

WILL NOT JOIN ASQUITH

Least Of All Do Unionists Wish To Disturb Him — Balfour Could Not Form A Ministry.

London, Feb. 21.—The present political situation in this country is a fine farce comedy, which none of the heroes of some of the principal scenes seems likely to turn into a melodrama.

The Government was roared at so savagely last week by all it so-called allies that the common people have begun to think that the Asquith Ministry cannot possibly survive this the first week of the session. As a matter of fact nobody wants to hurt a hair of the Government's head, least of all the Opposition.

So far from desiring to drive the Ministry from office it may be confidently predicted that if the Irish Nationalists and the Laborites should vote against the Cabinet a sufficient number of Unionists would sustain from voting against the Ministers in the majority. Not only are the leaders of all parties opposed to another general election at the present moment but so are the rank and file and there can be little doubt that the electorate would punish any party which was directly responsible for another appeal to the polls.

It is reasonable inference also that an immediate election would again have an indecisive result as regards an absolute majority in the House of Commons. It follows that Great Britain might as well adapt herself to the almost unprecedented condition of carrying on the Government by a Parliament of groves.

Germany, France, and other Continental countries manage to get along under such circumstances, and if the leaders of the present discordant elements are wise they will find a modus vivendi for carrying on the Government, at least for a few weeks, until the financial and other essential departments are put in running order.

This necessity is so obvious that it may almost be assumed that it will be taken care of despite the fact that the present writing of the words and attitudes of the various party leaders seem to be entirely irreconcilable.

In Case of a Dadlock. Should the deadlock arise, a curious chain of events might follow. If Premier Asquith should resign the King of course would send for the Right Hon. Arthur J. Balfour, the former Premier and Unionist leader. Mr. Balfour would be obliged to say that he could not carry on the present Parliament and would suggest a dissolution. This would put a novel and novel responsibility on the sovereign.

Dissolution is strictly a royal prerogative and knowing that the country is in a state of confusion, the King might prefer to insist that Parliament should be dissolved. Some compromise would then become imperative and would no doubt be reached.

It is more than probable that this compromise will be arrived at without the resignation of the present Cabinet and an appeal to the King. One report is that the Government is giving consideration to the passage of the budget, as settling the issue as to the Lords' veto power, which is the cardinal matter in dispute, will be decided in a resolution which the Government will introduce on Monday before the debate on the address in reply to the King's speech.

Extremists Outwitted. The Irish Nationalists, the Laborites and the extreme Radicals of course vote to give the Lords' veto issue precedence, but they would be in a hopeless minority, for the Unionists would vote unanimously with the moderate Liberals in favor of disposing of the budget before anything else whatever.

It is rather curious that many of the Irish and Labor members and some extreme Radicals seriously believed that Premier Asquith would demand from King Edward that he would create a sufficient number of peers to insure the passage of a bill which would insure the limitation of the veto power of the Lords. This would be a rather irritatingly that Premier Asquith would demand no circumstances make such a demand on the King, especially considering the present anomalous condition of the parties. It may also be assumed that such a request, if it were made, would be flatly refused by the King.

Financial Confusion. Further practical evidence of the confusion into which the national finances have fallen was the announcement last night that the Government will borrow another \$20,000,000 by the issue of treasury bills, raising the total of those outstanding to \$181,500,000. Until recently treasury bills of shorter duration than three months were never issued. Under the present stress of borrowing from hand to mouth bills were inaugurated. Nine million pounds sterling (\$45,000,000) of these and \$27,500,000 of two month bills have been created.

The non-payment of taxes, especially the income tax, has had one curious result. There is now lying in the banks the sum of at least \$60,000,000 which ought to be in the national exchequer. The consequence is that for the time being money is abundant and cheap. But it is possible that when the large payments of the income tax and other duties come to be made the money market will be more than stringent.

Meantime the promoters of new companies are taking full advantage of the plentiful supply of money in order to place their schemes with the public.

Suffragette Hopes. Hope certainly springs eternal in the English suffragette breast and the militant ones confidently expect that their cause will be settled soon. While their militant tactics are in abeyance they are trying to arouse the interest of the entire feminine community by means of a "woman's mission." This is a series of meetings for women only which are to be held simultaneously all over the country.

The militants are also making preparations for another general election, which they are sure will come within a few months. Their abandonment of

Proceedings Dragged At Capital Yesterday

Debate On Address In Reply To Speech From Throne Continues, But Interest Lags—Delegates To Farmers' And Dairymen's Convention In Attendance—Yesterday's Proceedings In Detail.

