

GERMAN AND CANADIAN PEACE OVER TARIFF

Provisional Agreement Signed Remitting Sur-tax and Making for Reciprocal Concessions Finance Minister Makes Important Announcement at Close of Last Night's Session.

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 15.—At the adjournment of the House tonight Mr. Fielding laid on the table an order in council, an agreement between Mr. Fielding and Dr. Karl Lang, Imperial German consul for Canada, and other documents which have the effect of terminating the tariff war between Germany and Canada, and of suggesting that a further tariff agreement may follow.

In brief, Canada drops the surtax and allows German goods to enter under her general tariff; while Germany admits certain lines of Canadian goods to the benefit of her conventional minimum tariff. One aspect of this is that no affront is offered to the United States, German goods being given no better treatment than is extended to American imports.

Better Understanding.

The order in council, after reciting the history of the tariff war with Germany, observed that representations have been made to the minister from time to time by the Imperial German consul at Montreal as to the desirability of reaching a better understanding between the two countries. In these informal negotiations the German representatives have abandoned the contention which was the chief cause of difference between the two countries, namely, that the products of Germany should receive in Canada the same treatment as the products of the United Kingdom. In the meantime the commercial relations of Canada with foreign countries have assumed a new phase owing to the making of the Franco-Canadian convention which has now entered into force. Germany naturally desires to be admitted to the benefits of this convention on the same terms as France.

The minister appears to be in a favorable mood for entering upon negotiations for a comprehensive commercial treaty with Germany. It has, however, been deemed expedient to conduct negotiations with a view of a partial arrangement which would bring about a better understanding between the two countries.

The minister, being of the opinion that it is in the interests of both countries that such an arrangement be made has endeavored to come to an agreement whereby the surtax of which Germany complains might be suspended thus leaving German products to be admitted on the same terms as the general tariff of Canada to receive in return for this concession the benefits of the German conventional tariff upon a list of products to be specified in a separate negotiable agreement between the Imperial German consul and the minister, a list of Canadian products to which the benefits of the German conventional tariff may be applied has been agreed upon.

The agreement stipulates: 1.—The German goods enumerated in the schedule annexed to this agreement shall be admitted to the benefit of the tariff rates of duty imposed by the general tariff.

2.—The Canadian surtax shall be suspended on the goods enumerated in the schedule annexed to this agreement from 1st March, 1910 to 31st March, 1911.

3.—The agreement is a provisional one and the question of a general convention for the regulation of commercial relations between Germany and Canada shall be deferred for consideration at a time that may be found mutually convenient.

4.—If, after a reasonable time, a commercial convention such as is contemplated by the preceding clause has not been entered into, either party may, if it is deemed desirable, terminate or cancel the agreement on giving to the other two months notice.

The Schedule.

The schedule of Canadian goods to be admitted, is as follows: Wheat and spelt, reduction from 7.50 to 5.50 marks per 100 kilos net weight. Barley, malted, from 7 to 4 marks per hundred kilos. Other barley from 7 to 1.30 marks. Oats, from 7 to 4 marks. Clover seed from 6 marks to 3.50. Grass seed of all kinds free. Fresh apples, pears and quinces, unpacked, from Dec. 1 to Aug. 31, from 2.50 marks to 2. Packed in single casks, from 10 marks to 3.20. Packed in more than one covering from 10 to 5 marks. Apples, free. Peaches, from 3 marks to 2. Plums, from 6 marks to 2. Cherries, free. Medlars, free. Strawberries, from 20 to 10 marks. Raspberries, currants, free. Dried apples and pears, from 10 to 5 marks. Dried apricots and peaches, from 10 to 4. Dried plums, loose, from 10 to 4. Dried plums in other ways, from 15 to 5 marks. Other dried fruit from 5 to 4. Timber, sawn longitudinally or pre-

BILLION DOLLAR MERGER OFF NOW

Mackay Companies Announce Intention of Selling Holdings in American Telegraph and Telephone Co's Just to Please Public—Postal Telegraph Co. Becomes Formidable Competitor of W. U.

Boston, Feb. 15.—Just to please the public, as it were, the Mackay Companies are going to sell their holdings in the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, which in turn controls the Western Union. With this announcement disappears the talked-of "billion dollar" merger and the Postal Telegraph-Cable Company, if the promise be carried out, becomes a more keen competitor of the Western Union.

When, several months ago the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. bought George Gould's stock in the Western Union, carrying practical effect it was pointed out that the Mackay Companies held approximately 82,000 shares of the former's stock. This was interpreted by many as a tacit merger of the three great companies which would mean death to competition.

Clarence Mackay, head of the Mackay Companies, was quick to deny that any merger had been consummated or was even under consideration, the rumor would not down in all quarters. Now comes the announcement of a decision of the Mackay Companies to sell its holdings in the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. as agreed upon at the annual meeting of the companies in Boston today. A statement explaining the action was issued in New York tonight by C. C. Adams, vice-president

of the Postal Telegraph-Cable Co. "The statement says: 'The Mackay Companies will sell its entire holding of stock in the American Telephone and Telegraph Co., that step being in deference to public opinion, which views with suspicion this large holding of stock in a company which had recently purchased the control of the Western Union Telegraph Company.'

