed; while for those "beyond their labor" there has been a generous provision of Old Age Pensions, and now a substantial augmentation of the permanent poor grant. Humanitarian effort has manifested itself in modernizing and enlarging of the General Hospital, and in the providing of a Nurses’ Home appropriately dedicated to the late King Edward, the building of which affords greater accommodation for Hospital patients and ensures them better care and treatment while the Speech from the Throne tells us that the present Poor Asylum—described by a Grand Jury as “the saddest place in Newfoundland”—is to be abandoned and the existing Lunatic Asylum building utilized for such a purpose in future, and an up-to-date institution for those mentally afflicted is to be at once erected—a solution of the problem which faced us in these respects which cannot but commend itself to the best judgment of the community. Indeed one may say without challenging the party allegiance of any member of this Legislature that no feature of the policy of any Government, better merits the unanimous endorsement of both Houses than does that of bringing these institutions up to date and making it possible for the sick and the suffering, the infirm and the afflicted, to enjoy the fullest advantages which such agencies will ensure to those who are compelled by the dispensations of Providence to avail of them in their need.

But, over and above all else in this connection, and one that will be learned with unfeigned satisfaction by the public in general, is the decision to inaugurate a campaign against Consumption. Towards this there has been provided much of the indispensable machinery through the princely generosity of the Reid brothers in undertaking to build a central sanatorium in St. John’s and cottage hospitals in the outport districts for the treatment of those afflicted with the dread disease which Bunyan so aptly called “the Captain of the hosts of death.” This decision to do battle against the greatest menace to our public health should merit the approval no less of economists than of philanthropists. In no country does tuberculosis wage more dreadful warfare than among us here in Newfoundland, and anything that will help to arrest the ravages occasioned by this disease, make the warfare against it more effective, and preserve to the community lives that have a substantial value economic as well as otherwise, should evoke the hearty support of all right thinking people. There are few amongst us, either in the city or outside, who have not had occasion to mourn the loss of some who have fallen victims to this disease, and the eloquent words which the great English orator, John Bright, spoke in reference to the victims of the Crimean war are quite as applicable to those who fall before the dread destroyer from year to year. While the English language endures these words of his will continue to impress the world by their beauty and pathos:

"The Angel of Death has been abroad throughout the land. You may almost hear the very beating of his wings. There is no one to "sprinkle with blood the lintels and
sideposts of our doors that he may spare and pass on; he calls at the mansion of the wealthy equally as at the cottage of the lowly and from each exacts his dreadful tribute.”

The truth of this regarding the White Plague one need not dilate upon; nor multiply words to picture the menace to our people which that dread disease represents. All one requires to say regarding this subject is that if the proposed movement to combat Tuberculosis accomplishes even only a tithe of what is hoped therefrom, it will be doing a great work and merit for all interested the hearty thanks of the community, and that it is a highly encouraging sign when private philanthropy and government activity are united for the amelioration of the conditions of suffering humanity, as they are in this instance.

We have cause therefore to thank Providence for the bounteous favors bestowed upon us of late—for prosperity unexampled, for enterprise unapproached, for peace and concord among our people, and for freedom from the social convulsions disturbing the outside world. Also, that our country’s financial circumstances are such as to render it possible to continue the progressive policies outlined in the Speech from the Throne—to provide the agencies whereby the humane, the social and the material well-being of our people may be promoted and we can unite in the prayer that these gratifying conditions may long continue and that this Newfoundland of ours—a fair and a goodly land, though one much misunderstood, may attain to still more secure conditions of prosperity and content in the years to come.

Parties and policies apart may we not indulge in the hope of a future for our country in which we shall all participate in enlarging the field of enterprise, in adding to the sum of human welfare, in giving effect to the aspirations of our people that life among us may be better and brighter and more ennobling? Doubtless we shall differ as to the way in which these ideals may be realized; but in those differences, is it not possible to strive for one object—to make our country a land of happy homes and contented people, in which we may live harmoniously and labor for the successful development of those sterling virtues which come to us through the races from which we hope to build a national edifice that shall be a credit to us and the empire of which we form a part.

HON. MR. HARVEY—When I came here this afternoon I had no intention of making any remarks or reference to the Speech from the Throne, and I now rise to congratulate our new member, Hon. P. T. McGrath, on the beautiful address he has just delivered. The Council was never very strong in debating power, and the passing of Hon. D. J. Greene removed from its ranks one who had no peer. In Mr. McGrath he has a good successor, whose knowledge of public affairs is well known, and who in debate will add great strength to this Chamber. I do not want to discuss the Speech from the Throne except two paragraphs, that dealing with public health and the improvement of the position of school teachers. While I also think the Government is acting wisely in not going further with their railway policy, but instead have promised the building of roads in the outports, which is a matter of grave importance. The community owes a deep debt of gratitude to the Reid Newfoundland Company for the gen-
erous gift of sanitaria to assist in fighting consumption. Having been associated with the A.P.C. since its inception it is gratifying to me that such valuable assistance has been given and unsolicited. One of the first planks put forward by the A.P.C. was to urge the Government for financial assistance and co-operation, and to keep urging until something was done. Spasmodic efforts were useless but the A.P.C. has persistently kept at its work which is now about to bear fruit. The pension of teachers has come in for a lot of adverse criticism from different sources, but the Government should not be prevented from carrying out its promises because of such criticisms and agitations from existing agencies. The teachers are a deserving class mostly underpaid and then there is no better way to keep them in the profession than to make it worth their while from a financial basis.

On motion of HON. MR. JOB it was ordered that the Address be engrossed and presented to His Excellency by a deputation of the whole House.

On motion of HON. R. K. BISHOP the House adjourned at 5.35 until Thursday next at 11 a.m.

THURSDAY, February 22nd, 1912
The Honourable the President declared the House adjourned until to-morrow Friday at eleven o'clock a.m. for want of a quorum.

FRIDAY, February 23rd, 1912
The Honourable the President declared the House adjourned until to-morrow, Saturday, February 24th., at eleven o'clock a.m. for want of a quorum.

SATURDAY, February 24th, 1912
The Honourable the President declared the House adjourned until Monday next February 26th., at eleven o'clock a.m. for want of a quorum.
Edward Shea from the high office of President of the Legislative Council, and my confidence, Mr. President, that your sterling character and businesslike capacity will amply justify my action in appointing you to be his successor in a position which I trust you may long continue to hold, with honour to yourself and advantage to the deliberations of the Council.

(Sgd.) RALPH WILLIAMS, Governor.

Government House, St. John's, N.F.
26th February, 1912.

PROMISCUOUS SPITTING BILL.

HON. JOHN HARVEY asked leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An Act to prevent Promiscuous Spitting," and asked that it be read a first time, which was done.

HON. JOHN HARVEY moved that the Bill be read a second time on to-morrow.

On motion of HON. R. K. BISHOP the House then adjourned until Thursday next at 4.30 o'clock, p.m.

PROMISCUOUS SPITTING BILL.

THURSDAY, February 29th.

The Council met at 4.45 p.m. pursuant to adjournment, the President Hon. John Harris, in the chair.

The Minutes were read and confirmed and afterwards the President read a message from His Excellency the Governor, granting leave of absence to Hon. M G. Winter for the remainder of the session.

Second reading of the Bill entitled "An Act to prevent Promiscuous Spitting."

HON. JOHN HARVEY understood it was the custom of the House that no bill could be read a second time until it had been printed, and as this bill had not yet been printed, he asked to have the second reading deferred until to-morrow.

HON. J. A. ROBINSON thought the substance of the bill was now before the House contained on page 53 of the Health Report and unless there was very stringent cause, he thought Hon. Mr. Harvey might proceed to move the second reading, as it was rather unfortunate for the House to meet from time to time without anything being done. He thought none would object to the matter being proceeded with.

HON. PRESIDENT.—It is against the practice of the House that until a bill is printed it can be read a second time, and it is questionable whether we should depart from that practice. They were, however, in the hands of the House, to decide what they should do.

HON. M. P. GIBBS thought it would be just as well to defer the second reading until the bill was printed, so that all could have an opportunity to peruse it.

The motion for deferment was then put and carried.

HON. R. K. BISHOP tabled the Report of the Newfoundland Savings Bank, and would like to call the attention of hon. members to a few items contained therein. It was a very gratifying one and showed that the past year's work had been one of the best in the history of the institution. The total deposits for the year were $751,010, and withdrawals $529,595, leaving a net increase of deposits of $221,415.62. In view of the number of branches of banks which have been established around the country, and all of these capturing more or less of the deposits of the people, he (Hon. Mr. Bishop) thought it a very satisfactory showing that such a large sum as $221,000 was received during last year. There were other items of the report that were interesting. He noticed that
there were 6,404 depositors in the St. John’s Bank, with total deposits of $3,015,000 (three million and fifteen thousand, averaging $470 for each depositor. It will be recognized of course that there are some very large amounts in this branch for estates, &c., but this does not apply to branches outside, and at Harbor Grace there were 743 depositors with a total of $230,000 deposits, averaging $300 each, Bay Roberts had 331 depositors, $83,550 deposits, average $220; Heart’s Content 328 depositors, average $200, and Grand Falls showed an average of $160. (Hon. Mr. B.) thought this indicated there were considerable savings amongst our people, and it was gratifying to see they chose the local Bank to deposit in. He thought the Savings’ Bank was capable of considerable expansion, and while he would not presume to suggest in what way this might be possible, as it would doubtless appear to Hon. President and the other Governors, he (Hon. Mr. B.) thought hon. members would be glad to see some means adopted by which the Bank might be made even more prosperous, and secure more of the deposits of the people. He noticed that the reserve now aggregated $80,818, and of this sum it had been decided to withdraw $50,000 for the redemption of that amount of debentures, showing, on the whole, a very gratifying condition of affairs.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—I rise to ask the Hon. the Leader of the Government if anything has been done to facilitate the distribution of the mails to and from Conception Bay points and Placentia. The system of delivery so far as I can see this winter, is in no way advanced over that in use fifty years ago. It should be possible to ensure the delivery by the aid of dog and sled, if all other conveniences failed. I do not believe all has been done that could be done, and as it is of serious consequence to the business public as well as individuals I would ask what the Government intend doing or what it has done.

HON. R. K. BISHOP—In reply to the Hon. Mr. Knowling I might say that the matter has had and is having the serious consideration of the Government. In fairness to the Contractors I might say that they have been doing their best to relieve the situation, at least they have so informed the Government. It was suggested to them that they run a steamer with mails and passengers to and from Conception Bay points, but it was impossible to use their own steamers, now in the harbor which are not constructed to contend with ice. Another steamer was chartered, but conditions are so adverse that it was impossible for her to carry out the service. I do not know if it is the intention to have mail forwarded here by dog and sled; but I agree with Hon. Mr. Knowling that it is very disappointing to the business people of St. John’s to have the mail services tied up for so long, though the conditions of the railway and ice blockade were responsible. I believe everything that can be done will be done to relieve the situation, and as quickly as possible.

HON. R. K. BISHOP moved for adjournment.

HON. MR. HARVEY—Before we rise, Mr. President, I would like to make a few remarks on the annual report of the Government Savings Bank tabled this afternoon by the Hon. the Leader of the Government. It is most gratifying to learn that in the Bank at the close of the bus
ness year there is an increase in deposits of over $220,000, besides the savings deposited in the branches of the Canadian banks, which is an evidence of the general prosperity of our people as well as of their thriftiness. The value of the institution and the good work it has been doing in unquestioned, but I think its public value could be increased and improved by its further extension, in establishing branches in such places as Bell Island, Burin, Grand Bank and other populous settlements where the earning power of the people is in excess of their spending. In connection with savings branches of the Canadian banks it should be possible for the Government to get full returns of the deposits in order that a complete estimate of the saving of our people could be arrived at. The Savings Bank, since its inception, had rendered valuable assistance to the Colony, and during its existence had wiped off half a million dollars from the country’s debt. It is also gratifying to know that three of the directors are members of this Council, who give unsparring of their time to make the institution as valuable an asset as it is, and it is with great pleasure I read the report as submitted.

HON. THE PRESIDENT read the Royal warrant confirming the appointment of Hon. P. T. McGrath to the Council.

On motion of HON. R. K. BISHOP adjournment was taken at 5.05 until Monday next at 4.30 p.m.

MONDAY, March 4th.

Pursuant to notice the Council met at 4.30 p.m., Hon the President in the Chair.

PROMISCUOUS SPITTING BILL.

HON. MR. HARVEY moved the second reading of the Bill to prevent promiscuous spitting, and in doing so said: Mr. President, in moving the second reading of this Bill I want to point out that the Bill is, in principle, similar to that suggested by the Public Health Commission last year. It was not passed at that time because it was felt that plenty of notice should be given in connection with an evil, which is so widespread over this Colony, as is the habit of spitting among our people. A year having elapsed, I feel that legislation should be no longer deferred; but that the time has arrived when a moderate Bill is needed to prevent this pernicious habit. To this promiscuous spitting, no doubt very largely due to ignorance and thoughtlessness on the part of our people, may be attributed in major proportion the spread of tubercular disease. There is no doubt a great part of the abnormal tubercular death rate, perhaps nine-tenths of it is brought about through this cause. Much of the new infection is, of course, caused by the advanced sufferer who has become too weak to control himself, and whose discharges infect the room in which he is confined, and the bedding in which he lies. But in a lesser degree, perhaps the same effect is brought about by the frequent spitting of the incipient or less advanced patient, in public meeting places or in the public thoroughfares. And for the prevention of this the present Bill is introduced. As far as I know the first great blow to be struck in this direction was by His Grace Archbishop Howley several years ago. The Archbishop had noticed that among his own congregation, even within his own beautiful Cathedral, the offensive habit of spitting on the floor was far too common an offence against the sacred character of the building, and against social well being, and His Grace did not hesitate to give a very strong address to his
people on the subject, pointing out its repulsiveness as a habit, and its danger from a health viewpoint. The address had a most beneficial effect which was not confined to that time and place. I would like to call attention to what is going on in a number of outport schools, which in daytime are often used by children, and at night for religious and other meetings. I will read for you an extract from the report of Dr. W. F. Plewes, of Hant's Hr., T.B., a very earnest worker. Dr. Plewes says:

"It will be noticed that the schools need considerable attention. Most of them are used for Church purposes at night and in the absence of any system of ventilation they are not fit for pupils to use the following day, as the air space is very small, being in one case as low as 57 cubic feet per pupil.

"In half of the schools the children sweep up. This is a source of great danger considering the prevalence of the spitting habit by men at the meetings held nightly in these buildings."

This is only one of the reports we have, and here in the city anyone who walks along Water Street and makes a casual observation of the offensive conditions of the sidewalks cannot be otherwise than convinced of the dangerous prevalence of promiscuous spitting. It is probably quite unnecessary to point out to members of this House the simple facts in connection with tubercular infection from sputum. Very briefly the tubercle bacillus discharged in sputum on floors or sidewalks is taken up while damp and adhesive by dresses and skirts and on footwear, and taken into houses, being just so much active, all pervading poison. Or it dries and is carried with dust and winds into the air to be breathed in or deposited on food and furniture and clothes. In illustration of how unconscious the spitting habit becomes, I may mention that the other day when this matter was under discussion in the Assembly I was struck by the floor spitting being done by a few of the audience at that time. One at least of those present, no doubt quite unconscious of the real nature of his act, spit persistently on the floor at the very time that the spread of tuberculosis and the relation of the spread of that spitting were being debated before him. In view of this extraordinary prevalence of free spitting, is it any wonder that the disease has taken such a hold on our people? Let me read what Dr. J. H. Holbrook says:

"The most common way in which children contract the disease is from an afflicted father or mother, or other adult in the same house. Many, however, come from families in which there is no previous history of T.B., and in these cases some other cause must be assigned, and it is my belief that if the cause could be definitely determined, it would be in many of them found to be the careless spitting about the streets of ambulant consumptives. This infection may occur from the sputum drying, becoming powdered, and carried by winds, and thus the germs are inhaled."

I don't think it necessary for me to outline the modus operandi of the Bill, it is meant to be simple and moderate. The idea is to check, as far as possible this filthy habit in public thorofares, and in crowded places. The Bill, as I have already said, is the same in principle as recommended by the Public Health Commission, and on a very modest scale. It provides for one day's imprisonment, with the option of a fine, for a violation; and that it shall be the duty of janitors, sextons, and keepers, to keep posted in conspicuous places notices issued from time to time by the Board of Health. So much for the Bill.

While on this subject I would like with the permission of the House, to make a few references to the general
Another matter, to which medical attention has often been directed, which should also interest the House is the amount of tea drunk, and the effect it has on the general health of the community. Dr. H. A. Giovanetti, of Bay Bulls, says in relation to the matter:

"I have availed of every opportunity to explain the importance of care and the feeding of infants. Nine of every ten children are bottle fed, and mothers have not the slightest idea concerning the proportion of food for certain ages, and the sterilization of bottles and other accessories of infants. In some cases mothers think a child at six months is able to eat and digest pork, cabbage, etc., hence result of Infantile Mortality, Scrofula, Rickets and Enteritis."

Doctor Anderson writes:

"Very evident that Tea is an item of each meal. Majority of children were aware that it is a stimulant, not a true food. I will remark here that I believe that persistent use of strong tea is a predisposing cause of anaemia which I cannot help noting in quite a number of pupils examined. I hazard the opinion that the resulting constipation leads to an intoxication, intestinal in origin, which has an effect on Red Corpuscles of blood resulting in Anaemia. I argue principally on theory put forward as cause of Pernicious Anaemia. (I have known children six months old to be given tea without milk.)"

Another matter of general interest referred to in the Report of the Commission is the teaching of domestic science, which is about to be undertaken. It is a well known fact that Newfoundland families make poor use of the food they have, and besides without any more expenditure they might greatly increase the variety of the food and with material benefit. With this purpose in view the Commission on Public Health has undertaken to equip a room for the teach-
ing of domestic science and cookery. The room will be in charge of an expert teacher, who has already been secured. In this matter the Superintendents of Education of the three leading denominations are working together; and recently Mr. V. P. Burke visited Canada and the United States, and with considerable exertion he finally was able to secure the services of a first class teacher who will soon arrive. Classes will be opened in the city, but particularly for pupil teachers, who it is hoped will be able to impart the knowledge in turn to various parts of the island.

There is another matter dealt with by these doctors, and that is the water supply, with regard to which we cannot be too careful. Dr. H. A. Giovanetti writes from Bay Bulls:

"The water supply is deplorable. There are only about twenty wells in the district, the water of which may be used for drinking purposes. All these are open to drainage and impurities of every description."

Dr. White from Trinity says:

"In some of the settlements there are few wells owned by private individuals and those in general use have been built by Government aid. These Government built wells are the ones most frequently found in an unhealthy condition, there being no one whose business it is to see that they are properly cared for, and as they are "public property" it is difficult to persuade any one person to look after them unless a grant from the government can be guaranteed at the same time. Until, and unless, stringent measures be adopted in connection with these so called "public wells" they will continue to be what they so frequently are—a menace to the health of the community. The last outbreak of typhoid fever in this district, in which there were some fifty cases, originated from a public well that no one would clean because the Government had not granted any money for the purpose.”

Dr. L. J. Giovanetti, of Trepassey, reports:

"On the other hand, the water supply of Trepassey village, I fear is so bad that it cannot be duplicated in any outport in this Colony. At the most, Trepassey has only three private wells, so called, their number being about six. Of these six wells, but two have water in them during the dry season, and these two are situated so near the road that the road drainage is continually soaking into them. It has been the custom of Government in the past to place moneys at the disposal of the people for well digging. Those to whom these moneys were given apparently had little or no knowledge of sanitation or the finding of water. It is the usual thing here to dig down a few feet, strike a big rock, then, being unable, for want of proper tools, to go deeper, they wall up the sides of the hole; when rain comes, water from the surface soaks in, and then it is called a well. It appears to me the only benefit we can get from any moneys spent, would be got from the machine driven wells, driven by those who understand the finding of water."

In regard to the general position of the Public Health campaign, now it is a matter of the utmost satisfaction to most of those interested in the health campaign to see that the Government intend establishing a Department of Public Health. That is something that has been advocated and agitated from the start of the movement by the A. P. C. I may say that the subject of public health in this Colony is really a matter of two things only, Infantile Mortality and Tuberculosis. Outside of these two things the death rate in Newfoundland will compare favorably with that of any other country. Both these things are preventable, and both should be dealt with actively through
education. Public health and education go hand in hand, and that is why I stated the other day when speaking on the Address, that I was glad to see this year that public money was to be spent in the building of men rather than on the building of railways. In every country preventive methods must precede follow education, but there is no reason why beneficial preventive enactments should not accompany education instead of waiting. We must remember that all such widespread national evils in most civilized nations have been cured and dealt with effectively only by preventive measures and not by cure. Curing disease will not eliminate disease from any country to any extent. Take any of the great diseases, smallpox, leprosy, etc., and all of them have been practically eliminated, with the sole exception of tuberculosis, and all by the principle of prevention. Perhaps the most remarkable instance of this is that which has happened within the memory of all of us, the elimination of hydrophobia in Great Britain. You will remember that Sir Walter Long, when Home Secretary enacted a law that every dog should be muzzled. The measure was subjected to opposition and ridicule, but the Minister had the courage of his convictions, and insisted on having the laws carried out, and since that time there has not been a single case of hydrophobia in Great Britain either in dog or man. In Germany they figure that human life, owing to preventive measures, has been recently increased at the rate of 27 per cent., or 13 in 50 years, and in Europe generally it is estimated that the length of the average human life has doubled in 300 years. It has been questioned whether our death rate is what the vital statistics say it is. The Commission on Public Health took up this matter when first appointed and they found them very unreliable, but they found they had a very efficient officer in Mr. Doyle and with his assistance they tried to get some improvement, and did succeed to some extent, and for St. John's at least, these statistics are now doubtless correct. But the argument as to the extent of tuberculosis would be almost as strong to-day if there were no vital statistics. The evidence is all around us. I have noted here a few extracts from these reports which I will not, however, weary the House with now. One says eight, another seven and another, five and the vital statistics show only about three. When we see that it is 1.5 in England and 1.6 in New York state, we know it is far too high. Sir Wm. MacGregor, who long ago went into this question, was of the opinion that the death rate was very much higher than shown by the vital statistical returns. In speaking of public health and education, I want to say that there is one point at which they actually meet, and that is the medical inspection of schools. I know there are many who think this a small matter, but if there is one point upon which the Commission have been strong it is the medical inspection of schools. Not only is that inspection of enormous value in improving the health of the children, but we can obtain in this way and only in this way a record of the tendencies of the country, whether good or bad. As an index for getting information regarding the physical trend of our people, there is nothing the Government can do which will be of such great value as this. Another point is, that there are an enormous number of physical disabilities which can only be dealt with in childhood, and should be dealt with then, as they may and do become permanently fixed. This inspection could be set on foot with but little expense, at least, in most part of the island. The Commission of Public Health have made it one of the duties of its out-
port representatives that its doctor should look after the school, but the doctor has no power to enter the school, and in one case at least, the School Board objected; but in most cases they were willing and the doctors did the work, one or two of them voluntarily, making some individual examination of the children. In this report you will find a detailed analysis of some of the school inspections, and Dr. Plewes, Dr. Anderson, and Dr. H. A. Giovanetti, particularly, has given instances which certainly warrant the conclusion that further extension of the system is desirable. One thing brought out in these reports is that the teeth of the Newfoundland children are very susceptible to decay, and it is thought that a large amount of sickness in later life is caused by this. We have not been able to have the doctors do anything in regard to treating the children, and legislation would be required for that, but treatment of simple ailments would follow as a matter of course and the cost would be very trifling for the value received. Doctors ought also to be given power under certain limitations to close schools, as in the appendix of the Public Health Report, it is shown that there are a number of schools that ought to be closed up until certain simple changes which would cost next to nothing were made. There might be only trifling causes, for instance filthy surroundings, unswept doors, etc. The doctor should have power to notify the School Board that if the place was not cleaned up he would close the school. The doctors see the evil now, but are unable to correct them, but they would be corrected then.

I want to refer here to the very princely gift of Mr. W. D. Reid and his two brothers, H. D. and R. G. Reid, to the Colony of $100,000 for the purpose of building Sanitaria. As far as I am personally concerned and the A. P. C. executive, we think this gift ought to do an extraordinary amount of good. Personally I express the opinion that there can be no complete policy for eradicating consumption without the establishment of institutions. I have stated in a circular recently sent out that the executive of the A. P. C. regard this extremely handsome gift with the utmost satisfaction, and as a most valuable addition to the fight. But, Sir, it is another question when we come to consider how we are going to deal with it. If it is spent injudiciously it is going to result in an enormous waste of money and energy, and the Colony can afford neither one nor the other. We ought not to deceive ourselves about one thing, and that is the expenditure that will be required to properly administer these Sanitaria. Figures have been brought forward to show what rate the Signal Hill Hospital has been run at. One hundred patients have been treated there at a cost of $6,000. But if we figure out the average number of patients who have been there, the cost per day, per patient, has been nearly one dollar, to be exact 84c. per bed per day, and that hospital is run in the cheapest possible way. I do not mean to say that the patients are in any way stinted, very much the contrary. When Dr. Campbell took charge of the increased number of consumptives in that institution, we agreed to pay him a small fee on the understanding that he visited there twice each week. I think that he has never missed one day, however, for the past twelve months, except when once or twice within the past three weeks, the roads were so bad that he could not get up. The Matron, Mrs. Winslow, is a first rate manager and an enthusiast, the staff efficient, and the whole place is very cheaply run. I do not think we could get a more competent manager than Mrs. Winslow to run the place.
as cheaply and as well as she does. My impression is that the operation of the Reid institutions through the country are going to cost more and for this reason, that one of the principal things in treating consumptives is good food. Patients have to be well fed and the getting and preparing of food in these isolated Sanitariums will be quite an item. I do not think they can be run less than $1 per bed per day. I have made a short calculation. Sixteen district sanitariums with an average of six patients each per day means approximately 100. On the usual calculation of cost of erection, viz.: $500 per bed the sanitarium in St. John's would account for 100 patients more, or say 200 in all at one dollar per day would cost say $70,000 per annum. The expenses would not stop there. You have to look after the families of some of these people. You cannot take a consumptive mother or father without looking after the family. That will add very considerably to the cost of operating and keeping up these establishments. On the other hand I am of opinion that the principle of local institutions is undoubtedly the right one. You cannot get people to go to a sanitarium in St. John's when living in White Bay. But anything may be overdone and my view is that any decision, at this moment without experience or any developed organization to go into the erection of sixteen sanitariums will be a most dangerous one. The Commission on Public Health have three times in their reports referred to Sanitariums and they proposed in their report of 1910, if the Govt. felt like increasing the grant to establish one experimentally. One correspondent, Dr. Plewes, has long been an extremely strong advocate for local Sanitariums, and would like to see a first one started at Hant's Harbor, under his care, for he is an enthusiast, and as far back as two years ago he submitted to us plans for an inexpensive tentative institution. The Commission have always felt that they must hesitate about recommending their establishment on any considerable scale largely, on the ground of expense. The 1911 report which has been tabled was written before any knowledge was had of this gift, and consequently the matter was not dealt with by them, and they have made no pronouncement on the matter, nor held any discussion concerning it, so anything I may say is entirely my private view. On the other hand, the Commission have shown their attitude up to a certain point by going to the Government and asking them to remodel the Signal Hill Hospital in such a way that 30 consumptives could be taken and treated there. That is sufficient to show that the Commission has not been in principle opposed to Sanitariums. In 1910 when Dr. Keegan, the Secretary of the Commission, went away, he was commissioned to look into the question of sanitariums, and his report was not that sanitariums were no good, but that the results which were accomplished by sanitariums were often exaggerated, both because it was doubtful if some of their cases were originally in the true category of consumptives at all, and because many of those discharged as cured were never heard from again, and it was uncertain as to whether they remained permanently cured or not, so that statistics of their results were subject to question as to details, but I do not think it was ever questioned that they had done and were doing an enormous amount of good.

Another point is when we are talking about Sanitariums we generally refer to the class of institutions known as Sanitariums for incipients, not institutions for advanced classes. The two represent very different policies. If we establish Sanitariums for curative purposes only will we get...
incipients to go there. I'm afraid not. In fact it is now very difficult to get even advanced cases to go to hospitals for treatment, not to speak of those who are not yet seriously incapacitated. It is always difficult to get people in the incipient stage to believe they are suffering from consumption. Often when they feel affected they call a doctor and if he tells them they are consumptive they disbelieve him and not infrequently call in another doctor to report otherwise. It has come under my personal notice among the working classes of St. John's that they even dislike the idea of consulting a doctor at all. I have known workmen suffering from different diseases, perhaps not consumption, but with dropsey or some other infection continue at their occupations until they collapse, despite advice to see a medical man, and gradually getting worse, until able to work no longer. After being treated and improved in hospital a man will very often refuse nature's warning again and will continue working notwithstanding this previous warning, instead of recognizing the wisdom of taking things in time. The same process is likely to go on with the ordinary consumptive. When, after the first improvement following Sanitaria treatment he feels himself sufficiently recovered to be about again, will he not insist upon going out, with every prospect of a relapse and of further infecting the community? This has been the experience of the Signal Hill Hospital, at any rate. I think, Mr. President, that the practical value of Sanitaria should be properly tested before any large expenditure of public funds be undertaken. As a trial a Consumption Hospital, with two wings, might be built; one wing to serve for incipient cases and the other wing for advanced cases, and neither to have any connection with the other. Something of this kind should certainly be tried before seventeen of these establishments are erected and operated. Any line of work can be over done. I understand that it is the opinion of some people that this campaign can be effectively operated by placing trained nurses in large numbers and permanently through all outports. The work of nurses is absolutely invaluable. We have had the most splendid work out of the nurses we have had here, but, like all these measures, the system has its limitations. For instance, a nurse going to a small outport will have a wonderful effect and influence perhaps for a week or two, but if she remains there too long she very quickly is liable to lose her influence, so that it is not a system universally applicable to the exclusion of other things. Then, again, I am aware that some have advised the Government to deal solely with this problem through establishing of dispensaries. A dispensary, I may briefly explain, is the system whereby consumptives who are expected to come to a central office or building at certain times are treated weighed, examined and prescribed for, and from which the visiting nurse is directed by a doctor in charge. The system of dispensaries is specially suited to large centres of population, and especially to large cities, but it is obvious that when we come to a sparsely populated coastline such as obtains over a large proportion of Newfoundland, the value of the dispensary system is very limited, and consumptive patients could not be got week after week to walk, say, half a mile, and in some cases three and four miles, perhaps more, from isolated houses over bad roads.
in to the dispensary to be weighed, etc., nor could the nurse cover these distances and visit these families in any number. The dispensary system, for practical working, has therefore limitations as well, but I think that this will be found to be the case in regard to any one method, and for these reasons I think that the Legislature should feel their way with some caution and not be rash in adopting a policy without experience, or in boldly pledging themselves to an expenditure of the very large sum that would be needed to administer these 17 Sanitaria. We have been told that it would be desirable to get an expert here from abroad to report on the position. I may say that I think that this is absolutely unnecessary and inadvisable. Such an expert would first of all have to live here and familiarize himself with the conditions of the Colony. The fight against consumption, practically speaking, has now ceased to be a medical problem, broad medical facts being so well established. It is no longer a medical problem, but a social problem. Please understand that I am not criticising, either the gift or the acceptance of the gift. On the contrary, I welcome both. The criticisms, or rather suggestions, which I make are criticisms and suggestions regarding details, not regarding the general principal involved. Governor MacGregor's position has been referred to, and I will point out that his first address was given at a public meeting, and he recommended Sanitaria. The Association had not been formed when he gave that address. The second address was given to a public meeting of the A.P.C. and His Excellency's recommendation was that the A.P.C. could not afford to erect and operate Sanitaria. That was a meeting of the A.P.C. which the public were invited to attend. I would like to point out to the House that in the original address given by Sir William MacGregor he outlined a programme consisting of fourteen items, which, at the time that he read, it seemed to me to be quite beyond any expectations that we could have, but I am glad to say that to-day nearly every item in that address is either being carried out or is in a fair way to be carried out. Sir William MacGregor's report refers to the housing problem in St. John's. It would take too long to deal with this matter at this time, and I do not wish to go so beyond stating my belief that it is impossible to do very much by philanthropic gifts, and that this is a business question which will ultimately have to be dealt with by providing the means whereby landlords can borrow money at a low rate of interest on the security of their ground and houses, and that when that fund has been provided, they can be forced to replace the present unsanitary dwellings in the city. I note that the gift of the Messrs. Reid specifies that it is to be invested in Sanitaria or Hospitals, not necessarily in what are generally considered to be Sanitaria. This permits a latitude and a choice which requires the utmost consideration. Furthermore, I feel certain that the Messrs. Reid would only desire that their gift and their money should be utilized in the best possible way for the reduction of tuberculosis, and that they are not tied down to any specific kind of institution. As comparing Sanitaria for Consumptives with hospitals for advanced cases, combined with powers of removal and segregation, I
would point out that Sanitarium for Inclined are primarily in the line of curative measures, although educative results would contribute to prevention indirectly while segregating hospitals are mainly preventive measures. Another point that I raise, as of the utmost importance, is that of the distribution of these institutions in the electoral districts. Under the proposed distribution, we have a large sanitarium in St. John's and in Conception Bay, which is in close daily touch with St. John's, we have the following: One sanitarium in Carbonear, with population of 5,000; one in Port de Grave, with population of 7,400; one in Harbor Main, with population of 9,500; one in Bay de Verme, with population of 9,800; and one in Harbor Grace, with population of 12,600. All these districts are in close touch with St. John's and also with one another. It will be noted that we have a total of 43,000 people with five sanitariums, or one sanatorium to every 8,000 people. In Trinity Bay, parts of which are terribly isolated, in Bona-vista Bay, which is also somewhat isolated, and in Twillingate District, which is practically out of touch with St. John's, you have in each district approximately 20,000 people, with one sanatorium, against one sanatorium for every 8,000 people in Conception Bay, together with the large institution capable of taking as many patients as all the rest put together, close at hand in St. John's. I submit that the distribution of these institutions, whatever they may be, should be strategic by population, and not arbitrary by electoral districts. Mr. President, there is one method whereby, in conjunction with the spread of education, and the establishment of proper institutions, tuberculosis can be properly stamped out, and that in very short order. The method would perhaps be considered a heroic one, and it is based on compulsory segregation. It has been by compulsory segregation that all the great national diseases have been stamped out (leprosy, smallpox, hydrophobia). The policy which is required is that dangerous patients ought to be, at the desire of the Medical Officer of Health removable to an institution, and that they should be detained there as long as they are dangerous. In St. John's many cases occur where a parent, or a member of a family is infecting the rest of the family, and where no amount of persuasion or instruction will induce that person to leave his home. There are many cases also, where against the wishes and instruction of the Doctor, patients have left St. George's Hospital and have gone out to reinfect their surroundings in crowded parts of the town. This is obviously all wrong. The Medical Health Officer ought to be a strong man, and ought to have authority to remove such cases and stop the continual infection to which they give rise; it is these advanced cases which are the principal cause of the spread of tuberculosis. In order to carry out such a policy, the appointment of doctors, with sufficient remuneration supplementary to their private practice to carry out certain public duties in every part of the Colony, would be called for. This salary need not be very enormous, but it should be sufficient, with what a medical man earns from his private practice, to make him independent of the serious effect of making an occasional enemy. I approve, Mr. President, of the system of having small institutions in local districts. As to the
most recent views expressed elsewhere in connection with the fight against consumption, I would like to quote the following extracts from the very latest of the large meetings of which I have been able to get particulars. At a meeting of the Canadian Association, held at Toronto during the currency of 1911, the view was almost unanimous, that segregation of advanced cases is the most essential item for the reduction of diseases. Dr. Wilcox, of Cornell University, said:

"A decreasing amount of T.B. appears in connection with the increase in the population of advanced cases segregated in hospitals or other institutions and this almost regardless of any and all other factors. A stationary or increasing amount of T.B. appears in connection with a failure thus to segregate advanced cases in hospitals or other institutions and this almost regardless of any and all other factors."

Dr. Livingston Harrand, Secy. U.S. National Association for the Prevention of T.B., said:

"To the lay mind the greatest service of that historic International Congress upon Tuberculosis was the clear cut emphasis upon the absolutely fundamental necessity of the care of the advanced case if prevention of T.B. is to be obtained. The most striking statement of the facts was Newsholme's masterly discussion of the fall of the Tuberculosis death rate and the causes which have contributed thereto. By a study of all available statistics he showed a direct relation between the diminution in the mortality and the amount of institutional provision for cases of this disease, and he showed further that in this relation the hospital for the advanced cases was the fundamental factor."

Dr. Arthur Newsholme, of Edinburgh, has stated:—

"No influence except that of institutional segregation has appeared in actual experience in a constant relation to the amount of T.B., and it must therefore be accepted as having been the predominant influence."

And what I think is this that there is no individual to-day in this Colony who is able to give a comprehensive and reliable and final decision as to what ought to be done regarding the best programme regarding the expenditure of the large amount of money involved, and I think that the Government, if I may be permitted to suggest it, ought to appoint a committee, on which they would be represented, with a representation of medical men, including some outport representatives, to include also some representatives of laymen, who have specially interested themselves in the movement, such as Mr. Fearn, Mr. Gosling, Mr. Gibbs and others, and particularly the School Inspectors and teachers, if possible, and that the whole subject should be put in their hands for report. The essence of success in dealing with this matter is to have it non-political. I think the first step to take is to have a committee of people who have had these matters in their minds and have had it for some years, and I suppose it will be found that if such a Committee were to meet it would find as many different views as were found in the House of Assembly the other day, but that as the result of discussion, divergent views will to a great extent become unified. It is only by getting such people together that you will obtain a safe method of dealing with the whole question. I consider the discussions which have taken place in the Assembly, while acrimonious at times, have done an enormous amount of good, and have interested the public in the question as it could not have been interested oth-
erwise, and I think that probably the discussion and the Government have learnt a great deal more about the subject, than they knew before, by the exchange of ideas. I think the Government should appoint such a committee before they commit themselves to anything definite on any larger scale. Mr. President, these things may be considered far from the province of the Bill which I have the honor to move to its second reading, but the House will, I am sure, accept my apologies for having detained them so long.

HON. J. A. ROBINSON—It is not my intention, Mr. President, to reply or refer at any length at the present time to the very lengthy and decided ly controversial address by the gentleman who has just sat down, as in a very short time, I presume, a bill will come up here to be considered, in the discussion of which, the remarks of the hon. gentleman will, no doubt, be referred to very completely.

My object in rising is to speak on the Bill, the second reading of which has been moved this afternoon entitled "An Act to Prevent Promiscuous Spitting." With much that Hon. Mr. Harvey has said I think we shall all be in accord, but I take exception to the statement that nine-tenths of the consumption is due to promiscuous spitting. It may be due largely to spitting in private dwellings, but the only translation the Legislature can put on the phrase "promiscuous spitting," so far as I can see, is spitting out of doors. We are certainly face to face with a problem, but in grappling with it we must be careful how we move. The report of the commission circulated here, page 25, section $g$, shows a recommendation by that Commission that there be enacted a moderate Anti-

Spitting Law (vide appendix d). We turn to that and see suggested one of the most drastic, dangerous and impolitic laws possible for this or any other Legislature to carry out. Evidently that view must have struck the Committee themselves, for this morning we received another Bill less drastic, but still much too drastic. This evening we received another Bill, less drastic. Surely that shows conclusively that this matter has not had that consideration from those introducing it that it ought to have had. The bill now before the House is such that all may support it; that is the principle of it; but when we go into the details of the Bill there will be some amendments desirable. Mr. President, this question is not a new one. I am not going to say who brought it up first, but it has been considered, and very carefully, in the past. In 1903 a Board of Health was established by the late Government, of which Dr. Shea was President, and Dr. Rendell Vice-President. That Board of Health discussed very carefully very nearly all the questions referred to this afternoon. As a result of their work many great improvements followed. The ambulance system, sanitary inspection, cleansing of the city, the inspection of fish, milk and food, the purification of water, the housing problem, all these very carefully discussed and action taken upon them. The Health Inspector was first appointed, and the appointment of the present Medical Health Officer was the result of that Commission, and outport doctors came to St. John's and discussed the matters in various phases. As you are aware, Sir, that body was gazetted out of existence. Why, I do not know. What I want to draw attention to is its connec-
tion with the Bill now before the House. On July 1st, 1903, Dr. Fraser, who is a member of the Commission, which introduced the Bill spoke, as is shown by the minutes of that meeting, "of the pernicious and insanitary custom of spitting in public places, and intimated his intention to introduce resolutions having for their object the suppression of a practice at once dangerous and dirty." On July 22nd, 1903, Dr. Fraser moved that the Board put up notices prohibiting spitting in public places. The matter was left to Drs. Fraser and Rendell for suggestions and recommendations." On July 29, 1903, "the report of the sub-committee on spitting was presented by Dr. Fraser. It consisted of two motions which were separately discussed. The first was that the following notice be placed in a conspicuous place in all public places of resort, including the stores of the city—'Notice, spitting on the floor is strictly prohibited. By order of the Board of Health.' An amendment that the wording be—'Caution, the public are warned against the dangerous habit of spitting. By order of the Board of Health,' proposed by Hon. John B. Ayre, was lost by a narrow minority. This dealt with the spitting habit so far as the indoors were concerned. There much depended on the cooperation of proprietors and home authority generally. To quote from the minutes: "It was felt by many members of the Board that steps should be taken to prevent spitting on the sidewalks, others considered the time for action not opportune, and whilst approving the principle expressed a desire to see first what effect the previous notices would have. On motion of Hon. J. B. Ayre seconded by Mr. Watson, it was ordered that the following announcement be attached to the telegraph poles:—'Caution. The public are requested not to spit upon the sidewalks. By order of the Board of Health.' The Secretary was instructed to procure the necessary notices and to ask permission from the telephone and electric authorities to use their poles to attach their notices to." Quoting again from the minutes: "Dr. Fraser then moved that a short leaflet be sent to the teachers of the schools in the district pointing out the danger of spitting as a means of spreading the disease and asking them to educate the boys into an avoidance of the habit. The motion was second by Mr. Martin and carried. Mr. Robinson moved and Mr. Furlong seconded that the sub-committee already appointed be requested to draw up the leaflet referred to in the foregoing resolution; carried. Moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Hon. J. B. Ayre, that it be a recommendation to the Government that copies of these leaflets be sent to every school in the Colony, with a request to the teachers to educate the children into an avoidance of the habit of spitting."

Now, Mr. President, I am reading these extracts because at that time a very careful discussion took place and as a result it was felt that anything in the nature of compulsion would react injuriously, and that the only way to deal with the question was by education. As a result of these notices referred to, there were applications for these cards from the public of this city, the leading men and nearly all the stores, and we have it on authority that the habit very greatly diminished. But, Mr. President, if any attempt at compulsion had been made I fear very much that the end would
have been very much worse than the beginning. On August 12th, 1903, to again quote:—“Letters were read from Messrs. W.D. Reid and A.M. MacKay, giving assent to the Board to attach public notices respecting to the electric and telegraph poles throughout the city. The Deputy Colonial Secretary also wrote acknowledging receipt of the resolution adopted at the previous meeting relative to ‘spitting’ and schools.

“Health Inspector O’Brien reported that he had personally visited most of the business people on the Southside of Water Street, who had with practical unanimity expressed their approval of the Board’s action in this matter. He had distributed 374 placards and others were being asked for.

“Dr. Rendell read a letter from Dr. Fraser on the subject. Dr. Fraser enclosed a rough draft of the personal leaflet to teachers which was read and approved by those present, and he also made suggestions re spitoons in large buildings. It was decided that the leaflet should be published without delay, and Dr. Rendell promised to communicate with Dr. Fraser.”

Now I would like to draw the attention of the House to the way in which this campaign against spitting was first introduced into the schools of the Colony. This circular was sent around to all the teachers in the island:—

“By direction of the Board of Health I enclose copies of a leaflet prepared for circulation by city physicians at the request of the Board.

“I am further directed to request your kind co-operation with the Board by instructing pupils under your care in the dangers of the acquired and unnecessary habit of promiscuous spitting.”

This was couched in words that every boy, girl, man or woman educated or uneducated, could understand, and was a most effectual one. It laid the foundation of much of the opposition against a habit which, it is admitted, is dangerous to human life. Dr. Fraser’s circular was as follows:

“SPITTING A DANGER

“Published by order of the Board of Health, St. John’s, Newfoundland

“The number of deaths in Newfoundland last year due to Consumption alone was 705, out of a total of 3,765 from all causes. In other words of very 100 deaths last year, 18 were due to Consumption. Consumption is no longer believed to be entirely hereditary. It is now known to be due to a living germ, and before a man can become so diseased he must be exposed to the action of this germ; so that if everyone in Newfoundland could have been saved from exposure to the germs of Consumption, we would to-day have 705 persons alive who, under the present conditions have died during the past 12 months.

“By far the most common method of scattering the infection of Consumption is through the expectoration of persons ill with the disease, as the expectoration from such people is teeming with living germs.

“Spitting is a habit, acquired, unnecessary, and dangerous to others, and as few people know that they have Consumption in the early stage, a time when they are particularly prone to mix with others, it is desirable that one and all should be educated to avoid altogether the habit of spitting. For those who are diseased special arrangements can be made, but the healthy individual should learn to avoid a habit that is so em-
That Mr. President, I think, struck at the very root of the trouble, and that kind of work will be most effective. The A.P.C. have done good in urging people to not alone take care of their own health, but the health of others. I do not know that this act is altogether necessary. Under the requirements of the Public Health Act, Consolidated Statutes, second series, chapter 46, it is stated that “The Governor-in Council may appoint Boards of Health and define the extent of the district over which their authority shall extend. Boards of Health, may make rules and regulations for the preservation of the public health and for rendering effectual all measures of precaution against the outbreak or spreading of disease, such rules and regulations to have the force of law when approved of and published by the authority of the Governor in Council, in the Royal Gazette.”

That seems to me to cover all that is necessary and makes the Bill now before the House unnecessary. I do not know of anything more dangerous to public respect of the law than the enactment of laws which cannot and will not be carried out. The Act before the House may, in some respects, be carried out, but in other respects it is utterly impossible to do so. There are two things which will be necessary to add to it: first, a tremendous addition to the police force, and second, to abolish the importation and sale of tobacco. It seems to me utterly unreasonable to expect the fishermen, or, in fact, the Newfoundland citizen in general, to carry willingly into effect a law which would be a very unnecessary regulation to many. Under this Act a man who chews tobacco, or the girl who chews gum are both liable to arrest unless they poison themselves or give up the habit.

HON. MR. HARVEY—I do not see why.

HON. MR. ROBINSON—The hon. member does not see why this would be so, but the Bill before me says persons spitting in any public roadways, &c. We know that in the outports there are no sidewalks, and the roads are generally used by people, and also that our people, whether rightly or wrongly, chew tobacco and they spit.

HON. MR. HARVEY—They can spit over the fence.

HON. MR. ROBINSON—Be that as it may, we have had one Act placed on the Statute Book in the principle of which we may all concur, but it has been impossible to carry it out; that is the Cigarette Act. You cannot carry it out until people want it so. The time is not yet ripe for it neither is it for this Spitting Bill. It was only last week that a deputation waited on Premier Borden of Canada, and this is what he had to say: “I would like you to bear in mind that the worst possible lesson which you can give to a country is the passing of legislation which cannot be enforced.”

This, I take it is exactly a similar case. We are asked to enact legislation which will be impossible for years to enforce, and when it is possible to enforce it our people will be able to see the evil of the habit, and so avoid the necessity of penal legislation. We cannot go beyond public opinion. If I were out in the woods and attacked by mosquitoes and a wild cat, I would trouble very little about the mosquitoes, so long as the wild cat I wanted to get away
from was destroyed. We are attacked as a community on all sides with matters most serious, menaces to the public health. These are the facts we must grapple with. I most strongly condemn the idea of ostracizing and pillorying people who suffer from consumption. We have been told that people suffering from this disease must be taken away from their homes for the salvation of others. I think that many, if they found it necessary, would voluntarily undergo incarceration, but for generations this disease has been treated in homes and treated satisfactorily. If I thought that sanitariums would take people away from their homes against their desire, I should be strongly opposed to them. What we want is education, not legislation, to teach the people themselves the evil and danger by which they are surrounded. Let them know that. I shall not oppose the second reading, but when the matter comes into committee I shall feel it my duty to propose one or two amendments which I think will make the Bill workable.

HON. MR. BISHOP—It is not my intention at this late hour to refer to the remarks of Hon. Mr. Harvey regarding the work of A. P. C. and the condition of our people generally in relation to tuberculosis. At the present moment I shall satisfy myself by giving my support to the Bill as introduced. As to the other and more important matter, I shall have an opportunity of discussing it further when it comes before the House.

HON. MR. GIBBS—In view of the lateness of the hour I beg to move the adjournment of the debate until to-morrow.

HON. THE PRESIDENT put the motion which was carried.

HON. THE PRESIDENT informed the Council that the Assembly had passed a Bill dealing with the Harbor Master and Harbor Regulations, and asked the Council's concurrence.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP the Bill was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP adjournment was taken at 6.15 until 4.30 p.m. to-morrow.

TUESDAY, March 5th, 1912.

The Council met at 4.30 p.m. pursuant to adjournment.

The minutes of the previous sitting were read and confirmed.

PROMISCUOUS SPITTING BILL.

On motion for the second reading of the Bill entitled "An Act to Prevent Promiscuous Spitting."

HON. MR. KNOWLING.—May I ask the introducer of the Bill whether it is intended to apply to all the island, or merely to the city of St. John's?

HON. MR. HARVEY.—All the island.

HON. MR. McGRATH.—I shall not, Mr. President, detain the House long with the remarks I have to make on this subject. We all heard with much interest the admirable address of Hon. Mr. Harvey yesterday on the general question of the spread of tuberculosis and the various methods to be adopted in the endeavour to cope with it, and while, no doubt, there are differences of opinion amongst us as to some of the methods suggested by him for grappling with this dread enemy, there can be no two opinions, it seems to me, as to his having thrown a flood of light on the subject, which will be most valuable to us when the measure which creates the machinery for the Government's anti-tuberculosis campaign reaches us from the other House in a day or two. Mr. Harvey's views were all the more valuable because they embody the experience of the past three years, during which
he has been at the head of the A. P. C. movement and of the Commission of Public Health, in which capacities he has given much study to the whole question and has become familiar with it in all its aspects. He has therefore, I repeat, set before us a store of enlightening information with respect to the main problem which will make it much easier for us to approach intelligently the consideration of the Government's proposals and to weigh more accurately their nature and probable effects.

With reference to this anti-spitting bill, now before the chair, the difficulty seems to me to lie in the enforcing of it in a country like ours, for if we concede that it is possible to enforce it in St. John's, where there are some 50 policemen, we must not forget that there are only as many more such officers dispersed all over the rest of the island, located in ones and twos in the principal towns, while there are 1,200 or 1,300 settlements great and small, without any such officials. Under these circumstances the measure, desirable though it may be, will be faced with the same difficulties that have been experienced in the carrying out of the Cigarette Bill and the Lottery Bill, both of which were put upon the Statute Book some few years ago, but have become dead letters, while, if one may go abroad for an illustration, there is the Scott Act a temperance measure in force in the neighbouring provinces, which is scarcely more effective.

I support the principle of the Bill, however, for the reason that whether the regulation takes the form of a mandatory measure such as this, or of an educative scheme such as circularizing, we cannot overlook the need that exists for something to be done to discourage the habit of promiscuous spitting. The Bill in this respect is in line with the most advanced legislation of the rest of the world on the subject of the Prevention of Consumption. Everywhere you go in the neighboring countries you find schools prohibiting spitting or containing warnings against the practice, and therefore it would seem to be a mistake not to accept the principle of the Bill.

I submit, however, that to embody in it a clause, such as I see it contains, by which a person can be put in jail for even a day for violation of a spitting law is going somewhat too far; and when the Bill goes into Committee I trust the hon. mover will see his way clear to eliminate that clause. I should like if, in addition to the prohibitions contained in the proposed measure, there could be included some plan whereby a comprehensive plan of awakening people of the Colony to a sense of the evil effects of this practice, which would ensure that more could be done in the schools, in the societies and other organizations, and by all similar agencies to combat this practice and by which, moreover, such a policy could be persisted in, for it is not open to doubt that only by persistence in such efforts can success be attained. It is not enough to send out circulars and then stop; the sending out of them has to be followed up just as business men who adopt the latest schemes for pushing their trade have to keep following up their circulars and other methods of attracting the attention of prospective customers.

With regard to Hon. Mr. Harvey's views on the general question of tuberculosis as advanced yesterday, I have only one comment to make now, and that is to point out that when he advocates that the Government should appoint a large general committee to shape and formulate a policy with regard to an anti-tuberculosis campaign, he overlooked the fact that admirable though the idea may be in theory, the strongest argument against
It is found in the existence of the Board of Health of which our friend opposite (Hon. Mr. Robinson) was Secretary, and from the minutes of which he quoted copiously yesterday. This was an instance where an organization of the kind suggested by Hon. Mr. Harvey, embracing in its personnel all the elements suggested by Hon. Mr. Harvey and with a large field for public duty, broke down utterly and had to be gazetted out of existence because the medical gentlemen who were amongst its members disagreed as to what was small-pox and what was not, and turned the meetings of the Board into a debating society where they ventilated their own particular theories regarding this matter at such length that the situation ultimately became intolerable and the Board was abolished. In my opinion neither this Government nor any other Government which takes up such a question as that of tuberculosis and makes it a feature of its regular official policy, can abdicate its functions and transfer its responsibilities to the shoulders of any other person or organization. I do not speak for the Government; I have no authority to speak for the Government, but a rudimentary principle of the Governmental responsibility seems to me to be involved in this matter. The Government has to formulate its own scheme and to see it worked out. It may not be the best scheme that could be devised; conceivably, committees or organizations might be formed which would work out better schemes, but even if the Government’s scheme should not be the best there is greater assurance of its being successfully carried out, because there will be no division of responsibility, no clashing of authority and the general results are likely to be much more beneficial than they would otherwise be. When the Anti-Tuberculosis Bill reaches us I shall have something more to say, but meanwhile I support the principle of the measure before the chair though, for the reasons already given by me, I am dubious as to its being effectively enforced.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Harvey the Bill was then read a second time and ordered to be sent to Committee at the next sitting.

