BORDEN'S APOLOGY FOR DISMISSALS

Conservative Spoils System Under Discussion in the House of Commons.

MR. PELLETIER'S THREAT

Postmaster-General Says He Dismissed Many Because of Partisanship, and Intends to Dismiss More.

Ottawa, Dec. 6.—That the thirst for preferment and office, which, among the Conservative members themselves, caused Mr. E. B. Osler to publicly declare that he "had never been so humiliated in his life before," extended in all its eagerness and acrimony to the rank and file of the party was demonstrated in Parliament today. The coalition Government's feverish exploitation of the spoils system was laid bare in a vigorous debate, following the resolution of Hon. A. K. Maclean, calling for papers and information concerning all dismissals since the advent of the Nationalist-Conservative regime.

The Premier's Defence.

Premier Borden's defence was illuminating. He confessed that he had modified his opinions somewhat since 1896, when he had addressed the House in wholesale condemnation of dismissals, and, while not admitting that the Government was departing from the just principle of dismissals being made only on the ground of active partisanship, pleaded that what had been done in the past made it very difficult for another party to come into office and not make concessions to its job-hunting adherents.

In response to Hon. Mr. Emmerson's direct question as to whether there was to be discrimination in the application of the parliamentary resolution dealing with dismissals from the service, or whether the same course would govern whether the officials were Liberal or Conservative, Mr. Borden would only say: "The Government will take all those matters into consideration."

The Premier concluded with the declaration that some day he hoped such matters would be regulated by statute.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, while sympathizing with Mr. Borden, who, according to report, had to go hungry some days at lunch time in order to meet the deputations of hungry office-seekers "who came upon him like the locusts of Egypt," maintained that public opinion demanded fair play for all civil servants, whose positions should be considered as permanent so long as they did not become offensive partisans or neglect the duties of their office. This was the policy which the late Government had adopted in 1896, and there had been no dismissal without investigation or without a definite charge having been preferred and substantiated by the written declaration of a responsible member of the House. Thus all dismissals were a matter of public record, and the grounds were available for public discussion in the House. He asked the new Government to follow the same principle of justice and fair play, but got no promise from the Premier that this would be done. Sir Wilfrid particularly commented upon the change in the personnel of the Canadian section of the International Waterways Commission, maintaining that no good reason had been shown for the removal of a man like Sir George Gibbons from the commission, and that the change, giving as it did a color of partisanship to an international tribunal, was not in the public interests and not calculated to favorably impress either the Imperial or the United States authorities.

Mr. Maclean's Argument.

On the Opposition side the debate was characterized by manifest moderation and fairness. Hon. A. K. Maclean, in presenting the case to the House, declared that, while some dismissals were undoubtedly justifiable and something might be pardoned the political element, still a generous treatment of all officials now in the service, no matter to which party they belonged, should be expected. No official should be dismissed without at least being given an opportunity to make a defence. He noticed that within 48 hours of the close of polling on Sept. 21 Government officials at Halifax had been told to get out by the defeated Conservative candidate there, Mr. Crosby, and in Lunenburg County the Conservative patronage committee had recommended the dismissal of officials who clearly had not been guilty of any partisanship. There was ample evidence that a policy of wholesale dismissals was being embarked upon. He asked for a statement from the Government of the policy which would guide them in this connection. Mr. Maclean quoted the addresses of Messrs. Borden and Foster in the House in 1896 advocating the very principle of fair play for which the Opposition now contended.

Mr. F. B. Carvell gave instance after instance of unwarranted dismissals in his constituency, the whole developing into what he described as "petit larceny."

Hon. George E. Foster, while declaring that any dismissals for which he was so far responsible had been wholly justifiable, devoted his attention principally to defending the change in the waterways commission, on the ground that the commissioners, occupying a semi-confidential relationship with the Government, should be in political sympathy with them.

Mr. Carvell replied that on this basis the whole British diplomatic corps would be changed with every administration.

Postmaster-General Pelletier admitted that he had dismissed postmasters, and promised to dismiss more. Active political partisanship was sufficient warrant for dismissal, and he would take the word of a member of the House, without questioning it, as to whether there had been active partisanship, as members of the House were representative men, in whom the community had expressed their confidence.

