

GOVERNMENT DID BETTER IN YESTERDAY'S CONTESTS MAJORITY STANDS AT 88

Tuesday's Returns Give 9 for the Coalition and 18 for the Unionists—Scotland Being Heard From—Only 71 Seats Still Unfilled—Asquith and Balfour Discuss Results.

[Special to The Advertiser.] London, Jan. 26. (3 p.m.)—Full returns have been received from 47 of the 48 constituencies in which polling took place on Tuesday. The results are as follows:

Coalition	24
Unionists	18
Laborites	3
Nationalists	2

The Unionists gained 5 and the Liberals 2, the latter being both in Lanarkshire, Scotland.

Sutherlandshire, where Lochiel, the chief of the Camerons, is running as a Unionist against A. C. Morton, Liberal, has not yet made returns. It was Liberal in 1906 by 450.

THE STANDING TO DATE.

With but 71 pollings remaining to complete the membership of the House of Commons, the parties stand thus:

Government Coalition—Liberals, 231; Irish Nationalists, 74; Laborites, 38. Total—343.
Opposition—Unionists, 255.

Government majority—88.

Deducting the eight Nationalists still to be returned, the election prospects calculate that the remaining seats will be so divided as to give the Liberals and Labor parties combined a majority anywhere from 15 to 30 over the Unionists. The Unionist gains to date are 116, the Liberals 18, and the Laborites 1.

NOTABLES RE-ELECTED.

London, Jan. 26.—Premier Asquith, for the eastern division of Fife, and Richard B. Haldane, for Haddingtonshire, were re-elected, but while the Prime Minister returns to Parliament with a substantial increase of 615 over his former majority, the Secretary of State for War must be satisfied with a majority less by 435 than that obtained in 1906.

John A. Simon, the Liberal member elected for the Walthamstow division of Essex, is a well-known barrister, and was counsel for Great Britain in the Alaska boundary arbitration case.

Lord Willoughby de Eresby, again represents the Unionists in the Hornchurch division of Lincolnshire, but returns with a greatly increased majority.

NO LIBERAL BACKDOWN.

London, Jan. 26.—Mr. J. T. Clark wires the Toronto Star: It strikes me that there will be no Liberal backdown, if the Ministry has a majority over the Unionists, without counting the Nationalists, and there is no knifing of the Ministry by the Nationalists. If the fight is being made toward the position where the Irish desire could be gratified, one cannot believe that Lloyd George, Churchill, and others would remain in the cabinet on any other terms.

IRISH PROMISE SUPPORT.

London, Jan. 26.—Leaders among the Liberals and Laborites were in communication today with John Redmond, the recognized head of the Irish Nationalists, to learn what support would be depended on from him and his party.

From the highest political source it is learned that Redmond told the Liberals that he could answer for all of the prospective 83 Nationalist members but 10, which means that he himself will be the real "balance of power."

Redmond, it is said, declared his willingness to pass the budget, objectionable as some of its provisions are, and to aid in the abolition of the House of Lords' veto power. His subsequent attitude will depend on whether the Liberals and Laborites will agree to the home rule bill their support. If they do, the Irish will remain faithful allies, otherwise they will hamper the Government party in every possible way.

The question of whether King Edward will agree to swamp the House of Lords with newly-created peers from the ranks of the Liberals and Laborites, is still a moot issue, for it depends on the possibility of the power of the Lords being abolished. Premier Asquith is on record as saying that this is an issue that must be settled before the budget is introduced, as it would do no good to attempt to pass a budget with the Lords retaining their power to reject it.

NO TARIFF REFORM YET, SAYS BALFOUR.

London, Jan. 26.—Mr. Balfour, speaking at Haddington last night, said that this was the first time of a series of before home rule and the destruction of the Lords could be accomplished. The primary question before the country now was the budget. There was small probability that his party would get a majority over the coalition, so tariff reform would not regulate the next budget, but it was certain that tariff reform was inevitable. The budget was not going to give money even for the starved navy. It was not going to give money for any of these shadowy projects of social reform whereof we have heard so much. It is the last effort of an old system of finance, but it was broken down. They will come to import duties and have to accept the whole scheme of tariff reform, colonial preference, and everything else.

NOT A DEATH STRUGGLE, SAYS ASQUITH.

Mr. Asquith at East Fife laughed at the idea that the present election was a death struggle for free trade. It was an overwhelming pronouncement by the great industrial districts in favor of the maintenance of the present fiscal system.