HARBOUR MASTERS BILL.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the Harbor Master’s Bill was read a second time and ordered to be sent to committee next sitting.

A message from the Assembly announced that they had passed the Bills relating to the Inspecting of Boilers and the Prevention of Tuberculosis, and asked the Council’s concurrence.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop both bills were read a first time.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop adjournment was taken at 5.15 till 4.30 p.m. to-morrow.

THURSDAY, March 7th, 1912.

Pursuant to adjournment the Council met at 4 p.m.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Harvey the House went into Committee on the Bill to prevent promiscuous spitting.

PROMISCUOUS SPITTING BILL.

HON. MR. ROBINSON—Mr. Chairman, when discussing this Bill on the second reading, I intimated my intention to introduce certain amendments. I therefore move that section 1, sub-section 2, (a) be deleted, and the words “any pavement, sidewalk or footpath, the use of which is prohibited to vehicular traffic” be substituted therefor; also that in sub-section (c) the word “conspicuously” be inserted between the word “is” and “posted” in the second line. The reason of this latter is obvious. The former is to make the Act reasonably possible of operation, as in its present form it virtually makes spitting on roads, which are principally used by pedestrians in the outports a penal offence.
HON. MR. HARVEY.—I accept the amendments.

HON. MR. BISHOP.—I think that the words: “Divine worship” should be removed from sub-section (b).

HON. MR. ROBINSON.—I was about to propose an amendment to section (2) that the words “church” and “churches” be eliminated, which would embody the suggestion of the last speaker.

HON. MR. HARVEY.—I assent to these amendments also.

HON. MR. McGRATH.—Mr. Chairman, I would suggest a modification in the penalties in this Bill. I think we should make the punishment fit the crime, and ten dollars for every offence, in my opinion, is excessive. I am also of opinion that it would be unjustifiable to make it possible for a man to be put in jail for a first, second or third offence. I would suggest that the penalty be the same as in cases of persons being found intoxicated, i.e., one dollar for the first offence, two dollars for the second offence, five dollars for the third offence, while for a fourth offence the penalty might be made a fine of $10 or imprisonment for one day.

HON. MR. HARVEY.—I think that one day would be rather too short a penalty under the circumstances. Such a case is not likely to arise very often, and when a person had offended several times it would be clearly a case for a fine.

HON. MR. McGRATH.—I should not regard it in that sense, and suggest to the Hon. introducer that he must be prepared to recognize that there may be criticism of this measure. It appears on the surface to be a Bill that strikes at the liberty of the subject—the rights of a man who chews tobacco or indulges in the practice of expectoration, and who cannot easily be brought to see the need for this measure. The bill will be resisted on this ground, and the more stringent is the penalty the more vigorous will be the opposition to the measure.

HON. MR. RYAN.—I fear this Act will be much the same as another Act which was passed in the other Chamber when I was there some years ago, and which I opposed. I refer to the Cigarette Act. It was ushered in with a flourish of trumpets and we heard much of how it was going to save our boys from promiscuous smoking. I think that if the Act is to be successful it will be necessary to prohibit the sale, importation and manufacture of tobacco, because that is one of the great sources of spitting. While I am entirely against the habit, which is a most disgusting one, much more so at this time of the year when the ground is covered with snow, and especially when the sealers are here, and you find them carrying on that very objectionable habit of spitting, I fear the effect of this Bill will not be what we could wish. As to the penalty of ten dollars which has been suggested I fear that penalty is too high. The difference between the fine and imprisonment is too great. One day would be equivalent to $2. While I am in sympathy with the principle of the Bill I fear that it will not bring about the end we desire, especially so long as tobacco is allowed to be used.

HON. MR. HARVEY.—I suppose there is a danger that this Bill will not be effective, but that is not a strong objection, because hundreds of Bills are not carried out, but I think it will improve conditions on the whole. If there are one or two examples made I am sure it will have a marked effect. I agree with Hon. Mr. Ryan that the choice between $10 and one day is rather absurd, and I think that a man should be given imprisonment after three convictions. If Hon. Mr. McGrath would agree to $10 or 5 days, it would be better. All other amendments I am agreeable to.

HON. MR. BISHOP.—I feel sure the
hon. introducer does not desire to include anything that will make this Bill strongly objectionable and defeat its own end, but I think all must agree that this practice is far too prevalent, that it is a disgusting one, and that as we are committed to the Bill we should endeavour to make it a reasonable one, and one which will be sufficiently deterrent to effect some reform. I would like to suggest in section (c) as explanatory of the word "cars" that the words "railway cars and street cars" be inserted.

HON. MR. GIBBS.—There seems to me to be a good deal of diversity of opinion as to the details of the Bill and as to the manner in which the same should be carried out, and I would suggest to the introducer that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee of this House for the purpose of reporting as to the desirability of the several amendments. I myself have several to propose, there have been three already, and Hon. Mr. Robinson informs me he has more, so I think it would be hopeless for the House to try to get this measure through now and suggest that it be referred to a Select Committee for report.

On motion of HON. MR. HARVEY the Committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again, and on motion of HON. MR. AYRE the report was received.

HARBOR MASTERS BILL.
HON. MR. BISHOP moved the House into Committee of the Whole on the Harbor Master's Bill. Hon. J. D. Ryan in the chair.

HON. MR. KNOWLING.—I wish to move an amendment to this section as follows: Strike out words in third and fourth lines "without notice to any persons," and insert the following: "After giving twelve hours notice to the owner or agent of such vessel, or without notice when there is no owner or known agent it St. John's." No doubt the present Harbor Master may be very generous and do what is right, but the Harbor Master of to-day may not be in charge to-morrow, and the new man may be rather quick in acting, and take advantage of that clause, and put the owner to considerable expense, whereas if the owner had twelve hours notice, he might have time and save expense.

The amendment was carried unanimously.

The Committee rose and reported having passed the Bill with some amendments, and on motion of Hon. Mr. Ryan the report was received.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be read a third time to-morrow.

INSPECTION OF BOILERS BILL.
HON. MR. BISHOP.—Mr. President, in moving the second reading of this Bill I beg to say that at present I am unable to explain the reason for it, but I shall be able to do so when the House goes into Committee on the Bill to-morrow. Of course it is apparent to hon. members that the use of boilers, for which inspectors refuse to give certificates should not be permitted. I must assume that some person or persons have been doing so in defiance of the Inspectors. It is possible that an Inspector may find it impossible to visit some places where boilers are in use, but such places, I presume, are not intended to be covered by this Act. It is now proposed that anyone using or permitting the use of a boiler without an Inspector's certificate shall be liable to a fine of $100. I beg to move the bill be read a second time.

The Bill was read a second time, and on motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop was ordered to be referred to Committee on to-morrow.
TUBERCULOSIS BILL.

Second reading of the Tuberculosis Bill.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—Mr. President, I beg to ask if the second reading of this Bill may not be postponed until to-morrow. This Bill only reached me just before lunch, and I suppose it was the same with other members.

HON. MR. BISHOP—I have no objection whatever and move that the second reading be deferred until to-morrow.

HON. MR. BISHOP tabled report of the Internal Economy Committee and asked that the same be read, which was done.

HON. MR. BISHOP tabled copy of the report of Sir James Moody, special commissioner, regarding the insane Asylum.

HON. MR. McGRATH asked that in view of the importance of that document, an order of the House be issued that it be printed.

HON. MR. BISHOP—The report is tabled for the information of the House, and every facility will be afforded hon. members for seeing it. It is unusual to have such reports printed, but if necessary, we shall arrange to have some typewritten copies made.

HON. MR. McGRATH—As I understand the Hon. Leader of the Government to indicate it would not be desirable to have copies printed, and I would suggest that it be printed as part of the debates, that is if the newspapers have no objection. Speaking as a newspaper man I would say that I should personally regard it as sufficiently good 'copy' to publish without cost, because I think it deals with a large question of public interest.

HON. MR. ROBINSON—I would suggest that as copies of the report will be needed in the Assembly that we should wait until these copies are made.

HON. MR. BISHOP—There is no desire to have any secrecy about this matter and in the course of a day or two I shall see that each member has a copy. I think it is quite likely that copies will be prepared for the Lower House.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP the House adjourned till to-morrow at 4 p.m.

FRIDAY, March 8th.

Council met at 4 p.m. pursuant to adjournment.

HON. MR. GIBBS asked that the third reading of the Harbor Master's Bill stand deferred.

PROMISCUOUS SPITTING BILL.

HON. MR. GIBBS, in the absence of Hon. Mr. Harvey, moved the House into Committee of the Whole, on the Bill to prevent Promiscuous Spitting.

HON. MR. HARVEY—This Bill has been altered so as to incorporate most of the amendments suggested by hon. members yesterday, and I will read an account of the way in which this alteration has been made. In the first sub-section, "A," instead of the words: "Any way used or appointed to be used as a foot walk or sidewalk or upon any place used exclusively or principally by pedestrians," the words, "any person, sidewalk or foot path, the use of which is prohibited to vehicular traffic," have been substituted. In sub-section "B" the words, "divine worship," are eliminated; "C," includes the words, "railway and street cars," and cuts out the word, "vehicles" as being a very uncertain term; "D," is altered so as to make the penalty for a first offence a fine of one dollar, for a sec-
and offence two dollars, third, five dollars, fourth and subsequent offences a penalty not exceeding $10 or imprisonment not exceeding one day. Section 2 simply inflicts a penalty of one dollar for not posting the notices prohibiting spitting. These gentlemen, embody the various suggestions made at the last session, and I think they will meet with the views of hon. members.

HON. MR. GIBBS—I thoroughly agree with the principle of this Bill and think there can be no doubt whatever as to the necessity of some such Bill, but the question which has been in my mind since this Bill came before the House is as to the carrying out of these provisions, which I think hon. members will agree are almost impossible of being carried out. In the various outports we have no machinery by which persons can be subjected to the penalties prescribed by the Act. We have a certain number of police, established around the island and the area over which they exercise supervision is sometimes very large, including perhaps 50 or 60 settlements, and in the course of a year the officer may not visit more than five out of that number. Consequently breaches of the law occur every day. Then again, while there is absolute necessity for legislation of this kind I think that in order to make the public fully alive to this necessity and appreciate the efforts of those endeavoring to bring about reform, it is necessary for education to go on for four or five years. I believe that legislation of this kind without a campaign of education is at least 20 years in advance of the state of the people with regard to this habit of spitting. It is like second nature, so to speak, to the average Newfoundlander, to spit, and unless you educate him as to the danger of this filthy and loathsome habit, you are not going to have sympathy from him with regard to this measure, and where you have not the sympathy and co-operation of the public in carrying out a law, it is better not have the law at all. You cannot enforce a law, no matter how good, or how great the object to be attained, unless you have the sympathy and co-operation of the people. You will not, I feel assured, have that sympathy in carrying out this law, and consequently it will become a dead letter on the Statute Book. Here in this city, where we are supposed to have a higher order of intelligence than perhaps is found in the more external portions of the country, and where we have large educational centres, a law of this kind will no doubt find sympathy and co-operation, and if instead of making this bill applicable to the whole country just now, it was enforced in the city solely, the educational effect which this would have on the whole country would be great, and people coming here from outports, finding that spitting was prohibited, would bring home, as it were, the idea to others, who do not come to St. John's, and by that means a system of education would go on from here. However, Mr. Chairman, I entirely agree with the principle of the Bill and the necessity of something being done, but I much fear that the object aimed at will not be accomplished, and that as a result we will have this law, like some other laws, simply a dead letter on the Statute Book.

The Committee rose and reported having passed the Bill without amendment, and on motion of Hon. Mr. Ryan that report was received.

HON. MR. HARVEY moved the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.
INSPECTION OF BOILERS BILL.

On motion of HON. MR. GIBBS the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the Inspection of Boilers' Bill. Hon. Mr. Ayre in the Chair.

HON. MR. GIBBS—The object of this Bill is to prohibit the use of boilers except where the owner obtains a certificate of inspection. As the law stands a man can only be prosecuted if using a bad boiler, and the Inspector may go and inspect a boiler and be refused by the owner the bill for such inspection, and the owner may decline to accept the certificate. This law particularly aims at compelling persons to have certificates that the boilers being used by them are good and sufficient for the purpose for which they are to be used. Of course, if a request is made for such inspection, and the Inspector is unable to attend to it, then until such time as he is able to do so, the owner is not liable. A case of this kind was mentioned to me yesterday, where a request was made some time ago for an inspection, but owing to weather conditions the Inspector was unable to proceed to the place where the boiler was situated. If cases of that kind no penalty attaches to the owner because the request for inspection was made. It is only when the Inspector declares after inspection that a boiler is unfit for use and the owner continues to use the same, that he shall be liable to a fine of $100 for every day or part of day that he so uses it.

HON. MR. HARVEY—Mr. Chairman, I would very much like to see that embodied in the Bill. I have no doubt Mr. Gibbs' opinion is correct, but would like to see it in the Bill that when a man applies for inspection and is unable to get it, he is exonerated from further liability until the inspection takes place. I know under present conditions there are three or four boilers at York Harbor mine and the Inspector is unable to get there, the application for inspection was made months ago, and the Inspector has given permission to use one boiler. The result is that if the owner want to work their mine, they would be unable to do so without running the risk of being prosecuted. I daresay that half the boilers in the country to-day ought to be inspected but cannot be owing to its being impossible to get to their localities.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Mr. Chairman; as to the objection raised by Hon. Mr. Harvey, and which I think reasonable, it appears to me that no manufacturer or mine owner could be punished for continuing to use a boiler under a certificate that had been granted by the Boiler Inspector. In other words, if the Inspector gives a certificate for one year, and is not around again to inspect within the twelve months, it is not to be expected that work should cease, or the mine close down. If that is what happens there is very strong reason that that point should be made clear. When I saw this Bill yesterday I thought it referred to new establishments, i.e., a person starting a new mill, or operating a new mine, who must not do so until the Boiler Inspector has given his certificate. I understand the gentleman in charge of the Bill will presently tell the House what the law is as at present on the Statute Book.

HON. MR. GIBBS.—Mr. Chairman, I may say in answer to Hon. Mr. Harvey that if a boiler has already been inspected then until the second or third or other inspection takes place, the owner can use it. In the case that I referred to, where the re-
quest was made and the Inspector was unable to carry out the Inspection, then the owner could operate the boiler under the certificate he had already. I would call the attention of hon. gentlemen to section "A" of the Boiler Inspection Act. Under that Act the Boiler Inspector after having examined the boiler gives a certificate, and in that certificate sets forth for what period of time that boiler can be used. They usually allow the owners to notify the Inspector fourteen days before the expiration of the certificate, and on being so notified of course it is the duty of the Inspector to proceed to the place where the boiler is located and cause another inspection to be made, and if he fails to perform that duty the person using the boiler cannot be liable to a penalty. I do not think the hon. gentleman need have any fear on that account.

HON. MR. HARVEY—Mr. Chairman, I take it that Hon. Mr. Gibbs gives us an absolutely reliable opinion on this matter. It appears to me that a certificate is not good for ever, and when it expires and the owner continues to use it, it seems to me he can be prosecuted.

HON. MR. GIBBS—He cannot use the boiler without the certificate, and he has to notify the Inspector fourteen days previous to its expiration. The bill is merely to enable the Inspector to prevent boilers from being used without the certificate of inspection. Now they can do so, and the Inspector cannot get after them unless the boiler is bad.

HON. MR. McGRATH—Under the new Act?

HON. MR. GIBBS—Under the new Act he must have the boiler certificate before he can use it.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Mr. Chairman, I would suggest to Hon. Mr. Gibbs before passing the Bill that the Committee rise, for I am convinced now that this Bill relates to new operations, that a man may start a saw mill and have second hand machinery and boiler, and the idea is to prevent him from using such a boiler until it has been inspected. If, on the other hand, it relates to re-inspection which is supposed to be annual, there could be no penalty if the Inspector failed to make his inspection within the term before expiration. I think therefore it would be better before putting the Bill to the Committee to get all the information possible on the subject.

The Committee rose, reported having made some progress and asked leave to sit again.

On motion of HON. MR. Ayre the report was received.

TUBERCULOSIS BILL.

Second reading of Tuberculosis Bill.

HON. MR. BISHOP—In moving the second reading of this Bill I may say that it is a very important measure, worthy of, and I hope will receive, the serious attention of this House. In anticipation of the Bill the Hon. John Harvey, when moving the second reading of the Bill introduced by him, which Bill is now in the Committee stage before this House and may be said to be allied to this Bill, in that its object is to prevent the practice in public places of a habit calculated to cause the spread of tuberculosis, dealt exhaustively with the subject of Consumption, its prevalence, its treatment by the A.P.C., and generally with the whole subject as it presents itself to him after years of experience and research. I am sure we all listened with pleasure and pro-
fit to the excellent speech in which he addressed the House, even though we did not agree with some of his suggestions or the conclusions which he appears to have drawn from what he has heard regarding the proposals of the Government to make a vigorous effort to combat this most insidious disease, which has gripped so many of our people, that only by vigorous and sustained effort, professional skill and very considerable money outlay annually, can we hope to see the ravages of this disease diminished. It is a sad fact that of the great number of our people at present affected by consumption, the greater part, probably 90 per cent., must become victims of the disease, and I quite agree with my hon. friend, Mr. Harvey, that the measures to be adopted must be, in the main, preventive measures if they are to be effectual, at least, in so far as the disease is capable of being treated by any system at present known to medical science. To undertake an active campaign for the control, I will not say the extinction of this disease will, as I have already said, entail a very considerable annual expenditure of public funds, but through the magnificent generosity of the Messrs. Reid, we are not alone saved the expenditure upon buildings without which nothing effective could be expected, but we can thereby cover more ground and check the disease much earlier than we could hope to do if confined to the expenditure of public funds alone. We find that some persons not only deprecate, but denounce the acceptance of the offer made by the Reids, and so effective is the power of bad example that some who were amongst the first to shout hurrah, express gratitude to the donors and rejoice in the prospective benefits which must necessarily follow, have since then been asking us to listen to their tale of woe. Mr. President, I cannot help doubting the sincerity or the sanity of any person who claims that the Government should have refused the offer of buildings to be used as sanitaria. We have often heard, Sir, of the lack of public spirit in this country and expressions of regret that public benefactions are so few and yet upon the first conspicuous evidence of such it is denounced. It would serve us right, Mr. President, if the Messrs. Bowring would decide to withhold the $50,000 which they have signified their intention of expending for public benefit, and the Messrs. Reid would withdraw their offer of $100,000. At least, it would be if any great number held these opposing views, but, Sir, the people of the various districts have given very speedy and general expression of appreciation, and I am inclined to believe that very few can be found in St. John's to-day who really desire the withdrawal of Messrs. Reid's offer. I wish it to be understood, Mr. President, that although the Government will engage upon a vigorous campaign against tuberculosis, no precise places have been agreed upon, and when the decision to boldly attack it was arrived at, nothing was known of the intention of the Reids, so that the Government's action is not in consequence of the Reid gift, as some would seem to suggest, but this has come as the complement of the decision of the Government. The figures quoted by my friend, Mr. Harvey, as indicating the probable cost of conducting a sanitarium are approximately correct, and are borne out by our experience at St. George's Hospital, Signal Hill, and by similar institutions elsewhere, but Mr.
President, we are not compe.led and do not intend at least for some time to come to operate to the limit of capacity the whole of the buildings which we are offered. The experience to be sought is not as some persons would appear to think—how much can we manage to spend—but rather how much benefit can be effected for the smallest expenditure, consistent with efficiency. No member of the Government presumes to be able to direct such an undertaking, and great care and caution will be exercised before plans are matured for the administration of the public lands in this connection. I desire to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation shared by the Government, and I believe by the public generally, of the truly philanthropic work done by the Hon. John Harvey and those associated with him in the A.P.C. Mr Harvey has rendered magnificent service, and in his devotion and enthusiasm, enthusiasm quickened and strengthened doubtless by the active support of Mrs Harvey, and some other ladies, has done nothing else, it must be given credit for having, by demonstration, drawn public attention to the urgent demand for something more than is within the means of the A.P.C., and this need the Government have decided must, if possible, be met. I have already said it must be by prevention mainly that the greatest benefit will be secured, and in this connection I beg to quote a recently expressed opinion of Mr. Kelso, Chief Sanitary Inspector, before the Edinburgh Sanitary Society, who says:—

"The annual loss to the nation from Consumption alone was estimated to be not less than £10,000,000, made up from loss of life, loss in wages, loss to friendly societies. Poor-Law institutions, and private charities. Edinburgh's share in this loss and waste could not be less than from £40,000 to £50,000 per year. It was because of the great loss and the suffering entailed throughout the country, that 1½ millions of money has been set aside by Parliament, and provision made in the Insurance Act for another million being spent annually, for the treatment and prevention of Consumption." What I wish to emphasize is that it was to prevention that we must look to eradicate this dread disease, while doing everything possible to help the unfortunate sufferers until it is eradicated.

Some may ask can we afford the expenditure? To these I would reply by the question: Can we afford to do otherwise? We do not expect to expend anything approaching $70,000 per annum, but even if the present or a succeeding Government should approximate that figure, and tuberculosis is reduced by one-half its present prevalence within the next decade, it will prove to be money well spent. I beg to move the second reading of the Bill.

HON. MR. KNOWLING.—Mr. Chairman, I thought possibly some other gentlemen would be speaking on this matter, and I wished to give them an opportunity to express their opinions so that I might gather what the general consensus of opinion was. The question of dealing with Consumption is no doubt an important matter; one of the most important that have come before this House for many years. Consumption is a most frightful disease, more so possibly than any other, merely from the fact that many people in the first stages have little or no idea of what is the matter with them. I presume when
speaking of Consumption we are referring to consumption of the lungs; but there are other kinds. It is a matter which has been and is being dealt with by the A. P. C. in a most able manner. It has been questioned whether Consumption is curable or not, but I think the majority are of opinion that in its early stages the disease may possibly be cured, or at least that the lives of those afflicted may be considerably lengthened, by the use of proper methods, suitable clothing and proper surroundings where patients may receive suitable food and treatment, and where everything is made as bright and as cheerful as possible. Others say that once Consumption takes hold of the body there is no remedy, and it is only a question of time when the disease kills the victim. There have been cases of which I have read where patients have died of what is vulgarly named galloping consumption. There are cases of people growing worse and worse, and where it is almost impossible to see from month to month the spread of the disease, but it is going on all the same. It appears to me that whatever is done should be more for prevention than cure. I have read up the subject somewhat and there are few authorities which think that a cure can be effected after the disease has reached a late stage. But it has been shown that in cases where the lungs were seriously affected, patients have been cured and lived to a good age. Therefore, I gather that whatever is to be done should be for prevention. There is an old saying that "an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure." Another point in dispute is that of infection, and that is a matter upon which even doctors disagree. The most have the idea it is infectious, others believe that it is inherited, others that it is brought on by cold or chill, or some other cause of which they know nothing, and the patient himself may not suspect until he finds something wrong, obtains medical advice, and is put on a diet and is sent away for change of climate, but few, if any, ever regain their former strength and health. I think it is quite possible the disease may be infectious. That justifies the means that have already been taken for its prevention, justifies the Bill before us today to prevent expectoration, which is most liable to cause infection amongst other people who have not got the disease. Another important point is with regard to the treatment. For a place like Newfoundland where in the outport districts the people have little means, houses are small and ceilings low, the people spend most of their time in the kitchens where cooking is done by means of large stoves. The inmates are thus very warm, and when they go out in the cold atmosphere they are subject to a sudden chill, which might bring on any disease, but nothing more likely than a disease of the lungs. This is what is said by Dr. W. H. Parsons on page 40 of the Health Report, referring to the manner of living of most of the people on Bell Island: "Some of our people who go to Bell Island, return in poor physical condition, as a great many of them cook for themselves, consequently their food is only half cooked or they are half starved, which with their environment, certainly predisposes them especially to Tuberculosis." That is in accordance with what I have stated with regard to the mode of living. I have no doubt that if we were to trace its source we should find that tuberculosis in many cases is brought on from that very cause. Another important matter is the question of disinfection. On page 52 of the same report I find:
"I would advise, that whenever practicable, houses in which there are Consumptives living be disinfected at, intervals of not longer than six months."

That is sound advice; in fact I think that if that were made even three months it would be even better. As is the case with a good many other laws, it is difficult to enforce these things. The hon. gentlemen who spoke a few minutes ago referred to the Reid brothers' donation. No one values that more highly than I do. I regard that gift as munificent, princelessly, and I think it should be appreciated by everybody in this country. The Reid brothers deserve all the credit that can be given them. As I understand it the intention is that by means of that gift one sanitarium should be built in each electoral district in the country. That at first sight appears all right, but the question is whether it is wise. I think if they had thought out that matter before they made the arrangement (I am not sure that it is finalized. It may not be), it would not be of that nature. Take for instance the districts of St. John's, Harbor Main, Brigus, Harbor Grace, Carbonear and Bay de Verde. In these five districts, leaving out Bay de Verde, where the farthest away from St. John's is only 84 miles by rail, under conditions it would be as easy to take a consumptive from Brigus to St. John's, or very nearly, as to take him down to Bay Roberts or Harbor Main, we will have six sanitaria, and in each of these it will be necessary to have the whole paraphernalia of a hospital or sanitarium. You will need a doctor, at least two nurses, light, fuel and everything to keep a building warm and comfortable. Now the ordinary doctor is scarcely suitable for one of these places. He may be away and not be able to give the attention to the institution, and it would not matter if there were only one patient in the sanitarium. You must have the entire staff and paraphernalia working. With regard to the other districts it would be different. This, of course, is a matter which lies entirely with the givers. "It is not well to look a gift horse in the mouth." No doubt the Messrs. Reid have considered what is best, and no one has a right to dictate as to the manner in which they ought to proceed. Another question that has occurred to me is that of maintenance. It has been stated that the cost of maintaining seventeen sanitaria will be anything from $80,000 to $100,000 a year. The Hon. Leader of the Government has told us that even if a certain number of lives are saved it would be cheap, but we have no guarantee that they would be saved. A great many people suffer, but we do not see many cures, and we must bear in mind that Consumption is a disease that is no "respecter of persons." It attacks rich as well as poor; you will find consumption in both classes. Possibly the poor suffer more on account of their inability to procure the best medical advice and treatment, consequently the disease acts more rapidly with them. Now I will treat with the question of receiving gifts from a contractor. That, I think, is a most important point. Picture a schooner landing fish at one of our merchants' wharves, and the fisherman who is selling fish giving the culler a very valuable present. I wonder what the merchant would say, if he knew of it. I know what he would say and that he would not like it. The Government are only servants of the people, and are in the same position in regard to the people as the culler on the wharf is to his employer. Take another illustration. Go down to the Examining Warehouse, where a man's goods are being examined, and before they are so examined the owner hands the examining officer a very handsome present. Is not that wrong? Whatever
the intention of the Reids I believe they intended right and did a good thing; but the objection is to the Government receiving gifts from a Contractor. Some years ago, when in Liverpool, while I was waiting for the passenger luggage to be examined, a certain traveller handed the customs officer five shillings. The officer turned around and instead of doing what was expected of him by the passenger, said: "I should like to see your luggage, sir," and that man had a lot of tobacco concealed, and it cost him very considerably to get out of it. That customs officer was a public servant and the Government stand in the same position to the public. I think this is a difficult matter to deal with. Of late I have thought a good deal about the work done by the A. P. C., and the more I think about it the more I value their services. I do not think anybody could do better than look after this fight against Consumption than the A.P.C. They are men who are not paid, but are merely there for the good of the cause, and for the honor and glory of the thing. They are giving their services free and consequently are giving their best services. Now once have this made a Government business and you will find it will be like everything else connected with the Government. I am not referring to the present Government, but to all Governments. Every appointment made and the payment of doctors, &c., will be a political question. The appointment of nurses and the purchase of drugs will be the same. If these sanitariums were placed under the care of the A.P.C., I feel sure the best value for any money that might be spent would be had, and by far the best results obtained. It is a question to my mind whether this public agitation which we have had lately is not going a little too far. I believe the same work might be done, but less said about it. Take the daily press, and the remarks made in the Assembly and in this Chamber with regard to it. The daily papers are scattered over a good deal of the globe, more specially over Canada, United States and Great Britain. They also go to Spain, Portugal and Italy. Now what will be the feeling of people in these places when they read that this country is infected with consumption to such an awful extent as has been represented? May not the people in these countries hesitate before taking our fish, dreading whether a certain amount of infection may not be brought with the fish? This is a question which I think this House ought to take into consideration. I think it is a mistake to wash our dirty linen in public. This sort of thing can do no good. When we spread abroad that this country is saturated with Consumption it will be read by people elsewhere, and make them nervous as to handling the products of the country. Everybody knows what a little will cause a scare. We know what we have heard about cholera, fever and all such things. How easy it would be for our Norwegian opponents to spread a report that Consumption is very bad in Newfoundland, that the people are saturated with it and probably the products brought from Newfoundland are infected with it? Consumption is not any worse at any rate than it has been painted. We know all about it and we should not publish too much about it. Of late years tourist traffic has grown considerably from Canada and the United States, principally from the latter place. Any of the people who come here from these places do so to recuperate their health, after leading a strenuous life. Now let these people get into their heads that they are going to a hotbed of Consumption, to a place reeking with Consumption, and they will remain away. Who are going to bring children here or come themselves under such condi-
tions? They have their own troubles at home and if they hear this disease is bad here they will go somewhere else. Why should we spread this information abroad to our own detriment? I must apologize for taking up your time, gentlemen. Everybody knows that my time is fairly well occupied, or I would prefer to go further, but I have expressed my views, and they are that I value very much the gift of the Reid brothers, and I take it in the spirit in which it is given, but I strongly object to this gift being placed in the hands of the Government of the day or any other Government. Everybody will admit that private individuals whose heart and soul is in the work will manage these things far better than any Government. In other parts of the world where people have the means and inclination to donate money for certain purposes, they do so by arranging with some Association or friends, or if in a position to do so, endow the institution themselves out of their own private means, and a Committee is appointed to take charge of it. Now how often do we read of scandals in institutions such as the hospitals in the Old Country or McGill University? But with regard to those under Government management it is a common occurrence. Before the bill is read a second time I wish to move the following amendment:

"That after the preamble all the words in the Bill be stricken out, and the following substituted. "It shall be lawful for the Governor in Council, out of any moneys which may be appropriated by the Legislature for such purposes, to carry out the recommendations which have been made by the Commission of Public Health for the treatment of Tuberculosis."

HON. MR. GIBBS.—It is very evident from the remarks of the hon. gentleman who has addressed the House that this bill does not meet his approval and he urges certain reasons why it does not. He commences by asking the question, "Is consumption curable?" Whether it is or not would not justify the House in refusing to pass the Bill; if it cannot be cured we can at least make an effort to try and alleviate the sufferings of those who are afflicted with it. But, Sir, consumption is curable if the necessary medical aid and help be given before the disease has made such inroads upon the physique of the individual, when medical skill is of no avail. By way of further answer to the objection of the hon. member I will quote for the information of the House some statistics from Norway:

Results of the treatment of Tuberculosis patients discharged during the years 1875-1906 (incl.) according to the opinion of the Medical Superintendent at the time of their discharge from the hospital:

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Thus we see that Consumption can be cured. The hon. member next refers to houses being comfortable and well ventilated, in order, I presume, that those not afflicted may be enabled to withstand the danger of infection. In this I agree with him, but unfortunately for us we have to deal with houses the occupants of which have not those benefits, and one of the objects of this measure is to deal with sufferers who live in houses which are neither comfortable nor well ventilated, and the aid of the State is to be invoked on behalf of those sufferers to place them in institutions where they can have the benefits of pure air and nutritious food.

I had hoped that this Bill would meet the unanimous approval of this House, because the objects are of such paramount importance to the people—present and future—of this country, but, judging by the amendment proposed, this cannot be expected. The hon. member points out that "the Government are the servants of the people." Precisely, and that is the reason why the present Government are dealing with this important matter of public health. To sit with arms folded, and see hundreds dying and an equal number being prepared for a similar fate would be carelessness of such a criminal character as to merit the scorn and undying contempt of every right thinking man.

Until the advent of the present Government to power, the energies of successive Governments in the past were principally devoted to the framing of tariffs to meet the views of those interested in the establishment of local industries; in the protection of various trades; in the building of railroads and other public works, all very necessary and useful in the exploitation of capital and the development of the country; but, the principal factor in the country's progress and development, namely, man, was entirely lost sight of, his connection with industrial development was never taken into account. The fact that the basis of all property is the productive energy of the people was never even considered, much less hinted at; that the human being is the principal factor, first, last and all the time in industrial development never occupied the attention or the deliberations of the Legislature. The Bill we are now considering may therefore be said to be a "red-letter-day" in the country's history, because it is really the first time that man's connection with the industrial development of the country, his right to be considered by society, and the claims which he has upon it have been taken into account. This is the first time his claims have been really considered in their entirety, and it is lamentable to witness the attempts made to make political capital out of the greatest evil which afflicts the human race to-day, namely, the dread disease Consumption. Just as people unite upon certain well known principles of religious belief, so should the question of public health unite all people in its common cause. But apparently we have not arrived at that stage of development in this country, when we can sink our political differences for the common cause of suffering humanity. Almost every phase of the industrial and public life of the country is watched over with a paternalism which is to say the least commendable. We have a department of justice which enforces the proper administration of the law; a department of Colonial Secretary which looks after the Colony's interest in various matters which affect it with the outside world; a department of Public Works which regulates and controls the expenditure of certain moneys, votes of the Legislature for the construction and repairs of roads and
bridges; we have a department of Marine and Fisheries brought into existence for the purpose of undertaking the construction, establishing and repairing of marine works, light houses and various other public utilities, then, we have a department of Agriculture and Mines, that supervises the granting of public lands and surveys of same, and promotes the cultivation of the soil; we have the Department of Finance and Customs for the collecting of revenue and the regulating of trade and various other matters; we have a Board of Trade regulating and watching the country's commerce, so that so far as the industrial and public life of the country is concerned they seem to be amply protected. But he who is the basis of all prosperity, man, has been entirely neglected. All our deliberations and speeches in the past, with the exception of what has been done by the present Government, have been money, money, money. This is the reason why I say that the Bill we are now considering marks a "red-letter-day" in the history of this country.

The hon. member asks the House not to accept the gifts of the Messrs. Reid, because, forsooth, he exclaims, 'he who gives the favors expects to receive them,' and endeavours to draw an analogy in the acceptance of the gift and the customs officer who receives favors for permitting the donor to get in certain goods liable to customs duty free, and the fish-culler who accepts a gift from the seller of fish to defraud the purchaser by passing on his culling fish of an inferior quality for a high quality. The cases cited are not by any stretch of imagination analogous. The customs officer and dishonest culler who would prostitute their position by receiving gifts to defraud would be committing offences which the laws of every civilized country visit with severe penalties; but the laws of civilized nations do not prescribe penalties or enact laws to prevent its citizens from making gifts which aim at the amelioration of human suffering, or the building or endowing of philanthropic or charitable institutions. What reasonable objections can there be to accepting this gift in the spirit and for the object for which it is made. Other countries accept gifts, and it is their proud boast that they have citizens, who, if endowed by nature with superior gifts that enable them to accumulate wealth, donate a portion of it for the uplifting of their fellow countrymen. Has not McDonald given his millions to philanthropic and charitable institutions in Canada, and did Canada refuse them? On the contrary, it bestowed its highest encomiums upon him. Did not Strathcona give a troup of horse to the Crown when British prestige was challenged by the Boer? Did England refuse? No! The gratitude of its public men and its press attests that they lauded the patriotism of him who gave freely of his wealth in defence of British institutions. Have not the Rockefellers, the Harrimans, the Stansfords, Carnegie and others of the United States, given freely and generously of their millions to various States, founding and endowing hospitals, colleges, and schools, and the proud boast of the people of the United States, is, that the nineteenth and twentieth centuries have seen more gifts from its people for such purposes than any others in the world. The hon. member sees in the establishment of those institutions Government patronage in the appointment of doctors, nurses, etc. It cannot be otherwise, because the Colony will pay. But fitness and ability will be a necessary qualification, and that is no argument against the adoption of the Bill. We have various public institutions where such rights are exercised by
the Government. Would he do away with these institutions because the doctors and nurses are appointed by the Government? I think not; in fact I know he would not. The reason why I refer to this argument is to show what a dilemma it places him in and how illogical his premises are. Again, he sees a possible harm being done the country through the publicity given this matter. Who is giving publicity but the hon. member and his friends? It is their opposition to the Bill which is bringing about all this publicity. But what difference does it make what amount of publicity we give it? The people’s welfare and their health is of far greater importance. Other countries have had to face the problem we are dealing with. They did not stop to think of the probable consequences of publicity, their public men recognized that they had a solemn duty to perform, and they performed it in such a manner that they made their people more healthy, and as a consequence, their productive power greater, and in so doing, they did not encounter opposition and criticism, but the approval of not alone their own people, but the world as well. He next finds fault with the Bill because Governments cannot manage things as economically as private individuals, and because of the “scandals” that have from time to time characterized the management of State owned institutions. The hon. member when making this statement fails to recognize that Governments do not manage hospitals or asylums for profit. They are operated and managed for the public good, whereas the private individual will manage them with a view to making profit out of them, and if they fail to afford him a reasonable profit upon his investment he closes them up. Surely he does not want any such policy pursued with regard to our public institutions? I do not agree with him in the statement made. Many institutions of a public and industrial character are managed and operated by the State just as efficiently and economically as if managed by a private individual. In Great Britain electric railways, electric and gas companies are giving cheaper rates and more efficient services to people than when owned by private individuals or companies. As to scandals which sometimes mar the management and efficiency of public institutions, this condition of affairs will be found in every business or commercial enterprise. Where is the private business conducted in this or any other country that has not had to contend with matters of the kind? When they occurred the owners or managers did not wind them up; they simply put their house in order again, corrected the abuses, and established them upon a firmer basis. There is one feature connected with the public institution which does not apply to the private, and that is it lives every day in the lime light of publicity; the searchlight of public opinion is always focussed upon it, and the whip of public opinion and criticism is always spurring it on to greater efficiency, and these are the factors which make for more capable management than the private owned institution. If a person be not treated properly, or if any wrong doing occurs, public opinion voices itself in the press, and in a hundred other ways, which compel the rectification of the wrong and more efficient management.

Perhaps we would not now be seriously considering this Bill were it not for certain factors instrumental in bringing it about. First, I refer to the movement inaugurated some four years ago by a member of this House, the Hon. Mr. Harvey. I am sure he must feel pleased to see the result of the work of the organization of which
he has been the pioneer crowned with so much success. He deserves well at the hands of the country. None worked more assiduously and untiringly to educate the people as to the danger of consumption. Few can at present estimate at its full value the work done; it will only be properly appreciated in the years to come, and my only regret is that we have too few of his type of public-spirited citizens. Second, the sympathetic policy which the present Government has pursued in relation to public health, the sums of money voted for schools, and for the necessitous and poor of the country; and third the princely generosity of Mr. W. D. Reid, his brothers and the Reid Newfoundland Company in making a gift to the Colony of $100,000 for the building of hospitals and sanitarium in which those afflicted with tuberculosis can receive medical and other aid. Too much cannot be said in favor of the generous donors; they deserve the thanks of this country for their interest in the welfare of the people. I have no hesitation as a member of this House and as a citizen of this country in accepting this gift, and regret very much that others, whose wealth permit them, are not doing similar noble work. Men have come to and gone from this country who amassed fortunes out of the people’s toil and left nothing after them to show that they ever lived here, but instead utilized the wealth made for the benefit of other lands. With the exception of the Messrs. Bowrings’ gift we have nothing to point to by way of an institution or a benefaction of any kind from the hands of the hundreds who made Newfoundland and her people the stepping stone to amassing fortunes. Shall this House, because others want to make political capital out of the munificence of the Messrs. Reids, be a party to it? Shall we withhold for reasons of political party expediency a boon to those who are suffering from this dread disease? We would be committing a grievous wrong and an act of the greatest injustice if we did. Would to God that we had more of the class of the Messrs. Reids in Newfoundland—men who apparently recognize that wealth acquired is not to be used solely for the luxury and personal comfort of the individual, but rather for the benefit and advantage of the community in which they live—merely in trust, so to speak, to be applied in works of philanthropy and charity. Principles of the kind, if lived up to, and acted upon by the wealthy, would dry the tears of the sufferer and alleviate the wants and misery of toiling millions. The pagan of old regarded pity for his fellowman as a sign of weakness, and therefore should not find expression either in thought or action. Apparently there are some who are still imbued with this principle of paganism. Nations have risen to greatness in the past, founding civilizations which in some respects have excelled our own. In architecture, poetry, and other acquirements the ancients surpassed us, but there is one thing that they did not possess, of which they had no knowledge, and that was compassion for the suffering and distressed, in other words “charity.” Christian civilization implanted in the hearts of its followers that one of the noblest acts is to give your goods to the poor and alleviate suffering. This is a part of “the Sermon on the Mount,” and because of it we see in every land its citizens giving freely of their wealth for the benefit of their fellowmen. We are here to make this world so to speak better than we found it, to use our wealth and our talents for the uplifting of the human race, and he who does not do so, is a very poor type of citizen indeed. It is only within recent years,
through the agency of Association for the Prevention of Consumption that the ravages of this disease have been brought to our notice. When a member of a family becomes afflicted with it, the question of prevention then arises, there is no longer a sick individual, but a sick family; because, like any other infectious disease unless isolated, it spreads to other members of the family. Consequently, in order to prevent its spread we must remove the patient. It is all very well to say isolate the patient in his own home, but let me seriously ask the question: "In how many homes, in this city or in this country, of those afflicted with Consumption can this isolation take place?" I doubt if it exceeds ten per cent. That being the case, removal must take place. Take this city for instance. The majority of the homes that are to-day afflicted with Consumption contain in some instances eight and nine of a family, who live in a three room house. How is it possible for isolation to take place under such conditions? How is it possible for them to be successfully treated in their home? Why, it is absurd to think they can. There must be some place to which to bring the patients, where they can receive proper care and treatment. That suggests the sanitarium. Then we not alone have a sick individual, but, we have a tubercular household in addition, and in order that it may be properly disinfected the whole family must be removed; consequently we must have some place to put the members of the family while such disinfecting and cleansing is going on. Suppose, for argument sake, that the consumptive is in a home of the kind I have referred to. The principal treatment consists of nutritious food and fresh air. In the first place the city, and more especially the back lanes, is not the place in which to breathe fresh air; and second, being one of a family, a patient's desire is to share the food given to stay the ravages of the disease with the other members. Consequently in a very short time the whole family becomes afflicted. It is only in the sanitarium we can enforce the regulations which science lays down as necessary to combat consumption—diet, exercise and rest.

It may be said that Denmark leads the world in its treatment of this disease, and in the small percentage of people who are afflicted with Consumption. In 1876 out of a total population of 216,000 there were 653 deaths from Consumption or 3.02 of the population. In 1906 out of a population of 432,000 there were 660 deaths or 1.53 of the population. How was this reduction brought about? By the publishing of instructive pamphlets, lectures, special lectures to children and the erection of sanitariums. On the initiative of Professor Carl Lorentzen and Mr. Holger Rordam, Navy Surgeon and Member of the Lower House of the Danish Parliament, a Danish National Association for the combating of Tuberculosis was founded on the 16th day of January, 1901, an Association which has been most successful in its endeavours. It has about 30,000 members, contributing about 100,000 krooner (about $250,000) in yearly subscriptions, besides which it has received several large contributions, gifts and bequests. Great efforts for combating tuberculosis have, moreover, been made by the National Association by the publishing of instructive lectures, lately by special lectures for school children, and especially by the erection of sanitariums for the necessitous.

At present the National Association maintains five consumption sanitariums for the necessitous with accommodation for about 500 patients, besides having contributed toward the erec-
tion of other sanitaria in out-of-the-way islands, such as Borholm and the Faroe Islands.

Finally, the National Association maintains a tuberculosis station (dispensary) in Copenhagen.

The Danish co-operative Sanatorium Society was founded in 1904 with the object of building and maintaining one of several sanitaria where members suffering from Consumption might be treated and nursed as cheaply as possible. The Society has built two sanitaria with accommodation for 250 patients in all.

The Society Copenhagen and Environs Children's sanitarium was founded in 1889 with the object of providing gratis treatment for poor, ailing, especially scrofulous children. The Society has built a sanitarium.

The sanitaria of the National Association.

Silkeborg Sanitarium. Silkeborg is the largest sanitarium of Denmark, having room for 173 patients.

Ry. Sanitarium was built in the year 1903 having room for 38 patients.

Hasley Sanitarium has room for 24 patients.

Nakkebolle Sanitarium, on the Nakkebole Flord was built 1907-08, having room for 22 patients.

The "Christmas Stamp" Sanitarium—On October 26th, 1904, a Committee was formed with the object of building an hospital for tubercular children, and to raise the necessary funds by issuing a stamp bearing the King's portrait. It was to be sold at a price of 2 ore and affixed to letters, especially at Christmas time. The first year six million stamps were issued, 5½ millions of which were sold, fetching a sum of 75,000 kr., and the committee continuing the issue of the Christmas stamp a similar sum has been collected each succeeding year. After the necessary sum had been raised—partly by the help of a Government grant—the Committee resolved to build a sanitarium of 121 beds for tubercular children, and a very fine and beautiful site on Kolding Flord was bought. When the sanitarium which is at present in course of erection, is finished, it will be managed by the National Association for the combating of Tuberculosis.

In 1904 the Sanitarium Society was founded with the object of building and maintaining one of several sanitaria. Two were built with accommodation for 250 patients. There are seaside hospitals where children under 15 are admitted. There are seaside sanitariums where children under 15, are admitted. They have public sanitaria where patients in the early stages of Consumption are admitted, tuberculosis hospitals, in which none are admitted but patients suffering from an advanced stage of Consumption; Convalescent Homes, for people unable to perform their usual work; they have nursing homes under medical inspection for persons who are able to do certain classes of work. The National Art Association maintain five sanitarium, there are private sanitaria, ten in number; there is a large co-operative sanitarium and 12 tuberculosis hospitals. There were upwards of 15 hospitals and public sanitariums in 1908, capable of accommodating 1,000 patients; the private capable of accommodating 260, and children's seaside sanitariums capable of accommodating 500. Thus we see that in the country where the greatest progress has been made in combating this wretched disease, sanitaria have played a most important part.

We come from Europe to the Ar-
gentine Republic, and we find that the campaign against Consumption commenced there in 1892, and similar measures were adopted to those already referred to in Denmark, similar means of educating the people with regard to consumption. Every box of matches sold contained literature treating on consumption. Various places throughout the city were placarded with engravings showing the disease in its various stages; Municipal regulations were rigidly enforced; infant and milk dispensaries were opened up, in fact it was in the Argentine Republic that infant and milk dispensaries originated.

Private parties gave large gifts of land for erection of houses, (there were no objections raised to accepting gifts of this character, even though the land was very valuable): houses and sanitariums were built, parks, gymnasiums and baths were multiplied; enforcement of health conditions; the working day was reduced; wages were raised; women and girls living in tenements were educated in the scientific preparation of food. Canada has also adopted similar measures. The National Sanitarium Association of Canada. This Association the first to be formed in Canada, was established in 1896, and began its work with the opening of the Muskoka Cottage Sanitarium at Gravenhurst, made possible by the gifts of Mr. W. J. Gage and the late Hart A. Massey, Esq., the town of Gravenhurst giving $10,000 to have the sanitariums located near it. In 1902 the Association opened the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives.

The Manitoba Sanitarium Consumptives. A board of trustees has been incorporated by the legislature for the erection and maintenance of a sanitarium for the province. The municipalities have been given power to make contributions out of municipal funds for, the support of this institution.

List of special hospitals and sanitariums in Canada:

Ontario—Muskoka Cottage Sanitarium Gravenhurst, 85 beds. For incipient cases.

King Edward Sanitarium for Consumptives, Weston. A hospital for advanced cases, 25 beds. Dr. W. J. Dobbie, Physician-in-charge to both institutions.

Nova Scotia—Provincial Sanitarium, Kentville; 25 beds for residents of the province. Patients pay $5 weekly.

Sums totalling $50,000 have been voted by the Legislature to the British Columbia-Anti-Tuberculosis Association to aid in erection of their sanitarium for incipient cases and hospital for hospital cases.

Manitoba—A charter has been granted to a Board of Trustees to establish a sanitarium for the Province. It is to be under provincial control and will receive aid from the Legislature, and municipalities are empowered to contribute out of the municipal funds for building and maintenance.

Ontario—The Province of Ontario has enacted special legislation to assist in the erection of sanitariums, granting one-fifth of the cost of a sanitarium erected by any municipality or recognized association. In 1906 the Legislature voted $15,000 to the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives.

Quebec—(Reported by Dr. Elzear Pelletier, Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health). In January, 1895, the Legislature set apart 400 acres in Trembling Mountain Park for
Sanitarium purposes, but nothing has been done to supplement this. In June, 1905, the Province granted 137 acres on Lake Edward to the Quebec League for sanitarium purposes.

New Brunswick—The New Brunswick Medical Society and representative business men have met the Government, and asked for the establishment of a Provincial Board of Health and have made similar recommendations. The Government has promised to consider this at the next session of the Legislature.

Nova Scotia—There is a provincial sanitarium of 25 beds, initial cost, $20,000; annual grant, $9,000. The province does not intend to provide beds for all, but has undertaken this work rather for its educational value.

Special Hospitals and Sanitariums
One municipality has built a special Hospital or Sanitarium for the care of its tuberculous poor. Hamilton and Ottawa assisted their local association in building and assisting in maintaining patients at the Sanitarium or Hospital. Toronto voted $50,000 for a municipal sanitarium, but has not built, but instead has given the amount to the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives, and to the Toronto Free Hospital for Consumptives, on their undertaking to care for all city patients, the city paying the usual per diem allowance.

The National Sanitarium Association, with offices at Toronto, organized in 1896 to build and maintain special institutions for care of pulmonary invalids. Its two sanitaria accept patients from all parts of Canada but the Association has no organization outside the Province of Ontario.

National Sanitarium Association of Canada. Organized 1896. Under the patronage of their Majesties, King Edward VII. and Queen Alexandra; His Excellency Earl Grey, Hon. President; Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal; President; W. J. Gage, Esq., Chairman of the Executive Committee; J. S. Robertson, Secretary.

Thus we see what is being done elsewhere and the experience of other countries has been utilized in the preparation of this Bill.

If a man be a pauper or a lunatic, every effort is made by the State to protect and care for him; all the resources of the State are employed in making his life as happy as possible and very justly so. In a few days this House will be called upon to concur in the voting of a large sum of money to erect a modern Insane Asylum, and if the hon. member will be consistent when this vote comes before us, he will criticise and find fault with it; but I know he will not. If a working man, upon whose life the welfare of his family depends, contracts consumption, the State in the past took no notice of him, and cared less. Why then should different treatment be meted out to the pauper who, in some cases is the sole cause of his poverty, than to the working man whose life is jeopardized and his family's future as well. Why should not the State use every effort to protect the life of the bread winner, which is not alone of value to his family but to the country as well? We vote annually large sums of money for the maintenance of lighthouses in order to protect the fishermen and mariner from the dangers which usually beset their calling, but in the past we entirely lost sight of the fact that upwards of 1,000 annually die of Consumption, a number greater than the sea around our coasts will claim as its victim for very, very many years
to come. Of the 1,000 deaths annually at least 500 are males. What does this represent to the Colony? Calculating it from the standpoint of their earning capacity, at least $150,000 annually. The earning powers of the females is worth at least half this sum, $75,000. Then during the year we have another 1,000 who are waiting for the silence of the tomb, a burden to themselves and a heavy charge upon their relatives. Their earning power is equal to another $150,000. Thus, we have an annual loss of at least $375,000, and in this calculation I have not taken into account a still more serious aspect, and that is, the diminution in population.

It is asserted by competent authorities that if consumption were obliterated it would lengthen the period of life 2½ years. Let us therefore assume that the earning power per head of our people is about $80.00 per annum this would be equal to $200.00, for 2½ years with a population of 240,000 this would amount to $48,000,000—more than sufficient to pay the public debt, build railways and provide for various other public improvements. We did not in the past fully appreciate the awful toll exacted by this disease, and even to day, notwithstanding the campaign of education which has been going on for the past four years, one fails to grasp the awfulness of the situation. In order to bring it more forcibly before this House I will take the settlement of Petty Harbor, which has a population of about 1,000 persons. Suppose that by this time next year every man, woman and child now living there be dead, and that instead of pulsating as it is to-day with the energies and activities of its people, at this date next year it be a settlement of the dead. A shudder would pass through us, and we would stand appalled at the awfulness of the calamity. Would we not call in the aid of medical science? Would not the state pour out its treasures to find the cause and to prevent a recurrence? Well, that is what is and has been happening in Newfoundland for years. "Strong language," you may say; startling, if you like, but I challenge refutation. The deaths taking place in every portion of the island do not bring home to us so vividly—the awfulness of the toll. This, then, Mr. President, is a time when all should unite; the voice of criticism and opposition should be stilled in the common cause of suffering humanity. Let us do our share in restoring the bloom of health to those who are afflicted, and save the present and future generations of the country from the awful consequences of ignorance and indifference in the past by passing this bill.

