PLAYGROUNDS VISITED BY COMMITTEE YESTERDAY

Special Trip Is Made to Outline Preliminary Work During Present Season; Many Fields Being Viewed by Members of Commission

CHANGE PROPOSED AT MEWATA PARK

Layout May Be Altered by Provision of Tennis Courts for Men and Women, Bowling Green, and New Baseball Diamond

Commissioner Samis, Parks Superintendent Reader and Mr. A. B. Dawson of the Y. M. C. A. made a tour of the playgrounds yesterday afternoon to outline preliminary work for the season on the various fields. The layout of Mewata Park will probably be altered to provide for tennis courts for both men and women, a bowling green for men, and an extra baseball diamond in the space now wasted owing to the cutting up of considerable areas for unnecessary purposes. Tree planting operations will be transferred from the south side to the west end, where a high hedge will be cultivated to hide the unsightly interior. The space now devoted to children in the northwest corner is thought by Mr. Dawson to be too far removed from the street, and in too close proximity to the river to be safe for tiny tots; and the wading pool, which has been partially constructed, is of no use. By levelling the bench end reclaiming the marsh land here, a new baseball diamond can be established. The children can be removed to the south bench near the street.

The street to the south leading to the incinerator is to be paved, and Commissioner Samis is in favor of removing the fence to the south which serves no useful purpose, and of thus adding several feet to the strip available on the south bench for bowling greens and tennis courts.

In Victoria Park there is room for another soccer field inside the race course if the ground is levelled, and a boys' field, with a practice diamond, can be established outside the course until fair time. Commissioner Samis thinks a considerable portion of this park might be levelled permanently, with the consent of the exhibition board.

The athletic field south of the hospital will be staked off next week, and the ground lies in a good condition. It is likely that permanent improvements will be undertaken here, so that permanent baseball, soccer and rugby fields will be ready as soon as the street car line along the Riverside Boulevard to a point below the hospital is completed.

The ground was looked over, and these suggestions made yesterday. A detailed program will be confirmed by Commissioner Samis today.

The city will immediately take steps to have the debris cleared from the skating rink in Mewata Park, and to have the diamond made ready for practice next week.

SWEEPING VICTORY OF LIBERALS CERTAIN

(Continued from Page 1)

Shaw Should Win Stettler

Stettler, April 16.—R. L. Shaw, Liberal candidate, won his candidacy at the last election with a majority of 1200. The riding has been divided, and the division will reduce his majority materially. He should win with 300 votes to the good.

Veteran Member is Safe

Innisfail, April 16.—The election of J. A. Simpson, the veteran member of this riding, is a certainty. He has been sitting in the Alberta legislature since the organization of the province, and his friends believe that he is stronger now than ever. A careful canvass made today would indicate that he would win by a majority of about 200. The passage of the farm implement act has made the government particularly strong here, and that the sitting member will be returned may be put down as a certainty.

Stauffer's Victory Certain

Didsbury, April 16.—Joseph E. Stauffer, Liberal candidate, won this constituency last election with a majority of 600. His friends say that there is no reason why he should not repeat this achievement. He has lost strength personally, and the government is stronger here than ever. Bets of 2 to 1 were offered on him today, and there were no takers. Put Didsbury down in the Sifton column sure.

Premier Will Carry Macleod

Macleod, April 16.—Premier Sifton should have a majority of 150 in this riding. During the past few days an army of Conservative workers have been sent here, but it is thought that little has been accomplished. The Liberal managers are very sanguine.

McArthur Thinks He Will Win

Strathmore, April 16.—J. P. McArthur, Liberal candidate, expressed confidence in the result of tomorrow's election. "I have made a careful canvass," he said last night. "I think I will win."

Mitchell is Sanguine

Medicine Hat, April 16—Hon. Chas. R. Mitchell is very confident of the result in the Medicine Hat riding, of which he is the Liberal candidate.

"I am very confident. The situation could not be better. This riding will go Liberal by a substantial majority. I feel absolutely safe. I feel assured of a fair vote in Lethbridge city, and am confident that the farmers of the riding will vote to endorse a government that has done everything possible to further their interests. The rain of today will keep the farmers from the field, which means that they will have time to vote."

Two monster Liberal meetings closed the campaign in Medicine Hat last night. Minister Mitchell addressed both of them. Both were enthusiastic. The Liberals of Medicine Hat feel that the fight is as good as won.

IMMIGRATION BUREAU HANDLES NEWCOMERS

(Continued from Page 1.)

C. P. R. construction shops. The company started operations with only a small staff of men about the beginning of March of the present year, but intend to increase their staff to 2,000 or 2,500 men, most of which will be the best of skilled mechanics. In the Ogden district, where the shops are located, which only about a year ago was bare prairie, now stands a centre of great activity. Buildings of all descriptions are going up daily, and in a very short time there will be a population of at least 15,000 to 20,000 in that district. The city is putting in improvements, such as water, sewers, electric light, etc., and have the street railway now running, which enables the men to get to and from their work in an easy way.

