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CIVIL SERVICE REPORT MAY LEAD TO GOVERNMENT CHANGE

An Ottawa Correspondent Reports that Hon. Mr. Brodeur and Sir Frederick Borden May soon Retire from Laurier Cabinet--Hon. Mr. Lemieux may go to Post Office Department

An Ottawa correspondent of the Montreal Star sends the following to his paper:

Ottawa, March 27.—As a result of the Liberal caucus this morning, which was presided over by Mr. Mackenzie, of Bruce, it is announced semi-officially that Hon. L. P. Brodeur, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, will retire from the Cabinet to go upon the Supreme Court Bench, to take the place of Mr. Justice Girouard; Dr. Beland, of Beauce, will enter the Cabinet at once as minister without portfolio, the Marine portfolio remaining vacant for the present. For it there are a number of aspirants, but the probabilities are that Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux will be transferred from the Post Office Department.

Hon. Mr. Lemieux, it is stated, is willing to take hold of the department and reorganize it. There will be several aspirants for the vacancy, including Hon. Jacques Bureau and Mr. Gervais, of St. James division, Montreal.

Hon. L. P. Brodeur is credited with having expressed his disgust over recent developments in his department,, and will be glad of an opportunity to retire to the Bench.

A less definite report is that the resignation of Sir Frederick Borden, Minister of Militia, has been demanded, and that it may be only a short time before he drops out of the Cabinet. The records of both Ministers, it is said, were adversely criticized in caucus this morning.

Several members also criticized the disposition of federal ministers to take part in provincial election campaigns and expressed the opinion that it did the federal party more harm than good.

The report of the Civil Service Commission is the sole topic of conversation among politicians and officials today. President Kingsford, of the Civil Service Association, which numbers upwards of two thousand members, and of Lambert Payne, secretary of the association when seen today made non-committal statements. They said that the report would be considered at a meeting of the association which will be held shortly.

None of the deputy ministers would consent to be interviewed.

That the Government recognizes the serious nature of the report from its standpoint is shown by the fact that a caucus was fixed for today, it being known at the time the notices were sent out that the report would be made public on Thursday and would require the immediate consideration of the party.

All the Ministers were in attendance at the caucus and it is understood that harmony did not prevail. The necessity for an immediate and thorough investigation into the management of the Marine Department was generally recognized and a definite announcement as to the nature of the inquiry can be looked for at an early date

Among the members generally the view prevails that the report of the Commission will materially affect the length of the session and have an important bearing on the probability of the general elections being held in the autumn. The Opposition will not be willing to consent to the adjournment of the House until they get fully informed of the real condition of affairs in the departments. Some members express the view that if there are serious revelations the Government will put off the general elections till 1909, as they would feel the necessity of putting things right before making an appeal to the country.

Editorially the Star says:—

A more impressive arraignment of our existing system of civil service control, could hardly be prepared than that which the Commission, appointed by the present Government to enquire into the whole question, have embodied in their report. The general conclusions of that report have long been the subject of well-rooted suspicion among the people; but it is something to have them definitely and categorically reported to Parliament by a Commission of personal weight.

Patronage is, as usual, the villain of the piece. By it, incapables are pitch-forked into positions for which they are unfit, and even superior officials are influenced by what is dramatically termed "a dread of the politician." This is inevitable so long as the politician is permitted to interfere with the personnel of the service. The politician is a powerful person in political circles. He can make things very uncomfortable for a Minister of the Crown; and a Minister of the Crown is, in turn, able to bedevil his own department pretty thoroughly. So when some Ministers are called upon to choose between their duty to the service and their desire to possess political strength in Parliament, they do not always stand up for the integrity and effectiveness of the service.

There is no notion, of course, that political patronage is an invention of the present Government. It is rather one of the encumbrances on the estate which they inherited. Patronage has always been a parasite on the robust body of the most virile political party; and the only way in which the best of them seem able to escape from it is by putting it beyond their own power to exercise this malign privilege. "A self-denying ordinance" would free the politicians in office from the worst of its effects; but it must be an ordinance which makes self-denial compulsory and not optional.

The report of the Commission bears with especial weight upon two departments,—that of Marine and Fisheries and that of the Militia. The language employed in these cases could not well be stronger. We are told that in the former case there is a lack of conscience, that members of the service appear to serve two masters and to do it successfully, that there is no visible sign of a directing head, and that there is a want of efficient organization and method. Instances are given in which all these have led to loss to the country, and some extraordinary transactions are outlined in which purchases were made without system and without sense. The Militia Department is, we are told, run extravagantly; and the office of inspector-genetal is condemned as not in the public interest, and as "from past experience" seeming to be "made a stepping stone to the retiring of high military officers in Canada on large allowances." Then there are too many other high salaried offices, and too large a staff for the number of the men under arms.