HON. MR. RYAN—At this late hour I am not going to take up much of the time of the House. I do not think we have heard in this House or outside of it any objection to help our fellow man. I think we are all as one in trying to stamp out this disease, consumption, which has been ravaging our people, especially during the last quarter of a century. Before that very little was heard of it. I do not think there were 50 cases 60 years ago, but in the early sixties, when American cooking stoves were first introduced here, I believe was the time when Consumption first showed itself to any extent, owing to the ventilation of the living rooms being entirely shut off. From the papers and what I have heard in the other Chamber and here, I have not
heard one person say one adverse word against this measure, and I think he would be a very foolish person who would speak against it. I must say that if the last speaker had spoken of the good work of the A.P.C. introduced by Mr. Harvey it would have suited the occasion better, but in the remarks of Hon. Mr. Knowling I do not think he said one word against this measure. I would be very sorry if I heard him do so. I do not think it would be wise. It was the means for putting it into effect that he objected to. We know that if public contractors, who have charge of railway facilities, give favors to the Government, the latter cannot treat those contractors in the same way as if independent of them. I think we have seen it this winter. It was said of Messrs. Reid that they should have kept the railway open all winter. I think it was impossible, but some say that things could be better than they are, especially in the carrying of mails. I do not know if they have the control of the carrying of the mails. I remember when we had only two mails a week in Conception Bay when there was no railway, and the winters were as severe as this, more frost and as much snow but the mails were carried all the same. If horses failed dog sleds were found to take their place. It is said now they have no dogs in Conception Bay, but I think if any hon. gentleman were to go to Harbor Grace he would see many dogs and sleds there still. I do not say that Messrs. Reid should do impossibilities. I know they are spending a lot of money in trying to clear the line, and after spending it their work has gone for naught, because the trenches have been filled in the following day. And worse than that when it freezes after a mild spurt, ice forms on the rails and the condition of the line is worse than before. This money which they have so generously donated could be put, I think, to better effect for the country. I do think if we build seventeen sanatoria here it will scare away many who visit us. It would be better if some of these visitors would never come, and I hope if these hospitals are put up here we will not have some of these people visiting us. But there are many desirable people who come here and I hope they will not be scared away. They are an advantage to the country, and I fear it will have a bad effect if they find that this is a nest of consumption, and that we have more Consumptive hospitals here than in the United States. I have no doubt that Messrs. Reid were right in their minds in offering those sanatoria, but I would prefer personally to see only one in Conception Bay, and in the larger districts perhaps more. I fear it will be a mistake to have five in Conception Bay. At all events after all the arguments I fail to see that one word has been spoken against the cause, because I think it would be a very bad principle if we refused to take the money. The only thing I fear is that it will not have the effect I could wish. I must support the amendment offered by Hon. Mr. Knowling.

HON. MR. HARVEY—The hour is late and I have already had my innings on this Bill, in connection with the Anti-Spitting Bill, but I feel that it would be ungracious of me if I did not rise to acknowledge what has been said personally of me. I confess I am very often covered with confusion at the very great amount of praise I have got for the work that has been done during the past few years. It is true I happen to be President of the A.P.C. and my name is
prominent with the movement, but I have had such wonderful sympathy and support from other people whose names have never appeared that I am often, I say, covered with confusion, and should like to hear my own name less frequently. There has been some discussion as to whether one Government has supported the movement more than another. I can only say that both Governments that have been in power since the A.P.C. was started have shown the utmost sympathy and help whenever they could. Sir Robert Bond's late Government went out of power very shortly after the A.P.C. began and we only asked one thing of them, the free use of the mails, which was granted without hesitation, and has been a great boon. As to the present Government, it is impossible for me to speak too highly of the support they have given—whether to the A.P.C. or myself personally, or to a policy urged by the Commission it has not mattered, and they have always been anxious to do what we have asked, and there is no question whatever that all Governments since the movement has been in force have been in sympathy with the work. As to the Governors, Sir Wm. MacGregor and our present Governor have given the greatest help; also the newspapers, and Water Street has been always ready to support with money and help, and as I look around this room there is probably not a member who has not been a steady supporter of mine as President of the A.P.C. since the initiation of the movement. Many of them have worked, and all have given funds. I feel, therefore, somewhat shy of accepting the praise, because it ought to be shared by others. In regard to this particular Bill it is impossible for me to do otherwise than very warmly support it. To begin with, the Bill is non-controversial and non-committal. It does not say that the Government are going to take over and operate seventeen sanitariums. Furthermore we have it that no definite policy has yet been decided upon, and the utmost care will be taken before doing so. Under these circumstances, Mr. President, I could not for one moment do otherwise than support the Bill. At the same time I could wish, seeing that this Bill gives enormous power to the Government, that something more definite were before us. I have already said that in order to stamp out consumption the advanced and dangerous cases should be removed, by force, if necessary, and I am glad to see that a member of the Government, Hon. Mr. Gibbs, has argued as strongly in favour of that position as I myself did, and while I appreciate the argument of those who think such a policy cruel and difficult to manage, I think that is false sentiment in the matter. I think that just as small-pox patients are segregated so should consumptives be. Therefore a large part of this programme should be devoted to institutions for advanced cases of consumption and doctors should be appointed, duly qualified and authorized, to remove these cases to the institution in their neighborhood, and so stop the infection of their houses. Hon. Mr. Gibbs has shown us what is going on in St. John's. Many cases will not go to St. George's Hospital when their family, nurses and police tell them to. Some do go there and leave in a day or two and go home and infect their homes again. That is the true cause of the enormous spread of consumption—the lack of control in such advanced cases—and we cannot do so without these institutions. I am very glad to
see in section 7 that the Governor in Council has taken very extreme powers. The section permits the Government to pass almost any rule in order to enforce the law. I do not think that too strong; I am glad to see it so. What I do fear is that the power being fully in the hands of the Governor in Council, this Government and successive ones may be tempted to use that power politically and may affect the proper administration of the anti-tuberculosis campaign. The Hon. Mr. Knowling in a well thought out speech has suggested that the operation of the new campaign should be continued by some organization similar to the A.P.C. or the Commission of Public Health. That is quite out of the question. These bodies are already overburdened, and it is impossible for anybody or any man who is not making a life work of the subject to efficiently administer the campaign on broader lines for the purpose of improving public health. This has got to be done, and the proper way is to have a strong man in charge of the whole thing. My suggestion the other day, and I repeat it now, is that the matter be discussed and the Government ask advice from a body or commission which should be representative. Something of that sort should be done before the Government embark on a very large expenditure. My objections to the generally outlined scheme are those which I have already stated, and the danger of going ahead too fast. I do not intend to take up any further time, but Hon. Mr. Knowling has moved an amendment which has put me in a somewhat awkward position. I would be extremely glad to support that motion if the hon. gentleman will make it an original one. But he has introduced an amendment which substitutes an entirely new idea for everything in this Bill. Under these circumstances as this amendment negatives the Bill I have to vote against it.

HON. MR. McGRATH moved the adjournment of the debate.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP the House adjourned at 7 p.m. until Monday next, March 11th, at 4 p.m.

MONDAY, March 11, 1912.

The Council met at 4 p.m. pursuant to adjournment.
The minutes of the previous sitting were read and confirmed.

TUBERCULOSIS RESOLUTIONS.

On the Order of the Day being called for the Second Reading of the Bill for the Prevention of Tuberculosis—

HON. MR. McGRATH.—The discussion evoked by this measure, Mr. President, has been most exhaustive and altogether educating. In the other Chamber it was debated very fully and here we have had an admirably tempered exposition of the Government's policy from Mr. Bishop, an eloquent and informing address from Mr. Gibbs and an ample review of the whole subject from Mr. Harvey, the President of the A. P. C., while Messrs. Knowling and Ryan, though moving an amendment, have set out phases of it that cannot be overlooked. In discussing, therefore, a matter so thoroughly canvassed, one can scarcely hope to much further enlighten this Chamber or this country; but still there are certain aspects of the matter which seem to me to call for some little attention. Certain axiomatic propositions stand out in relation to Tuberculosis, that few will be found to dispute, and that may be passed over when briefly stated,—

First, that in this Island, as in every other civilized country, the spread of the disease has been so great of recent years as to form a national menace, which proposition will hardly be seriously ques-
tioned, for, however we may differ as to the reliability of our vital statistics, we know the pale horseman whose name is Death has wielded his blade with fatal effect in every hamlet amongst us, cutting down in the bloom of youth or the pride of maturity the fairest flowers in almost every household flock;

Second, that this grave situation compels urgent and vigorous measures to arrest the ravages of this White Plague; which proposition is equally unassailable, for however divergent may be the opinions expressed in this Legislature on the main issue, none has been heard to claim that existing conditions should be permitted to continue unchecked; and

Third, that no problem of this character presents itself nowadays which modern medical science cannot overcome if given the necessary facilities therefor; in other words, that to cope with Consumption or any other disease, however widespread or destructive, is merely a matter of men and money.

Perhaps some might be found to question, at first blush, the truth of this, but he who remembers how the United States has rid Cuba of yellow fever and banished malaria from the fever-infested swamps of the Panama zone; how the planting of eucalyptus trees has transformed the pest-breeding Italian plains into regions unsurpassed for health; how the researches of British physicians in privately-endowed schools of tropical medicine have opened the door of hope for millions in Africa and India and elsewhere; and how far-seeing sanitary legislation has lengthened the term of life in Prussia, will as promptly subscribe to this third proposition, which completes the ground-work of my argument in support of this measure.

These and other tangible proofs of the wonders wrought in environment, for the health of the individual and the community at once justify and inspire our Government to enter upon the task now undertaken. Heretofore the initiative in this direction, the whole world over, has been left to philanthropic effort—and we have seen the Carnegies and the Rockefellers in America, the Strathconas and the Macdonalds in Canada, the Cassells and the Hirschs in Britain, founding colleges and hospitals, endowing Institutes for Cancer and Consumption Research, and sending forth enthusiastic scientists to study the pathologic problems, the solving of which may mean much in lengthening the span of human life and in the enhancement of human comfort.

However, with the wider horizon stimulated in more recent years by nobler ideals as to public duty, enlightened statesmen in every land are venturing into this field of public service and assuming this duty on the public behalf. They have come to recognize that all intelligent observation fortifies the conclusions of up-to-date medical science that disease is the cause, direct or indirect, of vice, crime, insanity, pauperism and defective mentalities—the worst evils of our present-day civilization. Thus it is that Mr. Lloyd George's new National Insurance Bill, which has been described as "the Magna Charta of the British poor," sets aside nearly eight million dollars for a campaign against Tuberculosis in the British Isles, with provision for a further five millions as the scope of the project enlarges; and he defends this policy by declaring that "it is as deep a stain upon the national flag that its folds should wave over slum-bred and half-starved children; over ill-paid, ill-fed, ill-housed working men and women, as if it were to wave our defeat on a stricken field; and the first thing we have got to do is to create a temperate spirit and an atmosphere that will compel men of
all classes and creeds to deal with these questions, which ever party is in power."

Seeing, however, that despite this eminently reasonable appeal to the patriotism and practical prudence of the public men of the Motherland, for united effort to fight against the misery and wretchedness, the disease and desolation that exist in a country wherein, though it is the richest in the world, millions of men and women are compelled to go through life in abject poverty, the enactment of this measure was most strenuously resisted, it would be too much, perhaps, to hope that in a Colony like our own, where party lines are so sharply drawn, unity of action could be secured. I am satisfied, though, that this measure will pass, that the Legislature and the people will realize and do their duty now as hitherto, and that the day will soon arrive when it will be proclaimed as the instrument of our hygienic regeneration in the same way as the Bait Act, which was resisted with similar vehemence, is now regarded as the sheet anchor of our colonial prosperity.

For, be it remembered, Sir, this is a measure which involves our national honor. Just as no man of ordinary humane instincts turns a deaf ear to the pleadings of individual distress, so no Government worthy of the name can disregard the claims of collective suffering. It is the bounden duty of the state to cope with this problem; as it is for more fortunate mortals to provide aid for their less-favored brethren. The adoption of this policy will be another step in the ever-widening march of civilization; another scene in the greatest drama of history—the evolution of the question of the worth of a human life. Statistics were quoted here at the last sitting as to the economic value of a human life—its worth to the state, its bearing as an item in a community's assets.

This phase of the subject has, tho, another and a more intimate aspect, one going deeper than the mere economic situation and dealing not with money, but with real people; not merely with their wealth-producing capacity, but with the worth of their personality. It is the personal quality that makes this social question supreme in human annals, and I might otherwise state it by asking: Where is the man who, when such an affliction befalls him, fails to pray that medical science possessed the curative agencies which would prevent his having to drink the bitter draught that such a visitation represents? It is this aspect of the Anti-Tuberculosis campaign which will most directly appeal to everybody amongst us, and which—since the individual multiplied many times is the community—will earn for the proposed measures its heartiest endorsement.

The subject has, again, its collective aspect as well. In it is seen another phase of the great question of social privilege, of economic injustice and of the age-long struggle for equal rights—in which the embattled hosts of British democracy are now arrayed, giving human interest and vital direction to the working of the legislative instrument, and preventing Parliament from becoming an outgrown husk, lacking life or power.

Whatever phase of social progress we consider, it must be admitted that the history of the rise of the British Democracy, from the first Reform Bill of 1832, which won for them a measure of enfranchisement and for us in Newfoundland Representative Government, has been a record of steady progress in all that makes for national greatness. In every feature of this subject—Poor
Law Reform, Factory Inspection, Release of Debtors, Education Advance, Employers' Liability, Children's Protection—and all the other measures for human uplift the past 80 years, we see evidence of the unending conflict which has been waged to throw off the thraldom of privilege and the dominance of class. "The changes that have come as a result of popular agitation," declares Mr. Gladstone, "have been, viewed in the main, substantially in the direction of thorough and most beneficial progress; the resolute preference of the interests of the whole to any interest, be it what it may of a narrower estate."

The conception of public duty which is now establishing itself more and more firmly, independently of party politics, is that of a great charge entrusted by the people to their rulers; and the belief gains ground that in the administration of this charge the people must themselves manifest their interest. Thus it has come about that if the ordinary British working man no longer says: "God save the squire and his relations, and keep us in our proper stations," the British statesman no longer says of the human derelict flung lifeless and broken on the sands of the sea of eternity by the buffetting billows of adverse fortune—"Rattle his bones over the stones, He's only a pauper that nobody owns"—but supports enthusiastically old-age pensions, unemployment insurances and the other ameliorating agencies now being put into operation for the benefit of what has been known as the "common people." Similarly, Sir, in the struggle for better manners and better laws, in-


telligence comes to the men who otherwise would care only for the full dinner pail; and the toilers of our Island Home will uncomplainingly tax themselves tomorrow even a quarter million dollars, if need be, to provide a new Hospital for the Insane, because the harrowing report of the English expert which we have just been reading over reveals that over the door of what now does justice for such there might most appropriately be inscribed the legend from Dante's Inferno— "All hope abandon, ye who enter here."

It is in this spirit, then, the spirit of the best modern social ideals, that this new departure is entered upon. It is for social amelioration and social education that it is undertaken. I say "education," advisedly, for this is just as obviously an educative work—and just as necessary a one—as is the teaching of reading, writing and arithmetic. This is a policy of patiently and persistently supplanting ignorance and indifference by plain fact and sober truth. At present people do not understand the close relation of health and efficiency; they ignore the economy of preventive measures. Ignorance, dirt and disease are correlated; intelligence, cleanliness and health form equally a logical sequence. This hygienic education, therefore, like scholastic training, is designed to promote the welfare of the individual and of the multitude. Every agency that can be utilized for this purpose should be pressed into service. The foundation and the superstructure of such a policy must be the principle that anything which will promote and maintain the true welfare of the people is always and forever right; and that anything
which by indifference or by lack of concerted effort, permits that welfare to be impaired, will be always and forever wrong.

Surely, then, Mr. President, this is as sacred and momentous a trust as was ever committed to the sons of men—to snatch from early and premature graves, thousands of young lives and to preserve them for careers of usefulness and profit and honor in their native land. Surely, Sir, this is a problem so prodigious and an inspiration so praiseworthy that it must appeal to the noblest incentives which can inspire human endeavour; and equally, Sir, while it pledges to the honest carrying out of this policy, to the hope of achieving the high purpose for which it was designed, it can afford to make allowance for misunderstanding and even for misrepresentation, conscious of the singleness of purpose which impels it to procure for the unprivileged masses a juster share in the communal wealth and the more wide spread establishing of the principles of equality and of justice in the administration of public affairs.

This country never cavils at the voting of money for the spreading of the education that enables men to earn a better livelihood, and I am satisfied that, once awake to the need for such measures, this country will endorse, with equal readiness, the providing of generous amounts for the imparting of the education that will enable our people to enjoy healthier and happier lives. Therefore it is that the decision of the present Government to grapple manfully with this problem of the public health must be considered highly commendable; tho, naturally, it is at the point where the questions arise of how much is to be spent, and in what manner is the outlay to be made, that we find differences of opinion being voiced in this Chamber and in the other House. Such differences of opinion as to finances and machinery are to be expected, and I, personally, think are to be welcomed and, if possible, reconciled. The sum of seventy thousand dollars has been mentioned here; and while I hope that it may be possible to efficiently carry out a comprehensive policy as to public health for a smaller sum, I do not think that we need be dismayed, if, in the course of some years, as the policy gradually develops itself, this outlay is reached, provided that results commensurate with this expenditure are shown to be realized.

Moreover, Sir, if the carrying out of this campaign in the interest of the Public Health is entrusted to the right hands, if an enthusiast is put in charge and the agencies which will necessarily be created are utilized as fully as they may be, it should prove one of the best outlays of public money this Colony has ever seen. For instance, the several sanitariums could be beneficent agencies for many hygienic purposes. The nurses could, by imparting proper knowledge as to the feeding and care of babies, help to reduce materially the infant mortality which now causes a "massacre of the innocents" even more deadly every year than the ravages of tuberculosis itself; the gospel of health could be preached and practised; cases of general disease now neglected could be diagnosed and treated, and these institutions could stand midway between the people in the outports and the hospitals and asylums in this city.

In his speech on Friday, Hon. Mr. Knowling advocated private control, because it would lessen the risk of scandals. But if that views is to ob-
tain, why should we not abolish the whole public service, for the same reason? We have had scandals in all our public institutions—but will he argue these should be transferred to private control? Will he suggest that the care of lunatics be farmed out to private parties because of Sir James Moody's revelations; that the Poor Asylum be abolished because of a Grand Jury's indictment; that the Hospital be shut down because Commissions of inquiry have been needed in the past? No, he will not. Nor can this matter of the public health be delegated to private hands, for it is essentially one that the state should undertake; and because, again, the great publicity which state-ownership implies will be our greatest protection against too low a percentage of efficiency. Moreover, Hon. Mr. Harvey, who brought to the A. P. C. the enthusiasm begotten of the sense of the need for the work he set on foot, has told us that the task is now too great for private endeavour. Therefore the Government must take it up; and must carry it on with the best instruments it can procure. These may be good or otherwise, there will undoubtedly be some enthusiasts found; but there will be drones as well as workers. I have no illusions as to this. While I hold that this policy is the proper policy; nay, more, that it is the only policy, I am not blind enough to suppose that we are going to enlist a ready-made corps of enthusiasts to take up this work. Even private enterprise cannot do that in every case. At the same time, I repeat that we need not be dismayed over the prospect of an ultimate outlay of $70,000 for this service. Why, Sir, we will have voted, with increases announced for this session, fully $100,000 in three years as additions to the education grant, without a murmur. We will have added, in the same period, almost a like sum as increases for the Public Charities votes—for relief of the Poor, additions to Hospitals, Old Age Pensions, etc. Nay, more, may I recall that five years ago the Legislature complacently saddled this Colony with an obligation of $75,000 a year that might have accrued, but, fortunately, did not, because some miled-eyed dreamer from parts unknown, hypnotized certain of our public men into the belief that somewhere in the vast ocean solitudes of the North Atlantic there is a fog-free zone where all the argosies of commerce, "with their gleaming purple sails," can voyage day by day and year by year, undeterred by ice, or mist, or storm, carrying thousands of passengers between the two worlds, to be conveyed across our island from Green Bay to Bonne Bay and thence transferred to ships plying in the Gulf, St. John's to be used when Green Bay was ice-bound. Think of transatlantic voyagers trying to get across this island by train the present winter, and yet some of those who fastened this contingent liability upon our country now question the propriety of our spending a small sum annually to promote the preservation of the Public Health.

My reference to the employment of sanitariums brings me to the last stage of my remarks to-day—some comment upon the princely gift of the Reid brothers. I desire to express, like so many others, a word of recognition of the magnificent generosity which this offer embodied and of appreciation of the humane sentiment which inspired it; coupled with one of regret that a benefaction of this character, along lines which the best thought of the outside world approves as the proper channel through which the liberality
of the wealthy can be dedicated to public service, should have been received in such fashion as it has in some quarters. I perceive no more sinister design against the public rights in the offer in question than there is in the presentation of free passes to members of the Legislature; nor do I consider that the interests of the country, as against the railway contractor, are any more likely to be jeopardized by the acceptance of these sanitariums than they are by public men availing of such free transportation. Although the Reid gift was universally approved when first announced, even by the newspapers opposing the present Administration, yet on his first appearance this session in the other Chamber, the ex-Premier advanced an argument, with the emphasis which his influential position and public career imparted to it, designed to impress upon our people that a grave offence against the constitution has been committed by the Government in agreeing to take over these Sanitariums, because, as he asserts, the offer is contrary to the terms of a statute of Charles II. which forbids the acceptance of gifts by the Crown. An equally distinguished authority, the Premier of to-day, has declared that there is no analogy between the two instances, and that to quote that statute of Charles II. in this connection involves stating that the reign of King Charles II. was one of evil omen for England and for Newfoundland. When Charles I. lost his head on the scaffold in 1649, because he outraged the liberties of the English people, the country passed under the rule of Oliver Cromwell, who for eleven years controlled its destinies, his guiding principle being to give the people not so much what they wanted as what he thought was good for them, so that when he died the inevitable reaction followed, and Charles II. was called to the Throne in 1660 who, in the 25 years that ensued, reduced England to a lower estate in the world's eyes than before or since. To pander to his vices he became a mere vassal of France, by an ignoble compact in 1662; and included in the compact was the whole south coast of Newfoundland, so that he fastened upon this island the incubus of French domination, from which, for more than two centuries, we struggled to free ourselves. In 1676, again, he sold to the West Country venturers, absolute rights over the rest of our seaboard, granting to them a decree to ensure the removal of the entire resident population, which only
the humanity of Sir Richard Berry, the naval officer entrusted with the task prevented being carried into effect. Yet evil though he did in Newfoundland, it was nothing to what he did in the Mother Country, for this is the picture of England under Charles II. which Macaulay, one of the greatest of her historians and essayists, gives:

"Then came those days never to be mentioned without a blush—the days of servitude without loyalty, and sensuality without love; of dwarfish talents and gigantic vices; the paradise of cold hearts and narrow minds; the golden age of the coward, the bigot and the slave. The King, cringing to his rival that he might trample on his people, sank into a viceroy of France, and pocketed, with complacent infamy, her degrading insults and more degrading gold. The caresses of harlots and the jests of buffoons regulated the measures of a government which had just ability enough to persecute. The principles of liberty were the scoff of every grinning courtier, and the Anathema Maranatha of every fawning dean. In every high place, worship was paid to Charles and James—Belial and Moloch; and England propitiated these obscene and cruel idols with the blood of her best and bravest children. Crime succeeded crime, and disgrace to disgrace, till the race accursed of God and man was a second time driven forth, to wander on the face of the earth, and to be a byword and a headshake to the nations. . . . Such was the country which, awaking from its rapturous trance, found itself sold to a foreign despotic Court—defeated on its seas and rivers by a state of far inferior resources—and placed under the rule of panders and buffoons. Our ancestors saw unjust aggression followed by feeble war, and feeble war ending in disgraceful peace. They saw a Dutch fleet riding triumphant in the Thames, the triple alliance broken, the exchequer shut up, the public credit shaken, the armies of England employed, in shameful subordination to France, against a country which seemed to be the last asylum of civil and religious liberty. They saw Ireland discontented and Scotland in rebellion. They saw, meantime, Whitehall swarming with sharers and courtesans. They saw harlot after harlot, and bastard after bastard, not only raised to the highest honors of the peerage, but supplied out of the spoils of the honest, industrious and ruined public creditor, with ample means of supporting their new dignity. The Government became more odious every day. Even in the bosom of that very House of Commons which had been elected by the nation in the ecstasy of its penitence and its hope, an opposition sprang up and became powerful; loyalty which had been proof against all the disasters of the Civil War, which had survived the routs of Naseby and Worcester, which had never flinched from sequestration and exile, which the Protector could never intimidate or seduce, began to fail in this last and hardest trial. The storm had long been gathering, at length it burst with a fury which threatened the whole form of society with dissolution."

Such, Mr. President, is a pen picture of the monarch and the period associated with the Act to prevent the acceptance of gifts by the Crown, passed by a scandalized and almost despairing Parliament to prevent the further debauching of everything the nation had once held sacred—the sacrificing by a licentious monarch of every right and every legality in return for private beneficences. When, therefore, an ex-Premier of this Colony quotes a statute enacted under such
circumstances as a reason why this Colony should decline an offer of sanitariums from the Messrs. Reid, he pays a poor compliment to his country and his countrymen, ignores his century and his time, misreads the whole tendency of modern social progress and heaps undeserved ignominy upon the public men identified with our affairs in the present generation of whom he, himself, is one of the most distinguished.

I do not think it is necessary to labor this point. The difference between the "bribes," miscalled "gifts" to a dissolute sovereign in 1660, and the offer of hospitals to a self-governing colony 250 years later, must be at once evident and to seriously argue that the acceptance of these sanitariums will compromise the Government or the people of this Colony, is to advance a proposition which few right-thinking men can support, and which must only inspire regret that the research which the contention implies and the eloquence which was expended in presenting it, were not enlisted otherwise.

I do not know that I need say more. We agree, I think, as to the gravity of the issue that confronts us, as to the need for action, and as to the certainty that remedial measures can accomplish much—though we may disagree as to the agencies to be employed to bring about the results we hope for. The proposition of the Government is for a comprehensive scheme administered by the state. The amendment is virtually a negation of that, and therefore I cannot support the amendment. I shall vote for the second reading of the bill before the chair, and though the measure may not achieve all we could desire, or that it should deserve, we can neither ignore our obligation nor shirk our duty because of that fact. Rather must we—through our existing Department of Public Charities and our prospective Department of Public Health—in the words of the poet—

"Take up the White Man's burden—

The savage ways of peace—*

Fill full the mouth of famine,
And bid the sickness cease."

HON. MR. JOB—I had not intended speaking to-day on this matter, as I stated my views in replying to the Speech from the Throne, but there are one or two points brought up by Hon. Mr. Knowling in proposing the amendment to which I would like to refer. The first is regarding the effect a vigorous campaign might have upon our exports, if it became known generally that Consumption is prevalent here. I would point out that for many years this subject has been discussed in the papers and in pamphlets, and so far we have seen no evil effect therefrom. I should further point out that the countries to which we export our products, such as Italy, Spain and Brazil, are probably more afflicted with the disease than we are, and the people are not likely to be frightened by any extravagant statements that may be made here within the next few years. Would the hon. member suggest that on account of the chances of anything of the sort occurring we should relax our efforts.

HON. MR. KNOWLING.—Not relax our efforts, but do not shout so loudly.

HON. MR. JOB.—I think the hon. member said that everybody knew of the seriousness of the case. I would say for myself personally, that I had no idea until the figures were brought out by the A.P.C. and even to-day, when we hear well-informed men like the Hon. Mr. Gibbs speaking of settlements like Petty Harbor being wiped out every year, I don't think we fully realize the facts; and I think
that everyone should know that six or seven hundred people, the entire population of a place like Petty Hr. are wiped out every year, and we should be more serious in helping the Government to cope with the disease.

The only other matter I wish to refer to, is the criticism of the Government for accepting the munificent gift of the Reid brothers. What would have been said of them if they had declined it, or in any other way discouraged it? The people of the country would have been up in arms. They do not take the same view of the Reid gift as some politicians whose position is not one that would meet with the approval of the people who cannot find means to fight the disease. It seems to me, Sir, a very poor cause that needs such arguments to bolster it up. However, every man is allowed to have his opinion, and we must take them as they come. I am sure, Sir, that publicity is absolutely necessary, and the more the people of this country understand the danger, the sooner the matter will be dealt with.

HON. MR. ROBINSON—I cannot agree with one statement made by the hon. gentleman opposite—Mr. McGrath—in that very beautiful, well reasoned and very interesting speech he has favored the House with this afternoon, viz:—That the amendment proposed is a negation of the position taken up in the Bill now before us. As a matter of fact, I think the amendment, altho the hon. gentleman (Mr. Knowling) proposing it had no such intention, is rather an affirmation of the position taken up by the Government, for if he will take the trouble to refer to the Report of the Commission of Public Health in the present year, he will find that section one reads—"They beg reference to the two previous interim reports, submitted at the close of 1909 and 1910 respectively, of which this report is a continuation." There is only one translation for that, and that is that this Report endorses an unqualified recommendation "that a trial be made at once to test the practical value of sanitarium treatment here," made in the report of 1909. Further, in the report it is distinctly recommended "that the work of the Signal Hill Hospital be continued and extended," suggesting in paragraph 21 "that a more completely organized body, such as the present Department of Public Health ... should be put in a position to take over the work which the Commission has conducted to its present stage."

In the report for the year '09, section 24, we have a very distinct statement: "The establishment of sanitaria, while at first sight it has more to do with the cure than the Prevention of Consumption, is in reality a very strong factor towards prevention," and in sub-section E, section 38, for this year we are told that tests have been carried out at Signal Hill "with marked success," and we are further told that this body can no longer carry on the work, and they tender their resignation virtually and ask this very government, whom my hon. friend, Mr. Knowling, regrets so much seeing in control of affairs, to take over the direction of this movement. That, Mr. President, is no negation, I take it, but rather an affirmation of the Government's position. It is only saying we do not want the Government to do it in the way provided in the Bill, but in some other way.
There is a great deal being said about the cry being made about the prevalence of Consumption, and the injury which it is doing to the country. I cannot understand that position. The statement that has been made by public men of the Colony, by the Health Commission, and by the press, is the very moderate one, that we have about 1,000, (I think 800 is the number in the Report), deaths from Consumption in this island annually. Ontario, that rich, beautiful healthy province has made actually the same statement. Only a few days ago it was stated by the health authorities there that out of 2,500,000 people there were 10,000 consumptives, and that is exactly the same proportion we speak of here.

HON. MR. HARVEY—One thousand deaths in about 5,000 cases.

HON. MR. ROBINSON.—The hon. member will pardon me, the statement was 10,000 in the province of Ontario. Now, if there is one thing the present Government merit congratulation for, it is the fearless and daring manner in which they have dealt with the question of public health. It is idle for us to close our eyes to the fact that public institutions in this Colony for the health of the people were for many years in a very unsatisfactory state, and I regret to see that some of them are so today. But what do we find? We find that since the present Government came in power the General Hospital has been thoroughly reorganized—I am not saying one word against the work of those in charge before. But what could they do when they were not given the facilities and appliances necessary owing to a rigid economy practised at the expense of the health of the people? The present Government made new arrangements, placed another man in charge and allowed him a free hand. Rigid economists may say that this is a mistake, but I say “No.” We cannot reorganize and put public institutions on a sound and beneficial basis unless we give those directly responsible a free hand to a certain extent. I say, moreover, that if a free hand was given in the Lunatic Asylum three years ago we should not to-day be faced with that horrible report of Sir James Moody. The St. John’s Hospital to-day is a building of which we may well be proud. We have been told by people who came here from other lands and by medical men that it can now hold its own with many such institutions on this or the other side of the water. The small expenditure on that Hospital is more than counterbalanced every year by the direct saving to the people. And in this connection when the head of that hospital is lying on a sick bed, some of us in the Legislature should take the opportunity of expressing our appreciation of Dr. Keegan’s great devotion to the public service, a devotion which has almost cost him his life.

Take the Asylum. Thirteen years ago it was the privilege of the Government of the day to make the first improvement in the Lunatic Asylum, and the only redeeming feature in that report is the reference to the new wings built by the Winter Government. From that day to this things have been allowed to run on until the present Government stepped in and brought out Sir James Moody. As a result improvements will now take place. Do I blame the man in charge? No, Sir, because I know he was crippled, handicapped, and during his tenure of office has not had
the opportunity of making the necessary improvements. The Hospital is on a satisfactory basis and so will the Asylum be in due course. I have one complaint to make and that I made last year, and so long as it is unremedied will continue to make, and more strongly if not remedied, that we still have that abominable institution which we call the Poor House, in the country. We are told that the building now known as the Asylum is to be reconstructed and made into a Poor House. This is a boon to a certain extent, but I should like to see an entirely new building put up as a home for the aged poor. But the Government cannot do everything.

Now we come to a matter which has caused very general regret, throughout the Colony, and that is the attacks that have been made in connection with the Reid gift. I am not saying that the hon. member opposite (Hon. Mr. Knowling) made any personal attack. He praised the givers but spurned the gifts. We were told, however, by another hon. gentleman opposite (Hon. Mr. Ryan) something that can only be translated into one thing, that the gift was virtually a bribe, because "if men give favors they expect to receive them," and when challenged, he said "we have seen it this winter." That, Sir, to my mind, is a naked charge of deliberate corruption. It speaks volumes for Messrs. Reid that in spite of the attacks made in the press and elsewhere, they submit quietly to such insinuations, and have not withdrawn from the position they have outlined. Here is the letter sent by the Company. We find in the first place a very nicely worded letter, nothing arrogant, nothing in the nature of self-praise, pride or any unrighteous spirit of that character.

Mr. W. D. Reid says, "we are very desirous of being permitted to help in this great and necessary work." A private gentleman (who is President of the Company, it is true), offers $50,000 for one institution in St. John's, his two brothers and the Company offer $50,000 for institutions outside, and they close by saying when the work is done, the hospitals built and fully equipped, they will be handed over "unconditionally to the Government for management and control." Mr. President, this is not a gift to the Crown for the purposes of the Crown. In other words, it is not a gift such as the hon. gentleman opposite (Hon. Mr. McGrath) referred to in his quotation about the statute of Charles II. The Act to which he referred was passed entirely to prevent Charles II. from putting money into his own pocket by forcing benevolences from people and bribes from the French. This, I say, is not the presentation of a gift to the Crown for the purposes of the reigning monarch, nor to the Government, but a gift to the people of this Island, and Sir, we must not forget that there is only one recognized authority in this Island, and that is the Government, whose duty it is to act as the trustees, the servants, of the people. The Government has nothing to do with this personally. The members of this Chamber have, as they are here for many years, but the Governments come and go. Mr. President, may I ask why should a public man, a citizen of this island for a quarter of a century, be penalized, prevented from exercising the glorious privileges of charity, because he is identified directly with certain contractual obligations? During the last seven years in Great Britain, there were nearly $120,000,000 given by the
wealthy people of Britain for purposes of charity. We so rarely hear of that sort of thing in this country that we are almost staggered at this offer of money for charitable purposes—$100,000 from the Reids, $50,000 from the Bowrings, thousands from others for this and that. We marvel at it, and yet Britain receives $120,000,000. And when we have this munificent gift made us, there are those amongst us who actually desire its refusal. If the hon. member opposite who introduced this amendment objects to the cost of the maintainence of the institutions as they are outlined in the Bill, let me tell him that if the recommendations of the Board of Health were carried out, it would cost a great deal more. Hon. Mr. Harvey may totally disagree with me, but if he goes through them carefully he will find it so. For instance, there is one thing, compulsory education, which I do not think the hon. gentleman has taken into consideration.

HON. MR. HARVEY—In St. John's only.

HON. MR. ROBINSON—Well even there, if you have compulsory education, you must have it free—the two are inseparable—and that involves a very larger additional expenditure. If you take their recommendations and calculate the cost of them, you will find the cost almost as great, if not greater, than the problematic cost of the policy in the Bill before the House.

I agree with the hon. gentleman opposite that there is a little too much talking about consumption. I am not afraid of the 1,000. I am not afraid of the outside effect, but I am afraid of the effect it is going to have upon some of the people themselves who reside in the country. The President of the A.P.C. whose work we all admire, and who has had many encomiums for it, will not, I am sure, resent a little criticism. He has told us that he favors compulsory segregation, or the forcible removal of consumptives.

HON. MR. HARVEY—In dangerous cases.

HON. MR. ROBINSON—All cases are dangerous. It is difficult to know what he means by dangerous. To individuals or to the environment? May I instance an actual case. A mother dies of consumption. Her five children are all living though the youngest is now nearly 50. The father dies after a long and healthy life. There has never been a sign of consumption since the death forty years ago in that family. There was no extraordinary care taken, simply ordinary care, the ministrations of love. Imagine the broken-hearted father being told that his wife must be taken away and placed in some hospital. Imagine the almost motherless children with their mother taken away. Why should these people be punished? Consumption is not smallpox, it is not contagious, the highly infectious, if not properly treated, and we are to give the power to snatch the mother away from her children? Our people are not inhuman and do not want their loved ones snatched away from them. Parents would no doubt voluntarily go into sanitariums if called upon in the interest of their loved ones. I say, Sir, there are many cases of consumption which are far better treated at home than they can possibly be in a sanitarium or hospital, and I admit that there are many cases that can be better treated in a sanitarium than at home. What is needed is to educate the people, and that is the work that the Association
for the Prevention of Consumption is doing. Give them to understand not that consumption is a leprosy, not that it is a loathsome disease, but that it is a disease that requires the most careful handling; that it is not the horrible monster that many of our people believe it to be, and that in many cases it can be dealt with in the home every whit as effectually as by segregation. Our people can very easily be stampeded, and if you make them believe that it is a leprosy that we are surrounded with, the result will be unhappiness in our homes and greater ill-health amongst our people, because, as a great many medical men will tell you, the greatest factor in disease is fear. I shall certainly support the bill as it stands. I don't believe for a moment that we are going to have seventeen sanitoria, with seventeen staffs and all that sort of thing, in one year. I believe that the progress will be gradual, and that the expenditure will be in accordance with the requirements of the country from time to time. I believe that this thing will be wisely carried out by the present Government; if in the course of years any other Government succeeds this—and the hon. gentleman opposite (Hon. Mr. Knowling) gets back into the Executive, I believe that it will be wisely carried out by that Government. I believe that this is a question which is far beyond party politics—a question which so involves the health and well-being of the people of this country that it can be safely entrusted to the hands of the servants whom they elect.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—Mr. President—

HON. the PRESIDENT—I would call the hon. gentleman's attention to rule 7.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—I am aware of that rule, but thought you would extend me the courtesy of allowing me to explain one or two ideas that seem to have entered into this debate, and that I think are due to misunderstanding. But, of course, if you call my attention to the rule, it is the first time I have seen it insisted upon.

HON. MR. BISHOP—If there is any explanation which the hon. gentleman would like to make I would suggest he wait till we go into Committee on this Bill to-morrow.

HON. the PRESIDENT—if the hon. gentleman wishes to make an explanation he may proceed, but I don’t think the same ground should be gone over again.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—It is not an explanation.

HON. the PRESIDENT—I do not wish the Hon. gentleman to think that I am interpreting the rule too rigidly—so far as I can see no option is left me except to enforce it. It reads—“No Member is to speak twice to any bill at any one time of reading it.”

HON. MR. KNOWLING—I would not suppose that for a moment.

HON. the PRESIDENT—It has been moved that the Bill be read a second time, to which amendment has been made by Hon. Mr. Knowling, which I would ask the clerk to read.

Amendment put and lost on vote of 2 against 10.

Bill put and carried on a vote of 10 against 2.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop it was ordered that the Bill be referred to Committee of the Whole House on to-morrow.

PROMISCUOUS SPITTING BILL

On motion of Hon. Mr. Harvey the Bill entitled “An Act to Prevent Promiscuous Spitting” was read a
third time, and it was ordered that it be engrossed and sent to the Assembly with a message asking the concurrence of that body in its provisions.

HARBOR MASTERS BILL.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the Harbor Masters and Harbor Regulation Bill was read a third time, and it was ordered that it be engrossed and returned to the Assembly with a message that this House had passed the same without amendment.

BOILER INSPECTION BILL.

Committee of the Whole on Boiler Inspection Bill.

HON. MR. GIBBS.—I beg leave to move the House into Committee of the Whole on this Bill.

HON. PRESIDENT left the Chair.

HON. MR. AYRE took the Chair of the Committee.

HON. MR. GIBBS—Mr. Chairman, when this Bill was before the House the last sitting it was deferred in order that the House might satisfy itself in relation to the Bill. Certain suggestions were made and information required with regard to the section. I may say that one of the objects of the section is, as already explained to the House, to prevent any boiler being used before inspection, and also, of course, to prevent persons who may have purchased second-hand boilers from using them before an inspection takes place by the proper officer. I think that is a very desirable law and a very proper law to have on the statute book. There is no provision now to prevent this from happening, and the object of this section is to prevent boilers from being used by industrial works without the proper officer inspecting them and a certificate being given. If there is any information which hon. gentle-

men require I will be very pleased to furnish the same.

HON. MR. HARVEY—Mr. Chairman, I take it that if a person applies for inspection within the time named, and the inspection is not proceeded with, that boiler can be used.

HON. MR. GIBBS—In that case no action would be taken, because if a person made application within the time named by law for the inspection of a boiler or boilers and that inspection does not take place before the expiry of the certificate, then, of course, the party could use the boilers upon the old certificate without being subject to any penalty.

The Committee rose and reported having passed the Bill without amendment, and it was ordered that this report be received and that the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

On motion the House then adjourned until to-morrow, Tuesday, March 12th, at 4.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, March 12, 1912.

The House met at 4.30 p.m. pursuant to adjournment.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

BOILER INSPECTION BILL.

The Inspection of Boilers Bill was read a third time and ordered to be sent to the Assembly with a message that the Council had passed the same without amendment.

TUBERCULOSIS BILL.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the House went into Committee on the Tuberculosis Bill.

HON. MR. HARVEY.—I would ask leave to say a word or two about some matters referred to here yesterday although, perhaps they are not relevant to the subject. First, to the remarks of Hon. Mr. McGrath, who
referred amongst other things, to the "Fog Free Zone" and rather cast ridicule on the idea of there being such a thing. I must take issue with him on that point. I am not advocating the possibility of the scheme, but I believe in the existence of a Fog Free Zone; and in regard to the expenditure of $75,000 for a service as was proposed; if that service had come into being there is no question but that the expenditure would have been justified. This is a small matter, but as to its having any bearing on the case, I was unable to gather from Mr. McGrath's remarks in his particular argument in connection with the Fog Free Zone. Secondly, I would like to refer shortly to one or two things said by Hon. Mr. Robinson. He referred to the program of the Commission, stating he thought its cost would be greater, perhaps, than the cost of this Sanitarium campaign. I think the hon. gentleman is wrong about that. The question of Compulsory Education, which was especially referred to, was recommended by the Commission for St. John's, only, not so much on account of its educational value, though that would be considerable, but because they thought it would have a great effect on poor families. We continually hear of cases of families in a poor way whose children do not go to school, and the reason why is in almost every case given as this, that the clothes and boots of the children are not good enough, to enable the child to go to school. The Commission of Public Health thought that one reason why they were not properly clothed was that there was no need to clothe them, no pressure on the parents which would necessitate the children being decently clad, but if there was some force applied, they would very speedily improve, not only the children, but their houses. Hon. Mr. Robinson also referred to the matter of segregation, and I almost hesitate, after what he has told us, to refer to this matter; but at the same time I am anxious to have the members of this House feel as I do upon this matter. Compulsory segregation, in my estimation, would not affect such a case as he brought forward. The object of compulsory segregation is that the Medical Health Officer, finding it necessary according to his judgment, should remove certain cases, not that every case showing active tuberculosis should be removed, but merely those cases which, in his opinion, threaten to be a menace to the health of the family, and I am going to read a short extract bearing on this. This extract is from Dr. Phillips, who is well known as the great Consumption doctor of Edinburgh. He refers here to sanitariums, saying:—

"There can be no manner of doubt that the far-advanced or dying cases constitute the greatest source of infection. This is most specially true in the case of those affected by the disease resident in the contracted dwellings of the poor, where perhaps an entire family shares a room with the consumptive patient. All such patients require immediate removal to a hospital reserved for advanced and dying cases of consumption."

I think nearly everybody in this House is of that opinion also. I objected to putting all our eggs, so to speak, in one basket. I think sanitariums are all right in their place, but they are not the whole show. Dr. Phillips also says: "In not a few instances the conception of founding sanitariums has bulked too largely in antituberculosis movements. The public have been led to expect too much from sanitarium regime, in respect both of individual cures and of the extinction of the disease. As the results of sanitarium treatment accumulate, and as these are found less uniformly good than the hopefulness of the
over-sanguine had expected, there be-
gins to be manifested a feeling of dis-
appointment and almost of annoy-
ance.” Dr Phillips in no way condemns
but strongly condones, sanitaria treat-
ment, but he thinks that it should not
be dealt in to the exclusion of other
methods. Then he gives some ex-
amples such as we have had many of
in St. John’s, when he says: “It was
with a view to the reception of such
advanced patients, whose surround-
ings and hygienic conditions are pre-
judicial. not only to themselves, but to
all who are brought into close con-
tact with them, that in the Health Lec-
ture referred to (1889), I proposed
that a portion of our city hospital
should be devoted to the reception
of dying cases of consumption. Such
cases cannot, of course, in any num-
ber, be received into the Royal In-
firmary. Nor is it desirable that they
should. But I desire to-night to
rouse the citizens to the respon-
sibility they assume in permitting
such chronic sources of infection to
shoulder in their midst under condi-
tions which are undoubtedly most calcu-
lated to fatal propagation.” That is
the opinion of Dr. Phillips. I have
read previously the opinion of Dr.
Newsholme, who is the great English
specialist on the treatment of this dis-
ease. These are the Scotch and the
English views. I will also take the
American view and refer to that short-
ly. This is the declaration of physi-
cians regarding the treatment of tuber-
culosis in the city of New York,
taken from a circular of instructions
from the N. Y. Board of Health:
“When the nurse finds that the pati-
ent cannot receive proper care, food
or medical attention at his home, or
when, either wilfully or otherwise, the
patient constitutes a danger or men-
ace to those about him the case is
referred to the Department of Char-
ties, with the recommendation that he
be sent to the Metropolitan Hospital
for Tuberculosis on Blackwell’s Is-
land, or to Seton Hospital, where the
city maintains a number of free beds.
When such a case refuses to go to
a hospital, the patient may be forcibly
removed or may be referred to a char-
itable organization for assistance, in
the shape of food, fuel or medical at-
tention. In instances where a per-
son suffering from pulmonary tuber-
culosis absolutely refuses to take the
necessary precautions as to the pro-
per disposal of the sputum, etc., the
Department of Health will enforce.
And the actual law of New York in
regard to these dangerous cases is as
follows: “In true cases of tubercu-
losis, proven by sputum analysis, or
where the attending physician or in-
spec tor is willing to vouch for the
diagnosis when the necessary pre-
cautions cannot or will not be observ-
ed, and when others (especially
children) are exposed to infection, a
patient may be removed to Riverside
Sanitarium by force, if necessary, even
if consent of patient or family is not
obtained.”

I refer to this matter, Mr. Chair-
man, because I am anxious that people
should feel as I do about it, and that
is that our medical men throughout
the Colony, properly appointed, ought
to be authorized, in dangerous cases
where people insist on being treated
at home and will not protect their
families, to remove them forcibly and
keep them forcibly as long as they are
in a dangerous condition.

The fee fixed here for reporting is
25 cents, but the Commission on
Public Health have been paying 30
cents, and I am not at all sure that
it would not be advisable to have
that amount altered to 30 cents,
otherwise it might create ill-feeling
to the Act. This reporting has been
followed out almost absolutely. Dr.
Brehm has regular tabulated returns
from every doctor, which he can
show you, although the returns are private. Now, I don’t want to take up the time of the Committee, but I might explain that we found it a rather difficult matter to derive very much information from the doctors for the reasons that one man will notify all the cases in his district, whether they are incipient or dangerous cases. The result is that in Trinity Bay, for instance, a doctor in one section of that bay will return perhaps six or seven times as many cases as the man in the next section, simply because one man returns all the cases that come under his notice, incipient and dangerous, and the other man only returns advanced cases. But the fact is that nearly every doctor in the Colony has been compulsorily sending in returns of all cases of tuberculosis noticed by him. That was one of the first things that the Commission on Public Health recommended to the Government, and the Government immediately acceded to it and it was passed under Executive Responsibility. All the medical men in the Colony were notified, and all have been sending in more or less accurate returns ever since.

HON. MR. McGRATH—In opening his remarks this afternoon, Mr. President, reference was made by the last speaker (Hon. Mr. Harvey) to the Fog Free Zone. He declared his belief in the existence of such an area and contended that if the famous project associated in our minds with that phrase had proved a reality the country would be amply repaid for the outlay involved. As to the purely academic issue of the existence of a Fog Free Zone I am not disposed to enter into a dispute; there may be a Fog Free Zone, just as there is a North-West Passage, but as a navigable route the one is about as valuable as the other; while with regard to that steamship project, I would merely point out that the proposed steamships were to carry only mails and passengers, and how such a service would be of any substantial value to this Colony, it is difficult to see. While I am on my feet, however, may I avail of the opportunity to call attention to a subject which, while not perhaps directly germane to this Bill, is yet possibly permissible of discussion under the wide latitude we have been allowed in dealing with this question. The matter to which I refer is that of the attitude of sections of the medical fraternity in this Colony towards the public. It will be remembered by hon. members that a year or so ago the medical men of St. John’s decided to increase the rates charged for their services, a decision which resulted in a bitter outburst of indignation from all classes of citizens. So widespread was the protest that the attempt was abandoned, but in the meantime projects had been set on foot by organizations in this city to secure the services of physicians for their own needs. I hold no brief for the practitioners who have come into St. John’s in response to these invitations and I have had no conversation with them on the matter; I am speaking purely on my own responsibility and because I regard this as of grave public importance. I have no feeling of hostility towards the medical men of the city or the outports, and no desire to wound the feelings of any of them; but the public have some rights, and it is because I consider the public to be unfairly treated that I raise this question here. I understand that a boycott is being enforced
against these medical men and I think we should protest against it. In connection with the medical fraternity we hear a great deal of what is termed "professional etiquette," and we are led to believe that medical men stand on a high plane. When we hear of strikes and boycotts we associate these terms with labor unions composed of working people, and it is not too much to say that many medical men would resent very strongly the idea of putting them on the same level as labour unions. For myself, however, I see no difference between a strike or a boycott organized by medical men, and a similar movement organized by any body of workmen in our midst. I do not dispute the right of medical men to form a union and to boycott other practitioners, but I do dispute the right of medical men to do this, when they are in receipt of public money for services given in various public capacities. I say that in nearly every instance in this city medical men receive substantial sums from the Public Treasury for various forms of service, and this is not alone true of the city, but of the outports as well, and I will go farther, and say that for these services, in not a few instances, the Colony is getting only very questionable value. I maintain, therefore, that it is wrong and unjust for people who set up such a high standard as medical men set up, to attempt such boycotts, and I think we owe it to the people that we should publicly express our disapproval of this procedure.

It goes without saying, that but for the vigorous and emphatic protests registered by the people of St. John's last year, these increased fees would have been put in operation, not alone for medical men of long standing in the community who, by their experience and years of labor, might be considered as fairly entitled to ask for a larger fee for their services, but by the very youngest practitioners amongst us, men scarcely long enough out of college to know their way about town and certainly not entitled on the score of either experience or capacity to make such demands upon the people. In this city to-day there is not a corporal's guard of physicians. We ought to have two or three times as many medical men as we have. In the city of Halifax with only 50 per cent. more people there are ten times as many medical men as we have in St. John's, and so it is that a year ago we witnessed the spectacle of the deserving poor, the men and women who have to count and weigh every dollar they expend, faced with a proposition that would have meant doubling the fees they would have to pay medical men. Yet, because this excessive impost was resisted and physicians were got to come in here who were prepared to work for less than this proposed fee, they are being subjected to a boycott.

The most extraordinary part of this proceeding is the standard which is set up by the medical men who set this boycott on foot. Apparently anybody who practices medicine, no matter how much of a reprobate he may be, is admitted to full community of interest so long as he is prepared to keep the prices up. But woe betide the hapless medico who is prepared to work at a lower scale of fees. I know a case of a medical man in an outport in this Colony who is in full practice who was debarred from practising in his native country because he took a woman of questionable character into
a hotel in New York, where she died during the night, and as the result of the inquest which was held, this man was debarred from practice, and his name was stricken off the rolls in his native place. He immediately packed his bag and came to Newfoundland, and he is in practice in this Colony to-day. Now, if that class of man is permitted to practice medicine here I think it is a reprehensible situation that other people are to be boycotted because they will not hold out for the union rate of wages.

Moreover, I might point out that one of the features of the Lloyd-George Insurance Bill is that medical men are required to give treatment to the classes of people included within the scope of that Bill under conditions which, while they have provoked somewhat of a revolt by the medical men, will yet be recognized by fair-minded people as being generally just and reasonable. In the measure now before this House provision is being made for the employment of medical men in connection with the sanitariums, and I think the Government should seriously consider, before it takes steps to engage medical men around the Island, how it is to protect the people—that are called the common people—from boycotts and excessive charges. I am in the judgment of hon. members associated with both the present Government and the past Government when I say that some of the most striking instances of exorbitant bills presented to the Government for the past ten years have been from medical men, bills that had to be resisted and refused payment and that had ultimately to be compromised by those who presented them, for in some cases one-fourth of the amount claimed. I do not mean by this that all the medical men in the city or in the outports are of this class. I do not mean to say that the Government does not get value from every medical man it employs. I do not mean that all physicians in the Colony are tarred with the same brush, but I do say that I think the time has come when the Government and the people of this country ought to make it clear that such boycotts shall not be perpetrated by medical men who are in receipt of Government salaries for services more or less efficiently rendered; and I say this, moreover, without any personal feeling whatever, but simply because I think the people of the Colony are entitled to a “square deal.”

