

parliament; but let them remember that the people are not with them; they are not consulted. No Act of parliament can bind an unwilling people. From a constitutional standpoint this Bill is beset with doubts and difficulties. If carried, it will lead to trouble. Let us start fair; let us give Manitoba and the Territories what is just and right; let us give the new provinces full control of their educational affairs and of their lands—'A bad start makes a worse ending.' We possess a great and glorious heritage, populated by people of different races and different creeds. We should by mutual concession, tolerance and forbearance, so harmonize our relations, that our people will live in peace and goodwill, and that our undivided aim and object may be the greatness and prosperity of this Canada of ours.

Mr. A. JOHNSTON moved the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Fielding. House adjourned at 12.15 a.m., Wednesday.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WEDNESDAY, May 3, 1905.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

### QUESTIONS.

#### MILITIA STAFFS OF OFFICERS.

Mr. BERGERON asked :

1. Is it the intention of the government or of the Department of Militia to abolish or to reduce the staffs of officers in the militia (cadres de milice) established by His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the 23rd February, 1904 ?

2. If so, why and when will that change be effected ?

3. What will be done with the officers and non-commissioned officers appointed to complete the staffs that were established on the 23rd February, 1904 ?

4. Is it the intention of the government or of the Department of Militia to create a reserve for each militia corps ?

5. If so, what regulations will govern such reserve ?

Hon. Sir FREDERICK BORDEN (Minister of Militia and Defence) :

1. It is not the intention to reduce the cadres of officers of the militia, but it is the intention to separate into two lists officers and non-commissioned officers actively employed and those whom it is proposed should, in the event of field operations, be detailed for work at the base or in raising reserve units.

Mr. WILMOT.

2. The change is being made in the best interests of the service, and will take immediate effect.

3. They will constitute the corps of reserves, and will be borne upon a separate list to those actively employed. It is hoped that when the central camp of instruction has been established facilities will be given for the instruction of all officers and non-commissioned officers in this list in their military duties.

4 and 5. Yes. The regulations are now under consideration.

#### PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND STEAM COMMUNICATION.

Mr. LEFURGEY—by Mr. Ganong—asked :

1. Has any new contract been entered into between the Steam Navigation Company and the government for the conveyance of mails and passengers in summer between Prince Edward Island and the mainland ?

2. If so, what is the date of such contract, its conditions and its terms of duration ?

3. Does it provide for two trips per day between Summerside and Pointe du Chêne ?

4. Is the government aware that two trips are considered necessary in the interests of the Island, and is implied in the terms of union as to communication ?

Hon. Sir WILLIAM MULOCK (Postmaster General). This is a question concerning the Department of Trade and Commerce, and that department has sent me the following answer :

1. Strictly speaking, no; as the present contract does not expire until December next, although an understanding has been arrived at for a continuation of the service on condition that during next season a new and larger boat is to be placed on the route.

2. Answered by No. 1.

3. Answered by No. 1.

4. Answered by No. 1.

#### DEATH OF HON. JAMES SUTHERLAND, M.P.

Rt. Hon. Sir WILFRID LAURIER (Prime Minister). I have to inform the House, Mr. Speaker, that I have just received a telegram informing me of the death of Mr. Sutherland, Minister of Public Works. I have to say to the House that personally in losing Mr. Sutherland I lose one of the truest friends I ever had, and I know that the House loses one of its most valued members. I will meet, I am sure, the feelings of the House if I endeavour to say that the House should express its sympathy in its bereavement in some suitable manner, and I do not know that that can be done in any other way than by the House adjourning to attend his funeral. Therefore, I will move that when this House adjourns to-morrow it stands adjourned until Monday next, so as to permit members to attend the funeral of Mr. Sutherland.