

OLD AGE PENSIONS WILL BE EXPENSIVE

Cost About \$40,000,000 Annually

Commission to Inquire Into Scheme--Emmerson and Fowler Both Favor Intercolonial Taking Over the Branch Line Railways--Other News of the House.

(Special to The Telegraph.) Ottawa, Feb. 3--Sir Wilfrid Laurier, answering Mr. Kemp of Toronto, in the house of commons today, said that 1803 miles of Transcontinental railway had been located between Moncton and Winnipeg, four miles remain to be located and a revision of a number of points already located. There are 820 miles under contract for construction. The estimated amount of obligation entered into is \$38,000,000 and disbursements \$21,300,000.

In answer to Mr. Ames, Mr. Oliver said that sixty-nine timber licenses for land in Manitoba and Northwest Territories were issued in 1902, covering 1269 square miles. Of these licenses 68 were new.

Mr. Fielding, answering Dr. Sproule, said that the bonds of the government had been sold. Money was raised by the company on the pledge of the bonds with the Bank of Montreal at the interest rate of 5 per cent. The amount due the Bank of Montreal by the bridge company for such advances and interest on June 30, 1907, was \$3,651,807.

Provincial Fisheries. In answer to Mr. Martin (Queens), Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that the government is appointing a delegate with power to discuss with accredited representatives of the various local governments the question of the relative rights and jurisdiction with respect to the fisheries. The government is unaware of any difficulties which should prevent an amicable settlement of rights. The government is not aware that the divided jurisdiction between the federal government and the provincial governments of the provinces has proved detrimental to the interests of the fisheries, but the government appreciates that the interests of the provinces are not more satisfactory basis with undivided jurisdiction.

Mr. Pringle said that an annual pass was granted at Ottawa in favor of P. S. Archibald as general manager of Elgin & Havelock railway. A trip-pass was also given in favor of Mrs. Harris on Aug. 14, 1907. Mrs. Harris is a daughter of Mrs. P. S. Archibald, and on Aug. 22 a trip-pass was granted to her. The government is not aware that the trip-passes were given by the general manager at Moncton.

Old Age Pensions. R. A. Pringle (Cornwall), moved for a committee of nine to inquire into schemes by which the aged or otherwise making provision for the aged and deserving poor with special regard in case of any proposals which may approve, to their cost and probable financial result and that the committee have power to send for persons, papers and records and to examine witnesses on oath and affirmation.

Mr. Pringle said that last session when he brought the matter up, Sir Wilfrid Laurier made a sympathetic answer, but did not also the minister of labor. Since that time a bill was introduced in the British parliament. The premier told a labor delegation that an old age pension would bring criminals from the United States.

Sir Richard Cartwright, speaking in the senate, feared that an old age pension would discourage thrift. Those who studied the question did not agree with this. The annuity system which Sir Richard proposed, would only be accepted by the upper strata of the working classes. This was shown by Lord Aberdeen's commission in Britain.

Mr. Pringle quoted Mr. Chaplin's bill which was that every man who reached sixty-five was entitled to receive from five shillings to seven shillings a week pension, provided he had never been in prison and that he had never received more than ten shillings a week, and also provided that he had made an attempt to keep himself.

Mr. Pringle said that a small pension after seventy years of age would be better than no pension at all.

Mr. Macdonnell (Toronto), supported the motion. H. J. Logan (Cumberland), gave his hearty support to the measure. He said that there was no question before the country today which was of so great importance as that of making provision for the aged poor.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Sir Wilfrid Laurier congratulated Mr. Pringle for the manner in which he presented his resolution and for the industry and persistence in the case he addressed to the subject. The statement that he (Sir Wilfrid) had said that old age pensions would invite criminals from the United States was not correct. He said that he had no doubt difficulties in the way but he was prepared to approach the matter with an open mind. The discussion had shown that there were a variety of opinions on the subject. For instance Ralph Smith wanted the system to be universal. He did not think he could agree to that. His own personal view would be for such a law that would give to those who could not accumulate for themselves in their old age.

ALLEN SCOUTING FOR CANDIDATES

New Provincial Secretary Takes Fresh Start for Running Mates

SUNBURY FIXED

Messrs. Thurrott and Peake Will Be Nominated at Saturday's Convention to Oppose Hazen and Glasier--Injured Hockeyist in Hospital.