HON. MR. KNOWLING—It was my intention, Mr. Chairman, yesterday to make a few remarks, which I was not allowed to do on account of Rule No. 7, but it will make very little difference—it was merely the question of adopting the principle of the bill. It is over now and we come to the bill itself, and seeing that we have it we will endeavour to make the best of it. In this one section No. 2 of Section 4, with regard to the appointment of a Committee, I think that might be improved upon to a certain extent. Under this section you appoint a committee for three years, and at the expiration of three years, in all probability they will go out of office. It is possible that they may be re-appointed, but the probabilities are that you will have another committee, especially if in the meantime there is a change of Government. You would then have men who were entirely fresh and who had no experience, and you would lose the benefit of the men who had been there and had three years’ experience. My impression is that it would be better if the committee were made a little larger—say six—and that after the first two years two members should go out of
office and two be appointed in their place. You would still have four men of experience on the committee. The next year another two could go out, and in that way you would always have four men with a certain amount of experience. I merely throw out this as a suggestion. I don't make it as an amendment, but it struck me that the idea would be alright.

HON. MR. HARVEY—I notice this section reads that it "may be supervised." Consequently it is open to the Government to make any arrangements they like. My opinion is that a local committee of management in a small place where there is a sanitarium will be objectionable. I think it will be found to work better for the objects of the bill to have the management of the institutions under a strong man, as a final Court of Appeal, and under the local practitioner on the spot, and these should be the people to handle the management without the personality of any local committee at all. That is my feeling about it. I think a local committee of three or four undesirable. The local doctor, properly backed, would make a very much more efficient manager. In such a council there would almost certainly be bickerings and they would be almost certain to want grants which might be put in the hands of themselves or friends without any idea of being dishonest about it. As this section reads that they may be supervised by a committee appointed by the Governor-in-Council, I think it is not necessary perhaps to alter it, but it is one of the questions such as were raised by Hon. Mr. McGrath that we do not know anything about. I stated in the Second Reading debate that I was sorry we haven't more information, but as a matter of fact these are some of the things that ought to be very carefully gone into and considered before any system of campaign is finally adopted. As to the question whether the new man appointed is going to clash with the Medical Health Officer, and other questions which will crop up at every stage, such will need much consideration and, as I said, we have no information on these matters at present. I am not finding fault with that, as I am told by the Leader of the Government that they have not made up their minds yet.

HON. MR. BISHOP.—The hon. member who has just sat down has correctly stated what I said in introducing the bill, that the Government have not explicit plans as yet. Reference is made in Section 4 to the management of the sanitarium. It must be apparent to hon. members that management of some kind there must be, and in whatsoever hand it may be, (it may be the local practitioner), he will be subject to the supervision by a commission, large or small, to be appointed as a central committee. At least such is the idea, that there will be a central committee who will supervise the whole of the sanitarium. As to how many members will compose that committee, no decision has been made. As to Hon. Mr. McGrath's question regarding possible clashing between the Medical Health Officer and new appointees, it appears to me that the Medical Health Officer is the person to whom reports should be sent. However, that can be disposed of afterwards. If in connection with the Central Sanitarium in St. John's a medical head is appointed, which I assume would be necessary and proper, then I assume the reports will be sent to him as well. The medical officer in charge of the
sanitariums, together with such committee as may be appointed, will take the necessary action in all these cases—keep records, etc. The Government, in preparing this bill, have taken what appears to them to be necessary precautions. They will proceed carefully and slowly, and as far as its possible to do so, the whole system of grappling with tuberculosis shall be kept non-political. Nothing regarding politics, either in connection with the medical officer or members of the committee here or elsewhere will be considered but the best man available will be found; and as to the continuation of the committee, it stands to reason, I suppose, that there is not going to be a clean sweep made every three years, but changes will take place from time to time, but always with the idea of maintaining the very best and most efficient service that it is possible to secure.

HON. MR. KNOWLING.—I can scarcely understand why this is going to be different from any other institution over which the Government has control. Any such institution that I know of from time to time has been made a political football, a means for the Government to appoint such individuals as suited their purposes from time to time, and I cannot see why it is going to be different in these institutions. There is nothing in the bill to prevent anything of that sort, and it is not reasonable to expect anything different. It is contrary to human nature. The Government are bound to have likes and dislikes, and will let certain individuals have a certain amount of influence, and surely they are human, like everybody else, and will show friendship for their friends. There is nothing in this bill to prevent political bias coming into the question.

HON. MR. McGRATH—While one must be prepared to admit that there is some force in the hon. gentleman's argument that almost everything in this Colony has been made a political affair, I must remind him that there is, however, one Institution that has managed to survive the vicissitudes of our political life for twenty years past, viz: the Council of Higher Education. Personally I see no reason why this Tuberculosis Organization, should not be carried on, no matter what Government is in power, without disturbing these Boards of Management, and I do not see how his suggestion as to the Composition, or period of tenancy of the Board that may be appointed, is to better the situation, because if any Government at any future period should desire to abolish these Boards or Committees, appointed as he suggests, all that would be necessary would be to introduce a Bill at the beginning of a session and wipe them out of existence. However, if you look at the composition of this Committee, I think the risk of its being so wiped out by a Government of different political persuasion is lessened, because the Committee to be appointed shall consist of Magistrates, Justices of the Peace, medical practitioners, clergymen or other persons resident in the electoral district. I do not suppose that any Government desirous of carrying out or administering a department of the Public Service would be disposed to turn off the Magistrates, Clergymen, or Justices of the Peace, to put others in their places. Certainly, I take it for granted that no Government would remove the clergyman, and if he is continued on such committee I think we would have a fairly satisfactory guarantee that whatever work was entrusted to the
Committee would be faithfully and honestly carried out. Moreover, it seems to me eminently desirable in connection with the proposed scheme of establishing sanitariums in different districts, that such local Committee or some local organization should be provided to administer the temporalities or housekeeping of these institutions. I do not assume for a moment that these committees are to interfere with the carrying out of the work of the medical man or nurses who may happen to be in control of the institution for the time being. I take it that the work of such a Committee would be to oversee the administration of the funds or money that may be set apart for carrying on of that particular institution and keep a supervision over the work done, see the building itself is cleanly and in proper condition, for the purchase in the immediate vicinity of articles of food that are so necessary in such cases, and that will have to be obtained, in the first place, in the immediate vicinity, viz: eggs, butter, and such things which form so essential a part in the treatment of Consumption. It must be perfectly obvious that these things are not to be obtained in St. John's for a sanitarium in Bonne Bay. If they are to be got in the vicinity some persons or committee will have to be secured for the procuring of proper supplies. It would be unfair to expect a nurse or medical man to grapple with that problem in addition to their regular work, and I assume that it is for such purposes as this these Committees will be appointed. Under these circumstances it seems an eminently proper arrangement, and the only difficulty I see is whether we will be able to get the voluntary service. I believe we will, but we will have more cause for concern from that aspect, than from the point of view which the hon. member suggests.

HON. MR. GIBBS.—I am sorry it has been the experience of the hon. gentleman (Hon. Mr. Knowling) during his political career that Government institutions have proved to be political footballs. That has not been the experience of the present Government. The institutions such as this Act will provide for will not be made political footballs either.

HON. MR. KNOWLING.—There is nothing in the Bill to prevent it.

HON. MR. GIBBS.—That has not been the experience of this Government, but apparently, it must have been his experience, and he must not judge others by what he did himself. We have endeavoured to conduct our public institutions in a proper manner.

HON. MR. KNOWLING.—I see a report has been tabled here on the Lunatic Asylum, and we have a Board here for the purpose of running it.

HON. MR. GIBBS.—That Board was not competent.

HON. MR. KNOWLING.—It was appointed by the present Government.

HON. MR. GIBBS.—No, it was not, we did not put others there. The hon. gentlemen and his friends turned out perhaps the most competent gentleman that was ever put there, and put in one who, because of his age and non-experience, is not competent. In the General Hospital the question of who is admitted there is not made a political one. Other institutions in the country are conducted in a manner in which political bias is not shown. The hon. gentleman is afraid we will lose the benefit of committees appointed for these sanitariums by a change of Government. I do not think the hon. gentleman may anticipate a change of Government
for some years. It is not likely that a government will remove committees who are performing services for nothing. Surely the hon. gentleman will not say the clergymen are in this political field. It is well known that the Magistrates, Justices of the Peace, and medical practitioners have no politics, and if they have, the intelligence of men of that kind would compel them to run institutions of that kind referred to in this Bill in a manner which would reflect credit on themselves and on the community where they are established. The hon. gentleman's views are somewhat narrow and contracted. The Hon. Mr. Harvey refers to the local doctor. Of course the local doctor would be one of the persons included in that Committee. Surely, the local doctor will have no political leanings also. There are people in this country who support parties and policies, but who can rise superior to these, and do their duty, and that is what a Committee of this kind will do. We cannot have a more representative committee than one composed of the clergymen, magistrates, Justices of the Peace, etc., to manage these institutions. This is similar to the practice in England with regard to the management of these sanitaria.

HON. MR. KNOWLING.—Most of the institutions there are private.

HON. MR. GIBBS.—They are not all private. The Act introduced by Lloyd George you will find has this very section, so that the arrangement is not new, so far as we are concerned. I would be perfectly content to place the management in the hands of such people as we name. After all they are volunteers, they are not being paid, and why should the Government remove volunteers performing work without pay, any more than is done in the C.H.E., as pointed out by Hon. Mr. McGrath? They have done good and valuable work, and the Government of the country recognize that and none dare remove them. Now suppose a sanitarium were established in Bonavista, which is one of the most populous places in Bonavista Bay, one of the very men whom we would appoint there would be a gentleman, the Magistrate, who is a well known supporter of the party of which the hon. gentleman is a member. The Government would have to appoint him, it would be their duty to do so, because these institutions are not established for political purposes or gain, but for the people—for the benefit of people suffering from this disease, and we can all rise superior to our political feeling in this connection.

HON. MR. MCGRATH.—Before Section 6 is adopted might I point out that as worded it would imply that it is possible, if we take it for granted that the Reid benefaction is accepted, to appoint seventeen medical superintendents.

HON. MR. BISHOP.—In every place where a sanitarium is established a medical superintendent will have to be appointed. He may only receive $20 or $30 per year.

HON. MR. MCGRATH.—I recognize, of course, that it would be impossible to run a sanitarium without having a medical man on call. I was not clear whether this clause was to apply to a General Superintendent or to the medical man in each sanitarium.

HON. MR. GIBBS.—That is a matter of detail not yet worked out.

HON. MR. KNOWLING.—As I understand it that section provides that if seventeen sanitariums are established, it is in the Government's power to appoint so many medical superintendents.

HON. MR. BISHOP.—Who else could you appoint?
HON. MR. HARVEY.—I would just like to say one word about Section 8, which deals with disinfection. The disinfection of houses here has been enormously improved during the past few years. When the Commission took up the work they found that the law was that disinfection took place at the expense of the householders, if they could afford it. The Commission approached the Government and asked that in every case the cost be paid by them, and they agreed. I think it has done a great deal of good. They are assuming to-day the cost of fumigation and there is no question raised as to whether the party can afford it or not. It is a public matter and ought to be done at the expense of the Colony. Now the Commissioners have recommended in this report not only that fumigation in case of death be done by the Government, but in every case when applied for on certificate of the medical man. I think these recommendations are good and that fumigation of houses should take place on certificate of the medical man whenever asked for by any household.

HON. MR. BISHOP.—Just a word or two, Mr. Chairman, before closing. The attention that this bill has received from the House generally has been a source of great pleasure to me, and I am sure it will be to the Government. Had we been privileged to have a full House I feel confident that every member would have desired to have something to say upon this very important subject. The rule at present existing demanding from the medical practitioners round the Island that they should report all cases of tuberculosis that came under their notice was, I confess, a complete surprise to me. I am not a member of a Health Commission and have not been in very close touch with the Association for the Prevention of Consumption, and for that reason I quite forgot that notification was compulsory; but the reminder by the Hon. Mr. Harvey completely disposes of the ideas which we have been holding regarding the prevalence of this terrible disease. It is quite evident now that the majority of the cases reported are incipient ones.

There is one other thing that I desire to say a few words upon. Reference has been made during this debate to the report of Sir James Moody upon the Lunatic Asylum, and I regret to notice from the remarks of the Hon. Mr. Knowling that he appears to think that there was something political, if not sinister, in the action of the Government in having decided to obtain a report from a thoroughly qualified man who has had long experience on the subject of lunacy. I desire to say, however, that this action only followed on the policy decided upon by the Government when they concluded to retire the medical gentleman who for so many years had done such excellent service in the conduct of the General Hospital of St. John's, but who had become quite unfit by reason of his age for the position which he held. The public, generally, hesitated to go themselves for treatment to the Hospital or permit those near and dear to them to be sent there. The Hospital was not in a condition to prove attractive to those who suffered from disease and who required treatment which is obtainable there only. The Government then decided upon a change of policy there—a change which could only be effected by a large expenditure of public funds. A young and enthusiastic member of the medical profession was selected—and I would say here that he was not selected by any means because of his political principles, but because it was thought by the Government that he was the man best fitted to undertake the necessary changes in that institution. The changes that have been effected are manifest to all, and in-
stead of the General Hospital being regarded almost with terror by the public, everybody is willing now to go there for treatment. The conditions that existed there it is now determined to grapple with elsewhere, and for that reason the report of Sir James Moody regarding the Asylum for the Insane is before us. The conditions which he found there and upon which he has reported in an open, fearless manner reflect no discredit upon the medical gentleman who occupies the position of Superintendent of that institution. I will go further and state my firm conviction that the Lunatic Asylum to-day is as well conducted as it has ever been. In fact it has been said and proved that some distance back the institution was worse than it is to-day. The Superintendent is doing the best he can—the best that it is possible for anyone to do under the conditions by which he is surrounded. A parsimonious policy has been practiced in the past, and neither is the building fitted, the accommodation fitted, the attendance adequate or anything like adequate, nor is the expenditure upon the institution at all commensurate with what is necessary. The report suggests either that the present Medical Superintendent should be sent away for a course of investigation or study or else that he should be superannuated and a younger man with a complete knowledge of lunacy be put into his place. It further recommends, as you will have noticed, that the institution should be put completely under the charge of the Medical Superintendent and that it should be non-political, especially as regards appointments. For several years past, especially since the rate of wages has been increasing, it has been extremely difficult to get men to go there and take positions as wardens and assistants. The remuneration offered them has been the merest pittance—commencing at about $260 a year—and for that figure no one could be expected to go there and give necessary attention to his duties. The institution is barely half staffed. Sir James Moody reflects most unfavorably upon patients being left there from bedtime until next morning. But it is not possible to do otherwise with the present staff. Now everybody agrees that that institution as at present conducted should not be permitted to continue any longer than is absolutely necessary, and for that reason the Government have decided to have a new and up-to-date institution not, of course, duplicating the institution from which Sir James Moody came, for that would be entirely beyond our means, but, at all events, to have the Lunatic Asylum brought up to the highest standard possible, as has already been done in connection with the General Hospital. Following immediately upon that, it may be a little later on, it is the intention of the present Government, should it be in power, and if not then I hope their successors, to tackle the Poor Asylum. That should no longer remain a disgrace, for it is nothing else than a disgrace to the Colony.

Now I don't want to occupy any more time or to say anything further regarding this matter other than to repeat that the Government's decision in no way reflects upon the present conduct of the Lunatic Asylum, nor will the Government do anything that is unfair. Their only desire is to improve that institution in such a way that it will be a credit to us instead of a disgrace, as it is at present.

The Committee rose and reported having passed the Bill with some slight amendments.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be read a third time to-morrow.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP the House adjourned till Friday next at 4.30 p.m.
TUBERCULOSIS BILL.

The Bill for the Prevention of Tuberculosis was read a third time, and on motion of HON. MR. BISHOP was sent to the Assembly with a message that the Council had passed the Bill with some amendments.

HON. MR. ROBINSON gave notice of questions re Council of Higher Education.

HON. THE PRESIDENT read a message from the House of Assembly acquainting the Council that they had passed the Harbor Master's Bill and a Bill to amend Chapter 102 of the Consolidated Statutes, entitled "Of Weights and Measures and the Inspection of Lumber," and asked the Council's concurrence.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP the Weights and Measures Bill was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

HON. MR. BISHOP tabled the Annual Report of the Department of Marine and Fisheries for 1911.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP the House adjourned till Tuesday next at 4.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, March 19, 1912.

The Council met at 4.30 p.m. pursuant to adjournment.

HON. THE PRESIDENT informed the House that His Excellency the Governor had granted leave of absence during the remainder of the session to Hon. Mr. Ryan and Hon. Mr. Harvey.

QUESTIONS.

HON. MR. ROBINSON asked the Hon. Leader of the Government in this House:

1—The names of all the members of the Council of Higher Education;

2—The number of meetings of the Council of Higher Education since March 15th, 1911, with the names of those present at each meeting; also the time at which such meetings opened and closed;

3—The amount paid during the last fiscal year as cash prizes to successful candidates in each of the four grades scholarships excepted;

4—What age limitations, if any, are placed on candidates for the various examinations conducted by the C.H.E.

5—Whether the examination papers of candidates are returned from England after correction; and, if so, how they are disposed of;

6—Whether any schools in the city refuse to permit their pupils to take part in the Council of Higher Education examinations; if so, what schools, and what, if any, are the reasons assigned for such refusal;

7—Since the introduction of the Teachers' Pension Scheme of 1892, how many teachers have applied for and been paid pensions out of that fund; and the names of those teachers, if any who are at present pensioners of that fund;

8—Whether any sum has been granted to teachers for passes in the examinations of the Council of Higher Education; and, if so, for particulars of its disbursement during the last two fiscal years;

9—To lay upon the table of the House the report of the Council of Higher Education for the last year, together with a detailed statement of income and expenditure.

HON. MR. BISHOP.—In reply to the hon. member's first question, I beg to lay on the table a list of the names of the Council.

2—In reply to Question 2, I beg to lay on the table a list of the meetings of the C.H.E. since March, 1911;
3—The amount paid during the last fiscal year as cash prizes was,—
   Primary Grade .......... No Prize
   Preliminary Grade ......... $85.00
   Intermediate Grade .......... 112.00
   Associate Grade ............. 105.00

   Total Cash Prizes .......... $302.00

4—As to the age of candidates, see Rule 1, Page 9, and Rule 4, Page 14, of Syllabus and Regulations of C.H.E.;

5—The examination papers are not returned. They are left in the hands of the College of Preceptors, who keep them till March of year following examinations, when they are destroyed;

6—The Council has no information of such refusal;

7—Miss Anne Collins, Mrs. Belinda Crocker and Mr. Christopher Curtis;

8—In accordance with Section 14 of the Education Act, 1903, the sum of $500 is paid as premiums to teachers. The disbursements during the last two fiscal years were: In 1910, $498.30 to 253 teachers; In 1911, $536.90 to 339 teachers. The names of these teachers are in the Ledger at the C.H.E. office, where they can be had. The Council's supply has run out. Detailed statement of Income and Expenditure is herewith appended.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL.

HON. MR. BISHOP.—In the last line of section 6, it is necessary to change the word "may" to "shall." I move the alteration.

HON. MR. ROBINSON.—Is it compulsory that they shall efface the marks?

HON. MR. BISHOP.—It would seem to me that if these weights or scales are so much wrong as to be incapable of being adjusted, it certainly should follow that the Inspector should efface the marks to prevent them from being used.

HON. MR. ROBINSON.—If it applies to that part of the section, it should also apply to the preceding words, relating to measures.

HON. MR. BISHOP.—He would condemn them for the time being until they had been corrected.

HON. PRESIDENT.—I would like to ask the Hon. gentleman in charge of the Bill if that is a new section? I rather think it is. That is, if it differs from the old Act, as regards condemnation?
HON. MR. BISHOP.—Yes, it is new. There is nothing in the old Act about condemnation.

HON. MR. BISHOP.—Regarding this Section, which is an important one, I propose to move an amendment by striking out the words “weighing machines” wherever they appear in the Section. I may say in explanation of the section that the Chief Inspector has found on a number of occasions that improper weights and measures have been used, and in some instances at least the user of the measures was the manufacturer, and while the Chief Inspector did not wish to impugn the motives of the person using these measures, they were found considerably short of what they should have been. The paragraph is copied from the Canadian Act, but I pointed out to the Inspector that there would be great difficulty and hardship in enforcing it, and more than that, it would not be effective as regards the sale of weighing machines, Fairbanks scales, large and small. As hon. members know, these come here boxed, and are sold as received. If they had to be inspected here, they would have to be broken from the boxes and set up and afterwards unshipped and reboxed and it may be that when they arrive in the different outports they would be incorrect again. I propose to strike out the words “weighing machines” and let the section apply only to ordinary measures and weights, half hundred, quarters, fourteen, &c. By this section the manufacturer would be aware before selling to a customer that the measure must be inspected and the inspector would stamp the object to prevent improper measures going around the Island to places where there is no inspection. I move the words “weighing machines” be struck out.

HON. MR. KNOWLING.—You could substitute “scales.”

HON. MR. BISHOP.—“Machines” of course includes “scales.” It will apply then to weights and measures.

HON. MR. KNOWLING.—The weight and the scale are two different things altogether.

HON. MR. BISHOP.—It will not apply to scales but to measures. Under this section you must not use the scales unless inspected, but you can call down the Inspector and have it tested and stamped before it leaves your warehouse.

HON. MR. BISHOP.—It seems to me that the last part of Section 21 might very well be stricken out, viz.: that returns be published in the daily papers. If this inspection is going to be all what it should be, and the Inspector is going to examine all the weights and measures used, it will take a very large newspaper to publish a complete list. There will be nothing to prevent the publication of such a list, but to compel it seems to me unnecessary. There is no object to be served that I can see. The newspaper man might look upon it differently, but I cannot conceive any object in having a list of several hundred names published. Unless hon. members think otherwise, I would move that the latter part of the section be stricken out.

HON. MR. JOB.—I do not quite agree with the hon. gentleman. I think we must all admit that nothing could be more disgraceful than the circumstances disclosed in the report published some twelve months ago. I happened to read it last night on the recommendation of Hon. Mr. Robinson, and it is certainly very startling. The Inspector stated that a large percentage of the weights were incorrect, and some of the utensils were years and years old. I think in many of the cases referred to in the Report the errors were unintentional, but it is a very serious matter and for the protection of the public, a rigid inspection should be enforced. In my opinion it
would be a very good thing for a few years at any rate to have the list published, and if persons whose weights and measures were wrong, thus had their negligence exposed, it would have the effect of making all traders more particular and the public would be protected.

HON. MR. ROBINSON.—I entirely agree with Hon. Mr. Bishop. I do not see how anything can be gained by publishing these statements. If the inspection goes on in every locality you would have an enormous number of reports sent in, and under this section all would have to be published. Not only that, but there is question if it is quite fair. There will be sinners and they will be punished by law; others will be sinning either through ignorance or accident; and they should not be pilloried in the press. It seems to me that every newspaper man would be only too glad to publish any fair report, but I fail to see the necessity of having the names published. It would be a very unnecessary expense.

HON. MR. BISHOP.—I was about to remark before Hon. Mr. Robinson spoke that what the Hon. Mr. Job has said is entirely correct as to the manner in which there has been a pretended inspection heretofore. There was none, not even an attempt at one. The former Inspector was satisfied to get in a very small amount annually on the plea of inspecting. He did go to the larger places in St. John's but apart from that he did not attempt any inspection. Although fees were collected, in many cases the weights and measures were not examined, but the Government will not permit such a thing to continue, and a man has been appointed who is very enthusiastic in his work, and it is to his advantage to see that all weights and measures used in his territory are examined annually, and I have no doubt whatever that he is going to do it, and impartially. Because the conditions he found when making the first inspection were disgraceful is no reason why the details of future inspection should be published in the press. As a general thing, those who are using weights and measures that are imperfect are doing so in ignorance, and we are going to compel them now to put such weights and measures in use until they receive the stamp of the Inspector. I think, therefore, such publication as proposed by this section would be no protection to the public. The protection is in this Bill, and the conditions will be enforced. I have no object in pressing that this part of the paragraph be stricken out, but can see no sense in it, and do not think it will be carried out.

HON. MR. KNOWLING.—I think the gentleman who introduced this amendment is correct. It would be very difficult in establishments where there are a large number of employees, etc., for the principal to keep in touch with every detail, and sometimes employees may use measures which are unfit to use. If the Inspector thought it was due to carelessness he should deal with it as such, but there would be many cases where the use of imperfect measures was purely accidental, when even a Court of Justice could not exact a fine. If these returns are published without the evidence many would suffer wrongly and some who wished to do what is right would appear in this list in a very wrong light. If the Inspector thought wrong measures were being used intentionally he can have the offender fined and have his name published. I don't wish to press the matter one way or another.

The Committee rose and reported having passed the Bill with some
amendments, and on motion of Hon. Mr. McGrath, the report was received.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop, the House adjourned until to-morrow (Friday) at 4.30 o'clock.

FRIDAY, March 22.

The Council met at 4.30 p.m., pursuant to adjournment.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the Weights and Measures Bill was read a third time and ordered to be sent to the House of Assembly with a message that the Council had passed the same with some amendments.

HON. PRESIDENT read a message from the House of Assembly that they had passed the Council’s amendments to the Tuberculosis Bill without amendment. Also, that they had passed a Bill further to amend the Education Act, 1903, and asked the Council’s concurrence.

EDUCATION BILL.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the Bill was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the House adjourned till Monday next at 4 p.m.

MONDAY, March 25.

The Council met at 4.15 p.m., pursuant to adjournment.

EDUCATION BILL.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Mr. President, there is an ever growing feeling among all thoughtful persons that nothing is calculated to so certainly advance the best interests of this Colony and impart to the rising generation sentiments of patriotism, of personal responsibility, and personal worth as factors in the true advance-
made during the past two years, and what is provided for in this year's estimates, are fully alive to the fact that in faithfully administering for the public good, the revenues of the Colony, the grants for educational purposes should be as liberal as we can possibly afford, and that the funds should be applied in the manner promising the best and most permanent results.

Realizing then that the retention of good teachers is quite as important as increasing the number of schools, or the paying of better salaries to the teachers, the request of the Teachers' Association to be recognized as public servants, and provision made for them so that when they have given 30 years of service or have reached the age of 60 years, they may claim a reasonable retiring allowance, has commanded the attention of the Government for a considerable time.

While entirely sympathetic, the Government did not, without a great deal of deliberation and consultation, decide to accede to the prayer of the petition of the Teachers' Association, but that a favourable conclusion was reached is, of course, clearly indicated by the Bill now before us.

The Government proposes to take over the present "Teachers' Pension Fund," amounting to at present something over $62,000 and to pay in future to the contributor to the Fund after 30 years teaching, and 30 annual premiums, an annual pension equaling two-thirds of his annual salary during the last ten years of service. At first sight it may appear that with an already large and increasing number of teachers the claims arising under this Bill will soon assume serious proportions, but this fear is easily dispelled, for by an examination of the entire list of teachers it will be shown that taking the age limit at 55 years, the income from the present fund will meet all claims up to 1925; as however, the age limit under the Bill is raised to or set at 60 years, the income of the present fund will probably require no additional augmentation before 1930.

It will be apparent that quite a large percentage of teachers will never become claimants for the maximum pension, and provision is made that proportionate pension shall be paid after 15 years of service, and permission given to all contributors to withdraw their paid up premiums with 3 per cent, compound interest, after 5 annual premiums have been paid.

After a contributor has paid 15 premiums and becomes incapacitated he has the option of an annuity during the remainder of his lifetime, or of withdrawing the amount of his contributions with 3 per cent. compound interest, which would, of course release the Government from any further claim.

It will be noticed that the annual premiums are determined by the age of the teacher, and are not influenced by the salary received, but it must be borne in mind that the premiums to be exacted are only those now being contributed towards an annuity of $100, and the same system of contribution is to be observed first, because it is so requested by the teachers themselves and more particularly as an additional incentive to the teachers to remain in the profession and desire the greater benefit.

This pension scheme has received some criticism, as was to be expected, but an impartial examination of its provisions by hon. members here will I hope, be found to merit and receive the unanimous endorsement of this House.

The House will, I feel sure, be
very pleased to learn that the Government finds it possible in the estimates for the coming year, to provide $20,000 additional annual grant for ordinary education purposes, $7,000 additional for sparsely settled places, and $2,500 for the C.H.E.

It is very gratifying to the Government to find that the grant of $100,000, made two years ago for providing better school buildings, has met with universal approval, and has stimulated the people to erect and equip all around this island by the assistance of that grant larger buildings, more sanitary and in every way more suitable than they could possibly procure without such aid.

The changes effected are very marked, a larger number of very fine school buildings have been erected, and many others remodelled and improved and equipped generally in keeping with the times.

I shall not occupy the attention of the House further at present, as I anticipate the interest of the hon. members will be manifested by a general desire to address the House upon this very important subject.

HON. MR. ROBINSON.—I am sure we have all listened to the Hon. Mr. Bishop's brief and interesting explanation of the Bill with considerable pleasure, and are at one with him in his expression that it is desirable, as well as a necessity, to properly prepare and equip teachers for the important work they are engaged in.

The Bill which we have now before us is the ninth Bill amending the Act of 1903. Every year since then, with one exception, an amendment has been introduced, so that today education legislation is more or less of a mystery and has added a terror to the lives of officials and public men. We have, however, the assurance of the Minister of Justice that consolidation will shortly be commenced, and are duly thankful.

The Bill before us mainly deals with the question of a pension scheme for teachers, a scheme which might more properly be spoken of as a State aided annuity scheme. The Government are to be congratulated on the courageous manner in which they have taken up the question, one which is admittedly somewhat unpopular. The teachers themselves also deserve praise for the broad and fair manner in which they have considered the whole subject. If we read the petition which they presented to the Government, which has been, I believe, placed in the hands of all members, we cannot but be struck with the manner in which they have presented their claims, and the absolute fairness which they have displayed throughout. There is a slight difference between the Bill which now comes to this House, and the petition of the teachers, and that is the age limit, which has been changed from 55 to 60. After all that is only a nominal change. The Bill has a special provision which enables teachers to obtain a pension at 60, if not physically fit for their work. It seems to me that 55 might just as well have been retained, because our teachers enter the profession any age between 18 and 20, and sometimes younger than that, and the teacher, male or female, does not exist who can possibly stand the strain more than thirty years. Any who can do so, that is who can maintain the force, intellectual vigor and power of control that are absolutely essential, would be superhuman, more worthy of canonization than pensions. As the Premier pointed out in the other House, one teacher is actually over 80, another 68, and some over 60. No teacher can pos-
sibly do his duty and be efficient after thirty years of continuous service. The wear and tear and strain of a teacher's life is so great that after thirty years rest is absolutely essential, as much in the interest of the scholars as of the teachers themselves.

In the fourth section of the Bill before us, we are told that this pension is being granted on the basis of two thirds of the average annual salary, exclusive of fees of every kind received by teachers. This suggests many difficulties. What are perquisites? Are not the fees legitimately part of a salary? Is the augmentation grant salary or perquisite? And when the pension or annuity is granted it must be, as every other educational act, subject to the approval of the proper superintendent. It is curious how successive governments abrogate their powers and responsibilities when educational matters are at issue. Indeed, it appears to be impossible for anything to be done on educational lines, except subject to the approval of the Superintendents. I regard sub-section 4 as a very vague section, and one that presents a vast amount of difficulty to the working out of this scheme. It would have been very much better if the teachers had been given the right to their pension and not been accorded it as a privilege, for under this section it becomes a privilege and not a right. As I view it, Sir, in our whole educational scheme, we are making a radical blunder in connection with salaries, and under this Bill we are perpetuating it in connection with pensions. I think, Sir, that the salaries of teachers in Newfoundland should be standardized; that is to say, they should not only be paid according to their grades (and therefore their ability and the services which they are able to give), but also according to the length of time that they remain in the profession. In other words, if we arrange a certain minimum scale of salary in the various grades and then give an annual increase for every year spent in the service we should soon find that the teachers, having something to look forward to would remain in the profession; and then if there was a standardized pension they would know exactly where they were. I don't want to criticize this scheme at all unduly—I am glad to believe that there may be some improvement in it later on—but, Sir, if teachers are to be pensioned on the basis of the average salary which they receive during the last ten years of service, it may I fear, prove a very considerable hardship to many. To explain. As I have said, a teacher cannot do his work as efficiently and thoroughly after 50 years of age as he can do it before, and under the Act he is not supposed to get his pension until 60. Now, Sir, we all know that elderly people are often shelved, and during the last ten years of active work a man may, very probably, not be receiving as great a salary as he was during the first ten, or at any rate the second or the third, and yet under this Act he is to be pensioned at the average annual figure that he has received during the last ten years of his work. I think it may work injustice, Sir; it may not be very grave to the teachers, but there are other interests at stake. I say it may not work out harmfully to them, because our local boards, rather than see a teacher forfeit any advantages that may attach to remaining in his position, will very often keep him on when he is really unfit for work, the result, of course, being that the children suffer instead of the individual. It would therefore be very
have been better to have waited until the newer and more beneficial scheme went into operation. The teachers, as I have said, are greatly helping this scheme. They are practically handing over $60,000 of their funds towards it, and some protests have been raised on that account. Personally, I should prefer that the teachers should be placed on the same basis as civil servants, who pay nothing whatever into any pension fund, but who get their pensions as a matter of right, of justice, and of course. On the other hand, no teacher can claim that the slightest injury is being done him or the slightest hardship entailed upon him. It must not be forgotten that this pension scheme is retroactive. It has been said, Sir, by one gentleman discussing this Bill, that the teachers have asked for bread and they have been given a stone; another has said that they have asked for bread and they have been given the bread with butter on it; I think that the second statement is decidedly the more correct, but am ready to admit to some doubt as to the quality of the flour which has been placed in that bread. There might be some modifications in the Bill which would very materially improve it, but I am not hopeless of that being done because I observe that the Premier, in speaking in the Lower House upon this subject, said: “It is not claimed for the present scheme that it is at all perfect, and it may be necessary to make some further amendments next year to provide for a revision and readjustment every five years, so that the country and the Legislature may intelligently understand what our obligations are.” If he had only added to that “so that the teachers and the people generally might intelligently understand just where they were going to be,” I think it would add materially to the benefit.

Section 6 of the Act points out that any teacher who shall become disabled or incapacitated after fifteen years of service and who shall have obtained a certificate of such disability or incapacity signed by a medical practitioner, the Chairman of the proper Board of Education, and the proper Superintendent of Education, shall be entitled to receive, during the remainder of the life of such teacher, a pension equal to one-half of the pension provided by sub-section 4, and so on in the same proportion during succeeding years. It seems to me, Sir, that there is a surplus amount of red tape in that section also, and that the same difficulty may intrude there as in the main pension section, to which I have referred.

The old scheme has not been a success. We are told that it has been in force now for twenty years, but I cannot quite reconcile some of the statements that have been made. In answer to the questions which I have asked I was given to understand (the answer to question 7 was not given here, but I found amongst the papers a reply from the Colonial Secretary) that three teachers have been pensioned under the old scheme, but as the names of these teachers were given by the Premier when introducing these Resolutions, as not having availed of the present system of pension, it is evident that if these pensions have really been claimed under the old scheme they must have been claimed very recently, and it would
of the Act; because, as I have said, in its present form it is a little bit vague.

Section 2 of the Act says: "The amount now standing at the credit of the Teachers' Pension Fund, established under section 68 of the Education Act, 1903, shall be paid into the Treasury for the use of the Colony." I have already spoken about that, but just one other point. Some criticism has been heard—perhaps not altogether unjustifiable—that this amount is to be absorbed into the general Treasury account. I think however, there is no such intention . because I observe that the Minister of Justice, speaking on this matter, said that the present pension fund would not be lost to the general revenue of the country, but would go to the credit of a Pension Fund Account, to which would be added all contributions and against which would be charged all withdrawals, the money, of course, being used in the best interests of the Colony. In other words, we have an official pronouncement from a prominent member of the Government to the effect that although powers are taken under this section 2 to put the whole amount into the treasury of the colony, yet that it is to be a Trust account.

Under sections five and six, after the 1st July the teachers’ salaries will be paid monthly, and the augmentation grants quarterly. That is a very desirable move in the interests of the teachers. It has been a very serious hardship to the teachers of this Colony that their salaries should have been paid quarterly in the past. Everyone knows how small the salaries are and how high the cost of living is, and if everything has to be bought on credit the expense of living must necessarily be increased. By being paid monthly they are placed on a more satisfactory footing, and they will be able to take advantage of all discounts that are given for cash prices. That, though a small matter, is one that will prove distinctly beneficial to the teachers. By Section 8 we are told that a further sum of $20,000 is to be proportionately divided amongst the various religious denominations of the Colony. As long as the present system of sub-division exists—and so far as I can see it will exist until we are fortunate enough to get so many sects in the Colony that it will be impossible to keep it up—we must rejoice that this sum has been added. This vote has done great good in the past and will in the future.

The next section, 9, puts the sum of $14,000 where $7,000 was before. That section I shall read, because I think that it is one of the most satisfactory in the whole Act: "In addition to the amounts already provided under the Education Act, 1908, and the Acts in amendment hereof, the sum of $14,000 shall be annually appropriated and apportioned amongst the several religious denominations of this Colony, to be expended on the recommendation of the Superintendents of Education in such manner and under such rules and regulations as the Governor in Council shall determine, for the purpose of providing new schools in settlements where hitherto no schools have been established, and of providing means of keeping the schools open during the full year in such places where hitherto schools have been kept open for shorter periods." It is gratifying, Sir, that we have got another $7,000 for that purpose; but I am convinced that we have not been getting the full benefit from the expenditure under this section that we should be getting. A section was
passed several years ago making it possible for amalgamated schools in places where there was no denomination strong enough to maintain a school of its own. That section has become practically a dead letter, and we see the old, old trouble of small settlements with two or three schools. As long as that condition exists the money must be more or less wasted. However, we have got another $7,000 and we must hope for the best.

My main objection to this Bill is its endorsement of the prevailing methods of the Council of Higher Education. This body has been in existence for some twenty years. Its work at first, I consider, Sir, had the effect of greatly stimulating education in this country, but latterly, I am afraid, it has not properly estimated the reason for its existence, which is, 'to promote sound education.' The chief objection which I have to the Bill, then, is to Section 10, which calls for an increased grant to the Council of Higher Education; and, in a minor degree, to Section 7, I am aware that this is a money bill and that the choice lies between acceptance and rejection. As I am not prepared to do anything but might in any possible way prove detrimental to the interests of education, and amendments to the Bill are beyond our powers, I must accept it in its entirety, but if I were in a position to do so I would certainly introduce amendments to Sections 7 and 10. The Premier, speaking on this subject, says: "I am not altogether unmindful of the fact that there are many well-deserving persons in the country who are not altogether in favour of the present list of studies, that is, the curriculum or syllabus taught in our schools. As I have already said, that is a matter entirely in the hands of the Council of Higher Education, who are the present judges of the subject. These men devote a great deal of time to the work and they do it entirely free. It will be noticed that the Council consists not only of clergymen, but also educationalists, heads of colleges, school superintendents and inspectors; and if, in their serious solemn opinion, knowing as they do, or ought to, the requirements of the people, the system we are pursuing is the best, it would be indeed difficult for a layman to improve upon it."

It may be very impudent on the part of a layman to make any suggestions on this matter, but as I have had fifteen years, active experience in educational work, and know something of the requirements, not only of the city but also of the outports, I shall presume to venture into waters which, I admit, are deep, and face winds which, I admit, are stormy. My objections to the Council of Higher Education are in no sense to the individual members of it. They are based upon the fact, or what I regard as the fact, that its composition is not representative, and that the work that it is doing is not to the benefit of the children of this country. I say its composition is not representative. There are at present on the Council, including its Secretary, 27 members. Of the 27, 11 are ex-officio members, leaving 16, which apparently gives a majority to the non-official members; but when we come to analysis we find that 7 of the 27 are paid Government officials—educational officials; that nine are directly connected with city colleges; that another nine are city residents, most of whom are connected, directly or indirectly, with city schools or colleges; and there are only two outport
representatives, both clergymen. Out of the 27 on this Council, we have only two men who can be said in any way to represent the outports except, of course, the inspectors, who have a very intimate knowledge of everything that is going on in educational matters throughout the Island. As a matter of fact, at least 13 of the members of the present Council of Higher Education have practically no knowledge of outport educational interests. I asked a number of questions not very long ago, and I am grateful to the Council and its Secretary for the complete and willing answers that were given. I have taken these answers and analysed them. One of the questions which I asked was in relation to the number of meetings held by the Council since March 15th, 1911, with the names of those present at each meeting; also the times at which such meetings opened and closed. In some respects I have been furnished with a fuller answer than I expected—I did not ask the number of committee meetings; and I have not been furnished with the names of those present at the various meetings, but that is a matter of very small moment. From the figures that have been given me I notice that within the year, including two meetings extra—one before and one after the year I have mentioned—there were forty meetings of all kinds, and the average attendance was ten. That average would scarcely be fair, because the committee meetings would consist of a smaller number than the whole; but taking the nine monthly meetings that were held, the average attendance was under \( \frac{1}{1} \). Now, there are 11 ex officio members, composed of the Secretary, the six superintendents and the four head masters of the colleges. As a majority of 11 is 7, we find that the 7 officials of the Council really have control. As a matter of fact, Sir, out of the 40 meetings, there was only one at which 17 members out of the 27 were present. It is not a Council of Higher Education at all, Mr. President, it is really a committee consisting of the superintendents and the head masters who control if they do not actually perform, all the work. I have been furnished with a list of the various committees, which I will read. The Supervisors' Committee consists of Rev. Dr. Curtis, Mr. Burke, Mr. Blackall, Mr. Hanrahan, with Assistants Lodge and Thompson—six official members; the Syllabus Committee consists of the whole Council since December of last year, but the standing Syllabus Committee is composed of the four superintendents, two assistant superintendents, four head masters and Rev. Bro. Pendergast, of St. Bonaventure's; the Finance and Audit Committee consists of two of the superintendents, with Rev. Canon Bolt and Dr. Lloyd, the Rhodes' Scholarship Committee consists of the superintendents and the head masters. In other words, the whole committee work of the Council of Higher Education is done by official members, with the exception that Canon Bolt and Dr. Lloyd are allowed to audit, and Rev. Bro. Pendergast is added to the ten official members of the Syllabus Committee. This, Mr. President, was not the original intention of the Act. This Act was the work of the late Rev. Bro. Slattery, Principal Blackall and the late Mr. Holloway, three educationalists of whom it is impossible to speak too highly. They introduced this Act and the work that was done during the first few years unquestionably stimulated education very greatly; but it is very evident that the Coun-
cil itself no longer carries out the intentions of its promoters. Section 84 of the Act of 1896 reads thus: “Seven members of the Council, of whom four shall be nominated members, present at any meeting shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.” The object of that section was evidently to give the nominated members the control in every meeting that was held. Seven were to form a quorum and four at least were to be nominated members. In 1903 this was amended so that seven members of the Council, nominated or not, should form a quorum, and the result is that it makes very little difference whether nominated members are present at meetings or not. The seven members who are Government educational officials can form a quorum and carry on the work.

One main reason why the Council of Higher Education has not attained that degree of popularity which it claims to have, but which it certainly has not, is the total avoidance, so far as I am aware, of Section 85 of the Act, which provides that “An annual report of the proceedings of the Council, together with a statement of its accounts, shall every year be laid upon the table of both branches of the Legislature within one month from the opening thereof.” This is my fourth session in this House, but I have never seen any such statement. All that we ever do see is the annual publication of a long list of passes, to which I shall refer in a moment or two. The answers to the questions asked in this Chamber a few days ago contain the only information ever presented which even in a remote degree may be regarded as an interpretation of Section 85.

To section 7 of the new Act I object. It provides that the present number of members shall be increased to thirty. My objection is not so much to the increase in the Council although I would rather see it decreased, and made more representative and more efficient. It is true that the increase is made at the request of the Newfoundland Teachers Association. But is is also true that there is nothing attached to the section to make it possible to carry out the wishes of the teachers to have the appointments made from their own ranks. Now what is going to come out of that? We have had too many object lessons in the past to have reasonable doubt as to the reply. Moreover the Superintendents’ recommendations will be carried out, and if the Council are to have the authority to fill up these vacancies, it is only natural, and I am not blaming them for that, they will want to appoint those who will back them up in the policy which they believe to be the right one. The idea of the Teachers’ Petition was that they might be represented. The section as presented here gives them no representation. It is still in the hands of the Governor in Council, and no matter what gentleman occupies the Premier’s chair, or who compose the Executive Council, educational matters are always left in the hands of the Superintendents or the Council of Higher Education, which they control. Now, Sir, we do want to see teachers on that Council, and a considerably larger outport representation. This is of the first importance. The position in outports cannot be properly understood here in St. John’s. I am afraid no improvement will result from the proposed increase under this section.

But, Sir, my main objection to the present position in the Council is, of course, the examination system.
That system, as carried out at the present day, does more injury, I believe, to the children of Newfoundland, to their health and to the value of education, than any system that is in vogue or could possibly be in vogue in this or any other country. The Premier has said:

"We must educate our children in the true sense of the word—that is, attend to the proper development and training of the faculties, physical, moral and intellectual. Too much study and insufficient physical exercise will turn out cripples. Our motto should be "A sound mind in a sound body."

And with every word of that I concur. It is because our present system cripples the children of the country that I voice, as strongly as I can, the objections I have to this system. We are thirty years behind the times in educational progress. We are suffocating child life instead of vitalizing it. We are creating artificial conditions instead of utilizing the natural ones we have. The examinations, and here let me say that examinations are absolutely necessary, but not competitive of the class we have, examinations in school by the principal of that school, by the teachers, are certainly necessary. The influence is wholesome, but when examination ceases to be a means and is transformed into a goal, then the advantages disappear, as it is memory only, not knowledge, is cultivated.

I have spoken too about the health of the children. Schools to-day are not places of learning or teaching. They are recitation classes. They cannot be otherwise. Parents at home night after night have to spend hour after hour preparing their children for school next day. The learning and teaching actually has to be done at home, and when the father or mother has the time and ability and knowledge to impart, I do not know but that the education obtained may be just as beneficial. But how many can do that? There are little children night after night leaving schools to sit down at home for hours, sometimes until the midnight hour strikes trying patiently to absorb the information I am afraid they do not succeed in absorbing even though they memorize the lessons they are sent home to learn. Their physical and mental powers are strained beyond endurance. Elizabeth Barrett Browning has asked:

"Do you hear the children weeping, Oh, my brothers, 
Ere the sorrow comes with years!
They are leaning their young heads against their mothers'
But that cannot stop their tears."

Does that apply to education in this country at the present time? Some say "No," but I believe it does. I have heard of case after case, and parents have often told me where they can see the vitality, the very life of their children, being sacrificed on the Altar of Examination—child-life offered on the altar of a modern Moloch.

And then there is a sort of bribe to the teachers—and I am glad to see the teachers have repudiated it—$500 distributed every year to encourage them to pass their pupils. In 1910, teachers who passed scholars received $1.97, last year $1.58 each. To their credit, be it said, the teachers have themselves spurned the insult and in one of their resolutions ask that it be devoted to another purpose, and one which might benefit the children and not themselves, a suggestion worthy of honourable record.

I have been told that "my ob-
jection is only my objection." The Premier, referring to this important matter, says:

"The next important question dealt with in these Resolutions is the Council of Higher Education. I have already referred to the personnel of that body, and I need hardly remind this Committee that it has now been working in the country since 1892, or 20 years. I had the honour of introducing the measure myself. It was the creation of the late Bro. Slattery, the late Principal Holloway and Mr. Blackall. There can be no doubt whatever about its effect on the whole educational system of the Colony during all these years. It has had the effect of lifting our entire educational system up onto an entirely new plane. Those of the Committee who have followed the reports of the Superintendents from year to year, as well as the report of the Council, must have been struck with the growth and increase in popularity of this institution. Teachers and children become more attached to it every year and approve the means by which it is carried out."

And further,—"there must be an examination system and the present system appears to be the best that the Council has been able to devise so far, within the confines of its charter. Then, too, it must be borne in mind that these examinations are entirely voluntary. The Council has power to compel candidates to take up this line of work, and the fact that so many are availing themselves of the examinations is the best proof of the Council's popularity, and of the inefficiency of anything that may be said against the Council.

"As an evidence of the feeling shown in the outports to the Council's work I need merely to mention the number of children eligible who take the exams. I find from the reports of the Superintendents, that the average enrollment of pupils in Standard 5 and over in the schools and colleges of the country is under 5,500 and the total enrollment nearly 6,000. Of these 4,100 take the Council's examinations—that is at least two-thirds of the pupils eligible for examination."

That is one way of looking at it, and from the Premier's standpoint it may be quite right, but there is something very amusing to me when I hear this thing spoken of as popular. I have not the slightest hesitation in saying that no more unpopular system could be devised; unpopular with the teachers, parents and children alike. I do not say that "vox populi" is always "vox dei," that because I think it unpopular therefore it may not be right. But in this case the unpopularity is very marked, although I have no doubt that those Superintendents who have furnished the information to the Premier, firmly believe that the work of the C.H.E. is as popular as I believe it is unpopular. The fact remains that it is very difficult nowadays to find anybody who does approve of it unless it is those directly interested. Many will say that the system is all right, if subject to limitations. They would not like to see the Council's work abolished. And neither do I desire such drastic action. "None are so blind as those who will not see," and think to wrap themselves up in a castle of silence where none can penetrate, confident, because they do not hear the tumult without, that all is going on all right. But rude awakenings may come at any time. Only the other day in one of our institutions in this town, an institution composed of young and educated young men, the whole subject was debated, and out of thirty votes recorded, twenty-seven voted against
the present system, and only three in its favour.

We are told that the teachers approve of it. I say, most emphatically, that the teachers as a general body recognize that the possibilities of education are weaker to-day than ever before. They recognize in the system a great injury, but they will not openly say so. They will say it to me and write letters to the press, but take care not to put their address to them. Can they do otherwise? "Self preservation is the first law of nature." They can only submit to the inevitable. Their pupils must be forced to enter for these competitive examinations, and if they do not make a good showing the teachers are going to suffer and badly, in their vocation. Many of the Superintendents' reports are based on them, and those who make the reports are now the ruling spirits of the C.H.E., upon whom the teachers are more or less dependent. Is it reasonable to expect that they are coming out in the open, knowing that the attack may recoil upon their own heads? But I have no hesitation in saying that if the teachers were polled man for man, woman for woman, in such a manner that the voting could not be traced, 75 per cent., if not more, would stigmatise the present system as evil instead of good.

We are told that entrance for the examination is optional. In a sense it may be. It is optional for a horse to work, but if the lash is behind the horse, I am afraid the option is of very little use to him. The fact remains that many of the reports of the Superintendents as to the work done in the various schools, are based on the results of the work of the C.H.E. and the future of the teachers is dependent on the number of children they pass. The reputation of the school is dependent on it. From the beginning to end it is a question as to how many they get through. If scholars do not pass their examination the work is regarded as unsatisfactory, and to that end child life and true education are sacrificed. The examinations may be optional nominally, but compulsory practically.

Mrs. Ann Jameson, an educational authority of the early nineteenth century, writing on the subject, says: "The true purpose of education is to cherish and unfold the seed of immortality, already sown within us; to develop to their fullest extent the capacity of every kind with which the God who made us has endowed us."

How can that be done, Mr. President, under a system such as we have at present, a system of marks or competition? I said just now that I had been told that the objections voiced by me in this Chamber were merely individual opinions. Not so, Sir. The more I read the more frequently is the view presented of the widespread and widely spreading recognition that the competitive system, as an educational agency, is radically wrong, and bad to the core. Whilst I do not wish to delay the House I am impelled to give the opinions of some prominent men, known world wide. Rev. Henry Latham, M. A., a one time very prominent authority, Master of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, writing about 30 years ago said:

"Examinations are effective in three principal ways as regards education. First, they act as stimulants, partly by holding out the prospects of advantage of some sort, and partly by appealing to the combative spirit in human nature and the desire to excel. Stimulants are valuable in our pharmacopoeia, though liable to be used too freely. Youths
who might sink into inertness are often roused to vigour by seeing a definite object to work for, or by finding themselves engaged in a contest. On the other hand, if the idea of gain is presented to young people too early, it may over-ride all other motives, such as duty and regard for authority and desire to learn. To those who have been habituated to examinations, it seems useless to work for anything in which they are not going to be examined, and the examinations will not act as a stimulus unless something is to be got by them. Hence competitive examinations should not often be repeated; a single comprehensive one at the end of a long course may do good, but it must not be kept always immediately in view. The stimulating effect of examinations leading to gain, acts on parents and on school-masters. It leads parents to exert themselves to procure not the best education for their sons they can but the most direct preparation for competitions. This fosters low notions of education, people overlook the value of developed faculties and good mental habits and seem to think that if there were no examinations their sons would want no schooling. Often it is of great importance for a youth to pass an examination, when there is no time for him to get genuine knowledge. This knowledge must then be stimulated by a process called "cram," which means that the portative memory, or carrying power, must serve as a makeshift for all other faculties.

