

CONGRESS FOR REPEAL OF EXCEPTION CLAUSE

Majority of 86 for Eliminating Section from Panama Canal Act.

DEMOCRAT LEADERS OPPOSE PRESIDENT.

Two Hundred and Twenty Democrats Stand by Wilson and Fifty-two Line Up in Opposition.

Washington, March 31.—The house of representatives tonight, after the most spectacular legislative struggle in the history of the nation, voted to repeal the provision of the Panama Canal Act exempting American vessels from the payments of tolls. The vote on the repeal bill was 247 to 161, a majority of 86 votes in support of the personal plea of President Wilson.

This verdict on the issue which has absorbed congress for many weeks came at the close of a string of days made memorable in the annals of the house by a party division which found Speaker Clark, Majority Leader Underwood and other Democratic chieftains lined up in open opposition to the president on an issue which the latter had declared vital to his conduct of the nation's foreign policy.

Goes to Senate Today.

Today's result was but the beginning of a victory for the administration in the first struggle in the party since Democracy took control of the government a year ago, for tomorrow the bill goes to the senate, where the fight will be renewed with all the vigor and determination that attended it in the lower house.

On the final vote, 220 Democrats in the house stood by the president, giving him an "unshrinking measure" what he had asked "for the honor of the nation." In his own behalf, when he had asked "for the honor of the nation," fifty-two Democrats followed Speaker Clark and Mr. Underwood to defeat in their steadfast determination that the president was wrong in his contention that toll exacted from American ships is a violation of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty with Great Britain.

Clark Triumphant in Defeat.

Nothing, it seemed, could stem the tide of administration victory. Speaker Clark, for nearly twenty-two years a member of the house, made the most of his life to forestall what he termed "unquestionable degradation" of the nation. In this he failed but he smoothed over the party breach with carefully chosen words for his adversaries, and for President Wilson and his qualified denial of any vaunting ambition on his own behalf. When he closed the debate for the opposition to the repeal with an impassioned argument in which he often departed from his prepared speech, the speaker was triumphant in defeat, for the entire legislative assemblage, in which were many Senators, rose on a mass to cheer him.

President Wilson was at dinner when the result of the vote was announced. He was gratified but made no comment.

In the senate the bill will be referred to the committee on Inter-Oceanic Canals, of which Senator O'Gorman of New York, a vigorous opponent of the measure, is chairman. Senator O'Gorman has said he would call a meeting of the committee at once to consider the bill. That there will be a fight in that committee is certain. How long it will be there cannot be predicted, but administration senators propose that a vote shall be taken by the committee within a reasonable time. Senator Owen is leading the fight for the President there.

POPE GIVES AUDIENCE TO ABBE GASQUET

Pontiff Hears of Interest Being Shown in America in Work of Revising the Vulgate.

Roma, Mar. 31.—The pope received in private audience today Rev. Francis A. Gasquet, abbot-president of the English Benedictines, who has recently returned from the United States. Abbot Gasquet describes the interest Americans have taken in the revision of the Vulgate, which has been entrusted to his care, and the pontiff expressed his pleasure, giving promise to those who have contributed in a practical way to the success of the great work.

WIFE OF MAJ. GEN. MACDONALD DIED AT OTTAWA, YESTERDAY.

Ottawa, Mar. 31.—Mrs. D. A. Macdonald, wife of Major General Macdonald of the Militia Department, died here today after a long illness. She was the daughter of the late Hon. Hugh Richardson.

PROROGATION NOT LIKELY THIS WEEK

Legislature Has Considerable Business to Dispose of This Week.

HYDRO-ELECTRIC BILL DEFEATED IN COMMITTEE

Bill to Provide for Plebiscite on Woman Suffrage in St. John Is Agreed to.

Fredricton, Mar. 31.—Premier Fleming gave notice in the house today that the time for the introduction of private bills would be extended till Thursday. This makes it practically impossible for the house to be prorogued during this week.

At the sessions of the house today several bills were introduced. The corporation committee did not report on the hydro-electric bill but it is expected that when this comes before the house again that it will cause a lively debate.

A St. John City court bill was before the law committee tonight. The corporation committee will meet Thursday morning at ten o'clock. The municipalities committee and the agricultural committee will meet on Wednesday.

CANADIAN BAR ASSOCIATION ORGANIZED

Representatives of Legal Profession from All Over Canada Meet at Ottawa—Hon. C. J. Doherty Honorary President.