President Scott of the Carpenters' Union Takes Issue With Webster and Evans

Editor Albertan:

The futile efforts of Evans and Webster to justify their position, before facing their unions, through the columns of The News-Telegram is worthy of comment. Evans shows plainly that he is ashamed of his position. He declares he was surprised to see his letter in The Herald. Many others were surprised that he should be so easily victimized by the Conservative heelers. He must have known that it was not his letter, or signature to a letter, as a private citizen, but his signature as the secretary of the Bricklayers' and Masons' union. Had he signed his name as a private citizen and not as an official of organized labor, which practically meant that we were all admirers of Dr. Blow, I would then only have doubted his wisdom; now I doubt his motive. Evans says that he was (probably) years in the trades union movement when I was in the cradle. He may be an old member of a trades union, but it is quite evident he does not understand it, or might the old adage be applicable, "There is no fool like an old fool." He confidently expects his hero, Dr. Blow, to be elected by an overwhelming majority. Whether Dr. Blow be elected or not, Evans' part in the drama will long be remembered.

Webster declares he has no recollection of meeting me. That is his loss and my gain. His reference to the Carpenters' union needs no comment, and shows clearly the type of a union man he is. In regard to the importation of cut stone for the Calgary court house, I am not trying to justify the action of the Sifton government, but it probably had the same reasons as the Molson's bank, C. P. R. and owners of other buildings. There is nothing more in his letter worthy of comment. His reference to the Socialist party in Germany and the stand they take regarding militarism proves conclusively Mr. Webster has bee nmentally chloroformed by the loquacious orators of the Conservative party. Were he conscious of his economic position in society and that of his fellow workers, with no other motive than that of helping the labor movement in this city, I feel sure he would be anything but a Conservative. My former statement that other labor men were approached by the ward heelers of the Conservative party still holds good, and can be substantiated, and the arguments advanced by both as to the qualifications of Dr. Blow to represent the working class are anything but convincing.

W. M. SCOTT,
President Carpenters' Union.

WILSON'S ATTITUDE ON THE PANAMA CANAL CONTROVERSY

Washington, April 16.—The report from England that Ambassador Bryce has informed his government that President Wilson may be expected to assume an attitude on the Panama tolls controversy that will prove more agreeable to Great Britain than the policy of his predecessor, causes no surprise to those in Washington who have followed closely indications of the president's feeling on the subject. As far back as last summer, Washington dispatches acknowledged that such a small concession on the part of the United States in the language of the Panama canal act, was necessary to make that measure acceptable to Great Britain, that it seemed incredible that a friendly settlement in the end would not be reached.

The president's inclination to take a more sympathetic view of the British protest against discrimination in favor of American coasting vessel has been suggested in the disfavor with which he is understood to have learned of the appointment of no-toll senators to the committee on inter-oceanic canals. Any bill amending the Panama canal act would be referred to that committee.

Mr. Wilson has been guarded in his utterances on the subject of the canal tolls, and there is reason to believe that he does not wish to complicate the tariff situation by taking a stand just now against which a majority of his party in both houses, as well as the party platform, has declared. The president has long been a close friend of Ambassador Bryce, their writings on allied subjects having brought them into communication many years ago, and it is thought that he has revealed his real sentiments to the retiring diplomat.

A careful reading of Sir Edward Grey's note of last summer to Ambassador Bryce, which the ambassador read to Secretary of State Knox, led to the opinion in certain quarters here that, in spite of Sir Edawrd's broad denial of the American right to any discrimination in favor of American shipping, he would accept the bill then pending as a fair recognition of Great Britain's treaty rights, if two amendments were made. One of these was to make it certain that only American ships 'exclusively' engaged in the coastwise trade would be allowed free passage through the canal. The other was to make it plain that the exemption of certain American tolls would constitute a loss to the American treasury, and not constitute an additional burden on the shipping of the world.

Whether those mild modifications constitute the basis of the settlement which is now considered possible is not known. In view of President Wilson's supposed friendliness toward the English plea, it is possible that the British foreign office may press with greater vigor for some of the other points set forth in Sir Edawrd's long note. But the subject of arbitration, with which he closed his note, is supposed now to be abandoned in favor of settlement by friendly diplomacy.

WOMEN OF CALGARY PREDICT LIBERAL VICTORY

(Continued from Page 1)

one which not only demonstrated the extraordinary popularity of the idea of the franchise for women, but afforded convincing evidence of how universal among all classes is the conviction that Alberta would be better for women having the vote. Women from some of the wealthiest families of Calgary, met women whose husbands work with their hands, and fraternized freely, discussing the principle, all were so much interested in.

Chairman Lewis was at her wits' end at times and could not begin to utilize the services of all the women and men who offered themselves as workers, while Mrs. James, secretary of the committee, was as busy in checking off the work allotted to the various helpers, as will be the tellers who will check the count of the vote at the close of the polls tonight.

