

TO INCREASE SESSIONAL INDEMNITIES

The Total Cost in Sessional Indemnities Alone Will be Increased Over Half Million.

DECISION COMES AS BIG SURPRISE

Premier Gave Impression Thursday That He Considered Advance Now as Undesirable.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Ont., June 25.—Today's indemnity caucus developments may be summed up briefly as follows:

- (1) Sir Robert Borden sternly lectured members and senators for divulging caucus secrets, declaring that this constituted a grave breach of confidence, and adding that those found guilty of such misdemeanor in the future would be duly punished.
- (2) The Prime Minister proceeded to heal the wound thus made by announcing the following generous increase in indemnities:
 - (a) Members and senators to have their indemnities advanced from \$2,500 to \$4,000 a session.
 - (b) Cabinet ministers to have their salaries increased from \$7,000 to \$10,000 a year, plus their indemnity, making a yearly total of \$14,000.
 - (c) The Leader of the Opposition to be given the same salary as a Cabinet Minister, to wit \$14,000 a year.
 - (d) The salary of the Prime Minister to be increased from \$10,000 to \$15,000 a year, plus the indemnity, making a total of \$19,000.
 - (e) The salary of the Solicitor General to be increased from \$5,000 to \$7,000, plus the indemnity, or a total of \$11,000.
 - (f) The salaries of judges to be substantially increased, a half million increase.

The foregoing represents a net total increase of more than half a million dollars—\$554,000—and brings the total cost of a session in indemnities alone to \$1,320,000.

News of the increases spread like wildfire. Despite the Prime Minister's lecture about secrecy, members fairly fell over themselves in spreading the glad tidings, and long before the Prime Minister had issued a formal statement outlining and defending what had been done, the news had been sent broadcast over the wires to nearly every newspaper in the country.

The Prime Minister's decision came as a surprise because in his speech in the Commons on Thursday, he left little doubt in the mind of his hearers that he considered an advance in indemnities at the present time undesirable.

However, now that the deed is done and members are preparing to pocket their \$1,500 and go home (legislation to be rushed through at the usual end-of-the-session bewildering rate) there is not likely to be much criticism of the course taken. It is pointed out (Sir Robert's statement emphasizes these points) that the Canadian indemnity is still lower than in the United States; that our Cabinet Ministers have been grossly underpaid, and that this applies with equal force to the members of the Bench. The only objection likely to be raised is the objection which the Prime Minister himself voiced this week, but even this members believe, will be more than met by a calm consideration of all the facts.

NFLD. ELECTION CASE FINALLY SETTLED

Declaration of Poll Shows Minister of Shipping Victorious by Majority of 421.

St. John's, Nfld., June 25.—(Canadian Press)—Declaration of the poll in the district of Bay De Verde, today, shows that W. H. Cave, Minister of Shipping, was elected by a majority of 421 votes. The standing of the candidates when the final count was concluded gave Cave 1,334 and J. C. Puddat 913. A very aggressive fight was put up by both sides in the by-election. Premier Squires actively campaigned in the district for his candidate, while the opposition was presented in the fight by former Colonial Secretary Bennett.

The general policy of the new government was made the issue of the campaign but the fish export regulations were the storm centre of discussion. Cave's victory is regarded as a great popular endorsement of the Squires administration.

TERRIBLE TRAGEDY AT VAUDREUIL

Prominent Westmount Family Wiped Out in Drowning Accident — No Witnesses to Affair.

Montreal, June 25.—A tragedy broods over Vaudreuil tonight owing to the wiping out by drowning of a prominent Westmount family who were staying there for the summer. The victims are Mrs. W. F. Hamilton, 38, her two daughters, Louise and Yvette, aged 5 and 9 respectively, and her niece Helene Hamilton, aged ten. The accident occurred shortly after three this afternoon and was not discovered until 3.45 when Andre, aged 12, son of the drowned woman, saw the body of his cousin, Helene, floating face downwards in the water. There are no witnesses to the accident which, it is supposed, occurred through Mrs. Hamilton going to the rescue of one of the children and becoming herself helpless in the deep water. Then, it is thought, the other children tried to rescue her and were drowned. Mr. Wilfrid F. Hamilton, the bereaved husband and father, is a civil engineer and a graduate of McGill.

DERRY SITUATION FURTHER IMPROVED

Gov't Prepared to Protect All Routes Leading to Shipyards—Business Resumed.

