

STREET RAILWAY DEVELOPMENTS

Montreal Company Seeks to Have Control Taken Out of Hands of City Council.

Willing to Surrender Franchise and Enter Into New Contract—Hot Fight Expected.

Quebec, Feb. 20.—A surprise was presented to the legislature today when a bill was introduced providing for the amalgamation of the Montreal Street Railway and three suburban lines which the company now controls. This, however, is the least important feature of the bill. The Montreal Street Railway has been negotiating with the city recently for an extension of its franchise, but up to the present very little progress has been made. To avoid the possibility of failure to reach an agreement the bill provides that if at the end of a limited time, which is placed at five weeks, the city and the company have been unable to come to an agreement, the entire matter of a new franchise for the city and its suburbs is to be placed in the hands of the Quebec Public Utilities Commission with power to make a contract with the company in the city's behalf. The commission on all matters pertaining to the contract to be binding. In bringing about the amalgamation of the four companies, it is provided in the bill, that the Public Utilities Commission shall have the right to fix the terms so as to prevent the watering of stock. Furthermore two of the suburban companies are under federal charters and it is provided that these shall be given up and the companies placed under control of the commission. The Montreal Street Railway Company was recently acquired by new interests and they are desirous of securing a long term franchise for the four companies under federal charters, and placing the stock on the British market. To this end they are prepared to give up the contracts already existing, some of which have forty years yet to run. The feature of the bill taking the matter out of the hands of the city council, is apt to lead to a hot fight.

3,000 JOIN IN STRIKE ON N.Y. CENTRAL

Machinists Join 800 Boiler-makers And Conflict Is Expected To Be Bitter One—Company Issues Statement.

Cleveland, Ohio, Feb. 20.—The strike of the boilermakers in the shops of the New York Central railroad lines, which began today, has the sympathy of the machinists and blacksmiths employed in the shops, according to a statement issued today giving the railroad's side of the dispute. Over 2,000 mechanics and blacksmiths will walk out in sympathy. Vice-President Weyand, of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers of the strike, claims that about 800 boilermakers and helpers struck today. The average wage for piecework at the Collingwood shops during January, was 47.06 cents per hour, as against 35 cents made by the day workers. At Elkhart the pieceworkers made 49 cents an hour, and the day workers 35 cents. Our pay rolls will verify these figures. "Engine house boilermakers, except that they are union men, were not concerned in the controversy at piecework was not attempted in the engine houses. They are going out purely in sympathy with the dissatisfied day workers, who are influenced by the heads of the brotherhood." "I am delighted to know," said the President, "that Brother Bridges comes to us not panicked for war, but for peace. He does not look forward to annexation nor the drying-up of the St. John River, nor has he any of those dreams which afflict certain people with lively imaginations some of whom are only innocent, and others who have a little different motive from that of territorial aggrandizement." "Talks of independence. The president's remarks were greeted with laughter. He spoke of the summers he spent in Canada, saying: "I have come to know the people of Canada, to understand their aspirations, and their belief in their independence and their future as an independent government. We have Alaska, we have Porto Rico, we have the Philippines—Heaven knows, we have enough; and before we look out for other burdens and responsibilities, let us show the world we can meet perfectly those we have. "I am convinced that this agreement will be for the good of both countries, but I am not the whole thing, neither is the lower house. There is a great, a dignified body at one end of the capital that moves with due deliberation, sometimes it seems as if it were too dignified and too deliberate to reach any conclusion on anything, but in the hundred years during which this lodge has existed, laws have been passed in the senate, and being a true Mason, I am an optimist. I have every hope that the issue may be properly determined. I speak with due moderation, I would hurry no one, but time passes and a stiller in time saves nine." Delegates were present at the banquet from grand lodges in various parts of the country and among them were many past grand masters and high officers of the order. Washington, Feb. 20.—Hearings on the McCall bill to carry out the provisions of the Canadian reciprocity agreement, were begun today by the Senate committee on finance. During the forenoon the only witness was John Strange of Nevada, Wis., a paper manufacturer and former lieutenant governor of his state. Mr. Strange opposed the bill in vigorous language, charging that false sentiment in favor of it had been manufactured by a league of newspapers, sited to its attacks upon newspapers and other organizations which favor the agreement. Mr. Strange's statement contained the following arguments:—"That the United States has no more need for Canadian pulp wood than it has for Canadian disease germs; that source is not necessary to paper mak-

TAFT FOLLOWS R. BRIDGES IN ADDRESS ON RECIPROCITY



JOHN BULL—"Never mind what Uncle Johnny says, but stick to your old daddy."