The reports received by Chairman Lewis from canvassers which have been checked up by follow-up workers and which last night were tabulated by Secretary James, show that some hundreds of votes have been unqualifiedly pledged to the women, which had previously been credited to the Conservative candidates by both party organizations, this checking having been made possible by the women having been able to procure copies of lists used by the party organizations. This work has been done with such consummate thoroughness and cleverness as to suggest that when the women do get the vote, it will behove the men to look to their laurels and brush up on practical politics, if they expect to cope with that branch of society which it has hitherto been maintained by opponents of woman suffrage, is not capable of taking an intelligent part in politics.

"I verily believe we shall win all three seats," declared Chairman Lewis late last night, after the checking and tabulating of the vote pledged had been completed.

"I am not going to say how many votes we feel sure of," continued Mrs. Lewis, "for notwithstanding, I am a woman I should not expect but that many people would be uncharitable enough to say they did not believe me if I did, and besides, I don't desire to appear in the light of the political prognosticator whom everybody knows, gives out statements for effect. We have no wish to take part in that kind of politics and will be content if our estimate proves comparatively correct. If it does we feel perfectly sure tonight that the franchise for women will be won in the shortest campaign in history for our figures show that Mr. Ross is elected in the north constituency as surely as an election is ever won before the votes are counted, that Mr. Jones has a great deal better than a fighting chance in the south, while Dr. McDougall in Center Calgary will give Mr. Tweedie an exceedingly close run if he does not win, owing in large part to the resentment the women generally feel toward his stupidity in so unwarrantably attacking the character of Dr. Yeomans.

"If our information is as reliable as we believe it to be, and the wives of Calgary have the influence with their husbands which they naturally ought to have, we feel perfectly sure our cause has won.

"I should like to announce that the committee rooms will be kept open on election day and that there will be a cup of tea for all the men who care to drop in. We hope men generally will avail themselves of this invitation in order that we may have an opportunity of thanking them in person for the assistance they have been to us. I am sure we all feel very grateful to them.

"I should like to say also, that I noticed a statement in an evening paper to the effect that I have said we are not working in the interests of any particular candidates, but are merely availing ourselves of the opportunity of bringing our case to the fore in the hope of having it strongly before the people for future consideration.

"I have never made any such statement. We most certainly are working in the interest of particular candidates and they are the ones who have pledged themselves to us, and we believe we shall elect them. What I did say was, that we are not working in the interest of any political party organization except insofar as working for individuals who are candidates of a party, is concerned."

BRITISH OFFICER MAY TRY TRANSATLANTIC FLIGHT

Montreal, April 16—Captain Ernest C. Bass, formerly an officer in the British army, and now an enthusiastic amateur aviator, was in Montreal a few days ago. He is in America primarily for the purpose of making preliminary arrangements for an event which, if consummated, will constitute the most sensational achievement yet recorded in the history of aviation, and which may revolutionize the existing systems of transoceanic navigation. The contemplated feat is a transatlantic flight by hydro-aeroplane to be undertaken this summer by Lieut. J. C. Porte, an experienced British aviator whose plans have received the endorsation of leading European experts and officers of the British admiralty. Lieut. Porte is on the retired list of the Royal navy, having been for a number of years in the service of the engineering and scientific departments of the navy, during which period he was several times in command of submarine flotillas. He resigned to devote his entire attention to aeronautics, and was immediately appointed by the present king a member of the special reserve of the British army flying corps. He is now managing director of the British Deperdussin company, which has supplied a number of flying machines to both the British army and navy, and is a branch of the noted French manufactory which has built over eighty thousand aeroplanes for the French army. It was with a machine constructed by this company that Vedrines, the famous French flyer, won the Gordon-Bennett cup by flying 105 miles an hour.

Lieut. Porte has for several years bee nconsidering the feasibility of a cross-Atlantic flight, and after carefully maturing his plans, he is convinced of its practicability. He plans to use a hydroplane based on the model which his company has supplied to the British admiralty. It will carry himself and two other skilled pilots, with a ample supply of fuel, and a wireless equipment will enable the daring aviators to keep in touch with Atlantic liners. As the prevailing winds are from the west, the start will be from the American side, probably from New York, and the speed of the hydroplane will allow of the trip being made in forty-eight hours, barring accident. In the latter eventuality, the hydroplane floats will enable the flyers to alight on the ocean's surface while repairs are being made, and as the flight will closely follow the route of the ocean liners, succor will not be far away, and the possibilities of disaster will be reduced to a minimum. Lieut. Porte's skill and trifling are a guarantee of his fitness for his task, while he has been careful to secure the advice of leading scientific experts in the preparation of his plans. He is eager to attempt the feat, as he believes that its feasibility ensures its successful accomplishment, and he wishes to win the credit for himself and his companions. So convinced is Captain Bass of the practicability of Lieut. Porte's scheme that he is ready to accompany his friend on the momentous trip.