Altogether the report makes a reform of the service imperative. If the politicians cannot undertake it themselves, they might turn the whole Civil Service over to an independent Commission which would hold their seats for life and be as far above party pressure as so many judges. Certainly the greedy fingers of the petty mercenary should be kept away from the service altogether; and that "dread of the politician" should be removed from the minds of every official from the "deputy head" to the humblest clerk. The Americans have heroically brought into force not a small measure of civil service reform, though they had to fight an election over it before the politicians could be persuaded to surrender the "spoil." In Canada, it might surely be accomplished without so vigorous a presentation of the public will on the subject; for there can be no doubt about what the people want. They pay a civil service to do its work, and not to serve as in-door relief for needy political "hacks."

HOW ONE MAN ROSE TO WEALTH

Peter Anderson a Farm Hand Receives a Legacy from Man Whose Life he once Saved

Chicago, March 26—A despatch to The Record-Herald from Tacoma, Wash., says: To have saved the life of a fellow emigrant in a wreck in 1873 and 35 years later to have read in a newspaper plastered upon the wall of a homestead shack an advertisement which led to his becoming the recipient of a fortune of $375,000 is the experience of Peter Anderson, a farm hand, who resides near White Bluffs, Wash.

Anderson yesterday received a cheque for $5000 to enable him to proceed to New York to carry out the final legal formalities necessary in the transfer of the fortune. His friend was Peter Knudson, who made $1,000,000 in the glove business in New Jersey.

REVOLTING TRAGEDY

Man Stabbed with Umbrella on Montreal Street Car Dies in Hospital

Montreal, March 30, (Special)—An extraordinary fatality occurred here yesterday on a street car as the result of a quarrel between several drunken men. Frederick Kaiser, a stage hand at His Majesty's Theatre got on a car with his brother and a bar tender named Louis Laflame. All three had been drinking, and got into a discussion, which led to the two brothers threatening Laflame.

The latter raised his umbrella as though to strike Kaiser, but in a scuffle the point of the umbrella was jabbed into Kaiser's eye, penetrating clean through to his brain.

Kaiser dropped unconscious, and was hurried to a hospital, where he died nine hours later, without regaining consciousness. Laflame was arrested, and will have to face a charge of manslaughter.

CHESTER GILLETTE PAYS PENALTY FOR THE MURDER OF HIS YOUNG SWEETHEART

His Electrocution in Auburn Prison this Morning was the Most Successful ever held there--Gillette made a Confession before He Died

Grace Brown.

Chester Gillette.

CHESTER GILLETTE AND THE GIRL HE KILLED.

Auburn, N. Y., March 30.—Unmoved and without showing the faintest sign of emotion of any kind, Chester Gillette was put to death in an electric chair at Auburn this morning. The electrocution was the most successful that ever took place in the local prison. But one contact was all that was required to carry the mandate of the law into effect, and when that was over, the murder of Grace, or "Billy" Brown had been avenged and the slayer had paid the penalty giving a life for a life.

In every way the electrocution was a success and the officials of the prisonall of whom had feared that there might be some untoward event in connection with the execution were more than pleased. The electrocution was marked throughout with celerity and in the minutest detail. It was carried through to its culmination.

The man was declared dead by the official time at 6.18, but by the watches held by some of the newspaper reporters it was two minutes after that time when the warden announced to the witnesses and the attendants "Gentlemen, the physicians announce that the man is dead."

"The contact that was necessary for the man to be killed, was of 1,800 volts at 7½ amperes, and it was held on three seconds more than a full minute. When this had been done careful examination of the man's heart was made, but there was no sign of life.

When all was ready for the execution, Gillette, walking firmly and looking neither to the right nor the left, came briskly along the row and into the death chamber. On either side of him was a minister, Chaplain Herrick on his right and Mr. Macllravy on hfs left. It was 6.12.35 when the little party entered the chamber, and the work of strapping the man in the chair was quickly over. The official time made this 6.12.50. The contact was put on at 6.15.03 and switched off at 6.15.06. Immediately after Dr. Spitzka, the noted alienist, made an examination of the heart. Other heart examinations followed and at 6.18 Warden Benham made the announcement that told that the law's requirements had been fulfilled.

Gillette made a confession to his spiritual advisers.

LONGSHOREMEN WANT NO BONUS

Montreal Longshoremen Say Bonus System Involves too much Book-Keeping

(Montreal Star)

The question of rates of wages and hours of labor for the coming shipping season at the Port of Montreal will likely be settled within the next few days.

A meeting of shipping men and representatives of the 'Longshoremen's Association was held yesterday, but no agreement was reached.

The Shipping agents want the 'longshoremen to accept 25 and 30 cents an hour, with a bonus at the end of the season of 2 1-2 cents for every hour worked.

