

Laurier Fears to Face People on the Reciprocity Question; Declines Mr. Borden's Challenge

More Liberals Place Their Country's Welfare Ahead of Their Party Ties and Refuse to Sanction Fielding's Unpatriotic Proposals—Interesting Day in House.

Mr. Borden Defies Sir Wilfrid to Postpone all Further Discussion Until the Whole Matter Can be Referred to the Country, but Laurier Refuses.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, March 8.—This has been a crowded day. Mr. Borden challenged the government in view of the setback received by reciprocity in the United States Congress to suspend discussion and hold an election on the subject. The government refused, a division took place, and on the vote it lost two men, Mr. Sifton and Lloyd Harris. Mr. German was not in the House when the vote occurred. None of the opposition bolted. Mr. Gilbert, the Nationalist voted with it. Immediately afterwards Lloyd Harris formally announced his defection in a speech marked by careful preparation and much practical knowledge of business conditions.

Charges Laurier With Bad Faith. Incidentally, Mr. Harris made a very direct charge of bad faith against Sir Wilfrid Laurier. He had been deluged with letters and other communications from persons who were apprehensive lest something of the sort was about to be done. He had been assured that there would be no tariff revision without investigation by a commission, and had, on the strength of these, told those who spoke to him that they need have no fear.

Mr. Fielding laid down the extraordinary doctrine that our very procedure was settled for us in Washington. It is not our duty, it is not for us to take a vote of the people. "Our honor as a young nation is pledged to the United States, to keep parliament at the subject, to force it through parliament, to refuse to consult the people of Canada. Not only have we entered into close commercial relations, but our very consideration of the subject, our very behavior in our own parliament are under American control.

Mr. Fielding declared definitely that the House will be kept at the question day in and day out. Mr. Borden's Amendment. Such are the developments of the debate which, occupying the afternoon took place upon an amendment on the motion to go into committee of ways and means, for the purpose of continuing the regular debate. Mr. Borden's amendment was: "That the reciprocal agreement embodied in the resolutions submitted to the House by the Minister of Finance on the 26th of January last, was also submitted on the same day by special message of the president to the congress of the United States of America which was then in session.

Mr. Borden said that the situation was: (1)—The Laurier Government proposed to renew the standing statutory offer of reciprocity kept on our statute book for nearly 20 years, taken off the statute book 14 years ago. (2)—The United States congress had declined to carry out the proposals, the ensuing congress would be largely democratic, and its attitude was uncertain. Thus Canada was to pass the Washington tariff, the standing offer and wait the pleasure of the United States as she had during the 20 years between 1866 and 1897.

Was that wise? Was that dignified? "I respectfully submit," said Mr. Borden "that the time has come when we should wear out no more shoe-leather. "It is now the turn of the United States to wear out some of their shoe-leather in coming to this country for reciprocity if they want it." Opposed to Secret Tariffs. "Is anything to be lost by holding our hands?" He asked what was the programme of the Democratic party. Surely it was the enactment of a lower tariff. What had Champ Clark said. He had declared that the new house of representatives would "pass a tariff bill" that would largely take the place of this bill, of the Fielding-Knox agreement.

Surely it was inopportune for the government to enter into the treaty of the very eve of the revision of the American tariff. Surely such a moment was inopportune for putting a second standing offer on the Canadian statute book. "I am opposed to any system of secret tariffs. I am opposed to any system of making by convention with another country, tariffs which cannot be altered in this parliament."

YORK COUNTY WILL NOT WAIT FOR BIG SHOW IS READY FOR BY-ELECTION

Local Government Party Will Hold Convention in Fredericton to Choose Successor to Late Mr. Robison. Canadian Bisley Team Will Not Remain in England for Coronation—To Sail June 23rd.

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, March 8.—At a meeting of the executive of the provincial government party in York county, held in this city this afternoon, at which Hon. George Colter presided, it was decided to issue a call for a convention of the party to be held in this city on Wednesday, the 15th of March, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon at the County Court House for the purpose of selecting a candidate to contest the county if a by-election is called on to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the late Thomas Robison, M. P. F., whose sudden death at his home at Harvey was such a blow to his friends.

The party is always well organized in this county, and ready to go into an election in any county with a larger majority than ever, if the opposition have the courage to put up a candidate. No government ever stood higher in the opinion of the people of York county than the Hazen administration. The first reception held by Lieutenant Governor and Mrs. Tweeddale this session was largely attended at the Queen Hotel today.

NATURAL GAS FOR MONCTON

Moncton, N. B., March 8.—Thomas A. Walton, who worked in the new I. C. R. board as a section man, was found by a fellow employee about 9 o'clock this morning leaning over a box and in an unconscious condition. He was removed to his home where he died this afternoon, death being due to a hemorrhage of the brain. He was 33 years of age.

BIG INFLEX TO CANADA

Halifax, N. S., March 8.—Five ocean steamers arrive in Halifax this week with land 3,109 passengers who will become settlers in Canada. The whole of them destined for the Northwest. The Sicilian will have 1,431; the Virginius, 1,431; the Canadian, 1,163; and the Sardinian from Rotterdam with 139.

TO GET TIPS IN ENGLAND

Ottawa, March 8.—The annual meeting of the executive of the union of Canadian municipalities was held here this morning, Mayor J. A. Chisholm of Halifax, the president, being in the chair. On invitation of the British Company, which is forming garden cities in the British Isles, it was decided to send a delegation to visit some of the cities.

MR. SPROUL CONCLUDES A TELLING SPEECH AND THE HOUSE PASSES ADDRESS

Member for Kings Forcibly Answers Criticism and Presents the Record of the Hazen Government's Capable Administration of Provincial Affairs.

