

The Herald

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Dominion Parliament

The Parliamentary session, pursuant to official summons, opened at Ottawa on Wednesday afternoon last, 12th, inst., and after choosing a speaker for the House of Commons adjourned to Thursday afternoon, when the formal opening took place. His Royal Highness the Governor-General was not present for Wednesday's ceremony, being represented, as is customary, by his deputy, Sir Charles Fitzpatrick. Sir Robert Borden, who was suffering from grippe, was also unable to attend, and Hon. C. J. Doherty, minister of justice, another victim of this malady, was also absent.

The Senate convened at 2.30 half an hour earlier than the Commons, and received the four new members who had been summoned since last session. They are: Hon. T. S. Sproule, ex-speaker of the Commons; Hon. C. P. Beaubien, of Montreal; Hon. John Milne, of Hamilton; Hon. John McLean, of Prince Edward Island. The upper house then adjourned until the arrival of the deputy of the Governor General.

The Commons assembled, as usual, at 3 o'clock, the clerk of the house, Dr. Flint, presiding in the absence of a Speaker. There was a very satisfactory attendance of members, with a sprinkling of kariki, those who wore uniforms being Gerald White, of North Renfrew; Dr. Stewart Lunenburg; H. B. Tremaine, of Hants; G. H. Bradbury, of Selkirk, and G. W. Fowler, of Kings-Albert. The members of the lower house were summoned with the usual ceremony to the senate chamber by Black Rod, Lt. Col. Ernest Chambers. On arrival there they were instructed, according to the usual practice, to return to their own house and elect a speaker to represent them in their intercourse with the crown. They proceeded to do so, but on their return to the commons first received official intimation of various vacancies which have occurred in the lower house since last session, including that of the speakership. The list was a long one, including Messrs Dewitt Foster, of Kings; W. F. Garland, of Carleton; W. H. Sharpe, of Lisgar; Sir James Aikins, of Brandon; Samuel Barker, of Hamilton; James W. Richards, of Prince; Hon. Louis Coderre, of Hochelaga; James Reid, of Restigouche; E. A. Lancaster, of Lincoln, and Hon. T. S. Sproule, the retiring speaker, member for East-Gray.

Sir Geo. Foster, acting premier, then moved the election of Dr. Albert Selwyn, of Dorchester, P. Q. to the speaker's chair. Sir George stated that, with the exception of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, he himself was the oldest member of the house in point of service. It is not of age. He had served under eight different speakers, four belonging to one political party and four to the other. In thirty-four years of service, he continued, the speakers of the House of Commons had worthily upheld the traditions which distinguish around the speaker's chair, and under their guidance the balance had been fairly held between the two parties, and equal justice meted out to all. In substituting Dr Selwyn's name he referred to him as one of the youngest members of the house, although so young in years,

however, his pleasing personality, culture, affability and capacity had won a place in the respect and esteem of both sides of the house. He had every hope and confidence that the honorable gentleman would uphold, as speaker, the honor and dignity of that great office. Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that to those who followed the labors of the house during the last session it had become apparent that the health of the late speaker was failing, and the house had therefore not been surprised to learn that he had been summoned to the higher sphere of the upper chamber. Sir Wilfrid then referred to the selection of Dr Selwyn. "Dr Sproule, when he ascended the chair, was an ardent Tory," he stated. "Dr Selwyn, when he came to this house, was an ardent Nationalist. Therefore, as an extreme meet, it is fitting that Dr Sproule, the ardent Tory, should be followed by Mr Speaker Selwyn, the ardent Nationalist. The opposition leader continued that Dr Selwyn had, in 1911, carried on a campaign of sulphur and brimstone, not only against the Liberal but also against the Conservative policy, and had denounced the nefarious policy of Borden, as well as the nefarious policy of Laurier. He had deprecated every form of participation by Canada in the affairs of Great Britain. The moment he ascends the chair he will be entitled to the honor and respect of both sides of the House, and it will be our duty and pleasure to give him every assistance in maintaining the dignity of his office and the dignity and privileges of the House of Commons."

Hon. Mr. Selwyn returned thanks for his elevation to the position of speaker, and expressed his appreciation of the distinction conferred upon him, and of the responsibilities and difficulties of his office. "With your kind indulgence and advice the task which I am called upon to assume will be made lighter," he said, "and for my part I will endeavor to be worthy of the good will you have manifested toward me in electing me unanimously to the chair." Dr Selwyn declared that the decisions of his predecessors as Speakers of the House of Commons would help him in maintaining the dignity of his office and to preside with justice and impartiality over the deliberations of the chamber, and in preserving the integrity and honor of the House. Hon. E. L. Patenaude, minister of inland revenue, was then introduced by Hon. T. C. Cassgrain and Sir George Foster as member for Hochelaga, and the House then adjourned until Thursday afternoon.