President, Speaking to Masonic Banquet, Attended by St. John Delegate, Expresses Confidence That Two Nations will Draw Together—Sees Witness Characterizes Arguments in Favor as Conglomerate Mass of Nonsense.

Washington, Feb. 20.—"I really believe that with the consummation of the Canadian reciprocity agreement, there will be a drawing together of two great nations; but a drawing together by closer business and social relations and not by political union," declared President Taft tonight at the centennial celebration banquet of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the District of Columbia. The President followed Henry S. Bridges, grand master of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, who spoke of the good will of Canadians toward the United States in the Canadian reciprocity negotiations. "I am delighted to know," said the President, "that Brother Bridges comes to us not panicked for war, but for peace. He does not look forward to annexation nor the drying-up of the St. John River, nor has he any of those dreams which afflict certain people with lively imaginations some of whom are only innocent, and others who have a little different motive from that of territorial aggrandizement." "Talks of independence. The president's remarks were greeted with laughter. He spoke of the summers he spent in Canada, saying: "I have come to know the people of Canada, to understand their aspirations, and their belief in their independence and their future as an independent government. We have Alaska, we have Porto Rico, we have the Philippines—Heaven knows, we have enough; and before we look out for other burdens and responsibilities, let us show the world we can meet perfectly those we have. "I am convinced that this agreement will be for the good of both countries, but I am not the whole thing, neither is the lower house. There is a great, a dignified body at one end of the capital that moves with due deliberation, sometimes it seems as if it were too dignified and too deliberate to reach any conclusion on anything, but in the hundred years during which this lodge has existed, laws have been passed in the senate, and being a true Mason, I am an optimist. I have every hope that the issue may be properly determined. I speak with due moderation, I would hurry no one, but time passes and a stiller in time saves nine." Delegates were present at the banquet from grand lodges in various parts of the country and among them were many past grand masters and high officers of the order. Washington, Feb. 20.—Hearings on the McCall bill to carry out the provisions of the Canadian reciprocity agreement, were begun today by the Senate committee on finance. During the forenoon the only witness was John Strange of Nevada, Wis., a paper manufacturer and former lieutenant governor of his state. Mr. Strange opposed the bill in vigorous language, charging that false sentiment in favor of it had been manufactured by a league of newspapers, sited to its attacks upon newspapers and other organizations which favor the agreement. Mr. Strange's statement contained the following arguments:—"That the United States has no more need for Canadian pulp wood than it has for Canadian disease germs; that source is not necessary to paper mak-

GOVERNMENT IN MANITOBA OPPOSES PACT

Winnipeg, Feb. 20.—The Manitoba government came out flat footed against the reciprocity in the legislature tonight and advocated in its place imperial preference and the free extension of trade within the Empire. Hon. Robert Rogers moved the amendment to the resolution of the opposition leader, T. C. Norris, favoring the present agreement, and asking for its immediate adoption, and the minister of public works went on record in uncompromising hostility to it with apparently the solid support of the government bench behind him. Norris claimed that there was no need to be frightened at the idea of free wheat. These Canadian railroads could compete with the Great Northern and it to do this they had to reduce their rates, so much the better for the farmer. As for annexation, it was more logical to think that Canada would annex the United States. Mr. Rogers in moving the government amendment, declared that the bonds of Empire should be strengthened. They should follow along the lines of development of the past 45 years, and build up inter-provincial trade. "We are bartering away our national liberty and fiscal freedom," he said. Before the adjournment of the debate Premier Roblin was drawn into the discussion. "We stand," he declared, "for a greater Canada, and we resist the encroachments of President Taft. The Liberals want to destroy what it has taken forty years to build up."