After the Rev. Hillocks

Editor, Albertan:—If space permits will you publish the following in tomorrow's Albertan:

The Rev. S. B. Hillocks, at a Conservative meeting held in Wiggins' Hall tonight, in a fierce tirade of a very personal nature against both his political opponents, gave expression to several remarks that are bitterly resented by several ladies and others that were present.

I, as one of the individuals concerned, hereby demand a public apology from Mr. S. B. Hillocks, or I shall compel him in a court of law to furnish proofs, of the disrespectability of myself, the ladies present, and others concerned.

Furthermore, I hereby challenge the Rev. individual to debate in public upon any subject pertaining to the science of sociology. I'am, sir, yours sincerely,

Wm. M. SCOTT.

Finlanders Fight for Whiskey

Fort William, Ont., April 16.—Gustave Swawarie and Steve Corry, two Finlanders, fought a desperate duel over the possession of a keg of whiskey at Wolulu today, from which both emerged covered with wounds. Swawarie's condition is quite critical, as he was stabbed no less than seven times about the head, face and shoulders. He may not live. Corry was also stabbed in half a dozen places, but none of his wounds are thought to be serious.

BRITAIN MAY MOVE IN CASE OF RUSSIAN HOMESTEADERS

But Russia Takes the Maxim That "Once a Russian Citizen Always a Russian Citizen"

GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE ACTION IF POSSIBLE

Case of Alberta Men Who Returned to Russia and Were Sent to Siberia Causing Some Investigation

Ottawa, April 16—A few days ago Sir Wilfrid Laurier called the attention of the government to a dispatch from Calgary stating that three Russian homesteaders who had gone from the west to visit their former home had been courtmartialled and sent to Siberia for life on a charge of evasion of military duty during the Russo-Japanese war.

Today C. J. Doherty, minister of justice, spoke at some length on the matter. He said that in the first instance he had given orders to have the facts as stated in The Calgary Albertan inquired into to determine into the correctness or incorrectness of the statements. He pointed, however, that the question of naturalization in Canada had less to do with the question than was popularly supposed because Russia took the maxim, "Once a Russian citizen, always a Russian citizen," and acted upon it.

Had these men been naturalized citizens of Great Britain their plight would have been just the same, for Russia did not relinquish her claims upon her own people when they left her shores. The only exception to this would be in the case of countries with which Russia had a treaty arrangement regarding naturalization. However, he would assure the house that the government would take any action that was possible.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier pointed out that these men not being recognized as British subjects, the British government could not care to interfere.

Britain Would Not Decline

Hon. Mr. Doherty said he would be very much surprised if Britain declined to interfere at Canada's request. In cases of this kind before the British government had extended to Canadian subjects such protection as was in its power.

Premier Borden said he would consider it remarkable if the British government declined to move in the matter.

Cambridge Professor Dies

London, April 16—John Westlake, who held the professorship of international law at Cambridge university in 1888-1908, died today. He was one of the members for the United Kingdom of the court of arbitration and honorary president of the Institute of International Law. He was born in 1828.

CITY TREASURY CLERK IS ACCUSED OF FORGERY

(Continued from Page 1.)

drove the unfortunate man to the act of forgery.

Served in Famous Regiment

Matheson is a man 32 years of age and a Scotchman by birth, having been at one time a member of the famous Black Watch regiment. He came to Calgary two years ago and had been in the employ of the city only three months. Mr. MacIvor stated last night that Matheson had been a hard working clerk, steady, conscientious and always punctual, despite the fact that he had to prepare his own breakfast and care for an invalid wife and mite of a child before coming to the office each morning.

In the course of his employment Matheson had absolutely no opportunity to handle cash. His only chance, as he saw it, was to steal blank checks from the treasury check book. The checks used by the city of Calgary are lithographed and bear the name of the city upon the face of each check, all of which are also numbered in serial order. The average merchant not familiar with the signatures usually attached to these checks would unhesitatingly cash them because of their official appearance, as was demonstrated yesterday when Mr. Cashman accepted a check for $95 without question. Mr. Cashman did not know that he had cashed a forged check until so informed by the police.

The check for $125 was made payable to "Mr. Fleming," and that for $150 to "M. J. Aburd." The one cashed in favor of "Alf. Jackson," and the three remaining checks for $105 and $490 were issued to Matheson.

That Matheson labored under intense excitement is evident from the erratic manner in which the checks were made out. One of them, the one presented to the Molsons' bank, had the amount written in, but the line for the amount in figures was not filled. Another check lacked a date, and the handwriting varied more or less on all of the checks.

