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HYMAN'S RESIGNATION

Premier Sure He is Ill and Vouches for Validity of Letter—But How Was Signature Attested?

Ottawa, Feb. 15.—(Special.)—The validity of Hon. C. S. Hyman's resignation as member for London was called into question this afternoon by R. L. Borden. In reply the premier suggested that the whole subject be referred to the committee on privileges and elections, an expedient which would result in the further postponement of an appeal to the London electorate.

Mr. Borden asked why it was that, having received on Feb. 2 a telegram which appeared to determine the question of Mr. Hyman's status as a cabinet minister, the premier neglected to communicate the fact to the house until Feb. 8. On Feb. 8, Mr. Hyman's resignation was communicated to the Liberal Club in London. As to the character of the resignation itself, Mr. Borden observed that it was irregular in that the signature was not attested by either of the two witnesses.

Mr. Borden also alluded to the press despatches from California relative to Mr. Hyman's apparent good health. Mr. Hyman replied: "I am only too glad to give any information which is in my knowledge and competency to give. Having received the telegram withdrawing my resignation he did not communicate to the house because he expected from day to day that Mr. Hyman's resignation would be communicated to the house, and he therefore wished to have the two announcements made at the same time."

Now, how could I expect Mr. Hyman would send his resignation commencing to Mr. Speaker? The only information I had on this subject was that Mr. Speaker had referred to Mr. Hyman's resignation in the early part of November, and this day to day that it was expected from some form or other. Now, my hon. friend asks me how it is that this resignation has not been attested by the signatures of two men who apparently have signed in London.

"My hon. friend has asked, rather jokingly, whether these two witnesses went back to California or Mr. Hyman went back to London. I can give him no more information than he has. The only communication I received was from Mr. Hyman, who informed me that he had signed his resignation in London. I would have no hesitation in signing it, because I know his handwriting, and because I have no doubt that it was genuine."

"With respect to the remarks made as to the health of Mr. Hyman, he did not think they were in good taste. Evidently somebody had been spying upon Mr. Hyman and had informed the press as to his movements."

"Some parties have concluded from the fact that Mr. Hyman rose at a certain time in the morning, took a bath, went to the races and went to bed at 8 in the evening, that he must be in very good health," he said. "Well, I do not judge, I know Mr. Hyman pretty well, as do we all, and I must say when I learn that he had gone to bed at 8 o'clock, I conclude that he must be sick."

"At this there was a roar of laughter. 'Everybody knew that Mr. Hyman, when he left the house, was in a nervous prostration, and the treatment prescribed in such cases was absence from mental and physical work, together with all the physical enjoyments obtainable. Under the circumstances the spy had confirmed the impression that he was not in his usual health.'"

Reason for It. W. H. Bennett replied by saying that the good or bad taste of the leader of the opposition would not likely be called into question by the people of Ontario, who had read carefully the history of the "Hyman case" during the past three or four months. He continued: "We are told by the prime minister that when Mr. Hyman left this country he was suffering from nervous prostration. The whole country will agree to that. I think he spent many nights pondering upon what was going to become of certain revelations upon his political future, and more than that was going to be the effect upon the political future of hon. gentlemen opposite, particularly those from the Province of Ontario."

FOUR STATES FOR TWO-CENT FARES.

NOT A VOTE AGAINST IT IN IOWA HOUSE. Des Moines, Iowa, Feb. 15.—Iowa's two-cent fare measure passed the house by a vote of 108 to 0. The publication clause was stricken out, so that if it passes the senate in a similar manner, it is almost certain the measure will become law on July 4. Cheers greeted the passage of the measure in the house.

MISSOURI SENATE AGREES ON MEASURE. Jefferson City, Mo., Feb. 15.—The senate unanimously passed a bill providing for two-cent railroads. The bill is almost identical with one previously passed by the house. The measure will probably be agreed upon in conference and become a law.

REFORM IN CIVIL SERVICE IS DEMANDED BY GRAHAM

Liberal Leader Makes It Leading Feature of Address in the Middlesex Campaign.

Strathroy, Feb. 15.—(Special.)—The opera house was packed to the doors to-night to hear the Hon. Geo. P. Graham speak in behalf of Duncan Ross, Liberal candidate in West Middlesex. Mr. Ross denounced the Whitney government for the dismissal of so many civil servants. His remarks were greeted with loud applause.