P. E. I. CONNECTION URGED IN HOUSE

2 DROWN FROM N.S. SCHOONER IN DISTRESS

Dorymen Lose Lives By Capsizing Of Their Craft—The Cavalier Drifts About With Lone Mainsail.

Boston, Mass., Feb. 20.—The men lost by the Gloucester schooner Cavalier, as announced by wireless from the revenue cutter Androscoquin, were Camos Bobbin, of Arichat, C. B. and John Proper of Guysboro, N. S. Particulars of the schooner's troubles were received from the Androscoquin this afternoon in a wireless message which stated that an officer from the cutter boarded the schooner today and learned that on January 23 last, one of the schooner's dories was found capsized, containing the body of Bobbin. The body of the other doryman, Proper was not recovered. On Feb. 17th about 70 miles north-east of Cape Sable during a heavy north-northeast gale, the Cavalier lost all her spars except the stump of the mainmast and the main boom with all the gear, except a lone mainsail. The gale lasted until the 14th and during this time she drifted to a position about 150 miles southeast of Cape Sable. During the calm spells, the Cavalier rigged storm trysails and storm staysails under which she was attempting to make port when sighted by the Androscoquin. Her hull is in good condition. All on board are well.

Mr. Warburton Warns Government that C. P. R. May Drain Island Province for U.S. Trade

Representatives Cannot Agree on Most Suitable Route -- Mr. Brodeur Not Encouraging.

Ottawa, Feb. 20.—Tatamagouche was the main subject of debate in the House today. Mr. Warburton moved his annual resolution for papers on the Tatamagouche-Charlottetown route between P. E. I. and the mainland and his annual speech in advocacy of it. He said one interesting thing: The Canadian Pacific now has the Dominion Atlantic Railway from Yarmouth to Truro and a steamer line from Yarmouth to Boston. The building of a 35 mile link to Tatamagouche and the putting of a steamer line would enable the Canadian Pacific to drain the products of Prince Edward Island off to Boston and leave the intercolonial abandoned and bereft of trade. Therefore he would have the intercolonial build the link and establish the line and rescue itself. Mr. Richards advocated the Summerside and Cape Tormentine route. Mr. Fraser defended the existing Georgetown and Picou route, so did E. M. MacDonald, who declared that Tatamagouche harbor had only two or three feet of water. Mr. Prowse sided with Mr. Warburton. Mr. Chisholm of Antigonish, advocated the claims of another mainland port, Ballantyne's Cove, in Antigonish. Mr. Brodeur answered, chiefly dwelling on improvements to the service. He was reluctant to order another test-breaker until additional experience had been obtained with the one in use.

KELLY'S HOT UNDER COLLAR

Never Made Five Cents Out of Graft In His Life—Didn't Have To, And Is Real Cross About The Matter.

Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 20.—"I never made a five cent piece out of graft in any party in all my life," Robert Kelly concluded his evidence this morning before the Public Utilities Commission, by flinging back in the teeth of those who made the charges of graft against himself and the Liberal party. "I want to say to you," Mr. Kelly said to the commission, "that I, Robert Kelly, never made a five cent piece out of graft in this party or in any other. I defy any man to make that charge against me, and put it to the proof. Of course, I am treasurer of the Liberal Association and handle the funds, but when it comes down to saying that I took a cent piece for getting a man a job, or made any graft answer that I have not done so. I have not got to make money in that way. As for offering a judgeship for sale, I defy Mr. Martin or any other man on the face of the earth to substantiate that charge. Let any man put it down in black and white, and I will make him prove it if he is worth going after. "I have been slandered by this bunch and called everything. When I came back from California, I thought I was a horse thief and when I was down there it was said I had skipped out. I would run away from no one. I have gone into business and I am prosperous. I came here, with a couple of hundred dollars and was working hard building up a business when Mr. Joseph Martin was flying around Victoria in a hawk with his friends. At this point Justice Murray intervened.

STATE UNIVERSITY NOT FOR MANITOBA

Provincial Government Will Not Consider Proposition In Abstract, And Considers It Impracticable.