Mr. Buxton, postmaster-general, at Leyton, admitted disappointment in the counties. The reserve force of Toryism had been pulled to the last man, Lloyd George and Lord Crewe, but it was not as big a majority as Gladstone in 1881, which was sufficient to carry the budget or deal with the Lords.

THE POLLING TODAY.

Twenty-six seats are being polled today. In the last House they stood as follows: Unionist 1, Liberal 24, Nationalist 1.

England and Wales—	Liberal	Majority
Cambridgeshire (Wisbech)	1,045	Liberal
Cheshire (Altrincham)	2,691	Liberal
Conwy (Bangor)	2,230	Liberal
Derbyshire (North)	729	Liberal-Labor
Devonshire (Tavistock)	1,209	Liberal
Durham (Houghton-Spring)	5,780	Liberal
Durham (South)	unopposed.	Liberal
Gloucestershire (Gloucester)	1,180	Liberal
Kent (Dartford)	2,904	Liberal-Labor
Lancashire (Southwest (Leigh))	2,006	Liberal
Lancashire (Gainsborough)	851	Liberal
Norfolk (Northwest)	2,800	Liberal
Nottingham (Rushcliffe)	4,634	Liberal
Somerset (South)	1,917	Liberal
Staffordshire (Southwest)	2,349	Liberal-Labor
Suffolk (Northeast or Eye)	197	Liberal
Surrey (Chertsey)	99	Liberal
Wiltshire (Devizes)	614	Liberal
Scotland—		
Aberdeenshire (East)	unopposed.	Liberal
Argyleshire	1,495	Liberal
Caithness-shire	2,203	Liberal
Clackmannan and Kinross	1,379	Liberal
Edinburghshire (or Midlothian)	3,217	Liberal
Inverness-shire	2,108	Liberal
Ireland—		
Tyrone (North)	7	Liberal
Westmeath (North)	unopposed.	Nat'l

PARKS COMMISSION IS NOW TALKED OF

Ald. Richter and Others Have
Been Giving the Matter
Consideration.

The administration of the parks of the city may be placed in charge of a parks commission, as is the case in other cities.

Some of the aldermen, notably Ald. Richter, have been taking this question up, and it is probable that in the near future an amendment may be introduced to the City of London bill to permit of a commission being appointed.

If this were done a set sum of money would be given them each year for the administration of the parks. The system would be to give a fraction of a mill per annum, as is the case with the care of public parks.

It is thought that one-quarter of a mill, or perhaps less, could be set aside for this purpose, thus insuring a fine system of playgrounds and breathing-spots.

The details, of course, have not been worked out, but they are being considered carefully.

THE NAVAL ESTIMATE

Four Dreadnoughts, Ten Cruisers and Twenty-Four Destroyers.

Portsmouth, Eng., Jan. 26.—In well-informed naval circles it is understood that the next British naval estimate will provide for four Dreadnoughts, two armored cruisers, eight small cruisers, twenty-four torpedo boats, ten destroyers, ten submarines and 5,000 additional men.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS.

Seats in Commons	670
Seats decided	599
Contested Elections Yesterday.	
Liberals	24
Laborites	3
Unionists	18
Nationalists	2

Gains Yesterday.	
Liberals	2
Unionists	5
Laborites	0
Nationalists	0

Total Standing.	
Liberals	231
Laborites	38
Nationalists	74
Unionists	255

ELECTION ECHOES

For the first time for nearly a century the name of Gladstone does not appear on the list.

The Laborites have already four more seats than they had in the last House.

Premier Asquith has increased his majority in East Fife from 1,444 in 1906 to 2,059.

The Unionists have gained three seats in Ireland as the result of a split in the ranks of the Nationalist party.

War Secretary Haldane had a majority of 1,180 in Haddingtonshire, Scotland, in 1906, and 278 in 1909. His majority Tuesday was 745.

Capt. Murray, who retains his seat in Kincardineshire, is a son of Lord Elphinstone, and a younger brother of the Under Secretary of State for India. He has served in India and China, and is somewhat of an authority on Oriental affairs.

With seventy seats unfilled, and the Unionists claiming 30 of these, makes the standing in the new Parliament: Liberal-Labor 296, Unionists 290, Nationalists 84. The Liberals claim at least 50 of the remaining 70.

