

Committee: Messrs. Williston, Young, Otty, Boyd, L. P. W. Debrisay.

Mr. McCLELAN moved that a Committee be appointed to whom shall be referred all matters relating to the mining interests.

Committee: Messrs. McClelan, Bailey, Thompson, Connell, Wilmot.

Mr. GILBERT read the report of the Committee appointed to provide for the Reporting and Printing the Debates, and said the Committee had taken great trouble to carry out the arrangements, and had done their best to economise, and secure the services of competent Reporters. The terms of the arrangement were similar to those that had been made last year. As the present Session promised to be one of the most important that had taken place in the Province, and as it would be desirable that the proceedings of the House should be circulated abroad, he proposed that 7000 copies of the Debates should be printed.

The report was then adopted.

Mr. SUTTON moved that a Committee be appointed to whom shall be referred all matters relating to the agricultural interests of the Province. Committee: Messrs. Sutton, McClelan, Meehan, Kerr, Caie, Landry, Lewis, Scovil, Perkins, Cudlip, Hatheway, W. E. Perley, Costigan, and Thompson.

Mr. WETMORE moved that the apportionment of the Debates should be according to the population of 1861.

Mr. McMILLAN contended that it was not in the city that the hon. mover of the resolution represented that the Debates were wanted to circulate, it was outside places. In St. John they had a daily synopsis of the proceedings of the House in the newspapers, and it was found that the people there did not properly appreciate the Debates. He hoped the hon. mover would not object to give each member of the House an equal portion.

After a few observations from Messrs. Boyd and McClelan, Hon. G. L. Hatheway said if the resolution was carried out St. John would get the sixth of the Debates, as its population was a sixth of that of the entire Province. He agreed with the ex-Surveyor General that it was outside places—in such Counties as Gloucester and Restigouche, where the people in the back settlements did not receive the newspapers—that the circulation of the Debates was needed. He would much prefer that the arrangement for the distribution of the Debates should remain as it was.

Mr. LINDSAY spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. CAIE said that the golden rule "to do unto others as we would be done by" should govern them in this matter. He did not consider it fair play that Gloucester or Restigouche should receive as great a portion as Kent, whose population was so much greater. He would ask if it was a question of supplying material wants, if it would be fair play to give Restigouche as many barrels of flour as Kent? It was equally necessary to provide food for the mind as the body, and the same rule should apply.

Mr. McMILLAN said the hon. member who had just spoken seemed determined to stand up for Kent: yet if he was so determined to have fair play—as half of the population was French in that County—why did he not move that the Debates be printed in French? He would move, as an amendment, that the distribution of the Debates be an equal number to each member of the House.

Mr. WETMORE contended that if many of the people in St. John did get information of the proceedings of the House from the newspapers, for those newspapers they had the supreme felicity of paying. The only fair and reasonable way was distribution by population.

Mr. CORAM said that it was only the people of the city that got the advantage of the papers published in St. John; there was a large number of people throughout the County in the backwoods who did not see a paper.

Mr. KERR supported the amendment, and argued if St. John, with its population of between thirty and forty thousand people, could make good its claim to a distribution of Debates on that basis, they might, if the principle was allowed, seek to apply it also to the distribution of by-road money, which had not been dreamt of yet. In St. John papers were issued daily, morning and evening—there the great bulk of the people received them, and read the synopsis of the Debates; but in the country the people could not get them, and in many cases, if they could, they were too poor to pay for them. He thought that each member should have equal rights with other members, and receive an equal number.

The amendment being put to the vote, was carried.

On motion, the House was adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

A. A.

* FRIDAY, MARCH 9.

On motion of Mr. GILBERT, a Committee was appointed to whom shall be referred all matters connected with the public accounts, with power to bring before them persons and papers.

On motion of Mr. TROOP, a Committee was appointed to whom shall be referred all matters relating to Trade and Commerce in this Province.

On motion of Mr. BOYD, a Committee was appointed to whom shall be referred all matters relating to the Lumbering interests of the Province.

On motion of Mr. A. C. DESBRISAY, a Committee was appointed to take into consideration all matters relating to the Fisheries of this Province.

On motion of Mr. McMILLAN, a Committee was appointed, to whom shall be referred all matters relating to the privileges of this House.

ADDRESSING THE DEBATES.

Mr. GILBERT said that the Committee appointed at the last Session of the House, to make arrangements for publishing the Debates, had no power delegated to them to make arrangements for folding and addressing the Debates, but they had received an offer from Mr. Day, who would mail and address them for \$5 for each member. It would be attended with great delay to have them sent up here by the publisher, therefore he hoped the House would make some arrangements about having them addressed.

Col. BOYD said they had better adopt the same mode of having them addressed as they did last year; but he would not agree to paying \$5 for each member.

Mr. SUTTON said they were addressed last year in St. John for \$4 apiece. If they were sent to Fredericton they would be under their own supervision.

Mr. CAIE said the amount to be paid the publisher should be a little more than it was last year, as there are 7,000 instead of 6,000 copies to be addressed; but he did not think they should all be addressed in St. John.

Mr. GILBERT said that last Session part of them were addressed here and part in St. John. For some Counties there would be a great loss of time in having them come to Fredericton, although he thought the work could be done better under their own supervision, or the work might be done under the Post Office Department, as they would know best how to direct them to the Way Offices.

Mr. CONNELL believed that the work could be done best under the Post Office Department.

Col. BOYD said, that in the good old times, thirty years ago, every member used to address his own debates, and he had kept to that old fashioned way for a number of years. He believed it cost £70 when they were addressed under the Post Office Department. He would like to have his Debates addressed in St. John, as they would be delayed one or two days by coming up here.

Mr. BEVERIDGE observed that the arrangement of last year gave satisfaction in his County, his Debates being addressed here by a person in the employ of the House.

Mr. GILBERT said he could hardly credit that the addressing of the Debates cost £70. If they had the privilege of having the head of the Post Office Department in the House, they could get information of what the labor would cost. Having the Debates addressed in St. John is sometimes the cause of delay, for if you received a notice from any of your constituents that they do not receive the Debates, you have to write to the publisher, and several days must elapse before it can be rectified; but if they were addressed here it could be corrected at once. Half of the Debates have to come here, and the rest would be delayed but a day and night.

Mr. ANGLIN said there was one objection to this arrangement for addressing the Debates in St. John which had been overlooked, that was, that they had no security that they should get the 7,000 copies for which they paid. They had to depend upon the honor of the person who published and addressed them. There should be something like a receipt of delivery. In whatever way the arrangements may be made there will be innumerable complaints; but in this case there is no security against fraud. This House should, through some officer, obtain a delivery of the whole, and then have them distributed; by this means persons through the country would receive them earlier and more regular. He did not value the Debates, and therefore cared little about it; but the whole cost of addressing them should not exceed £50 or £60.

Mr. LINDSAY said, that Hon. members who made out their lists, would certainly know whether they received the Debates or not. In his district they received them pretty regular.

Mr. WILMOT remarked, that to ensure their being received, they should be addressed by the Post Office Department, for if they were not properly directed they would go to the wrong Post Office.

Mr. CORAM observed that on the Eastern side of the Harbor there was no way of distributing them but by carrying them to every man's door; for the people