

to assist in defending and protecting other parts of the Empire. The fact that the Territories have no militia organisation was pointedly called to our minds when it was first announced that Canada would send a contingent to South Africa. It was thought that that contingent would be the only one sent by Canada, and it was a very keen disappointment that the Territories were disqualified and unable to have representation in it. Subsequently, as of course everyone knew, more contingents were sent, contingents of a special class, and the North-West is represented by if not the finest at least as fine a body of men as ever took up arms under the British flag or any other flag. (Applause.) In point of dash and personal courage he had confidence in their superiors were not to be found, and he had not the faintest doubt that they would worthily uphold the honor of the country. But it was obvious that more valuable service might be expected from the men did they have the advantage of militia training as would be the case if the militia system had been in operation in the Territories. The South African war had in no way created the need for the course urged by the resolution, but had served to bring the need home to all minds. The question of home defence was an imperative one. The geographical position of the Territories was such that if even difficulties arose with the United States—an improbability, he was glad to say, but a possibility which could, if very remote, ought not to be overlooked—we would always be cut off from the Eastern Provinces, and should have to rely for a time upon our own resources for protection against the marauding bands that would likely attempt to make the North-West a playground. It had been suggested that to make fuller use of the rifle association organisation would meet the necessities of the present position. Mr. Lake had nothing but good words to say for rifle associations, but he was compelled to disagree with the suggestion. The arm of the rifle associations was the Martini-Henri, an obsolete weapon, upon which it would be sheer madness to rely against the rifle rifles of an enemy; and in the event of such a contingency, of our cutting off would mean cutting off from supplies of the Lee-Enfield. In recent months a wave of enthusiasm had been aroused in favor of the volunteer movement. This feeling should not be checked. Our young men were anxious to be enabled to qualify as efficient defenders of the country in case of need, and it was our duty to assist in the furtherance of their desire, and by this and other reasonable and practicable means bear a share in ensuring the safe handing-down to those who come after us, of the glorious heritage that this generation had bequeathed to it from a noble ancestry. (Applause.)

A GOOD WORD FOR THE NATIVES.

Mr. McKay (Prince Albert West) trusted that no immediate alarm would be caused in the east or elsewhere by this very称赞able resolution. He intended to see that in Parliament some romantic mention had been made of unrest existed, and of course he knew that it was no expectation of any such trouble as was alluded to in Parliament that prompted the mover of the resolution. It was quite true that the North-West needed and had a right to a militia organisation just as civilized communities. (Laughter.) But for the native population, he was proud to say that they were in a most peaceful state. For one hundred and fifty years, declared Mr. McKay in ringing tones, there had been but one single occasion of acute trouble between the natives of the West and the British government and the lawful authorities, and he believed that that occasion would be the last. He was glad to support the motion. (Applause.)

Dr. Patrick (Yorkton) was fully set out the reason why the militia system should be extended to the Territories. We should not lose sight of the fact that one main reason for a militia system, apart from the reasons well presented by the mover, was this: That ultimate enforcement of law rests upon armed forces. When government was first formed here, the militia, such forces had been sent into the country. —The North-West Mounted Police. In considering the proposition before the House we should not lose sight, either, of the grand work of that magnificent body, which in the early days bore responsibility almost wholly for the administration as well as the ultimate enforcement of the law. (Applause.)

The Public Lands bill (Mr. Ross) was considered in committee and at Mr. Hawkes' suggestion the clause dealing with elevator screenings was allowed to stand. Progress was reported and at 4:30 the House adjourned.

MONDAY, April 9.
Mr. Ross presented a petition from Moderator Campbell of the Presbyterian church, praying for the incorporation of the Tisdale Board of the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

Dr. De Veler presented a petition from the mayor of Lethbridge asking for amendments to the town charter, also a petition from the directors of the Medicine Hat General Hospital praying for amendments to the Medicine Hat General Hospital Ordinance.

Mr. Gillis from the Committee on Standing Orders favorably reported the petition of Prince Albert Town Council asking legislation to legalise certain grants made to members of the contingents sent to South Africa, and the petition from Edmonton desiring the incorporation of the Edmonton General Hospital. The committee reported that respecting the latter petition of the hon. member on Friday, he had answered it in strict accordance with the actual words of the question. The motion to adjourn was withdrawn.

FORESHADOWED.

A number of notices were given. Mr. McKay will, after the recess seek to learn what amounts of special grants to schools have been paid, and to what schools, as well as whether the Government proposes to provide co-education.

Mr. Rosenroll will ask whether the Government fulfilled the promise to have certain Ordinances translated and printed in German and Swedish? If not, why not? and if not, is it intended to have it done now?