Matheson, though he was arrested in a hotel, had apparently made no effort to escape. He did not have any baggage, nor had he purchased a railway ticket. It is believed that the forgeries were committed on the spur of the moment while in a fit of melancholy brought about by the sore financial straits of the harrassed man. He claims to have been under the influence of a state of mental anguish over his inability to provide proper medical attention for his wife. A local minister visited the stricken home last night and substantiated the statements of Matheson. It was found that Mrs. Matheson has been in poor health almost constantly. She was greatly worried about family finances and her own helplessness, but these worries sank into insignificance when informed of her husband's arrest. Mrs. Matheson is prostrated by the burden of her grief, and grave fears are entertained for the unfortunate woman.

The father and husband, a broken man, sobbed convulsively when led to the cells of the city jail and the whole affair is viewed in the light of a tragedy around the city hall. Matheson will at once be arraigned for preliminary hearing.

THE LUCKY ONES.

Last Saturday we advertised in this paper that we would refund the money paid on every Tenth Suit sold. We sold Eighty-Eight Suits—not an extraordinary day for us by any means.

As we failed to get the address for three of the lucky customers, we would ask them to call at our office this week and get their refund. Please bring your receipt with you. Charles Symes, J. D. Brackett, Frank Y. Moore. The other five customers we have mailed cheques to.

Yours truly,
MACLEOD BROS.,
816-818 First Street East.

Slate of Candidates Who are Now in the Running

The following table shows those candidates who have been nominated in the various districts:

CONSTITUENCY	CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL
Acadia	Bentley	J. A. McCall
Alexandra	J. R. Lowery	V. C. Lyster
Athabasca	*	
Beaver River	A. Gray	W. Gariepy
Bow Valley	H. A. Riley	Geo. Lane
Calgary North	S. B. Hillocks	G. H. Ross
	Dick Burge (Soc.)	
Calgary Centre	T. M. Tweedie	Rev. Dr. McDougall
Calgary South	Dr. Blow	C. T. Jones
Camrose	R. J. Rushton	G. P. Smith
Cardston	Chris Jensen	Martin Woolf
Claresholm	Dr. McMillan	W. Moffatt
	Malchow (Farm)	
Clearwater	Joe Clark (Ind.)	W. H. McKenney
	Williamson Taylor	
Cochrane	H. F. Jarrett	Hon. C. W. Fisher
Coronation	Wilson	Whitesides
Didsbury	George Sexsmith	J. S. Stauffer
Edmonton (2)	F. J. Ewing	Hon. C. W. Cross
	W. A. Griesbach	A. G. McKay
Edmonton South	H. H. Crawford	Dr. A. C. Rutherford
Edson	H. H. Verge	Hon. C. W. Cross
Gleichen	G. McElroy	J. P. McArthur
Grouard	Travers	Cote
Hand Hills	Robertson	Capt. Eaton
Hight River	Dr. Stanley	R. McMillan
Innisfail	F. Archer	J. A. Simpson
Lacombe	A. N. McDonald	W. F. Puffer
Lac Ste Anne	Capt Barker	Peter Gunn
Leduc	G. Currie	J. S. Tobin
Lethbridge	Dr. J. S. Stewart	J. O. Jones (Lab.)
	Jos. Knight (Soc.)	
Taber	Mr. C. Ives	Hon. A. J. McLean
	T. E. Smith (Soc.)	
Little Bow	J. T. McDonald	J. McNaughton
	Bryant (Farm)	
	Budden (Soc.)	
Macleod	R. Patterson	Hon. A. L. Sifton
Medicine Hat	N. Spencer	Hon. C. R. Mitchell
Nanton	J. O. Cooper	J. Glendenning
Okotoks	G. Hoadley	J. A. Turner
Olds	G. Cloakey	Hon. D. Marshall
Peace River	* Lawrence	
Pembina	F. D. Armitage	McKearney
Pincher Creek	John Kemmis	Mouat
Ponoka	G. Gordon	Dr. W. A. Campbell
Redcliff	H. Gerow	E. S. Pingle
Red Deer	E. Michener	W. B. Walliver
Ribstone	W. J. Blair	J. G. Turgeon
Rocky Mountain	R. J. Campbell	Powell (Lab.)
	C. M. O'Brien (Soc.)	
Sedgewick	Watson	Hon. C. Stewart
Stettler	G. McMorris	R. L. Shaw
Stony Plain	C. Weidenhammer	J. A. McPherson
Sturgeon	J. D. Hyndman	Hon. J. R. Boyle
St. Albert	Hector Landry	Lucien Boudreau
St. Paul		P. E. Lessard
		Garneau
Vegreville	F. A. Morrison	Jas. McCallum
	P. Svarich (Gal.)	
Vermilion	J. G. Clarke	Hon. A. L. Sifton
	Krakiwski	
Victoria	Bennett	F. Walker
		Gowda (Gal.)
Wainwright	G. L. Hudson	J. Y. Pawling
Warner	Dr. Scott	Dr. Patton
		Leffingwell
Wetaskiwin	G. B. Campbell	C. H. Olin
Whitford	R. D. Hughson	Shandro
	Dr. Connolly (Ind.)	

