

NO GENERAL ELECTION THIS YEAR

PREMIER MARTIN PROMISES MANY REFORMS FOR LABOR, EDUCATION AND AGRICULTURE

Head of Saskatchewan Government Announces Reasons for Holding Provincial Election on July 9—Pledges Enforcement of Saskatchewan Temperance Act.

Regina, May 17.—The provincial election will be held in Saskatchewan July 9. This announcement was made yesterday by Premier Martin, in a statement in which the premier says that "the most important reason for the holding of an election at the present time is the desire of the Government that the business of Saskatchewan should be dealt with on its merits and not confused or affected by issues which affect the whole of Canada and questions which are of federal jurisdiction."

The Government pledges itself to many reforms if elected. In this connection, Premier Martin in his manifesto says: "It is our intention, as far as our constitutional and financial powers will permit, to co-operate with the farmers in any practical method of improving the system of marketing grain and farm products generally."

PROMISES INVESTIGATION.

The Government, he says, will continue its fight against the high freight rates; will provide for an agriculture survey of the province, and the establishment of demonstration farms under the control of the college of agriculture in close touch with the people. The Government promises a thorough investigation into the treatment for tuberculosis, and will make provision for the necessary institutions for proper care for patients. The Government pledges itself for the continued vigorous enforcement of the Saskatchewan temperance act. "In education and labor reforms it proposes to continue the various lines of progress already established. It plans to further develop highways and telephones; aid agriculture with all means in its power, and continue its efforts to secure the transfer of natural resources to the province."

WRITS ARE ISSUED.

Writs for the election were issued today. Nominations will be held June 2. The election will terminate the fourth legislature of Saskatchewan after a life since June 26, 1917. As constituted now there are in the House of 62 members 51 supporters of the Martin Government, six Conservatives, three soldier members, and two Independents.

At the last session of the House, a re-distribution bill was passed which gave the three cities, Regina, Moose Jaw and Saskatoon, two representatives instead of one, and created a new constituency, Gravelburg. As the three soldiers' seats will disappear, the change merely adds one seat to the House.

STRAWBERRY CROP CUT IN TWO AS RESULT OF SEVERE FROST ON MONDAY NIGHT

Grapes, Red Currants, Tomatoes, Asparagus and Early Potatoes All Hard Hit—Loss to Farmers of District Will Total Thousands of Dollars.

As a result of the severe frost last night damage to the strawberry and other plants is reported as being general and extensive in the London district. A slight frost on Sunday night had little effect, it was learned, but last night's sharp break has been disastrous. The strawberry patches have suffered severely, in most cases being well advanced, and it is the general belief that the crop this year may be reduced by about one-half in the majority of instances.

Potatoes have received a tremendous setback, while beans, asparagus and other small vegetables suffered considerably. The loss to farmers of the district will total thousands of dollars. W. H. Mundy, market gardener, states that from the present estimate his strawberry crop will show at least a one-third decrease over past years, if not more. He reports much damage to his plums, early cherries and grapes.

GERMANS RESPONSIBLE FOR BRITISH-U. S. WAR GOSSIP

Kansas City, Mo., May 17.—Possibility that Great Britain might be drawn into conflict with the United States through the medium of the existing Anglo-Japanese alliance was denied by Sir Auckland Geddes, British ambassador to the United States, in a speech delivered here last night to members of the St. Andrew's Society and the Knife and Fork Club.

Such rumors, he declared, were the work of "the whisperers, the broken men—and by broken men, I mean the Germans."

"The Anglo-Japanese treaty," said Sir Auckland, "was originally designed to prevent Russian and German aggression in the Far East. When that treaty was renewed in 1911, it was specifically provided that there should be exempted from its working any nation with whom either Great Britain or Japan had a general arbitration treaty. Such treaty was drawn up between Great Britain and the United States, but failed of ratification by your senate. But in order to obviate any possibility of being drawn into conflict with the United States on any ground whatever, we then drew up the 'peace commission' treaty, providing for arbitration between Great Britain and the United States before any form of force should be employed. The treaty stands today in black and white, but in the face of it the whisperers have made men believe, both here and in my country, that there is possibility of conflict between your country and mine through the operation of the Anglo-Japanese alliance. It is not true."