"Another point is the strain on the mind produced by competition. This strain is much greater ... when many "information subjects" have to be carried in the head at once, than when the pupil has only to exercise in his examination a power which he keeps about him; because in the former case he is constantly harassed by the fear that he is dropping something. It is bad for a student when he is interested in his chemistry to feel a panic about his English literature. Nothing wears out the mind so much as being pulled many ways at once, especially if the state of distraction is prolonged. Yearly trials, for instance, for some appointment—a new subject being now and then added to increase the candidate's weight of metal—so habituate the mind to an artificial stimulus that pupils become incapable of studying without it. They can feel no interest in a subject if it is not to be set in an examination, and in time their power of attention is weakened, and their minds become like India rubber bands which have been too long on the stretch."

And that is the trouble with us; the examinations in this country are not subordinate to the teaching; education is compelled to take a second place—and a bad second—to competitive results.

The same writer says—

"A boy at 14 should be extending the roots of his knowledge, not arranging it for display; and if he be trained in order to have something to show, there is a danger that solidity may be sacrificed to the early production of results. An examiner taking a school unawares and questioning the boys would probably detect the cleverest without doing any harm; but when boys work up to papers, even if they are carefully set, there is a danger of their developing the fatal facility of remembering words with little care for ideas which belong to their age. It is said that those who are elected scholars often seem to fall off at first. They have worked under pressure, and the pressure is removed."

I think, Sir, that these statements
of Rev. Henry Latham might have been written with local knowledge, for his words apply directly and exactly to our local conditions. I do not want to see the Council or a Council abolished, but the system of examining little children done away with. Amendments to a money bill are inadmissible, as I have said, but another session, if I am spared, and if it is necessary so to do, I may introduce a bill that will limit the age. This method of examining babies is a public menace. The minimum age in the Primary Grade is eleven, and in the Preparatory twelve. Are children of eleven and twelve fit for tests of this kind? At least we might put the limit up to fourteen, and then possibly it might not be so bad. The Report of the Royal Commission on Education of 1885, a little later than Mr. Latham says—

"Education needs organization, but it would be destroyed by uniformity; it is stimulated by inspection, but it would be crushed by a code. In the public service, where the chief object is administrative efficiency, the individual officer is necessarily subordinate. In education, where the chief object is the discovery of more perfect methods of teaching, the individual teachers must be left comparatively free. Every good teacher is a discoverer, and in order to make discoveries he must have liberty of experiment."

No such liberty is permitted or possible under our present methods. There is the rule, hard and fast. This must be studied, that must be studied, and other subjects are perforce neglected. Results are wanted and there is no elasticity for the teacher or scholar. No matter what the scholars' bent may be nothing can done. They must be kept in the old unyielding groove.

T. P. O'Connor writing last year—and where can you find a man whose advice can be more valuable? He did not come into the world with a silver spoon in his mouth. The means of education were not at his parents' disposal. T. P. himself has stated that his first chance came through his parents winning some money in a lottery. But T. P. O'Connor is today at the top of the tree and amongst the most prominent journalists in the world. He says:

"While you can enormously develop the gifts which nature has given to you, you can never bestow by any amount of development the gift which nature has refused. Try it by the test of games: Two men start golf together; from the very first moment it will be seen that one of them cannot play and he never progresses beyond a certain point; the other reveals the born and instinctive golfer from the moment he takes a club in his hand. And nature thus reveals often what she refuses, as well as what she gives. The man who plays a splendid game of chess cannot play a game of draughts; the cricketer is often no golfer. The good shot may be a bad rider. Nature is at once bountiful and niggardly. You are right when you follow in the education of any individual the lines of her bountifulness, and wrong when you attempt to supply the place of her niggardliness."

And again:

"A fundamental mistake of our present educational system is that too much time is given to mere book learning. That vice of our system penetrates very far and very deep. It causes our educational tests to be all on a false basis. Our examinations are for the most part tests of memory—and memory, though an important, is an inferior intellectual quality. It is enough to make one despair of
human intelligence to see how indiscriminate is this test of memory as a standard of fitness."

And what is true in the world of games is true in the world of schools.

- Sir Godfrey Lagden, K.C.M.G., writing in the March number of the “Nineteenth Century and After,” says:

“In the education of the masses according to the existing programme the whole point seems to be missed. They do not need to be fitted up with knowledge required for the passing of examinations. That is necessary for the classes, but useless as a rule to the masses, whose time is wasted as they muddle along through many books, instead of laying up that kind of information suitable to the technical occupations, which the bulk will find open to them. The policy might with more advantage be to teach and develop the children according to their different types of mind, not classifying them all in one mould, nor assuming that the aims and characteristics of one class of the community are bound to be in keeping with the standard of others. Handicrafts, manufacturing and agriculture, must all have their votaries, if the country is to hold its own in world-wide competition. The common judgment of the nations is in favor of universal education of the masses, so long as it is not carried to an unpractical length. While, therefore, allowing every scope for genius, no matter in what social layer it is found, our educational system may usefully be to familiarize the minds of the multitude, with the idea that there are various kinds of employment of a healthy and paying character, which the many may go in for, and that mere clerical work is neither much in request nor so lucrative or independent as some of the occupations, despised as they appear to be, requiring manual labor.”

That is a very recent expression. Here are two others. Dean Inge, writing on the perils of routine school work, observes:

“In education they did not want to force the young mind into a groove. They did not want to turn their pupils into copies of themselves. Heaven forbid! They would much rather watch them grow naturally. Few professions were so hampered as theirs by unnecessary difficulties, Vested interests, endowments, the Philistinism and timidity of governors and parents, the deep-rooted disbelief in the value and nobility of intellectual things, combined to make the lot of the teacher more difficult and unsatisfying than it should be.

“The subjects—so he felt at Eton—were ill chosen, and the methods of teaching them radically bad. They were pursued by the demon of examination, the “riddling sphinx;” the attention of the boys was distracted by too many subjects. There was no freedom for the master to exercise his judgment. He must go on making the best of a system which he knew was bad, and neglecting those subjects—which were both the most stimulating and had the greatest value.”

Here is the opinion of Bishop Welldon, whom we all know, on the “Tyranny of Examinations:”

“A protest against the tyranny of examinations was entered by Dr. Welldon. Examination, he pointed out, was once the obvious remedy for favoritism, but a mere examination in knowledge can never test some of the highest qualities which fit men and women for the service of the State. A facility for answering questions upon paper was easily associated with grave defects of intellect and character.”

And if that is true of men and women, it is vastly more true of little children.

- Sir Robert Bond, speaking on this subject in the other Chamber, said:

“We might, in the educational sys-
tem of Switzerland, find the best model on which to build, for that great educationalist, Matthew Arnold, declared that Switzerland possessed the best educational system in the world."

In June, 1911, Switzerland passed a law establishing the Montessori System in all public schools. And the principles of the Montessori system, Sir, are in exact opposition to the methods that are adopted by our Council of Higher Education. They are the liberation of the personality, studying the pupil before educating him; protecting the potential as well as the present individuality which every child possesses, and so keeping it away from those things which disturb or destroy it or force it into any given mould. Mr. President, every child in every school is a potential premier, a potential bishop, fisherman, blacksmith, railway magnate. Every child has something in him, which something should be developed. You cannot make a bishop out of a blacksmith nor a blacksmith out of a bishop, or if you do you will make a very poor bishop out of a good blacksmith, or a very poor blacksmith out of a good bishop. Our system is having the effect of taking away the individuality from the child and crushing it into a mould. We are testing it by a series of annual examinations, and the individuality is disappearing entirely. There is only one advantage in this examination system, Sir, that I can see, and that one advantage is being literally thrown away. I asked a question as to what became of the examination papers, and here is my answer: "The examination papers are not returned. They are left in the hands of the College of Preceptors, who keep them until the March following the examinations, when they are destroyed." As a schoolmaster—and I spent the happiest years of my life in that profession—I considered examinations as a means of education. The examination papers were set and corrected, and were then used to show the children where they were wrong. If these papers came back from the Old Country marked and were sent to the various schools, then I could see some use in them. The children could be shown the blunders that they had made and how to avoid making those blunders in future. That is the only advantage that there is in the examination system; and it is done away with because the papers are never returned. And here let me say that so far as the examinations themselves are concerned, I will congratulate the Council on the excellence of the papers which are being sent. They are unquestionably good.

Mr. President, I have shown that competitive examinations are not beneficial to the children of this country, and I think I am in a position to prove by the records of the Council itself that their system is an absolute failure. I have prepared some tables. It has taken some time, but I don't grudge the time considering the importance of the work in which we are engaged. Now, I am not going to weary the Council by reading all these figures that I have down here. I shall see to it that they will appear in the records, and so afford to every member an opportunity of seeing them and checking them if they so desire and, then of judging for themselves, but I shall briefly summarize them. Last year, out of 100 children who entered for the Primary Grade 12.8 failed to sit; 46 passed; 41.2 failed. Now, Sir, all that a child is required to pass in the Primary examination is spelling, handwriting, the reproduction of a short story, grammar, literature, arithmetic, hygiene and one other subject, and thirty per cent. constitutes a pass. Seven mistakes cut of ten are permitted. I think any of the business men in this Chamber would be very sorry
to allow any of those in their employ to make that percentage of mistakes.

In the Preliminary, Intermediate and Associate Grades, out of every 100 candidates entering for examination last year, 8.7 failed to sit, possibly some were sick, more were sad, and their teachers only too glad for them to escape; 2.9, less than three per cent., obtained honors. Only three out of 100 candidates could get more than 70 per cent.; 14 passed in the first division. I don't know just what the percentage of pass is for the first division, but I think it is about 50; 42.2 passed in the second division, that is, barely passed; 32.2 obtained less than 30 per cent. of the marks.

Now, let us take an analysis for four years. Out of every hundred successful candidates during the past four years, since the examinations have been conducted by the College of Preceptors, 5½ obtained honors, 26½ obtained first place; 68 out of every hundred obtained a bare pass. I have also made an analysis of the work that has been done during the past six years—that is, taking the four years under the College of Preceptors and two years under the Correspondence College. During these six years out of every 100 candidates who went in for the Primary examination, 16.9 failed to sit; 14.9 passed; 38.2 failed. That is the Primary. Preliminary: out of every 100 who entered for the Preliminary grade, 11.6 failed to sit; 55.7 passed; 32.7 failed. Intermediate: out of every 100 who entered for that examination, 12.7 failed to sit; 64.9 passed; 22.4 failed. Associate: out of every 100 candidates who entered for the Associate grade, 11.6 failed to sit; 44.9 passed; 43.5 failed. That is to say, recapitulating, out of every 100 candidates who entered for the C. H. E. examinations during the past six years, 14.2 failed to sit; 52.2 passed; 33.6 failed.

Have we any reason to be proud of this? Out of every 100 candidates barely half passed, and a pass can be obtained for 30 per cent. of the marks. I think, Sir, that these figures are the strongest condemnation of the system that is in operation at the present time that it would be possible to present to this House. I ask you business men who are mixing up every day with young men in your employ,—I ask you if the education of to-day is anything like that of former days in its results? We want more technical education in our schools, and by that I don't mean anything extravagant. I don't mean that we should follow in the footsteps of the larger countries, but we must do something in order to fit our children for the battle of life in which they are to engage. They are not now being fitted for the struggle. We are trying to train doctors and lawyers, but what are we doing for those who have to engage in the fisheries, who go into the fields? It is only a couple of years ago that a gentleman came here and told us a simple rudimentary fact, namely, that our fishermen were wasting their time trying to fish in water below or above a certain temperature. How many of our children know that? A simple fact, it is true, but a most important one. No attention is paid to the fisheries. We prefer to teach algebra—a very useful subject in its place. We find in the reports this year a statement about agriculture having been introduced into the schools, but the report by the College of Preceptors examiners shows the teaching to have been worse than useless. And how could it have been otherwise? You have got to teach the teachers before you let the teachers teach the children.

Only two things have happened during the last few years which give encouragement in this connection. One is the work done by Mr. Arthur Barnes who is training teachers not merely in methods, but in the principles of
and ethics of their profession—teaching the teachers to teach, and not to cram. If we had a little more of that work going on we might look for good results. The other is the Industrial School near Quidi Vidi. I was told only the other day by an employer of labor that the best boys he could get for work came from that school. There is a little bit of technical instruction given there. But what technical instruction is given under a system of this kind? Mr. President, I feel strongly on this subject, and would fain say more, but I must detain the House no longer, other than to say this, that I believe reform must come, and am hopeful that it will come from within. I believe there are members on the Council to-day, Sir, who recognize the injuriousness of the competitive system, and who favor the modification of it, to the benefit of the children of the community. We have had statements made in the reports of some of the Superintendents admitting the weak spots, and expressing the hope that these weak spots may be remedied. And we are looking to those gentlemen, Sir, the teachers are looking to them, the country is looking to them to eradicate the evil which exists in this terrible system, this almost criminal system,—for its results constitute a crime against childhood—this system which is destroying the vitality, the brain power and the individuality of our children, and endangering the future of the race. As Professor Sadler said at Bradford a few days ago: “No education is worthy of the name unless it is a preparation for life.”

C.H.E. EXAMINATION RESULTS FOR 1911.

PRIMARY GRADE.—Out of every 100 candidates,—

12.8 failed to sit.
46 passed.
41.2 failed.

100

PRELIMINARY, INTERMEDIATE AND ASSOCIATE GRADES.—Out of every 100 candidates,—

8.7 failed to sit.
2.9 obtained honours.
14 passed in the first division.
42.2 barely passed.
32.2 obtained less than 30 per cent. of marks.

C. H. E. EXAMINATION RESULTS FROM 1908 TO 1911.

ASSOCIATE, INTERMEDIATE AND PRELIMINARY.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Honours</th>
<th>First Division</th>
<th>Second Division</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>721</td>
<td>1078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>839</td>
<td>1245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>982</td>
<td>1276</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>251</td>
<td>1209</td>
<td>3110</td>
<td>4570</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thus out of every 100 successful candidates during the past four years,—
5.5 obtained honours.
26.5 obtained a first division.
68 obtained a bare pass.

100

A SIX YEARS' ANALYSIS.

### PRIMARY GRADE.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Entered</th>
<th>Examined</th>
<th>Passed</th>
<th>Failed</th>
<th>Of those who sat</th>
<th>Of those who Entered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>1089</td>
<td>873</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td>53.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>1146</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>473</td>
<td>51.8</td>
<td>61.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1255</td>
<td>980</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>48.9</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>1446</td>
<td>1207</td>
<td>694</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>42.5</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>1702</td>
<td>1470</td>
<td>828</td>
<td>642</td>
<td>43.7</td>
<td>51.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>1682</td>
<td>1467</td>
<td>774</td>
<td>693</td>
<td>47.2</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8320</td>
<td>6909</td>
<td>3740</td>
<td>3169</td>
<td>45.8</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Out of every 100 candidates who have entered for the Primary Examination the last six years,—
16.9 failed to sit.
44.9 passed.
38.2 failed.

100

### PRELIMINARY GRADE.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Entered</th>
<th>Examined</th>
<th>Passed</th>
<th>Failed</th>
<th>Of those who sat</th>
<th>Of those who Entered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>930</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>447</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>42.7</td>
<td>51.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>1007</td>
<td>867</td>
<td>499</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>42.5</td>
<td>50.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>1006</td>
<td>871</td>
<td>556</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>36.2</td>
<td>44.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>1082</td>
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<td>29.6</td>
<td>37.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1367</td>
<td>1228</td>
<td>797</td>
<td>431</td>
<td>35.1</td>
<td>41.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>1507</td>
<td>1377</td>
<td>868</td>
<td>509</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>42.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6899</td>
<td>6098</td>
<td>3843</td>
<td>2255</td>
<td>36.9</td>
<td>44.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Out of every 100 candidates who have entered for the Preliminary Grade during the last six years,—
11.6 failed to sit.
55.7 passed.
32.7 failed.

100
### Intermediate Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Entered</th>
<th>Examined</th>
<th>Passed</th>
<th>Failed</th>
<th>Of those who sat</th>
<th>Of those who Entered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>30.9</td>
<td>41.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>30.3</td>
<td>43.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>444</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1984</td>
<td>684</td>
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Out of every 100 candidates who have entered for the Intermediate Examination during the last six years,—

12.7 failed to sit.
64.9 passed.
22.4 failed.

### Associate Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<th>Examined</th>
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<th>Failed</th>
<th>Of those who sat</th>
<th>Of those who Entered</th>
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<td>199</td>
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Out of every 100 candidates who have entered for the Associate Grade during the last six years,—

11.6 failed to sit.
44.9 passed.
43.5 failed.

### Recapitulation

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<th>Entered</th>
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<th>Failed</th>
<th>Of those who sat</th>
<th>Of those who Entered</th>
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Out of every 100 candidates entered for a C. H. E. Examination during the past six years,—

14.2 failed to sit.
52.2 passed.
33.6 failed.
HON. MR. JOB—Mr President, in the main, I support this Bill, but I rise to refer to what I consider to be a grave oversight in the educational management of this Colony; I mean the absence of any teaching that helps the earners to make their living. This, of course, is called technical education, and we, I am afraid, are about the last country in the world to take it up, and why I cannot tell. One would imagine with such an amount as $360,000.00 to spend on education, a small sum might annually be spared for instructing the young how best to engage a hook, build a boat, cure codfish, bath and solder a can, make good medicinal oil, make a cod net or trap. Here we have an industry, our great cod fishery, worth eight million dollars, and very little or nothing being done to foster it. What we need is a fishery college, where courses in subjects relating to the fishery could be taken and training to fit a man for the occupation he is going to follow could be given free of charge. It appears to me that if we want to start something new we cannot successfully advocate it without giving as an excuse for the same that it is being done successfully in other countries, and this system for increasing the earning power of the worker is no exception. In Norway considerable time and money is successfully spent in a useful system of education through a Central Fishery School at Bergen, from which is established at the important places all round the coast smaller schools, where matters dealing with the different branches of fishing are taught and lectures are given on new methods being used in other countries. These new methods are at once experimented on in the different centres and either adopted or rejected, as the case may be. We must surely be aware that improvements in all manner of fishing gear have been very great during the past thirty years, but I am sure there has not been the slightest alteration in our fishermen's methods, and the lads that go to the fishery for the first time next summer will have no more to help them earn their bread than what their grandfathers had. This, Sir, is not making the best of things, and it is time we waked up, but the Educational Department should do their share in making suggestions along these lines so as to encourage the Government. It is true that our best and highest paid educational minds are devoting too much time to the branches of Higher Education, instead of inaugurating something that will keep the people interested in a work that will enable us to continue to say that we are the greatest fishing country in the world. We may be the largest, but we are not the most up-to-date in our methods. We are undoubtedly the last country in the world that does not use the motor boat for the fishery generally. A little elementary instruction in this subject would enable many a family to double their present earnings and in the long run give the Government means to increase this grant. In conclusion, Sir, I have to ask if it would not be possible to prepare a fishery primer, not by the first person who takes the notion, but by the Educational Department, after discussion of each paragraph with men experienced in fishing and cure in this Island, and further by gathering of information from the different fishing countries of the world. I believe there are plenty of brains in this Educational Department, but fear they are never used for the purpose of helping the fisherman to increase his wage. Now
is their opportunity. It is claimed that herring in Norway has been put up in 150 different ways for food. We can find barely two ways here. Our fish is cured in one way only, but there are many other methods in use elsewhere, which should be enterprised and talked about by young and old: The Fishery Department the past fifty years has been toying with these things, but has failed to do anything substantial, and I think the Educational Department might make an attempt to do something. It took years of education and research for Canada to learn how to grow No. 1 hard wheat, and it will take the same to bring forth the best No. 1 hard cod. Let us teach the lads something that will enable them to make a good living in their native land. Encourage them to live with their own people, instead of straying away to other places, and don't let it be said that the only school they know is the caplin school.

HON. MR. GIBBS moved that the debate be deferred in order to enable hon. members to speak on the Second Reading of the Bill, and it was so ordered.

HON. THE PRESIDENT read a message from the House of Assembly that they had passed a Bill respecting Retiring Allowances, in which they requested the concurrence of the Council.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP, the Bill 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 till to-morrow at 4 p.m.

TUESDAY, March 26, 1912.

The House met at 4 o'clock pursuant to adjournment.

The minutes of the previous sitting were read and confirmed.

EDUCATION BILL.

The order for the Second Reading of the Education Bill being read—

HON. MR. McGRATH—No more interesting measure, Mr. President, could come before this Legislature than that to which we are now addressing ourselves, for in this age everything turns upon education. It is the auxiliary that assists the poorest and the humblest to attain to the highest positions to which man can aspire. It enables us to centre thought with power, to marshal our mental forces effectively. It gives us the means to acquire the efficiency by which we get out of life high and noble pleasures that wealth cannot purchase. In every walk of life to-day the uneducated human is hopelessly lost. He cannot expect, save in rare instances, to raise himself above the level of the hewer of wood and drawer of water, to open a little wider the door of a narrow life, to push his horizon further afield, in order to get a wider outlook and a clearer vision. But provided with this aid he can see within his grasp the best positions which church and state, commerce and the professions, hold out to those equipped educationally for the battle of life, however humble his station may be.

Recognizing this, as the world does to-day, no efforts are thought too great in the cause of education; and if we survey the subject as it presents itself to us from every advancing country, we find that, in whatever else there may be differences of opinion, unanimity prevails as to the promotion of scholastic endeavour and the furtherance of the great object of training the young ideas. Here in Newfoundland, as elsewhere, the great underlying fea-
ture in the policy of every statesman is to stimulate education. This gift, however, is like life itself, neither good nor bad, neither a boon nor a curse, but an opportunity which may become either the one or the other, according to the use that is made of it. It is the duty of our Government to advise the most generous possible provision for wise educational uplift amongst us and on the Legislature to support such recommendations, for in no country in the world are the advantages which education brings in its train calculated to be of greater benefit to the people than in Newfoundland where the isolation of our communities, their remoteness and the lack of inter-communication make the loneliness of life much more manifest, especially when coupled therewith is the intellectual starvation that lack of learning brings in its wake.

In making for education the most generous provision possible, we do not, however, sacrifice, our right to question the manner in which such appropriations are to be spent or the methods to be employed in imparting knowledge to the rising generation. Some of us in this House and in the other Chamber spring from a race which has made more sacrifices, perhaps, for education than any other in the world, a race renowned in bygone ages for its learning and its culture, but which saw itself in more modern times so beset by oppression that the bleak hillside was the only class-room and the hedge schoolmaster the only pedagogue; when the struggle to keep alight the lamp of learning was only exceeded by the effort to maintain the right to have religion free and its practice un compelled; when teacher and preacher were both outlawed and to worship God according to one's conscience and to acquire the rudiments of education were alike offences punished with draconian severity. In spite, however, of these adverse conditions, the desire for education was not wholly deracinated from our forefathers and we have therefore earned, by their tribulations and their victories, as well as by the achievements in our own Colony in recent years of the educational institutions with which our race are identified, the right to claim that Christian education, or denominational education, is justifying its existence and that when we speak on the subject of education in criticism of existing machinery and methods, we are not questioning this principle at all, but are directing our comments entirely to matters of administration and curriculum, and are animated solely by the desire to better the conditions under which education is carried on in the Colony.

I am sure I voice the sentiments of every hon. member when I say it was with great pleasure we heard the clear-cut address with which Hon. Mr Bishop favored us in introducing the Bill yesterday, the masterly review to which Hon. Mr. Robinson treated us, when he brought the experience gained in 15 years of work in the school teaching profession, to the consideration of many aspects of this problem with which we are unfamiliar, and the practical and pertinent suggestions of Hon. Mr. Job as to teaching our people subjects more in conformity with the occupations they are pursuing, so as to better fit them to carry on their industrial undertakings.

This measure has been subjected to searching criticism, such criticism as every measure that comes before us ought to be sub-
jected to—criticism not designed for partisan or sectional effect but calculated to improve the measures in all respects; and I purpose to add some words of further criticism myself with the same object in view.

The Bill now before us provides, first, for another vote of $7,000 towards the establishing of schools in sparsely settled localities, being the second installment of $20,000, which it was decided last session to set apart for this purpose in three annual installments of $7,000, this plan being adopted because it would be impossible to secure enough teachers in any one year for all the localities involved. The feature of the Bill, it seems to me, is so commendable that objection is impossible. The second phase is the providing of an increase of $20,000 in the general education vote because of the census returns showing an increase in our population of some 20,000 humans the past decade; and to this vote, too, there will, I think, be no objection offered by this House. The third provision of a direct financial character is the increase of the annual vote for the Council of Higher Education by $2,500, which addition, however, will, I think, be the pivotal point of the criticism of the measure amongst us. The Bill has one other feature and that is the providing of a state-aided Pension Scheme for teachers, and with this I shall deal subsequently, referring more particularly now to the financial phases of the measure.

With the additions herein provided, the education appropriation in the estimates for the fiscal year that will begin in July will amount to $360,000, or practically ten per cent. of the total annual expenditure of the Colony; or, to put it otherwise, every person in our Island will be taxed $1.50 per year for educational purposes. Except for the vote for the Interest on the Public Debt, the annual educational outlay is now almost the largest the Colony makes. I have noted the amounts as shown by the coming estimates, and they are—

| Public Charities, Hospitals, etc. | $367,000 |
| Education | 360,000 |
| Railroad and Steamship subsidies | 230,000 |
| Postal and Tel. Dept. | 260,000 |
| Civil Government | 230,000 |
| Customs Department | 220,000 |
| Adm. of Justice | 230,000 |
| Roads and Bridges | 180,000 |
| Marine and Fisheries | 103,000 |
| Lighthouses | 96,000 |
| Agric. and Mines | 76,000 |

This is a very generous provision for education when compared with the votes for other services, and especially when we remember that the annual allowances for education have been increased $100,000 within the past three years. Because of this large increase, because of the sympathetic response to every claim made by the scholastic authorities, because its good faith in the matter has been made so clear, the Government and the Legislature will be in a strong position in taking the stand that the time has now come when the Colony should ask itself if it is getting value or anything like value for the money it is spending for this service.

When discussing the Tuberculosis Bill last week I remarked that the Colony had never cavilled at any outlay for education, and I would emphasize here that in any criticisms made of this measure by me there is no desire to cavil at the increased grants given for this service. The point to which I am coming is whether our educational machinery is producing
the results we are entitled to expect from it. This is a phase of the subject that appeals most peremptorily to all communities, and the more fully, I submit, we discuss this question and the more care and thought we bring to the solving of the problem of improving our educational status, the better will it be for the Colony in general.

But we must realize that the first difficulty that faces the man who rises to speak in such strain is that there is resentment of criticism in some quarters, and an impression prevails that it is an offence to use anything but complimentary terms in referring to educational matters. While we are not deliberately told that we should not discuss this matter at all, that is the idea which is sought to be conveyed. I am not referring now to the matter of denominational education, because the colony has definitely decided that this principle is the one best suited for our circumstances. I am referring to the situation that exists otherwise, to the movement to discourage criticism of our educational machinery. For instance, when anyone questions the methods or workings of the Council of Higher Education, he is met with the argument that these gentlemen give their service gratuitously, the implication being that for that reason they ought to be immune from criticism. I do not think that such should follow, and I do not for a moment subscribe to such a doctrine. The same thing occurs when we discuss our general educational establishment—the schools, the schoolmasters, the school boards, the school inspectors and the school funds. I repeat that I reject entirely the suggestion that this educational establishment ought not to be criticized. When any man assumes a public position, the fact that he works for nothing should be no bar to his being fairly criticized. There are members of the Executive Council in every Cabinet, who work for nothing. Yet they are as bitterly censured at times as their colleagues who hold departmental offices and draw the salaries attached thereto. I have no personal antipathy to any members of the Council of Higher Education, to the school superintendents or to any other units in our educational organization. I do not want the Council of Higher Education abolished, but I am not to be deterred from saying what I think because people will say that if we criticize the Council its members will resign. I do not desire their resignation, but I would point out that if anything were to happen to its members tomorrow and they were to be removed, piecemeal or wholesale, the Colony would have to get on without them just as it contrives to get on without any other individual or collective figure in its existence which passes from the stage.

My objection, again, is not to our existing machinery, but to what I regard as its wrong employment. We need some such body as the C.H.E., for without it there would be educational stagnation. Examinations, if properly conducted, form the only possible test, rough though it may be, and the only means of securing thoroughness of knowledge and discipline of mind in respect of education. My objection with regard to examinations is to our present system, which I do not think is practical enough. We are attending too much to the frills and fripperies, and too little to practical subjects. There is too much Greek and Latin, and too little writing and ciphering, the things that will help the people in this country to earn a living. Our
higher school system is too academic. We are not ministering sufficiently to the actual requirements of our people. We are producing boys and girls who it may be said, can address learned professors in classic tongues, but who are unable to add up a column of figures or write a legible hand.

Are all these fripperies necessary? I am sure they are not. My hon. friend opposite (Mr. Robinson) in the questions he asked last week as to the C. H. E. included one as to whether any schools in this city had abandoned the C.H.E. exams. He was answered that the Council was not aware of any such. I presume that this meant that the Council was not "officially" aware of it, because the members of the C.H.E. could not be ignorant that the Christian Brothers schools at Holy Cross and St. Patrick’s Hall deliberately cut out these exams some years ago on the ground that better results could be got by teaching practical subjects to their boys and thus rendering them more available for the positions that could be secured in offices and shops and factories and other places of employment here and in the outports. The truth of this cannot be questioned, and that a teaching institution like the Christian Brothers deliberately rejected these exams, because they were non-practical is, I think, the best evidence that from the business man's viewpoint the C.H.E. exams, as conducted to-day are of little or no value to the great mass of the people. Nor is this view confined to us here. In the papers by the last mail was a declaration by Thomas Alva Edison, the great electrical inventor, that he would not employ a graduate of Harvard or Yale, or any other University, contending that a classical course was not necessary, but rather a detriment, for a business career. His idea was that boys and girls in Universities learned little that would be of practical benefit to them in their after life, and few will deny that this is true in a large measure of the work of the C.H.E. in this Colony. We are producing an unpractical race of children. Of the average product of the C.H.E. it may be said "Of people he knew nothing—but of books
Written in ages long ago he knew All that an ordinary man could learn— And this it is that British common sense Calls education, worth the best expense."

In England they are now realizing the unwisdom of the same policy of educating their boys unsuitably. In a supplement to the London Chamber of Commerce Journal, of last Month, February 1912, is a report of the prize distribution of the commercial education bureau of that institution, at which the Lord Mayor presided. The report shows that this bureau was established in order to remedy the condition existing in London with regard to commercial education, which was entirely neglected until lately. Sir Albert Rollett, speaking on the occasion, said that 20 years ago every boy was taught as if he were going to live in classical or mediaeval times, or in the dark ages, instead of in the light and labor of the 19th and 20th centuries, but now things are so changed that this bureau's certificate is an assurance to employers that they are getting skilled and trained employees, so that the demand is becoming greater than the supply. Formerly, though Britain prides itself on being a commercial nation, the public schools paid little attention to the require-
ments of commercial life, so that hardly 10 per cent., he said, of public school boys could write a good legible hand and one of the first things this bureau was asked to undertake by some of the London banks, including the Bank of England, was an examination in handwriting for candidates on their staffs. In the same way, while valuable time was being devoted to Latin and Greek, the great modern languages were almost entirely neglected, but last year, though this bureau eschewed classical subjects, more than 4,000 applicants with certificates from the bureau, found situations in the city of London.

In asserting that our education is not practical enough, I have, it seems to me, put my finger on the weak spot in our C.H.E. system. Then arises the question, how are we to remedy this? How are we to ensure that the children will be properly taught? The answer, I submit, is that we have first to teach the teachers themselves, then we have to promote enthusiasm among the school boards, and finally we have to render more efficient our system of inspection, following up these changes with a radical reform of subjects included in the C.H.E. exams. As was explained here in reply to Hon. Mr. Robinson's questions, the examinations of the C.H.E. are conducted by the College of Preceptors of London, an institution chartered for the purpose of carrying on such "exams" in different parts of the British Empire. After all the papers have been sent to these examiners each year, and have been judged and marked, the examiners prepare comments or criticisms thereon and these, after being sent out here for the consideration of the C.H.E., are subsequently published in its annual volume. I have here copies of these annual volumes for the past five years, and I suggest to hon. members that they could not undertake a more enlightening exercise, in order to obtain an accurate idea of the condition of our educational machinery, than is afforded by a perusal of these examiners' reports. The most striking fact about these is the almost unbroken stream of condemnation which these examiners pursue with regard to school management and kindred subjects. In the volume for 1911, for instance, there is an appalling criticism of the papers on English History in the Preliminary Grade, the outstanding facts in connection with which is that the pupils do not seem to have been properly taught, in very many cases.

(Here the Hon. member quoted from the Examiners' reports.)

I submit, Mr. President, that it would be difficult to form a more severe indictment of the exams as now conducted; than is embodied in these criticisms; nor are these the only ones, as even a cursory study will show. It is needless to burden the record by reading them, though it would not be difficult to quote many similar comments, and these views justify me, I think, in asserting that our educational machinery needs a shaking up, that the institution has become affected with dry rot, that, to use a phrase much in vogue here some years ago, "it is time for a change"—in our educational methods in order to ensure, in regard to the teaching of subjects absolutely indispensable, and proficiency in which would operate to better the conditions of living for our people, more tangible results than are evidenced; instead of seeing them, as at present, sacrificed in
order to stimulate the cultivation of classical subjects that are of comparatively little benefit to the great mass of our people. Whatever value such a scheme of education as ours is might have in a country with wealthy and leisured classes like England and America, it seems to me to be worse than foolish to continue to practice it here in the light of the popular dissatisfaction now so apparent. We ought to give every boy and girl amongst us a sound practical education. We ought to teach them the subjects that will help them in their daily avocations and not till we have done this should we go in for higher education or high class education, call it which you like. The comments I have read from the Examiners in England establish the charge that many of our teachers are not taught—at any rate not taught how to teach. The provision for the training of school teachers at present is—only $3,000 for all denominations, and the recent memorial of the Anglican Synod to the Government suggested that this amount should be increased by $6,000. The memorial further expressed the hope that "some means of friendly cooperation between the several denominations in this important work may be found." And if it could be made possible to have a general scheme for teaching teachers, as the experiment is now about to be tried of a general scheme for teaching house-keeping, it would be of advantage, but if that is not found possible it ought not to be difficult to secure the additional $6,000 which the Synod Memorial considers necessary. In the first place, it has been suggested that the Primary Grade exams might be abolished and the amount devoted to that work at present, $1,000 a year, set apart for the training of teachers. In the same way the $500 divided among teachers who pass pupils in the C.H.E. exams and which averages less than $2 per teacher—an infinitesimal amount—could be also added to that fund, and judging from the friendly disposition of the Government towards the educational institution, the Treasury might be inclined to provide the rest, seeing the great importance of this subject, for it must be perfectly obvious that if the teachers are not properly trained, the children whom they are set to teach must be the great sufferers, and that it would be the wisest economy to provide liberally for such training of teachers as would reflect itself in better results among their pupils.

While I am on this subject of the impractical character of the education afforded our youth, may I point to Hon. Mr. Job's suggestion of a fishing school, one that if found practicable would certainly be most desirable; and might I say that in this regard there is another subject of equal importance, that is the subject of navigation, which is utterly neglected in our schools. In the C.H.E. exams. last year we find in the Associate Grade, the highest taught in this Colony, there is the record "one very moderate paper." This, Mr. President, is the result in this connection of twenty years of Higher Education—one pupil took a very moderate pass in navigation. Yet ours is a country the people of which live by the sea. Its men are as capable and as daring as any others. They lack nothing in sailorly qualities, and where we should be producing 40 or 50 shipmasters every year, we are producing practically none, and yet who will question me when I say that it would be much better for us to be doing this than to be producing hosts of mediocrities with a smattering of Greek and Latin and without the knowledge or ability to earn a livelihood. The same
thing is true of agriculture. Earnest effort is being made to promote agriculture amongst us and we have heard much of the teaching of agriculture in the schools. Yet the last annual volume of the C.H.E. records the fact that such instruction as was imparted in this subject was worse than useless.

Having demonstrated now, Mr. President, the need for better training of teachers, let us turn to the next point for which I contend, the promoting of enthusiasm among the school boards. I have no great knowledge of the school-board organizations in this Colony and I regret that we have not some one here, or in the other House, in sufficiently close contact with the scholastic machinery to tell us the value of them. I should like to know what do the school boards do? Do they ever meet, and if so, how often? Are they actual, earnest interested groups or are men merely put on school boards and gazetted as such for the honor that is thought to be in it? I have heard strange tales of some school boards, that they don't meet in a great majority of instances, that they amount to nothing, and that they might just as well be wiped out and it certainly seems to me that the stage has been reached in our school matters when we should know more about the boards than we do, and when we should undertake the duty of creating other machinery in substitution for them if it is the case that they are not giving any adequate attention to duties for which they are appointed.

Allied with this problem of the school boards is that of inspection. What is the value, I should like to know of school inspection in this Colony to-day? Let me explain, to begin with, that I mean no disparagement of the inspectors by this query? I am simply asking for information on a subject of public importance. We have six inspectors; they are going about the country year after year; they admit in their reports that they cannot cover all the schools in their jurisdiction, and when we apply our reasoning faculties to the problem we must recognize that even in such schools as they do inspect, the work of inspection must be of the most superficial character because they cannot give even a day to each school. I admit that there are difficulties in their way—means of transport are not easy, catching trains and steamers and other conveyances complicate the situation. But all these facts add to the fear that the Colony in this regard is not getting anything like value for its money. What we should welcome would be an inspection of the inspection by some competent authority. We require that some expert, so to speak, should take up the records of inspection the past five years, or should exercise some other supervision and tell us whether, in this respect, we have gone ahead or gone astern. We know there are teachers without any grades; we are told there are boards that never meet; it is on record that there are scores of schools uninspected; and it is because these conditions exist and because these statements cannot be controverted that I ask the question which I think answers itself in an unpleasant fashion—are we getting value for the money we are spending on education?

According to the very interesting figures submitted by our hon. friend (Mr. Robinson) yesterday 50 per cent. of those who go in for the C.H. E. exams. fail to pass. That fact to me implies that the great majority of the children in the schools in this Colony are neglected and deprived of their just rights in order that the star pupils may be coached and brought on
to win the big prizes which the exams. afford. This, I should say, speaking broadly, is one of the strongest objections to our present methods. It is not for any such purpose that the people of this country are voting money for education. They are voting it in order that the children, not the brightest children, but the average children and the plodding children, may get their fair share of attention and be given the greatest amount of education possible under the circumstances.

I think the syllabus of the C.H.E. ought to be reconstructed and many subjects now included ought to be struck out. If the Christian Brothers are able to maintain a steady supply of boys in St. John's for positions in business places while ignoring the C.H.E. exams. altogether, it seems to me that it makes an unanswerable argument against much of the matter included in the C.H.E. curriculum at present. If the class of education imparted by the Christian Brothers produces such results, then it is the education most desirable, for our people; it is the education we should endeavour to see brought into effect all over the island. The C.H.E. has been in existence for 20 years, and nobody will contend (though I say this without any idea of belittling those who compose it) that it has ever effected anything conspicuous in this direction or that it can point to any distinctive result which it can fairly claim has followed from its work except the greater number of those who go in for the exams. every year. But the destructive criticism to which the results of these exams. has been subjected by Hon. Mr. Robinson will make it difficult for any champion or apologist for the C.H.E. to successfully contend, that it has justified its existence in that regard at any rate.

I would suggest to the representative of the Government in this House (Hon. Mr. Bishop) the desirability of the Government considering the appointing of an Educational Commission, to take up the whole subject and reconstruct our educational machinery just as we had a Temperance Commission appointed in the Colony a few years ago to deal with the question of the reform of our liquor laws.

We cannot wink out of sight the fact that whatever is the reason for it, there is a strong and growing sentiment in this country to-day against the C.H.E. exams. and a feeling of dissatisfaction by the people with the existing educational organization. We are told in some quarters that these exams. are popular and perhaps they are, but we know that an institution in this city which debated the subject last week, declared against them by an overwhelming majority. Why should such a result follow? Simply because the members of that institution are not satisfied with conditions as they exist, and these members, be it noted, are associated with an institution that is one of the foremost in the country in educational effort. I was speaking to an outport gentleman this morning and he took the same view in the matter. Letters are constantly appearing in the newspapers, and people are constantly complaining in town and outport of the backwardness of education, and in my judgment, the time is not far distant when this whole subject will have to be grappled with, and such changes effected as will ensure to the people in general better results from the working of our school machinery at the present time.

With regard now, Sir, to the Teachers' Pension Scheme, the other subject embodied in the Bill before the
House, I will content myself with simply saying that I give it my hearty support. I think it is a step in the right direction and I trust it will have the good effects that are hoped from it. The general outlines of it are those submitted by the teachers in convention last year, and while it had been subjected to some criticism, we must remember that there is no measure so perfect as to defy criticism, and especially partisan political criticism, which seems to be the only form of objection that has been voiced against it. We may regret that more is not done or that the inequalities which are said to exist in connection with it are not adjusted, but here again, it is enough to say that no project is without its inequalities, and that the critics will be always with us. Probably, the scheme will be improved as time goes on, but the interests of the teachers are safeguarded and they can justly consider it as an installment on account, at any rate, and a very generous installment at that. None will dispute that we should offer teachers every inducement which is within our means to remain in the profession. They are not too highly paid, even the best of them, and opportunities offer in other walks of life to-day which must strongly tempt any ambitious young man or woman engaged in teaching to abandon that work and venture into other occupations. If, therefore, we can retain our school teachers by providing these pensions, it would, I think, be unwise for us not to do so, and if it proves possible in future years, to do even more for the teachers, I think they can count upon the unanimous support of the Legislature in any measure designed for that object.

Therefore, Sir, I accord my support to the Bill before the Chair, though as I have endeavoured to make clear in my remarks, I think the time has come when we should seriously consider the reconstruction of the C.H.E. exams. and the re-organization of our educational machinery generally.

HON. MR. GIBBS.—Mr. President I am sure that this House has listened with a great deal of pleasure, and with profit as well to the very admirable addresses which have been delivered by the Hon. Mr. Robinson and the Hon. Mr. McGrath. A great deal of care has been brought to bear on the discussion of this subject; and in fact there is no matter which should commend itself more to our serious thought and attention than education. All must admit that the Council of Higher Education has done a great deal to stimulate education in this country. The chaos in which education was at the time of the creation of that body justified its being called into existence, and must justify its existence to-day. The majority of people expect that the Council of Higher Education should be perfect. Now, no institution in this world is perfect; nothing that man can do is perfect; no matter what we do some body is going to improve on it. No matter if we were to spend years and years in the work of reconstructing this system, twenty-four hours after we had finished somebody would be able to point out some mistake that had been made. Now, I am not one of those who believe that the Council of Higher Education should be abolished. On the contrary, I believe it is doing a great work in this country, and that its work has justified its existence and its continuation. Our criticisms should be directed towards building up, not tearing down. Any one can tear down, but it takes men of a great deal of constructive talent and ability to build up. This world
has been agitated, and will be agitated as long as it is a world, with different ideas and different views as to what system of education is best for a country. Now, let us take the objections that have been urged against examinations, and let us see how far they can be maintained. I am not unmindful of the fact that some of the criticisms that have been indulged in as regards examinations are justifiable. Hon. Mr. Robinson, during the course of his admirable address, in referring to section 9 of the Bill now before the House, said that we are not getting the full benefit of that section because of the fact that some tiny settlements have two or three schools owing to denominationalism. The object of that section is to provide schools for sparsely populated settlements, and I would like to inform the hon. gentlemen that out of 64 localities which were found to be devoid of schools, only six of them had different denominations. The objection, therefore, urged against that portion of the Bill falls to the ground. Then the hon. gentleman attempted to make a strong argument against the Council of Higher Education upon the ground that it did not represent the outports. Nobody can question the hon. gentleman's sincerity in the matter, but I would like to point out to him that all the Inspectors represent the outport schools—they are really inspectors of outport schools—and that a number of the Council have a very intimate knowledge of the outport system of education. I would refer the hon. gentleman to the names of Canon Pilot, Rev. Bro. Kennedy, who has done some inspection in the outports, Canon Bolt who has been Chairman of an outport school board, Rev. Dr. Cowperwaiite, Monsignor Roche, Rev. Mr. White, Mr. Barnes and Rev. Mr. Fenwick; so that in all 18 out of the 26 members of the Council of Higher Education are eminently fitted for dealing with the question of outport education. The hon. gentleman also criticises the attendance at the meetings. Well, if he will take into consideration the fact that the Inspectors are so frequently absent from the city he will find that the average attendance of the members of the Council of Higher Education is very much higher than the attendance in this Chamber or in the lower House. He will find that the average attendance is at least from 75 to 80 per cent. of those available, and that is a very fair percentage of attendance, especially in view of the fact that the great majority of the members receive no compensation whatever for their work. Then again he objects to section 7 of the Bill because those who may be nominated by the teachers to the Council of Higher Education will have to be approved of by the Inspectors. Now, I have no such opinion of the teachers of this country. On the contrary I believe them to be a body who are not alone capable, but anxious to assert their independence of thought and action irrespective of the school inspectors or anyone else, and that they will choose to represent them upon the Council of Higher Education those who are best calculated to represent the interests of the teachers and education generally. I do not think that the teachers are afraid to elect men who may not meet the wishes of the inspectors. Then the hon. gentleman refers to the fact that the Council of Higher Education is not popular; that it is a most unpopular body, and that the teachers recognize that the system of examinations is injurious. At the last teachers' convention the question of the examination system was
for debate, and not one of the teachers attempted to criticise or find fault with it in any manner. If the system was so unpopular as has been stated, I think it would certainly have been criticised at the convention when it was down for debate. I cannot altogether agree with the criticism to which the examination system has been subjected. I have children of my own, and I sit with them night after night, when duty does not call me elsewhere, and I can frankly state that their young brains or their young bodies are not overtaxed, and that there is not, so far as I can see, any ground for complaint or condemnation of the system. The boy and girl to-day in this country of the age of 12 and 13 are better grounded in the rudiments of knowledge than were those who grew up with me at that age. They are better taught to-day. If I considered that the present system of education was injuring my children physically or mentally I would certainly not permit them to study the syllabus of the Council of Higher Education; but I cannot see it in that light. Then there is a fault-finding upon the part of parents—whether it is genuine or not—because they have to teach their children at home at night. Well, is not that the duty of every parent? Is not the home the greatest educator of all? And should it not be a pleasure for a parent to sit night after night and aid the school in imparting knowledge to his son or daughter? It was done with me; it was done in the homes of this country thirty and forty years ago; and the parents in those days did not consider it any disadvantage or did not consider that it interfered with them in any shape or form, but rather looked upon it as a pleasure—and I think there are thousands of people in Newfoundland to-day who look upon it in the same light. The hon. gentleman also says that we are trying to train lawyers and doctors and fishermen and blacksmiths in the one school. I quite agree with him, and I think that that is where the system which we have in this country is faulty. We are endeavouring, as it were, to impart a classical, a commercial and an industrial education in the same school. But if we want to separate the classical and the commercial and the industrial, we must be prepared to pay the bill. You cannot have classical and commercial, and industrial education, taught as hon. members would like to see them taught in this country, without spending very much more money than you are spending to-day. You must have different schools, different teachers, children graded in accordance with their mental capacity. To-day you will find in a school, a boy of 11 or 12 years of age whose mental alertness is greater than a boy of 13, but what happens? That child is in many cases kept back because he has got to remain in the class with the less mentally alert. If it could be so arranged that the children in the different schools could be graded and those who were mentally brighter than others placed in a different class, then it would certainly be very much better; but all that means money. We cannot hope to emulate the educational institutions of other countries, because we have not the means at our disposal. In other places they spend fifty or sixty dollars per head on education, while here we spend but a paltry few dollars per head, and to expect to get the same results, or anything like them is, to say the least, ridiculous. What is the good of all this talk about education to a man who has got
to go and earn his living on the ocean. He needs but very little in the way of education. He has an education far superior to any that a school or college can give him, because he has been trained from his childhood up in his work, which is how to build a boat and sail it, how to cut a sail, how to make his trap and his net. Now, how much would you have to pay if you had to give an education of that kind to the people of this country? It would cost you hundreds of thousands of dollars a year. Every fisherman in this country to-day is an educated man. Suppose you take the so-called educated man with a degree from some college or university, and put him down in one of our ports, what would happen? Why, he would starve to death. That is not the class of man, nor is he educated, that is suited to this country. You go to the Canadian Northwest to-day and who are the pioneers of its progress and development? Not the highly educated man, not the man who has come out of the University, but the man with the large hand, the man who is able to work, to dig and delve, and has a certain amount of education in order to enable him to do his work intelligently and well. It is quite true, Mr. President, that we need better treatment for teachers in this country. The reason why we have not got a more efficient class of teachers is because we are not paying them sufficient, and hence the enthusiasm is not put into their work. I believe now, that this pension scheme will have the effect of making the teachers more enthusiastic in their work, and that the best men and women will be attracted to the profession, and that they will stay in it in consequence. Heretofore the average man who took up the teaching profession saw nothing before him, but possibly the poor asylum or his being obliged to throw himself upon the charity of his friends. Now all this is changed, and he can start upon his work with the knowledge that when his work is done he will be provided for, and provided for in such a manner that he will not have to depend upon charity of any sort. The teachers of this country, in consequence of the lack of inducements to remain in the profession, were leaving at the rate of one hundred a year, with the result that Boards of Education throughout the Colony were in many cases compelled to accept teachers for the schools under their control below the grade required for these schools; and with that condition of affairs going on we cannot hope to have that efficiency which we would wish. Now, I don't agree with the hon. gentleman that the children of this Colony are being injured physically through what he calls the "cramming system." I believe that the boys and girls of this country are as bright and intelligent as those of any other country in the world—in fact, I know they are. It was the proud boast of a teacher in the schools I attended that they found the Newfoundland boy and girl to be quicker in many respects in acquiring knowledge than any others they had taught in other countries. If we take the American school as a sample, what do we find? Let us look at the schools of Boston and take the subjects of examination for a boy or girl 12 years of age. These are: Spoken and Written English, Composition, Grammar, Dictation, Analysis, Reading, Penmanship, Workmanship, etc. Compare that with the syllabus of the Council of Higher Education here and you will find that what is required in American schools of a boy
of the same age as a boy in our own is very much higher; and if the American boy and girl can meet the requirements of the standard which I have read, which is higher, surely the boy or girl in this country are able to acquire sufficient knowledge at our schools to enable them to pass the examinations set by the Council of Higher Education.

Fault is found with the provisions of the bill in relation to the approval of the Superintendent to the retirement of the teacher at 55 if he be physically unfit to continue his work I do not see what objection there can be to it. If a teacher attain 55 years of age, and is physically able to continue the work of teaching for another five years, why pension him? Who is a better judge of the work the teacher is doing or is able to do, than the Superintendent? The argument of the hon. member that all teachers should be standardized and paid accordingly is not a sound one in relation to the teaching profession in this country, because if you standardize them then there is no incentive given or inducement held out to the teacher to qualify for a higher class school, whereas when he knows that he can add to his salary by becoming more proficient in his profession, it is morally certain that he is going to try, and as a consequence we will get in the future a more efficient class of teachers.

A great deal of discussion has taken place as to the results of our educational systems and the manner in which pupils are being trained for positions in the business and trade of this country. I am not unmindful, Sir, that they are not as good as all would wish, but this is not peculiar to this country. In United States where immense sums of money are devoted to education, and the devising of new systems, practically the same complaint is heard, for I find in reference to a periodical, 'America' of March the 9th the following:

"Our readers will recall the sharp criticisms published here in the East following the report of a recent incident at the State Normal School in Trenton, N.J. A visiting committee of the New Jersey State Board of Education found that the future teachers receiving training in that institution were deficient in spelling and singularly unacquainted with other fundamentals.

"But one may give unqualified assent to suggestions in favor of radical change in the elementary schools. Justification is found in the confession made by no less an authority than City Superintendent Maxwell, of New York, who supplies evidence in his annual report that "the public schools, judged from the products, which should be among the best turned out, are deficient in English and in elementary arithmetic." Those pupils who have completed the elementary school course and also that in the high schools reveal these defects to such an extent when they seek admission to training schools that Dr. Maxwell has deemed it advisable to prescribe special tests. Those who drop out before completing it and who go into business are criticised for their very obvious shortcomings by the businessmen who employ them.

"The declaration recently made by a member of the New York Board of Examiners regarding the acceptance of such as seek normal training for future elementary school work should be generally adopted.

"It is an unfortunate thing that so many persons strikingly deficient in oral English are allowed to pass through the preparatory schools and the colleges. Strenuous efforts
should be made in such institutions to prepare those students to speak English properly who intend to become teachers. Many candidates fail to read simple passages in English with proper emphasis, inflexion, phrasing and expression; they fail to give ordinary words found in such passages reasonably correct meanings; they mispronounce a considerable percentage of a list of fifteen or twenty ordinary words selected at random; they fail lamentably to give correct accent for certain frequent sounds of the English language, like the sounds of th or ng; they are unable to compose orally in good simple language a brief story of their own choosing. The Board of Examiners should, as far as possible continue to raise the standard of the oral English examination. Pupils imitate their teachers, and in these days of slovenly English speech, teachers who use good models of English, particularly in speech, should be chosen, and those failing in this respect should be cast out.

The discussion following the incident at Trenton has spread beyond the limits of New Jersey, and now interest has been given to the question much in evidence during the past decade; 'What ails the Schools?' Here in New York City Superintendent Maxwell bluntly answers: Nothing ails them; all that they need is a period of repose from the various and disturbing invasion of external criticism.' To this Mr. Metcalfe, writing in the New York Globe, replies: "Even if our school system were on the whole, as good as any in the world, it should welcome honest and friendly criticism from every source, because it is more and more vital for the health and well being of the rising generation and therefore for the future of the nation."

