

LOUISIANA PURCHASE EXHIBITION—EMPLOYMENT OF MR. N. J. GILLIS.

Mr. A. A. McLEAN asked :

1. Was N. J. Gillis, said to be a member for Cape Breton county in the legislature of Nova Scotia, employed as an official of the government of Canada at the St. Louis Exhibition ?
2. How long was he employed, and in what capacity ?
3. What were the terms of his employment ?
4. How much did he receive, and what amount, if any, is due him ?

Hon. SYDNEY FISHER (Minister of Agriculture) :

1. Mr. N. J. Gillis, a member for Cape Breton county in the legislature of Nova Scotia, was employed as an official of the Dominion government at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.
2. From the 8th day of May to the 8th day of October, 1904. He was assigned to the mineral section. He was employed in a general way, his particular duty being to give information to the general public in regard to minerals.
3. \$7 per day, with transportation to and from St. Louis.
4. For services, \$1,078 ; for travelling expenses, \$130.80 ; total, \$1,208.80. He was paid in full.

SAVAGE HARBOUR, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Mr. A. A. McLEAN asked :

1. Is the government doing anything to improve the entrance to Savage harbour, Prince Edward Island ?
2. If so, what is the nature of the work done or proposed to be done ?
3. Has a government engineer made any report on the work ?
4. If so, what is his recommendation as to the cost and feasibility of improving this harbour ?

Hon. WILLIAM PATERSON (for the Minister of Public Works) :

1. Yes.
2. The works now being constructed consist of brush-work placed on the beach for the purpose of accumulating the drifting sand, to prevent high tides from washing over said beach.
3. Yes.
4. The engineer considers that the present works will cost \$2,000.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

Rt. Hon. Sir WILFRID LAURIER (Prime Minister) moved :

That from this date to the end of the session, Government Orders have precedence on Mondays, immediately after Private Bills and questions to be put by members.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I do not know whether or not there are any other Bills or orders on the order paper. If so, we might at least pass those.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I do not think there are any orders except those for the production of papers. If there are, we have no objection to taking them up.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. I have some objection to this motion carrying to-day. I and some others in the House have public Bills that we would like to have discussed. Some of them have been called up on one or two occasions. I think that the hon. member who has a Bill on the order paper in connection with the Exchequer Court has it nearly through, and probably he would like to get it through. I have a public Bill that I would like to have discussed, on which I have been collecting information, and in connection with which I hope to get some information from the committee of the House now investigating the telephone question. I am ready to go on with that measure if I had another day. I can accomplish my purpose, however, if the Prime Minister will say that it is the intention of the government to go on with their Bill to amend the Railway Act ; and if on that Bill I am allowed to discuss my proposals, I promise that I will not take up a great deal of time. Will the Prime Minister say that the government Bill to amend the Railway Act shall come up this session ?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Yes, the Bill will come up.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. Will the Prime Minister consent to my discussing my Bill in connection with that ?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Personally I have no objection, but, of course, any member can object who wishes to.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. I will bring it up to-morrow.

VACANCY.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I promised my hon. friend opposite that I would make a statement to-day about the vacancy in Centre Toronto. A writ has been issued and the nomination will take place on Tuesday the 11th of April. I said yesterday that we might have to take a registration vote, but on inquiry I find there is no necessity for that as the registration of last election will do.

VACANCY IN THE CABINET.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Has the right hon. gentleman any information to give to the House as to when the vacant portfolio of the Department of the Interior will be filled ? The right hon. gentleman promised to give information at an early date.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Not to-day.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. To-morrow ?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Well, some time, if not to-morrow.