Continued From Page 1. The government should, and perhaps it was ready to increase the grant to agricultural societies from eight to ten or twelve thousand dollars.

Hon. Dr. Landry: "It is ten thousand dollars already." Mr. Labladio said it should be more. Through agricultural societies was the best way to reach the farmers. Only twenty per cent. of the farmers of the province were reached by the sales of imported stock. The sales should be divided and held in different places if the back sections were to be reached. The government boasted of receiving a medal for an exhibit of fruit in London. He remembered that in 1891, the province sent an exhibit of grain to Glasgow exhibition, and in the office of the Department of Agriculture was a diploma received at that time.

Assistance To Fruitgrowers. For the last fifteen years the government had been carrying on a work of assistance to fruit growers on practically the same lines as at present, and it was the establishment of illustration orchards that laid the foundation which made it necessary to employ horticulturalists to do the same kind of work as had been done very largely by Mr. Saxby Blair, Mr. Starr of Nova Scotia and other experts with whom he had travelled in Queens county and other sections of the province holding meetings.

He regretted there was nothing in the speech regarding the colonization policy of the government. He knew capitalists had been before the government and were ready to settle on a part of the Blue Bell tract and along the line of the Intercolonial Railway. He quoted from the report of the agricultural commission regarding the colonization and said that the friends of the government had suggested a policy of colonization but the government had neglected it. He read a resolution passed at a meeting of the Farmers and Dairymen's Association during the last session favoring the adoption of a colonization policy but notwithstanding that nothing had been done.

Personally or politically it made no difference how many people were settled in Restigouche county. He had been elected there in 1883 and 1886 when the English people were in the majority, but as a representative of the majority he felt that something should be done to colonize the fertile land. The men who originated the idea of colonization were the lumbermen and were ready to settle on a part of the Blue Bell tract and along the line of the Intercolonial Railway. He had faith in the companies who owned the lumber lands, but the English people were in the majority, but as a representative of the majority he felt that something should be done to colonize the fertile land. The men who originated the idea of colonization were the lumbermen and were ready to settle on a part of the Blue Bell tract and along the line of the Intercolonial Railway.

Bringing In Immigrants. When efforts were being made to bring in immigrants via St. John the door at the northern part of the province should not be closed. He believed that the government by making reasonable a proposition to the lumbermen could easily have the necessary land set aside for colonization. The ten thousand acres the surveyor general had surveyed for colonization in Restigouche were not suited for that purpose. If used it would put back colonization on the north shore fifty years.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer: "Every acre was surveyed by expert and reported upon individually as well suited for colonization. Has the hon. gentleman visited the land personally?"

Mr. Labladio said that he had not visited the land but he knew that the young men who intended going there to settle had cruised the land and then gone home. A scheme had been put forward to the government for the colonization of thirty thousand acres along the International Railway and fifteen thousand acres of the Blue Bell tract.

What was the object of the government's policy with regard to colonization when young men could get no answer to their applications made to the government? These young men were prepared to pay a dollar an acre for the land, but the government treated their applications with silence. He could not imagine what the present commissioner of agriculture would do when his constituents saw how little he had done to carry out his colonization promises.

The report of the Agricultural Commission referred to in relation to automobiles on roads. In view of that report and the feeling in the province some thing should have been done to protect the farmers and their families in this regard. Thousands of farmers and their wives were afraid to drive to market and even to church for fear of meeting one of these machines. Automobiles should be restricted to four days a week at least. If the government did not take the matter up he trusted some other member would bring up a resolution and test the feeling of the House.

He regretted more prompt action had not been taken regarding tuberculosis. What were the national funders settlers the government boasted they had brought into the province compared with the six hundred natives who died of this disease? He hoped something would be done without further delay.

A Sound Suggestion. The government's suggestion with regard to a change in the system of selecting juries was sound and would receive general approval and the same might be said of their scheme for providing pensions for teachers who were doing a great and good work at a small remuneration.

The militant tactics, which is considered by the Liberal party as an acknowledgment of the failure of such methods, they declare to be merely a temporary ploy.

They wish, they say, to give the government one more chance to do the right thing and are willing to wait a reasonable length of time, but at the end of this probation, should the government refuse to consider their claim, they say their former militant tactics will be more child's play to what will be done in the future.

The present highway act when tested would he thought be no more effective than the last. It was a complicated piece of machinery and the more unpopular law ever known in the province. Both sides of the House surely wished to see the road money expended to the best advantage and he regretted the government had spent \$48,000 ostensibly on roads but really in the interests of their political friends last October prior to the last Dominion election. That was no time in which to improve roads. The government would take their nominees of the highway boards, the people would feel that they were masters of the situation and they would get good roads.