Londonderry, June 25.—The situation in Londonderry following the week of civil warfare showed further improvement today when business again started up. A peace conference is now in session largely with a view to getting refugees back to their homes. It is being attended by the Protestant and Catholic Bishops, the Magistrates and Irish Under-Secretaries.

General Carter Campbell, commander of the Government troops, today reiterated his guarantee to protect all the routes leading to the shipyards and factories, thus insuring a resumption of work in their plants. Colonel Chaplin, of the Scottish Rifles, is in charge of the troops in the city.

At the inquest today over the body of Augustus Austin, a former soldier, who was killed while crossing a street, the Coroner promised to give Austin's widow every opportunity to identify the persons who slew her husband. The Coroner regarded all such cases as that of Austin as nothing less than wilful murder.

HOPEFUL SIGNS OF SETTLEMENT

Toronto Railway Co. and Strikers Met in Conference Yesterday — Compromise Offer.

Toronto, June 25.—At the adjourned conference of the representatives of the striking street railway employees, the company, the Ontario Railway Board and other bodies this forenoon, the company offered to increase the maximum wage from 55 cents to 60 cents per hour, and the offer will be considered at a mass meeting of the employees tomorrow night.

The mere fact that the Toronto Railway Company and the officials of the Street Railwaymen's Union, representing the strikers, met in conference was a hopeful sign. The situation became still more hopeful when Manager R. J. Fleming, of the Toronto Railway Company, told the Railway Board that his suggestion of a five-cent increase would be considered by the company.

SECURITY SURROUNDS MONTREAL FIRM

Securing Contracts for Supply \$5,000,000 Worth of Rolling Stock for Soviets.

Montreal, June 25.—There is a great deal of secrecy concerning the identity of the Montreal firm who, according to the Soviet Ambassador Martens in New York is negotiating for the supply of \$5,000,000 worth of rolling stock to be shipped to Russia. The name of Boyer, Sloan and Company is not listed in either the telephone or city directories.

MISS BUTLER TO SAIL FOR ENGLAND

Unless She Changes Her Mind She Will Marry Her New Love in Manchester.

New York, June 25.—(By Canadian Press)—Miss A. Butler, the English beauty who crossed the Atlantic to wed Captain R. Kitoben, Sydney, C. B., but fell in love with Captain Paul Mellor enroute, was transferred from Ellis Island this afternoon to the steamship Caronia which sails tomorrow. She and Captain Mellor—unless she changes her mind again—will be married in Manchester, England.

COMMERCE B'D WRANGLE TO BE AIRED IN HOUSE

Sir Robert Borden Promises All Correspondence in Connection With Robson Resignation.

MURDOCK UNDER MISAPPREHENSION

Premier Will Give Same Publicity in Reply to Commissioner as Latter Gave His Letter.

Ottawa, June 25.—(By Canadian Press)—Sir Robert Borden promised the House of Commons this afternoon that the correspondence between the government and the Board of Commerce, relating to the resignation of the Hon. H. A. Robson from the membership of the Board, would be tabled in the House of Commons. He promised the Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King that the House would have an opportunity of discussing the matter contained in the resignation of James Murdock from the Board in view of this, Mr. King postponed further discussion until after the Robson correspondence had been submitted to Parliament.

At the opening of the House, Mr. King said that assuming the published letter from Mr. Murdock to be the correct version, he would like to suggest that the correspondence, which the government had declined hitherto to submit to parliament, should now be tabled in the House so that Parliament might have an opportunity of discussing the Board of Commerce in all its phases before prorogation.

LABORS UNDER ERROR

Sir Robert said that he only received Mr. Murdock's letter today. He presumed it was the same as the version published in the press. Mr. Murdock was under a misapprehension, no doubt sincere, as to the Government's intention.

"I did not intend to suggest to him," said the Prime Minister, "that the Government would wait for the decision of the Privy Council before filing in the board. On the contrary, I asked him to name a suitable person to appoint when Mr. O'Connor resigned. I did say to Mr. Murdock then that the question was of so serious a character that I was afraid the Government would not be unable to give it proper attention until after prorogation. I went so far as to name to my colleagues, the gentleman suggested by Mr. Murdock as a suitable chairman, but there is some doubt that this gentleman would accept the post."

WILL PUBLISH REPLY

My reply to Mr. Murdock's letter of resignation will be given the same publicity that has been given his letter.

FIRE IN CARDING AND WOOLLEN MILL

Loss Estimated at \$5,000. Insurance \$2,500.