* DEFERRED.

FRONTIERSMEN HOLD IMPORTANT MEETING

Hare and Hound Ride Proposed for Sunday, and Other Features Planned

At the regular monthly meeting of the Legion of Frontiersmen, several important matters concerning the present and future plans of the organization were brought up for discussion.

Arrangements have been made with one of the local tailoring firms whereby the uniforms for the troopers may be secured at a reasonable figure, and all those who are looking their essential kit were asked to take advantage of the new arrangement.

The sports committee selected consists of the following members; Captains Clifford and Peat; Lieutenants L'Amy, W. Emery and F. W. Miller; Sergeants St. Lo and B. Seed; Troopers Mattinson and N. S. Rankin. At a meeting of the committee later, Lieutenant L'Amy was elected chairman and Trooper Mattinson secretary. It was decided to hold a hare-and-hound ride on Sunday morning next, start to be made from the reservoir. It was suggested that the secretary call upon the local liveries with a view to obtaining a supply of mounts for those who were lacking at as low a rate as possible. It was also suggested that a sports day be held some time this summer at Victoria Park, and the matter is now under consideration.

At the meeting, Captain Royal occupied the chair, assisted by the honorary secretary, Mr. L. MacCausland. After the business had been disposed of, the remainder of the evening was devoted to a little entertainment which was furnished by some of the members.

OFFICIALS CONFER TO DISCUSS ANTI-ALIEN LAW OF CALIFORNIA

Washington, April 16.—Efforts to prevent friction between the United States and Japan over the proposed Japanese alien land-holding bill, were continued yesterday by President Wilson and Secretary Bryan in conferecne with Viscount Chinda, the Japanese ambassador. The ambassador called at the White House to talk with the president, and then proceeded to the state department to confer with Secretary Bryan. There is no announcement as to the nature of the conferences, but it was announced that the California problem was under discussion.

Without offending the people of California by an official interference with their legislative proceedings, the president and his secretary of state have unofficially conveyed to certain influential persons in California the hope that the projected legislation will not be permitted to take a form that would justify the Japanese government in asserting that it constituted a breach of the treaty obligations of the United States. The purposes of today's conference, it is understood, was to ascertain whether the senate bill as amended is still objectionable to Japan, and if so, in what respect. The ambassador is said to have indicated that further changes must be made in the bill before it can be said to be acceptable to Japan, and that these changes must take the form of amendments to place all aliens on even terms. The Japanese government contends the bill, in its present state, does not do this, in spite of the asertions of the promoters of the measure in the California senate that the discrimination contained in the first bill has been removed.

It was pointed out today that, as it stands, the bill would permit the subject of a European state to acquire land in California by the simple process of declaring his purpose to become a citizen of the United States, while the Japanese cannot acquire citizenship. It is admitted that it would be difficult to amend the measure to meet this objection without developing strenuous opposition from the large European colonies in California.

Assiniboine in Flood

High Bluff, Man., April 16.—Owing to the Assiniboine river overflowing its banks last night both the old and the new ferry were swept down the river.

PROTECTION AGAINST FRAUDULENT SOLICITORS

Board of Trade Takes Drastic Action to Prevent Swindling

To safeguard the business men of Calgary against any further operations of fakirs, Secretary Wilson, of the board of trade, has had printed a number of large placards which he is distributing to the various merchants and business men of the city for exhibition in conspicuous places where all "con" men may read and run.

Retailers of the city have been bothered quite frequently of late by solicitors representing themselves to be collectors for some seemingly worthy cause, and in many cases donations have been made to these men only to find out later that they were crooks and that the merchants had been swindled.

The course adopted by the board is intended to do away with all future schemes of the kind being perpetrated on the merchants.

SPEAKER INTERVENES; SAVES ROGERS FROM CENSURE MOTION

(Continued from Page 1.)

tion to adjourn. Speaker Sproule ruled that Mr. Oliver must confine his remarks to the matter under discussion.

Premier Borden said he had discussed the matter with the minister of public works, who was desirous that there should be no delay in connection with the bringing up of this matter. He would, therefore, consent to the house being moved into committee of supply on Thursday in order that it might be disposed of.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier repeated what he had said before recess, adding that when the navy bill is again considered and the adjournment of the house is moved, members will be permitted to discuss the bill itself.

After some further discussion on technical points, Mr. Oliver said that in view of the promise of the prime minister to have the house moved into committee of supply on Thursday, he would withdraw the motion to adjourn the house.

The debate on the closure was then continued by Hon. Charles Murphy, Mr. Verville Mr. Lapointe of Kamouraska, Mr. Gauthier of Ste. Hyacinthe, and Mr. Thompson of Qu'Appelle.

