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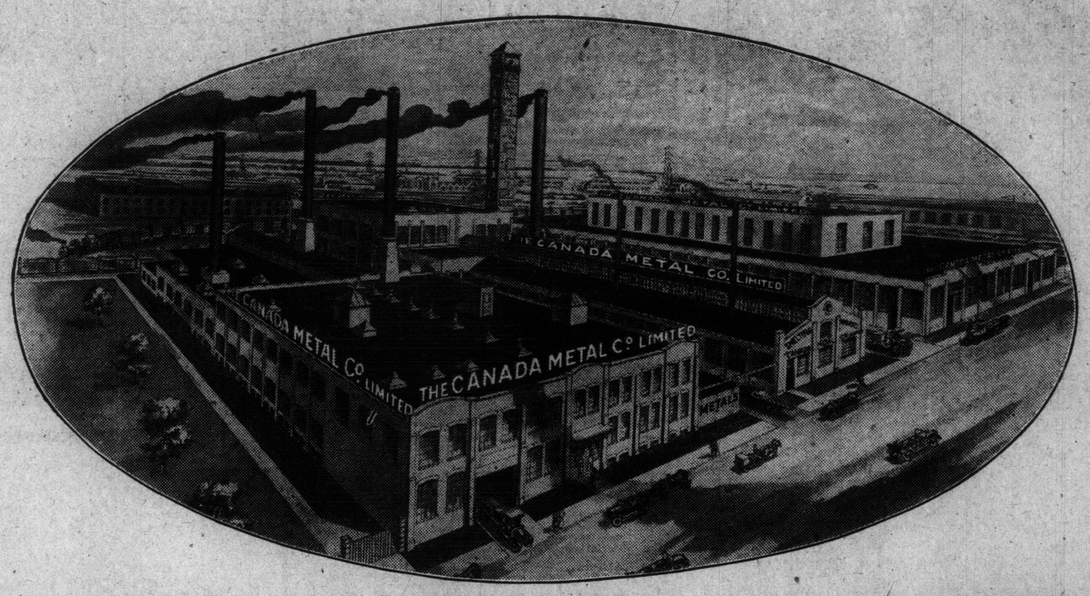

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ROGERS' VIRTUES FULLY DISCUSSED

McLeod-Tellier Report Subject of Debate in the Commons.

WOULD PASS ACCOUNT

Matter Comes Up When Funds Are Asked to Pay Expenses.

By a Staff Reporter.

Ottawa, Sept. 1.—The house of commons spent the entire sitting Saturday afternoon discussing the McLeod-Tellier report and the virtues of Hon. Robert Rogers. The subject came up in committee of supply, when Secretary of State Meighen asked for a vote of $5500 to pay the expenses of the commission. A. K. MacLean of Halifax doubted if the government had any authority to appoint the commission, and formally moved to strike the item out of the estimates. In the discussion that followed the house harked back to the findings of the Landry Commission of 1907, which reflected upon Hon. William Pugsley. A gallant, but injudicious defence of Mr. Rogers by Mr. Bennett of Calgary stirred the wrath of Mr. Carvell of Carleton, N.B. who announced that he proposed to publicly discuss the public career of Mr. Rogers before the item should be allowed to pass.

Mr. Meighen in defending the vote said that the honor of a member of parliament and a member of the government had been impugned. Parliament had a right to investigate those charges, and had done so thru its agent, the government of the day. The government had appointed Chief Justice MacLeod and Mr. Justice Tellier to review the findings of Mr. Justice Galt and all the members of the house had acquiesced.

Other Findings Recalled.

Hon. T. W. Crothers recalled how Hon. William Pugsley had denounced the findings of a New Brunswick royal commission presided over by the late Chief Justice Landry. He had asserted that the findings of that commission were unfair, unfounded, and entitled to no respect.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said Mr. Crothers had moved a vote of censure upon Mr. Pugsley in the house of commons in 1907, based entirely upon the report of that commission. He had told the house that he did not know or care what the evidence was, but that the house was bound to act upon the findings of the royal commission.