Hon. Mr. Maxwell said the late government had consistently opposed that idea. Mr. Labladio said that if the late government had remained in office two years more they would have made changes which would have made their way of doing things a success. Mr. Maxwell said the honorable member was now advocating control by the municipalities which the late government had not done. He declared that the municipalities all control of the roads and vested it in themselves.

Mr. Labladio said he simply carried out existing conditions. During the years of the late government successfully administered provincial affairs. The present government had only been in office two years and the people's gardens were recognizing the administration. The people of St. John county had said so, so had Carleton and Northumberland, and any other constituency which the government might like to inquire from would say the same.

He hoped the government would do something towards inaugurating some of the changes he advocated and the province would continue to prosper.

Mr. Tweeddale. Mr. Tweeddale concurred that there was cause for thankfulness for good crops and good prices. Farmers were weary of the government's way of doing things and he thought that the government, neither did he think there was any need for the formation of more agricultural societies. Farmers would be glad to band together for their own advantage but the more societies the smaller the share of the government grant each one would receive. The policy of the present government in regard to horse importations was no better than the last. The importation of thoroughbred horses was not worth the price to establish a breeding stock and had not been asked for by the farmers.

The late government made some valuable importations of heavy draught horses in such a way that farmers got the advantage. It might have been at a loss but that was a secondary matter. They brought the best horses possible and that was none but New Brunswick farmers had the benefit of the importation. The present government threw open the door to the importation of heavy draught horses and the result was that the farmers of the province had obtained. The five horses that went to Carleton Co. were resold by the farmer and the government would get out all their grant for a year or two. If any loss was to be made on the horses it should be borne by the province and not by the society who could not afford it.

School Books. He believed the Government school book question was a big white elephant. The Liberals of the province should have come down the valley and for too long a period.

It was the duty of the Government to do something to stop the spread of the influenza epidemic. He was surprised that nothing more practical had been done earlier. He did not expect to hear so soon of districts wanting additional taxes to make the roads fit to travel over with the new highway act.

From the opposite side of the house there had been gross misrepresentation regarding the International Railway. He was surprised to hear it said that the first efforts towards the road had been made by this Government. The Grand Trunk Pacific should have come down the valley but the influences were against it. The only one who fought for it at Ottawa was Mr. Carvell, Hon. Mr. McLeod, and Mr. Tweeddale.

Mr. Tweeddale—He did all he could and affected nothing. What policy the Government might have in the St. John Valley Railway was concealed in the words in the speech. Hon. Mr. Fleming had said that the act providing \$15,000 a mile guarantee for the railway had made it impossible to get the guarantee of McKenzie and Mann should proceed that of the Government. The facts were that there were several alternatives and it was not only McKenzie and Mann. There had been no pictures and long articles in the newspapers when Mr. Pugsley arranged a subsidy of \$6400 a mile at Ottawa as there was about every move made by this Government.

Hon. Mr. Hazen—the Hon. gentleman ought to read the Telegraph, he would feel better.

Mr. Monroe asked if Mr. Tweeddale was sure that it was Mr. Pugsley and not Mr. Emerson who offered the subsidy.

Mr. Tweeddale said he was sure it was Mr. Pugsley. The Hon. gentleman opposite were trying to draw a herring across the trail.

It was not the usual thing to give such subsidies. He had once tried to get it for a railway on the Tobique. Mr. Tweeddale moved the adjournment of the debate.

Glittering Scene When King Opened His Third Parliament

New England And Canadian Public Men Exchange Views On Question At Boston—Mr. Carvell Heard.

Boston, Mass., Feb. 21.—Reciprocity between the United States and Canada was discussed by men of political knowledge and high standing at a nearly 200 leading Canadian-Americans at a banquet of the Canadian Club tonight. After Justice J. W. Longley of the supreme court of Nova Scotia, had told of the many efforts made by the Canadian Government to secure more reciprocal trade relations between the two countries and explained why the United States should take the initial step now in securing free trade, Governor G. H. Prouty, of Vermont, said that while such a condition was undoubtedly assisting the manufacturing interests of New England and might be an advantage for the people of the eastern provinces, he thought that reciprocity would retard rather than encourage the natural growth and prosperity of the Dominion. Frank B. Carvell, member of the Canadian House of Commons,

FARMERS AND DAIRYMEN SESSION

Continued From Page One. Their ignorance said they knew all about farming, laughed at scientific knowledge and that reciprocity of fertility without making any returns and labored along under the burden of heavy mortgages. But today the very great deal to learn and this promising state of mind had brought about the farmers' conventions. Mr. Carvell declared that the charge that the public schools were educating the young people away from the farm was not strictly true. The public school restriction might some times seem useless but even botany had its value in educating the taste and developing the love of beauty. Since botany had been taught in the schools the farmers' gardens show an awakening of aesthetic aspirations.