(Special to The Telegraph.) Fredericton, N. B., Feb. 3--(Special.) E. H. Allen arrived this evening from his home in Westmorland county and will start again tomorrow upon the difficult task of forming a ticket here to be presented to the government convention which meets on Wednesday. Up to a late hour this evening it had been found impossible to complete the ticket. Great hopes were placed upon William McGuire accepting the first position on the ticket, and his absolute refusal today to run came as a stunning blow to many.

The offer for the two remaining candidates was made in all sections of the county and has been turned down. Five years ago the government had no trouble in getting champions, as it was thought then that the administration might succeed. Today with sure defeat facing the party no one is anxious to offer himself a victim.

At Bear Island this evening the opposition candidates opened the campaign, speaking to a crowded hall. The reception they received was the greatest ever tendered candidates in that part of the country and is a fore-runner of what it will be in the rest of the county.

Dr. Fletcher, brother-in-law of Mr. MacNutt, editor of the Herald, had the misfortune today to fall on one of the streets of York and fractured his leg. Dr. Fletcher who is well known in this city will have the sympathy of many friends in his mishap.

Sunbury Victims Selected. The supporters of the local government in the county of Sunbury have been summoned to meet at Benton on Saturday next at 2 o'clock to select candidates. Col. H. H. McLean, of St. John, it is said, will be present and deliver a speech. The candidates are to be Dr. Peake and T. M. Thurrott, and as it is understood that everything has been arranged, it may be taken for granted that there will be no opposition in the convention. The ticket is not regarded seriously and is put up for the purpose of keeping the county going by default.

John D. MacDonald, captain of the Capital Hockey Club, was taken to the Richards private hospital this afternoon in a rather serious condition as a result of the assault upon him during the progress of the game in this city on Thursday last. Inflammation has set in in the wounds in MacDonald's head, and Dr. McNally considered it best for him to be removed to the hospital for treatment.

WAVE OF CRIME IN SOME FINANCIAL HOUSES IN NEW YORK

Judge Swann's Startling Charge to Grand Jury in Calling Their Attention to Wholesale Bank Failures.

New York, Feb. 3--Judge Edward Swann urged a thorough and rigid investigation of the recent bank failures in his address to the newly empaneled grand jury today.

"There has been a wave of crime in some financial houses," he said. "Banks have failed not only in this county, but in the county of Kings. The United States grand jury has already filed a number of indictments against wreckers of national banks, but I understand the special grand jury now investigating this class of crime has filed but one so far. If any member of this jury, knows of any criminal acts in connection with bank failures it is his plain duty to call his associates' attention to that fact so that indictments may be found if the evidence warrants."

JUDGE SENTENCES HIMSELF TO PRISON

Toledo Police Justice Takes Novel Way of Finding Out About Life in the Workhouse.

NOR HUMBURLAND SOLI FOR THE OPPOSITION AND GOOD GOVERNMENT

Four Representative Candidates Chosen--Two Liberals and Two Conservatives

Messrs. Morrissy and Morrison, the Present Members; Mayor MacLachlan of Chatham, and Mr. Allain an Acadian, Elected on First Ballot--Crowded and Enthusiastic Meeting Applaud Ringing Speeches of J. D. Hazen, J. K. Flemming and the Standardbearers.

STEAMER ON FIRE; FIFTY DROWNED OFF N. S. COAST

(Special to The Telegraph.) Halifax, N. S., Feb. 3--Steamer St. Outhbert, from Liverpool, is reported by wireless from Cape Sable to be on fire off the western coast of Nova Scotia. The White Star liner Cymric came up with the St. Outhbert which is in the direct line of ocean traffic and is about 200 miles from Halifax. Fifty of her crew took to the boats and were capsized, being drowned. Thirty-eight of them who stayed aboard were rescued by the Cymric. The steamer had been on fire about nine hours when the Cymric came up, and they calculated that she would last twelve hours more. The St. Outhbert's plugs were taken out so as to cause her to sink. The Cymric was bound from Queenstown for Boston. The St. Outhbert had no passengers.

Mr. Morrissy's Ringing Speech. Mr. Morrissy, who was given a great reception, after referring to the honor he felt at again contesting the county in the interests of the opposition, spoke of his being a Liberal in politics but opposed to the present government, as a matter of principle. He was in favor of an administration that would give honest government to the people. What the people of the North Shore wanted was a honest administration of local affairs, and it would be the greatest tactical blunder a Liberal ever made if he voted on party lines in this contest. It would mean death to the man and death to his party in the dominion fight.