This is a very caustic criticism on the lack of training in American schools which we complain so much of here, so that when we take into consideration the immense resources in the way of state aid and private endowments of millions of dollars, is it any wonder then with our meagre resources that the results of our system should not be free from those blemishes complained of. I find on reference to another periodical, 'The Education Times' of Feb., published in London, that competitive examinations are not looked upon with that disfavor which they are here; on the contrary they are regarded as a sort of a stimulus to pupil and teacher alike. This paper states:

"Many teachers are of opinion that external examinations at early stages of school life are of doubtful value. On the other hand, there are many who regard suitable external examinations as salutary in effect, both as a stimulus and a test, even at quite early stages. It is for this reason that the College of Preceptors continues to hold its Third Class and Lower forms Examinations, in spite of the adverse opinions expressed by some teachers. It is to be noted that these lower examinations were established at the urgent desire of head teachers, and that no pupil is subjected to these tests unless his teacher considers them desirable. When the stage of the Junior University Certificate (corresponding to the Second Class Certificate of the College) is reached, there is little danger of having to deal with minds too immature for external examinations. The average age of candidates at this stage is about 15 quite a suitable time to face external competition. There is at present a definite need for examinations of the degree of difficulty implied in the Junior University and College Second Class Examinations."
"So far as the College Preceptors is concerned, it may certainly be claimed that it represents a corporation of teachers acting in common for the professional good of teachers and the educational good of their pupils. When a scheme of examinations is founded for teachers by teachers, there can be no question of an attack on the liberties of a profession."

Reference is made to the percentage of passes in the examinations as low, and it is advanced as another argument, why competitive examinations should be abolished, but when using the argument hon. members forgot, or at least have not informed themselves of the fact, that the percentage is as high as in Great Britain or Ireland, and such being the case it lacks force in the arraignment of the system. Great Britain has been educating its sons and daughters for centuries, while we have only been engaged at the work for about a half a century. What has been the result of centuries of education there? True many eminent men and women have left its great seats of learning and have been beacon lights for all that is good and noble, but on the other hand, tried by the proper test, has it been good for the millions, has it been productive of greater happiness and prosperity for those whose backs have been, and are to-day, bearing the burdens of society? We must come to the conclusion that it has not. According to the report of the Medical Superintendent 4,000,000 out of the 6,000,000 children who attend the public schools in England and Wales go there hungry and suffering from various kinds of diseases, due to a lack in the home of the commonest necessaries of life. This state of affairs does not exist here. There is not a boy or girl attending our schools who does so, hungry, or are maimed with disease from infancy because of the want of food. Of what value is education which dooms the millions to lives of suffering from the moment they open their eyes in this life to the closing of them in death? Far better that our system should be backward, and imperfect, if it is to bring forth results as I have described. It is only within recent years that we have given much serious thought to education, and of recent date the strides made have been tremendous. Herefore in this country it was not necessary to be educated in literature, but the development of industry has created a demand for educated boys and girls. A higher order of intelligence is now required in the doing of work, because of the delicate and complicated machinery of the modern factory and the new system of organization connected with it, as compared with the old. We compare favorably with our nearby neighbor, Nova Scotia, which had a University at a time when laws were passed and enforced prohibiting settlements in this country. The school attendance here is as great as there, and our schools just as efficient, some of them of a higher standard. I merely institute these comparisons, Sir, for the purpose of showing that education is not so backward here as some think. There are some who honestly and sincerely believe that the denominational system here retards the educational growth of the country. It has been asserted in this Chamber, but in that contention I cannot agree. We are always looking to the material side of education; all our discussions have been directed to that end. While it is proper that the child should be educated to utilize talents in the material sense, if we stop there education becomes a curse instead of a blessing. What is education? It is
properly speaking that which enables us to live more completely, which gives us a more perfect consciousness of the infinite wealth there is in life, in God, and His universe, and unless its aim be the cultivation of these ideals and principles it is not rightly taught. Education should consist in the formation of the whole man; hand in hand with the development of the moral character. Teach the youth to be a good citizen; but what is more important still, teach him to be a good Christian. Some there are who honestly believe that education, divorced from religion, such as exists in the United States, is right, and that the cultivation of morals and training in religious ideals should be left to the home and the Sunday School; in other words they think that these things can exist separately, which upon examination they will find is absurd. Hon. members may say that the trees in the park outside this building are separate. So they are to the superficial observer, to the shallow thinker; but look at them more closely and you will see that they are rooted in the soil and draw their nourishment from it, the soil is held by the rocks beneath it, the earth itself by the sun, and the sun by the systems of the heavens. If you separated the trees from the soil it would perish; in like manner will the moral character perish if you tear up the root which nourishes and sustains the soul of man, religion. The godless school system of the United States is a striking example of the illustration just given. Nearly half its population profess no religion at all. In many cities ministers are deploring the fact that their churches are empty on Sunday; criminals go unwhipped of justice because of the corrupt administration of the law, and the divorce court is breaking up tens of thousands of homes and legalizing polygamy. Any system of education which educates a man with the idea that knowledge is valuable only in proportion as it is marketable, and pays no heed to the things which so far as the experienced eye can see have no value in the most of the world, is pernicious. Some of the boys now being educated in our schools will be the future leaders of the people; therefore they must, in order to be successful leaders, be instructed in the ways of truth, justice and right. Boys and girls, we are told by exponents of a system different from our own, are encouraged in the schools that have grown up under such systems, to love righteousness, and loftiness of purpose. But how? That is the point. Why should they love righteousness and loftiness of purpose if they are not shown the reasons for so doing; that is, if they are not taught to love and fear the omnipotent Being. “You cannot,” says Bird S. Coler, of New York, “teach morals in the sense that you teach spelling.” Behind every law that we have on our statute book is the authority of a living government; that is what makes it effective. The baneful effects of the godless system of education in the United States and other countries are causing men of all phases of religious beliefs to come to the conclusion that the socialism and materialism of the age can only be successfully combated by religion being taught in the school. They realize that a child cannot be divided up, like a tenement house, into different rooms; development of all the faculties moral and intellectual must take place in the school room. The Hon. Amasa Thornton in the North American Review writes:

“I am a Protestant of the firmest kind. The Catholic Church has in-
sisted that it is its duty to educate its children in such a way as to fix religious truths in the youthful mind. For this it has been assailed by the non-Catholic population; and Catholics have been charged with being enemies of the people and of the flag. Any careful observer in the city of New York can see that the only people as a class, who are teaching the children in the way that will secure the future of the best civilization are the Catholics; and although a Protestant of the firmest kind, I believe the time has come to recognize this fact, and for us to lay aside prejudices and patriotically meet this question. The children and youth of the day must be given such instructions in the truths of the bible and Christian precepts as will prevent them in mature years from swinging from their moorings and being swept into the maelstrom of social and religious depravity which threatens to engulf the religion of the future. Such instruction can only be given successfully by an almost entire change of policy and practice on the question of religious teachings in the public schools, and the encouragement of private schools in which sound religious teaching is given.”

Bishop Johnston (Episcopal), of Western Texas, says:

“Gladstone said that a man educated intellectually but not morally may become more dangerous than before; and that is precisely the case with the colored people. In the public schools they receive no moral instruction, and while their wits are being sharpened, there is scarcely any moral strengthening. This inability of the public schools of our land to teach any system of morals is going to lead within a few years, to a struggle the like of which this country has never seen, and it will be with a generation that believes nothing at all.”—Sermon preached in New York June 10th, 1901.

The Age of Steel. October, 1896.

“A boy may be kept at school for several years, but if his heart is not educated with his head, his conscience with his memory, a knowledge of arithmetic and skill in penmanship, of the date of the battle of Bunker Hill and the number of gallons of water in Lake Michigan, are no guarantee that he will not use his acquired knowledge in putting the finishing touches to as consummate a scoundrel as ever entered a prison cell. So far as education goes, there are rascals who understand geometry, and can give you the distance of the sun, moon and stars, as easily as a railway conductor can punch a mileage book.”—Fred Woodrow.

President Hyde of Bowdoin College, before the Massachusetts Teachers’ Association of Boston, November 1896:

“The public school must do more than it has been doing if it is to be a real educator of youth and an effective supporter of the State. It puts the key of knowledge in the child’s hand, but fails to open the treasures of wisdom to his heart and mind. Of what use is it to teach a child how to read, if he care to read nothing but the sensational accounts of crime. These people who know how to read and write and cipher, and know little else—these are the people who furnish fuel for A. P. A. fanaticism—who substitute theosophy for religion, passion for morality, impulse for reason, crazes and caprice for conscience and the Constitution.”

From the Education Review, Feb., 1898:

“A little less than fifty per cent.
of all the children of our country frequent any Sunday School. The meaning of these figures is simply overwhelming. More than one-half of the children of this land now receive no religious education. Even this feature does not show all the truth. It seems to admit that those who attend Sunday School are receiving proper religious instruction; but every one knows this cannot be granted."—Dr. Levi Seeley, of the State Normal School, Trenton, N.J.

Dr. Wallace Radcliffe (Presbyterian):

"In our church life we recognize the Trinity, Home, school, and church, a triple cord not easily broken. The home is a school, the school is a home. It is an unintelligible Christianity which loses sight of this important factor (the school) in our church. It is something that your children go to school; it is more that they go to a school of your own religious belief. Therefore, we summon you to bring up your children in your own faith. Let us establish schools and teach our religious convictions."—Washington, D.C., Oct. 7, 1900.

Rev. D. E. T. Wolf, Professor at Gettysburg Theological Seminary before the Evangelical Alliance:

"Moral training has for the most part been cast out of our public schools. Every faculty, except the highest and noblest, is exercised and invigorated; but the crowning faculty—that which is designed to animate and govern all others—is contemptuously ignored; and unless its education can be secured our young men and women will be graduated from our schools as moral imbeciles. This country is facing a grave social problem."—The Philadelphia Press, December 4, 1901.

Rev. Dr. Washington Gladden, Columbus, Ohio, in an address at Yale University, April, 1902:

"All that saves the public school from ruin in many cities is the self-sacrificing work of the teachers. There is a marked tendency in these schools to lower the standard of education by eliminating God and making us a sordid, money-hunting race."

Rev. W. Montague Geer (Episcopalian) before the Sons of the Revolution, in New York City, just after the death of President McKinley:

"The dreadful calamity looks very much like a visitation to us of the wrath of the Most High. We must get back to the guiding principles of our forefathers. There were two evils in our great country first the sin of slavery—that we can master and are mastering. Is there, then, any evil still in the land, so widespread as to call down the wrath of God upon us? There is. Our Godless system of education is a far worse crime than slavery or intemperance. I believe that the United States is suffering from the wrath of God to-day because our people have consented to the banishment of Jesus Christ from the daily lives of our children. If to-day Christ were on earth and should enter almost any public schoolhouse in the country, the teacher acting under instruction would show Him the door. If, on the other hand, He were to enter any of our private (parochial) schools, He would be worshipped by teacher and scholars on bended knee. Here is our fault, here is our sin. The question now is: to what extent can we remould and remodel our educational system? Almost any system is better than the present one. It would be infinitely better to divide up the money received from the
school tax among the various Christian denominations and the Hebrews than to continue the present irreligious system"—St. Paul's Church New York City, Sep. 1901.

From the New York Sun, April 14, 1902:

"Popular education has everywhere been largely secularized, and that process is still going on. Sunday schools or other secondary influences can scarcely counteract the general banishment of religion from the training of the child."

Rev. Henry C. Minton, of California (Presbyterian), Moderator of the General Assembly:

"Is our educational machinery subsidiary to its only worthy end, viz: The fashioning of character? Have we, so morbidly afraid of uniting Church and State, gone so far as to disunite God from the State? This is a most serious question. The faith of our sons and daughters is involved, and the kingdom of God in this country is involved. Our school system is not an organized skepticism, but a God forgotten secularism."—Philadelphia, May 19th, 1901.

Rev. Dr. David H. Greer, (Episcopal) before the General Episcopal Convention:

"Education needs something more than mental training and culture to make men pure and keep them so. It needs that culture and training be inspired by religion. The Episcopal Church is not satisfied with the present system of public schools, because religion is not taught in them. These schools should not only turn out well equipped young men and women, but Christian as well."—Washington, D.C., Oct. 22, 1898.

The same Episcopal Convention decreed:

"That the bishops and clergy remind the people of their duty to support and build up our own schools and colleges, and to make education under the auspices of the Protestant Episcopal Church superior in all respects to that afforded in other institutions."

From the New York Times:

"The movement of the Roman Catholics to secure a system of education which shall not ignore religion is a movement in the right direction. Their self sacrificing efforts maintaining their parochial schools for this purpose ought to cause us Protestants to blush, when it is compared with our own indifference in this matter. The religious training of Protestant children is left almost entirely to the Sunday school, where the great bulk of the teachers are so inefficient and indifferent, that they exert no moral influence over their charges. The bitterness which has existed between Protestants and Romanists has become so much a matter of the past that it ought to be possible to agree upon some plan whereby our youths can receive some kind of religious training in the public schools. Surely every Christian will rejoice to have such religion given, so that our children will not grow up wholly irreligious, and thus become a menace to the well-being of society."—A Protestant, March 1, 1900.

The Christian Union thus writes:

"The time has come for a vigorous war upon the popular notion that religion can be excluded from any system of education. The secularization of the public schools is false in psychology. It assumes that a child can be divided up like a tenement house into different rooms, part developed and part left undeveloped. This is not true. It assumes that religion is something apart from life. This conception of religion is wholly pernicious."

The Methodist writes editorially:

"In our judgment the denominational schools of the land, as compared with the purely secular or State
schools, are on moral grounds incomparably the safer. Our State institutions as a general thing are hotbeds of infidelity—not less than of vice. That unbelief should be fostered and fomented therein is not unnatural. We thoroughly believe that our church should invest at least ten millions of dollars, in the next ten years, in denominational schools. Why? Because we believe this system is the American one and the only safe one."—Literary Digest.

The cry of the Socialist and the Infidel to-day is "give us the school in order that we may uproot and destroy Christianity," and apparently there are many—very many—in the world who are prepared to do so, not that they desire the overthrow of Christianity, but because their idea of education permits them to look no farther afield than the material side of it. The school such as we have may have its defects and what human institutions have not?—but at least an education is imparted there in conjunction with religion. The system that trains the youth and demands of him when he grows into manhood, if he be an employee, that he shall work for his master diligently, that he must be honest and truthful and protect his employer's interest as carefully as if they were his own; and, if he be an employer, that he shall not and must not defraud the worker of his hire, that he must be just in his business dealings and relations with society, that he must not covet his neighbor's goods, that he must not oppress the poor, nor live for himself alone. What avails education if these principles are lost sight of and relegated to the scrap heap. I would rather that my sons would understand fully the Lord's Prayer than have them win the highest scholastic degree, if the gaining of it meant that it would in the future make them careless or indifferent to the beautiful and sublime lessons taught in that prayer.

The great majority look upon the school as the only place where an education can be obtained. Nothing is more fallacious. The institutions that educate are the home, civil society, the state, the church, and the school. The school is but incidental to education. Some of the men who played the greatest parts in the world's history; did not know how to read or write, others could only do so very imperfectly. The men who hewed the path and demonstrated the greatness of the Canadian North West were not educated; the men who laid the foundation of the United States industrial greatness and her political institutions did not come from seats of learning. The Company whose cable runs seaward from Signal Hill and connects this Island with the Mother country, the corner stone of that company was laid by an Irishman, John W. MacKay, who was not educated, because the laws in his country at the time made it impossible for him to acquire an education. Education does not consist of being able to read and write, and having a knowledge of the classics. To think that a man is illiterate because he cannot read or write is not altogether correct. A man who can build his boat, build his house, make his nets, and rig his boat, as all our fishermen can do is not an uneducated man; he is really a skilled workman.

I have to apologise, Mr. President, for detaining the House upon this matter, but felt that occasion required some explanation upon my part of the attitude of the Government in relation to the Council of Higher Education. I have no doubt that the discussion which has taken place in this Chamber will be of great benefit to the Members of the Council of Higher Education, because I feel sure that they will read with interest the remarks and criticisms of hon. gentlemen, like Hon.
Mr. Robinson, who have such an intimate knowledge of education and its requirements.

The Bill was then read a second time, and on motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop, was referred to Committee tomorrow.

Second Reading of Pension Bill.

HON. MR. BISHOP.—Mr. President, there is nothing in this Bill which calls for explanation. I would simply move its second reading.

The Bill was then read a second time, and on motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop, referred to Committee tomorrow.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the House adjourned till Thursday at 4 p.m.

Thursday, March 28th.

Council met at 4.30 p.m.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the House resolved itself into Committee on the Education Bill, Hon. Mr. McGrath in the chair.

HON. MR. BISHOP—I wish to move a slight amendment to sub-section 1, after the first sentence to insert the words "no such pension shall be less than that paid under the Pension Scheme of 1903." It has been pointed out that there is a possibility that under the Bill as it now stands, a teacher may receive less as a pension than he could have under the Teachers' Pension Scheme, i.e. $100.

HON. MR. BISHOP—In addition to the amendment which I have already named, I propose to change sub-section 8 so that the words "3 per cent," shall read "6 per cent." The effect of the change will be that in the event of the death of a teacher his legal representatives shall be entitled to withdraw the amount that he has paid in with 6 per cent. interest, and the section will read: "In case of the death of any contributor to this fund before he shall have entered upon his pension, the whole sum he has contributed, with compound interest at 6 per cent., shall be returned to his legal representatives, provided he has not forfeited his claim under sub-sections (11) or (14)."

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the first word of section 2, "that," be stricken out, and that the section commence with the words "The amount."

HON. MR. PITTS—May I ask, in connection with section 5, whether the school grant will be paid monthly instead of quarterly, as now?

HON. MR. BISHOP—I don't quite understand.

HON. MR. PITTS—The grants are now paid quarterly to the Superintendents of Education. Will they be paid monthly?

HON. MR. BISHOP—The augmentation grants are to be paid monthly instead of quarterly, as now?

HON. MR. PITTS—Well, then the School Boards will be in the position of being without funds if they are paid quarterly and they have to pay the teachers monthly.

HON. MR. BISHOP—I think possibly, Mr. Chairman, that the Hon. Mr. Pitts is somewhat under a misunderstanding. The teachers' cheques are all sent out from the Colonial Secretary's Office.

HON. MR. PITTS—Salaries?

HON. MR. BISHOP—Yes.

HON. MR. PITTS—Oh, that is all right, then.

HON. MR. ROBINSON—Mr. Chairman, I am aware that this is a money bill, but the principle of amendment having been admitted, and two or three amendments having been proposed, I intend to ask the Leader of the Government in this Chamber to accept another amendment. He can but refuse. The amendment that I
intend to propose is that the following words be added to this section: "but no child under the age of 14 years at the time of such examination shall be permitted to enter as a candidate for any competitive examination held under the auspices of the said Council of Higher Education."

HON. MR. BISHOP.—Mr. Chairman, the debate upon this bill has been most interesting and the publication of the speeches in the various newspapers will afford some instructive reading for a great number of the readers around the Island. The speech with which we were favored by the Hon. Gentleman who has just proposed an amendment to the bill was an exhaustive one. It was interesting; it was instructive; as was also, sir, the speech with which you (Hon. Mr. McGrath) were good enough to favor us. I have now to say that the remarks which have been passed in this connection are entirely in accord with what has been passing through my own mind for a very long time. It must be gratifying, I am sure, to the Hon. Mr. Robinson that the report tabled yesterday in the lower House by the Superintendent of Education under the Church of England Boards so fully exonerates the position taken by him. The amendment which the hon. gentleman now proposes I am sorry that I cannot at this stage admit; but I am inclined to think, Mr. Chairman, that in view of the attitude taken by the various speakers here, and what will probably follow in the public press in consequence of those plain and outspoken speeches will probably lead the Government, before another session comes round we may expect to see some amendments to the bill as it is now before us.

I am greatly pleased with the way in which this matter has been taken up by the House. It is gratifying, I believe, to every member of the House that this interest should be shown. I regret, therefore, as I have said, that I cannot at the present moment admit the amendment proposed by the Hon. Mr. Robinson, and I hope that he will consent to withdraw it for the present.

HON. MR. ROBINSON.—Mr. Chairman, I have no objection to withdrawing the amendment. I proposed it merely to put myself on record.

I am sorry to again have to address this House, but in my address the other day I unintentionally made an incorrect statement. The fault was not mine, but I don’t wish any incorrect statement to go abroad and I therefore desire to correct it now. In connection with this matter I asked certain questions, one of which was as to the number constituting the Council of Higher Education. The reply I received, and on which I based my remarks, was “27 members.” The last Act that I looked up named 26, but I presumed that the statement with which we were furnished was correct, and I did not trouble to go into the matter. Some of my figures were not, therefore, quite correct. I should have based them on 26 instead of 27. As I have said, the fault was not mine, and I merely make this statement so as to avoid any question as to accuracy.

HON. MR. BISHOP—I just want to say, Mr. Chairman, that I am sorry that any information which was given the hon. gentleman was incorrect. It was obtained from the Secretary of the Council, and I had no reason to believe that there was anything wrong about it.
HON. MR. ROBINSON—I don't wish the hon. gentleman to think that I am criticising. Mr. Wilson drew my attention to the error. I am quite sure it was an accident.

The Committee rose and reported that it had passed with some amendments.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be read a third time to-morrow.

Committee on Pension Bill.
HON. MR. AYRE took the Chair of the Committee.

The Committee rose and reported that it had passed the Bill without amendment.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be read a third time to-morrow.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be read a second time to-morrow.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Moved the first reading of the Bill, entitled "An Act to amend the Municipal Council Act of 1902," be read first time.

The Bill was thereupon read a first time.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that it be read a second time to-morrow.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Moved the first reading of the Bill, entitled "An Act to amend the Customs Act, 1898."

The bill was thereupon read a first time.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be read a second time to-morrow.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill entitled "An Act to amend 10 Ed. VII., Cap. 4, be read a first time.

The Bill was thereupon read a first time.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill entitled, "An Act to amend the Act respecting the Control and Management of the Harbor of Grand Bank," be read a first time.

The Bill was thereupon read a first time.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be read a second time to-morrow.

HON. MR. BISHOP begged to lay upon the table of the House Report of the Public Schools of Newfoundland under Church of England Boards for the year ending the 30th June, 1911.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the House adjourned until to-morrow at 4.30.

FRIDAY, Mar. 29, 1912.

The Council met at 4.30 p.m., pursuant to adjournment.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP the Education and Pension Bills were read a third time and passed and it was ordered that they be sent to the Assembly with a message that the Council had passed the same, the former with some amendment and the latter without amendment.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved the Second Reading of the Municipal Act, 1902, Amendment Bill, and said: The object of this Bill is to permit the St. John's Municipal Council to acquire and hold lands outside the city limits, which under the existing law they are not permitted to do. It arises from the purchase by Messrs. Bowring Bros. of the property known as Rae Island Farm and presentation of the same to the city of St. John's, The firm of Bowring Bros., as is well known, decided to mark their centenary—their hundred years of trading in this Colony—by presenting to the city the sum of $50,000 covering a period of five years, and as a commencement have decided to purchase this property and expend there-on the sum of $10,000. This is handed over to the Municipal Council and the present Bill is to give the latter
power to accept and control that property. I beg to move the Second Reading.

The Bill was read a second time and on motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop ordered to be sent to a Committee of the Whole House to-morrow.

Second Reading Customs Act, 1898 Amendment Bill.

Hon. Mr. Bishop—The object of this amendment is to include the United States with Canada, Great Britain and Ireland in deciding on the value for duty on goods. The law as it is, at present stands provides that inland freights have to be taken into account in determining the value of goods imported from the U.S. This arose from the omission or over sight when the Act was last amended and it is now decided that Great Britain, Canada and the United States shall pay duty on the invoiced value. The other section of the Bill is to change the penalty for persons obtaining access to bonded goods in railway cars or any other dutiable place; instead of a fixed penalty or imprisonment the person guilty may be fined an amount not exceeding $400 or may be imprisoned for a term not exceeding one year, or may be subjected to both fine and imprisonment. I beg to move the Second Reading.

The Bill was read a second time and ordered to be committed on to-morrow.

Second Reading Pharmacy Act, 1910 Amendment Bill.

Hon. Mr. Bishop—Section 10 of the Pharmacy Act prohibits the sale of poisons, but does not prohibit their importation and it is now proposed to add to the Act the prohibition of their importation as well as sale. I beg to move the Second Reading.

Bill was read a second time and ordered to be referred to Committee to-morrow.

Second Reading Grand Bank Harbor Control Amendment Bill.

Hon. Mr. Bishop—The object of this Bill is to free the residents of Grand Bank from the payment of harbor dues and other charges in connection with Grand Bank harbor which were self-imposed. Being unable for many years to obtain the necessary funds for the improvement of their harbor, the inhabitants submitted an offer to the Government of the day by which they undertook to expend large sums of money themselves on conditions that the Government would contribute to the dredging and other necessary work, and also requested that they be permitted to borrow certain sums of money for that purpose. There is no other place around the island where any marine works or harbor improvements are a tax on its people, and it has been decided that it is unfair to expect the people of Grand Bank any more than anywhere else to bear burdens of that kind and the Government have decided to free them from that grievance. I beg to move the Second Reading of the Bill.

Hon. Mr. Robinson—I warmly support the Bill as an act of tardy justice to some of the most deserving and public spirited citizens in the island who, when refused rights and privileges enjoyed by others, voluntarily assumed obligations for many years from the unjust burdens of which they will be relieved by this Act and by the remission of the self-imposed coal duties under the Revenue Bills of this year.

The Bill was read a second time and on motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop was ordered to be referred to Committee to-morrow.
HON. MR. PRESIDENT read messages from the House of Assembly that they had passed the Bill to amend the law relating to Copyright, the Railway Loan Bill and a Bill to amend the law relating to Banks, in which they requested the Council's concurrence.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP these Bills were read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

HON. MR. BISHOP tabled the report of the Public Schools in the Island under Methodist Boards.

On motion of HON. MR. BISHOP the House adjourned till Monday, at 4 p.m.

MONDAY, April 1st.

The House met at 4 p.m., pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on Municipal Act Amendment Bill.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole on this Bill.

MR. PRESIDENT left the Chair.

HON. MR. MILLEY took the Chair of the Committee.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had passed the Bill without amendment.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

Committee on Pharmacy Act, 1910, Amendment Bill.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole on this Bill.

MR. PRESIDENT left the Chair.

HON. DR. SKELTON took the Chair of the Committee.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman from the Committee reported that they had passed the Bill without amendment.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

Second reading of Copyright Bill.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that this Bill be deferred.

Second reading of Railway Loan Bill.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved the second reading of this Bill.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—I should be glad if this Bill could be deferred, for the present at any rate, as I have not been able to post myself as to the character of it.

It seems an unfortunate thing that this Colony should have to go begging again, or borrowing. We have borrowed up to the present time very largely, and I think as much as we can afford to borrow, with our income. We are incurring a very large debt, and everybody knows what the result of getting too much in debt is. It appears to me that we are going on in a cheerful, happy-go-lucky sort of way incurring debt, regardless of our ability to meet it. Two years ago, when the debt for the railway was first started we were told that $4,000,000 would be ample to complete the work. At present the branches
are not anything like completed, and it will be a long time before they will be, and now we are going into the market to borrow again. If we go on in this way it will only be a question of time before the end comes. There is an end to everything. There is a limit beyond which a person cannot go, and what applies to an individual also applies to a Government. Every person if he is honest, before incurring debt first considers how he is going to pay it. I stated two years ago from my seat here that I was under the impression that $4,000,000 would not be enough, and that before the railway was built the amount required would be nearer $8,000,000 than $4,000,000. I am sorry to find that from present appearances my forecast was true. We are going borrowing all the time. We have an overflowing revenue, but that cannot continue. It is natural that we should get large revenues because of the employment that is being given, because the expenditure of this borrowed money has put a large amount of money in circulation, and we will continue to get large revenues as long as we go on borrowing money and building branch railways; but as soon as we stop borrowing and discontinue building railways what is to occur? The men that have been employed in that work will be thrown out of employment; they will have tired of the fisheries, and will not feel inclined to go back, and the only thing for them to do will be to leave the country. That will mean a reduction of revenue—the reduced expenditure on labour must mean a reduction of the income through the Custom House.

I feel badly about this matter. I have lived in this country now some 53 or 54 years, and I should be very sorry to see the country or its finances come to grief; but I can see no other result. As soon as the income ceases the difficulty will be to get the money necessary to pay the interest on the debt we are incurring. No doubt the thing appears very rosy at the present time! no doubt some are doing very well by it; but even the laborers are not making a great deal. Although they are nominally getting large pay, it does not amount to very much, because by the time they take out of it what is required to keep them at the prices which are being charged, there is very little left. The reason which induces them to work on the railroad is because they handle ready money, but very few of them have much left to carry them over the winter.

I regret that I had not time to give more attention to this Bill, or I would have prepared some remarks, but possibly when the Bill comes into Committee I shall have more to say on the matter.

HON. MR ROBINSON—It is not to be expected that a Bill of this kind would come to this House and the hon. member opposite allow it to pass without criticism, but, I think that hon. members will agree with me that his criticisms have not been very convincing, but rather a continuation of the old, old story, urging the Colony to remain as it has been. No one desires to see money borrowed unless there is ample opportunity for repaying that money, unless the benefits to be derived are far in excess of the interest to be paid for it. When Sir Edward Morris and his Government went to the country on a policy, amongst other things, of railway extension, he was returned with a mandate to build these branch railways. The people said in so many words, “We want certain branch railways.” They were told distinctly on the platform that the building of these would
not entail a penny of extra taxation. They were not told, as the hon. gentleman seems to be under the impression, that they would cost any particular or definite sum. They were given certain estimates, and these estimates did not err nearly as much as did those of the leader of the party of which the hon. gentleman is so active a supporter. The railways have been or are being built. Some of them have necessarily been made longer than was originally intended, the object of increasing the length having been to benefit the localities adjacent to the railway and indirectly the whole neighbourhood. I am not one of those who say that a railway should not be built if it goes through a district that is not populous, but I do say that if the district is populous, then the railway should take that course and that is the policy that has been adopted by the Government. They have said "we shall build them not by the shortest route, but where the most feeders are, and the greatest patronage and revenue is likely to be obtained."

There has never been a railway built in Newfoundland or in any other part of the world that I have heard of, that there have not been hon. gentlemen who have looked with alarm at the increase in the expenditure. It is only natural. It was only last week I was talking to an hon. member sitting opposite, and he told me a story of the first railway that passed through Saltcoats. Up to that time the old coach-and-four had driven through, and the hon. gentleman was standing on the platform when the first train went through. There were two coaches attached to the engine and people stood aghast, marvelling at the extravagant ideas which prevailed. What did the people of Saltcoats want with two cars attached to the engine? Forty years or so afterwards the same hon. member was standing on the same platform. I cannot quote his exact figures, and I say it, subject to correction, but he told me if I remember rightly that thirteen trains went through every day and each carried about 800 passengers. I am not going to say that Saltcoats is now the metropolis of Scotland, but I think, hon. members will admit that when the railway first went through it was merely a fishing town, or a very small place, only about 5,000 people. I know another town in England, Tewkesbury, about the same size as Saltcoats, and that town contained a great number of people who viewed with horror the approach of the iron horse. They protested, their protest was effectual, and the train does not come within two miles of the place and the Tewkesbury of 1912 is of the same size as the Tewkesbury of 1852, whilst the towns all around have increased in population and wealth.

Now, the Government has very carefully considered how this loan is to be met, and the history of the Colony the past few years has shown its ability to bear the burden. The hon. gentleman opposite (Hon. Mr. Knowling) has said that when the railways are finished, the laborers will have no employment and as a result will have to leave the country and the revenue will suffer. What a gloomy Jeremiad! and has that been our history? I think, Sir, that it will be admitted that when the railway was finished some years ago, during the years in which the hon. member was one of those in control of the revenue, despite the fact that the railway was completed and the unparalleled generosity of the Executive of which he was a member in making a present of five million dollars to the con-
TRACTORS, in spite of that there was just as much occupation, just as much earning and just as much revenue as during the preceding years. What the Government are anxious to do, as are all who really desire to see this Island of ours prosperous, is to establish industries here that are revenue producing, and it is impossible to establish such unless we have the facilities to do so. "Where would we be to-day if we had no railway in Newfoundland? Eighty-four years ago to-day the Rt. Hon. Sir William Whiteway was born. He passed away four years ago. When he first started the railway scheme there were many, here perhaps in this House to-day, on Water Street, and throughout the Island, who regarded his policy as a wild, extravagant, impossible and absurd idea. We have become wiser since then; we have seen what has resulted from it, and to-day, whether we were opposed to Sir William or for him, I venture to say there are few men in this island who do not realize that his was the commencement of that great policy progress that has brought us to our present position, doubled our revenues, and transformed this island from a comparatively unknown fishing station into a Dominion, though a small one, under the British Crown, where industries are thriving and prospects are bright and encouraging.

All the British Colonies have large debts. Let the hon. member refer to his authorities. I cannot quote them at present, as I am speaking entirely without preparation, but let him turn up his Whitaker or Hazell, or any other financial authorities and see the debts, say of Australia, and say whether we are worse than they are. And it is because Australia had the pluck and courage to face these debts, it has advanced as it has. If a man starts in business on Water Street and finds it progressing he extends. If he only puts in the money he makes from day to day, it will remain a very small business, but he recognizes what his profits are, and what interest he can carry; he extends on borrowed money, utilizing the Banks, and that is just what the country is doing.

One other point I wish to refer to. The hon. gentleman says that he knew it would cost more than four million dollars. I do not suppose there was anybody sanguine enough to suppose that four million dollars would be sufficient but we all recognized the fact that it would go a long way towards it.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—Why were we not told so?

HON. MR. ROBINSON.—We were not told because in this mundane sphere in which we live, unfortunately omniscience does not exist; because our leader had followed the custom established by his predecessors; because it is impossible to do otherwise, if building railways is to continue without long delays. It is a very difficult thing to make surveys. I do not say it is a good policy not to survey. It might have been better to wait three or four years until these surveys had been completed, but the people had asked for railways, the Government had promised them and very wisely begun them, and now they come to the Legislature and ask it to provide the means. It is very easy to tell the people they are having a huge burden placed upon their shoulders, but it is not fair to remind them of such unless you tell them they are getting good value for their money. If I know anything about the calibre of the people they will rise to the occasion and willingly foot the bills, and when the present work is
finished, it may well be that further extension will be demanded.

One word more. The hon. gentleman complained about the poor return the laborers are getting. They are getting just half as much again as when the hon. gentleman's party was in power, and under the objectionable contract of 1901.

HON. MR. McGrath—The hon. gentleman on my left (Hon. Mr. Knowling) who registered his objection to the second reading of this Bill, did so on the ground that we were borrowing more money than we could afford. But in making a statement like that, I think it is due to the hon. member himself, as a successful business man, to support his assertion with some substantial evidence. So far as the fiscal returns disclose, as given in the Budget Speech, there is no evidence whatever to warrant his assertion. I say this with all due respect to my hon. friend. The last administration increased the debt of this Colony by roughly speaking, five million dollars, which sum went into the pockets of Contractor Reid. Not one dollar of it was spent in any labor-giving enterprise. No man in the Colony who handled a pickaxe or drew a fish from the water profited to the extent of one dollar by that large amount. If that money had been utilised to build railways, it would have built almost as large a mileage as is proposed under the contract of 1910, the supplementing of the financial provisions of which we are now considering—in other words, five million dollars would have built 300 miles of railway. Instead, it did not build a mile. It was not utilised for any such purpose, but though for the nine years during which the late Ministry held power, not a mile of railway was built, the people did not leave the country. The census shows a slight increase in the numbers remaining in the country during the last ten years, as compared with the previous ten years; and the Colony did not become bankrupt, because if you will turn to the Journal of the Assembly for last year, you will find on page 332 of the Appendix a statement of fiscal statistics for the ten years previously which shows that every year of the decade there was a surplus. The first, for the year ending June 30th, 1900, amounted to $258,000. That surplus, I might say, was ascribable to what is known as "the iniquitous ten per cent." that was levied by the Winter Administration, and cutting out that particular year, we find that during the years which my hon. friend and his friends were responsible, in 1901, there was $3,500; in 1902, $64,000; in 1903, $55,000; in 1904, $120,000; in 1905, $130,000; in 1906, $69,000; in 1907, $125,000; in 1908, $43,000; and the year ending 30th June, 1909, for eight months of which that administration was responsible, there was a deficit, due, it was charged, to the lavish expenditure made for political purposes during the election period which ended in the deadlock in the fall of 1908.

If in the face of the fact that five millions of public money was not spent in labor-giving employment, but handed over to R. G. Reid as arbitration awards, the Colony had a surplus every year, how can Hon. Mr. Knowling contend that we are to-day borrowing more than we can afford and heading rapidly for bankruptcy, because we are raising a similar sum, of which from a third to a half will go back to the country in the shape of employment given to our building these railways?

The criticism, then, that too large
an expenditure is being made, is met by the answer that we are spending no more than the last Government and that there is something to show for it now whereas there was nothing then. The criticism that the branch railways will be of no advantage is met by the figures of the growth of traffic on the main line during the past seven years, as shown by the statistics of the Reid Co., published in the last Journal, and the comparisons made in the Budget Speech of last year, which indicate that an advance of from 50 to 100 per cent. in all the branches of the railway enterprise has been made. The criticism that the people should have been told how much the branches would cost is met by the argument that this was impossible because there were no surveys and the routes had not been laid out, and because, moreover, in building the main line the former Government adopted the same policy the contract for the western division from Exploits to Port aux Basques having been made without any survey whatever being started, or without any idea of the mileage that would be involved. The Government then did what the Government is doing now, brought in loan bills from time to time as the money was needed, and with the difference, too, in favor of this Government, that the undertaking that the lines would be built without increased taxation is being carried out at the present time in the spirit and in the letter.

We are told by the hon. gentleman (Mr. Knowling) that the Colony is running full speed towards disaster. This is the customary prediction from those who happen to be at the time in opposition. Three years ago a newspaper, in this town suporting the party with which the hon. gentleman is associated declared at the time the present Government took office, that business people on Water St. were so alarmed at the prospect that they were curtailing their importations. But did that prove to be correct? Is it not true that the importations were never as large as at present? Indeed, is it not a fact that in the other Chamber last week the argument put up in criticism of the present Government and its policy was that the importations were now so great that the balance of the trade was against the colony? Looking at the financial situation today, there seems no reason why we should not meet the whole interest on six million dollars without endangering the financial stability of this colony. Every year there is a generous surplus and in the face of that it does seem absurd for us to be told that the country is among the breakers. The argument, to be sure, is put forward that it is natural to have large revenues while we are borrowing money and building railways, but I have already showed from the figures above quoted that the colony got good revenues and creditable surpluses when it was not building railways but was borrowing money to hand over to Contractor Reid. If, then, the colony survived at that time, it logically has a better prospect of surviving now when much of the money we are borrowing is given back to the people in labor.

The point which the hon. gentleman (Mr. Knowling) next makes that when the railways are built the people will leave the country because they will not care to go back to the fisheries is answered in two ways—first that they didn’t leave the country during the last ten years when there were no railways building; and, second, that they go to
the fishery or remain away from the fishery as outside facts dictate, the price of fish being the chief influence with them. Moreover, if what he says is true about their not being satisfied with the treatment they are getting on the railroads then I don't think they will stop there very long and he contradicts himself also, for if it is true that they are not satisfied and are not making much out of railway work, the colony cannot be profiting greatly from the borrowed money.

I think, that as a result of the railway policy from Whiteway times to the present, this country has been put on a new basis entirely. Instead of having to depend on the fisheries alone, the people have various other industries which give them goodly returns and I think that as the branch railways are built and operated this improvement will continue.

The Bill was then read a second time and ordered to be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on to-morrow.

Second reading of Banks Amendment Bill.

HON. MR. BISHOP—I may say, Mr. President, that the object of this amendment is simply to change the date on which the banks shall furnish to the Government copies of their annual returns. It is to make it more convenient in conforming with other similar documents. I move the second reading of the Bill.

The Bill was then read a second time and ordered to be referred to Committee of the Whole House on to-morrow.

The President read a message from the House of Assembly intimating that they had passed a Bill to provide for the appropriation of private lands for public purposes in which they requested the Council's concurrence.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the Bill was then read a first time and ordered to be, read a second time on to-morrow.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the House then adjourned until to-morrow at 4 o'clock.

TUESDAY, April 2nd.

The Council met at 4 p.m. pursuant to adjournment.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the Bill to amend the Customs Act, 1898, was read a third time, and ordered to be sent to the House of Assembly with a message that the Council had passed the same without amendment.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the Bill to amend the Pharmacy Act, 1910, was read a third time, and ordered to be sent to the House of Assembly with a message that the Council had passed the same without amendment.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the Bill to amend the Grand Bank Harbor Control Act, 1902, was read a third time, and ordered to be sent to the House of Assembly with a message that the Council had passed the same without amendment.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the House went into Committee on the Bill to amend the Municipal Act, 1902.

HON M P GIBBS—Mr. Chairman, before the Bill passes I would like to say that in 1892 when a very large portion of this city was destroyed by fire, the control and management of the city was taken over by the government of the day. Lines of streets were altered and new streets opened, and in the making of improvements in the city quite a lot of private property was appropriated.
and numbers of arbitrations were held from time to time for the purpose of assessing the compensation to be paid these private owners. The records in connection with opening new streets, altering of old and the expropriation of private property at the time were, until the last few years, kept in the Crown Lands Department, and under the rules of that Department any person had a right to go there and examine them. These records are now, at the City Hall under the control of the Municipal Council, and no person has a right to examine them with a view to finding out what alterations have been made to streets or what property has been expropriated. Not that I say the Council will not give information, but there is no right on the part of citizens requiring information concerning lands within the city limits to go to the office of the Municipal Council, to ask the Secretary or other official there to furnish them with the required information.

HON. MR. BISHOP—It would seem to me from the putting of the matter by Hon. Mr. Gibbs that there could be no objection to this additional section in this Bill. If all the records and plans formerly held by the Crown Lands Department have been handed over to the Municipal Council and put under their control, it does seem that the public, if they have any interests, should have the right to get their information from the Council, and therefore I personally can see no objection to the admission of the paragraph. One thing does occur to me in connection with it is that a person going to the Registrar’s Office has to pay a fee for a search of the records, and we have no authority here to provide for any fee in connection with the Municipal Office. I suppose if agreeable to hon. members we can insert the clause.

HON. MR. GIBBS—I don’t think the Council will have the right to collect a fee.

HON. MR. McGRATH—If the other House attached a fee would it be legal?

HON. MR. GIBBS—On looking up the matter I discovered that it opened up a very large question and thought it better not to put it in. In fact, I consulted the solicitor of the House about it.

Amendment was then put and carried.

The Committee rose and reported that it had passed the Bill with an amendment.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that
the Bill be read a third time on to-morrow.

Second reading of Copyright Bill.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Mr. President, the object of this Bill is simply to have a uniform Copyright Law throughout the Empire. I don't think I need say anything special regarding it, and simply move its second reading.

Bill was thereupon read a second time.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be submitted to a Committee of the whole House on to-morrow.

Committee on Railway Loan Bill.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Mr. President, I beg to move the House into Committee of the Whole on this Bill.

MR. PRESIDENT left the chair.

HON. MR. JOB took the Chair of the Committee.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Mr. Chairman, before the Bill is reported I desire to say just a word or two in reply to the remarks of the Hon. Mr. Knowling at the last sitting, although the statements made by the hon. gentleman were very clearly and very fully refuted by both Hon. Mr. Robinson and Hon. Mr. McGrath.

Hon. Mr. Knowling said that he was sorry to find that his predictions are likely to come true. Well, not the predictions, but the plain statement of the hon. gentleman was that the branch railways would cost a sum of eight millions of dollars. The hon. gentleman now says that the cost will be nearer eight millions than four. In this latter statement I think he is probably correct, because anything in excess of six millions will be nearer to eight than to four.

The hon. gentleman also rather deprecated the labor given in connection with the building of those branches.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—I beg your pardon. That is not correct.

HON. MR. BISHOP—The hon. gentleman stated (I took his words down at the time) that the railway money was not much good.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—I never made that statement.

HON. MR. BISHOP—And that people go to work there because they get ready money. Well, now, if any better reason can be given why they should go to work on the railway, I cannot understand what it would be. But what I intended to refer to particularly was the hon. gentleman himself says that things are rosy now. It occurs to me, however, that I might ask the hon. gentleman whether, if the Party which he supports should succeed in their endeavors to secure an election in the fall of this year—

HON. MR. KNOWLING—Is there to be an election this fall?

HON. MR. BISHOP—Well, an attempt is being made to secure it, and if that attempt should succeed I would like to ask him whether his party will go to the country pledged to a policy of cancellation? No, Sir, they will not. Whether the election be held in 1912 or 1913 they will not go before the electorate with that policy, because they know that the electorate of Newfoundland have demanded that these branch lines of railway should be built; and even if the sum of $8,000,000 is required to build them, as the hon. gentleman has stated, still each section of the country which is to be supplied with railway facilities under the Bill of 1910 will demand that they be completed and paid for. Does the hon. gentleman forget that the leader of his party, about 25 years ago, as we were all reminded by a recent issue of a daily paper, urged an extension of the rail-
way system? And does he forget that at that time our credit was such that we were paying 4½ per cent. on bonds, while now we can get all the money we require at 3½? Does this not most clearly indicate where this Colony stands to-day? It has also been inferred, if not positively stated, that we are deceiving the people of the country in that we asked first for a loan of only $4,000,000, and that now we have to ask for a further loan of $2,000,000. The fact is, Mr. Chairman, that we did not require two years ago more than $4,000,000, and it was unnecessary that we should ask for more. There was no object in having two or three millions of dollars lying up for two or three years. But as to deceiving the people by passing a loan bill two years ago asking for $4,000,000, whereas now we require nearly $6,000,000, the hon. gentleman should not forget how much more serious a case of deception his government were guilty of (even if this is capable of being called a deception, which I deny), when his leader assured Governor Boyle that all claims had been settled as between the Government and the Reid Newfoundland Co., when as a matter of fact there was then outstanding the claim for the telegraphs for which this Colony had subsequently to pay, I think, $1,600,000.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—Supposing that was so, would the present Government be justified in following in their footsteps?

HON. MR. BISHOP.—Most decisively not, and I do not urge, and would not think of urging that this Government or any future Government would be justified in repeating the follies and mistakes of the last Government.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—But that is what you are doing, and you are claiming it is right because the last Government did it.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Excuse me. I am making no such claim. I am simply reminding the hon. gentleman of what transpired, and what he seems to have forgotten. That is all. The condition of the country to-day, Mr. Chairman, fully warrants the expenditure that we are making; and, as I said before and now repeat, the hon. gentleman and his party will go to the country pledged to a policy of retrenchment; they will not go guaranteeing that there will be no more railways built, that there will be no more lighthouses built, that there will be no more breakwaters, or public expenditures of any kind. My hon. friend will give no support personal, moral or monetary to a party pledged to a policy of that description, and they will do as they have done before. If they are fortunate enough to secure their election they will follow in the footsteps of the present Government, wisely conserving the public interests and disbursing the public funds to the best of their ability—and they will speedily forget all the criticisms that they are now making of the acts of the present Government.

The Committee rose and reported having passed the Bill without amendment.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be read a third time to-morrow.

Committee on Bank Amendment Bill.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole on this Bill.

HON. MR. PRESIDENT left the Chair.

HON. DR. SKELTON took the Chair of the Committee.
The Committee rose and reported having passed the Bill without amendment.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that Bill be read a second time to-morrow.

Second reading of Appropriation of Lands Bill.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Mr. President, for the information of hon. members I may say that the object of this Bill is to give the Government power to take lands for public purposes from any private person or corporation. As the law stands at present, private lands can be expropriated for street purposes only—for new streets for the widening of streets—and for no other purposes. Where private lands adjoin public buildings, if it is necessary or desirable to secure such lands so as to prevent overcrowding, to afford more light to the building, or for any purpose of that kind, there is no power at present on the statute book to enable the Government to take possession of such land. This is the object of the Bill—to give that power. I beg to move the second reading.

Bill was thereupon read a second time.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that Bill be submitted to a Committee of the Whole House to-morrow.

HON. MR. PRESIDENT read messages from the Assembly that they had concurred in the Council's amendments to the Educational Act, and had passed an Act for the raising of money by the sale of Debenture Bonds; also an Act further to amend the Revenue Act, in which they requested the Council's concurrence.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that Bill 'An Act to provide for the raising by the sale of Debenture Bonds of a sum of money for the purposes of the Colony' be read a first time. Bill was thereupon read.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that Bill be read a second time to-morrow.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that a Bill "An Act further to amend the Revenue Act of 1905" be read a first time. Bill was thereupon read.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that Bill be read a second time to-morrow.

On motion House adjourned until to-morrow at 4 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, April 3rd.

The Council met at 4 p.m. pursuant to adjournment.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that "The Municipal Act, 1902, Amendment Bill," be read a third time.

HON. MR. ROBINSON—Mr. President, it is unusual, I am aware, to discuss a bill upon the third reading, but sometimes there are circumstances which justify a departure from custom; and I should like to make a brief reference or two to the Bill now before us. We have heard a great deal during the past few months about the very magnificent and generous gift which has been made to the colony by the Reids and all, I think, no matter how we may criticise the wisdom or otherwise of accepting the gift, have appreciated highly the gift itself, and the generosity of the donors. The Bill before us has gone through the House, but, as far as I am aware there has been no reference, or only a very slight one, to the great generosity displayed by Messrs. Bowring Brothers. I think it is only just that some of us should express our high sense of appreciation of this very grateful recognition of Bowring Brothers to the colony in which they
have so long resided and so honorably conducted their business. The fact alone that this firm has been established here for a hundred years consecutively and has been during that time, through its various branches, such a very large revenue producer, and has maintained the respect and esteem of the whole colony, is of itself worthy of note, and now that we find that they have marked their centenary by a donation of $50,000 as an expression of gratitude for their successful career, and a Bill connected with this matter comes before us, I don't think it would be quite the thing for us to allow it to pass through the House without some brief expression on the part of members of this Chamber, most of whom are themselves engaged in commercial life, of their appreciation of this generous gift. I know that this action is appreciated by the House and by the country, and I trust that this may not be the only occasion on which some bill of this kind will come before us. Messrs. Bowring Brothers, in the distribution of their bounty, hit on a means which cannot fail to be of benefit to the citizens of this town and to the residents of the country generally. They have gone on the principle of benefitting the greatest number; and by means of this park, which they are opening for the use of the public, it seems to me that life will be made brighter and more pleasant for our people of all classes, whether they are residents of the city or come here from the outports. It will be a means towards the improvement of the public health, which we are all, irrespective of party and of opinions as to the wisdom or otherwise, of erecting sanitaria, so very anxious to see accomplished. I, therefore, desire, personally, to express very strongly my very warm appreciation of this generous gift.

The Bill was then read a third time.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that this Bill do now pass and be sent to the Assembly with a message informing them that this House had passed the same with amendment.

Ordered accordingly.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Railway Loan Bill be now read a third time.

The Bill was thereupon read a third time.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that this Bill do now pass and be sent to the Assembly with a message informing them that this House had passed the same without amendment.

Ordered accordingly.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bank Amendment Bill be now read a third time.

The Bill was thereupon read a third time.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that this Bill do now pass and be sent to the Assembly with a message informing them that this House has passed the same without amendment.

Ordered accordingly.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Lands Bill.

HON. MR. BISHOP—I wish to move an amendment to section 2 by inserting after the word “being” in the fourth line these words “or some person appointed by writing under his hand.”

The Committee rose and reported the Bill with an amendment and on motion it was ordered the report be received.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be read a third time on tomorrow.
HON. MR. BISHOP—I move that the Debenture Bond Bill be now read a second time. This Bill, providing for the raising of certain sums by means of debenture bonds, arises from the decision of the government to undertake, first, a telephone system. As you are aware, Sir, our telegraph lines have in recent years been greatly extended, and a considerable number of the offices established are not, up to the present, self supporting, and it is believed that by establishing a system of telephones to connect in various ways with telegraph offices here and there the revenue of the Postal Telegraphs will be greatly increased. The telephone system of the city, as we all know, has been for some time past, entirely unsatisfactory. It is therefore intended to establish a modern and up-to-date system as speedily as possible throughout the city, as well as to provide for telephones around the island generally in connection with the Postal and Telegraph system.

The erection of lighthouses and fog alarms is also demanding increased outlay. There is nothing more important for a maritime country such as this than to have the coast freely supplied with lighthouses and fog alarms, and it is intended to put several lights and fog alarms in places where they will be of great advantage to our people generally in plying their avocations around the island. Such is the reason for asking the Legislature for permission to raise this sum of money under the present Bill. I beg to move the second reading.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—May I ask the hon. gentleman what is the amount of money it is proposed to raise.

HON. MR. BISHOP—As is to be seen by the Bill, $250,000.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—That will be another loan. Any more to come?

HON. MR. GIBBS—There can be no question whatever as to the absolute necessity that exists for the Government’s entering upon a policy of this kind. We have a very indifferent telephone system, and, of course, we cannot get private companies to undertake the construction of an up-to-date system unless they are given a monopoly of the right to do so to the exclusion of all others. The tendency of present day legislation is against such monopolies, and they are therefore excluded in other countries, and where they do exist, public agitation is going on in order to bring pressure to bear on legislatures to have the right of private firms purchased, and the purchase controlled by the public. There is no reason why a system of telephones cannot be made to pay at any place in this country, more especially in this city, where such a system ought to pay at least a dividend from 8 to 10 per cent., with that care and attention which the average business man gives to his business. As has been pointed out by the Leader of the Government we have in this country a number of offices, the revenue of which does not at all defray the current expenditure; in fact, there are large deficits; and demands are made day after day for the extension of the telegraph system to parts of the country where they now have none. People in such places say they are taxed for the maintenance of the telegraph system, and should enjoy the benefits of it the same as other sections of the island, even though the offices may be a source of loss instead of gain. There is a good deal of truth in their contention, and in order to get over the expense, the telephone system is one way by which such can be obviated. It will cost anywhere from $400 to $600 to maintain a telegraph office in
the most obscure outport, but if that can be connected by telephone, it can be maintained at very small cost; $50 or $60 per year for a telegraph office. Look at it from a business point of view, where savings like that can be accomplished, it is justifiable for the Government to enter upon a policy of this kind.