Mr. E. B. Devlin—Then you would take the word of a member on this side of the House who declared that in any particular case there had been no partisanship?

Mr. Pelletier—I do not expect to receive such representations.

Where it was shown that injustice was done Mr. Pelletier promised to make investigation. He had already appointed commissioners at Montreal and Quebec to investigate charges of partisanship against civil servants.

Before moving the adjournment of the debate at 6 o'clock Mr. E. M. Macdonald gave one illuminative instance of the application of the spoils system. He quoted the answers given in the House last week by members of the Government, showing that one John Fraser, who had been dismissed from the postmastership at Stellarton, N. S., in 1903, "for irregularities in his accounts," according to Hon. Mr. Pelletier, had superseded a dismissed official as Government inspector of over $30,000 worth of I. C. R. work, because, according to Hon. Mr. Cochrane, he was "a suitable man for the position." Fraser, said Mr. Macdonald, was secretary of the Conservative Association and was seventy-five years of age. The moral drawn from Premier Borden's statement, that the civil service act of 1908 would some time in the future be extended to the outside service, was very plainly that this reform will not transpire until the outside officials have in the main been replaced by good Conservative or Nationalist workers. The hungry horde must first be satisfied.

WAS SO RUN DOWN

COULD NOT DO ANY WORK.

Thought She Was So Far Gone Nothing Could Cure Her.

MILBURN'S HEART and NERVE PILLS Made Her Strong and Healthy.

Many women get run down, and are unable to look after their household duties, owing to their nervous system becoming unstrung, and when this happens, the heart starts to work in sympathy with the nerves. In Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills is combined a treatment that will cure all forms of nervous disorders, as well as act on the heart itself. Mrs. F. McFadyen, Brookside, Sask., writes:—"It is with the greatest of pleasure I write you stating the benefit I have received from using Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills. This spring I was so run down I could not do any work, and one day a neighbor advised me to try your Pills. I told her that I thought nothing could cure me, as I was too far gone. But she told me to get a box of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, which I did, and before I had finished them, I began to improve, and when I had finished the one box I was as strong and healthy as any person. Anyone who is suffering from heart or nerve troubles should take your Heart and Nerve Pills and they will soon discover their worth."

Price 50 cents per box, or 3 boxes for $1.25, at all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

GOLDEN WEDDING NEAR INGERSOLL

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Ruddick Held a Big Celebration.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ingersoll, Dec. 7.—Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Ruddick, two of Dorchester's most respected residents, and formerly of Ingersoll, celebrated their golden wedding at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Leslie, North Oxford. The gathering was indeed a happy one, and embraced the children, grandchildren and brothers and sisters of Mr. and Mrs. Ruddick, all of whom bestowed congratulations upon the happy couple. Weather conditions were ideal, and the event particularly pleasing. An elaborate dinner was served, after which a programme of a very entertaining nature was rendered. Mr. and Mrs. Ruddick are hale and hearty.

Hockey Players Busy.

The hockey players have settled down to hard work with the hope of rounding into form by the time ice is available for regular practices at the new rink. There has been a large turnout of juniors thus far, and all have entered the preliminary workouts with plenty of zest. There will be many candidates for the junior teams, and a very encouraging interest is also being displayed in the intermediates. The rink is being flooded, and with ice-making weather for a few days the players will soon be able to chase the puck.

Mr. Joseph Gibson, president of the Dominion Alliance, left yesterday for Washington, D. C., to represent the alliance at the Anti-Saloon League of the United States.

GOLDEN WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. McKay Were Recipients of Many Handsome Gifts.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Stratford, Dec. 6.—A very hoppy celebration was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. McKay on the Embro road last evening in honor of the 50th anniversary of their wedding. More than 80 of their friends and relatives gathered at the house, and an appropriate address was read by Mr. S. B. McKay.

Mr. Robert Thistle made a presentation of a handsome gold watch and chain to Mr. McKay, and Mrs. John Low presented Mrs. McKay with a beautiful dinner set.

