April 2nd

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EIGHT PAGES—FRIDAY MORNING APRIL 3 1903—EIGHT PAGES

Cabinet Advises a Select Committee Important Anneuncement of Minister in the House

### To Abolish Evils of the Election Law

INQUIRY INTO RALWAY

Ottawa, April 2.—(Special.)— Mr. Blair informed Mr. Clark this afternoon that the gov

Declared Intention of the Dominion Government Provokes Much [[ADERS CONFER TO-DAY Interest—Severe Penalties for Corrupt Practices Imposed and Remedies for Existing Complaints Arranged. Ottawa, April 2. — (Special World)

Staff Correspondence.)-An important announcement was made late this afternoon in the House, when Hon. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated that the cabinet was considering the advisability of appointing a select committee of the House considering the advisability of appointing a select committee of the House to amend the election law in order to get rid of the evils that are so loudly complained of. The statement was the result of a speech made by Mr. Fielding in answer to Mr. Borden. The Finate Minister took very advanced grounds. He said he personally thought a select committee of the House might get together in no partisan spirit and remedy the Election Act, so that it would put a stop to corruption.

Wrong in Principle.

He believed that courts should take agraigance of election corruption right.

He believed that courts should take cognizance of election corruption right after a contest without being called on his views as given above. after a contest without being called on to do so by a petition. He considered it was wrong to fine a man \$1000 before he could institute a petition. He would even go so far as to take away from a man who does not vote the power of woting for a stated time. This was all the outcome of the bill to amend the Election Act, which was presented for a second reading by John Charlton. The announcement was then made to this knowledge of former redistributions, is being pressed.

Not Taken Literally.

The answer of Sir Wilfrid in regard to the schedules the government has prepared is not taken literally. The opposition believes the whole matter this proposition. man who does not vote the power of voting for a stated time. This was all the outcome of the bill to amend the Election Act, which was presented for a second reading by John Charlton (Norfolk). He spoke in general terms of the prevalence of corruption thruout Canada in elections. One party was as bad as the other, but that many ridings were corruptible was well known.

ors oak, ma-ebony, regu-Calls It a Crime. It was a crime of the first magnitude to allow electoral corruption to go on. All parties should unite to put an end ts. 36 to 50 All parties should unite to put an end to corrupt practices in elections, and Canada would be blessed. If an election ate was for sale the very foundation of the stability of free institutions would be swept away. In his mind, a man who would purchase votes would likely take steps when elected to reimburse himself. Election corruption was spreading rapidly, and was manifesting itself in other circles till the best interests of the country were alarmed.

Addresses Audience in Chicago and States His Steadfast Belief in the P. inc. ple.

Chicago, April 2.—Six thousand persons in a hall, the seating capacity of alarmed. engths of one er yard, your \$5.75 Bargains. ash, golden e frames; in-

To Stop Corruption.

Ottawa, April 2.-(Staff Correspondcomposition of the special committee of the house to fix the boundaries of constituencies in connection with the redistribution bill. The Conservative members of the committee will be R. L. Borden, F. D. Monk, and either E. F. Clarke or Mr. Clancy. The general desire among the Conservatives is to have Clancy on the committee, tho in certain sections the name of Hon. John Haggart, because of his knowledge of

has been cut and dried, and when the committee meets, the first sign of a put-up job will be met with instant protestation, and an appeal to the house; that the heralded fairness of the bill is only in name. A sensation is promised when the opposition members of the committee tell the house how they view the action of the government members. But until the hand of the government is shown the opposition is willing to meet the seeming fair offer of Sir Wilfrid. The opposition members of the committee will be chosen with a view

to their capacity for making a strenu-Chicago, April 2.-Six thousand per- ous kick against the bill when the sons in a hall, the seating capacity of proper time comes, as it is sure to come. which is about 5000, gave enthusiastic. The government has decided to name

The object of his bill was to adopt drastic remedies to stop the corruption that at present disgraced Canada. It would increase the number of offences and the severity of the penalties. It added two more offences to those already named, and increased the penalties so that if a man were convicted it would be a serious matter. It would mean loss of money and imprisonment. Its aim was to make the crime so odious that men would shrink from committing it. He laid special stress on this section:

Law is Clear-Cut.

"A person offending against any provision of the next proceeding section of this act is a competent witness against another person so offending, and may be compelled to attend and testify on any trial, hearing, proceeding or in-

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* WHERE THE LOBBYISTS SWARM.