The successful Liberal candidate at Monday's contest in East Glamorgan, where he was Sir Alfred Thomas, a retired merchant, who has been mayor of Cardiff, president of the Baptist Union of Wales, and of University College of South Wales. He is chairman of the Welsh Liberals Parliamentary party.

The Secretary of War, Richard Burdon Haldane, K.C., was elected yesterday by the Liberals of Haddingtonshire, which he has represented for 25 years. He has written a life of Adam Smith, and several philosophical works, which have given him international fame.

Baron de Forest, the defeated Liberal candidate in the Southport division of Lancashire, is a hereditary baron of the Austrian Empire, and authorized by royal license to use his title in the United Kingdom. He was a lieutenant in the Prince of Wales' Own Norfolk Artillery Militia. He has estates in Austria.

Sir Charles D. Rose, who was defeated in the Newmarket division of Cambridgeshire Monday, is a Canadian, the son of Sir John Rose, finance minister in Canada in the first Government after confederation. Sir Charles was born in Montreal and was for a time captain in the Garrison Artillery there. He entered the British Parliament as a Liberal in 1905.

Lochiel, lineal descendant of the chief who was warned to "beware of the day when the Lowlands shall meet thee in battle" when the Liberal candidate at the election yesterday in Sutherlandshire. His name is Donald Walter Cameron. He is a grandson of the fifth Duke of Buccleuch, and is a descendant of the fifth Duke of Montrose. Naturally he allies himself with the supporters of the "Ducks."

Premier Asquith was re-elected yesterday in East Fife. All the Liberal prime ministers in 20 years—whether Englishmen or not—have represented Scottish constituencies. Gladstone was M. P. for Midlothian; Campbell-Bannerman for Stirling Burghs, and Asquith for East Fife. The other Liberal premier, Lord Rosebery, never had a chance to sit in the Commons, as he succeeded to his grandfather's peerage at 21.

In the Hinkley division of Derbyshire the Right Hon. Sir Walter Foster, M.D., re-elected on Monday in the Liberal interest. Sir Walter is an example of the physician in politics. He has held a professorship in medicine, and was parliamentary secretary to the local government board, 1892-1895. In the last ministry of Mr. Gladstone, and the only ministry of Lord Rosebery. He is president of various reform associations, and has written several medical works.

An analysis of the list of over a thousand candidates shows that the legal profession supplies more of them than any other calling, a total of 227. Next on the list are retired army officers, 118, as contrasted with only 13 former army officers. Journalists, authors and novelists number 45, doctors 24, ex-pitmen 28, engineers 26, bankers 16, newspaper proprietors 16, ironmasters 16, farmers and agriculturalists 20, colliery owners 10, cotton spinners 17, brewers 10, ship builders or owners 18, ex-civil servants 10, stock brokers 10. No other trade or profession reaches double figures, but almost all are represented. Over twenty candidates are the eldest sons of peers.

John Hodge, the Labor member who was on Monday re-elected in the Garton division of Lancashire, a Scot by birth, is secretary of the British Steel Smelters' Mill, Iron and Tinplate Workers' Association. He took an active part in the political and municipal work of the district.

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GALLANT COUNTY COUNCILLORS PROVIDE SEATS FOR LADIES

Where Fair Femininity May Repose and Listen to the Debates
Which Enliven the Middlesex County Buildings—Striking
Committee Names Standing Committees.

There was a short session of the county council this morning. The most important business of the morning was the acceptance of the report of the striking committee, which set the personnel of the committees for the ensuing year.

The Committees.

The committees are as follows:

Finance Committee—C. M. Macfie, convener, C. W. Hawkshaw, Jos. G. Buttery, S. F. Glass, J. A. McGugan, J. W. Laidlaw, W. O. Kraft, W. D. Moss and Marshall Miller.

Board of Road Directors—John McFarlane, convener, A. K. Hodgins, H. Brodie, J. J. Jones, R. Banks, C. M. Macfie, John McGugan, B. C. Brooks, Marshall Miller, George Innie, B. C. Brooks, W. Innis, J. Murray, J. C. McDonald, Geo. Elliott and Thomas Munro.

House of Refuge—H. Brodie, convener, F. W. Atkinson, J. Murray, J. Brown, A. K. Hodgins, John McGugan, George Innie, B. C. Brooks, W. D. Moss.