The telephone system is like all other agencies of present day civilization, fast passing into the control of the State. It is as necessary as any other public utility and the desire of the public is that they shall own and control those utilities which directly concern them. The history of the telephone is the history of modern civilization and development. I think the word was first used in a lecture by a man named Philip Reeves in 1861, and from that time down to 1874 or 1876, there was very little notice taken of the matter until Alexander Graham Bell, a native of Edinburgh, then residing in Boston, experimented in telephone communication with the result that he employed electricity for the reproduction of sound but attacked the problem in a totally different way from any others who have preceded him. In 1877 Edison first invented the telephone transmitter and receiver. At the same time Elisha Gray, of Boston, was also carrying on experiments of a similar character, and when Bell applied for a patent, Gray filed a caveat about two hours after Bell's application, against the granting of it. Another man, Francis Blake, also experimented by sending messages in the same way, and he invented a transmitter which came into wide use in the United States.

The matter of controlling the telephone system first came into prominence in England in 1898 before the Association of Municipal Corporations, when it was proposed that the Government should take over all the system, and they be placed under the sole control of the Postmaster General. In 1899 in pursuance of that report the Telephone Act was passed to enable the Post Office to develop its telephone exchange business, for which a loan of ten millions of dollars was raised. The National Telephone Co., had the right to construct and install telephones in England, found it necessary to obtain an option upon the company's concessions. This was given, and although negotiations were carried on, nothing came of them. The effect of the unsettled policy of the British postal authorities on the matter caused a number of local bodies to take the matter up, and they applied for licenses which were issued accordingly.

The growth of the system in England has been remarkable and though at first only a few towns availed of the system, within six years it had extended to 400 towns with 55,000 telephones. The only country in Europe which can compare with England in point of telephone construction is Germany. In England they are using the most up-to-date systems, and have the greatest number of persons in Europe according to population, using the telephones. In the United States great strides have been made, far greater than in any other part of the world. At the present time there are 5,300,000 people using the systems there and the capital invested in the business is enormous. In nearly every city in the United States to-day and in many of the States, agitation and legislation is directed towards State Control, for the reason that the telephone is one of the public utilities necessary to the growth and life of civilized countries, and more especially where it can be embarked upon with very little loss, if any, to the
The capital invested in the trunk lines or telephones in England by British Postal authorities amounts to £3,276,352, and the question arises, does it pay? It does, and handson1ely, because according to the report for 1907, the working of the whole system showed a balance of £451,787, after paying working expenses, while the estimated amount required to defray cost of depreciation of plant etc., at interest at 3 per cent, was £472,726, so that we have evidence that the telephone business is a profitable one for the State.

The total number of conversations which took place over the Trunk system in London was 19,803,300 for the year, and the gross revenue from the trunk lines was £480,658, or nearly an average of 6d. for each conversation.

Municipal and State control pay in other countries, and there is no reason why a system of this kind should not pay here. In fact, for some time, when I was Mayor of the City I gave the matter a good deal of thought and consideration, and from my investigations, have no hesitation in saying that a public system of telephones in this city would be a good paying investment. There is no city of the size and importance of St. John's in any part of the world where you will find such a backward telephone exchange as here. We have no public telephone in any part of the city. In Canadian Northwest scarcely one town or city of any importance has not its telephone system owned by the Province or City, private companies for the control of such business are not permitted there, and they have in every case made the business pay. The farmer living miles away out on the prairie has his telephone wire strung along his fence rails so that from farm to farm there is a telephone wire, and the result is that during stormy weather or in the winter, he can carry on his conversation with his neighbour or his business man in the city, and thus by the aid of the telephone is saved a great deal of time, toil and hardship in the doing of his business.

There can be no question whatever that the telephone is an absolute necessity. There are various systems in operation, but I think the most up-to-date is to be found in the State of Illinois. It is called the Auto-Manual System. The operator has very little to do with the connecting of the parties. The apparatus is something like a typewriter. Number 84 is called up, the operator simply strikes 84 on the keyboard and without doing anything else the connection is made. Then, again, here we have a system between St. John's and Portugal Cove, Torbay and Pouch Cove, and other places. What is the result? If I want to speak to a person in Torbay, people in Pouch Cove and Portugal Cove can take off their receivers and hear all that goes on. There are quite a number of people who go to Topsail and other places in Conception Bay during the summer season. The advantage to these people and the residents generally if there were public telephone offices at these different points would be very great.

The trade and commerce of this country must greatly benefit by such a system, because anything which tends to bring about rapid communication, whether it be railways, telegraphs or telephones, facilitates the transaction of business, and improved facilities mean much more trade.

The Bill also provides for the establishment of lighthouses and fog alarms. There can be no ques-
tion whatever as to the absolute necessity for a provision of this kind. The public highways of this city are lighted at a cost of $13,000 or $14,000 a year, in order that pedestrians may use them without risk to life or limb. The public highways of this city are lighted at a cost of $13,000 or $14,000 a year, in order that pedestrians may use them without risk to life or limb. The waters around our coast are a sort of public highway used by upwards of forty thousand fishermen, in addition to those engaged in the carrying trade of the country, by means of shipping; it is absolutely necessary that this highway should be lighted and even greater pains should be taken to safeguard the lives of those who use the highways of the city, because the dangers are greater. In the past this country and the world in general were appalled at the frightful marine disasters which occurred around our coasts, but happily those days are gone, and when our whole system of lighthouses and fog alarms is completed, this branch of our public service will be as efficient as can be found in any other part of the world. No better investment can be made than that which tends to the protection of the lives of bread-winners and the property of citizens; and the time of this House cannot be better occupied than in considering matters of this kind. I feel sure, Mr. President, that this Bill will meet with the hearty cooperation and support of hon. members.

HON. MR. ROBINSON—Mr. President, the picture which the hon. member has painted is a very charming one, and one which we should all like to see. There is no question about the fact that telephones in the outports would be a very distinct boon. There are many of our outports at the present time which are almost totally devoid of communication. I have in my mind at the present moment settlements quite near one another, but separated by arms of the sea, and very often, for months at a time, the people of one settlement know absolutely nothing about what is going on in the other. As I say, then, telephone connection would be a very desirable thing, but I think the hon. gentleman is a great deal too sanguine. You will find that the establishment of these telephone systems, however desirable they may be, is a difficult and expensive matter. You cannot put up and maintain a telephone system any more than a telegraph system without having a large number of services for the purpose of keeping it in good order. I am not going to say very much on that point, but I am very sorry to observe that the Government seriously entertains the idea of establishing a government-telephone service in this city of St. John's. If a new telephone system is to be attempted, it should be a matter for the Municipal Council; but be that as it may, I would like to discover how it is possible for the Government to establish these telephones, in the outports and in St. John's at the same time, with a vote of $150,000. Cost of installing a really up-to-date telephone service in this city will reach $150,000. What then is left for the outports? And if I know anything about the requirements of the outports it will take at least $150,000 to establish the service there—and what is left for the city?

HON. MR. KNOWLING—They will come in for another vote when that is spent.

HON. MR. ROBINSON—Possibly. But is the game worth the candle? I remember reading, two or three years ago, a manifesto by Premier Roblin, of Manitoba. He was going to take over all telephones there and make it very much cheaper for the people; but there has been nothing
but complaint from the time they were taken over right down to the present time. The same thing applies in Britain, where the telephone service was taken over on January 1st. Complaints are very general there. No, Mr. President, I don't object to state-owned public utilities, such as a telephone service, in communities where the population is large, and where conditions are such that it is not possible for personal or party influence to interfere with the conduct of the service; but just as I object, and object very strongly, to state control of railways in Newfoundland, so I object to state control of telephones in this city. I am perfectly willing to grant that the service is not satisfactory, but is it fair to expect any company, or individual, to spend something like $150,000 to install an up-to-date telephone service here, when within a year or two, for party, commercial or other reasons, they may find that their whole capital would be practically lost. The best system to adopt, and the system which would be most workable, would be for the Government to make arrangements with some Company to install a telephone system here and to name a period of time during which the service should be conducted, subject to the right of purchase by the Government at a fair valuation. If that were done I have no doubt some company would be found, that would be prepared to spend the necessary money, and then if it were thought wise to purchase the system in future years, the Government would be able to take it over as a going concern. I see nothing ahead of us at present but a great deal of confusion. A system that is state owned will, in my opinion, prove very much more unsatisfactory than the service which we have at the present time.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—Hear, hear!

HON. MR. ROBINSON—The cost of such a service as that contemplated by the Government would be enormous, and I say again that instead of $150,000 being sufficient to erect and equip the system, the amount required will be at least double that, while the service will be just as unsatisfactory, as it is at the present time, and probably more so.

HON. MR. McGRATH—This measure, Mr. President, invites provision for a local loan of $250,000—$100,000 to be applied to a further extension of our lighthouse system, in persuasion of the policy adopted by the present Government two years ago; and $150,000 for the creation of a telephone system within the island. The new departure embraced in this telephone project, involves large and important issues. According to the hon. leader of the Government in this House, two phases of telephone installation are contemplated—first, the extension of the existing telegraph system throughout the island to smaller localities by installing telephones in these, where it would not pay to maintain telegraph offices, the telephones, however, serving as economical feeders for the telegraph lines; and second, the providing of an up to date telephone system for St. John's. As to the extension of the telegraph system by means of outport telephones, it seems to me that as these lines are to be connected with the Postal Telegraph Service, there is no other course open than for the Government to carry out this scheme along the lines suggested. In other words, nobody else would be got to undertake such a service, because all the connections would have to be made through the Postal Telegraph offices; and, therefore, the Colony having admitted the principle of tele-
graph extension and the benefits of this agency having been extended to as many of our outports as possible, it must obviously follow that further extension to the smaller localities by means of telephones will be generally advantageous. I do not agree with Hon. Mr. Gibbs that there will be any substantial saving by this policy. On the contrary, I am in accord with Hon. Mr. Robinson who maintains that there will be little, if any difference. In my judgment, the only economy will be in substituting for a more or less capable telegraphist, with a minimum salary of $120 a year, a telephone in, say, the post-office in a small hamlet, at a slight increase in the postmaster's annual stipend. But there will be no saving in the building or maintaining of the lines, because it costs as much to build and maintain a mile of telephone line as it does a mile of telegraph line. However, in considering the item of cost, we must not ignore the great advantage which the telephone will be to these smaller localities, and whether the service pays or not, the people who live in these places are entitled to the greatest facilities that can be afforded to them, consistent with the colony's financial obligations otherwise.

The problem of a telephone system for St. John's stands, however, on a different basis. We are faced with the alternative of its being a company owned or a state-owned enterprise. This is essentially a question that admits of different views. We have heard Hon. Mr. Gibbs argue strongly for public ownership, and Hon. Mr. Robinson argue just as strongly against it; and the same differences would be voiced by people anywhere in this city if the question were submitted to them for their opinions. The problem of public ownership of such utilities as the telegraph and the telephone is one of the great outstanding issues with the world at large today. There is much to be said in favor of public ownership, but it does not necessarily follow that because other countries favor such a policy it is the wisest one for us to adopt. While it is true that statesmen and communities in many countries are advocating state-ownership more and more, there is much cause for disputing, I submit, that state-ownership gives as efficient or as satisfactory a service in many instances, as company-owned utilities, and its success really depends, in the main, on its being honestly carried out. The difficulty in this colony, where the connection between politics and public ownership is so direct, will be to keep the service divorced from too great a political control, and the whole problem may well call for careful consideration.

In regard to the financial possibilities, of a telephone system for this city with the likelihood of long distance extensions in the future, I am inclined to agree with Hon. Mr. Robinson rather than with Hon. Mr. Gibbs, as to its not being a large dividend-earner. I do not think the experience of state ownership of public utilities elsewhere, will endorse the view taken by Hon. Mr. Gibbs that a state-owned telephone system would pay a ten per cent. dividend or anything like it. Personally, I do not believe that a state-owned telephone system in this colony would yield anything like such a dividend; indeed, I do not think the Government would be warranted in operating a system in such a way as to secure such a dividend, for if the undertaking proved profitable enough for that, the proper thing to do would be to reduce the
rates. There is no question whatever, of course, as to the need for a more modern telephone system in St. John's, that is admitted on all hands, but we may, I think, take it for granted that if we enter upon such an enterprise we need not expect any such dividends for a long time because, in the first place, we have not even begun, here in Newfoundland, to realize as yet the possibilities of the telephone as an adjunct to business; and in the second place, the working of any system here will be attended with many difficulties that do not exist elsewhere, and that will entail great expense without any compensating advantage.

While making a trip across Canada recently I availed of the opportunity to look into the telephone question in the various provinces and cities through which I passed, entirely for my own information and because I knew that the telephone problem was one that was pressing upon our attention in Newfoundland, and I think that, if I do not weary the House, it may be of some interest to hon members if I briefly described the conditions which exist throughout Canada with regard to telephones, especially in the Western Provinces where, all things considered, this agency is perhaps, more in use than anywhere else in the world. I say that, without disregarding the vast strides forward which the American Republic is making in this direction, but in Northwest Canada the development of rural telephones has reached a stage unapproached anywhere else, and the conditions in this region more resemble ours than do any others.

In the Maritime Provinces—Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and P. E. Island—the telephone systems are mainly company-owned. Each province has one or several corporations operating telephones. In Nova Scotia there has recently been a merger and now one company controls the situation. In New Brunswick there are a few municipal concerns, but one huge concern stands well above them. In P. E. Island one company also dominates the situation. The latest proposal is an inter-provincial telephone cable to be laid across Northumberland Strait connecting P. E. Island with the mainland at a cost of about $70,000. Today one can telephone between Sydney and Halifax, and Halifax and St. John by means of the long-distance lines, and if this scheme is worked out it will enable a man on the remotest seacoast of P. E. Island to speak with another at Campbellton, in New Brunswick, near the boundary of Quebec, a distance of a thousand miles, though this, surprising as it may be, is nothing so much of a marvel as in America, where they now talk over a telephone between New York and Denver, 2,011 miles, with telegraph messages being sent over the same wire at the same time as the telephonic conversations are being carried on. In the Province of Quebec the Bell Telephone Company has almost absolute control of telephones for the entire province, the movement for public ownership having made no progress whatever there.

In Ontario the Bell Telephone Company, though the dominant factor, has now to face the competition in the first place of what is known as the independent telephone organization, a very active and aggressive rival, made up of some 460 minor concerns, connecting with each other wherever possible, and in the next place of about 25 municipalities in that Province which own and maintain their own local systems, one of those in the County of Rochester, having by prudent management been able in five
years, to reduce the annual hire of telephones to $7, and expecting in ten years hence to be able to give them to its people for nothing. Another conspicuous telephone system, one of the finest in the world, is in the city of Port Arthur, Western Ontario. The town with about 15,000 people, has 3,000 telephones, while we, with 30,000, have only about 750, so that in Port Arthur there are, proportionately 8 users of the telephone to one user of it in St. John's.

As a result of the decision of the Canadian Railway Commission, a tribunal invested with full powers to control railway, telegraph and telephone companies, compelling the Bell Telephone Co. to give the Independent Companies connections wherever possible, the number of telephones in the farm houses of Ontario has grown in five years from five thousand to fifty thousand, and as competent authorities have figured out that the installation of a telephone saves a farmer fifty dollars a year, this means a total saving for the farming people of that province of 2½ million dollars annually.

When one passes the boundaries of Ontario and enters Manitoba one finds a state-owned telephone system in full operation. The last speaker (Hon. Mr. Robinson) was quite correct in saying that the Roblin Government attained power on a telephone policy. The Roblin Government did advocate the buying out of the Bell Telephone Company and establishing a state-owned system of telephones. After having been elected, this policy was proceeded with, and it is said that the price paid the Bell Telephone Company was about $3,000,000 more than it should have been. As to that I know nothing, but through the kindness of a friend in Winnipeg I was able to enjoy the privilege of studying the working of the telephone system, the Commissioner of Telephones, Mr. Patterson, being kind enough to afford me full opportunities for doing so. State-ownership of telephones for Manitoba is now going through a crucial stage in that Province. It has not been a conspicuous success so far, financially, at any rate in Manitoba, partly because of politics. The administration of the service is supposed to be non-partisan there being three commissioners in charge of the Telephone Department, apparently politics plays no small part in its operation. Be that, however, as it may, we are only concerned here in results. The outcome of last year's operations of state-owned telephones in Manitoba was a serious deficit—$120,000 on a revenue of about $1,250,000, in addition to which there was a similar shortage in the amount that should have been set aside to provide for depreciation. In other words, a loss of a quarter-million dollars, or 20 per cent., resulted from the year's operations. There is, though, this to be said with reference to the Manitoba system of telephones, that it is operated by the Government, not as a revenue-earning enterprise, but as a public utility in the sense that we maintain lighthouses. Every farmer in Manitoba, practically, has telephonic facilities. He no longer uses his wire fence for telephonic purposes, as Hon. Mr. Gibbs explained. That was done in the past, but the day for it has now ended, and the farmer in Manitoba will be satisfied at present with nothing less than a first-class line built for him, costing $60 to $80 and, in some cases, $100 a mile. This is one of the reasons why the enterprise is going behind—the cost of providing installa-
tions for widely separated farmsteads.

HON. MR. ROBINSON—Are the rates not being raised?

HON. MR. McGRATH—I was just coming to that. In the city of Winnipeg the rates are now being raised—and thereby hangs a tale. Winnipeg has a population of about 150,000, or five times that of St. John's. We have about 750 to 800 telephones here and on that basis Winnipeg would have about 4,000, but Winnipeg had, as a matter of fact, 19,000 telephones last September and probably has 20,000 to-day. The rate under the Bell Company was $30 a year. It was increased by the Roblin Government to $40, and now it is proposed to advance it to $48. This may seem an absolute indictment of public ownership, but it is only fair to say, on the other hand, that an alternative proposal is now put forward by which any person can secure a telephone for $1.50 per month, which entitles him to 30 calls in the month, or one per day, while for every additional call he pays two cents. The reason for offering this alternative to the people of that city is that Winnipeg is said to be the most extravagant city in the world in the use of the telephone. The Manitoba authorities claim that by this new scheme they will be able to eliminate 100,000 needless calls a day in that city alone and thereby increase the efficiency of the service as well as reduce the operating expenses. These authorities also claim that under Government ownership the use of the telephone has greatly increased. When the Roblin Government took over the provincial telephones from the Bell Company in 1907 there were but 8,000 phones in Winnipeg, and only 15,000 in the province, while at the end of 1910 the number in Winnipeg had increased to 18,000 and in the province to 34,000.

In the Province of Saskatchewan, which adjoins Manitoba, the principle of public ownership has not yet been carried out in its entirety, though it seems to be coming. The policy of the Government in that province has been to provide the poles for the building of country telephone lines, a policy easily understood when it is remembered that on the prairies wood is an article almost impossible to procure, and wooden poles are very costly because of this; and to gradually acquire the existing telephone companies, which are principally co-operative ones, there being 247 of them, with 5,848 subscribers and 5,500 miles of wire. The farming communities and villages form their own telephone companies, but within the past three or four years the Government has been buying out a great number of these small concerns, and it is probable that within a few years the province will possess this utility entirely, as it does in Manitoba. I looked into the question in the cities of Regina and Saskatoon. Regina has 12,000 people and 1,800 telephones. Saskatoon, with 15,000 people, has 2,000 telephones.

In Manitoba the system is a manual one, somewhat as we have in St. John's, but on a more improved scale. The lifting of your telephone receiver from the hook starts an electric light, in the central switch-board, with your number below it, and "Central" asks you for the connection you want without any preliminary ringing of the bell by you. When the conversation ceases the hanging up of your receiver puts out the light and disconnects you thereby. In Saskatchewan, however, the automa-
tic system is in use. On each telephone instrument is a dial with numbers 1 to 0, and, by hooking your finger in rings attached to each number and moving the dial in a semicircle you automatically make the connection yourself. If the party you seek is busy, you learn of this by a buzzing on the wire and you disconnect by hanging up the receiver as usual, but if the line is not busy the instrument on the other end keeps on ringing until somebody at the other end answers you, or you disconnect yourself if satisfied that the party you want is not answering.

In Alberta as in Manitoba, the principle of state-owned telephones is also in operation and there, too, the automatic telephone is in use as in Saskatchewan. Premier Sifton, of Alberta, introduced into the Alberta Legislature a few days ago a bill to provide for the raising of a sum of $2,000,000 to extend the provincial telephone system, providing for 3,000 miles of rural line, 500 miles of long distance lines over new routes and 700 miles of extension of existing long distance lines. Alberta has a population of only about 800,000, or about half as much again as Newfoundland, and yet it undertakes an outlay of $2,000,000 for telephones as cheerfully as we make a similar outlay for railways. Only one municipal system exists in Alberta, and that is in the capital city of Edmonton. Edmonton has a population the size of our own, and the City Telephone Commissioner, with whom I talked the matter over in September, told me that in the month of August they had 3,100 telephones in operation there, that is four times as many as in St. John’s, the rates being slightly lower than our own, $36 for business and $24 for private phones.

In Calgary, with some 45,000 people, there are nearly 6,000 telephones, and the long-distance installation enables one to speak with people in the remotest sections of the province. Finally, with regard to the Alberta telephone system, it is important to note that Premier Sifton claims that it earns a handsome surplus yearly—equal to 5 per cent.

In British Columbia, after traversing the mountains, the system of company-owned telephones is again found. The entire telephone system of that Province is practically in the hands of one telephone organization. The rates vary, of course, according to the size and business interests of the different communities, but while uniformly higher than those in the Eastern Provinces they are probably only in the same ratio to the earning powers of the people. In all the provinces where company-owned telephones exist, goodly dividends are paid every year, and in the Province of Alberta the state-owned telephone is a good paying proposition according to the official records. In Manitoba it is not at present, and Saskatchewan has not yet assumed any ownership of its telephone installations.

It must not be forgotten, though, in considering both sides of this telephone question, that with company-owned telephone systems the policy is only to develop in directions which assure the greatest prospect of profitable returns—in other words, that telephones are not extended to small places and sections which offer little chance of profitable return. This, of course, is proper enough for a private enterprise, looking for dividends for its stockholders, but a Government which develops a public utility must do so on different lines.
and must face the risk of loss in order to afford those who live in small communities the same facilities as those who live in larger ones, since the taxes paid by the one class as well as those paid by the other, are utilized to maintain these services.

The review which I have given of the telephone situation throughout the Dominion shows that in the older provinces of Canada, those on the Atlantic and Pacific seaboards, where the communities are more conservative in their views, company-ownership of telephones still obtains, while in the newly settled provinces of the North-west the policy of public ownership prevails. It may be worth noting, moreover, that in the recent provincial election in Ontario, the Liberal Party, in opposition there, advocated state-ownership of the telephone systems, and that while the Whitney Administration could not go that far, it appointed a Commission to investigate the question of government-ownership of the trunk lines. Government ownership of telephones was also an item in the policy of the Liberal Party in British Columbia in the recent general election in that province. I might say, further, that in the West the telephone is used instead of the telegraph for moving trains, and that when I was in Vancouver Commissioners from the Japanese Government were investigating the telephone systems on the Pacific Coast.

Throughout the world the question of nationalizing these public utilities is now very much alive. Hon. Mr. Pelletier, the Postmaster General in the Borden Government, has declared himself in favor of public ownership of telegraph and telephone lines, and the American Postmaster General has made similar proposals to Congress. In Great Britain the Government took over the whole telephone system of the country on January 1st, prior to which the British Post Office Department controlled about 500,000 miles of telephone wire, with 120,000 subscribers, and the company-owned systems had about four times as many miles of wire and four times as many subscribers. The National Telephone Company, whose business was thus acquired, had a registered capital of 16 million pounds, employed 18 thousand persons and operated half-a-million instruments.

In France, Germany, Austria, Russia, Italy and Spain the telephones are state-owned. In Sweden there are cheaper telephones and more, in proportion to the population, than in any other country in the world. Stockholm, with 400,000 people, has not less than 75,000 telephones, and the annual rate is only $11 for 600 calls. The cheapness is due to there being company-owned and state-owned telephones and the competition brings down rates. In Norway the long distance lines are owned by the state and extensions are made every year, it having been decided in December to extend the system to the far northern towns, which are among the chief centres of the fishing industry.

Applying, then, this mass of data to the telephone situation in St. John's, what do we find? We are faced with the fact that we have 800 phones in the city and that the possibilities of the extension of the service in the immediate future are, at the outside, that this number may be doubled. That such a doubling, indeed, can take place, I very much doubt, unless the rates are reduced. Then arises the question, can the
rates be reduced and efficiency ensured, as well as making the venture pay? This, again, is a matter that admits of dispute. That the Government could make such an undertaking pay as readily as a company could, will, I think, not be contends. The argument for state-ownership here is mainly that it will be the country's own fault if the service is not satisfactory. If the Government decides to establish a telephone system in St. John's as part of such a scheme for the island, I think it ought to be prepared to do so on the basis of being satisfied with making two ends meet or even suffering a slight loss in the early years.

This has been the record of the Post Office Department—it is only within the past year that the Post Office has begun to pay; only in the last annual report has the Postmaster-General been able to claim that the revenue from his department has exceeded the expenditure in maintaining the service—putting aside, of course, the appropriations for subsidies for the carriage of mails by steamers and trains. Our experience with the telegraph system was somewhat similar. When we took the latter over from the Reid Co., ten years ago the receipts were practically nothing and the expenses were large. In spite, however, of heavy outlays for extensions of late years, we have been able to maintain the ratio between revenue and expenditure, and when the scheme of telegraph extension now in hand is completed and the outport telephones are installed, and the combined service begins to work without any large demands for extensions in the future, I think the service will then begin to pay its way. In the light of these facts, we may reasonably hope that if a state-owned system is adopted, it will, after some years, pay also though, as I said before, I do not think the prospects of its being a paying venture are as good as if it were operated by a private company.

The argument in favor of operating this telephone system by means of a private concern is, of course, that it will ensure greater efficiency, a more satisfactory service and, generally, more acceptable results than if it were operated by the state; while, on the other hand, there is the argument that the telephone is the legitimate complement of the Post Office and the telegraph, and that if the carriage of written communications by the mails and of written communications over the telegraph lines is a public duty, it is just as much a public duty to provide telephone communications in the same way. Another argument is that a private corporation would not undertake the providing of extensions which the Government might think desirable outside St. John's, because these extensions might not pay sufficiently at the start; and that, therefore, the government should not hand over to private enterprise the portion of this business which would yield a dividend and retain for itself the non-profitable side of the undertaking.

At the present time there are in this Colony, apart from St. John's, telephone systems in Harbour Grace, Grand Falls, in and about Channel, in and about Grand Bank, and one is now being mooted for Burin. While I hear that a movement is on foot on Bell Island for an installation there. While these systems are not of the class contemplated by
the Government, because they are really miniature telephone systems in the sense of those carried on in Canada, yet it is quite possible that by means of a trunk or long-distance line, all these could be in time connected with the system in St. John's, and the revenue that would accrue from that would, in that case, go entirely to the state-owned or company-owned telephone system. With regard to private co-operation, there is unquestionably the fact that, judged by our experience in this Colony, and as Hon. Mr. Robinson has said with regard to the recent taking over of the British telephone system by the P. O. Department, much greater efficiency can be counted on from a private enterprise, but many contend that even at the cost of some sacrifice in that respect, it would be better for the state to control this agency. The question is admittedly one of great interest and we can only hope that whether the system is to be state-owned or company-owned, we shall get a satisfactory service soon. And whoever starts this service will, I trust, consider the newest telephone system, that known as the auto-manual and now in operation at Ashtabula, Ill., which is regarded as far in advance of anything else yet devised for this purpose.

In connection with the system of outport telephones, the fact ought not to be overlooked that one of the advantages of the proposed installation of telephones in the outports is that it will be possible to make telephone communication in almost every instance with the existing lighthouses, and also with those proposed to be built as a feature of the measure now before us. I do not know of any better use that could be made of the telephone as an agency of communication than to connect with the lighthouses and signal stations, because these may be so very helpful at times in the saving of human life. In that connection I desire very strongly to support the proposal to extend the lighthouse system. It seems to me that the desirability of a policy of this kind is so self-evident that it needs little to be said in its favor. As a seafaring people we ought to provide every agency that is possible to safeguard the lives of our people, and as to that, I take it, there will be no difference of opinion.

HON. MR. MILLEY—I endorse the remarks made by the last speaker but one, Hon. Mr. Robinson, and would like to touch upon one or two matters in connection with the proposed telephone system. I would ask the hon. gentleman in charge of the Bill, if the $150,000 will be spent in the city or divided up amongst the outside settlements. It is only a short time ago since I returned from the Old Country, and remarks have been made here by some previous speaker about the telephone system there, that the taking over of the system by the Government has been a success. Now, Sir, I came in contact with several of the business people in England and on one occasion the question of the telephone came under discussion, and I was told the system before the end of the year was bad enough, but since the Government has taken it over it is ten times worse. I am afraid that something of that kind will be said if the Government takes over the present system and expends $150,000 on it, as it is intended to do. About eighteen months ago I was one of the two or three that were appointed by the Board of Trade to go into the telephone system in this country, and in the investigation that took place at
that time we found that it would take a good deal more than $150,000 nearer $500,000 to put the system in St. John’s as it should be, and I am afraid that the Government’s $150,000 asked for here will not go very far in inaugurating an up-to-date system in this colony. The system suggested by Hon. Mr. Gibbs would cost this colony nearly $500,000, and you ask for a loan of $150,000. It is just as well to make this loan $500,000 and let us have an up-to-date service once and for all.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—I think this is one of the most interesting discussions we have had this session and the fund of information elicited is most valuable. This Bill appears to be a second edition of the Railway Bill of three or four years ago. We are told that this telephone system will cost $150,000. Now, we have heard two gentlemen, one of whom has told us the amount required will be nearer $500,000. I am not prepared to say which of these estimates is correct, but if we take the medium it will be considerably more than we are asking for in this Bill. We have not been told whether the Government have taken an estimate of this matter, or whether they are going on in the same way they did with the railway, surveying as they went, and trusting to Providence as to what it would cost. I do not think it is right for a Government or an individual to run into debt, of which the extent is not known. I was told of the fallacy of this on a former occasion; I was told that a business could not be conducted without debt; that it was necessary for all classes of business to have a certain amount of debt. That may be true, but what gentleman will go into business unless he has made some estimate of what the cost will be?

Coming to the question of debt most of us here, even the youngest member, knows something of what debt means. Previous to 1894 this country was supposed to be prosperous, had the credit of being one of the wealthiest colonies. Everybody with the exception of a few who actually knew the state of affairs, supposed all was going along all right until the Monday morning we came down to business and had a rude awakening. What brought that about I ask. Was not that due to running into debt without estimating the amount or the possibilities of meeting it? I say without fear of contradiction that the “crash” was one of the effects that debt had upon the commercial enterprises of this city. For a few days after that Monday morning the Commercial establishments on Water Street were falling down like a house of cards. They had incurred debts without sufficient knowledge of what the result would be. Are we to follow that example to-day? Are we to run into debt without knowing the extent and whether we shall be able to meet it? Everybody is talking about the prosperity of the country at the present time, and I admit it is prosperous. Everything looks easy and well. But reflect a moment. You have your sealing fleet with a prospect of only about two-thirds of a voyage which has generally given a tone to the summer outlook. And if there is a poor seal fishery, generally the outfit for the summer is curtailed. Then again, we read day after day in the daily papers the result of the Norwegian fishery. That fishery to-day is double what it has been for I do not know how long. The Norwegians are our competitors. They will go into our market.
They have a large quantity of fish and cannot keep it. They must sell, and they will use every legitimate means of competition, for getting their fish into the markets. Competition has the result of protecting the public and consumer. When competition is keen the seller has to submit to low prices. Each one undersells the other until they get to a state of affairs which merely means removal of the weakest. If the Norwegians send their fish to market and we cannot afford to keep ours, in order to effect sales, we may sell it for less than it cost us. If there is a good fishery here it will be bad for us and good for the Norwegians.

What effect will that have upon this island? It may not be felt right away but it is bound to tell in the long run. If the men who catch the fish get a small quantity, their buying capacity is reduced; if a large quantity, and they get a poor price, they are very little better off. I am told I take a gloomy view of things. In 1894 when everybody was complaining and firms on Water St. discharging half their staffs I said "this country is all right, it is the mismanagement of the country that has brought it where it is." We saw house after house go under, another compromising, another getting an extension of time, and few survived the ordeal. To this very day there are people in this country in reduced circumstances as a result of that, but through the goodness of Providence shortly we had a return to better times. This is not a matter for which any Government is to be thanked. It was the goodness of Providence which sent the fish to our fishermen, and we were fortunate in getting good prices, and this has ruled ever since. Now, I hope that the result of the present seal fishery and the immense catch of fish in Norway may not bring about serious loss to the men who have staked their interest largely in these enterprises. It is a matter not to be looked at in a gloomy way, but to be carefully considered and commented upon. I may be old, but I am not gloomy. That is the last thing you can call me. There is a joke in me yet and a kick in me, and even though I stand alone I am prepared to get in a corner and defend myself, no matter what it costs.

I think it is altogether a mistake that before this Bill was laid before the House, no proper estimate of what the cost would be was made. We should not be trifled with in this as we were with the railway bill. We should be dealt fairly with and told what it is going to cost. I do not believe myself $150,000 will nearly cover the expense, but that after we commit ourselves to the matter we will have to vote more. We cannot stop in the middle. We passed that addition to the railway loan merely because we dare not refuse, no matter what we thought. We were committed to the thing and had now got so far, and it would be ruinous to stop in the middle. Now should we not learn experience from the past? We are not going to learn from the future.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the Bill was read a second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole House to-morrow.

HON. PRESIDENT read a message from the House of Assembly that they had passed a Bill granting Supply to His Majesty, in which they had asked the Council's concurrence.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop this Bill was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.
On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the House adjourned till Monday at 4 p.m.

MONDAY, April 8.
Council met at 4.15 p.m., pursuant to adjournment.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the Copyright Bill was read a third time, and sent to the House of Assembly with a message that the Council had passed the same without amendment.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the Appropriation or Lands Bill was read a third time, and sent to the House of Assembly with a message that the Council had passed the same with an amendment.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the House went into Committee on the Debenture Bonds Bill.

HON. MR. GIBBS—The Hon. Mr. Knowling addressed this House in relation to the enactment of this measure, but I cannot congratulate him upon his speech, because—and he will pardon me for saying so—it did not reflect credit upon his business intelligence or experience. He saw opportunity to indulge in gloomy forebodings in relation to the expenditure for public services in the past three years, admitting in the same breath that the country is prosperous. If the hon. gentleman brought with him in the management of his business the same gloominess as to the ultimate success of it, I venture to say without fear of contradiction that it would not have developed and reached that state of prosperity which it has. He asked the question, 'What business man goes into a new venture without making an estimate of what the cost will be?' and states that the object which this Bill embodies has been set on foot without any reports or estimates being secured as to its cost. The hon. member is entirely wrong.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—Why are they not given?

HON. MR. GIBBS—They are confidential. This matter has been thoroughly investigated and reported on. Representatives of various construction companies visited this country last year, went carefully into the matter, and furnished estimates as to what they would be prepared to construct the system for. The hon. gentleman, when arguing from the premises referred to, evidently thought that the present government were following in the footsteps of himself and friends by enacting legislation, the outcome of which might involve the Colony in a very large expenditure of money without any corresponding gain. He must have had in mind when he spoke and looked so gloomily and with such a rueful countenance, the amendment by the Bond Government of the Railway Contract of 1898; and I am not surprised at his words or his looks, because the blunders and mistakes then made this and future generations will have to bear the burden of. Did he ever give consideration to the fact that the amending of the 1898 contract entails an annual interest charge upon this Colony of $175,000, without there being anything whatever to show for it? Where was then this business estimate which he refers to? Why did not the hon. gentleman's business experience then show him what the cost to the Colony was going to be? Did he then make an estimate that the cost to the Colony was going to be $4,600,000? And did he consider that that vast sum was being expended in such a manner that not one single asset can be pointed to as a result of it? Perhaps the hon. member had in mind that he and his
friends entered upon the public ownership of the telegraph system without ever taking stock or making an estimate of what the cost was going to be to the country? They went into the matter blindfolded, so to speak. The public ownership of the telegraph system has cost this colony nearly $2,000,000, and an annual interest charge of upwards of $80,000. The Bond Government paid the Reid Newfoundland Co., under the telegraph award $1,500,000, the incidental expenses connected with that award were $150,000; the cable between Canso and Port aux Basques cost another $150,000; and the extensions of the system have cost the Colony about $200,000 more. Thus we find that that Government of business estimates entered upon the public ownership of the telegraph system without ever taking into account what that public ownership was going to mean or what it was going to cost, and now the Colony has got to pay an annual interest charge of $80,000, not to speak of the annual loss in connection with the operation of the system— which has been going on from 1901 down to the present time. The result of the amendment of the '98 contract, to put it in round figures, represents an increase in the liability of this country of nearly $5,000,000. I am not, therefore, surprised, Sir, that the mere thought of the experience which the hon. gentleman has had makes him gloomy and pessimistic. The hon. gentleman referred to the financial crisis of 1894, previous to which he said, we were regarded as a wealthy country. Well, that crisis was brought about through a lack of statesmanship on the part of the then Government. It is a matter of historical truth that the condition of the Commercial Bank at that time had been known to the Government of the day for several years. The fire of '92 created a kind of fictitious prosperity. Large sums of money were paid out by insurance companies to those whose property had been destroyed by fire, and a very large portion of that money found its way into the Savings Bank; the Savings Bank lent large sums to the Commercial Bank; and then, suddenly, in 1894, at a time when no outfits whatever had been issued for the fishery the Government of the day, notwithstanding the fact that a prominent supporter of their own advised them against so doing, made a demand upon the Commercial and Union Banks for upwards of $664,000, to pay, it was said, a floating debt of the Colony, for which there was absolutely no necessity of providing. This was but the culmination, so to speak, of the cry of "down with the merchants and level Water Street."

We hear whisperings of the same thing to-day, and we see signs of another campaign of a similar character, if one can read aright the meaning of the coalition which an attempt is being made to bring about. But, Sir, are the hon. gentleman's gloomy predictions justified? I think, Sir, I can successfully demonstrate that they are not—and it would be a bad thing for the country if they were. When the Government came into power in 1889, on the cry of "down with the merchants," the total import and export trade of the Colony was $13,461,344; in 1890 it was $12,468,541; in 1891 it was $14,306,616; in 1892 it was $11,399,851; in 1893 it was $13,851,181; in 1894 it was $12,975,907; in 1895-96 it was $12,625,048; in 1896-7 it was $10,864,123; in 1898-9 it was $13,247,560;
in 1899-1900 commenced the colony rise, when the figures went up to $16,124,723; in 1900-01 it was $15,836,481; in 1901-02 it rose to $17,389,209; in 1902-03 it was $18,456,448; in 1903-04 it was $19,830,561; in 1904-05 it was $20,948,635; in 1905-06 it was $20,500,550; in 1906-07 it was $22,527,201; in 1907-08 it was $23,331,880; in 1908-09 it was $22,251,250; in 1909-10 it was $24,624,692; and in 1910-11 it was $25,359,657. These figures cover 22 years of the export and import trade of the Colony. Now, Sir, if we take the aggregate export and import trade of the Colony for the eleven years from 1889 inclusive, we find that it amounts to $144,742,990, or an average of $12,885,726.40 a year. The 11 years, from 1900 inclusive to 1910-11 amount to $233,036,546; or an average of $21,185,142.20 a year; or a difference in favor of the Colony between the past eleven years as contrasted with the eleven years previous of the enormous sum of $91,293,574. But, Sir, I will not stop here with my proofs. I shall show how this increased export and import trade has been and is daily adding to the permanent and lasting wealth of the country. At the time of the "crash," to which the hon. gentleman has referred, the total savings of our people, including debentures held and deposits in bank, did not exceed $6,000,000. What are they to-day? The total deposits in the Savings Bank now are $3,015,000; the deposits in the Canadian Banks now doing business here amount to $7,116,406.30; the debentures of the Colony held by our own people amount to nearly $3,500,000; or $13,631,460.30. In other words, an increase of nearly $8,000,000 in actual deposits and savings since 1894. If I estimate in addition to this the amount of re-insurance, of life policies, the capital invested in new industries, in new steamships, and various other enterprises, all since 1894, it will be fair to assume that the permanent savings of our people will not fall far short of $23,000,000, or nearly four times greater than they were in 1894. I submit, Sir, that it is only when we come to examine facts and figures fairly that we realize what actual and real progress and development of a permanent and lasting character has been going on in this country during the past eleven or twelve years. At the time which the hon. gentleman has referred to we had scarcely any avenues of wealth except the fisheries, and the result of carrying all our eggs in one basket, so to speak did not, nor indeed could it, put us in a position of successfully meeting a time of depression, of storm and distress; but now, with industries paying out annually millions of dollars, when in 1894 there was paid, only a very small sum, we are placed in a position that fifteen or twenty years ago the most optimistic in the country would not dare predict, because he might be regarded as insane. But the fact remains nevertheless, that the country has been progressing, has been developing, and that it must progress and must develop in the future. We cannot stand still, or the wheels of progress will roll over us. In 1890, when the construction of the Hall's Bay railroad was started, which involved an expenditure of anywhere from ten to twelve millions of dollars, our revenue was but $1,351,485; and the debt of the country was comparatively small. From 1890 to 1897, however, while the hon. gentleman's friends were in power, the public debt increased to at least 12
or 13 millions of dollars—the outcome of the legislative work of the hon. gentleman and his friends; and this was at a period in our industrial history which all must admit was, to say the least, dark.

The hon. gentleman sees in the Norwegian catch, which is very large, a further reason for indulging in his doleful forebodings. The keenness of the competition resulting therewith, he says, must have the effect of underselling, in order to market the catches of both countries. But, Sir, the increased production of food stuffs does not necessarily mean the lessening of the cost to the consumer. The contrary is the rule.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—That is a good joke.

HON. MR. GIBBS—Well, I will prove it. Canada, ten years ago, produced very little wheat, and the produce in the Argentine Republic was also small. The wheat exporting countries were the United States and Russia. Canada to-day is exporting millions upon millions of bushels of wheat. This country bought all its flour from the United States until the development of the Canadian Northwest—and got it at a cheaper rate than we do now. The competition of Canadian wheat in the country did not make the price of flour less. Flour was cheaper prior to the competition of Canadian wheat here than it is to-day. That can be borne out by statistics. There is more wheat grown in the world to-day than ever there was before.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—There are more people to eat it.

HON. MR. GIBBS—That is the point I am coming to. There are more people to eat it, and that is the reason, Mr. Chairman, why the increased production of food stuffs does not mean a lessening of the prices. Every moment in the day somebody is born into the world and consequently more food stuffs are required. Greater quantities of farm products are grown to-day in the world than ever before, but notwithstanding that fact the prices have increased 100 per cent., and in some instances very much more. So that increased production of any food product does not mean that the consumer will get it at a lower price.

Another reason, Mr. Chairman, why the hon. gentleman was wrong in taking such a gloomy outlook of the matter is this: At the time of the Crash the laborer in this city was working for eighty cents a day, and many skilled tradesmen were getting but a dollar a day; the railway laborer was getting but a dollar a day. To-day the railway laborer on the fish wharf gets from $1.20 to $1.40; and the skilled workman who worked for a dollar a day then is getting from $1.75 to $3.00 a day now. What does that mean? It means that where the workingman had from 80 cents to a dollar a day to spend then, he has from $1.40 to $3.00 a day to spend now. That has not affected trade or business. It does not affect the man who pays out the money, because it comes back to him through the increased purchasing power of the people. If we accept the argument of the hon. member that keenness of competition brings down prices, why has business multiplied in St. John's. There are more business people and a greater extension of business to-day than ever before, and competition is keener in this city to-day than it ever was before; but now a greater amount of business is done. There are palaces in this city to-day where
there were very small business places before. Those great departmental stores which we see to-day have been made possible by the increased purchasing power of the people, and by the increased prosperity which the country has enjoyed during the past ten or fifteen years. But the increased competition has not meant the lessening of the prices; on the other hand, prices have gone up all over the world, and will continue to advance because, as the hon. gentleman has said, there are more people born into the world every day to make use of the products of all industrial concerns.

The great industrial work which has been going on in this country for the past two or three years, and which will go on, has all been financed without increasing taxation. Why? Because the present Government has been able to find a source of income hitherto untouched. We have been able to increase the earning power of the Crown Lands Department $145,000 per year more than ever it was before; then the receipts from Bell Island will amount to about $100,000 per year; the Cable Companies' tax will mean $16,000 a year—another new source of income.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—The cable tax is not new.

HON. MR. GIBBS—It is a new source of income. The hon. gentleman and his friends were endeavoring to give concessions to the Commercial Cable Company, and proceedings are now pending in the Privy Council in connection therewith. If we had permitted that we would not have been able to bring the United States Cable Co. and the other companies in here, and as a result we would not be in receipt of their taxes. And there will be others coming along as well.

But, Sir, I am not done with my proofs yet. At the time of the financial crisis in 1894, the postal revenue, which is a very good index of how the country is progressing, was but $37,053.84; the returns of the past fiscal year show it to be $117,259.89, or an increase of $80,206.05, with reduced postal rates. Now, if that is not an index of how this country is progressing and of its permanent and lasting prosperity, I don't know what is. I am afraid the hon. gentleman has not read the signs aright. We are like every other country in the world. We cannot remain where we are to-day. We must advance. The world is advancing, and we are only taking part in that great procession of advancement, industrially and otherwise, which is going on the world over. The figures which I have quoted prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that this country is justified in undertaking the obligations and expenditures which have been incurred and that all has been done without a cent of extra taxation upon the people of this country.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—I do not intend to reply to all the personal references and insinuations of the last speaker, but may say that his arguments have been nearly the whole of the time of a personal and direct nature. Since I have been sitting in this chamber I have seldom made reference by name to any member, and do not intend to do so. I have dealt with argument, and if not correct it is my misfortune and not my fault. All the veiled insinuations are like water on a duck's back. It does not matter if the hon. gentleman went on with his personal re-
ferences and insinuations until midnight, it would make no difference to me. I have been careful to make no reference either to the Government of the day, or any Government, and no individual or body of individuals, but what I have said I have said of my conviction and believe to be correct. I have as much right to my opinions as any other member of the Council, and have the right to express them, but that is no justification that I should be set upon personally because I happen for the time being (I speak guardedly) to stand here as one who was a member of the late Government. Why should I be criticised because of that? I do not criticise any member because he happens to be a member of the present Government, and do not intend to.

We were told in the course of the last speaker’s remarks that increased production does not mean a reduction in prices. That all depends upon conditions. We were told that the prices in Canada to-day are no lower than when the United States exported to this country nearly the whole of its flour; and what accounts for the difference to-day? The population of the United States has increased at such a rapid rate that they require the larger portion of their products for home consumption. Canada, on the other hand, has opened up virgin soil that has enabled it to export now to a large extent, and this has made up for the deficiency of the United States. Their increased population consumes nearly all the surplus products.

I do not intend to say more on this matter, but at any rate I want it to be understood that I am prepared for anything at all, but think that when attacked personally I am only doing my duty in defending myself.

HON. MR. GIBBS—I think the hon. member feels sore that I have had the temerity, so to speak, to criticise the public actions of himself and his friends. If he calls that personal attack then I am guilty; but I have yet to learn that any man, no matter what his position may be, is immune from criticism because he was at one time a member of a Government and another time of this House. If we are going to throw the cloak of immunity from criticism around our public actions because we are in one place at one time and somewhere else at another, then I very much fear for the public institutions of the country, because then we would be setting up an esthetical example, and establishing a condition of affairs which, to say the least is harmful, and will not further the ends of that criticism which I have indulged in, as is the duty of every man to do. Does the hon. member think it personal reference to criticise what was done in a Government of which he was a member, whose blunders have been notorious, and whose legislation in many ways has been a by-word and reproach, and which has added to the burdens of the people of this country without showing anything in return for it? Is it wrong to criticise the actions of a Government which paid a contractor five million dollars of public money? If they had paid their own money it would be none of my business, but I have, like every other person, had to shoulder my share and want to know the reason why. I am quite justified in criticising the actions of men whose blunders have cost this country an interest charge of $170,000 a year.
Is that personal attack? Is that what he means by personal references? I know it is part of the political history of the Government of which he was a member, of which he does not want to hear anything. He argues that the U. S. wants practically all the wheat itself now, but does not attempt to meet the statement which have adduced that increased production of food products does not necessarily mean reduced prices, but on the contrary, he substantiates it. Does the hon. member know that the United States, with a population of 93 millions, uses only about three million dollars' worth of codfish, while in England they use $30,000,000 worth? There is a field where we can market all the fish products of this country, and it is being slowly adopted, and more fish is going into the United States from this country to-day than ever before. And more will go in next year, and it will keep on increasing every year. Therefore, because of these principles so well known and so well defined, it is that the increase in the catch of fish does not necessarily mean that the prices are to be low.

I think that the hon. member is a little sensitive this afternoon, because I can assure him that I did not (I challenge him to point out that I did) make any personal reference to him that can be construed as reflecting on him personally. I did, however, criticise his political conduct and will in the future endeavour to show where mistakes and blunders have been made.

Committee of Whole on Telephone and Lighthouse Loan Bill.

HON. MR. BISHOP—In the discussion of every measure that comes before this House while I hold the position which I do at present as representing the Government here, I hope that every hon. member, no matter what political party he is supporting, will consider that he has the free right of speech, and will not hesitate to express his views fully upon any measure. I hope at the same time, if, in the course of my remarks I should feel called upon to remind any hon. member that on a previous occasion when he was either a member or supporter of another Government, by which such things were done, he will not consider that I am making any personal reference. I exceedingly regret that the Hon. Mr. Knowling feels aggrieved. I feel very sure that Hon. Mr. Gibbs did not make any personal reference.

The discussion, Mr. Chairman, upon this Bill was very animated, and a very keen interest in the measure was manifested. The speeches, I may say, have all been particularly good, but that of Hon. Mr. McGath calls for special reference. It was a very remarkable speech, and showed that he had a very close acquaintance with the subject with which he was dealing. He informed us that on a recent visit to the Dominion of Canada, as he visited various cities and towns, he made a special study of the matter of the telephone system adopted here and there from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and the information which he was able to afford the House was I am sure, entertaining and valuable, and we all so regard it.

It should appear from the remarks that there is much difference of opinion regarding this measure as to whether the Government is asking for sufficient money. All hon. members appear to be agreed that we could not too quickly arrange in some way for the establishment of a thoroughly up-to-date system of tele-
phones for St. John's. The difference of opinion seems to be as to whether this should be undertaken by a private corporation or by the Government.

As to the extension of telephones in outports to connect with previous telegraph stations, I may say it is only intended to be of gradual growth and only a moderate expenditure under that head will take place during the remainder of the term of the present administration. The estimate of the Government Engineer for a thoroughly modern system in the city is $150,000, and his figures would appear to be correct from the fact that a private corporation has intimated to the Government its desire to undertake the installation, and also estimates that $150,000 is the sum that would be required. This would seem to authenticate the figures given by Mr. Hall, the Government Engineer. That would pay for the full installation, and the necessary office to run the system, the central station, and the whole equipment. This is the reason for the Government's asking for the sum of $150,000.

HON. MR. ROBINSON—Rather a distinction without a difference, Mr. President.

The Committee rose and reported the Bill without amendment. This report was received, and upon motion it was ordered the Bill be read a third time to-morrow.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved the House into Committee on the Revenue Bill.

HON. MR. AYRE took the Chair of Committee.

The Committee rose and reported the Bill without amendment. This report was received and it was ordered the Bill be read a third time to-morrow.

HON. MR. BISHOP.—In moving the second reading of the Public Service Bill, I would say that there is but one thing as far as I am aware that calls for special reference; I refer to the vote for the improvement and preservation of the Lobster Fishery. We have had a very energetic and apparently a very competent man going around the country examining into the operations of this fishery the past two seasons, and he has prepared a very extensive report upon the operations of that fishery and recommends that attempt be made...
to preserve and increase it by a system of propagation. This system that he recommends is a simple one, and appeals to the Government as being well worthy of trial, upon a not extensive scale for the present; he suggests that at some two or three points around the island the system should be attempted and the results watched.

I should say that one of the places selected would be Fortune Bay. The lobster fishery some years ago in that district was a very considerable one, but has dwindled largely in recent years, comparatively few lobsters have been packed there lately and the fish are getting smaller every year. The same applies, but in a smaller degree, to Placentia Bay. In the district of St. Barbe the fishery is at its best, and there seems to be no diminution of the lobsters there, and those caught are of larger size than elsewhere around our coast. The conditions existing in that district may, it is thought, be secured by a system of propagation in the various other districts of the island. Some think that they can all be made equally productive. I may say that I do not share this opinion, and that there are conditions in the district of St. Barbe which can never be effected in some of the bays in the country, for various reasons which I need not enter upon now, but I am firmly convinced that a great deal can be done, and that this fishery can be increased if it is undertaken in a proper energetic way, and if the concurrence and co-operation of the lobster fishermen can be secured, and this must be secured; but if there is any difficulty we should take measures to compel packers to save spawning lobsters and hand them over to the Government Inspectors, or men appointed under them to collect and take the lobsters to the places that will be selected.