Mr. Hawkes will enquire whether, at any hospital drawing Government aid, the management can prevent a patient being attended by any certain physician, and if, not, what course should be taken if the management attempt to do so?

Mr. MacLeod wants full and explicit particulars regarding all foreign companies licensed to do business in the Territories to bear arms. It was a reflection almost that we have not the militia system already. It looked as if we were not considered—it was certainly treated as if we were not considered—equal with the people of the Provinces. There was another practical side, too, which might be mentioned, the side which had in view the horse market. The raising of Mounted Rifles following on recent events was very likely to lead to the establishment of a re-mount station in the North-West. We can raise horses; the proof will be given, is being given, to-day in South Africa. He trusted that the resolution would be unanimously agreed to.

Resolution agreed to, and an address to His Honor the Lieut.-Governor was adopted, praying him to cause transmission to the Secretary of State.

Mr. Simpson (Red Deer) introduced a Bill to amend the Pound Districts Ordinance, also a Bill to amend the Medical Ordinance, which were given first reading.

The Vital Statistics Bill (Mr. Bulleye) was read a third time and passed.

MR. McDONALD WILL ASK AGAIN. By permission Mr. McDonald gave

notice that he would ask the Government if they have made propositions respecting the establishment of the Territories into a province or provinces, or if any such propositions have come from the Dominion Government.

YORKTON INCORPORATION—THE MEMBER FOR BANFF.

The Municipal Law committee having before the Yorkton Incorporation Bill, the same was taken up in committee of the whole. The member for Banff (Mr. Sifton) put the Bill under scrutiny and asked several explanations aient particular provisions, which Dr. Patrick readily supplied.

Sec. 3, intended to limit the powers of the Council as to bonuses, etc., powers which the general municipal law entrusted to Councils—Mr. Sifton moved to strike out. He argued that the Municipal Ordinance was of law definitely made to meet the requirements of such communities as the Bill would incorporate as a town.

He contended that if the general law was good, then it ought to be made available for the benefit and well-being of all towns. So far as had been shown, the people of Yorkton were just an average community. If they were not entitled to be entrusted with these powers, then the people of other towns ought not to have these powers, and what should be done was not to make particular legislation for Yorkton but to amend the general law, and avoid the multiplication of statutes. The simpler and more concise any law was made the more satisfactory would it be in its working, and this statement applies with equal force to municipal law. Cities perhaps could afford to engage expert legal talent—he should be sorry to discourage the employment—(laughter)—but certainly for towns the less complicated the Ordinances were the better. It would be a mistake to have one law governing a town near Yorkton, and a different law governing Yorkton, unless there were some special differences in the situation or conditions of the towns. He presumed that the people of Yorkton would choose as councillors men as competent and reliable as the councillors of other towns. Then why should a Yorkton councillor's power be less than other Councillors? He suspected that the particular legislation asked for Yorkton was not demanded by the people themselves, wished a suit made easy for them and their constituents. (Laughter.) The Yorkton people gave definite instructions to the committee which framed the petition for incorporation, and one clear instruction was that the town should not be empowered to go into the bonus business. He believed if the people expected to have such power thrust upon them they would not ask incorporation. Dr. Patrick assured the House that the people of Yorkton were intelligent enough to read and understand two Ordinances. He would be the last to dispute the advisability of simplification, but it was clearly impossible to consolidate the laws every time there was a change.

For Mr. Sifton's motion to strike out the following members voted—Messrs. Sifton, Brown, Hawkes, McDonald, Sher, Wallace and MacLeod. The motion was lost, and the bill was reported for third reading.

The Public Lands bill (Mr. Ross) was considered in committee and progress reported.

The Noxious Weeds bill was considered in committee and at Mr. Hawkes' suggestion the clause dealing with elevator screenings was allowed to stand. Progress was reported and at 4:30 the House adjourned.

Mr. McDonald asked: Has this Government made any proposals to the Dominion Government, or any Minister of the Government with a view to the Territories or any part of them being formed into a Province or has any proposal been made by the Dominion Government to this Government? If any such proposal has been made or received, when was it made and by whom?

Mr. McDonald stated, evidently by a printer's error, the words "or Provinces" were omitted from the question. Those words should appear after the word "Province."

To each question the Premier answered, No.



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BILLS INTRODUCED.

Mr. Lake introduced a Bill to amend the Prairie Fire Ordinance—to lessen some of the stringent provisions of the general law in cases where Local Improvement Districts are to be established.

Mr. Haultain introduced a Bill to provide for the incorporation of Mutual Hall Insurance companies.

Mr. Smith introduced a Bill to amend the Medical Ordinance—intended to admit to practice certain medical men who were shut out by legislation of 1898.