Mr. Geo. McCraney, of Saskatoon, in resuming the debate on the closure resolution, laid particular stress on the proposal to prevent the discussion of grievances when the house was being moved into committee of supply on Thursdays and Fridays. The premier had today assured the house that the opposition would have every opportunity of making motions of censure. He did not desire to speak offensively, but in view of what had happened this session he would rather depend on explicit rules than on the sufferance of the government. An attempt was being made to make the rights of the members of parliament a matter of favor.

Mr. McCraney drew attention to the fact that the majority of motions on going into supply are moved towards the end of a session because they are based on returns brought down by the government. The curtailment of the number of days on which such motions may be discussed must mean that such debates will have to take place early in the session. If the prime minister is going to do all he says, remarked Mr. McCraney, why not allow the ventilation of grievances on going into supply? The only experience Mr. Borden has had of the working of the present rule was when the Liberals were in power. If that rule was abused it was the Conservatives who did it.

Some Cases in Point.

Mr. McCraney then gave a couple of instances of how he had, as the result of prompt action, been able to render good service to his constituents. Last session Thomas Lawrence, of Hanley, wrote to him complaining of grain congestion owing to lack of cars. At ten minutes to six Friday evening when the house was going into supply he drew the matter to the attention of Hon. Geo. Foster. The minister received the complaint sympathetically and took the matter up with the railways with the result that the cars were supplied and the blockade relieved. Similarly, when the C. P. R. decided to change the time of the town of Broderick he had been able as a result of discussion in the house to prevent this being done in accordance with the desires of the people. The proposed changes in the rules would make it impossible for him, and other members to render such services. The prime minister should certainly withdraw his proposal to prevent the discussion of grievances in the house. The only possible grievance the government can have against the opposition is in regard to the navy bill. Why not, therefore, limit the remedy proposed to that bill, if acting in good faith the government could so limit it? The manner of the introduction of the closure resolution indicated a lack of good faith and a desire on the part of the government to use it for other measures than the navy bill.

Naval Bill Debate Justified.

Mr. McCraney contended that the long discussion on the naval bill was justified. The prime minister, introducing the bill, had appealed to no less than three divisions in his party and a long discussion was necessary in order to find out where that policy would lead. He invited the leader of the government to resume continuous sittings of the house, saying that it was a good thing for the opposition. Mr. McCraney then referred to the circumstance under which the amendments to the navy bill were ruled out after two weeks' discussion. "What kind of leadership is this he asked.

The member for Saskatoon then reviewed briefly the occasions on which obstruction had occurred in the house. On no occasion, he said, had a government going to the country after obstruction on the part of the opposition come back with a majority. In 1898 and 1908 when there were obstructions but no election the opposition had secured important modifications of the legislation objected to. He would commend the good sense and fair play shown by Sir John Macdonald and Sir Wilfrid Laurier to the attention of the premier.

Mr. McCraney concluded by describing the proposed rules as an outrage on the people, being perpetrated by the government, which was afraid to go to the people.

Hon. Frank Oliver then moved the adjournment of the house, but Mr. Arthur Meighen took exception on the score that he had taken part in the debate and could not move the adjournment. The speaker ruled the point well taken.

Mr. Fred Pardee, the chief Liberal whip, then attempted to move the adjournment but was prevented from doing so because he moved the adjournment on Monday night.

Hon. Dr. Beland then rose and stated that he would speak to the resolution and move the adjournment when he was through. He said that this attempt to put through closure had aroused public opinion both in the United Kingdom and Canada. The press and the people are divided, and there has arisen a clamor for a general election. To claim that the government could introduce rules not capable of amendment was to claim perfection. The action of the government he described as desperate. Three courses were open—one to withdraw the bill; another to amend it, and another to appeal to the people. Today, he said, the government is face to face with a situation which must ultimately force an election. They have tried to meet it by introduction of closure during the course of a heated debate on a subject on which the country is divided. The introduction of the proposed rules, he said, would mean that the rights of the minorities, whether Protestant or Catholic, French, German, Irish or Scotch, might be shut off at any time by the use of the gag. This was the most autocratic power ever placed in the hands of a government of a civilized country. A government finding itself in a narrow position had made an appeal to Mr. Arthur Meighen, of Portage La Prairie, because of his address and legal attainments to demonstrate that something that was black is white. He would call the attention of the government to Edmund Burke, who had once said: "A British subject is the unfittest person on earth to argue another British subject into slavery."

Cause of Closure Resolution

The naval bill, said Dr. Beland, was the cause of the closure resolution. Why not, therefore, withdraw the bill which would obviate all necessity for the closure, and later have a general revision of the rules? He quoted from Bourinot, arguing that it was irregular for Mr. Northrup to have challenged the right of the leader of the opposition to speak since the premier had concluded his speech and the leader of the opposition had been recognized by the chair.