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ALL PARTS OF FRANCE IN GRIP OF AN UNPRECEDENTED STORM

Ships Fleeing for Harbor and the Seine Rising to Tremendous
Heights—Bitter Cold and Blinding Blizzard Brings Great
Suffering to Poor of Paris.

Paris, Jan. 26.—The flood situation grows worse hourly. At Pont Royal this morning the raging torrent of the Seine had reached a height of 27 feet 8 inches above low water mark and was rising at the rate of nearly an inch an hour against an hourly rise of less than half an inch yesterday. Although the River Marne was reported stationary at Preteux to the east of Paris, the rivers navigation department declares that the volume of water rushing down the Yonne and other affluents of the Seine above, leaves no hope that the high water mark will

be reached before tomorrow morning, when the flood is expected to reach a maximum of 31 feet or a height greater than that of the disastrous flood of 1902.

At the same time the department admits confidentially that it is impossible to predict anything with accuracy as the whole of France is still in the grip of an unprecedented storm. Rain, snow and hail are falling everywhere, the coasts are stormbound, and ships are fleeing to the harbors for refuge.

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BIG MEN AT THE LAYMEN'S BANQUET

Event Will Prove Most Important One, Says Mr. D. A. McDermid.

MANY OUTSIDE VISITORS

Will Be in Attendance—Canon Tucker Will Be One of Those Who Deliver Addresses.

"The Laymen's Missionary banquet which will be held in the banquet hall of Wesley Hall tomorrow evening, will be one of the greatest of the kind ever held here," Secretary McDermid told The Advertiser this afternoon.

"We have received a very large number of applications from outside towns, and as the hall will only hold 200 it is going to be taxed to its utmost."

THE SPEAKERS.

The speakers at the great banquet are all men prominent in the work and widely known as a result of the parts they have taken at different times.

Canon Tucker, of Toronto, is the head of the Church of England branch of the Laymen's Missionary Movement, and a brilliant speaker.

Controlled by S. Snice and Mr. Thomas Findlay, of the Massey-Harris Company, are well known speakers, and have taken part in the work since its inception.

A SECOND VICTIM OF COBBOURG SHOOTING

Cobourg, Jan. 26.—Gustave Guffette, the second victim of yesterday's shooting affray at Orafton, died yesterday at the Cobourg Hospital. About 8 o'clock last night the prisoner Meronto was taken to the hospital, where he was identified by Guffette as the man who did the shooting.

FOUND MOTHER DEAD.

Walkerton, Jan. 25.—When her children came home from school today they found their mother, Mrs. A. Delavaren, stretched out on the floor unconscious. A physician was summoned, but the woman passed away at 6 o'clock without regaining consciousness. Epilepsy was given as the cause.

THE WEATHER

TOMORROW—MILD.

FORECASTS.

Toronto, Jan. 26—8 a.m. Today—Strong southeasterly winds; cloudy, with light local rain or sleet.

Thursday—Westerly winds and mild.

Stations.	8 a.m.	Min.	Weather.
Victoria	42	28	Cloudy
Calgary	40	26	Clear
Winnipeg	38	24	Cloudy
Port Arthur	36	22	Cloudy
Perry Sound	34	20	Cloudy
Toronto	32	18	Cloudy
Ottawa	30	16	Fair
Montreal	28	14	Fair
Quebec	26	12	Cloudy
Marathon	24	10	Snow

The western disturbance is now centered in Wisconsin, and the Atlantic disturbance, which does not appear to be of much energy, is moving slowly northward toward Nova Scotia.

The weather is cloudy from Ontario to the Maritime Provinces, moderately cold in the Ottawa Valley, and elsewhere mild.

The temperature continues unseasonably high throughout the west.

CITY COUNCIL HAS A SCARE HEARS OF A GIANT MERGER OF ELECTRICAL INTERESTS

Big Corporations May Join Hands and in London
Compete With the City for the Power Market
---Matter Brought Up by a Wire to the Mayor
From the Canadian Union of Municipalities.

A gigantic electrical and railway merger is in the air.

Today Mayor Beattie received a telegram from Mr. W. D. Lightfoot, secretary of the League of Canadian Municipalities, stating that two bills were to be considered in the House of Commons this week, giving the companies seeking charters unlimited rights for tunnels and electric power schemes, and was evidently a merger of electric and railway lines. Mr. Lightfoot thought it a Mackenzie-Mann scheme.

WHAT IT MAY MEAN.