Woodstock, June 25.—The old Dryden factory, River street, was partly destroyed by fire this morning. It was occupied the last few months by Fish and Hammond, as a carding and woollen mill. The machinery was badly damaged, while very little goods or wool was removed from the building. The front part of the factory was saved in which the carding department can be conducted for a short time. The loss is estimated at \$5,000 with \$2,500 insurance.

ORPHAN CHILDREN ENJOYED THEMSELVES

While the scholars at the Protestant Orphan Asylum were unable to give a public programme, as they are quarantined for whooping cough, several of the pupils gave recitations, and their school work and sewing were on exhibition. Mrs. W. Edmund Raymond of the Board of Management was present and presented her prizes. The children enjoyed for their dinner salmon as J. Stely sent a four-pound pound fish to the Home. Mrs. Raymond donated ice cream.

U. S. S. BLU EAGLE PUTS INTO HALIFAX

Halifax, N. S., June 25.—(By Canadian Press)—The United States Shipping Board steamer Blue Eagle, from Newport News for Rosasp, France, put in here today with her water tanks leaking. A survey is being held to ascertain the cause of the trouble.

KEEPING UP THE JUDGE ROBSON CONTROVERSY

Mr. Murdock Again Rushes Into Print in Effort to Bettle Commerce Board Work.

WAS URGED TO RESIGN FROM BOARD

Would Make Judge Robson the Goat, Placing All Shortcomings of Board on His Shoulders.

MURDOCK CHARGES DENIED BY ROBSON

Winnipeg, June 25.—Absolute denial of charges laid against him by James Murdock was wired to Premier Borden today by Jack Robson. Telegram says: "I characterize Murdock's imputations against me personally as maliciously false in their entirety and as far as known to me, there is no basis of truth in the suggestion that ministers desired to destroy or hinder the board. I invite the fullest scrutiny from the inception of the board."

Toronto, June 25.—The Toronto Star today publishes a letter from James Murdock, the last remaining member of the Board of Commerce, who himself resigned last night, in which Mr. Murdock tells what is described as "inside history" that smashed the Board of Commerce. His letter was addressed to the Dominion Cabinet at the time that Judge Robson resigned as Chairman of the Board of Commerce, last February, and according to the introduction to the article is one of the letters which Liberal members in the House demanded for several weeks, and which the Government refused to lay on the table. In connection with the publication of the letter, Mr. Murdock today gave emphatic and unqualified denial to the statements made by Judge Robson, in a despatch from Winnipeg, following the statement made by Mr. Murdock last night.

JUDGE WANTED TO RESIGN

Mr. Murdock, in his letter, detailed at considerable length the circumstances of his appointment to the Board, and his first meeting with Judge Robson during which the Judge intimated that he did not expect to hold the position of Chairman of the Board very long, and as Mr. Murdock was in a position to return to his old position, he suggested that the Judge suggested that they should carry on for a while, and then later make arrangements to both resign together, or nearly so. Then follows an account of what occurred at various sessions of the Board, largely dealing with the Judge's continual mention of resigning.

While conducting investigation in Toronto in January Mr. Murdock says: "At noon on January 16th, the Chairman and I had lunch at the King Edward Hotel, and during the course of the lunch, he suggested that we resign together, stating certain reasons in opposition to the Board's efforts, etc., and he had reason to believe that I was sympathetically inclined to consider the matter of resigning."

REBUILDING OF LITTLE NEREPIA BRIDGE, PETERSVILLE

Fredericton, June 25.—Hon. P. J. Veniot has awarded the contract for the rebuilding of the Little Nerepia bridge, in the Parish of Petersville, Queens County, to H. O. Staples, of New Devon, his tender being in the vicinity of \$9,000.

SEVERE ELECTRIC STORM AT CHATHAM

High Wind and Heavy Downpour of Rain, Lasting Two Hours.

Chatham, June 25.—The most severe electrical storm so far this season visited this section this afternoon, about 4.30, accompanied by a high wind and heavy downpour of rain lasting for nearly two hours. The light system in the business section was put out of commission temporarily. Despite the severity, even the storm no serious damage has as yet been reported.

OLYMPIC HAS GOLD CONSIGNMENT

London, June 25.—S. S. Olympic sailing today carries consignment of gold. Amount is not disclosed. Presumably the metal is consigned to J. P. Morgan and Co.

SCOTIA STEEL FORMALLY VOTES RATIFICATION

Of Agreement With British Empire Steel Corporation at Its Meeting Yesterday.