Ottawa, Mar. 31.—The Canadian Bar Association, the formation of which has long been the idea of the Hon. C. J. Doherty, Minister of Justice, took definite form at a meeting in the railway committee room of the House of Commons this afternoon. Representatives from all the provinces, including a number of members of parliament, federal and provincial, were present. The general idea was to promote closer ties among the members of the bar of the Dominion and to assist in the betterment of the law, federal and provincial.

The constitution is based largely upon that of the American Bar Association. The officers were elected as follows:

Honorary president, Hon. C. J. Doherty, Minister of Justice; honorary vice-presidents, the Attorneys General of Canada; president, J. A. M. Alken, K.C., M.P., of Winnipeg; vice-presidents, Nova Scotia, Humphrey Mellish, K.C., Halifax; New Brunswick, M. G. Teed, K.C., Fredericton; Prince Edward Island, K. J. Martin, K.C., Charlottetown; Quebec, R. C. Smith, K.C., Montreal; Ontario, James Hicknell, K.C., Toronto; Saskatchewan, James McKay, M.P., Prince Albert; Manitoba, Hon. H. A. Robson, Winnipeg; Alberta, James Muir, K.C., Calgary; British Columbia, Gordon Corbould, K.C., New Westminster; secretary, E. Fabre Surveys, K.C., Montreal; treasurer, J. F. O'Ke, K.C., Ottawa.

The council is to be composed of eight members from the bars of Ontario and Quebec, and four from each of the other provinces.

ORDER PROHIBITING ENTRY OF LABORERS INTO BRITISH COLUMBIA

Ottawa, March 31.—It is expected that tomorrow the government will renew the order in council which prohibits the immigration into British Columbia of laborers. The order in council which was passed by months ago expires today. The chief purpose of the order is the exclusion of Hindu laborers.

Foreign Secretary's Suggestion Received Favorably by Many on Both Sides.

PREMIER ASQUITH BEGINS NEW DUTIES.

Sir Edward Grey's Plan May Lead to Further Negotiations for Arrangement of Acceptable Compromise.

London, April 1.—Another surprise was experienced in the political world yesterday, when the expected resignation from the government of Viscount Morley failed to materialize. It was generally expected that Lord Morley would make an announcement regarding his position, and consequently there was a large attendance of peers in the House of Lords. Occupying the front bench, Lord Morley made a short statement to the effect that he had not resigned, but that if the first resignation of Col. Mead's resignation, he would have followed. He had advised the paragraphs added by Col. Mead to the memorandum because he was under the impression that they represented the views of the government.

The parliamentary correspondent of The Standard says that Lord Morley's lofty sincerity is the one clean spot on the muddy road of prevarication which his colleagues have been trailing for the last ten days. In the Commons the debate on the second reading of the Home Rule Bill proceeded through Mr. Asquith was absent. Mr. Walter Long moved the rejection of the bill, strenuously denying that the opposition resisted the measure because it was desirous of destroying the parliament. An important overture was made by Sir Edward Grey, who invited the opposition leaders to resume the conversations for a settlement. At the same time he offered a general election on condition that the Unionists facilitate the passage of the plural voting bill.

Sir Edward indicated that the government was desirous to place the home rule bill on the statute book, and that this condition must govern all offers of a settlement. In his remarks he made it clear that he favored a solution along the lines of the federal idea.

Asquith at New Post.

Mr. Asquith entered upon his duties at the War Office yesterday. He began his tenure of his new office with an invitation to General Paget to come to London and give a version of recent incidents in the controversy.

The Unionists of Fife will decide on Thursday whether or not they will contest the seat against the premier, but Jim Larkin, of "fery cross" fame, announces his intention of opposing Mr. Asquith.

A parliamentary writer observed a few days ago: "This amazing government seems to thrive upon its blunders and its mistakes and its errors without parallel in modern times has been that the debate on the second reading of the Home Rule bill has resumed today in an atmosphere of unexpected calm, with apparently a better prospect of being carried by consent than ever before in the history of the House of Commons." The representatives of the Carletonville methods have raised, of an election height on a platform of "the parliament versus the army." Even the moderate Liberals are anxious to avoid such a struggle, which it is foreseen will be a hotly contested one.

