

CZAR AND COUNCILORS DISCUSSING PEACE; DEFEAT MAY GIVE RUSSIA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

CRISIS AT ST. PETERSBURG.

St. Petersburg, May 31, 5:35 p.m.—A series of conferences is proceeding at Tsarskoe-Selo to determine not only the question of peace but whether it is advisable to yield to the popular demand for the immediate convocation of a National Assembly.

Rojestvensky's Skull Cracked.

Washington, May 31.—The state department has received the following cablegram from Tokyo, dated today: "Rojestvensky's skull fractured, requiring operation; serious but not dangerous. Total Japanese losses to date, three torpedo boats sunk, three officers killed, about 200 men killed and disabled."

JAPS' SMALL LOSS

Three Torpedo Boats Sunk in Battle With Russians.

Washington, D. C., May 31.—The Japanese legation today received the following report from Tokyo: "It is officially announced that in the last naval battle the damages sustained by our fleet were very slight, and none of our battleships, cruisers, destroyers or other ships were lost, except three torpedo boats."

of the Emperor, to thank you and those under you for the onerous service, extending over many months and to express sympathy for the killed and wounded."

Press After Bureaucracy.

St. Petersburg, May 31.—The catastrophe which has overtaken the Russian fleet has given a tremendous impetus to the demand upon Emperor Nicholas for the immediate convocation of a national assembly without awaiting action upon the report of the Bouling rescript commission. With the single exception of the reactionary Soviet, the press pours out indignation, and wrath upon the bureaucracy, which is held responsible for all the misfortunes of the war. Only the Novosti and the Bourse Gazette, however, declare that peace should be concluded. The Russ now the widest-read paper in Russia, says: "Those guilty of Russia's disgrace should be overwhelmed with shame."

GREAT FIRE AT WAR ROAD

Nineteen Business Houses Destroyed—Loss Will Be \$200,000.

Winnipeg, Man., May 31.—Nineteen business houses and two dwellings in War Road, Minn., 90 miles southeast of here, on the border, were destroyed by fire this morning. The loss is \$200,000.

SHARP WORK WITH VOTERS' LISTS

Plans of the Roblin Government to Prevent the Registration of Liberals.

Ottawa, May 30.—The House this afternoon listened to the Liberal side of a question relating to the Manitoba voters' lists, about which the opposition have had a great deal to say this session. Hon. Thomas Greenway brought the matter up, and explained the methods by which a large number of Liberals had been deprived of the opportunity to exercise the franchise, the provincial authorities having reduced the period of registration to limits within which it was impossible for the electorate to register. The location of registration booths was also, he asserted, arranged with the special view of preventing registration by making it inconvenient for the attendance of electors of Liberal persuasion to register. He urged that the Dominion Government should prepare their own lists. The debate upon the subject continued until 10:30 in the evening, and during its progress Hon. Mr. Fielding, while upholding the principle of adopting the provincial franchise, intimated that if advantage was taken of the fact in any part of the Dominion to systematically suppress the franchise of the Liberal Party, it might be necessary for special Dominion lists to be prepared. Mr. George D. Grant took the floor to support the intimation by which his brother purchased an island in the Georgian Bay from the Government, and resented the insinuations by Mr. W. H. Bennett in reference to the matter.

Mr. George D. Grant (North Ontario) rose to make a personal explanation in reference to a statement by Mr. W. H. Bennett on Thursday night. The latter had, in the discussion of the Georgian Bay islands, thrown out the suggestion that the speaker had used his influence to secure an island at a low price for his brother, Mr. F. W. Grant. Mr. Grant declared emphatically and unreservedly that the first he knew of the transaction for sale of the island to Mr. Frederick Grant was when he read the report of Mr. Bennett's speech. He had in no way communicated with or approached the Minister of the Interior in connection with the matter.

Mr. Bennett commenced his reply by going into an explanation of the transaction, and was called to order, whereupon he sat down with a general reference to its being "a crooked transaction."

