

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I give you his statement in the letter to me. That is all I got.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—That statement is not under oath.

PRINTING OF THE NORTHWEST PROVINCIAL AUTONOMY BILLS.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—I should like to call the attention of the leader of this House to the fact that we are not provided yet with copies of the Bills respecting the new provinces in the Northwest.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Nobody has them; they are not in the Distribution Office. They have not been distributed, I presume. I do not think they are printed yet. There is some delay about defining the boundaries. The members on both sides of the House who represent the Northwest Territories and the Senators, I think, were invited to confer together and try and agree on a division. They had not agreed yesterday at all events, and I am not aware that the divisions have yet been defined. They may be, however, without my knowledge, because I do not know what they have done in the last few hours. They had not agreed yesterday.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—As I understand, the Bill is not completed yet?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—No.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—So it should not have been presented to the House of Commons?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I fancy that it was only a skeleton that was presented there.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—A skeleton?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Hon. gentlemen know that very often an hon. gentleman introduces a Bill in blank. There were some paragraphs of it settled and read no doubt.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—The rule of the House of Commons says:—

No Bill may be introduced either in blank or in imperfect shape.

I suppose the premier is violating the rules?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I cannot explain it. My hon. friend is aware that rules are sometimes broken.

SECOND READINGS.

Bill (35) An Act to incorporate the Georgian Bay and Sea-board Railway Company.—(Hon. Mr. Power).

Hon. Mr. BERNIER.

Bill (22) An Act respecting the Calgary and Edmonton Railway Company.—(Hon. Mr. Lougheed).

Bill (25) An Act respecting the Walkerton and Lucknow Railway Company.—(Hon. Mr. McMullen).

Bill (27) An Act respecting certain patents of the Facer Solid Steel Car Wheel Company, of Perth, Limited.—(Hon. Mr. Frost).

A PROPOSED ADJOURNMENT.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Before the House adjourns it may be fair to state what I think might be accomplished in the way of an adjournment at a later date. In the week that follows next week, Ash Wednesday comes, and I thought, therefore, as under our present rule we will not now meet until Tuesday, if the House would sit Tuesday and Wednesday of next week we could then adjourn over until the Tuesday or Wednesday after Ash Wednesday, which would give a fortnight and enable hon. gentlemen from the lower provinces to make arrangements to go home. It is not likely there will be much business the latter part of next week. I know of no government measure but the Census Bill, and, therefore, such an adjournment would not cause any inconvenience to the public. A number of gentlemen have spoken to me suggesting this adjournment. If there were any business we would sit both Wednesday and Thursday of next week. I am not making a motion, but a proposition which I thought would meet the views of hon. gentlemen who have spoken to me on the subject. It would be only fair to hon. gentlemen who are absent to know whether an adjournment is in contemplation, and I therefore make this announcement. The House can decide next week whether to adjourn or not.

Hon. Mr. PERLEY—I have no objection to an adjournment after next Thursday. There is a divorce Bill before the Senate and the hearing of evidence in connection with it is fixed for Thursday next. The lawyers and witnesses are here and it would be unfair to put them to unnecessary expense, as we would do if we adjourned before taking the evidence.

Hon. Mr. POWER—As I understand the Secretary of State, he is simply giving notice that if the business of the House will permit