

weighmasters. It requires the weighmasters to keep a record of the fact when a car is leaking or in bad order. Section 6 deals with the time of rendering statements by warehousemen owning terminal public elevators. Section 7 gives the commissioner power to deal with disputes regarding applicants for elevator sites. Section 8 removes the provision which gives the commissioner discretion respecting the keeping of an account of the grain received, stored and shipped. Section 9 provides that the Act shall not require the receipt of grain where there is not sufficient accommodation in the elevator. Section 10 repeals the provision which in the present Act makes the holder of a receipt not liable for storage charges after the expiration of seven days from the giving of the notice requiring his grain to be shipped. Section 11 deals with the power of any person having grain stored in the elevator to order a car to be placed at such elevator. Section 12 amends the provisions relating to the duty of the warehousemen when grain is out of condition. Section 13 deals with the duty of the warehousemen in furnishing statements to the commissioner. Section 14 provides for the erection of flat warehouses. Section 15 defines the time within which any person who has procured a site is required to commence the erection of his elevator or warehouse. Section 16 makes provision for the erection of loading platforms and the furnishing of cars at such platforms. Section 17 regulates the duties of grain commission merchants. Section 18 provides for the application of fees collected. Section 19 requires the officers mentioned in section 50 of the Manitoba Grain Act to make certain reports to the commissioner. Section 20 provides penalties for infraction of the Act. Section 21 deals with the distribution of cars and makes provisions respecting the business of track buyers. Sections 22 and 23 deal with the question of storage charges.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

The MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR (Hon. Clifford Sifton). Referring to the request made by the leader of the opposition for a further return in reference to copies of correspondence with the North-west government and the members thereof, on the question of provincial autonomy, I beg now to present a supplementary return to the Order which was passed, and in compliance with which a return was presented to this House some time ago. I may say to my hon. friend (Mr. Borden, Halifax) that there are some of the letters which were mentioned in the list which he read to the House which cannot be found. There were letters which passed between A. L.

Hon. Mr. SIFTON.

Sifton and myself, which were upon the file that I had in the council chamber and which have been mislaid. As soon as that was ascertained, I telegraphed to the North-west government to send down copies of the letters from their files. They will be here probably in a day or two.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN (Halifax). I may say that I have a print of some correspondence from the North-west Territories' legislative assembly which contains copies of these letters, and I can furnish it to the hon. gentleman if it is desired that they should be printed at once.

The MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR. Then there are the following letters: one dated March 15th, 1902, from Mr. Haultain to Sir Wilfrid Laurier; one dated March 18th, 1902, from Sir Wilfrid Laurier to Mr. Haultain, which cannot be found at the present time. Sir Wilfrid informs me that he thinks these can be got, but the result of an inquiry from his secretary brought the reply that they could not be found.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). I have copies of all these that are mentioned on the list that I read to the House, and which can be furnished for the purpose of being printed. I think they are probably correct as they were printed by command of the territorial legislature.

The MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR. I wish to mention the letters that are not in the list as presented so that there can be no mistake. There was a further letter from Mr. Haultain to myself, dated 2nd April, 1902, and another letter dated December 17th, from A. L. Sifton to myself. There is a letter dated January 31st, 1903, from Mr. Haultain to myself; one dated February 9th, from Mr. McGee to Mr. Haultain; one dated April 15th, from Mr. Haultain to myself; one dated April 17th, from Mr. Haultain to Mr. Fielding, and one dated July 25th, from Mr. Pelletier to Mr. Forget. These letters have not been found up to the present time, although the clerks in charge of the files have been busily engaged searching for them. They appear to have been mislaid; possibly they may have been taken to council. There may be some mistake about the dates which were transmitted to my hon. friend, and these mistakes may result in there being letters which are actually on the file, but which are not indicated by the exact dates. For instance, there is one letter which is stated to have been received by myself from Mr. Haultain, but I think there must be some mistake about that. It is supposed to have been received while I was away, but neither my private secretary nor any one else in the department has any record of it being received.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). If the hon. gentleman would send his secretary to look over the papers I have, I think he could

get copies of all these which are referred to in the list which I read to the House.

The MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR. I shall do that, and if there are any that are not comprised within this return we will have them presented in the form of a supplementary return, so that it may be complete. In the meantime, I will leave this return on the Table of the House.

QU'APPELLE, LONG LAKE AND SASKATCHEWAN RAILWAY.

The MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR. I beg to present a return that was moved for by the hon. member for Provencher, asking for all copies of papers, &c., with reference to the land grant to the Qu'Appelle, Long Lake and Saskatchewan Railway Company; also a list of papers, &c., in connection with the Saskatchewan Land Company with reference to their acquisition of the land grant to the Qu'Appelle, Long Lake and Saskatchewan Railway, and also a return as to the land sections in connection with the said railway. I present the return so far as it relates to the transfer from the railway company, because members on the other side of the House are desirous of having these papers. The rest of the correspondence is very voluminous, and the clerks are at work on it now, and we expect to have it ready shortly.

TREADGOLD COMMISSION.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN (Halifax). I would like to ask the Prime Minister whether or not the personnel of the Treadgold Commission has finally been settled?

The MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR. Yes, the commission as finally issued will be to Mr. Justice Britton and Mr. B. T. A. Bell, secretary of the Canadian Mining Institute.

THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN (Halifax). The right hon. gentleman promised yesterday to give us the information to-day as to whether or not Sir Wm. Van Horne had consented to accept a position on the Transportation Commission.

The PRIME MINISTER (Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier). I am sorry to say that I have a letter from Sir Wm. Van Horne stating that he cannot accept the chairmanship of the commission. I will hand over the letter to my hon. friend.

INQUIRY FOR RETURN.

Mr. H. BOURASSA (Labelle). I wish to remind the Prime Minister that, in the first days of the session, two or three addresses were carried, for the return of some papers that have not yet been brought down. One of those addresses was in relation with the repeal of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty; an-

other was about the establishment of a naval reserve and a navy school in Canada; and, I think, there was another one about the commissions granted to Canadian officers in the British army; but I am not quite sure about the latter.

The PRIME MINISTER. I will attend to the matter.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAY POLICY.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN (Halifax). We had the assurance of my right hon. friend on Friday last and again on Wednesday that the proposed measure with regard to the transcontinental railway would be placed before the House not later than this week. Does my hon. friend propose to make any announcement to-day?

The PRIME MINISTER. I expect, without pledging myself absolutely, to put upon the Order Paper to-day notice to that effect.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). I trust that my hon. friend's expectations will be fulfilled. The delays in bringing this measure before the House which has now been in session for about four and a half months, remind us very much of the delays in the celebrated case of Jarndyce vs. Jarndyce, and the House might regard itself in the position of Miss Flyte, who used to say she expected judgment on the Day of Judgment. My right hon. friend some times in days gone by has been discouraged about the progress of business, but I am sure on this side of the House we are getting discouraged in regard to the length of this session, and in connection with the delay to which the government persist in putting us day after day and week after week with regard to this matter. I definitely understood from my right hon. friend a week ago to-day, that that measure would be brought down this week. The right hon. gentleman then said it would be down probably early this week, but that it certainly would be down this week, and we are to-day as much in the dark as ever about it. Could not my right hon. friend at least give us an assurance as to a date beyond which he will not keep the House and the country waiting for this policy? He expects to be able to put it on the Order Paper to-day, but he does not pledge himself to do so, and we know that expectations are often disappointed. My right hon. friend's expectations with regard to this policy have been so often disappointed already that we really do not feel the same confidence in them with regard to this that we do with regard to some other matters. I would like, if my right hon. friend can do it—and I think the request is not an unreasonable one—that he should at least fix a date beyond which the House and the country will not be kept waiting for the announcement of this measure.