ALFONSO IN PERIL

Workman Brandishes Dagger Close to His Carriage in Paris.

New York, May 31.—A Paris dispatch to the Herald quotes the Petit Parisien of that city as saying that King Alfonso and President Loubet were driving along the avenue Bois de Boulogne, a spectacle which, through the line of police, dodged the horns of the escort and brandished a dagger, shouting "Down with the king!" long live the workers." The police succeeded in seizing him and at the police station he said his name was Auguste Garney, a jeweler's workman, and secretary of the Jewel-Workers' Federation.

Garney has previously had trouble with the police on account of his revolutionary opinions.

DIFFERENCES SETTLED

Traction Company and St. Thomas Reach an Agreement.

St. Thomas city council and the representatives of the Southwestern Traction Company met last night in St. Thomas to settle the differences regarding the company's cars passing over the street car system operated by the city. The matter of the company's taking up passengers was settled, the terms being that the fare be 2 cents for such passengers, of which the city receives 2 cents and the company 3 cents. The agreement in toto will now be submitted to the people, and if accepted, work will be continued south to the city from its terminal on the township line. Cars may be running by August.

Matheson Finds Gold Mine.

Toronto, May 31.—Col. Matheson, Provincial Treasurer, has found over 500 small estates throughout the Province on which the succession duties have not been paid, some of them being for the first time in over 20 years during which the act was in force. The amounts due from these estates are more than \$100,000. One estate involves a \$25,000 timber limit in Quebec, and both the Ontario and Quebec Governments claim the succession duties.

Morton's New Job.

New York, May 31.—A Washington dispatch to the Herald says: "Paul Morton is to become president of the Interboro Rapid Transit Company of New York upon his retirement as secretary of the navy."

Accidentally Shot.

Ingersoll, Ont., May 31.—While out with a picnic party about one mile east of here last evening, Mr. W. A. Leigh, of the Chronicle staff, was accidentally wounded in the left hip by the discharge of a shotgun. Unless unexpected complications set in he will recover.

RESUMED THE STRIKE

Teamsters and Employers Declared Peace for Decoration Day.

Chicago, May 31.—After twenty-four hours' truce, occasioned by the general closing down of business, the strike struggle today, with the situation as it was Monday and little prospect for any immediate change. The Employers' Teaming Company, which had its previous records today, sending out between 2,500 and 2,600 teamsters. Every driver that could be spared was sent to the lumber district in order to facilitate delivery by the lumber concerns involved in the strike and additional police protection was asked. A further spread among the strike among the lumber firms was looked for today.

COCHRANE SWORN MINES MINISTER

Whitney Takes Oath of Executive President and Foy Attorney-General.

Toronto, May 31.—All changes in the Ontario Cabinet which have been since the introduction in the Legislature of Hon. Mr. Whitney's bill respecting the executive council, the subject of speculation, were consummated yesterday. Mr. Frank Cochrane of Sudbury, as was expected, was sworn in as Minister of Lands and Mines, and was sworn in before the Lieutenant-Governor, Hon. J. P. Whitney took the oath as president of the executive council, and Hon. J. F. Foy as attorney-general.

The special election necessary to make Mr. Cochrane a member of the Legislature will take place as soon as possible. Mr. Charles Lamarche, who represents East Nipissing, and the writs for an election in that riding will be issued today. The nominations will take place on June 13, and the polling, if any is necessary, will be on June 20.

Mr. Cochrane is a hardware merchant at Sudbury. He has been active in the mining and lumbering industries. His family lives in Toronto, but he spends most of his time in Sudbury. In 1902 he was the Conservative candidate in West Nipissing, but was defeated by Joseph Michaud.