Mr. Bennett (Calgary) said if Mr. Rogers had ben guilty of the charges brought against hi mby Mr. Justice Galt he would have been an unfit person to occupy his seat in the house or a place in the cabinet. It was therefore the duty of the house to investigate these charges and see if they were well founded. The government, acting for parliament, had appointed a royal commission, not as a court of appeal from Judge Galt, but to see whether the findings of the Galt commission were sustained by any evidence whatever. These judges had found that Judge Galt had made findings without a scintilla of evidence to support them. He ventured to say that no lawyer in the country would say that the findings of Judge Galt were supported by any testimony whatever. He could only explain Judge Galt's strange behavior by the excited state of the public mind at the time, and by the fact that Mr. Rogers was not represented by counsel. He should have been represented by counsel, but "serene in the consciousness of his own integrity" he had deemed it unnecessary.

Frank B. Carvell, Carleton, N.B., seconded A. K. MacLean's motion to strike the item out of the estimates. He said, up to this time, not a word had been said against Mr. Rogers by members of the opposition. When he had resigned and quietly slipped out of the government, the Liberals were quite prepared to let hi mdepart in peace, but now that Mr. Bennett had eulogized Mr. Rogers so highly and reflected upon Mr. Galt, the Liberals would see that the career of Mr. Rogers was given some very undesirable publicity before they consented to the country paying the expenses of the recent coat of "whitewash" he had received in Montreal.

Mr. Bennett said that the Liberals were bitter against the McLeod-Tellier Commission because they had been beaten and balked in their effort to ruin the character of a public man. He said Sir Wilfrid Laurier had not appointed a commission to revise the findings of the Landry Commission in the case of Mr. Pugsley, because he knew Mr. Pugsley was guilty, and no appeal could save him.

Mr. Bennett argued that the house of commons was like a club, which had the right to expel any unfit member, and therefore could investigate any public charges brought against a member. He suggested that when Sir Wilfrid returned to power he would go to the provincial governments for cabinet material. He would not, said Mr. Bennett, try to make cabinet material out of "the Carvells, McKenzies and Copps."

Sir Wilfrid Laurier: From what I have heard, the present prime minister has been trying hard to get some Carvells in his cabinet.

Mr. Pugsley, replying to Mr. Bennett, said he had no doubt that he could have had himself whitewashed the same as Mr. Rogers had done, but he certainly would not have expected the country to pay for the whitewashing.

Mr. MacLean's motion to strike out the item was lost on division, and the estimate, appropriating $5,500 for counsels' fees and other expenses of the McLeod-Tellier Commission, was then passed. The house adjourned at 6 o'clock.

Hon. Mr. Cloran has given notice of the following resolution, which he will make in the senate on Monday: Resolved, that at the expiration of the life of the present house of commons, an immediate general election should be held.

In connection with this motion, the senator will interpellate the government at length upon the rumor that it does not intend to hold an election until next March, and will inquire by what authority it proposes to rule the country between October, 1917, and March, 1918. His position is that with the expiration of parliament the government itself is dissolved.

GHISTELLES AIRDROME SET ON FIRE BY RAID

British Naval Airplanes Bomb Sheds and Railway.

London, Sept. 1. — A bombing raid was carried out by the naval air squadron on Friday night on the Ghistelles airdrome, according to a British admiralty statement tonight.

"Several direct hits," says the statement, "were made on sheds in the southwest corner of the airdrome, in which vicinity a fire was started. Bombs also were seen to explode on the adjoining Ostend-Thourout railway line. Many tons of explosives were dropped. All our machines returned safely."

ALLIES RESTRICT SWISS CHOCOLATE EXPORTS

New Agreement Further Limits Shipments to Enemy.

Paris, Sept. 2.—New export regulations for Switzerland have been decided upon after conferences between representatives of Switzerland, France, Italy, England, Russia and the United States, the under-secretary of blockade announced today. Under these regulations Switzerland in future will be allowed to send not more than 24,000 hundredweight of chocolate annually to countries at war with the entente, instead of 46,000 cwt., as has been the case.

The frontier traffic in chocolate is to be strictly limited henceforward, and even shipments to Swiss citizens in the central nations will be held down. The amount which may be sent to entente prisoners will be regulated by a special agreement to be reached later.

The excess chocolate production of Switzerland will be absorbed by France and the other allied countries.