A number of the members of Purple Star Lodge attended the gathering, and Mr. D. Morrow read an address and Wm. A. Dunsmore presented Mr. McKay with a gold-headed cane.

BYRON.

Byron, Dec. 6.—Mr. William Ayling, of Byron, is visiting his son, Rev. John Ayling, of Fowler, Indiana.

Mrs. R. Webb and Mrs. W. Merriman attended the W. M. S. convention at Lambeth recently.

The Ladies' Aid of Byron held their regular meeting at the home of Mrs. Simmie, and a very pleasant time was spent.

John Merriman is quite ill at his home here.

Edgar Griffith has returned home after spending the summer in the west.

THEDFORD.

Thedford, Dec. 6.—Mr. Reid, of the cheese factory, returned from the Northwest, having purchased a general store within sixty miles of Calgary. He returns to the west about Jan. 1.

The Presbyterian Church intends holding a Christmas tree on Dec. 20. The Church of England will have its Christmas celebration on Dec. 19.

Messrs. Fred and Henry Traver and Miss Emma Traver attended the funeral of Mrs. Craig, their aunt, in London.

Miss Flossie Cornell has returned home from Detroit and will stay until after Christmas.

Mr. Jos. Aldridge has bought the Carrothers property next to the Grand Trunk on King street, and will take possession in the spring.

BEE KEEPERS WILL MEET IN LONDON

Big Annual Convention To Be Held in the County Buildings.

Ilderton, Dec. 6.—The committee appointed by the Middlesex Beekeepers' Association to make arrangements regarding the district winter convention usually held in Brantford, met in London and decided to hold the convention on Feb. 22 and 23, in the county council chamber.

Prominent beekeepers from this country and the United States have promised to be present, and an interesting and instructive time is anticipated.

MITCHELL LIBERALS

Rousing Speeches Made by Valentine Stock, J. W. Curry and Others.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Mitchell, Dec. 6.—A rousing Liberal rally was held in the opera house, and addresses were given by Mr. Valentine Stock, T. H. Race and J. W. Curry. A terrific arraignment of the Whitney Government was made by the speakers, and their remarks aroused great enthusiasm. Mr. Wm. Elliott presided at the meeting.

HENRY---WALL

Pretty London Township Girl Was Married to McGillivray Man.

A very pretty wedding was solemnized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Wall, Clear View Farm, London Township, when their daughter, Miss Violet, was married to Mr. Lloyd Henry, of McGillivray.

The bride looked very charming in a dress of white silk, trimmed with embroidery net and pearls. She wore a veil and orange blossoms, and carried a bouquet of white carnations. Little Irene Wall, sister of the bride, acted as flower girl, and carried a basket of pink carnations.

The bride entered the parlor leaning on the arm of her father to the strains of Mendelssohn's wedding march played by Miss Nellie Wall.

After the ceremony, which was performed by Rev. C. J. Moorehouse, about sixty guests sat down to a sumptuous wedding dinner, served in the dining-room, which was beautifully decorated with white bunting and yellow and white roses.

The bride's going-away gown was of blue broadcloth, with black beaver hat, trimmed with willow plumes.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry left on a honeymoon trip to eastern points.

EXETER ODDFELLOWS CONFERRED DEGREES

Eight Members of the Order Received High Honors at Very Largely Attended Meeting.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Exeter, Dec. 6.—At a meeting of Exeter Encampment, No. 33, of Oddfellows, the grand officers conferred three degrees of Patriarch of Oddfellows on eight members: Grand Patriarch Thompson, of Windsor; Grand Chaplain Clapp, Toronto; Grand Master Popplestone, Blyth; Grand Secretary Brooks, Toronto; Grand Warden Graham, Toronto; Grand Marshal Crocker, Toronto, and Past Grand Patriarch E. J. Spackman, of Toronto.

A member of Exeter Encampment was presented by Grand Patriarch Thompson with a past grand patriarch's jewel.

After the regular business an adjournment was made to the Commercial Hotel, where a banquet was served.

SEBRINGVILLE.

Sebringville, Dec. 5.—Miss Effie Kruspe is visiting with friends in Tavistock.