The agitation to abolish the veto power of the House of Lords is being revived. Hence the proposal of Sir Edward Grey, secretary of state for foreign affairs, to the House of Commons today of a resolution which would give the British titles as a solution of the difficulty, which he put forward in a most conciliatory speech, has been received on both sides of the house with great sympathy and it is believed will lead to a renewal of the negotiations between the two front benches for the arrangement of an acceptable compromise.

The large body of opinion, both inside and outside parliament supports a settlement on the federal basis, and a meeting of about fifty members of the house representing both parties was held today to discuss such a settlement.

Viscount Morley's decision not to resign as lord president of the council pleases the Liberals, as at his advanced age it would have meant his permanent retirement from politics and the party would regret to lose the veteran statesman retired under a cloud.

Sir Edward Grey said he believed that if the difficulty was solved by the introduction of a federal system the country would go under through the sheer inability of parliament to transact business. If he added that the election could be assured on the terms of securing the abolition of plural voting and of placing home rule and Welsh disestablishment on the statute book the method would be worthy of consideration. The Foreign Secretary's suggestion of a federal system was received by the house with marked attention.

RT. REV. WM. NILES DEAD.

Concord, N. H., Mar. 31.—Right Rev. William Woodruff Niles, D.D., LL.D., 1832.

FOUR OCEAN LINERS, THIS YEAR, ON THE ATLANTIC

Bookings Well Up to Other Years and Indications Point to Good Travel to Canada.

Quebec, Mar. 31.—Mr. F. S. Stocking, rail and steamship agent, says the bookings so far compare favorably with those of other years and the opinion is that the travel will be as heavy as in the past. There will be three or four new ocean liners on the Atlantic route, including the two big Allan liners, the *Albatross* and *Osagean*, which will make Quebec their terminus. The Canada Line will launch a new vessel on this route in the Atlantic and in addition to these new steamers the Hamburg-American line will have their craft on the Atlantic service.

The schedule of the different steamship companies provide for thirty-nine sailings from Montreal and Quebec in May, the opening month of navigation of the St. Lawrence. Following is a list of the number of sailings of the different lines for May: Allan line, 12; White Star, Dominion, 5; C. P. R., 4; Cunard, 4; Donaldson, 4; Canada, 4; Hamburg-American, 4; Royal Mail, 4.

NO OFFICIAL WORD OF FALL OF TORREON

Report that Consul at Chihuahua Had Notified Washington to This Effect Created Furor at Juarez.

Juarez, Mexico, Mar. 31.—This city and El Paso were thrown into a furor of excitement this afternoon by a report that Consul Letcher at Chihuahua had forwarded a telegram to Secretary Bryan that Torreón fell at 1:30 o'clock.

An official here telephoned a leading business house that the report was official.

In a few minutes the streets leading to the telegraph office were jammed with persons seeking information. Among them were most of the rebel officials who presently announced that the fall had not been officially reported.

Secretary Bryan said tonight he had received no message from Consul Letcher announcing the fall of Torreón and that no important news from Mexico had come to the State Department during the day.

JURY FAILS TO AGREE IN MURDER CASE

James Murphy, Charged With Killing Wife's Grandmother, Will Have to Stand Second Trial.

Halifax, N. S., Mar. 31.—The jury in the case of James Murphy, charged with the murder of Mrs. Margaret Brown, his wife's grandmother, failed to agree on a verdict and was discharged. The trial was opened on Monday morning and the case was placed in the hands of the jury this afternoon. After six hours' deliberation the jury returned to the court room tonight and reported a disagreement. In reply to the judge the foreman stated that there was no hope of an agreement being reached, and the jury was then discharged.

Murphy will now have to stand a second trial which will likely take place immediately. Mrs. Brown was murdered with a hammer in her home on Bibby street. There was no motive shown for the crime.

HUSBAND AND WIFE ARE REUNITED AFTER THIRTY-FIVE YEARS

Husband's Name Published Among List of Dead After Battle—Both Have Remained Unmarried Since.

Montreal, March 31.—Alfred Welland, furniture dealer, has just been reunited to his wife, who for thirty-five years had been under the impression that her husband was dead. Welland at one time a stalwart young soldier who fought through the Russo-Turkish war in 1877, and one of his first engagements was at the battle of Plevna. Welland was wounded, and his name was published among the list of dead. Mrs. Welland was told that he had been buried in an unknown grave. Later she sailed for Australia.