The 'longshoremen on the other side, want 30 and 35 cents an hour and no bonus.

Mr. John Ryan, president of the local association, when seen today by the Star, talked about the situation freely. He said in part:

"The dock workers of the port of Montreal are opposed to the bonus system because the machinery does not work well. Men are engaged by the hour and sometimes they work for two or three employers in one day. There is too much book-keeping under the bonus system for the average longshoreman, besides it is only those who remain on the docks until the last liner sails who are entitled to the bonus. We are willing to come to terms with the shipping men, and we will sign an agreement for one, two or three years, but we do not want to be humbugged. Some of the companies have been in the habit of bringing in men from St. John, N. B., and other places. They do not come in large numbers, but those who do come pay no taxes. A threat has been made that men will be brought over from the Old Country if we do not accept a cut in our wages. While we expect to come to an amicable agreement with the employers you may state that if men are brought here in large numbers from England there will be a strike. We want to be reasonable men, but when it comes to taking the bread and butter from our own families there will likely be trouble. The association is incorporated now by act of Parliament, and our members will have to be responsible for ther actions. We are not looking for a strike. All we want is fair play and no favors."

The case of the N. B. Medical Society against Dr. Spangler, osteopathist, was brought up this morning and will be resumed this afternoon.

TOUCHED SEA AND CAME BACK

A Nasty Moment when the Schooner W. H. Skinner almost Turned Turtle

London, March 28.—The House of Commons has passed on its second reading the Pearce Daylight-saving Bill, which provides new British time for the summer months. The announcement of the vote was greeted with cheers and roars of laughter.

The bill was referred to a special committee, and it will thus get detailed consideration. It provides that all clocks shall be advanced 80 minutes, which will give an extra 210 hours of daylight. Thus, a man getting up at apparently 9 o'clock in the morning, would really be doing so at 7.40, thus gaining an hour and twenty minutes of daylight.

That such a measure, which many regard as mere foolishness, should get such attention in the House of Commons will be wormwood to the Suffragettes, whose Woman Suffrage Bill was sent to the Committee of the Whole House, which action virtually shelves it.

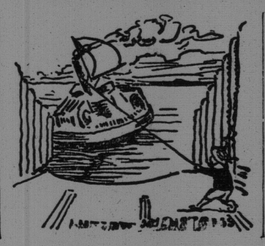
BOY FALLS TO DEATH

Newcastle, N. B., March 30—The eight year old son of John McKenna of South Nelson fell Saturday afternoon from a beam in Burchill & Sons mill. He dropped twenty feet, fracturing his skull, and was unconscious till this morning when he died.

THE TIMES NEW REPORTER

BROKE HER HEART

For some days past it has been observed that the ferry steamer Wun Lung was in a despondent mood, and apparently suffering from some internal malady. Admiral Glasgow who knows the moods of this historic craft was much disturbed in his mind, for he knew that it was grief and jealousy from which she suffered. The Ludlow had been taken off the route to be provided with more finery



and Wun Lung had been ordered out to do the drudgery of a very busy season. It preyed upon her mind and finally her great heart was broken. It snapped last evening at eight o'clock, as she was entering the east side ferry floats. The sound was heard from Lancaster Heights to Fort Howe. There were hundreds of grief stricken mourners in and around the toll house all through the evening. The Ludlow is on the route today, and the Rodney Hospital specialists are working over Wun Lung.

WAR BETWEEN WOMEN THE CAUSE OF KAISER'S WRATH

Ill-Feeling Between Mrs. Charlemagnue Tower and Mrs. David Jayne Hill caused Emperor William to Disapprove of Dr. Hill's Appointment as Ambassador to Germany

Berlin, March 30—A war between two women in the cause of the attitude of the Kaiser toward the appointment of Dr. David Jayne Hill as American American Ambassador at Berlin, according to the latest reports in this city.

It is reported that ill-feeling has existed between Mrs. Charlemagne Tower, wife of the present Ambassador, and Mrs. Hill for a long time, and that the former, having great influence with the Kaiser, has induced him to make an expression of his personal regret that Mr. Power was to be replaced by Dr. Hill.

This expression, it is believed, the basis for Mr. Tower's cablegram to his Government, stating that Dr. Hill would not be acceptable to the German Emperor. It is believed that the effect of the whole matter will be to destroy any chance of Dr. Hill being sent to Berlin, but it will also insure the retirement of Mr. Tower, a plan that he is said to be fighting now, although he recently said he desired to be relieved.

That the friendship existing between Mrs. Tower and the Kaiser is sufficiently warm to draw from him such an expression as he is said to have given no one doubts.

The Kaiser is said to have made the remark at a diplomatic reception while discussing with the Towers their withdrawal from the court and the coming of Dr. Hill. He is reported to have said:

"If President Roosevelt sends any one here to replace you I will never forgive him."