The formal opening took place Thursday afternoon. His Royal Highness, in full field marshal's uniform, and Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of Connaught, occupied the dais with the Princess Patricia, and the uniformed aides from Government House grouped around. There was a considerable representation of Naval men in uniform, but there were comparatively few of the Headquarters Militia Staff. Gen. Sir Sam Hughes and his chief officers were, for the most part, busy in their offices.

Dignitaries of state in uniforms, the consular representatives, archbishops and bishops, Supreme Court judges, Senators and wives of the members of parliament filled the floors. Sir Robert and Lady Borden were absent, convalescing from the grippe, and Sir George Foster and Hon. Senator Longhead, in their Windsor uniforms, did the honors of the Commons and the Senate. His Royal Highness read the speech from the throne in English and French. Then

the commoners filed back to their chamber, asserted the right of parliament to pass legislation by putting through the usual proforma bill of oaths of office, and on motion of Sir George Foster, seconded by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, adjournment was made until Monday. The session broke up happily with a laugh, when the first commoner, Mr Speaker Selwyn, turned from Sir George Foster to the opposition side of the House and found a seconder to the motion to adjourn in the person of the leader of the opposition.

The speech was as follows: Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate: Gentlemen of the House of Commons: Since I last addressed you the war in which we are engaged has been continued with unabated vigor and varying fortunes. The Empire's part therein has been amply maintained at sea by the inspiring achievements of the navy, and on land by the distinguished valor of the great armies which have enrolled themselves in all parts of His Majesty's dominions for the common defence of our liberties.

In a spirit of splendid loyalty and unflinching devotion, India and the overseas Dominions have aided with each other in co-operating with the Mother Country to achieve this great purpose. The call to service has evoked a widespread and notable response in Canada. Already 120,000 men have crossed the seas, an equal number is now being actively trained and equipped for service abroad and a call extending the authorized enlistment to half a million men has been received with warm enthusiasm.

At the front our gallant soldiers have met the enemy in repeated contests, and by their pre-eminent courage and heroic endurance have shed lustre upon their country and upheld its traditions.

Equally praiseworthy and impressive has been the self-sacrificing and loyal spirit shown by all the Canadian people who have freely dedicated their manhood and substance to the common defence of the empire.

The life of the present Parliament expires in the autumn of this year, and under existing legislation, a dissolution and election would be necessary in the early winter. My advisers, however, are of the opinion that the wishes of the Canadian people and the present requirements of the war would be best met by avoiding the distraction and confusion consequent upon a general election at so critical a time.

That purpose can only be effected through the medium of legislation by the parliament of the United Kingdom. A resolution authorizing and requesting the enactment of such legislation as will extend the life of this parliament for the period of one year will be presented to you.

Measures will be submitted for your consideration to further the effective co-operation of Canada in the defence of the Empire and in the maintenance of this war, waged for liberty and lasting peace.

It is a matter for profound thankfulness that Providence has blessed the labors of our husbands during the past year, with the most bountiful harvest in the history of Canada.

The accounts for the last and the estimates for the next fiscal year, will be submitted to you without delay, and you will be asked to make the necessary financial provision for the effective conduct of the war.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate: Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The high courage, the splendid heroism and the unalterable determination which has marked the united efforts of all portions of His Majesty's dominions during a year of unprecedented strain and effort, justify our supreme confidence in the triumph of our cause and in the lasting affirmation of the principles of liberty and justice throughout the world. I commend to your earnest consideration the measures which will be submitted to you for siding in that great purpose, and I pray that the Divine blessing may rest upon your counsels.