Reasonable Wages. The speaker thought the farmers could keep their sons at home if they placed them on a business footing in the province by paying reasonable wages. Instances were given where this practice was adopted with success. Taking up some technical aspects of the problem, the speaker said many people were sceptical of the value of school gardens. But the fact was it afforded the chance for young people to secure practical education and enable them to appreciate the underlying laws of nature.

Indeed if it only taught them the need of a war on weeds and moths, it would be a valuable contribution to the welfare of the province. In Manitoba it is estimated that the loss due to the pressure of undesirable weeds is \$2,000,000 a year. The speaker said that while education had induced the boys to abandon their old habits of slaughtering birds and insects that prey upon the growing crops, it had also increased the number of birds in this province and a corresponding increase in the hordes of insects that prey upon the growing crops. The speaker recognized the need of protecting even the crow.

Mr. Carter advocated the establishment of a department to solve the problem of transit improved much more, would soon be able to live in the city and still work on his farm. When that day arrived it would be thought of as a great boon to the province. The speaker said that the farmers would give the access to an education and they could put into practice on their own account.

Rural Schools. The farmer was in a better position today than he ever was and if the means of transit improved much more, would soon be able to live in the city and still work on his farm. When that day arrived it would be thought of as a great boon to the province. The speaker said that the farmers would give the access to an education and they could put into practice on their own account.

This was taken as confirmation of Premier Asquith's avowed determination to regularize the present conduct of financial affairs before attacking the House of Lords.

The reading of the speech occupied only four minutes and at its close the speaker, Mr. Carvell, said that the House of Commons met for business at 4 o'clock.

Up to the last moment no one could predict with any confidence the course of events and even as Premier Asquith led the composite force into action it appeared uncertain whether the guns of his army were louder against the common enemy or in the direction of the general himself. The expression "in the opinion of my advisers" is accepted as having been inserted in the speech by the King with the palatine object of disassociating His Majesty from the views expressed on behalf of the government.

This deduction has added piquancy to the situation. The chamber was crowded to its capacity. Arthur J. Balfour spoke for the Opposition. He criticized the King's speech for his ambiguity, particularly on the naval question. He had hoped for a session in which the Government was prepared to face the situation and provide everything for the defence of the Empire. The general election had been primarily on the budget and he was not quite sure what the country had pronounced.

Speech From Throne One of the Briefest in History, Required But Four Minutes to Read --- Government's Policy Foreshadowed With Respect to Budget and Veto of Upper Chamber --- Administration Roundly Criticized By Mr. Balfour in Ringing Speech.



THE KING'S CARRIAGE ON THE WAY TO PARLIAMENT, FROM A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN AT THE OPENING OF A FORMER PARLIAMENT.

and I hold that if the budget was isolated from all other questions it would be rejected. "If the Prime Minister's home rule declaration made just before the election, had been taken seriously in England, as it was in Ireland, the other questions all would have been dwarfed."

Not Constitutional. Mr. Balfour said that he had had 149 speeches of Cabinet members examined and only one of them contained a voluntary reference to home rule. The Government wanted the effect of the Prime Minister's declaration to be as the doctors say, local, not constitutional. The Lords and all parties in the House of Commons wanted the reform of the House of Lords. The labor party wanted to abolish the House of Lords altogether. The nationalists and the English and Scotch members wanted a reform in the constitution. The Irish wanted to get out of the constitution entirely. Looking under the surface, how could the Government say that they knew what was the opinion of the country on any one of the great issues before them?

Mr. Balfour closed by questioning whether it was possible to entrust solely to a representative assembly the power of manufacturing from top to bottom, the whole constitution of the country. They would be made indeed if they drove to this illogical excess, the idea that for all purposes and for all time, the House of Commons and the Princess Henry of Prussia. The former was the uniform of an officer of the British navy, of which he was lately appointed admiral of the fleet. Every corner of the chamber was filled and the varied groupings of the peers, bishops and judges robes, the court, diplomatic, naval and military uniforms with the beautiful gowns of richly jeweled women made a scene of unusual brilliancy.

The King's Speech. The King's speech proved to be unusually brief and made plain that the work of the session would be confined to the matter of finance and the question of the House of Lords. The financial estimates for the coming year were next set forth. "These," said His Majesty, "have been framed with the utmost desire for economy, but the requirements for the naval defence of the Empire made it necessary to propose a substantial increase in the cost of my navy."