THE CUSTOMS RECEIPTS

\$37,825,216 for Four Months, an Increase of a Million.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, May 31.—Customs receipts for the Dominion for eleven months ending today were \$37,825,216, compared with \$36,787,029 for same time last year, an increase of \$1,038,187. Receipts for the month of May were \$3,615,699, an increase of \$205,700.

\$10,000 REWARD

For Restoration of Letters Stolen From a New York Family.

New York, May 31.—Offers of a \$10,000 reward are published here today for the return of a packet of letters, said to have been stolen from a private safe in the home of a wealthy and socially prominent New York family, whose name probably will never be mentioned in connection with the affair unless a scandal should arise from an exposure of the letters' contents.

Incidentally, it is hoped to recover \$80,000 worth of jewels and many thousands of dollars worth of stock certificates which were stolen at the same time as the letters, but in comparison with the latter the loss of the jewelry is considered insignificant.

China to Boycott Yankees.

Manila, May 31.—The Chinese Chamber of Commerce, by a unanimous vote, has decided to stand in line with the treaty ports of China in boycotting merchandise in retaliation for the new exclusion laws.

Lennox Wasn't Ready.

Ottawa, May 31.—A meeting of the public accounts committee was called today to hear Mr. J. L. McDougall, Auditor-General, as to the amendments he desired to make to the bill. As there was no quorum in the committee the meeting was adjourned until Thursday next. Mr. J. L. McDougall was present and ready to go on, but Mr. Hamilton Lennox, who was looking after Mr. McDougall's interest, was not.

THE WEATHER.

Tomorrow—Fine and Warm.

London, Wednesday, May 31. Sun rises, 4:29 a.m. Moon rises, 2:32 a.m. Sun sets, 7:51 p.m. Moon sets, 5:37 p.m. The weather has cleared today in the lake region and the Maritime Provinces, and remained fine elsewhere. In Manitoba and the Northwest Territories it has been decidedly warm.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria, 50-64; Edmonton, 42-50; Qu'Appelle, 46-72; Winnipeg, 45-75; Port Arthur, 48-78; Parry Sound, 40-70; Toronto, 49-64; Ottawa, 50-68; Montreal, 48-62; Quebec, 40-64; St. John, 50-60; Halifax, 50-60.

FORECASTS.

Wednesday, May 31—8 a.m. Today—Light to moderate variable wind. Thursday—Fine and warmer.

Stations. 8 a.m. Min. Weather. Calgary, 42-50, Clear. Winnipeg, 45-75, Clear. Parry Sound, 40-70, Clear. Toronto, 49-64, Clear. Ottawa, 50-68, Clear. Montreal, 48-62, Clear. Quebec, 40-64, Clear. Father Point, 42-50, Clear.

Fine weather prevails in all portions of the Dominion decidedly warm conditions obtaining in the Territories and Manitoba. The present outlook is for continued fine weather.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES. The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the observatory for the 24 hours ended at 8 p.m. Tuesday. Highest, 70°; lowest, 50°; average, 60°.

ROSEBERRY WINS THE DERBY STAKES

Cicero Captures Classic Event With French Crack Close Up.

London, May 31.—Lord Roseberry's Cicero today won the Derby stakes of 5,000 sovereigns, for entire colts and fillies foaled in 1903, about a mile and a half. M. Blanc's Jardy was second, and Chevalier Ginstoll's Signorino was third. Time, 3:11. Nine horses started.

LIBERAL MEETING AT JUBILEE RINK

Issues of the Campaign To Be Fully Discussed Tomorrow Evening.

The big mass meeting in the Jubilee Rink will be held tomorrow evening.

Every Liberal in London is invited to be present but an special invitation is extended to all voters in East London.

Every issue before the people today will be discussed fully and to the satisfaction of the electorate.

Sir William Mulock, Minister of Labor, will speak directly to labor men.

Hon. C. S. Hyman will deal with the issues of the campaign.

Mr. Hugh Guthrie, M. P. for South Wellington, who introduced the Grand Trunk President Bill, will speak of this measure.