GOVERNMENT CANDIDATE IN MEDICINE HAT, ALTA.



COL. NELSON SPENCER, M.P.P., at Medicine Hat, was selected by the Conservative convention as government standard-bearer in the by-election made necessary through the death of the Hon. A. L. Sifton.

NO TROUBLE TO GET TO CANADA, SAYS IMMIGRANT

Just Told Authorities He Was Farmer and All Was Well.

MANY FOREIGNERS

Steamer Megantic Swarming With Europeans Bound for Canadian Points.

That the British Government, through its soldiers' settlement board, has been furnishing the passage money to Canada for those ex-imperial army soldiers without means, who express a willingness to settle on farms here, was stated by one of a party of six immigrants from England who arrived in the city last night. They will be placed with farmers in Western Ontario through the efforts of the department of agriculture.

Questioned as to the usual procedure at the immigration bureau overseas he stated that an applicant for free passage must first show discharge papers from the British army. He is then asked if he is an experienced farm hand.

Not, he is refused transportation. Speaking of himself, personally, he estimated that although a mechanic he had no difficulty in convincing the Imperial authorities of his ability as a farmer. "You are merely asked if you have had any experience on a farm, and upon answering in the affirmative you are not questioned further or required to submit credentials or letters of recommendation from former employers," he explained. "They judge simply from your talk and appearance. Personally, I am a first-class fitter, and left a good job at 5 guineas a week in Liverpool, but felt that I should like a change. I will try the farm, and, of course, if things do not work out satisfactorily I must return to town and try for work at my trade."

The immigrants who sailed on the Megantic were particularly impressed by the great numbers of foreigners on board, bound for points in Canada. "Many Greeks," as they pointed out, "besides Russians, Austrians, and even Germans."

LYDD GEORGE AND BRIAND TO DISCUSS POLISH QUESTION

Tension Over Revolt in Silesia Is Passing.

London, May 17.—Tension over the Polish revolt in Silesia, which over the week-end threatened a crisis in the ranks of the Entente, seemed here today to have passed, for the moment, at least. Exchange of views on the subject has been proceeding between London and Paris, and there seemed to be confidence that Prime Minister Lloyd George and Premier Briand would reach an understanding when they meet. It appeared probable that the two premiers would hold a conference early next week.

It is possible the discussion of Silesia will be before a full meeting of the Supreme Allied Council, but no definite decision on this point had been reached early today.

HOTRUM AGAIN SWEARS THAT M'FADDEN FIRED FATAL BULLET

Again Denies That He Killed Leonard Sabine.

SIGNS OF ANGUISH

Hamilton Youth Shows Every Evidence of Mental Suffering.

Toronto, May 17.—Roy Hotrum took the stand at the McFadden murder trial today on his own initiative. Brought to the city hall he sent for W. K. Murphy, his counsel, and in the presence of the sheriff's officers and Sergeant of Detectives Cronin, the following conversation took place:

Hotrum—"I want to give my evidence."

Mr. Murphy—"Roy, you have been found guilty of murder, and in a few days you will be condemned to die. You are, therefore, in the shadow of the gallows, and you are going to be hanged. Don't send an innocent man to death, and don't make me, as your counsel, a party to it. Did you tell the truth in the witness box last Friday?"

Hotrum—"I did."

Mr. Murphy—"Did you shoot Mr. Sabine?"

Hotrum—"No, I did not."

Mr. Murphy—"You realize what you are saying, knowing you are going to be hanged?"

Hotrum—"I do."

Mr. Murphy—"Then go in and give your evidence," and Hotrum was led into court.

Toronto, May 17.—As large a crowd as on any previous day was in front of the assize court when William McFadden was led in this morning to face the second day of his trial on the charge of murdering Leonard Cecil Sabine in the drug store at the corner of Manning and Harbord, on the night of March 5. The crown has definitely decided to call Roy Hotrum into the witness stand during the day, and it is also possible that McFadden may testify in his own defence.

Hotrum was found guilty of murdering Sabine by an assize jury, which brought in its verdict Saturday, and McFadden now faces the same charge. The two men, without ceasing to argue, were in the same going for about a week before the shooting, appear to be not friends, but merely professional acquaintances. The clash between their antagonistic interests will doubtless give rise to dramatic developments if they are both called to the witness stand.