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 20.—The Telegram, speaking apparently with the approval of the provincial government says that nothing will be done at the present session of the legislature with regard to a state university. It goes further and says that the government will not consider the state university proposition in abstract under any consideration. This announcement follows an interview with members of the University Council and with the government today. The Telegram adds that the proposition can be dismissed as impracticable under the conditions obtaining in Manitoba. The government will modify and assist the present university when any changes are agreed to by the respective colleges which are affiliated.

SERIOUS WRECK OF ACCOMMODATION TRAIN

Thirteen Freight And Two Passenger Cars Leave Track On I. C. R., Although None Are Injured.

Pictou, N. S., Feb. 20.—The afternoon I. C. R. train from Pictou to Oxford Junction met with a serious mishap today. Near Munro's Sliding, two and a half miles this side of River John, something caused the whole train of fifteen cars to leave the track, the engine alone remaining on the rails. Thirteen of the cars were freight and two passenger coaches. No person was hurt, although the passenger cars are in rather bad shape. The freight cars are badly wrecked, many of them were laden with perishable food products from Prince Edward Island. The mishap will not be cleared for a day or two.

FIRE EXTINGUISHED. Windsor, Feb. 20.—The fire before reported in the cargo of the Russian steamer Lithania, arrived here from Baltimore, has been extinguished.

T. H. SCHWITZER GETS LAST JOB

Graduate Of McGill, Who Has Worked In The United States Navy, Chosen Mechanical Supt. In Ottawa Department

Ottawa, Feb. 20.—The last of the important technical positions at the printing bureau has been filled by the appointment of T. H. Schwitzer, as mechanical superintendent.

TRADESMEN GO ON STRIKE

Naples, Feb. 20.—The small tradesmen here have gone on strike as a protest against the measures taken to limit emigration to the United States on account of the cholera. It is hoped that this will have the result of making the authorities take some action looking to the withdrawal of the restrictions.

DEFAT MOTION TO MEMORIALIZE HAYS

London City Council Does Not Believe In Efficacy Of This Method—Boycott Of G.T.R. Advocated.

SEND WARSHIP WITH PURPOSE

Kiel, Germany, Feb. 20.—The new German cruiser Von Der Tann, will sail tomorrow for a month's visit to South American ports.

HARBOR DEVELOPMENT IN CUBA ASSURED

Yavana, Feb. 20.—President Comas today signed the bill which passed Congress Feb. 15, granting to the "Compania De Puertos de Cuba" a thirty years concession to dredge

PATIENT SHOCKED WITH ELECTRICITY

City Of St. Thomas Will Be Sued As Result Of Peculiar Accident—Current Suddenly Expands.

St. Thomas, Ont., Feb. 20.—The city will be made defendant in a peculiar damage suit as a result of an accident which occurred in Dr. Lipsey's office today. He was treating a patient with electrical apparatus, when the current, normally of 500 volts, became suddenly much stronger through the hydraulic electric staff conducting a test. The incandescent lamps were blown out, the doctor scratched, and the patient had his neck burned.

MR. STRATTON

Man Whose Political Career Was Wrecked By Gamey Charges, Pleads Innocence Of Farmer's Bank Affair.

Peterboro, Ont., Feb. 20.—Hon. J. R. Stratton has issued a statement in connection with the Farmers' Bank case, in which he explicitly denies any participation in the negotiations upon which the conspiracy charge now being tried are based. "In no manner, shape or form, direct or indirect," he says, "had I anything to do, nor did I assist in doing, anything in connection with the promotion or the organization of the Farmers' Bank. I have no conversation with any of the provisional or subsequent directors of the Farmers' Bank."

CAMMORRIST TRIAL IN APRIL

Viterbo, Italy, Feb. 20.—The trial of the Cammorrists, of whom Enrico Alfano, or "Erricene" is the chief, for the murder of Genaro Cuccolo and his wife in 1906, is expected to begin on March 11, if not unforeseen circumstances arise to cause a postponement. The trial will last about six months. In the meantime the accused Cammorrists are imprisoned in the monastery of Gradi under a heavy guard.

CHARLES H. WILSON

Medford, Mass., Feb. 20.—Charles H. Wilson, general manager of the United Shoe Machinery Company, died at his home in West Medford tonight of pneumonia. He was 53 years of age, and leaves a widow and one son.