Mr. Walter Scott, M. P. for Assiniboia, will address the electors, dealing with the issues of the day from a Western Canada standpoint.

There will be seats for everybody. Everybody will be made welcome. Every voter in London is invited to be present.

Orator at Gray Nomination A Fugitive From Justice

L. F. Rhiaume Beats Hotels and Fails to Return Horse and Buggy.

One of the speakers at the convention which brought out Mr. William Gray, the Conservative candidate, in this city, last Friday night, is now a fugitive from justice. His name is L. F. Rhiaume, and he was known here as a tea and coffee traveler. While in the city he got away without paying his board bills from two hotels, attempted to pass a forged check on one hotelman and wound up his days of jollity by hiring a horse and buggy from Alfred's livery on Dundas street, and failing to return it. This latter event occurred the morning after the Conservative convention.

Rhiaume first made his appearance in London on May 16. At least, this is as far as is known. At that time he registered at a Richmond hotel. He also produced a card to show that he was traveling for Lumden Bros. tea and coffee.

He remained at the hotel for a week, but paid no board. To the clerk and the guests of the house he posed as a man who was not entirely depending upon his salary for a livelihood, and he took particular pains to state to all whom he met that he had upon two occasions contested the constituency of Chateaugay in the Conservative interests in the provincial elections of 1896 and 1900. As he continued to let his board bill run, the clerk of the hotel became suspicious, and he informed the "distinguished traveler" that he had better seek other quarters.

Rhiaume then went to a hotel on King street and registered there. He had been held by his former host as a guarantee that he would pay his bill. The fact that he came barchanded led the King street hotelman to be on his guard. The same day he arrived he presented a check for \$25, supposed to have been signed by a Clarence street wholesale man, and asked the clerk to take his charges out of it. But the hotelman was wiser than the Conservative politician. He did not accept Rhiaume at his own value. He put him off for a minute or two, and in the meantime he telephoned the merchant in whose name the check was made, and he found that it was a forgery.

Rhiaume had left the hotel, but he did not again make his appearance. It is said that he then went to a Dundas street hotel and registered there. Nothing was heard of him for some days until W. J. Alford, of the Metropolitan livery, Dundas street, near Wellington, reported to the police that Rhiaume had hired a horse and buggy from his livery on Saturday and he had not returned it. And up till noon today the outfit has not been recovered.

Today a warrant was sworn out for his arrest, and it is now in the hands of Chief Williams. The chief has also had a description of Rhiaume printed on a postcard, and it is being sent broadcast over the country. The description reads as follows: "Information wanted concerning one L. F. Rhiaume, a French-Canadian, 48 years of age, 5 feet 8 inches in height, weight 170 pounds, stout built, dark complexion. Is wanted on charges of horse stealing and forgery. On Saturday last he hired a bay mare, 15½

On Trial for Dozen Years, Have Given Satisfaction

Mr. J. B. Ferguson Says West Is Perfectly Contented With Its School System.

Autonomy Bill Not Interfering With Rights of Provinces in the Least.

Mr. J. B. Ferguson, of Vancouver, B. C., who has been in the city for some weeks, was this morning asked by The Advertiser for his views on the autonomy bill. Mr. Ferguson, who leaves for his home tomorrow, has been a resident of the west for over thirty years, twenty of which were spent in Manitoba, and he is conversant with all matters affecting the country. In the year he took up his home in Manitoba, Winnipeg was a city of about 7,000 people, mostly men. That year was the second of the great grasshopper plague, the country in June and July was barren of anything green, every blade of grass and every leaf of the trees were eaten up with the pests, Winnipeg and the west have made wonderful strides in those 30 years, said Mr. Ferguson, but the west is just beginning its greatest era of prosperity. Canadians have a heritage west of Lake Superior that the eastern people do not comprehend or appreciate.

"Were you in Manitoba during the school agitation?" Mr. Ferguson was asked.