Mr. Graham complimented Mr. Ross on his speaking. "We want Duncan Ross in G. W. Ross' place, and it is for the people in West Middlesex to say if we shall have him," he said. "There will be two chief justices of the supreme court of appeal, which will have three judges. The provisions of the amendment the present supreme court will be continued, but not as a court of appeal. The number of judges will be reduced from six to four, and the attorney-general will be a member of the court of appeals which will hear appeals and applications for new trials."

There will be two chief justices of the supreme court of New Brunswick, and a chief justice for the province. The chief justice of appellate division will become chief justice of New Brunswick. Mr. Hazen, leader of the opposition, in a speech, contended that if judges were unnecessary, and present six were not overworked, but will not act in cases of appeal or hear applications, judges will be appointed to the new court of appeal, which will have three judges. The provisions of the amendment the present supreme court will be continued, but not as a court of appeal. The number of judges will be reduced from six to four, and the attorney-general will be a member of the court of appeals which will hear appeals and applications for new trials."

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WEST VA. SENATE PASSES HOUSE BILL

Charleston, W. Va., Feb. 15.—By a vote of 76 to 5, the house passed the senate two-cent fare bill, after amending it by striking out the provision exempting lines 50 miles in length or less. The amendment makes it conform to the straight two-cent fare bill passed by the house.

TWO CENTS A MILE ON PENN. RAILWAYS. Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 15.—A bill making two cents a mile the maximum chargeable by any railroad carrying passengers in Pennsylvania was passed by the house of representatives yesterday.

IMPORTANT ALTERATION IN JUDICIARY OF N. B.

Supreme Court to Be Reduced and New Court of Appeal to Be Established.

Fredericton, N.B., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—In the house this afternoon the attorney-general submitted a bill to amend the Judiciary Act and to provide a court of appeals. Under the provisions of the amendment the present supreme court will be continued, but not as a court of appeal. The number of judges will be reduced from six to four, and the attorney-general will be a member of the court of appeals which will hear appeals and applications for new trials."

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THE BLAZED TRAIL. Mr. WHITNEY: I don't think I can stray if I follow this Algoma crowd.

SHOOTS WOMAN AND SELF WAITED AT DOOR FOR HER

John Raymore, a bartender, kills Mary Charlton, with whom he had been living for eight years—they had quarreled a week ago.

MRS. MARY CHARLTON, widow, age 35, shot to death. JOHN J. RAYMORE, bartender, age 45, a suicide.

Pat Maher's temper. Said to have hit employee over head with iron bar.

Big new cotton mill. Montreal to have one operating 40,000 spindles.

Resent German activity. French minister of war intimates that something will be done.

Deaths. CRAIG—At Brampton, Feb. 14th, Eleanor Jane Craig, aged 64 years, died of pneumonia.

JEROME DESIRES TO KNOW THAW'S MENTAL CALIBRE

Says His Experts Have an Open Mind on Subject—Trial Resumes Monday.

New York, Feb. 15.—This statement as to Mr. Jerome's position with regard to the sanity or insanity of Thaw was made to-day.

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SOULDN'T ASK COLONIES' GOLD

Government and Opposition at One in Discourteous Colonial Contributions Toward Defence of Empire.

(Canadian Associated Press Cable.) London, Feb. 15.—In the house of commons, Harold Cox (Liberal) moved an amendment affirming that the first question to be laid before the colonial conference should be the importance of fuller participation by the colonies in the cost of imperial defence.

Mr. Balfour continuing said, if the colonies provided for their own defence we could not reduce the strength of the navy. He did not think it reasonable to ask a colonial parliament to vote money which somebody else was to spend. Better to trust to the patriotic enthusiasm of the colonies than a hard and fast organization.

Mr. Cox urged the government to enter into negotiations with the colonies for a partnership on strictly equitable terms, similar to those embodied in the treaty with Japan. Mr. Balfour said there ranged third Mr. Cox's speech a desire to treat the question of national defence rather in a strictly bargaining spirit of interchange of services between constituent parts of the empire, which ought to be the greatest link between the colonies and ourselves.

Mr. Jerome does not know whether or not Thaw is insane. None of his assistants know. None of the experts retained for the prosecution know. These experts have not had an opportunity to examine Thaw either as to his physical condition or his mental calibre. They are present in court at the trial with an open mind. They would like to know.

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