Norway Will Still Export Products to Central Powers

Amsterdam, Sept. 2.—The Nord Deutsche Algemeine Zeitung, according to a Berlin telegram, says it is stated in an authoritative quarter that the report printed in The Paris Matin to the effect that Norway has submitted to the desire of America that she bar further exports to Germany is entirely unfounded.

KINGSTON MARKETS.

Special to The Toronto World.

Kingston, Sept. 2.—Potatoes were sold at 30 cents a peck on Saturday's market. Eggs sold at 45 cents to 50 cents; butter, 47 to 50 cents; apples, 30 cents per peck.

AND HE DID.

NEW ALBERTA WHEAT GRADES NUMBER ONE

Grain Arrives at Elevators at Earlier Date This Year.

Calgary, Alta., Sept. 2.—A significant fact in connection with the new grain which is now arriving at points thruout the west is the high grade everywhere. Wheat is arriving at elevators at much earlier dates than last year, and a large percentage is grading number one. It is too early yet to say whether this is indicative of the crop generally in the west.

Norway Short of Provisions; Import Prospects Gloomy

Copenhagen, Sept. 2.—The Christiania Social Demokraten assures that Norway has provisions for only one month, and that the import prospects are very gloomy. The paper demands that the government seize all private stocks and take over the control of imports and food distribution.

New Council of Regency To Manage Polish Affairs

Copenhagen, Sept. 2.—The Berlin Kreuz Zeitung learns from Warsaw that a council of regency has been substituted for the Polish State Council, and consists of three members, Prince Rubeniriki as chairman, and General Niementovski and the Bishop of Warsaw. The new council, the paper says, will take over all Polish affairs.

PLOT DISCOVERED IN CITY OF PETROGRAD

Well-Known Politicians and Officers in Counter-Revolutionary Intrigue.

Petrograd, Sept. 2.—The newspapers announce that a counter-revolutionary plot was discovered in Petrograd during the meeting of the Moscow conference. The leaders are said to include well-known politicians and several officers. A search of various houses led to proofs of the existence of the plot.

Most of the arrests effected in connection with the plot were outside of Petrograd, says a statement from an authorized source today. The government, it is stated, considers it as yet inopportune to publish the names. No alarming facts, it is said, were disclosed in the unearthing of the activities of the plotters. An energetic investigation is still proceeding.

Members of New Austrian Cabinet Have Taken Oath

Amsterdam, Sept. 2.—The members of the new Austrian cabinet took the oath before Emperor Charles yesterday, says a Vienna despatch today. Afterwards the emperor gave an audience to Dr. von Kuehlmann, the new German foreign secretary.

Russian Railroad Strike Postponed for Negotiations

Petrograd, Sept. 2.—The union of railroad engineers, which decided yesterday to call a strike owing to certain of its demands not having been granted by the railway management, has decided to postpone ceasing work pending negotiations with the government.

BRANTFORD CUSTOMS INCREASE.

Special to The Toronto World.

Brantford, Sept. 2.—The customs returns for the Port of Brantford show an increase of $17,946.56 for the month of August over the corresponding month in 1916. The figures are $67,204.13 and $85,150.69. The building permits were small for the month, while the deaths were 27, with 60 births.

DIES ON TRAIN.

Special to The Toronto World.

Kingston, Sept. 2.—Miss Stella Allore, aged 19, of Tweed, on her way to Kingston to enter a hospital for treatment, died when the train was within a few miles of the city, on Saturday.

SOLDIER RUN OVER.

Special to The Toronto World.

Kingston, Sept. 2.—Lying in a stupor on the street, Pte. John Hastings, a returned soldier, was run over by a street car. He had three fingers so badly mangled that they had to be amputated. His condition is not serious.

GEN. KORNILOFF ENJOYS CABINET'S CONFIDENCE

Russian Government Does Not Contemplate Naming Successor.

Petrograd, Sept. 2.—In an official statement made to the newspapers today Vice-Premier Nekrasoff denies all reports that there was in contemplation a movement to supersede General Korniloff, commander-in-chief of the Russian army. On the contrary, the vice-premier declares, the provisional government is in complete accord with General Korniloff, some of whose stipulations already have been carried into effect, while others are under consideration.