"I have said that we must have legislative safeguards, but some of my friends say that I talk about guarantees of the exercise of the royal prerogative. If I had said such a thing, I would not now be standing at this box. I received no such guarantee; I asked for no such guarantee. It is the duty of a responsible minister, so far as it is possible, to keep the name of the sovereign and the prerogative of the crown outside the domain of party politics."

Lord Rosebery said that as a matter of courtesy and privilege, the bill for the reform of the House of Lords ought to have been introduced in that House. Instead of this, they had the promise of a bill somewhere between summer and mid-winter. He would not inquire whether this was likely to satisfy the wilder spirits of the Liberal party, but he considered that the Lords ought to have their own plan of reform, which the country would compare with the government's plan. He appealed to the Lords to take their own salvation boldly in their own hands.

To ask in advance for indefinite authority to use the royal prerogative in a measure not yet submitted to the House, was, he declared, Mr. Asquith declared, a minister could not properly make.

Two Objects. The Premier said that the House would proceed on the question of the Lords by resolutions which would be read on the table soon, discussed before the Easter recess and passed this session. The Government had only two objects in view to pass the budget and to put an end to the earliest possible moment by the wisest and most adequate method to the constitutional conditions giving to non-representative and irresponsible authority the power to thwart the purposes and mutilate the handwork of the chosen exponents of the people's will.

John E. Redmond, leader of the Irish party, announced that the fact should be emphasized that the nationalist stood as they always had, apart and independent, allied to no party, and that the interests of the government at the last election because the prime minister's pledge on home rule was supplemented by one still more important to Ireland, the abolition of the veto of the House

of Lords which was tantamount to the abolition of home rule. He thought and the country thought, he continued, that Premier Asquith had promised to ask for guarantees of the exercise of the royal prerogative and that if he did not get them, he would decline to hold office. But it appeared that the Nationalists were mistaken. The government's policy was to pass the budget before any assurance was given that the veto bill would pass. It was a disastrous policy and meant the throwing away of the mandate which they had received from the country. They would be enabling the Lords on the veto bill, to force a second election in a year and the government would be beaten by the weary electorate.

"If the prime minister give us reasonable assurance that he will be able to carry the veto bill into law this year," said Mr. Redmond, "we will vote for the budget, but we are not willing to pay that price for nothing."

CANADA EASTERN BLOCKED IN MISHAP

Fredericton, Feb. 21.—The Canada Eastern branch of the I. C. R. was blocked from early Saturday night until Sunday morning. A plough special left the rails at MacNamee's on Saturday evening and it was not until a o'clock on Sunday that the track was cleared. An auxiliary wrecking train was sent from Gibson to the scene of the accident and the passengers were taken to a special brought from Blackville and thus taken to Loggieville.

The coroner's inquest into the accident at the Fredericton-St. Mary's highway bridge which caused the death of John Canney, an employe of the Dominion Bridge Co. will not go on this morning as intended, but will be adjourned until tomorrow night. Twelve or fourteen witnesses had been summoned, mostly men who were employed on the work at the time of the accident.

The Guernsey cattle imported by Agricultural Society No. 34 from Roper Bros. of Charlottetown, P. E. I., arrived here on an I. C. R. special train on Saturday. The bull will be retained by the society while the three heifers will be sold at public auction under certain restrictions on Saturday morning. The animals will be used in connection with the adjoining fair, which will form a part of the proceedings of the Farmers' and Dairymen's Association convention this week.

Late Shipping.

Halifax, Feb. 21. Arr: Bktn Fanny Breslau (Br.) from Santos; sch Inga (Br.) from St. Lucia; Carl E. Richards (Br.) from Barbados; Penhook (Br.) from New York. (Cld: Sch Wanola (Br.) from New York. Cape Race, Nfld. Feb. 21.—Str Mount Temple from Antwerp for Halifax and St. John, N. B., in wireless communication with the Marconi station here when 150 miles east at 8 a. m. Bristol, Feb. 21.—Str Monmouth for St. John, N. B.



Tenders for Electric Light Wiring. Sealed tenders will be received at the Common Clerk's office, addressed to him, until Monday, the 28th day of February instant, at 12 o'clock noon, from persons willing to install Electric Light Wiring and Fixtures in Fire Stations, Police Buildings and the City Hall, according to plan and specification to be seen at the office of H. H. Moff, architect, German St., Saint John, N. B., 21st Feb. 1910. ADAM P. MACINTYRE, Comptroller, Director Department of Pub. Safety, 61—4Mch.