Mr. MacLachlan, who was warmly received, spoke briefly of the need of a remedy against the government in power, and added that while he might not be as well versed in politics as some of his friends, yet he knew enough to favor good government and trusted if elected to be worthy of their confidence.

Mr. Allain. Mr. Allain was received with rousing cheers. He would not stand solely, he said, for the Acadians, but as a British subject, taking an interest in the affairs of the county, he accepted the nomination in the name of the Acadians, who would appreciate the fact that he had been chosen. He hoped they would all take their coats off and work heartily for the whole ticket. (Cheers.)

Mr. Flemming was received with much cheering. After a few introductory remarks, he turned his attention to the debt of the province. The net debt he said had averaged the following yearly increase, in pounds: 1896-1901, \$80,000; five years, 1901-1906, \$196,000; it has now reached \$370,000.

The government newspapers had said there was a great difference between Mr. Hazen and himself in their figures, but they felt sure that the fact that the debt, gross debt and liability were all different terms and meant different things.

Mr. Robinson, continued Mr. Flemming, says my figures are true. He states there is a surplus of about \$9,000. I say there is a large deficit of about \$400,000 on last year's operations. The difference comes about in this way. The premier got a surplus of ordinary revenue over ordinary expenditure has charged to capital expenditure the following: New Brunswick Coal & Railway, \$82,000; Bridges, \$120,000.

Public works over-expenditure, \$197,000. Total of \$427,000 ought to be charged to capital except a portion of the \$126,000 for bridges. The \$282,000, N. B. Coal & Railway, is almost entirely interest, and interest is not chargeable to capital. The over-drafts of the Provincial hospital \$22,000, and the public works are the most ordinary kind of ordinary expenditure, and by no stretch of the imagination can be classed as capital. A portion of the \$126,000 for bridges is fairly chargeable to capital, but part of it is for a class of work which has always been provided for out of current revenue. Am I not justified, therefore, in saying that under any fair style of bookkeeping, instead of a surplus of \$9,000 we had a real deficit of probably \$400,000 at the end of the fiscal year?

Resolute Assertion. The premier contends that my statement that there has been \$1,500,000 added to the permanent debt during the past year, is not correct. I state most positively that it is entirely true. The government floated a loan for \$230,000 sterling of \$1,400,000. That surely has become part of the permanent debt. Debentures for the same amount were issued for \$1,000,000; debentures for the subsidy to York and Carleton Railway, \$1,100,000; bonds to purchase the New Brunswick Land, \$37,000. These amounts make a total of \$1,537,000.

(Continued on page 7, sixth column.)

ST. JOHN SKATERS WIN AT MONTREAL

Fred Logan Lands Mile Event

Nuttall Captures Boys' Race--Lamy, of Saranac Lake, Won Three and Half Mile Contests--Poor Crowd Saw Champions Compete.

EXPERTS TO GO INTO FRANCES

Premier Robinson Announces Toronto Accountants Have Been Engaged

REFORMS PROMISED Will Try for Cheaper School Books and Restore Control of Highways to the People--Four Old Candidates Chosen for Westmorland.

(Special to The Telegraph.) Montreal, Feb. 3--Owing to its postponement last Saturday and the awkward hour at which the races were run off, the amateur speed skating championships of America held this afternoon on the M. A. A. rink drew only a small attendance, only 300 odd people being present. While the attendance was disappointing, there was nothing to cavil at as far as the races were concerned, for closer finishes and better fields have never been seen at any of the American championships held in recent years, it being found necessary to run off all the big events in several heats, the 200 yards taking five, the 500 yards three, and the 1000 yards together with two semifinals to arrive at a decision, while three heats of ten men apiece appeared in the mile.

The championships were fairly evenly distributed, Vancouver getting the 220 yards through Bush, the one-armed skater, beating Logan the St. John man, skating under the M. A. A. colors. While the half and three miles went to Saranac Lake entry, Edmund Lamy, who won the same events at the Saranac Lake championships, carrying off both. Another championship to remain in Canada was the 220 yards hurdles, which was won by Fred Logan, the Toronto crack, who beat a somewhat poor field. Logan won Mile.

Montreal has a couple of championships to their credit, Fred Logan, of St. John, winning the mile from Lamy in a tight finish by yard, and the half mile backward which fell to the boy wonder, Russell Wheeler, in easy style.

In the two boys' championships, Russell Wheeler carried off both, beating Ernest Lamy, of Saranac Lake, and Elmer Ingraham, of St. John.