The remarkable increase in the Dominion revenue that has featured financial statements for the past three months is again evident in statistics for December recently issued by the finance department. Dominion revenue for the month totalled \$17,371,516 as against \$9,167,940 for December 1914. The customs increase was from \$4,706,117 to \$9,060,181, or nearly one hundred per cent. Excise revenue was \$2,303,211 an increase of \$350,000. Post office revenue was \$1,846,560, a gain of \$497,340. Revenue from public works, including railways and canals, showed the notable increase of \$2,165,000. Revenue for the first nine months of the fiscal year is shown to have been \$122,027,821, an increase over the corresponding period of last year of \$22,400,000. Customs increased from \$56,000,000 to \$69,000,000. The post office revenue increased from \$9,177,220 to \$12,800,000. The revenue from public works advanced from \$10,000,000 to \$16,000,000. War expenditures, however, also continued to advance at an equally rapid rate. For the past month they were \$19,233,943 as compared with \$6,815,774 December, 1914. For the nine months of the fiscal year war expenditure totals \$85,748,898. The net debt of the Dominion now stands at over half a billion, \$515,000,000. This is an increase of \$13,475,551 for December and an increase of \$139,000,000 for the year. Temporary loans amount to \$179,000,000. Dominion notes outstanding total \$171,000,000, an increase of \$8,000,000 as compared with a year ago.

London, Jan. 12.—Cettinje, the capital of Montenegro, now seems likely to suffer the fate of Belgrade and British observers are already asking anxiously what menace the Austrian conquest of Montenegro is likely to hold over the Allies at Saloniki. Fighting is going on all around Cettinje, the small town which nearly a year ago ceased to be the seat of the Montenegrin government. Never before in the long history of the Montenegro Kingdom, has it been compelled to bow to a foreign conqueror, but there seems little hope that it can long withstand the overwhelming strength in men and guns of General Koessov. For Italy the new Austrian success has a most serious aspect. The long narrow Italian peninsula is particularly vulnerable to an attack from the sea. Any really great Austrian naval base in the harbor of Cattaro would have been impossible without Lovcen, but under the new circumstances, Austrian possession of Cattaro is almost as great a menace to Italy as the German conquest of Calais would have been to Great Britain.

Progress of The War
London, Jan. 11.—Montenegro is being treated to a steam-roller attack, similar to that which crumpled up its friend and neighbor, Serbia. The Austrian onslaught which has been a long time in preparation, is now being presented with great violence, menacing several important positions close to the Adriatic coast. The great Montenegrin stronghold, Mount Lovcen, has fallen according to tonight's Austrian official communication. The attack here has been largely assisted by Austrian warships and the guns of the Cattaro forts. In addition, too, Montenegrians say that Austrians made abundant use of asphyxiating gas contrivances. A battle is raging on the whole of the northern and eastern frontiers of Montenegro. On the east the Montenegrians have compelled to evacuate Berane. For the British public the latest statements regarding the situation in Mesopotamia will not entirely relieve the anxiety. The British General Aylmer's column, which is advancing to the relief of Kut-el-Amara, has met and repulsed a strong Turkish force, but its present position is by no means satisfactory, for it finds in front of it a Turkish army greatly superior in numbers. Therefore, it is evident that a successful junction of the two British forces, although they are only twenty miles apart, may prove a difficult matter.

Paris, Jan. 11.—The French official report of this afternoon states that the German offensive undertaken on Sunday in Champagne by at least three German divisions was a complete failure, the Germans being driven out of all the positions which they had seized, with the exception of a small rectangle to the west of Maisons-De-Champagne. This statement is as follows: Between the Rivers Somme and Oise our artillery has been active, an enemy detachment attempted to carry one of our positions in the sector of Armancourt in the region of Roye. It was repulsed by our fire. To the west of Soissons our trench guns destroyed a depot of rockets in the neighborhood of Autrechies. The latest information from Champagne confirms the fact that our artillery fire, our trench defences and our counter-attacks completely set at naught an important attack undertaken by the enemy in which at least three German divisions took part. Counter-attacks and hand grenades

fighting by our men during the past night drove the enemy from the outpost position he had occupied, with the exception of a small rectangle to the west of Maisons-De-Champagne where his small forces are maintaining themselves with difficulty. Our general fire and in particular our artillery fire, inflicted very heavy losses on the Germans. Three of our aeroplanes, equipped with guns, engaged yesterday in several fights, above the German line near Dixmude, with enemy scouting aeroplanes of the Fokker type. One of our machines, attacked by a Fokker machine, had to descend, but an enemy aeroplane, attacked in turn by one of ours, which fired on it with machine guns from a distance of twenty-five meters was brought down. A third French machine also attacked another Fokker, which fell in the forest of Houthulst, to the southeast of Dixmude.