"I was, and took a somewhat active part in it. I have been associated with educational matters most of my life and it came quite natural to me to take a more or less active part in a matter to which I had given considerable thought and study."

"What is your opinion of the wisdom of the school clause in the autonomy bill now before the House of Commons?"

"To me it seems particularly ridiculous that some people here in Ontario should show so much solicitude regarding the effect of this school legislation when the people who are most interested are not worrying in the least. Sir Wilfrid Laurier could have saved himself a good deal of trouble by leaving the school question very much alone, as Mr. Borden professes he would have done; but I think anyone who gives the matter a second thought must admit that Sir Wilfrid's is much the better way and one which a farseeing statesman who has the courage of his convictions could not help but follow. To have left the school matter to the new provinces to settle would probably have been productive only of constant contention. The Northwest Territories have established already the class of school which it is proposed to perpetuate by the autonomy bill, and which by the way is in no way comparable to your separate schools, as you know them here. These national schools have been on trial for over a dozen years, and have given the greatest satisfaction to all parties. Surely the people of the west must know what they want? It is highly amusing to a western man to hear criticisms of eastern Canadians. One would think the west was populated by a lot of schoolboys, who did not know their own mind. Remember, that all the schools of the Northwest Territories are subject to the same regulations—must be taught by teachers all of whom pass the same examinations, and the same textbooks are used in all. State school differs only from any other in that the privilege is granted for one-half hour at the close of the day for religious teaching, at which it is optional with all whether they will remain or not. I expect the criticism of eastern agitators is prompted by the fear that the west will grow up too moral."

"But what about the interference with provincial rights?" said the scribe.

"Am I interfering with your rights (Continued on page 5.)"

Smith, N. Oxford's Choice In Enthusiastic Convention

The Well-Known Woodstock Barrister Unanimously Nominated to Succeed Late Hon. Jas. Sutherland.

[By a Staff Reporter.]

Woodstock, May 30.—This afternoon, in one of the greatest conventions ever held in Woodstock, Mr. George Smith, barrister, of this city, was unanimously chosen to be the Liberal standard-bearer for North Oxford. The convention was unique, and every delegate was impressed with the seriousness of the occasion. All felt that indeed the eyes of the whole Dominion were upon them, and they would not shrink their duty. Every session was fully represented, not one delegate of the 268 being absent. There were no signs that the "no coercion cry" raised by Maclean and Sproule would stampede good old Oxford; on the contrary, there was felt the necessity of throwing back the race cry into the teeth of those men, and support Sir Wilfrid Laurier to the end.

Something was missing in the convention, and the old-timers looked in vain for "Jimmy" Sutherland, as they affectionately termed him. Many were the kind words spoken of him, and many the eulogy passed on his memory.

There was keen rivalry between Messrs. Smith and Nesbitt, but there was no trace of bitterness, and the Liberal ranks are by no means divided.

The old guard from Zorra will be on hand on June 13, and will show North Oxford true to Liberalism.

Packed to the Doors.

Before the time of meeting the town hall was packed to the doors, and every delegate was seated. Mr. Malcolm Douglas, president of the North Oxford Liberal Association, occupied the chair, and on the platform with him were: George Maion, secretary; Col. Munro, Mr. L. A. Mr. Schell, M. P. for South Oxford; Mr. J. Inwood, general secretary of Ontario Liberal Association; Mr. E. W. Nesbitt, Mr. George Smith, Thomas Lockhart, A. R. Weld, James Hamilton, Alex. McIntosh, Frank Patterson, Dr. McWilliam, and other prominent Liberals.

"Jimmy" Sutherland Missed.

Mr. Malcolm Douglas, in his opening address, expressed his deep regret to the untimely death of the Hon. James Sutherland. He had represented them, and represented them well, for a quarter of a century, and had served his constituents and his country as very few men ever had. With all his honors, he had remained the same "Jim" Sutherland, and all had lost a friend. His duty was to fill his place as best they could, being assured that their choice today would be North Oxford's choice for the House of Commons.