St. John boy, Gordon Nuttall, was successful in the second event, a race for boys, taking the race after skating off a dead heat with R. T. Logan, another St. John skater who, like his brother, was successful in the mile. The race was through the wings by the boys. Though the times in most cases were nothing approaching to championships standard as the men skated foxily, a fair time was given in the 200 yards race, which was won by Bush, the Vancouver man going the distance in 39.45, but as a rule the times would have been faster, as the conditions were ideal, there was no wind and the ice was clean and hard.

Some of the long distance events were spoiled by leading by the crack men and even the lesser known lights refused to cut the pace, waiting rather for the final sprint to decide the outcome of a race than to give a long burst. It was this tendency to loaf that the three miles was spoiled, otherwise the race would have been the best of the meet.

As it happened the best contested event was the one mile which was won by Fred Logan from Edmund Lamy and Lot Roe, standard as the men skated foxily, a fair time was given in the 200 yards race, which was won by Bush, the Vancouver man going the distance in 39.45, but as a rule the times would have been faster, as the conditions were ideal, there was no wind and the ice was clean and hard.

Logan Pocketed in Half. The 800 yards was another event which should have fallen to the lot of Logan and though Lamy, of Saranac Lake, was well, he would have been beaten by the St. John man if the latter had not been pocketed. Lamy sprang into the lead well on in the second lap and keeping his distance from him, the St. John man, who took third, led before the tape. Both Aird and Robson came along with a rush and only inches separated the three men at the finish, but cutting the pace came around for the final stretch like a whirlwind, beating Lamy all ends up, the Saranac man having got all the central policy. Lot Roe put a good race and would have given Logan a hard time to win but the Toronto skater was pocketed and lost speed getting away, for he took the outside curve, skating in a winner in the slow time of 3 minutes 25 seconds.

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The victory of Bush in the 220 came as a great surprise to many as Fred Robson was the most fancied man in the race and was expected to beat Logan but as events turned out Bush won quite easily from both Logan and Robson, about four yards separating the one-armed skater from the other two. The Vancouver man was going at a terrific clip when he passed the tape and would have probably clipped records if he had been extended at all. Logan beat Robson by two feet, looking back at the Toronto man as he skated past the tape.

In the boys' races Wheeler repeated his win and took the race easily from Ernest Lamy, of Saranac Lake, the outsider falling all to pieces in the final lap. A feature of this race was the fine showing made by Claudius Lamy, the youngest and smallest skater in the race, the Saranac Lake boy winning fifth place. Elmer Ingraham, a Maritime R. A. entry, carried off third place.

In the half mile for boys under twelve an exciting contest between Gordon Nuttall, of St. John, and R. T. Logan, another St. John boy skating under M. A. A. colors, ended in first place, Nuttall winning the skate off for the championship.

BOSTON WOMAN KILLS HERSELF AND TWO LITTLE GIRLS

Boston, Mass., Feb. 3--During a period of mental depression, Mrs. Frances Wilkes, 38 years old, of Dorchester, killed herself and two little girls, aged 9 and 11 years respectively, by means of illuminating gas, tonight. Conrad Wilkes, her husband, discovered the bodies upon his return from work at a late hour.

ALDERMAN PAYETTE MAYOR OF MONTREAL

Montreal, Feb. 3--(Special.)--Ald. Louis Payette was today elected Mayor of Montreal by a majority of 2,986 over Hon. Philippe Roy, after one of the liveliest contests which has taken place in Montreal for many years.

NOVA SCOTIA COAST STORM-SWEPT WITH DISASTROUS RESULTS

(Special to The Telegraph.) Digby, N. S., Feb. 3--Saturday night's gale of wind and high tide was the worst for many years and the tide the highest ever known inside Digby basin.

At Westport, Brier Island, George Buckman's wharf was destroyed, also a portion of Thomas Hicks' wharf and store, and J. A. Peters' store and basement. The harbor was full of logs. No vessels were anchored in the harbor at Grand passage. The tug Lillie arrived from St. John for Yarmouth, and took shelter at Freepoint breakwater.

At Freepoint the water front was badly damaged. The barber shop and a lot of small buildings along the street were washed off their blocking and nearly all destroyed. Hains Brothers' Sch. Dutah and Eunice broke from the wharf and was saved by the heroic efforts of a lot of men. No damage was done at Tiverton. At East Ferry, on the east side of Petite Passage, a valuable gasoline boat belonging to Leonard Theriault and Lyons Stanton broke from her moorings and went to sea. She was afterwards smashed upon the Long Island shore, her engine being saved.

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