I imagine that every hon. member of this House has seen something of the report of Mr. Dee, and has read the speech of the Premier, which was an exhaustive one, and knows that the expenditure is not to be great. Mr. Dee suggests the selection of a suitable cove, and protecting it with wire netting, and that here, day by day, should be brought the lobsters containing spawn. Effort now will be made to compel the fishermen to keep those lobsters alive and hand them over to a steam launch which would come around day by day to take them to the pound. where they will be kept until the spawn matures. They are not expected to do this for nothing, but will be paid for every lobster containing spawn. I notice that some complaint was made recently that the price to be paid is not sufficient, but when it is remembered that the packer, when packing lobsters now incurs a penalty, and if convicted that penalty may be severe, there appears no reason why they should be paid anything for lobsters so taken. But the Government is desirous of obtaining the co-operation of every packer, and is prepared to pay him for every spawn lobster that he may secure during the season.

I shall not enter into figures as to what the lobster fishery is worth at present, because I am sure that every hon. member is aware that it is a very important fishery, and lobsters are of such a price as to become a luxury, and still all that we can secure seem to be wanted, and the price seems to be increasing year by year. In fact the price last year was the highest in the history of packing. I remember very well when lobsters were packed in Placentia Bay some thirty odd years ago, one of the largest packers there said to me: "Well,
how much are you going to give me this year?” I said: “$6 a case.” He said: “What! are you going to give $6 for lobsters this fall? Will you give me an agreement now for $6?” I wrote out an agreement for him and he went around town telling of the splendid bargain he had made. As it happened, lobsters rose to $6.50 that year, and, of course, we had to pay the extra sum. That is some people’s idea of making an agreement.

This, then, is the policy of the Government regarding the lobster fishery. For a year or two, at least, this will be attempted, and I believe that the results will be such as to justify a further extension of the system; and though the cost may be considerable, yet, in the course of a few years the enhanced value of the fishery will be such as to fully warrant the outlay. I beg to move the second reading of the Bill.

HON. MR. ROBINSON—Mr. President, I don’t want to be unduly critical, but I don’t think we are being treated as thoughtfully as we ought to be. Last year, I remember, when the Bill came up I drew attention to the same matter, and it was rectified. It is against the rules of the House to go on with a bill unless it is printed and in the hands of the members. We are here, but we cannot see any bill, I don’t wish to censure anybody, but I understand that the estimates are printed, and I don’t see why every member of the Chamber should not be furnished with a copy before proceeding.

HON. MR. McGRATH—The Bill as read is merely a transcript of the Estimates, which are in book form. I would suggest that the second reading be postponed until to-morrow and that copies of the Estimates be got in the meantime.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—Mr. President, I don’t see the object of deferring the reading of this Bill. as it is altogether a money bill, over which we have no control. We are here merely to endorse the bill; we cannot amend it. We might, if we were all united and thought it was the proper thing to do, throw it out, but we cannot alter or amend it. The only thing we can do is to amend it out of existence, and I don’t suppose any member is going to suggest that. The bill is read through as a piece of formality, and only as a piece of formality.

As far as I can learn there are only two alterations to be made to the Revenue Bill this year. The first deals with the taking of the duty on breeding hens. That is not a great concession. I don’t know what the duty collected on breeding hens has been, but it could not have been very much. The number imported could not have been great. Then the duty is taken off churns. That also is a mere bagatelle. If it amounted to $20.00, that was as much as it did. But, at any rate, we must be thankful for small mercies, and this is one of the small mercies that we have been looking for in relation to the reduction of taxation.

I am quite satisfied for the bill to go on. As I have said, we cannot alter or amend it, and I am quite satisfied that it should be read through in the same perfunctory manner as it has always been, put it through committee and third reading, and send it back without amendment.

HON. MR. ROBINSON—I am quite satisfied that the bill should go on. All I ask the hon. Leader of the House is that we be furnished with copies of the Estimates.

HON. MR. KNOWLING—You ask that as a matter of courtesy.
HON. MR. ROBINSON—I ask it as a matter of right, but of courtesy as well.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Mr. President the second reading of the Bill, I assume, has not been protested against. The Hon. Mr. Robinson is quite right. Members should have copies of the estimates before we go into committee of them. That, of course, I shall see to. I am perfectly willing even to defer the second reading until to-morrow, if anyone suggests it.

HON. MR. McGRATH.—Before the motion for the second reading is put, I should like to offer some observations in regard to the matter that Hon. Mr. Bishop has mentioned, namely, the appropriation of $5,000 to carry out an experiment in connection with the conservation of lobsters. This is a subject which imperatively calls for the attention of this Legislature and, in my opinion, experiments of such a character are not alone necessary with reference to lobsters but to all the fishes taken around our coasts for commercial purposes. We cannot disregard the fact that of late years our fisheries have been failing—the mackerel have gone entirely; the Labrador herring have gone; the seals are going; the salmon are gradually failing and the condition of our lobster industry makes a most acute problem. Nor are we in this Colony singular in facing these conditions. The same story comes from Maritime Canada and from the New England States of declining fisheries. The oyster industry in P. E. Island and vicinity has fallen off one-half; it is the same with the clam industry on the American seaboard; the mackerel fishery out of Gloucester is now only a fraction of what it once was and in both countries the failing lobster fishery has been for years menacing the welfare of the communities supported by this pursuit.

With regard to our lobster industry, the point for us to remember is that within twenty years the catch has dropped from 76,000 cases to 23,000, though there has been a slight increase again the past year, due in a measure, it is believed, to greater efficiency in the enforcing of the lobster laws and especially of the regulation requiring every can that is packed to have a Government stamp thereon. As the catch of lobsters has declined, however, the price has increased in the same proportion and this means that if we could to-day, by any agency, reproduce lobsters in our waters to such an extent as to put us in the position in which we were twenty years ago, that is to say so that we could pack 76,000 cases of lobsters, we would be adding one million dollars to the value of this industry every year, which is now less than $500,000, the value of our export of lobsters for the past fiscal year having been $486,000.

If by the plan now proposed, or by any other means, we could restock our waters with lobsters, it would result in our securing this enhanced amount without, I believe, causing a reduction in the price of lobsters abroad, because Canada exported last year 110,000 cwt. of fresh lobsters and 183,000 cases of canned lobsters. In other words, there were taken from the waters of Maritime Canada last year and exported to foreign countries, lobsters enough not alone to pack four times as many as we packed, but also to send 110,000 quintals of lobsters out of the country, practically all of which immense quantity went to the United States, where there is an enormous
and ever-growing demand for both fresh and canned lobsters. The value of the Canadian lobster fishery altogether last year was $3,781,000, or practically eight times the value of our lobster fishery, and this despite the fact that the decline in the Canadian lobster catch has been perhaps more marked than in our own catch because the Canadians were fishing lobsters before we were, but they are offsetting this decline in part by the artificial methods they are adopting for the propagation of the crustaceans.

In the United States, too, where the canning of lobsters preceded the same industry in Canada, the process of decline was further and earlier hastened, but there, too, artificial propagation is helping to replenish the waters, until now there seems to have been an equilibrium established and the fears of a collapse dispelled; artificial propagation is helping to replenish the waters so that I think these facts and figures will justify every hon. member here in subscribing warmly to the proposal that we should take steps to develop the lobster fishery by artificial or semi-artificial means, and that a much larger outlay than $5000 would be warranted for such purposes.

We have heretofore been living in a fool's paradise, to some extent, in regard to our fisheries. We have been altogether too prone to consider ourselves as possessing the greatest fisheries in the world. While this may be true of our cod fishery, it is undoubtedly not true of our other fisheries, and it is for this reason that I think the experiment now proposed ought to be applied to other fisheries as well as to the lobster industry. Canada's production of salmon last year was valued at $7,500,000, of which $440,000 was for Atlantic salmon taken out of the waters from the mouth of the Gulf of St. Lawrence around to the Bay of Fundy, whereas the value of our salmon fishery is not much more than one-tenth of that. As I have already said, the lobster industry of Canada was worth eight times as much as our lobster industry last year, and this applies to the Atlantic alone, because so far lobsters have not been discovered on the Pacific, and endeavours to transplant them there have not yet proved very successful. The halibut industry is worth to Canada about $1,500,000 every year, while with us it is non-existent, and this is true also of the haddock industry.

We may therefore ask ourselves what do these contrasts suggest. They suggest that either the Canadian waters are more prolific of fish than ours or that artificial propagation is helping the Canadians. Any one who has studied the question can scarcely dispute that artificial propagation has been altogether successful both in Canada and in America, and a perusal of the records of their fishery departments will show how widespread are the fruits of this policy. I have been giving this question of artificial propagation of fish some attention for years past and I have taken occasion, while making visits to the neighbouring continent, to study the actual progress of the hatching of lobsters at Gloucester, whitefish at Ottawa, and salmon last year on the Pacific Coast, and I returned each time more convinced than before that the proper policy for this Colony would be to engage on a fairly generous scale in the restocking of our waters with edible fishes that would increase our material welfare.

With regard to lobsters, more
particularly it should be noted that the experiment now being proposed is only one of two methods of propagating lobsters in more or less general use on the neighbouring continent. The three great authorities on this subject of lobster propagation on this side of the Atlantic are Prof. Herrick, of Cleveland, Prof. Field, of Boston, and Prof. Prince, of Ottawa. As long ago as 1887 Prof. Field made his first visit to Newfoundland in the United States fish commission steamer Grampus, and in his report for 1901 he mentions that at Seldom Come By he found lobsters that were larger than any he had been able to see in any part of the United States. He was here again about four years ago with Dr. Herrick, when I had an opportunity of discussing the subject with them. Dr. Herrick has, I may say, since written for the U. S. Government a book of 400 pages on the life-history of the American lobster, which is regarded as the most complete study of the subject the world has yet seen. I also discussed the question with Prof. Prince at Ottawa some two years ago, and in the summer of 1909, when the Norwegian steamer Michael Sars was in this harbor, Prof. Johann Hjort, the Director of the Norwegian Fish Commission, also supplied me with much information on the subject, this being a very important issue for Norway, which to-day provides a large proportion of the lobsters for the British market.

I may therefore claim to have some theoretical knowledge of certain phases of this subject, and in offering my views to the House I do so in the hope that they may help to a better understanding of this problem. In the propagation of lobsters the contrivances used are pounds and hatcheries. The scheme which this colony is about undertaking is that of re-stocking by means of pounds. The berried lobsters are purchased from the fishermen and conveyed to the pounds, where they are retained during the rest of the fishing season, being released after the close season begins so that they may return to their native habitat and carry on naturally the operation of reproducing their species. In the United States pounds are used for this purpose and also for other purposes in connection with the lobster industry, In Maine for instance, pounds are kept in all the principal centres and lobsters are dropped into them to be retained there alive until they are needed for sale. In Massachusetts the Government maintains pounds, under the direction of Prof. Field where the lobsters are kept until the spawning time approaches when the spawn is stripped from the lobster and put into the hatchery where the final operation is performed by means of more scientific appliances. This, of course, is a development that we are not contemplating at the present time, though we might seriously consider whether we should not undertake lobster hatching in the future. In Canada, hatcheries are favored as against pounds. The chief authority regarding lobster pounds is Mr. Baker, of Fourchu, on the Cape Breton Coast, 30 miles from Louisburg. He has been maintaining pounds for years, but works them some what differently from what is proposed here. He buys the lobsters from the fishermen, puts them into his pounds and retains them there until the close season; then he sells them to the Government at a figure which will give him somewhat of a profit over the original outlay and
the expenses of maintaining the fish during the time he has them in his possession. To such a stage has he brought his business that he has actually built an inclosure of stone, concrete and wood costing $12,000, with a superficial area of 60,000 square feet within which he can retain 100,000 lobsters. Here he holds them through the fishing season, feeding them twice a week with chopped-up herring. At the close of the fishing season they are counted out by the Government Inspector and he is paid his fee.

The project here, as anyone may see who has read the report of Mr. J. H. Dee of the Fisheries Department, who is the sponsor for this projected enterprise amongst us, is of somewhat similar character and while Mr. Dee is confident that the necessary retention of the lobsters can be accomplished by means of wire netting, I incline to the opinion that as Mr. Baker has found it necessary to provide such a substantial equipment as the foregoing indicates, it will become necessary for the Government if this experiment is to be continued here to consider a much more permanent equipment, particularly when it is remembered that we shall have to count upon the success of this experiment in a very large measure to ensure the maintenance of this industry in the future and that, moreover, we shall be able to utilize all the experience of our neighbours on the mainland in order to make our undertaking more successful.

We are in a decidedly advantageous position in one respect with regard to this matter. In the United States at present, the entire catch of lobsters is sold fresh and it will probably be a surprise to hon. mem-

bers to know that there is not a lobster cannery in the United States today. The Americans have got beyond that stage; it is much more profitable for them to sell their lobsters fresh than it is to pack their catch in cans. They cannot, indeed, obtain enough lobsters from their own waters now to meet their requirements and therefore we find them importing from Canada over 110,000 quintals of fresh lobsters every year. If we are able to develop our lobster fishery, as this experiment indicates, we should be able to get a share of this highly profitable market for it is interesting, as well as encouraging to us, to know that Prof. Prince, the leading Canadian authority, holds that for two reasons there is little fear of the lobster fishery in Canada ever being destroyed in spite of all the fishing to which it has been subject.

The first of these reasons is that the grounds are unequaled the world over as lobster grounds, inasmuch as they form exactly the kind of habitat in which lobsters will flourish, so that it becomes impossible to exterminate the fish, do what the fishermen will, since on the coast there are so many rocky refuges for the crustaceans; while in the second place, the Canadian Fishery Department has been replacing to a large extent the lobsters taken from the sea, the estimate of the Canadian scientists being that if only two young lobsters out of every 1,000 that are put back into the sea from the hatcheries, reach the marketable size it will keep up the supply. If this is true in Canada where they are catching the large lobsters to sell and the small ones to put into cans, then as I say, our position is much more favorable, because so far we are only canning the crustaceans
and have not yet begun to take them for the purposes of shipment fresh or frozen. We are also free from a complication which adds to the gravity of the situation in Canada, namely, that many of the lobster packing concerns on what is known as the South Shore (that is the southern part of Nova Scotia) are controlled by Americans—rather a novel circumstance, I should say, and an eye-opener to us here who dislike so much the idea of strangers dominating our industries and moreover, the lobster dealers from the American coast actually come across into Canadian waters and fish in the Bay of Fundy—at any rate, outside the 3-mile limit—and, when occasion permits, enter within that limit and fish and buy lobsters from the Canadians at times when the Canadian people are not permitted to take lobsters ashore under their own rules, these lobsters being then taken back to the United States and held there in pounds and otherwise to be marketed when required.

The spawning of lobsters in hatcheries is carried on by means of glass jars and as the ova reach the stage where they become fry they rise to the surface, pass into tanks and remain there until they are what is known as swimmers, about half an inch long. At this stage the young lobsters swim on the surface of the sea and it is only when they get a good deal longer or about the size of one’s finger that they strike to the bottom, which becomes their permanent home after that. As swimmers however, the practice is to take them out to sea three or four miles away from the hatchery and spill them overboard, leaving them to fend for themselves. Just what percentage of these young lobsters reaches maturity nobody knows, but the fact that of late years the lobster fishery along the New England seaboard has been able to maintain itself, gives ground for the belief that the hatchery system provides at least a sufficient number of new lobsters every year to offset the drain on the crustaceans from the annual fishery campaign against them.

The same policy is now being pursued extensively in Canada. On the Atlantic Coast of the Dominion there were eight lobster hatcheries in operation last year, two each in P. E. Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the seaboard section of Quebec. These produced 680 millions of young lobsters, or 100 times our total catch, which were put in the sea, and on the basis of only two per cent. reaching maturity out of all that number there could be nearly 14 millions of new lobsters added every year, so that if we had a similar equipment in this Colony it would mean that about 14 million lobsters would be added every year or twice the number of our entire catch last season, which was about 6,300,000 lobsters, according to Mr. Dee’s figures in the last annual report. It is not, of course, to be expected that we can secure any such result from Mr. Dee’s experiment unless it is carried out on a much larger scale than at present proposed, but I think that it offers promise of at least a reasonable measure of success and that it is at any rate well worth the amount which it is proposed to expend on the venture.

According to Mr. Baker, of Fourchu, Cape Breton, to whose lobster pound I have already referred, there are released each year from this enclosure about 50,000 egg-bearing lobsters. Scientists tell us that lob-
sterns less than eight inches long are not matured and carry no spawn. An 8-inch lobster will yield 5,000 eggs; a 10-inch one 10,000 eggs; 12-inch, 20,000 eggs; 14-inch, 40,000 eggs; 16-inch, 80,000 eggs. If anything like a fair percentage of the lobsters held in these pounds escape and are able to bear in their turn a fair proportion of their eggs, it ought to do much towards maintaining the supply of lobsters in this Colony; and when we remember that for more than ten years past the American authorities have been buying berried lobsters from the people along the New England seaboard and hatching them in pounds and hatcheries it is easy to understand that the American people are now coming to regard themselves as free from the great menace of the industry collapsing. In the reproducing of lobsters by means of these pounds the only drawback is that it is not possible to tell what percentage of the berried fish are taken by the fishermen, though the American Government has provided a method for doing this in part, by punching a small hole, or two, or three, as the case may be, in the middle flipper of the tail so that fishermen who are keenly enough interested in the matter supply records where lobsters have been taken a first, a second and a third time. With hatcheries, on the other hand, repeated experiment has demonstrated that it is possible to produce 98 per cent. of lobsters from the eggs, and, personally, I look forward to the time when we shall actually hatch lobsters as well as utilise these pounds.

The opponents of hatching say that conditions under which the propagation are carried out are not natural; that when the young lobster is put back into the sea after being artificially hatched the conditions of temperature in which they find themselves suddenly plunged very often result in destroying large numbers; it being argued, on the other side, that one of the points in favor of these pounds, such as we are now proposing, is that they reproduce in a large measure the actual conditions under which the lobster lives, because in the enclosure will be found much the same sort of bottom, food and temperature as exist in the actual homes of the crustaceans along the seaboard. The temperature of the water determines in part the growth of the lobster, though, as it is a shell fish, it does not suffer to the same extent from this as ordinary fishes. Professor Prince says that "practically his studies of the growth of fish have shown that low temperatures retard growth, but the curious fact remains that some of the largest lobsters caught on the Atlantic coast are those which are taken on the Newfoundland and Labrador coast, and that shows that they are what are called deep water lobsters and are more independent of the difference in temperature than those that are found in shallow waters. They might, it is true, be very old lobsters, but in deep water their growth would not be retarded by difference in temperature as it would in shallow waters." At any rate, it seems that the experience of our neighbours has demonstrated that hatcheries can do an immense amount of good and that they are not nearly so expensive as one would think.

In addition to the eight hatcheries put up by the Canadian authorities last year, four more are to be operated this year, including one in
the Magdalen Islands, and the Canadian authorities estimate that a hatchery to yield 100,000,000 lobsters every year can be built at a cost of $3,500 and operated at an annual cost of $2,500, and if this Colony considers that it is a wise policy to appropriate $40,000 a year for the encouragement of agriculture, from the products of which we have no export whatever, surely we ought to carefully consider whether it is not worth out while to vote a similar sum for the preservation of our fisheries from the production of which we obtain 80 per cent. of our entire exports.

It might be well for our Fisheries Board to consider in connection with the lobster industry whether the 8-inch limit for lobsters is not too low and whether it should not be raised to 9 inches or even 10 inches. Possibly when the Government goes into this question fully and sees the results from the present experiment the limit will be raised to at least 9 inches. In Maine today it is 10 1/2 inches. Lobsters measuring less than that are not allowed to be taken. The Government should also very carefully consider the more stringent enforcement of the law against the catching of berried lobsters. As the laws stands now it requires that all these shall be put back into the sea, but it is notorious that this law is flagrantly disregarded. Such a state of affairs should not be allowed to continue and if the industry is to be preserved for the people in the future it will be necessary to more rigorously enforce this enactment. No doubt there will be a hue and cry against that but the authorities should be strong enough to disregard any such outburst. When the regulation requiring every packer to put a label on his cans was adopted there was an outcry against that too, but the Government had the courage of its convictions, insisted on that policy and the result has been a great improvement in the pack and an enhancement of the reputation of the colony's product. In the same way the Government should see that in the carrying out of the experiment of conserving the lobster industry thoroughly reliable men are entrusted with the work. Personally, I think an efficient police officer should be put in every motor boat employed in picking up these lobsters, men who would see the work carried out properly, regardless of any other consideration. In a large measure the success of this scheme will depend upon the men who will be in charge of it, and if the proper determination is shown and every other aspect is disregarded except the securing of the most desirable man for this work, I have not the least doubt that the benefits to be derived from this experiment will be far in excess of our most sanguine anticipations.

In a recent report of the Canadian Fisheries Department reference was made to the fact that the incubator system of hatching lobsters was introduced into Newfoundland some twenty years ago by Prof. Nielsen but that inefficient men were entrusted with the work of caring for the incubators and as a result the whole scheme collapsed. We know to our cost that there is great truth in this assertion and every right thinking man will agree that the present experiment is foredoomed to a failure unless we can ensure it a square deal, and the way to provide one factor which will tend towards providing a reasonable measure of success for it will be to put a policeman in every boat that is commissioned to purchase these lobsters from the fishermen.
We should also, as Hon. Mr. Bishop has said, endeavour to encourage the co-operation of the fishermen themselves in this undertaking. Most of the fishermen, reasonable and practical people, are now coming to realize that the preservation of the fishery, and in a measure their own prosperity, depends upon the preservation of the lobsters and the carrying out of the lobster laws and I feel certain that in appealing to them for their co-operation in any measure that would increase the number of spawning lobsters and will prevent these spawning lobsters from being destroyed, we will have their hearty support.

Before I close I should like to read this extract from a Canadian fisheries report regarding hatcheries.

"The next question is that of hatcheries. Hatcheries are an aid, not a substitute for close seasons. Ninety-eight per cent. of the eggs placed in the hatchery jars hatch out, but in the sea many enemies, eels, skulpins, etc., attack the female lobster and devour the spawn hanging from her body. Of the 500 million of lobsters Canada plants annually a percentage cannot fail to survive in their natural surroundings where they are liberated. All cannot be devoured, but many must survive and reach the adult full-grown stages—some say 100,000 or 200,000 annually. Nature hatches on a vastly greater scale, as 70 or 80 million of lobsters form probably the annual catch on our shores, and the canneries alone destroy it is estimated enough female lobsters to produce 150,000 millions of fry annually allowing not more than 10,000 eggs to each. To make up that loss due to the canning of female lobsters over 1,000 large hatcheries would be necessary. Operate hatcheries but protect the breeding females and continue nature's recuperative methods, on that vast scale which is alone adequate to preserve the balance of life in the sea."

I think from these remarks, Mr. President, the House will be satisfied that there is enough prospect of success in this experiment to warrant the outlay, and I hope that a year hence when the consideration of the Public Service Bill comes up again, it will be found that the Fisheries Department will be able to report such a satisfactory result of the first year's experiment as to warrant, not alone the voting of a similar sum for next year, but also for a substantial augmentation of the vote.

The Bill was then read a second time and on motion of Mr. Bishop was referred to a Committee of the Whole House to-morrow.

House adjourned at 6.30 p.m. till Wednesday at 4 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, April 10th,

The House met at 4.30 p.m. pursuant to adjournment.

Third reading of Debenture Bonds Bill.

HON MR. BISHOP—Moved that this Bill be now read a third time. Bill was thereupon read a third time.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Moved that this Bill do now pass and be sent to the Assembly with a message informing them that this House had passed the same without amendment.

Third reading of Revenue Bill.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Moved that this Bill be now read a third time. Bill was thereupon read a third time.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Moved that this Bill do now pass and be sent to the Assembly with a message informing them that this House had passed the same without amendment.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICE BILL.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Moved that the
House resolve itself into Committee
of the Whole on this Bill.
Mr. President left the Chair.
Hon. Mr. McGrath took the Chair
of the Committee.
Committee rose and reported that
they had passed the Bill without
amendment.
Mr. President read message from
the Assembly acquainting the Legis­
lative Council that the House of As­
sembly had passed the Bill entitled
"An Act to Amend the Election Act,
1889," and requesting the concurrence
of the Council therein.
HON. MR. BISHOP—Moved that this
Bill be now read a first time. Bill was
thereupon read a first time.
HON. MR. BISHOP—Moved that the
Bill be read a second time on to-mor­
row.
Mr. President read message from
the Assembly acquainting the Council
that the House of Assembly had pas­
sed the amendments made by the Legis­
lative Council in and upon the Bill
sent up from the House of Assembly
entitled "An Act Further to Amend
the Municipal Act, 1902," and "An Act
for the Appropriation of Private lands
for certain Public Purposes.
HON. MR. BISHOP tabled the re­
port of the Postmaster General for
the years 1910-1911.
On motion the House then adjourned
until Friday at 4.30.

FRIDAY, April 12.
Council met at 4.30 p.m. pursuant
to adjournment.
On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the
Public Service Bill was read a third
time and sent to the House of Assembly
with a message that the Council had passed the same without
amendment.
Second reading of the Election
Amendment Bill.
HON. MR. BISHOP—The necessity
for an amendment to the Election Act,
1889, has become apparent because
conditions have arisen which
were not foreseen when the Bill was
prepared and became law. It arises
now because of the extraordinary
conditions with which we were met
after the General Election of 1908,
resulting, as will be remembered,
in an equal number of representatives
to both the Government and the Op­
position being returned. It became in
consequence necessary to hold an­
other General Election in the spring
of 1909. When the Act of 1889 was
passed, such conditions or their poss­
ibility were not thought of and the
provision for an enumeration of elec­
tors every four years was of course
intended to provide for an enumera­
tion immediately preceding every
General Election. According to the
statute then, it might be argued that
an enumeration must be made during
1912, but however this may be viewed,
there can be no difference of opinion
as to the advisability of escaping until
next year the large expenditure which
an enumeration entails. The next ap­
peal to the electors of the country will
be in the autumn of 1913 and to have
an enumeration this year would not
obliterate the necessity of again taking
the list next year, for among other
changes occurring within twelve
months, many young men will be
able to exercise their franchise in
the fall of 1913 whose names could
not be taken down this year.
It will be observed that the amend­
ment now being considered provides
for the taking of the voters lists
immediately before bye-elections as
well as before General Elections,
unless an enumeration has been
made within twelve months.
I beg to move the second reading of
this Bill.
The Bill was then read a second
time and on motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop was referred to a Committee of the Whole House to-morrow.

The House then adjourned until to-morrow at 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, April 13.

The Council met at 5 p.m. pursuant to adjournment.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the House went into Committee on the Bill to amend the Election Act of 1889.

The President left the Chair.

Hon. Mr. Milley took the Chair of the Committee.

Committee rose and reported having passed the Bill without amendment.

Hon. Mr. Bishop moved that the Bill be read a third time to-morrow.

The President read a message from the House of Assembly that they had passed the Bill entitled "An Act respecting the establishment of a Pulp and Paper Industry at Deer Lake," in which they requested the concurrence of the Council.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop this Bill was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

HON. MR. BISHOP gave notice that he would to-morrow move the suspension of the 33rd Rule and other Rules of the House as regards all Bills, Addresses and other matters now before or to come before the House for the remainder of the session.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Mr. President, in moving the adjournment I desire to say that I have learned with extreme regret that some remarks of mine while speaking here in reference to the report of Sir James Moody upon our Asylum for the insane and in reference to changed conditions in our General Hospital—were taken to indicate an unfair reflection upon the late Medical Superintendent of that Institution and upon those gentlemen of the medical profession who assisted him.

I am exceedingly sorry that any word of mine should appear, to reflect unfavorably upon any of these gentlemen, and indeed I am quite sensible that it would be unpardonable presumption upon my part to venture a comparison. It was not in my thought to compare or to reflect. I desired simply to call attention to the changed conditions in the General Hospital, and I think my remarks were to the effect that because the Government had adopted a more liberal policy—had expended large sums in enlarging, improving and better equipping the Institution it now found that nobody refused to go there for treatment while formerly there had been prejudice and indeed many sufferers could not be persuaded to enter it. For Dr. Henry Shea I have and always have had the highest respect and I have understood he was a clever and attentive surgeon and a physician at once kindly and competent, but he had reached that age when he had certainly done his share of the world's work and had fully earned retirement. The surgeons who were Dr. Shea's assistants were, I believe, the equal of any in their profession in this country. The conditions are now such that the General Hospital has a better standing than it formerly had, but in saying this I desire it to be clearly understood as making no comparisons between the medical staff; past and present.

I am sure we all regret that the president Medical Superintendent has been so seriously ill for such a long time past and hope he may soon
be fully recovered and able to resume the duties in which he is so enthusiastic. I beg to move that the House adjourn till Monday at 4.30 p.m.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

MONDAY, April 15.

Council met at 4.30 p.m. pursuant to adjournment.

Second reading of Deer Lake Pulp and Paper Bill.

HON. MR. BISHOP—Mr. President, this Bill relates to an intended large operation in the Western Section of the Island. The American Nfld., Pulp and Lumber Company, comprised of a number of American Capitalists has purchased from various parties several tracts of timber lands in the vicinity of Deer Lake comprising some seven hundred square miles and for which it is said they have paid a very large sum of money with the object of establishing Pulp Mills, and probably Paper Mills. The Company find that they cannot under existing conditions develop a water power upon the Humber River sufficient for a large operation, and they have come to the Government with certain proposals regarding the raising of the waters of Deer Lake and Grand Lake by damming the outlets. It was felt that these proposals might bring about much changes in the existing conditions as would prevent the request being acceded to and the Government approached it with deliberation and caution. The proposals have been before the Government for quite a long time, and the outcome of the consideration of the matter resulted in the Bill now before the House. The aim of the Government has been to fully safeguard every interest, public or private, in the adjoining lands which may in any way be or become affected by the operations of this Company. It would appear, Mr. President, that these people are assuming large responsibilities. They profess, however, to fully understand what they propose undertaking, to be prepared to overcome all obstacles, and to meet the cost which will be entailed. The present railway track for a considerable distance running by Deer Lake will become submerged and must be raised, or a line built further back from the margin of the Lake. This, however, as well as every other interest involved they profess to be prepared for, and will carry through without detriment or delay. As a security for the satisfaction of all claims the Government has demanded a deposit of $250,000, and proper provisions is made for protecting the various interests involved. It will not be disputed I take it that every possible encouragement should be afforded this and every other Company desirous of establishing large labor producing industries, and we have already in operation at Grand Falls and at Bishops Falls industries which demonstrate how valuable to the country such employment agencies are.

Now, Mr. President, it might be said in criticism of this Bill that we have made several agreements and passed the necessary legislation for enterprises which promise the development of the natural resources of this country, and that up to the present time those agreements have not resulted in the establishment of Mills and Factories as intended. Well, Mr. President, I can only say in anticipation of such argument and by way of reply that in the consideration of these various projects the Government has been actuated
by the same desire, viz: to offer all reasonable inducements to attract the necessary capital and at the same time to protect public interests. The Country has lost nothing by any of those concerns and the members of the Govt. do not regard as lost the many hours of valuable time devoted to the consideration of the projects, and it is quite possible that the only object sought—the advancement and extension of local enterprise may yet be realized. I am glad to be able to inform the House that this is not the only enterprise of the kind likely to be established in the near future. There are at least two other outside concerns working energetically upon preliminary arrangements, and also one local concern. I am hopeful of seeing very soon a Pulp Mill undertaken by a local company—not a mammoth concern—but possibly equally valuable to the country, if it demonstrates, as I am hopeful it will do, that more money can be secured in Manufacturing pulp than is at present taken from our small timber by converting it into lumber. The comparative failure of the sealing voyage this Spring is a reminder, Mr. President, of the fluctuating character of our fisheries, and that we shall continue to experience periodically seasons of short catches in all our fisheries, and also fluctuating values; and while our fisheries will continue the chief factors in the industrial pursuits of our people it is highly essential that every possible effort be made to develop the other resources of the Colony and all reasonable encouragement given to those disposed to bring in Capital for the operation of mines, timber, or manufactures of any kind. I feel that I am expressing the sentiment of this House, when I say I hope before the Legislature meets next year we shall have seen the operations of the American Nfld. Pulp and Lumber Company vigorously entered upon and large numbers of our people finding employment there.

I beg to move the second reading of this Bill.

HON. MR. McGRATH—I think, Mr. President, that the Colony has cause for congratulation on the fact that there is a prospect of another, or it may be, more, pulp and paper mills being established here in addition to those now in operation in our Island. The enterprise which is to be created by the Bill now before the House is one of substantial magnitude and it is a most hopeful sign of the times that we are attracting American capitalists to engage in the development of our forest areas in this way. There is, perhaps, nothing today which embodies so conclusive an assurance of substantial success for this Colony as the calling into existence of enterprises of such magnitude; and the more we get of them the more assured will be our future prosperity. The Finance Minister in his recent Budget Speech emphasized the fact that while the exports of the fisheries had increased only 60 per cent. during the past 16 years, since the fiscal year was fixed to end on June 30th, the other industries of the Colony had increased their export value 200 per cent. in the same time—from $1,100,000 to $3,400,000. It is needless to emphasize what this means for the Colony, because we see the evidences of it on every hand, in the new avenues of employment opened up for our people, in the greater comfort of which they are assured in their homes, and in the brighter prospects which are held out for them as the years go by.

There are two large contributaries
to this increase in our subsidiary interests, namely, iron ore from Bell Island and pulp and paper from Grand Falls and Bishop Falls. For the present calendar year, 1912, the exports of pulp and paper from this Colony will be about $2\frac{1}{2}$ million dollars, or about one-third of the value of the cod fishery. Moreover, our exports of pulp and paper will equal in value one-third of the total exports of pulp wood, wood pulp and news paper from the Dominion of Canada to the United States last year. In 1911 the aggregate value of pulp wood, wood pulp and news paper, that is to say, the raw material, the manufactured pulp and the completed newsprint, exported by Canada to the United States, amounted to $7,200,000, and in this connection it must be borne in mind that of the entire cut in the Dominion of Canada, of spruce and other woods suitable for the manufacture of pulp and paper, 60 per cent. is exported. Practically 1,600,000 cords of pulp wood were cut in Canada last year and of that quantity 1,000,000 cords were exported to the United States.

These figures show what enormous possibilities there are for our people and our colony as a whole in the development of this industry amongst us; and for that reason, I think, we should welcome such projects as the one now before us. Criticism, of course, there will be for such a measure as we are now considering; and complaints, too, there will be, that too much is being given away or too little care is being taken to preserve the interests of the Colony. But we ought not to forget that for 400 years, since the discovery of this Island, our forests have lain idle and unused and unless we can induce people to develop the industrial possibilities which they afford, they may continue unused for another 400 years. Moreover, there is always the danger of these forests being utterly destroyed by fire and the Colony gaining no benefit whatever from them. For these reasons, then, I think we should be generous in our inducements to outside capitalists to come amongst us, especially as the more industrial concerns we can establish now the sooner will we be able to avail of the opportunities which will be afforded to us to market the products on the neighboring mainland.

In Canada, latterly, the Provincial Governments have come to see the advantages of manufacturing at home and have enacted laws to prohibit the export of logs suitable for pulp wood. As a result, American buyers are now paying from $7.50 to $8.00 for peeled or "rossed" wood, as they call it—that is, wood with the bark off, such as is used for making pulp and paper. These rates are a dollar more than prevailed the previous year and it is believed that they will go still higher in the future. Consequently American pulp makers, finding they cannot obtain logs from Canada, are crossing over and establishing mills on the Dominion side of the boundary. Last year Quebec exported the great bulk of the pulp wood from the Dominion—almost 900,000 cords. This year, however, Quebec will not export more than 600,000 cords, and next year probably no more than 300,000, because the new factories coming in will eat up all this material at home. To understand what this means, you should note that last year some 19 pulp paper and lumber companies, with a total capital of $42,000,000, were incorporated in the Province of Quebec alone. These figures give some idea of the growth of the industry in
that province, and what is true of Quebec is equally true of the other provinces. The money invested in Canada pulp and paper and lumber companies last year was greater than was invested in them during the whole of the previous ten years—the amount being $123,000,000 last year, 59 companies being incorporated, 49 of which were new, with a total capital of about $90,000,000, and 10 others being old ones, which increased their capital and were re-incorporated with a total capitalization of $33,000,000.

This is a larger sum than was invested last year in any other of the great national resources of Canada; and the great bulk of this money and the great majority of those interested in this development came from the United States. Under these circumstances, we have reason to feel hopeful that we may get during the next year or so a share of this increased interest in this industry, because the price of pulp and paper has been increasing of late, and it is being found that the demand for these materials is exceeding the supply; and therefore it is quite apparent why investors should be seeking opportunities to secure areas in countries which afford such advantages as does Newfoundland to those who would undertake this business.

These advantages are, in the first place, that her geographical position enables her to put her product into the British and American markets more conveniently than Canada, because there is no place in this country more than from 50 to 60 miles from tide water—in the case of Grand Falls it is only 20 miles—whereas in parts of the Province of Quebec and Ontario the pulp and paper, and even the pulp wood, have to be drawn hundreds of miles by rail before it can reach either the seaboard or the American boundary. In the next place, we know that the spruce of this colony gives a larger percentage of pulp than the spruce of the continent; and then we know that labor here is procurable at a lower rate than it is elsewhere in North America.

In proof of this I might say that last year President Taft of the United States had a tariff board appointed, and amongst its investigations it took up this subject, with the result that it was found, according to the report of this board, that to have a cord of pulp wood in Canada delivered at the mills cost $5.70 as against $10.23 in the United States, while we know that it can be delivered here for about $4.00. President Taft's tariff board also found that the cost of making a ton of news print in Canada was $27.53 as against $32.88 in the United States, with an advantage in favor of Canada of $5.35, while in Newfoundland, it is possible, I have reason for believing, to produce paper for at least two or three dollars less than it can be produced in Canada.

In estimating the cost of paper, the method adopted is, according to the experts, to average the cost, of the wood at about four-sevenths of the total, the cost of the labor employed at the mills at one-seventh, and the other costs at about two-sevenths per ton. The tariff board found, further, that of the American mills 44 per cent. were so antiquated in their machinery and equipment that they would require to go to enormous expense in order to bring their facilities up to date so as to be in a position to face effective competition.

It is thus easy to see why there should be such opposition by American paper manufacturers to the free
entry of Canada and Newfoundland pulp and paper; but on the other hand, it is recognized by the people of the United States that if the industry cannot maintain itself it must go to the wall. In the past ten years the paper plants in America only increased from 763 to 787, or barely three per cent. in numbers, but the value of the plants increased from $44,000,000 to $108,000,000 or roughly 150 per cent. while the value of the output increased from $127,000,000 to $268,000,000, or 110 per cent.

There is from time to time discussion as to the advisability or otherwise of exporting pulp wood, and both our political leaders have declared against such a policy—very wisely in my opinion. In support of this view let me make clear to what extent the industry of manufacturing pulp and paper in Canada would have been increased if all the pulp wood exported to the United States had been converted into pulp and paper on Canadian soil. Last year, the 900,000 cords exported from Quebec would have supplied material for a year to 56 pulp mills of the average size operating in that Province; in Ontario, five mills of average size could have been kept working with the pulp logs exported; in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick the export of this raw material if kept at home would have employed 24 pulp mills of the average size. In other words, five times the number of pulp and paper mills now in operation would have been working in Canada last year if all the raw material shipped across the border had been kept at home.

I do not propose to weary hon. members with any further observations on this subject; Mr. President. I have simply quoted these figures to show what possibilities there are for the people of the country from the inauguration of such enterprises as that which we are considering. It is scarcely necessary to say that any advantages that may be derived by the people as a whole from such concerns being established amongst us must react advantageously on the general interests of the Colony. We have seen from the figures which I have quoted that the production of pulp and paper in our island this year will probably amount to one-third of the entire export from Canada to the United States last year, and under these circumstances I do not think that, in view of the weak and, if I must say it, ineffective objections that have been offered to this measure, there is any reason why this House should hesitate to support the second reading of this Bill.

The Bill was then read a second time.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the Bill be submitted to a Committee of the Whole House on to-morrow.

HON. MR. BISHOP then moved the suspension of the rules in relation to all matters now before or to come before the House for the remainder of the session.

The House then adjourned accordingly.

TUESDAY, April 16th.

The House met at 4.30 p.m., pursuant to adjournment.

Committee on Bill respecting the Establishment of a Pulp and Paper Industry at Deer Lake.

HON. MR. BISHOP moved that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole on this Bill.

MR. PRESIDENT left the Chair.

HON. MR. AYRE took the chair of the Committee.

Section 13.
HON. MR. ANGEL—Mr. Chairman, had not the slightest intention, when I made up my mind this morning to come down to the House, to have anything at all to say, but on reading over this Bill I thought that perhaps an alteration in this section would be desirable. I had the pleasure once of going down that river in a canoe. I was up there when the railway was under construction. We crossed over to the other side in boat, and I travelled up about ten miles to Deer Lake with Mr. Burchell, who was then Government Engineer, and we came down in canoe.

Mr. Burchell's idea was that if the river was dredged it would be available for flat bottomed boats drawing eighteen inches to two feet of water, and this was the season of the year when the river was supposed to be at its lowest, and we came down without any difficulty whatever. I understand the distance from tide water to the foot of the lake to be thirteen miles, and the rise is from sixteen to seventeen feet. Under these circumstances I am sure the river would be navigable. Of course the Company that is to operate there found no other place on the river where they could erect pulp and paper mills. It appears to me to be something like Bishop Falls where they had to raise the lake to get a head of water. I understand that Junction Brook is the outlet of the Lake into the Humber. That is under the control of another Company, and the only available means of getting water is to dam Deer Lake. It occurs to me in reference to this section they have not made proper provision for the navigation of that river. This section says: "The Company shall provide a passage to and fro for small boats at its dam at the outlet to Deer Lake." There is no provision made. They can put what they like there. It would be possible to take a small boat up the lake after raising the lake some fourteen or fifteen feet to the foot, and a suitable derrick could be made to raise the boats to the lake but if the boats were heavy, that could not be accomplished, and I thought this section could be altered to meet that contingency, and believing that perhaps no other member had thought of it, I propose to insert the words "subject to the approval of the Government." Under this section as it now reads the Company can put what they like there, I take it that the Engineer projecting that power saw plain enough there was no possibility of getting power anywhere else, the only way is by raising the lake. Seeing that there is a possibility of that river being made navigable for large boats I think provision should be made either by a lock or some other means to admit boats from the river into the lake. If it would not be the means of doing harm to the Bill, and doing injury to the Company I would ask that that provision be put in the Bill.

HON. MR. BISHOP—For the benefit of Hon. Mr. Angel who, unfortunately, was unable to be here at the second reading, I would say that the matter to which he refers received very careful consideration of the Government while the agreement was under consideration, as it was for a very considerable length of time. The public can now pass through the Humber River and into Deer Lake. The provision, however, was not made to permit small boats to have a passage through the
river, as they have at present, or that the river shall not be entirely obstructed. The hon. gentleman said, as I understood him, that the Company could do as they liked about this, but it is hardly capable of that construction, when it is seen that they must be subject to the consent of the Government. "The Company shall provide a passage to and fro for small boats at its dam at the outlet of Deer Lake, and, further, shall not at any time use, operate, manage or control its dam at Grand Lake in such a manner as to reduce the waters of Junction Brook, flowing thereout, below their usual or normal level." It is not to be supposed that a demand could have been made that a canal should be cut by this Company, or that any means should be provided there for large boats or steam launches, and I think that the hon. gentleman would hardly suggest that any exaction should be imposed which would jeopardize the operations by this Company. It is surely more important to have an operation such as is contemplated by this Company than to afford a passage for boats in and out of the river. There is no real object in their having a passage. There is no traffic, and I have never heard anything suggested other than it might be to the benefit of tourists if they had the means of going by steam launch through the Humber River into Deer Lake. I regret that I can not accept anything in the nature of an amendment as suggested by the hon. gentleman. This matter has been so thoroughly thrashed out, and has received so much attention and been under the consideration of the Government for so long a time that we have come here with a bill that is safeguarding all interests, public and private, we could not consider any amendment that would alter any of its conditions. I think, however, that all necessary provision for the passage of boats is provided for, and nothing will be sacrificed in consequence of the paragraph as it stands.

HON. MR. ANGEL—I do not want to jeopardize the interests of the Bill or prevent the Company from going on with their work. The hon. gentleman thinks no necessity will arise for boats going up into Deer Lake, but I think the time may come when it may be used for that purpose. I do not want to press the matter however, if it is thought it would jeopardize the Bill, but at the same time think that the Company, if they are going to carry out the project in a proper spirit, would be very willing under these circumstances, to meet the Government and listen to any suggestion made by them. I do think better provision ought to be made regarding that river. We do not know anything of the future of this country, or what possibility may arise, and hence I think there is wisdom in making provision. I feel certain that if the Company are determined to go on with the work, this idea of giving the Government the power of making it necessary for them to consult with the Government with reference to the kind of structure to be put there for raising boats from the river to the lake would be agreed to. I think a sluice way would be out of the question. These boats would have to be hauled up against the stream, and I imagine the best way would be to raise them by a crane and drop them into the Lake. However, I have made the suggestion, but if it is not accepted I have no desire to press the matter.

The Committee rose and reported
the Bill without amendment. This Report was received, and on motion of Hon. Mr. Bishop the Bill was read a third time, passed, and ordered to be sent to the Assembly with a message that the Council had passed the same without amendment.

The House then adjourned till Thursday at 2.30 p.m.

THURSDAY, April 18.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The minutes of Tuesday, April 16th, were read.

The House took recess.

At 3 p.m. His Excellency the Governor, Sir Ralph Williams, K.C.M.G., being seated on the Throne, commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, through the Hon. the President of the Legislative Council, to let the Colony's House of Assembly know that "it is His Excellency's pleasure that they attend him immediately in this House." Who being come with their Speaker—

His Excellency 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 1912, and the 30th day of June, 1913, and for other purposes relating to the Public Service.

An Act respecting Certain Retiring Allowances.

An Act further to amend "The Revenue Act, 1905."

An Act further to amend "The Education Act, 1903."

An Act respecting the Treatment and Prevention of Tuberculosis.

An Act to provide for the Raising of a Sum of Money by Loan for the Extension of the Railway system of the Colony.

An Act to provide for the Raising by the Sale of Debenture Bonds of a Sum of Money for the Public Service of the Colony.

An Act for the Appropriation of Private Lands for certain Public Purposes.

An Act respecting Copyright.

An Act to amend "The Boiler Inspection Act, 1899."

An Act to amend "The Customs Act, 1898."

An Act to amend Chapter 102 of the Consolidated Statutes, entitled "Of Weights and Measures and the Inspection of Lumber."

An Act to amend the Act 10 Edward VII., Cap. 4.


An Act to amend Chapter 120 of the Consolidated Statutes (Second Series) entitled "Of Harbor Master and Harbor Regulations for the Port of St. John's."

An Act further to amend "The Municipal Act, 1912."

An Act further to amend "The Election Act, 1899."

An Act respecting the Establishment of a Pulp and Paper Industry at Deer Lake.

His Excellency was then pleased to make the following Speech to both Branches of the Legislature.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

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

It affords me much pleasure to be able to terminate the session in so comparatively short a time. The substantial volume of business transacted by you attests your diligence and your keen desire to promote the general welfare of the Colony by the
measures you have considered.

The enactment for the prevention of Tuberculosis is one which, I am sure, will be warmly welcomed by the people, since it follows the example of the most advanced nations of the world in making the conservation of the public health a duty directly undertaken by the State.

The Bill to Encourage the Establishment of Pulp and Paper Mills at Deer Lake affords a prospect of another important industrial enterprise amongst us, and I trust it may soon be our good fortune to see other similar projects inaugurated here.

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

I thank you for the liberal supplies you have made for the public service. They shall be expended with careful regard to economy.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

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

His Majesty has recently appointed a Commission to enquire into the possibilities of inter-Imperial trade, upon which this Colony is represented, and it is probable that we may have a visit from the Commission in the near future, in pursuance of the conduct of the investigation entrusted to them.

It appears to me fitting to take this opportunity of expressing my deep grief, shared, I am sure, by both Houses of Parliament, and by all whom they represent, at the International disaster which has befallen the English speaking races of both the Eastern and Western hemispheres by the loss of the White Star steamer Titanic, which has resulted in a loss of life probably unparalleled in Maritime history. I desire on your behalf as well as on my own to extend the unbounded sympathy of Newfoundland to all who are mourning for those dear to them.

In relieving you now of your sessional duties, I desire to congratulate you on the continued prosperity of the Colony, and earnestly pray that the blessings of Providence may assist it to still further prosperity in the future.

PROROGATION.

After which the Honourable the President of the Legislative Council, by command of His Excellency the Governor, said:—

"Gentlemen:

"It is His Excellency's Will and Pleasure that this General Assembly be prorogued until Thursday, the Eighteenth day of July next, then and here to be holden; and this General Assembly stands prorogued accordingly."

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INDEX

ADDRESS IN REPLY.—
Select Committee Report, 10.
Debate, 11.
Reply to, 20.

ANGEL, HON. JAMES,—
On Speech from Throne, 8.

APPROPRIATION OF LANDS BILL, 146, 150, 151, 167.

ACTS ASSENTED TO BY GOVERNOR, 194.

BANK BILL, 140, 146, 149, 151.

BISHOP, HON. R. K.—
On Mail Delivery, 22.
On Spitting Bill, 38, 41.
On Inspection of Boilers Bill, 42, 45, 46.
On Tuberculosis Bill, 43, 46, 84, 87, 88.
On Insane Asylum Report, 43.
Replies to Questions, 90.
On Weights and Measures Bill, 91, 92, 93.
On Education Bill, 94, 136, 137.
On Municipal Council Bill, 139, 147.
On Customs Bill, 139.
On Pharmacy Bill, 139.
On Grand Bank Harbor Bill, 139.
On Bank Bill, 146.
On Copyright Bill, 148.
On Railway Loan Bill, 148, 149.
On Appropriation of Lands Bill, 150, 151.
On Telephone Loan Bill, 152, 173.
On Supply Bill, 174.
On Election Bill, 185.

CUSTOMS BILL, 138, 139, 146.

COPYRIGHT BILL, 140, 148, 167.


ELECTION ACT, 185, 186.

GOVERNOR’S REPLY TO ADDRESS, 20.

GIBBS, HON. M. P.—
On Spitting Bill, 21, 38, 42, 43, 44.
On Harbor Masters Bill, 43.
On Inspection of Boilers Bill, 45, 46, 78.
On Tuberculosis Bill, 52, 86.
On Education Bill, 115, 124.
On Municipal Bill, 146, 147.
On Telephone Loan Bill, 152, 167, 172.

GRAND BANK HARBOR BILL, 138, 139, 140, 146.

HARRIS, HON. JOHN.—
Reply to Congratulations, 10.
On Weights and Measures Bill, 91.

HARVEY, HON. JOHN.—
Address in Reply, 19.
On Spitting Bill, 21, 23, 41, 42, 43, 44.
On Savings Bank Report, 22.
On Inspection of Boilers Bill, 45, 46, 78.
On Tuberculosis Bill, 62, 78, 84, 88.

HARBOR MASTERS BILL, 38, 40, 42, 78.

INTERNAL ECONOMY COMMISSION, 20.

INSPECTION OF BOILERS BILL, 40, 42, 45, 78.

INSANE ASYLUM, Report Tabled, 43, 186.
INDEX.

JOB, HON. W. C.—
On Speech from Throne, 3.
On Tuberculosis Bill, 72.
On Weights and Measures Bill, 92.
On Education Bill, 114.

KNOWLING, HON. G.—
On Mail Delivery, 22.
On Spitting Bill, 38.
On Harbor Master's Bill, 42.
On Tuberculosis Bill, 43, 48, 72, 77, 83, 85, 86, 87.
On Weights and Measures Bill, 92, 93.
On Railway Loan Bill, 140, 148, 149.
On Telephone Loan Bill, 152, 165, 171.
On Supply Bill, 176.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BILL, 138, 140, 146, 150.

MILLEY, HON. S.—
On Telephone Loan Bill, 164.

McGRATH, HON. P. T.—
On Address in Reply, 11.
Warrant of Appointment read, 23.
On Spitting Bill, 38, 41.
On Insane Asylum Report, 43.
On Tuberculosis Bill, 64, 81, 85, 87.
On Education Bill, 115.
On Railway Loan Bill, 144.
Telephone Loan Bill, 156.
On Supply Bill (Lobster vote), 176, 177.
On Pulp and Paper Bill, 188.

PRESIDENT, HON. THE (See Hon. John Harris.)

PITTS, HON. J. S.—
On Education Bill, 136.

PHARMACY BILL, 138, 139, 140, 146.

IV. INDEX.

QUESTIONS.—
Hon. J. Alex. Robinson, 90.

ROBINSON, HON. J. ALEX.—
On Spitting Bill, 21, 34, 40.
On Insane Asylum Report, 43.
On Tuberculosis Bill, 73.
Asks Questions, 90.
On Weights and Measures Bill, 91, 93.
On Grand Bank Harbor Bill, 139.
On Railway Loan Bill, 141.
On Municipal Council Bill, 150.
On Telephone Loan Bill, 155, 174.
On Supply Bill, 176.

RYAN, HON. J. D.—
On Spitting Bill, 41.
On Tuberculosis Bill, 61.


RAILWAY LOAN BILL, 140, 148, 151.

REVENUE BILL, 150, 174, 184.

RULES SUSPENDED, 187.

SPEECH FROM THRONE, Debate, 3, Reply to, 10.

SPITTING BILL, 21, 23, 40, 43, 77.

SUPPLY BILL, 166, 174, 184, 185.

TUBERCULOSIS BILL, 40, 43, 46, 64, 78, 90.

TELEPHONE LOAN BILL, 150, 152, 167, 184.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL, 90, 91, 94.