The Misse Hoffman have returned from a visit with friends in Milverton.

Mr. and Mrs. John Goetz are spending a few days with their daughter, Mrs. Gilfillan, of Port Burwell.

Mrs. Cawston and son Alfred, of Stratford, visited recently with Mrs. Pearson.

Mr. Schwitzer, of Mildmay, is spending a few days with Mr. V. Litt.

Mr. A. McDonald, of Stratford, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. Henry for a few days recently.

MITCHELL.

Mitchell, Dec. 6. — Work on the postoffice has been resumed, and the cutters are busy dressing the stone for the tower. It will be some time before the work will be complete.

A bazar held in the basement of Trinity Church last night was largely attended, and was a great success. A fine programme was thoroughly enjoyed.

Mr. Wm. Graham has returned from the west.

Miss Anna Jones and brother Melvin, of Stratford, are visiting their grandfather, Mr. James Jones, and their aunt, Miss Minnie Jones, Toronto street.

Mrs. Wm. Shields, who has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Anderson, has returned to her home in Toronto.

Mr. Edward Charlton, who has been visiting his parents, Rev. T. J. and Mrs. Charlton, at the rectory, for the past two months, has returned to Chicago.

Mr. George Reaney, of Logan, visited Rev. C. C. and Mrs. Purton in Paris recently.

WOODSTOCK FIRE.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Woodstock, Dec. 6.—Fire caused a loss amounting to about $500 at the gas works. For a time it was feared that an explosion would occur and cause great damage. A number of barrels of oil close by also added to the danger.

ATWOOD SERVICES.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Atwood, Dec. 6.—At the request of Bishop Williams, Rev. J. W. Hodgins is conducting special services today and on Thursday in aid of the Clergy Augmentation Fund. The service today was largely attended.

MOTOR PATROL WAGON.

Hamilton, Ont., Dec. 6. — Hamilton will be the first city in Canada to have a motor patrol wagon for the police department. An order has just been given by the city council to the Schact Motor Car Company of this city for one to be delivered as speedily as possible. Local drunks will now be able to ride in style.

Pre-Christmas Clearance of All Remnants in Silk Department Friday Morning

AT ONE-HALF AND ONE-THIRD OFF REGULAR PRICES

A fine opportunity for Christmas fancy work. Scores of short ends from about a half to 2½ yards, in plain and fancy Silks, suitable for all kinds of fancy work, bags, scarfs, etc. These all go at half price.

And a fine collection of waist lengths in black, cream and colors, from 3 to 4 yard ends. These will go at one-third off the regular prices.

Also a few double-fold Striped Ninons, regular $2.00, for a yard .....50¢

All Ends Up to 2½ Yards to Go at Half Price
All Ends From 3 and 4 Yards to Go at One-Third Off

Come early for these tomorrow. These Silk ends may solve many gift problems for you—the accumulation of remnants of the season's selling. We have gone thoroughly through the stock, and everything in the shape of an end will be found on the counter at 8 o'clock Friday morning, and the advantage of being here at that hour we need not further mention, as a word to the wise is sufficient.

Silk Remnants, Tomorrow Morning, Early.

See Display of Christmas Gift Novelties, Main Aisle

Silver, Ebony, Ebonoid and Ivoroyd Toilet, Manicure and Shaving Sets, Etc.

The greatest variety and biggest stock of useful articles for Christmas gifts ever imported or shown by this store. Gifts here for most anybody. Everything, too, is of the useful character. Personal gifts that the recipient will prize for their usefulness as well as their beauty. Some very choice high-class sets are shown, as well as a big range of popular-priced articles. We will list only a few.