Periodically he would advertise for "Mary Welland," but in not one single instance did he receive any reliable clue. Last week he received a badly written letter from New York, stating that the writer was Mary Welland, and asking who was seeking for her. He took the next train, and went to the address given in the letter. Mary Welland opened the door.

Before Alfred Welland could say word, or tell who he was, the wife recognized her husband, and they embraced each other. Mrs. Welland had quietly borne what she thought was her widowed husband, and never married. Mr. Welland, too, remained a "widower." The couple today reached Montreal, where they will start housekeeping again.

RAILWAY ACT BILL GIVEN SECOND READING

Hon. Mr. Loughheed Moves to Have it Referred to Joint Committee of Senate and Commons.

Ottawa, Mar. 31.—After second reading being granted to the bill concerning the Railway Act in the Senate today, Hon. Mr. Loughheed moved that it be referred to a joint committee of the Senate and House of Commons. This precipitated a discussion, when Senator Bostock, the opposition leader opposed the move.

In moving second reading Hon. Mr. Loughheed said the past revision had been in 1906. Since that time there had been twelve amendments which had been embodied in the revision. In the revision the experience of the law in the courts had been observed and council had been taken from railway organizations, railways and railway commission, etc.

The representations of Boards of Trades and other public bodies made from time to time also had been considered. In revising the Railway Act care had been taken not to disturb the phraseology of sections which satisfactory had stood the test of experience and time. When sections had not proved satisfactory they had been remodelled.

The rates charged by telegraph, telephone, power and electric companies as well as express rates were placed under the jurisdiction of the Railway Commission, as well as jurisdiction over charges of transportation of goods in Canada by water.

The bill was given second reading and Hon. Mr. Loughheed moved that it be referred to a joint committee of the two Houses of Parliament. He said he did this in order to expedite legislation and to avoid the unnecessary repetition of the evidence and arguments on behalf of railways, boards of trade, and other bodies who are interested in the bill, and would desire to make representations concerning its provisions.

The debate was not finished. The Senate today gave third reading to the bill, extending the time for the payment of \$500 in lieu of land for a Southern African veteran scrip. Senators T. L. Davis, and Cloran claimed this was merely giving a bonus to land speculators and that this should be eliminated. The bill was adopted, however.

WOODSTOCK MAN KILLED AT AROOSTOOK JCT.

Fred Grant, a Brakeman, Struck Switch Post While at Work Shunting Cars.

Harland, Mar. 31.—A sad accident occurred at Aroostook Junction this morning when Fred Grant, a brakeman, was instantly killed while engaged in shunting cars. He was hanging to the side of the car when he struck a switch post at the side of the track. He was thrown to the ground and when the horrified men working with him reached him he was expired.

Mr. Grant was about twenty-five years of age and belonged to Woodstock. He leaves a wife and one child.

BANDIT GAVE TAXI DRIVER LARGE SUM

Chauffeur Received Over Seven Hundred Dollars from Krafchenko to Purchase Outfit—Charged It Up to Bandit and Kept Cash.

Morden, Man., March 31.—The crown by the calling of many witnesses, having laid before the court and jury dealing with the charge against John Krafchenko the story of the actual robbery, the murder of H. M. Arnold, and the flight in the automobile of Wm. Dyck, today changed the scene by dealing with the arrival of Krafchenko in Winnipeg and of his subsequent movements there which terminated in his arrest. The star witness in this connection is Ben R. Rolph, a Winnipeg taxi driver, the man to whom Wm. Rolph carried a message from Krafchenko asking Rolph to go down to Plum Coulee, Regie, a former witness has already told how Rolph refused, and Rolph today went into further details of his refusal and told of his subsequent dealings with Krafchenko.

Rolph went on the stand this morning and W. H. Hastings, crown prosecutor, elicited from him the detailed story of his connection with Krafchenko, which dated back to an alleged shooting party consisting of Krafchenko, Thomas Collins and a man named Larsen. Rolph had taken the party to a town in which he was named Plum Coulee, but said no shooting was done. On December 4, the day after the Plum Coulee tragedy, a man had stopped his car on William avenue and he found to his surprise the man was Krafchenko. Krafchenko had asked to be driven to the north end of the city and en route had handed Rolph a parcel containing seventy-four \$10 Bank of Montreal bills and also \$75 in loose bills, the latter being for Rolph to purchase clothes for him (Krafchenko).