"Moreover, that stock was acquired by the Mackay Companies with a view to bringing about economies in the construction and maintenance of joint pole lines over long stretches of country, where the business was not sufficient to justify either company constructing an independent pole line by itself.

"Many such arrangements were made, each company doing one half of the pole line, but having nothing to do with the business of the other company. Since, however, the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. has acquired control of the Western Union Telegraph Co., the time has come for the Mackay Companies to sell its holdings of stock in the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. and that will be done.

"The Postal Telegraph System will continue to be free and independent and prepared to maintain the competition which it has furnished for 25 years."

of the Postal Telegraph-Cable Co. "The statement says: 'The Mackay Companies will sell its entire holding of stock in the American Telephone and Telegraph Co., that step being in deference to public opinion, which views with suspicion this large holding of stock in a company which had recently purchased the control of the Western Union Telegraph Company.'

"Moreover, that stock was acquired by the Mackay Companies with a view to bringing about economies in the construction and maintenance of joint pole lines over long stretches of country, where the business was not sufficient to justify either company constructing an independent pole line by itself.

"Many such arrangements were made, each company doing one half of the pole line, but having nothing to do with the business of the other company. Since, however, the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. has acquired control of the Western Union Telegraph Co., the time has come for the Mackay Companies to sell its holdings of stock in the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. and that will be done.

"The Postal Telegraph System will continue to be free and independent and prepared to maintain the competition which it has furnished for 25 years."

DEFENSE BILL IS COTTLED

Liberals Scored For Anti-Imperialistic Tendencies—E. M. MacDonald Looks To Nova Scotia For Warships.

MILITIA CHANGES ARE GAZETTED

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 15.—The Gazette today contains the following appointments: MILITIA DISTRICT OFFICER with rank of Major, Captain and Brevet Major, C. J. Mersereau, vice Major E. T. P. Shawen, who is permitted to retire, retaining rank, 62nd Regiment "St. John Fusiliers." Captain H. J. Smith is transferred to the corps reserve.

To be quarter master with honorific rank of captain, Henry Hamilton Smith, Esquire vice Honorary Captain J. B. Gillespie, deceased. 32nd "Abegweit Light Infantry, regiment—To be Major, Captain and Brevet Major, J. M. Jones, Vice G. Crockett promoted.

The total receipts of the inland revenue department during February was \$1,135,157, as compared with \$937,736 in the corresponding month of last year.

E. M. MacDonald. Mr. E. M. MacDonald referred to the steps by which Great Britain had withdrawn her armed forces from Canada and Canadian shores and described the decision of the government as a great step forward in the national policy of Canada. The object of the government was to have a Canadian navy which should be constructed in Canada by Canadian workmen in Canadian workshops, primarily for the defence of Canada.

Mr. MacDonald further argued that the building of Canadian ships was entirely possible. He repudiated the statement that Canada could not build steel ships. He made the statement that Nova Scotia already had built a vessel of seven or eight hundred tons of steel plates.

Nova Scotia, he argued, has the establishments and the skilled mechanics, has the coal and has the other necessities. Almost the entire nickel supply of the world is found in Canada. He made the statement that the government as a great step forward in the national policy of Canada. The object of the government was to have a Canadian navy which should be constructed in Canada by Canadian workmen in Canadian workshops, primarily for the defence of Canada.

GASE AGAINST AYUB IS ON NOW AT PERTH

Assyrian Charged With Receiving Goods With Intent To Assist Brother To Defraud Creditors Placed On Trial.

FISHER MAY TAKE REFUGE IN SENATE

Rumored Now That Minister Of Agriculture Will Be Translated To Upper Chamber As Leader.

NEW GLASGOW FAILS TO LIFT McLELLAN CUP

Hull, Feb. 15.—In the closest match played this season for the McLeLLan cup the Halifax curlers defeated New Glasgow by two points in a game which finished in the wee hours this morning. The score was: Halifax 46, New Glasgow 44.

NATIONALISTS REMAIN NEUTRAL IN STRUGGLE

LID IS, PRIED OFF ALBANY SCANDALS

Movement for More Thorough Investigation of Methods in Practise Unearths Startling Evidences of Wholesale Corruption—All'd's Accuser on Stand.

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 15.—The lid was prised off the legislative bribery scandal today and the whiff that escaped justified all suspicions regarding the unsavory nature of what it covered. At the same time, plans were laid for wider investigation to follow the present inquiry now being conducted by the senate into Senator Benn Bongers' charge that Senator Jotham P. Aldie took a \$1000 bribe from an agent of the American Bridge Company.

The day's disclosures were important principally because they laid the basis for future attempts to write the history of legislative corruption in New York state during the past nine years and perhaps for a longer period. When Senator Conger's attorneys announced that they were through with his direct examination late this afternoon, Aldie's accuser was taken in hand by Senator Newcomb, of New York, and forced to confess that the combination of bridge building concerns known as the American Bridge Company had raised a corruption fund of \$100,000 for the expenses of 1905.