UNANIMOUS VOTE FOR CONSOLIDATION

Smaller Companies Are Eliminated from the Merger, Regarded Beneficial to Scotia.

New Glasgow, N. S., June 25.—(By Canadian Press)—Ratification of the agreement entered into between the directors of the Nova Scotia Steel Company and the British Empire Steel Corporation was unanimously voted at a general meeting of the shareholders of the former company held here today. The meeting scheduled for eleven o'clock, did not get down to the business in hand for upwards of an hour, owing to the amount of stock represented. But after the scrutineers had reported that 106,569 of the 150,000 shares outstanding were represented it required less than half an hour to communicate Scotia's share in the proposition.

PROBATION IS EXPECTED WEDNESDAY

Move to be Made in Senate to Have Racing Clause in Criminal Code Effective October 15.

Ottawa, June 25.—(Canadian Press) At the opening of the Senate today Sir James Loughheed, Government leader, said that prorogation of Parliament was expected on Tuesday. He explained that his intention in moving such an amendment was to prevent a change in the racing laws until the racing season was over.

COMPANIES ELIMINATED

W. D. Ross, in speaking to the motion, referred to the elimination of the Port Arthur Shipbuilding Company and Canadian Furriers, who were recommended for ratification. He felt that the time to enter the organization was now, when it was in process of formation, and expressed his belief that the inclusion of the smaller concerns was not in the interests of the owners of Scotia.

AWARDED CONTRACT

Rebuilding of Little Nerepia Bridge, Petersville.

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UNIONISTS SHOULD CLARIFY ATMOSPHERE

All Uncertainties Might be Cleared up by Definite Announcement of Leadership and Platform.

Ottawa, June 25.—The Ottawa Journal, an unyielding supporter of the Union Government since its formation will contain the following editorial tomorrow: "The resignation of Mr. James Murdock from the Board of Commerce and his accompanying letter seem to illustrate the difficulty, if not the mistake of attempting to carry on Government without definite present leadership. The endeavor of the Unionists to carry on last winter, under the necessity of Sir Robert Borden's absence was a tribute to his personality and creditable to the heart of the party, but, apparently it rendered inevitable an uncertainty in administration which has afforded ground for irritation in various quarters of which the Board of Commerce has been one of the most important. If it is possible to end the uncertainty by a definite announcement upon the Unionist leadership and platform this should be done. Otherwise, a general election is due the people at an early date, and we imagine, has come to be desirable this year in any case."

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Sir Robert Borden Announces Increase, Giving Reasons Why Such Should Be Made.

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SINN FEINERS READY TO TALK PEACE TERMS

Present Irish Crisis May be Settled Without Recourse to Rebellion and Civil War.

GRIFFITH WILLING TO MEET PREMIER

Every Reason to Believe Sinn Fein is Now Prepared to Accept Dominion Home Rule.

(Overseas Service, Copyright by Sydney B. Cave.) London, June 25.—An interview in Irish Bulletin, with Arthur Griffith, Sinn Fein leader, brings hope to England that present Irish crisis may be settled without recourse to rebellion and civil war, which all have been expecting to break out hourly.

Griffith offers to meet Lloyd George for discussion of Irish situation and to negotiate "Treaty of Peace." Lloyd George is known to have sought a conference several days ago, and had been refused by Sinn Fein who refused to come to London, saying their minimum demands were known, and that such a trip would be wasted time, as they had placed their only demands at absolute independence from England. I have every reason to believe Sinn Fein are now prepared to accept "Dominion Home Rule" with the condition that the principle of self-determination, as laid down by President Wilson, be applied to Ulster. Under such principles they believe at least two out of six Ulster counties would go with the rest of Ireland.

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QUEBEC P. S. CORP. DECLARES DIVL.

Special to The Standard. Montreal, June 25.—Announcement is made that the Public Service Corporation of Quebec, a subsidiary of the Shawinigan Water and Power Co., has declared a dividend for the second quarter of the current year of 1.4 per cent, payable July 15 to record June 30. In December last the initial dividend on the stock was at the rate of 4 per cent, and the next was at the same rate. This is therefore an increase of dividend from four to five per cent.

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Auburn, N. Y., June 25.—The national association of professional baseball players today fined the Baltimore club of the International League \$1,000 for violation of the rule against playing with clubs harboring ineligible players or contract player jumpers. It was also ordered that clubs book their players on optional agreement, must file formal agreements in the secretary's office at once or surrender the players.