McFadden appeared calm, composed and almost unconcerned as he sat in the prisoner's box.

Identifies Overcoat. Detective Sergeant Bart Cronin, who arrested McFadden, at 45 Pembroke street, in the early morning of March 5, identified a grey overcoat which he found in McFadden's room at the time. "He acknowledged it was his coat, and he has not been wearing it since. There was a brown coat with it, but it had gone out of my possession in some way—I don't just know how—but I think it was left down at the jail."

Cronin also identified a black military overcoat which, he said, McFadden had acknowledged was his, and which was also found in his room.

"Anything else?" asked the crown.

"In company with Inspector Wallace and a police officer I made a careful search for firearms at 45 Pembroke street."

"Did you find anything?"

"We did not. We went back and searched with another officer." Witness said the house was now being demolished, and he had asked the foreman to instruct his men to make a careful search for firearms.

Resemblance in Bullets. Counsel for the defence then cross-examined Sergeant of Detectives Cronin. "I'll take the responsibility for losing McFadden's cap," said he, "but I can recall that it was a dark brown cap."

Inspector William Wallace stated that

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THE WEATHER

Following are the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 56; lowest, 51.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 59; lowest, 51.

TOMORROW—UNSETTLED.

Toronto, May 17.—8 a.m. Forecast: Light to moderate winds; fair, a little warmer.

Wednesday—Partly fair, with showers in some localities.

The highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were:

Station. High. Low. Weather. Victoria. 54. 46. Fair. Calgary. 54. 34. Clear. Winnipeg. 56. 42. Clear. Port Stanley. 52. 38. Clear. Buffalo. 48. 42. Clear. Toronto. 52. 34. Cloudy. Kingston. 50. 36. Clear. Ottawa. 55. 36. Fair. Montreal. 56. 46. Fair. Quebec. 56. 38. Clear. Father Point. 50. 48. Clear. St. John. 60. 46. Clear. Halifax. 56. 52. Cloudy.

Weather Notes. Pressure is high from the Ohio Valley to Quebec, and lowest in the Middle Pacific States. The weather has been showery in the Maritime Provinces and elsewhere fair. Frosts occurred again during the night in many portions of Ontario.

NEW JUNIOR COUNSEL FOR THE TREASURY



The British attorney-general has appointed Mr. H. M. Given as junior counsel to the treasury (common law), in succession to Mr. G. H. A. Branson, newly appointed king's bench judge.

REV. E. G. POWELL DIED EARLY TODAY

Lucan Methodist Minister Was Former Pastor of Centennial Church.

GREAT PROHIBITIONIST

Funeral in Lucan Thursday—Burial in Woodland Cemetery, London.

Word reached London of the death at 6 o'clock this morning of Rev. E. G. Powell, pastor of the Lucan Methodist Church and chairman of Exeter district. Funeral services will be held in the church at Lucan on Thursday at 1:30 p.m., following which the body will be conveyed to this city for burial at Woodland Cemetery.

The deceased is survived by a widow and four children, Carmen, Earl, Gordon and Blossom, all at home. He had 27 years of active work with the ministry, and was particularly interested in the prohibition movement, having been secretary of the Huron County Temperance Association during a considerable period. He was ordained 23 years ago.

Mr. Powell before moving to Lucan was pastor of the Centennial Methodist Church of this city. He was ill for several months.

May Be Able To Send B. C. Liquor Through Mails

Victoria, B. C., May 17.—Liquor may be sent to consumers in British Columbia through the parcel post if the province will pass an act authorizing such delivery, the Hon. Peter Biondin, postmaster-general, informed Hon. J. W. Deb Ferris, attorney-general and acting premier of British Columbia.

The question of getting the privilege of liquor delivery through the postoffice to aid the liquor control board was taken up in Ottawa a few days ago by Premier Oliver. Transmission of liquor by parcel post is prohibited by law in Canada.