Mr. G. W. Manson, Harrington, and Mr. James Baird, Plattsville, introduced a resolution of condolence to be (Continued on page 5.)

THE RUSSIAN LOSSES.

As the details come in of the great battle in the Straits of Korea it becomes evident that the naval power of Russia was utterly destroyed during the three days of running fighting. Every one of Rojestvensky's fourteen armored ships has been accounted for. Here is the list:

BATTLESHIPS.

KNIAZ SUVAROFF (sunk). NAVARIN (sunk).
BORODINO (sunk). SISSOI VELIKI (sunk).
ALEXANDER III. (sunk). NICHOLAS I. (captured).
OSLIABIA (sunk). ORSEL (captured).

CRUISERS AND COAST DEFENSE SHIPS.

DMITRI DONSKOI (sunk). OUSHAKOFF (sunk).
NAKHIMOFF (sunk). SENIAVIN (captured).
MONOMACH (sunk). APRAXINE (captured).

There were six protected cruisers in Rojestvensky's fleet. Two of them are known to have been sunk and one captured. One is at Vladivostok. There remains in eastern waters under Russia's flag, at the most, including the Russia and Gromobol, but five cruisers, and three only of that great fleet which sailed into the Straits of Korea last Saturday.

Admiral Togo's official report shows that Rojestvensky, his flag officers and headquarters staff escaped from the sinking flagship on Saturday afternoon and were later captured by a Japanese destroyer on board a Russian vessel of the same class. Rojestvensky and another admiral, presumably Volkersman, were severely wounded. This disposes of the story that the Russian admiral had reached Vladivostok.

Sasebo naval hospital. No other admiral was captured from the Biedovy, last report in this respect being due to clerical error.

Commander Isam Takeshita, naval attaché of Japan to the United States, was at the White House early today and communicated the above information to the President.

The Gromobol Not Lost.

St. Petersburg, May 31.—1:30 p.m.—The admiralty denies the report telegraphed to the London Daily Express that the cruiser Gromobol, of the Vladivostok squadron, had been sunk with nearly 800 men on board. A message was received from Capt. Broussikoff, her commander, last night, which it was believed was sent by wireless telegraph to Vladivostok. Vice-Admiral Skrydloff, who was reported to be on board the Gromobol, is in St. Petersburg. The Gromobol sailed out of Vladivostok so soon as Admiral Rojestvensky was reported to have arrived in the Straits of Korea, but the admiralty denies whether the Gromobol was engaged.

The admiralty had no further news to communicate this morning. A report of the battle, however, has been received from the captain of the Russian transport Korea, now at Wonsung, and it is also understood that the transport has received a communication from Japan, possibly from Rear-Admiral Nebogoff or Admiral Rojestvensky.

Japan Thanks Togo.

Tokio, May 31.—3:30 p.m.—Admiral Yamamoto, Minister of the Navy, today sent the following telegram to Admiral Togo:

"The enemy's second and third squadrons successfully overcoming the difficulties attending their voyage eastward showed themselves no mean power, but your squander intercepting them in advance of their destination put them to confusion, and destroyed and captured nearly all their units. Your victory does not end here. You captured the enemy's commander-in-chief. It is most gratifying for our national cause that you achieved such a victory."

"We send sincere congratulations and take occasion to praise the virtue

TOGO SURE OF IT.

Tokio, May 30.—Admiral Togo has wired Admiral Yamamoto, Minister of the Navy, as follows:

"The main force of the Russian second and third fleets is nearly annihilated. Please feel assured of it."

Tokio, May 30.—The official announcement is made that Admiral Rojestvensky has been captured, and that he is seriously wounded. Admiral Togo's latest dispatches say he captured or sank 21 of the enemy's ships.