The telegram was not explicit, but it was judged from the reading of the message that the Mackenzie-Mann interests were seeking large tunnel and electric rights in Toronto and Montreal, with privileges along the same line in London and other Canadian cities.

It provided for the merging of all the electrical power and railway lines in the cities mentioned.

MAYOR SEEKS INFORMATION.

"I wired, asking if it meant that it was possible that the electrical companies in London, and the power companies, could merge into one company," said Mayor Beattie. "I wanted to know also if tunnel privileges were to be given to the company in London without our knowledge or consent."

WORD IS RECEIVED.

"I received a wire back stating that such was the case, I think it one of the most serious problems we have had to deal with. It probably means that the companies in London could form an alliance and compete with us here for the power market."

LONDON PROTESTS.

The council heard the explanation and passed a resolution on motion of Ald. Saunders that the protest of the city of London be forwarded immediately to Ottawa, and that the city oppose any tunnel privileges or anything of that sort without the consent of the municipality.

SEND SOLICITOR TO OTTAWA.

Mayor Beattie was also instructed to send City Solicitor Meredith to Ottawa if he considered it necessary to protect the interests of the city.

Details of the bill were lacking at the city hall.

Mayor Beattie will endeavor to obtain whatever information he possibly can with reference to it.

NEW COURT HOUSE IS DISTANT OLD BUILDING TO BE IMPROVED

Councillor Brodie Says Middlesex County Court Will Not Erect a
New Structure Until They Are Compelled to Do So.

The question of the improvements to be made to the court house and jail is proving a subject of much interest and discussion among the members of the county council.

The majority of the members, however, are reluctant to express any decided opinion on what action is likely to be taken before the special committee charged with looking into the matter, have made their report.

One thing, however, seems almost certain, that the members of the council will not consider for a moment any idea of erecting a new building.

When asked regarding the matter, Warden Campbell remarked that he did not want to be quoted on the matter until the report of the committee who were inquiring into the matter was presented.

THREE-YEAR SENTENCE FOR GORDON LA MOTHE

Strathroy Burglar Will Be Put
Away for a Time in
Central.

Gordon La Mothe, the young man from Strathroy, who pleaded guilty on Monday to several charges of theft, appeared before Judge Macbeth this morning, and was sentenced to three years in the Kingston Penitentiary.

In passing sentence, his honor stated that he was sorry to have to impose such a penalty upon him, but the nature of the offence made it necessary that he should do so.

He stated, however, that if La Mothe's conduct at the institution warranted such action, petitions entered on his behalf would in all likelihood mitigate the sentence.

If such petitions were circulated his honor stated that he would gladly give his countenance to any effort for executive clemency.

AGED WANDERER FOUND SLEEPING IN BARN

Was at Once Arrested and
Brought Before a
Magistrate.

An old man named Archie Campbell, who gives his age as 61 years, was found sleeping peacefully in a barn on concession 6, London Township, by Constable Arthur Corsaut, and brought before Squire Chittick charged with vagrancy. He was remanded for a week.

The fire of the open road was apparently too much for Campbell, who is in other respects quite normal.

Some time ago he left his home in Toronto for the joys of roving the wide, wide world. There is no reason for his departure. He is a boiler-maker by trade, and quite capable of working for some years to come; also he is quite rational, and, moreover, had plenty of money. But the delights of travel are apparently more to him than the delights of home, and for some time now he has been indulging his taste, wandering by day and sleeping in whatever barn happened to be handy at nightfall. He was apparently enjoying himself thoroughly, when Constable Corsaut changed his simple pleasure to the even simpler life of Castle Carter for some time at least.

MILITANT SUFFRAGETTES ALMOST GOT ASQUITH

Charged Time After Time and
Have Lively Skirmish
With Police.

Following the arrest of Mr. Asquith, the Premier was mobbed by militant suffragettes. The women in a brief charged time after time in their advocacy to reach the minister, and there were several lively skirmishes with the police before Mr. Asquith was conveyed to a place of safety.

BEEF TRUST PROBE.

Chicago, Jan. 26.—The federal grand jury today began the investigation of the methods of the alleged "Beef Trust."

FARMER FOUND DEAD.

Comber, Jan. 25.—Hermias Carter, a well-known farmer of Rochester Township, Essex County, was found dead in bed by his wife this morning.

COMMISSIONER RESIGNS.

Toronto, Jan. 25.—Mr. Joseph Thompson, commissioner of industries, has resigned his office to accept the offer of a substantially-improved position.