Ottawa, April 2.—(Special.)—The first meeting of the Railway Committee of the House will be held to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock. The railway lobbyists are getting busy, and are as familiar figures in the corridors, in No. 6 and No. 13, as the members of the House. Whenever one sees a lobbyist it is to see him in conversation with a member of parliament. That confab is noted for its seeming seriousness and secretive. hess. It is generally carried on in whispers. This mysterious air of business surrounds E. A. Lancaster's cattle-guard bill. It is fair saying that its discussion will take up the whole time of the committee tothat its discussion will take up the whole time of the committee to

However significant it may be in its effect, Donald Mann of Macken zie & Mann spent a whole day to-day in company with Charles S. Hyman, the genial chairman of the Railway Committee. Mr. Hyman acted as host at luncheon at the Russell House.

The sphinx, like Billy Moore of the Toronto Street Railway Company, Each Side Placing Its Most Vigorous

Members in the List to Arrange

New Boundaries.

New Boundaries.

The spinix, like Birly Moofe of the Profit Street Railway Company.

is in the city. Edward Farrer, once a newspaper man, but now a friend of the C.P.R., is at the Russell. George S. S. Lindsey of Toronto, representative of the Crow's Nest Pass Railway, and William Wainwright of the G.T.R., are familiar figures in the city.

In short, the main business of the Canadian parliament railway the legislation is being pressed by the foremost lobbyists in Canada, and what the lephylists want goes.

what the lobbyists want goes.

A SPRAT FOR A WHALE More than the control of the control

# Court to Convene To-day To Hear Bribery Charges

# HIGHWAYMEN AT WORK IN CENTRE OF THE CITY

King-Street Merchant Assaulted by Two Thugs With Revolvers on King-Street.

69 East King-street was the victim. night. He was viciously assaulted in his The investigation will be conducted

What makes the assault most unusual is the coolness with which the footpads worked with people passing in front of the store in crowds. It was but 9 o'clock when the men entered the store. Young and well dressed, there was nothing in their manner to arouse suspicion. They asked to be shown some shirts. Mr. Cooper turned

Brougham, Ont., April 2.-A big fire meantime.

Will Probably Do Little Work in. Taking Evidence Before Next Tuesday.

To-day Chief Justice Falconbridge and Sir John Boyd will begin the investigation into the Gamey bribery charge. The hour for the opening of the sitting is 11 o'clock, and it is not thought that much time will be consumed the first day. Counsel for the accuser and accused will ask for sub-Two highwaymen made a daring at- poenas for witnesses required. There tack on a merchant in the centre of will be a large number called, just the city last night. I. J. Cooper of how many could not be learned last

store, the robbers using revolvers. Af- in the Non-Jury court room at the ter being beaten over the head with City Hall, and only a small number the weapons until rendered unconscious of spectators will be able to secure he was robbed of \$145. One wound, admittance owing to the limited caat the base of the skull, is very serious.

Mr. Cooper is sixty years of age, but he made a desperate struggle when attacked by the men.

Hold-Up in sight of Many.

What makes the except the control of the city papers will require to be in attendance, and there are sure to be representatives of several outside papers.

was but 9 o'clock when the men entered the store. Young and well dressed, there was nothing in their manner to arouse suspicion. They asked to be shown some shirts. Mr. Cooper turned to take down a box from the shelf. He was grasped around the neck and thrown to the floor. He grappled with his assailants and got to his feet Then the weapons were drawn and the victim knocked down and pounded.

One Robber Left a Hat.

In their hurried flight one of the men left his hat on the floor. The injured man recovered in a moment and ran to the door, but the men were not in sight. He says the robbers are about 25 years old, smooth shaven and well dressed. He can identify them, he thinks. The police are making an active search of the city. During the night several arrests were made, but it is not known that the

ing an active search of the city. During the night several arrests were made, but it is not known that the dangerous crooks were caught. This is the first intimation the Toronto Detective Department has had of the presence of such a bold gang in the city. During the winter the city has been free of such crimes. The work of the men appears to be that of amateurs, tho they were very cool in handling the job. A policeman was half a block away at the time.

HIDE THREATENS ALL BROUGHAM.

Not Officially Notified.

Mr. Gamey said last night he had not been officially notified of the investigation. He was unable to say how many witnesses he would call, But there would be quite a number. The witnesses from the island of the ice moving in the lake, shutting off the island from steamboat communication, so that it may be a week before these witnesses can get here. It is thought, however, that the inquiry will not be delayed, as there are FIRE THREATENS ALL BROUGHAM. quiry will not be delayed, as there are important witnesses to go on in the

