

THE NORTHERN RAILWAY BILL

On motion of **Hon. Mr. TILLEY**, the order that the House go into Committee to consider certain proposed resolutions with respect to the acceptance of a sum of \$500,000 from the Northern Railway Company, on certain conditions, was discharged.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE was surprised that the hon. gentleman was unable to perpetrate this job.

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the hon. member would have to account for having prevented Toronto being connected with Lake Nipissing by his opposition to the bill.

It being six o'clock the Speaker left the chair.

AFTER RECESS**THE GOLDSMITHS' BILL**

Mr. WILKES moved the second reading of the amendments made by the Senate to the bill to incorporate the Goldsmiths' Company of Canada.

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he had read assurances from jewellers and others in all parts of Canada that the bill was intended to create a monopoly, and he was assured that it was simply a job. He therefore moved in amendment that the amendments be read that day six months.

Mr. RYAN and other members spoke of the strong opposition offered to the bill by the jeweller trade in Montreal.

Mr. WILKES explained the motive and object of the Bill and, after some remarks from Messrs. Mackenzie, Currier, Chisholm, Carter, Young (Waterloo South), Ryan, Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald, and Hon. Mr. Holton, the hour for Private Bills having expired, the Bill was allowed to stand over till Friday.

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PRINTING

Mr. STEPHENSON presented the seventh report of the Printing Committee, recommending that tenders be invited for the Parliamentary printing

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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADMISSION BILL

Hon. Mr. TILLEY moved the third reading of the bill respecting the admission of Prince Edward Island as a Province of the Dominion.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

The House went into Committee on certain resolutions with respect to the authorization of the payment of certain contractors for sections No. 1 to 7 of the Intercolonial Railway.

Hon. Mr. TILLEY stated that the resolutions were made in accordance with the recommendations of the Commissioners and the Engineer, and the amounts were calculated upon the papers he had placed in the hands of the hon. member for Lambton (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie).

Hon. Mr. HOLTON was of the opinion that this matter ought to be allowed to lie over until next session, when fuller information could be obtained to enable them to come to a more deliberate and accurate conclusion on so great a matter.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said it was admitted that these contracts were of an exceptional character; and as the whole question had come up before the Public Accounts Committee, and circumstances were thus fully known, he did not think there would be any objection to passing this measure.

Mr. JONES agreed with the member for Châteauguay, and thought the precedent a most dangerous one.

Mr. YOUNG (Waterloo South) suggested that the motion should be postponed, or the word "local" in reference to claims made by contractors be changed to "legal".

Hon. Mr. TUPPER defended the course of the Government.

Mr. SCATCHERD thought these claims were equally legal whether made by the original contractor or by some one having bought his claim, but he thought neither of these claims should be given countenance to by this House.

After some further discussion, in which Messrs. Holton, Wood and Wallace (Norfolk South), argued that, workmen once paid, the surplus should be distributed proportionately among the other creditors.

Hon. Mr. ANGLIN thought the Government were doing the correct thing this time in submitting the proposal to the House for its approval or disapproval; but he did not know whether the amounts to be paid were what they ought to be, and as this matter had been lying over for settlement for the past three years, he thought the final settlement should be left over for another year.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON enquired if there were any other claims of a similar nature before the Government.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said there were not, that is to say, not of a nature that would come before this House.

Hon. Mr. TILLEY consented to the amendment proposed by Mr. Young (Waterloo South).