Mr. McCauley introduced a Bill to amend the Municipal law; also a Bill respecting certain kinds of municipal public works. The latter bill is an important one dealing with water works and street railway construction, etc.

EMPHASISING A TECHNICALITY.

Mr. McDonald moved the adjournment of the House to get an apparent in dispute matter cleared up. He said that on Friday in answer to a question the Premier had made substantially the following statement: "That as the Government were under the impression that the Territories were admitted to Confederation in July, 1870, they had not thought it necessary to make any proposal to the Dominion Government in that regard." Was that fairly accurate? (Mr. Haultain nodded assent.) Now, Mr. Haultain had certified that the newspaper report of his Yorkton speech was "fairly accurate." He requested Mr. Haultain to stand up. Mr. Haultain moved that when the House adjourns, it do stand adjourned to Tuesday, 17th April. He explained that the motion was the result of a general understanding reached to adjourn for one week, from Tuesday to Tuesday, and as there was not a great deal of business on the paper for next day, it was thought as well to adjourn to day.

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Mr. Haultain recorded his protest. It was the second time since he entered the Assembly that this kind of adjournment was made. His was a selfish reason; he was not able to use the week, as others, to run home; and it was certainly a bore to have to remain away from home, not consulted, and it was those who wanted to go home who were consulted. He had no wish to spoil any plans; he knew the anxiety of some hon. members to get home to the bosoms of their families—(laughter)—but he was just recording his protest in the hope that it might not be forgotten in future sessions.

The House then adjourned to Tuesday, 17th inst.

The Premier stated that discussion of an answer given to a question on a previous day was of course entirely irregular and out of order, but it was sometimes not desirable to shut off discussion by a point of order. He had said that the Yorkton speech was not entirely accurately reported, but if he was reported to have used the words "entering Confederation" in the connection implied, he must say that he did not believe that that was an inaccurate report of what he did say, because he had long been sufficiently acquainted with the historical fact that the Territories entered Confederation in 1870, to prevent him using the remark when speaking of the formation of a province or provinces. But if he had used those words, it was not likely that they would mislead any one; probably nine out of every ten men would quite well understand the words or their inaccurate sense, and whether or not he used them the newspaper report might still be deemed fairly accurate. As to the question raised by the hon. member on Friday, he had answered it in strict accordance with the actual words of the question.

The motion to adjourn was withdrawn.

YORKTON INCORPORATED.

The Yorkton incorporation bill was read the third time, and at a later stage His Honor the Lieut.-Governor came down to the House and assented to the bill. Yorkton is now an incorporated town.

THE VILLAGE LAW.

Mr. Rosenroll moved second reading of a Bill to amend the Village Ordinance. He said that in the bill a better interpretation was given to the term "voter" so as to prevent possible encroachments on the franchise which was overruled by a point of order.

Mr. McCauley contended that the proposed clause was wholly unnecessary, as its object was completely met by the Section in the Ordinance and the amending Bill. It was not within the province of the Assembly to decide how much screenings should be taken out of wheat, but he understood by the scope of the Elevator Commission that it was expected that that phase of the subject would be met to some extent by Dominion legislation.

The main difficulty with the present law seemed to be the misapprehension prevailing respecting it. The idea that the law prevented the farmer taking his screenings was entirely mistaken. No farmer need leave screenings which were free from weeds. If they went farther, and allowed farmers to take screenings having weeds in them, it would kill the law. The Ordinance was certainly stringent; inspectors were given drastic powers. And it was purely in the interest of the farmers and of the country. The amending bill would meet the case of the elevator and mill men who made improper use of the screenings. He had explained the other day that it was found that the threshing of grain, and dirt, fully cover cases, when bread and shorts were sold containing seeds. The Government had intended to prosecute some such cases. An Inspector procured samples, but it was found that the prosecution would not have succeeded. By the amending bill they were trying to meet this point which, in his opinion, was the only good point raised by Mr. Hawkes. If the bill passed, the elevator men could and would be compelled to burn all screenings having seeds, that was to say, all screenings which farmers were prevented from removing. The elevator men would have to burn them or render themselves liable to penalty. The Ordinance, as it stands, has been operated through the two Asbestos, and there had been practically no complaints other than had been heard in Haltom. He hoped that with the amendments now proposed, there would be even fewer complaints in future.

Mr. Hawkes proposed to substitute for Section 11, the following clause:

"No person shall sell, barter, or otherwise dispose of or remove from any premises any screenings, containing seeds of noxious weeds, shall destroy the germinating qualities by burning them. Provided, however, that herein contained shall be construed as prohibiting the removal of small wheat, oats or

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