Conger struggled hard and refused to answer some of Newcomb's questions until directed to reply by the presiding officer. Under such conditions, the Groton senator admitted that the bridge companies in 1903 turned their legislative bribery fund over to the Groton Bridge Company, in which

RESORT TO BARREL RICE

Magdalen Islanders Establish Communication With Mainland By Sending Barrel, Enclosing Letters Adrift.

Hull, Feb. 15.—In old times there were various devices resorted to by the cable between the islands and the mainland. The steamers from England for several years after the transatlantic service was established, threw can overboard off Cape Race in which the latest English newspaper was enclosed, together with a synopsis of the state of the British markets. A pigeon express was likewise established.

The day for this sending the news has not yet passed. The people of Magdalen Islands have adopted the plan of enclosing their letters in a barrel and sending it adrift on the Cape Breton coast today which was the cable between the islands and Cape Race has become unworkable and the opportunity has been taken from them of sending their messages by cable and having them transmitted in due course, through the mails.

PLUMBERS LOSE OUT IN NOW FAMOUS CASE

Privy Council Sustains Decision Of Lower Courts With Respect To The Placing Of Pickets.

MR. HANSON'S DENIAL OF LITTLE EFFECT

Official Whom He Threatened Makes It Very Plain That He Never Stated Standard's Article As Untrue.

MR. HANSON'S DENIAL OF LITTLE EFFECT

Official Whom He Threatened Makes It Very Plain That He Never Stated Standard's Article As Untrue.

Winnipeg, Feb. 15.—The cablegram giving the decision in Hartley vs. Cotter before the Privy Council would appear to indicate that the plumbers union have lost once more in their final effort to set aside the judgments of all the Canadian Courts in the now famous strike case, in which the master plumbers of Winnipeg attacked the right of the striking employes to "picket" their places of business during the progress of the strike of two years ago.

Will Not Embarrass Government by Opposition to Lloyd George Budget—Leaders Confer.

Third Parliament of King Edward Assembled Yesterday—Right Hon. Jas. Souther Elected Speaker

London, Feb. 15.—John E. Redmond, accompanied by John Dillon and T. P. O'Connor, visited Chancellor Lloyd-George after the cabinet council and remained in conference for an hour tonight, discussing the attitude of the Nationalists toward the budget. It is understood that Mr. Redmond gave the chancellor assurances that the general body of Irish members would make no deliberate attempt to embarrass the government, whatever might be the minister's decision as to the order of dealing with the budget and veto questions. This probably means that even if Premier Asquith finds himself unable completely to satisfy Mr. Redmond regarding the Lords' veto, the Nationalists will remain neutral and abstain from voting on the budget, which would then be carried by the small majority obtained by the support of the Laborites.

It is believed, however, that the premier will satisfy the Irish leader on this point and that a promise will be made to give some concessions to Ireland in the next budget which will justify the Nationalists in supporting the government.

It is reported that the king's speech will be one of the shortest on record and that it will deal with little but the veto question as the principal business of the session. The parliamentary labor party met today and elected George M. Barnes, member from Glasgow, Blackfriars, chairman. The suffragettes have sent an open letter to Premier Asquith promising for the present to abstain from militant tactics until the government had a fair opportunity of stating its intention, but demanding an explicit declaration that the government will undertake woman suffrage legislation.

Parliament Assembles.

The third parliament of King Edward assembled this afternoon. The ceremony was of the simplest character, all of the royal pageantry connected with the state opening being postponed to Feb. 21, and the interim devoted to the swearing in of the members, and the clearing away, if possible, of the difficulties confronting the government.

Not for many years has such intense interest attached to the opening of the legislature, and seldom have the problems involving the success or failure of the government threatened so difficult even to the most capable members of parliament. The result of the recent elections is so confused that the government has been unable to carry out its program of reform. The fact that the government will have a majority to act drastically upon the budget issues can be carried by only after the House of Commons has settled down to work, and the Nationalists and Laborites show their hands in the course of the debate upon the speech from the throne.

The proceedings today were brief. The time-honored custom of searching the vaults under the two Houses was observed this morning. Subsequently, the members-elect of the House of Commons were summoned to the House for organization. The formalities over, the members of the House of Commons returned to the House for organization. The lower chamber re-elected Right Hon. James William Lowther, member for the Penrith Division of Cumberland, Speaker, and forthwith the swearing in of its members was commenced.

Herbert John Gladstone, Secretary of State for Home Affairs, and who through a recent appointment is about to become Governor General of British South Africa, was elevated to the peerage today.

TUCKET CIGAR COMPANY TO ABANDON MONTREAL

ARGUMENT TODAY IN CASE OF SEELY VS. KERR

Hamilton, Ont., Feb. 15.—It was announced this morning that the Tucket Cigar Company had decided to concentrate its entire business in Hamilton. This will mean the abandonment of its Montreal branch and the removal of 400 men to this city. The Board of Control has granted the company a fixed assessment of \$10,000.

Fredrickton, N. B., Feb. 15.—The Supreme Court will meet here tomorrow when the case of Seely vs. Kerr will be argued. All the judges are at present in the city and the court will meet at 10 o'clock. On the following day a number of judgments will be delivered.