SUBMARINE COMES IN UNDER SAILS

U. S. Undersea Craft Runs Out of Fuel Oil.

Thio, T. H., May 17.—United States submarine K-14 arrived here yesterday under a jury rig, after exhausting her oil supplies while out in search for the missing navy tug Conestoga. The K-14 had sailed made from hammocks and mattresses supported on masts and yards made from steel bunk rods.

Officers of the submarine reported their oil gave out on May 16, when they were 150 miles west of here.

PARLIAMENT SUMMARY

Ottawa, May 17.—Canadian Press.—Today in Parliament: In the Commons: The budget debate, it is expected, will be resumed this afternoon by Hon. T. A. Cregar, leader of the Progressives, the debate having been adjourned for him by J. W. Kennedy (Glengarry and Stormont).

YESTERDAY IN PARLIAMENT. In the Commons: Speakers in the budget debate were J. E. Armstrong, J. E. Provost, M. J. Doherty, T. W. Caldwell, O. Turgenev, J. A. Leduc, A. Deane and J. E. Sinclair (Queens).

Five divorce bills were given second reading and referred to committees. In the Senate: The Senate did not sit.

Meighen Government Fearing Defeat Will Postpone Going To the Country Until 1922

MINERS MAY DROP DEMAND FOR A POOL

Men Are Beginning to See Folly of Determined Stand.

SMILLIE'S ADVICE

Advocates Fair Means, Advises Against Direct Action.

London, May 17.—The industrial position in Great Britain was little altered yesterday, the most notable pronouncement being that of Mr. McGurk, the Lancashire miners' representative, who declared that the Miners' Federation should realize that some attention must be given to the idea of dropping the demand for a national coal profits pool. He added that the strike would last till Christmas before the owners or Government would concede the demand for a pool. Robert Smillie, although no longer in power, is still a force among the miners. He declared yesterday that the fair way out was the only possible way.

Efforts to induce continental workers to refuse to handle coal for England have seemingly been abortive.

Direct Action Condemned. A recent statement by Frank Hodges, the miners' secretary, that no good purpose would be served by direct action, has checked the railway extremists. Disorders of a minor character continued to be reported, but they are occurring mostly in the Scottish districts only. They have been caused principally by the fact that the Scottish railwaymen have been suspended for refusing to handle coal. Discharge of cargoes of coal at the Glasgow dock continues steadily.

Public utilities are keeping in operation. In London the tramway power-house is being operated by naval ratings on account of the strike of the electrical workers in sympathy with the miners. At Newcastle the trams are being run by machinery operated by oil fuel, which was installed during the week-end. It is announced that it is unlikely that coal will be reverted to. The brilliant Whitsunide weather has enabled everybody, outwardly, at least, to enjoy the holiday.

LOCAL OFFICIALS ARE NOT FAIR, SAYS J. FARRELL

Very Few Farm Immigrants Trek to City, States Immigration Official.

Interviewed today relative to the recent comment by certain local officials that numbers of newly-arrived farm men from the old country, after a brief sojourn on farms in Western Ontario were drifting back into London, J. Farrell of the local bureau of immigration expressed his opinion that such statements made without consulting his experiments were decidedly unfair.

"If these parties come to me," he declared, "I can show them that this department has had the utmost success in placing any persons from overseas who may come under our care. Of course, there has been, as is to be expected in any other occupations, a few odd cases where men returned from their first position, and by coming direct to us such a condition is bound to exist in the departments of any big concern whose work is largely seasonal, and whose employees as a result are of the transient class. By that I do not mean non-residents of the city, but unskilled workers who are shifted from one class of work to another, while the working season is on, and who are laid off during the winter months or when the particular work they are employed on is finished."

"As far as I am concerned the investigation is quite welcome," remarked another civic official. "In fact, I hope to benefit by it, not perhaps personally, but by suggestions for improvements in my department, which I may be able to gather."

"The only objection that I have to the whole thing is the method by which Ald. Wenige has brought about this investigation," said another official. "There is a right and a wrong way to everything, and I think that the wrong way has been taken in this. This stirring of dirty water method is bound to have a more or less injurious effect on the morale of the employees of the city and must lower the whole civic government in the eyes of the people. Mr. Wenige could have brought about the same result had he taken his charges to the committee governing the departments alleged to be at fault, and the aldermen would in honor bound have been forced to order the inquiry. Nevertheless I think he is to be thanked rather than abused, despite his efforts at theatrical effect."