The government, adds the statement, has complete confidence in General Korniloff, who keeps clear of political intrigues and maintains complete political neutrality.

Boris Savinkoff, the acting minister of war, will shortly confer with General Korniloff regarding the measures which the commander-in-chief considers imperative to prevent further disaster.

SUNDAY'S HEAVY STORM.

Brantford, Sept. 2.—The heaviest hail and electrical storm registered here this year struck Brantford and district early this morning. Several cows were killed on Terrace Hill, a suburb. Robert Greenwood, third concession of Brantford Township, suffered very heavily, his barns being struck and burned. The animals and implements were saved, but 27 loads of hay and all this season's threshed grain were lost. J. Kenny of Traquility had four cows and a calf killed in the fields.

MRS. RUDDY DEAD.

Special to The Toronto World.

Brantford, Sept. 2.—Mrs. Richard Ruddy, resident here for 25 years, died at her home on Edgerton street. She had previously resided at York. Joseph R. Ruddy, secretary of the Canada Starch Co., is a son, and Mrs. Hassard, Toronto, and Mrs. Hendry, Dundas, daughters.

VOCATIONAL SCHOOL PRESENTED.

Special to The Toronto World.

Freeport, Sept. 1. — The vocational school erected as an addition to the Freeport Military Hospital by the Princess of Wales Chapter, I.O.D.E., was formally presented to the military hospitals commission this afternoon by Miss L. Bruce, regent of the chapter.

CAPT. KETTERINGHAM WOUNDED

Canadian Associated Press Cable.

London, Sept. 2.—Capt. E. A. Ketteringham, Norfolks, reported wounded, was formerly a sergeant with the Canadian Cyclists.

KINGSTON RESIDENT DEAD.

Special to The Toronto World.

Kingston, Sept. 2.—Michael Mangan, aged 62 years, a life-long resident of this city, died suddenly. His wife, one daughter, and one son survive.

NO CADETSHIPS OPEN AT R.M.C. THIS YEAR

Sufficient Matriculants for Military College—Forestry, Railway and Service Leave for East.

Camp Borden, Sept. 2.—There will be no vacancies for cadetships at the Royal Military College this year. Since the war, owing to the fact that sufficient numbers of matriculants have not come up to the standard required for R. M. C., it has been the custom of the college to ask the universities to recruit first-year students to fill out the number. This year, however, there are enough matriculants up to the standard, and the college authorities have asked the headquarters here to make the fact known thru the press.

Drafts from the forestry and railway construction depot and the Army Service Corps training depot left on Saturday afternoon for an eastern point. Capt. Foulds, A.M.C., of the office of the A.D.M.S., accompanied them to their destination. He will return to camp.

The monthly communion service, which was postponed from last Sunday, was held this morning after the regular church parade.

Ralph Gordon, cartoonist, entertained at the Y. M. C. A. Saturday evening with rapid-fire drawings.

Pte. Charles Stewart Abel, 234th Battalion, has been struck off the strength as illegally absent.

Nursing Sisters I. M. Noice, M. Macdonald and S. Ritchie have each been granted two weeks' leave of absence.

CHATHAM CUSTOMS INCREASE.

Special to The Toronto World.

Chatham, Sept. 1. — Customs returns for the Port of Chatham for the month of August reached a total of $113,115. Nearly $50,000 more than the returns for the same month of last year. The monthly returns for this port have been increased tremendously during the past year, since the completion of the plants of the Dominion Sugar Company and the Gray-Dort Motor Company.

BUILDING ON INCREASE.

Special to The Toronto World.

Chatham, Sept. 1. — Building activity during the past month has increased materially. Permits were issued amounting to $75,300, an increase over the corresponding month of last year, of $49,081. During the first eight months of this year permits to the amount of $291,472 were issued, an increase over the same period of last year of $47,623.

ONE MAN IN FOUR.

Special to The Toronto World.

Kingston, Sept. 2. — Major G. I. Campbell, chief recruiting officer for the third military district, says that he believes that one man in four, between the ages of 20 and 34, of those eligible for service, will be called for the first draft. He estimates that there are 400,000 young men still in the Dominion, and the act calls for only one-quarter of that number.