London, Jan. 14, 2.55 a. m.—No news has reached here confirming the reports from Rome that the Teutonic attack on Saloniki has begun. There has also been a cessation of the reports of fighting in Montenegro, and, according to a French wireless despatch, since the Austrians captured Mount Lovcen there has been no further cannonading or rifle fire. The mystery of the Austrian capture of Lovcen is still being discussed by the press of all the Allied countries, as it is supposed that the despatch of even a small force of Italians, or other Allied troops, would have sufficed to prevent its fall.

This further extension of Austria's Adriatic front, with the dominating naval centre of Cattaro, is viewed as further tending towards the realization of Austria's object of making the Adriatic an Austrian sea, and thus checking Italy's ambition to make it an Italian sea. Italy has so much at stake, that officials and diplomats had been waiting anxiously for the steps Italy would take to relieve Montenegro, and at the same time avert another Austrian extension on the Adriatic. They were aware that Italy had once before prevented Austria from gaining territorial concessions from Montenegro, near Cattaro, by emphatically objecting to the treaty made in 1912. As Italy was then a member of the Triple Alliance, Austria reluctantly yielded to the Italian objections.

London, Jan. 14.—The British official communication, made public tonight, says: The enemy's trenches about Givenchey were heavily bombarded by us today. Considerable damage was done to the parapets. The artillery was active today on both sides about Kennel and Hill 601.

Rome, Jan. 14, via London Jan. 15.—The following communication was issued today. In the zone between the Sava and the Adige we have occupied positions at the outlet of the Cresta Valley and reinforced them for the protection of Loppoio. In the Terra-Gholo Valley, on the 12th, the enemy continued his bombardment with increased incendiary shells, but without doing any damage. In the mountainous (Concluded on page three.)

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(Continued from page 1) zone north of the Suggan activity of our detached to some engagements able to us. In the Upper volie, having ascertained tence of the enemy at Z bombardard and set fire village, putting the occ forces to flight. With fortunate results we bom military buildings in the Pass.

"On the Carso from enemy's systematic artiller which was energetically to by our artillery, has less activity. We contin work of reinforcement." Paris, Jan. 14, via Lon The official communication tonight by the French was says: "In Belgium the fire artillery directed against enemy's works to the no the Aisne we took under a revictualing convoy, i sector of Chivy, to the no of Vailly. To the south Berry Au Bac, towards Hil we exploded a small mine shattered the mining works enemy Between the Argon the Meuse our heavy ar destroyed an enemy bloc in the region of Forgea, Italian minister of marine graphs to Admiral Lazaaz the French submarine Fo sank an Austrian cruiser i proximity of Cattaro.

Bulletin—Rome, via L Jan. 15.—It is officially anned that the French subm Foucault, attached to the I fleet, torpedoed and sank 7 day in the Adriatic Sea an trican scout cruiser of the N type. Scout cruisers of Novara type, of which there four—the Novars, Heilig, Said and Admiral Spusta a displacement of 3,384 ton carry in their armament 18-inch guns. The Foucault built in 1912, at Cherbourg is 167 feet long.

London, Jan. 14.—The fl the Dual Monarchy flies Cettinje, find the Austro garians are continuing search southward toward fortified port of Antivari, d before them by force of nu the soldiers of King Nic Montenegro is now encir on all sides, except in the by the invaders, and across southern border in All should they be driven there will face loss in the Al tribesmen. With the fall of capital and with no let-up parent in the Austrian pe against them, the situation of Montenegrians seems a one. The newly acquired tions of the Austrians dow ing the Adriatic Sea have sufficed to keep from harm warships, one of which, a cr of the Novara type, has sent to the bottom in the Ad by a French under-water operating with the Italia Where the sinking took pla whether there were cas connected with it has not made public.

DIED. MCKINNON.—In Wf Manitoba on Thursday sixth of January 1st, Jo McKinnon formerly of th of Charlottetown. Th ceased was a stepon late James Curtis High of Queen's County. HARVIE.—On active Wendall L Harvie, ag years, Major Third Br Brigade, South Africa, the late Henry A. Har Charlottetown. CORBETT.—At South Gr Friday January 14th, a. m. Mrs Jessie Corbett 64 years. MACPHEE.—In Health January 1st, 1916, Ja wife of Ewen MacPhee, 76th year of her age. HOLLAND.—In New B Mass, Nov. 17th, Benja Holland of Fairhaven aged 55 years. A despatch to Reuters gram Company from Pe says that Russian torped on Monday destroyed a submarine, which has g in December near the me the Milen. Two Turkish ship with coal also were ed.