

PREMIER POINCARE AND HIS MINISTERS RESIGN

FRENCH MINISTRY FALLS WHEN GIVEN AN ADVERSE VOTE

Raymond Poincare Resigns Premiership When Deputies Fail To Back Program—Millerand Summons Leaders of the Senate and Chamber To Consider Question.

PREMIER STATES ACTION IRREVOCABLE

Associated Press Despatch.
Paris, March 26.—President Millerand asked M. Poincare to continue as premier when he received him at Elysee Palace for a conference this afternoon.

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Paris, March 26.—The Poincare ministry fell today, Premier Raymond Poincare, after an adverse vote in the Chamber of Deputies, handing the resignation of his cabinet to President Millerand, who accepted it. The premier announced he had decided irrevocably to give up power.

"Gentlemen," said M. Poincare to newspapermen, "my resignation is final."

The fall of the cabinet, after it had survived a long and arduous struggle in putting through parliament its program of heavily increased taxation to balance the budget, during which it was constantly obliged to put the question of confidence, came this morning on a comparatively insignificant issue.

The chamber was considering a revision of the civil and military pensions, with only a couple of hundred members present. Socialist deputy Bouysy demanded that the measures under consideration be referred back to the finance committee to be considered in connection with the Senate bills on the same question.

Involved Heavy Outlay.
The finance minister, in charge of the measures, objected to this. He pointed out that the Senate bills involved a heavier outlay than those in the chamber.

Premier Poincare was not present, but the finance minister declared himself obliged, in line with the economy policy of the government, to make the question one of confidence.

When the vote was announced showing that the government had been defeated by seven votes—254 to 271—there was surprise, with consternation on the majority benches, while the radicals and socialists cheered and cried "Resign! Resign!"

The finance minister reported to his chief, who called the cabinet together, and it was decided to resign. They proceeded to the palace of the Elysee and went into a cabinet council with President Millerand.

M. Poincare presented the cabinet's resignation.

Announces Decision Final.
President Millerand insisted earnestly that the cabinet appear this afternoon before the chamber, retaining power meanwhile. He said he was ready to explain by a special message to both houses the reasons for this procedure.

After each cabinet minister had given his opinion, the president decided and left the cabinet free to deliberate on its decision. It was at the conclusion of this meeting that Premier Poincare announced his decision to resign was irrevocable.

After M. Poincare had taken to the president the resignation of the cabinet, signed by all the members, the president, according to precedent, sent for President Doumergue of the Senate and President Peret of the Chamber of Deputies to ask them for their advice as to the formation of a new cabinet.

The Poincare government formed in January, 1922, to succeed that of Aristide Briand, has encountered stiff opposition during the last few weeks on its measures designed to stabilize the nation's finances and restore economic equilibrium. These measures, including bills to increase taxation 20 per cent, effect economies totalling one billion francs and institute fiscal reforms by simple decrees without further authorization from parliament, passed both the senate and the chamber of deputies last Saturday.

Prior to the beginning of its financial reform campaign, which it undertakes, the government had been in power for 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today.

The Weather

FORECASTS.

Today—Moderate northerly winds; cloudy.

Thursday—Westerly winds; fair; not much change in temperature.

The shallow depression which was in the Missouri Valley yesterday is passing to the southward of the Great Lakes, while another now over the Western Provinces is bringing rain and snow has fallen in Manitoba and Southern Ontario.

Temperatures.

The highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were:

Stations. High. Low. Weather.

Victoria. 64. 42. Clear.

Calgary. 46. 29. Cloudy.

Winnipeg. 46. 29. Snow.

Sault Ste. Marie. 38. 20. Cloudy.

Port Arthur. 24. 10. Snow.

Cochrane. 28. 22. Fair.

Brandon. 40. 26. Cloudy.

Kingston. 58. 28. Cloudy.

Ottawa. 58. 28. Fair.

Montreal. 48. 24. Clear.

Quebec. 40. 24. Fair.

St. John. 42. 26. Fair.

Halifax. 44. 22. Clear.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

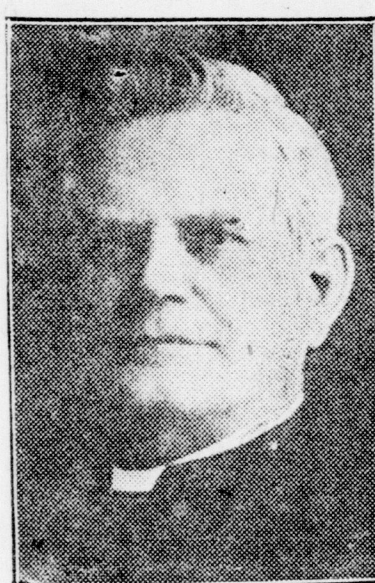
The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 35; lowest, 30.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 42; lowest, 30.

Barometric Readings.

Tuesday—8 p.m., 28.55.

Today—8 a.m., 29.18.



REV. S. D. CHOWN, superintendent of the Methodist Church in Canada, who represented this denomination when the church union bill was considered this morning by the private bills committee of the legislature.

BRITISH AIRMEN RESUME FLIGHT

Landed at Havre, France, Yesterday During Heavy Fog Over District.

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CHURCH BILL CONSIDERED BY SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Rev. Dr. Gandier Makes Appeal To Legislature Body To Authorize Action.

OUTLINES PROBLEMS

Head of Presbyterian Church Declares Union Decision Not Snap Verdict.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, March 26.—The private bills committee of the legislature commenced consideration of the church union bill this morning by hearing the claims of the three churches.

C. R. McKeown (M.L.A., Dufferin), who is sponsoring the bill in the house, introduced the speakers, who were: Rev. Dr. Gandier (Presbyterian), Rev. Dr. Crown (Methodist), and Rev. Dr. Gunn (Congregational).

Because of the large attendance of interested people the committee could not meet in the regular committee room and adjourned to the reception room. Hon. W. F. Nickle is chairman of the committee.

Rev. Dr. Gunn said that 96 per cent of the congregationalists in Canada were in favor of union.

Majority Favor Union.

Rev. Dr. Gandier pointed out that over one-half of the Protestant population of Canada was asking for union. They were not asking the legislature to decide upon creed or form of worship, nor on the merits of union. They were simply asking recognition in civil law of what had already been accomplished by the churches themselves. He said there were 3,000 congregations in Canada now which had some form of union. "Church union," he said, is not a theory, it is a situation in Canada. We are facing the fact. The prevention of overlapping in home missions was one of the chief reasons for union.

Regarding the Presbyterian Church, he said that the decision was no snap verdict. The Presbyteries had shown themselves recently more determined for union than ever.

Refers to Difficulties.

There was a clamor from the minority, however. In dealing with the rights of the minority, Dr. Gandier said it was impossible to go below the congregations as a unit. He admitted there might be some hardships, but these would be on both sides. Churches that wanted to stay out of the union might find themselves technically in the union for a few months, but that was all. They could then secede according to the basis.

He concluded his address by stating that three great churches had given up their pride and their ambition to make one great church for the sake of peace.

Please See Page 2, Column 2.



HON. W. H. PRICE, provincial treasurer, who has announced that the government will soon make an official statement as the result of disclosures made at the bonds probe in Toronto last night which led to the suspension of Deputy Treasurer Matthews.

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Commenting on the situation today, the Toronto Star says, editorially, that the operations of the provincial treasury require the supervision of a capable financial man, and that the province never has had in its service an employee with the necessary financial qualifications.

"Premier Ferguson will face a heavy responsibility some day," says the Star, "if he allows the treasury office to blunder along in the same old way."

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