Moves Adjournment

The member for Beauce reviewed at length the various stages of the naval emergency, as he termed it, and declared that the real emergency was not in the North Sea, but in the house itself. The Liberal resistance was popular throughout the country, because it directed against the naval proposal which deals not only with naval defence, but involves a notable change in the relations of Canada to the mother country. Yesterday the great struggle had been over Canadian autonomy; today it was over free speech, and in their actions the opposition had fulfilled a great patriotic duty. In concluding his speech he moved the adjournment of the debate.

Point of Order Raised

This gave Hon. Frank Oliver the opportunity he was seeking to bring forward the Prince Albert land matter. He was no sooner started than the speaker ruled that he was out of order in bringing up the subject in this way and at this time. A long discussion of the points of order thus raised occupied the house until six o'clock.

Hon. Frank Oliver and Hon. Charles Murphy moved that the granting for homestead purposes of a certain section of land in the vicinity of Prince Albert to Arthur Donaldson was in violation of the rules and practice of the department of interior; that Hon. Robert Rogers was minister of the interior when this was done, and that Hon. Robert Rogers should receive the censure of the house.

The speaker took the printed motion and ruled that it was out of order, because two days' notice had not been given prior to the moving of it in the house.

"Under what circumstances would the motion be in order?" asked Mr. Oliver.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said there was no doubt as to the right of a member to move the adjournment. The only question is as to what can be debated. He thought that the member who moved the adjournment should be allowed to give his reasons. The opposition were struggling to retain their privileges. He would remind the government that during the continuous sessions the chairman ruled that when an adjournment motion was being discussed no reference be made to the naval bill. Now it was ruled that the discussion must be confined to the matter under consideration. The opposition wanted to know that when consideration of the naval bill is concluded they will be allowed to speak on other matters.

Premier Borden said that when the changes in the rules were made three years ago, Sir Wilfrid Laurier had taken the view that there was a distinct difference in the effect of an adjournment motion when a debate is in progress and when it is not in progress. He did not deem it advisable to interject another subject into the midst of the debate. Mr. Oliver could have brought this matter up two weeks ago when the house was moved into committee of supply.

Mr. Oliver said that the necessary information had not then been brought down.

Mr. Borden accepted the explanation, and said that as it was six o'clock the house might rise and the speaker could further consider the matter.

"We are only to have Thursdays and Fridays," said Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Hon. Wm. Pugsley asked leave to discuss the point, but the speaker refused. Mr. Pugsley declared that it was a question of enormous importance.

"In view of the amendments of the house," said he, "if Mr. Speaker's ruling in this matter is sustained, members will be debarred from motions of this kind."

Mr. Speaker persisted, "I have ruled and given reasons."

Premier Borden said that the motion would be in order on the first occasion the house went into supply. There would be as many opportunities for motions of this kind as there were departments in the government. After the debate on the resolution before the house was completed, an early opportunity would be given for Mr. Oliver's motion to be discussed.

"Only upon consent of the house," interposed Mr. Pugsley.

"That means consent of the majority."

"In my opinion it means unanimous consent," said the speaker.

After recess Premier Borden agreed to have the house moved into committee of supply tomorrow in order that the Prince Albert matter might be discussed and the closure debate was continued.

Hon. Mr. Murphy said that the great bulk of the business in the American house of representatives was done in committee when closure could not be applied. Premier Borden's rule provided for the introduction of closure even when the house was in committee.

Worse Than British Closure

"Bad as the British closure rule may be," he said, "this will be infinitely worse." The rule invoked to silence. Sir Wilfrid Laurier had never cashed it into force even against the most obscure members. In 1886 when the "previous question" had been moved in the house one of the actors in the spectacle was a member who was known as the Buffon of the house. The other was a minister of the crown who was afterwards driven from office in disgrace. Ever since Sir Wilfrid had been elected leader of the Liberal party he had led it. But it was different with the prime minister. He led his party only in spells. The rest of the time he surrendered the leadership to the minister of public works.

Mr. Murphy said that the prime minister had bee na party to a plot to prevent Sir Wilfrid Laurier from speaking. He read from a statement Mr. Churchill made about Mr. Balfour to the effect that his actions were disgraceful for a minister of the crown.

The speaker ruled the reference out of order.

"I bow to your ruling," said Mr. Murphy, "and will have much pleasure in informing the speaker of the British house that what is permissable there is not allowable in this house."

Labor Member Protests

Mr. Verville said that on behalf of his Laborite constituents of Maisonneuve he protested against the proposed rules. After this no man of common sense would have an ounce of confidence in the government. At any moment the minister of public works might bring in a measure to take away more of the rights of the members. "We boast about our democracy," said Mr. Verville, "but if this legislation is democratic, then I do not want to be a democrat."

"We hoped to have an opportunity to tell the workmen of St. John about the prominent part Mr. Hazen had taken introducing these rules. He also expected to tell the Halifax people about Mr. Borden. "and I assure you, Mr. Speaker, that I shall not be gagged in those cities. I have learned Mr. Speaker, that after you have given a member of this side the flo