ASKS FOR TROOPS IN KENTUCKY'S TUG RIVER DISTRICT

Frankfort, Ky., May 17.—Governor Edwin P. Morrow late last night sent a telegram to the war department in Washington requesting that federal troops be sent to the Tug River district, which has been in a state of virtual guerrilla warfare for four days.

Consensus of Opinion in Cabinet Is That Prospects of Success May Improve, But They Cannot Become Much Worse—Deferring of Vote May Rest To Certain Extent On Results of By-Elections—No Reconstruction in the Cabinet Before This Autumn.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, May 17.—In spite of divergent opinions among its followers, the Government, it is now stated, has decided that there will be no general election until 1922 at the earliest. The consensus of opinion in the cabinet appears to be that the prospects of the administration will grow better, before they grow worse, and that nothing can be lost by holding on a while longer. The present intentions of the Government are, of course, contingent upon the result of pending by-elections, but in its present frame of mind nothing but the worst of luck in the losing of elections to be held, or in the creation by death of further vacancies, will force dissolution this year.

The majority of the Government members want a redistribution before an election. This is particularly true in the case of the forces from the west, who desire that urban and rural centres be more clearly delimited. Considerable hopes are also entertained regarding the results of the inquiry to be conducted by the new royal commission on the grain trade, and it is frankly predicted by some of the Government members that the findings of the commission will affect the existing agrarian political movement and help the Government.

No reconstruction of the cabinet is anticipated until the fall.

DEPARTMENT HEADS AT CITY HALL NOT WORRYING OVER CHARGES OF ALD. WENIGE

"Investigation May Be of Benefit and Bring Forth Valuable Suggestions," Declares One Official in Interview This Morning.

None of the heads of departments at the city hall appear to be worrying about the investigation that is to be made by a special committee as soon as Ald. George Wenige has put his charges of inefficiency into writing.

"Such an investigation will, in the main be of great help to us," said the head of one department, "and I believe that as a result we shall get many valuable suggestions. It is only the man who thinks that his department and his methods are perfect that dreads such an inquiry, and personally I do not think there is such a man at the present time in a responsible post in the city's employ."

"It is possible that somebody may get hurt by it, but I have no hesitancy in saying that I do not think that anything wrong will be proven. A certain amount of inefficiency there may be, such a condition is bound to exist in the departments of any big concern whose work is largely seasonal, and whose employees as a result are of the transient class. By that I do not mean non-residents of the city, but unskilled workers who are shifted from one class of work to another, while the working season is on, and who are laid off during the winter months or when the particular work they are employed on is finished."

"As far as I am concerned the investigation is quite welcome," remarked another civic official. "In fact, I hope to benefit by it, not perhaps personally, but by suggestions for improvements in my department, which I may be able to gather."

ANNUAL INSPECTION.

Ottawa, May 17.—Canadian Press.—June 3 and 4 have been chosen for the annual inspection of the Royal Military College by the board of visitors. Sir Arthur Currie is this year's chairman.

CROP CONDITIONS IN WEST GOOD, THOUGH SEASON LATE

Winnipeg, May 17.—Reports from 230 points in the Prairie Provinces indicate that crop conditions on the whole are very satisfactory though the season is generally rather later than last year, according to the first crop report of the Manitoba Free Press, which will be published this morning.

The acreage in wheat is little, if any, less than last year, when the acreage seeded was a little over 16,000,000. By provinces, it would seem that Manitoba is practically unchanged, Saskatchewan slightly less and Alberta, with an increase sufficient to offset the shrinkage in Saskatchewan.

The winds, which were reported to be doing such havoc in Saskatchewan, have evidently been exaggerated, and the amount of re-seeding to be done is relatively small. The supply of moisture is abundant, only three or four points reporting that they would be the better for rain. Fully 95 per cent of the wheat crop is on good moist ground and generally well cultivated.

There is little sign of the dread grasshopper in any of the provinces, and the cold weather and frosts of the past few days, that retarded growth, have also retarded the "hoppers."

Labor is reported abundant, and the wage for the three provinces will average about \$55, a marked improvement on last year.