Rolph had bought these clothes and charged them to Krafchenko, and had hidden the \$740 in his house. He was still under cross-examination when the court adjourned.

OTTAWA BOARD OF CONTROL GETS SHOCK

Executive of Social Service Congress Draws on City for Twenty-seven Dollars.

Ottawa, March 31.—Members of the Board of Control were today almost stricken speechless. They received notification from the executive of the Social Service Congress recently here that it was drawing on the city for \$27.50. In view of the fact that the city had granted \$200 for the expenses of the convention, and as the usual run of such gatherings never account for such grants, the shock was almost too much for the controllers, who were greatly surprised at the \$172.42 unexpectedly in hand. The committee told the board other funds in hand were sufficient to pay all expenses.

Grit Defenders of Transcontinental Deal So Far Failed to Explain This Phase.

MR. FOWLER'S ADDRESS AWAITED WITH INTEREST

French Members Hold Floor Most of Session—Mr. F. B. McCurdy Tells House Something About Exp. of Berry.

Ottawa, Ont., Mar. 31.—This was not a particularly interesting day in the House of Commons, little or no new matter being brought out. Senators were awaiting with much interest the address of Geo. W. Fowler, but he did not speak. The entire afternoon and until 8:15 in the evening was occupied by Mr. Severy, Conservative and Mr. Lachance, Liberal, both of whom spoke in French. Following the French members came the logical speech of the day, the speaker being F. B. McCurdy of Queens-Shelburne. Mr. McCurdy drew attention to the fact that some of the Liberal speakers who had discussed the question had attempted to give the house and people any explanation for the over expenditure on the N. T. R. Sir Wilfrid had said it would cost \$13,000,000 or about as much as Canada's surplus for 1913. On this distinct understanding he was given by the people a mandate to proceed with the undertaking. Sir Wilfrid's minister of finance doubted the accuracy of his leader's estimate and raised it to \$61,415,000. The actual cost of the undertaking will be more than three times that sum.

Mr. McCurdy then proceeded to review the Stanton-Gutelius report at length. The member for Ice Fields, Mr. MacDonald, seemed to be solicitous regarding the nationality of Mr. Gutelius, engineer of the investigating commission. Mr. Gutelius' railway experience was of more importance, and he had had ample success to qualify him for the position. Ex-Minister of Railways Graham had laid stress upon the opinion of an American engineer named Berry, now assistant manager of the Rock Island Railway. It was Berry's pronouncement that he used to contradict the evidence of the report of the investigating commission. If the financial position of Rock Island could be taken as an index of Mr. Berry's ability, it was not flattering to him. Four years ago the common stock of Rock Island was quoted at \$55 per share, now it sells for \$4 per share. The preferred stock of the same road was worth four years ago \$2.50 and now sells for \$1.75. This did not help to increase the reputation of the expert upon whom the government depended for its evidence.

Ottawa, Mar. 31.—The French speaking members had the floor in the Commons today and the continued discussion of the N. T. R. report was carried on almost entirely in French.

Condemned by Their Own.

Mr. Albert Severy, of Dorchester, the first speaker, stated that it would not do for the opposition to decry Messrs. Stanton and Gutelius as partisans and let their whole report go at that. Mr. J. O. Mousseau, of Soulanges, the friend of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, similarly Mr. R. L. Richardson who, in the MacDonald election had been backed by the Liberal interests, had charged that in the construction of the N. T. R. there had been great waste of money.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's original estimate of the cost of the country of the N. T. R. was \$13,000,000, was next referred to. This was the road, said Mr. Severy, which it was now seen would cost \$180,000,000 without allowing for interest. The country stood to lose one per cent on its cost of construction since the rental of the Grand Trunk Pacific would pay only three per cent, whereas, Canada would have to pay at least four per cent to obtain the money to pay for the line. This meant a total loss of \$45,000,000. Mr. Severy also doubted not that the Grand Trunk Pacific after it took over the line would use the high cost of its construction as an argument for charging high freight rates and thus its whole purpose would be defeated.

(Continued on page 5)

COAL MINES IN OHIO ARE CLOSED DOWN

Cleveland, Ohio, March 31.—With few exceptions every coal mine in Ohio was closed down today. The night local operators estimate that fifty thousand miners are affected.

Recent legislation changing the method of payment of miners from the screen plant to the run of the mines basis is the cause of the shut-down.