Increased Expenditures for all Public Services, and Better Results Shown in all Departments—Every Pledge Made Before Election Has Been Kept.

Fredericton, Mar. 8.—About midnight the House passed the address in reply to the speech from the throne, just one week having passed since the session opened. The longest speech on the address was made by Mr. Sproul, of Kings, and it was in many ways one of the best speeches heard in the House in recent years.

Mr. Sproul commenced his speech on Tuesday night, continued it this afternoon and concluded it this evening speaking in all for about three hours and a half. He covered an unusually wide range of subjects in a well thought out speech, during the course of which he was frequently interrupted by outbursts of applause from the government benches as he scolded the opposition and their scurrilous press and pointed out the great good accruing to the province from the administration of affairs by the present government.

THE SUPREME COURT CASES

Two New Brunswick Land Cases Taken Up Before the Supreme Court, at Ottawa, Yesterday.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Mar. 8.—In the supreme court today the appeals from the Maritime Provinces were taken up, the first case heard being the King vs. Jones on appeal from the exchequer court.

The attorney general of Canada has filed an information alleging that land in Moncton, N. B., had been taken by the Transcontinental railway commissioners for purposes of the Transcontinental railway and asked for a declaratory decree that \$550 was sufficient compensation to the owner (respondent). The latter objected to this amount and claimed \$1,900.

When the case came before the court at Moncton, the exchequer court judge expressed a doubt as to his jurisdiction and directed that the point should be argued at Ottawa, which was done, the respondent not appearing.

The result of this argument was that the information was dismissed for want of jurisdiction in the court to decide thereon. The ground on which the exchequer court judge proceeded was that in the act providing for the construction of the eastern division of the Transcontinental railway by commissioners, the provisions of the railway act were made applicable, and that the determination of value of lands taken for that railway should be by arbitration under the railway act.

Newcombe, K. C., deputy minister of justice, argued the question of jurisdiction for the respondent. He contended that the decision in the exchequer court, the respondent was not represented. Judgment was reserved.

er been so seriously at fault as his predecessors, Doctor though he might be, he had not yet committed the blunder of imposing wethers for breeding purposes. Every step taken by the department up to the time of the present government assuming power, was attended with but really successful results and otherwise. The importation of horses, cattle and sheep alike proved disastrous from a financial standpoint and all importations except 1908 did not have a net loss equal to the loss on any one importation by the old government.

Where Mr. Copp Gets His. His hon. friend in the course of his remarks had pointed out the necessity of proper technical training for any one undertaking any work and he would ask the hon. gentleman what technical training in bridge work he himself had to fit him to represent the department of public works at \$20 per day and expenses on an arbitration concerning claims for references to bridges in 1905-06 when he soaked the province to the extent of \$378 when the whole matter in dispute was regarding several unimportant bridges.

The hon. gentleman might enjoy a good reputation as a lawyer, but he knew no more about bridge building than a South African ape knows about snowballing.

To Encourage Poultry Raising. In reference to appointment of Mr. Seth Jones, as an expert in poultry raising, he believed he was first to suggest that gentlemen to the commissioner of agriculture and he did so with knowledge of his ability in that line, and in which he had made marked success and also upon representation of a leading Liberal of Kings county, himself a poultry breeder.

Every year there was a marked and rapidly increasing amount of poultry in the local markets which farmers were unable to supply and will continue to be unable to meet so long as the old system is adhered to. It was in this particular work that the department had made great headway.

When this government appointed an expert in fruit growing, members of the Opposition demanded a referendum and asked why they had gone outside the province for a man and now they were displeased because a native of the province who was qualified had been appointed poultry expert.

Fruit Growing. Enthusiasm exhibited by the fruit growers at the splendid success achieved at the apple show in St. John showed very plainly that the department of agriculture had got in touch with the fruit producers.

But in order to belittle any credit which might accrue to the government because they assisted the fruit growers to make a great success in their venture, his hon. friend proceeded to put up a man of straw and then have the pleasure of demolishing it. The government cannot claim any credit for what he had done.

He was not aware that any person had claimed credit to the government for planting the trees from which that most magnificent display of apples was picked, but what the department of agriculture did, instead of standing still and knowing the possibilities of New Brunswick as a fruit growing district, was to encourage and assist fruit growing in holding that show.

That show revealed to our own people and to the outside world, the fact that here in New Brunswick it was possible to produce fruit which could hold its own in any market in the world.

The old government had planted 27 illustration orchards in the province, ten of which had been abandoned. Would his hon. friend from Westmorland state how many of these were seen at St. John or elsewhere that came from those orchards? He was informed that only one illustration orchard was represented at the fruit show in St. John and that by only a few apples.

The Immigration Policy. If there were any subjects that should be discussed fairly and without the intervention of partisan politics those subjects were education, agriculture and immigration, and yet the hon. gentleman opposite cannot advert to these matters without displaying the most fervid party spirit.

For many years under the old government an immigration agent was employed at London who kept an office open there and that was about all that was accomplished for immigration. When the new government came into power they sought to infuse some life into the immigration policy. Other provinces of the Dominion and other colonies of Great Britain were making a greater success of the business than was New Brunswick. This government began a more vigorous course of action. The location of its offices in London was changed and generally the dry rot which had fastened upon the work was eliminated.

The Live Stock Importations. In discussing the several importations of live stock, he had omitted to mention that no importation ever received such scathing and unjust criticism from an opposition as did the importation of thoroughbred horses. When that importation was made it met with a howl of disapproval from the opponents of the government, a