Those who are close to the Emperor assert that he spoke in a jesting way, but they admit that, taken seriously, the remark could be construed to mean that a successor to Mr. Tower would not be acceptable to him.

That the intimation that Dr. Hill was not acceptable was a reflection of the Kaiser's personal views and not those of the Foreign Office is shown by a statement issued today by the Foreign Office, in which it is denied emphatically that any "official" action has been taken in the matter. The statement said:

"The assertion that the German Government has refused to accept Dr. Hill is not true. The statement that Dr. Hill is persona non grata at Berlin is absolutely false. The German Government has made no official statement to America on the subject."

The wording of the denial has simply served to confirm the belief here that it is the Kaiser personally who objects to Dr. Hill. The Kaiser and Mr. and Mrs. Towor are very friendly, and it is said that neither wishes to sever the associations that have been so pleasant.

It is even intimated that Ambassador Tower himself is partly responsible for the Kaiser's attitude toward Dr. Hill.

It has been openly talked here that the objection to Dr. Hill arose from this state of affairs, but Mr. Tower today authorized the statement that it was his inflexible determination to send his resignation to the President within a few months. He said that he would ask permission to retire so that he may return to the United States.

Mr. Tower states that he wrote to the President to this effect last fall, that the President fully understands his position, and that it is satisfactory to him. There has been no reason why he should change his plans, the Ambassador says, nor is he aware that the President wishes him to do so.

Mr. Tower also authorized the statement that his personal relations with Dr. Hill are exceedingly friendly, and have been so for years. When he saw the newspaper announcement that Mr. Hill probably would succeed him, he wrote to him, inviting the minister and his wife to come to Berlin, adding that he and Mrs. Tower would be happy to assist them in making the approaches to Berlin life agreeable. In response to this invitation Mr. Hill came to Berlin three weeks ago and dined with the Ambassador at his home. They dissussed freely and fully all questions that would naturally come up under such circumstances.

In official circles here it is believed that the denial issued today indicates either that the Foreign Office has not been informed by Emperor William of the message he sent to President Roosevelt, or else it is desirous of tranquilizing an unpleasant situation by emphasizing the fact that the German Government has taken no "official" step against Dr. Hill. The situation is naturally one of embarrassment to officials and of consequent confusion to the public mind owing to the distinction between the "official" and "unofficial" action.

It is well known here that Dr. Hill hitherto has regarded himself as Ambassador-designate to Berlin, for he came recently to Berlin especially to select a house and to arrange with Mr. Tower the date for handing over the embassy to him. He did not find the kind of house he wanted, and, on the eve of his departure, asked the Adlon Hotel to give him an estimate on a suite of rooms for a period of two months. The conclusion seems obvious that the Kaiser and Mr. Tower are endeavouring to make use of the fact that Dr. Hill was never officially proposed in order to get around the fact that Hill practically was appointed.

GOING BACK TO QUEBEC

Hundreds of French Canadian Families are Returning to their Old Home

Montreal, March 29.—Hundreds and hundreds of French-Canadian families are abandoning the manufacturing centres of New England and the middle states and are either returning to the Province of Quebec or going to swell the stream of settlers now taking up land in the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Rene Dupont, formerly immigration agent for the Lake St. John Railway before its absorbtion by the Canadian Northern, and lately appointed repatriation agent by the Dominion Government, has just returned from the States, where sub-agencies have been appointed, chiefly at Boston, Biddiford and Portland, all of which are French-Canadian centres and which large contingents are daily leaving for different parts of the Dominion.

So far Woonsocket and Providence in Rhode Island and Manchester in New Hampshire have furnished the heaviest contingents for north, and he thinks that at least 75 families are negotiating for transfers to either Quebec or the west. In fact the Portland agent reports that on one day quite recently seven carloads of these people were despatched from the city.

Referring to the movement from the lower part of this province, when almost whole parishes in the Quebec district went to the other side of the line to enjoy the prosperity that followed the rebuilding of the republic after the war, Mr. Dupont states that a great many of these same people are now returning here, yet in many cases it is the sons and daughters who have elected to come back to the fatherland.

He states, however, that it is only the minority who are remaining here in this province, as they have heard of the fertile plains of Alberta and it is over there where they are going in the greater numbers. A considerable number, however, have taken up lands in Beauce, the Lake St. John country, and down in the Baie des Chaleurs region and in other parts of the province which are considered favorable for these returned and returning French-Canadians.

Being asked if all, or a portion, of these have saved anything during their exile in the neighboring republic, Mr. Dupont replied in the affirmative. Most of them, he says, are able to buy farms, although the very fewer number are unable to do so.

The river steamer Aberdeen will [illegible] through the falls to go on Hilyard's blocks tomorrow.