Handsome Shaving Sets with white ivoroyd stand, adjustable silver-plated mirror, inlaid silver mug and brush **$7.00, $12.00, $14.00**

Fancy silver-plated mug and brush, with adjustable mirror **$6.00, $6.50**

Silver-Plated Shaving Mug—Special.... ..... **$2.75**

Shaving Set in satin-padded box, with good beveled silver-plated mirror, mug and brush. Price **$2.25** and **$3.50**

Inlaid Silver Mug and Brush in fancy padded box..... **$3.50**

Ebony Shaving Sets with stand, adjustable mirror, mug and brush..... **$3.00, $4.00, $5.50**

Silver Mug and Brush in fancy box. Special **$1.25**

Special Shaving Set in fancy box, glass mug with silver top and good brush, at ..... **75¢**

Special Shaving Set in fancy box, black mug and brush ..... **69¢**

Ebony Shaving Mirrors on stand, adjustable..... **$2.00, $2.50, $4.00**

Silver Toilet and Manicure Set—Complete outfit in dainty beading design. An ideal gift for the best girl. Price **$20.00**

Extra value in silver Comb, Brush and Mirror Sets ..... **$6.00, $6.50, $8.00** and **$9.00**

Real Ebony Toilet and Manicure Set combined ..... **$6.00** and **$8.50**

Toilet and Manicure Sets combined, in ebonoid and sterline mounts..... **$3.50** to **$15.00**

Real Ebony Manicure Sets, from..... **$2.50** to **$4.00**

Silver Manicure Sets, from ..... **79¢** to **$7.00**

Ebonoid Manicure Sets, sterline mounts ..... **79¢, $1.00** and **$1.75**

Special Silver Manicure Set, nicely boxed, with salve box, scissors, file and buffer, at only, set **$1.50**

Children's Fancy Work Boxes, with thimble, stelletta, bodkin and crochet hook ..... **75¢**

Larger size box, with thimble, stelletta, bodkin, scissors, crochet and button hook. Price **$1.50**

Special Ebonoid Comb and Brush, sterline mounts, nicely boxed ..... **75¢**

Centre Aisle Circle—Main Floor.

You may choose now and have the article you want laid away until Christmas week by making a small deposit.

SHOP IN THE MORNING. SMALLMAN & INGRAM LIMITED SHOP WITH A TRANSFER CARD.

The Joy of the Christmas Season is in Making Others Happy

What about the tired delivery boys and the poor old horses? What does Christmas mean to them? How much we can lighten their burdens by carrying the smaller parcels during the busy Christmas shopping.

The first sign of Christmas is shoppers with their arms full of packages, that is when the real Christmas spirit is in the air. Let us see how much we can aid in the good work.

BEGIN TODAY and let the helping as well as the giving spirit prevail.

Sale of Ladies' Gift Umbrellas All This Week

Many have their choice already laid aside at a snug saving, too, as these prices show from $1.00 to $2.65 on each.

$3.00 Gift Umbrellas for.....**$1.95**
$4.00 Gift Umbrellas for.....**$2.75**
$5.00 Gift Umbrellas for.....**$3.75**
$7.50 Gift Umbrellas for.....**$4.85**

Men's Walking Sticks

A complete range of heavy, medium and light-weight sticks in the new woods and old woods, too, for we have the guaranteed Irish blackthorns, which are hard to get in Canada. These we know and guarantee to be the genuine article. Prices, **75¢, $1.00, $1.25, $1.50** and up to **$6.00** each.

Gold-Headed Ebony Canes, for presentation purposes ..... **$7.00** to **$12.00**

FOR YOUR GENTLEMAN FRIEND

Sterling Silver Trimmed Umbrellas, $3.00

Mission wood handles, trimmed with sterling silver. Some have the Shrine and other craft emblems, which make a very acceptable gift...**$3.00**

All canes and umbrellas engraved at small cost.

BRITISH HOUSE PASSES THE INSURANCE BILL

Lloyd-George's Measure Provides Grants for the Sick and Unemployed.

London, Dec. 7. — Chancellor of the Exchequer Lloyd George's national insurance bill passed its third and final reading in the House of Commons last night. The final clauses were rushed through in the last few days by what is popularly known as the guillotine method.

The Unionists moved an amendment approving the principle of the bill, but condemning certain parts of it, and declaring that it had not been adequately discussed or understood, and demanding further consideration for the measure.

This amendment, after a long debate, was defeated by a vote of 320 to 223, and the bill was read a third time and passed, 324 to 21. Only 11 Unionists voted, the remainder of the 21 votes in the negative being made up of seven O'Brienites and three Laborites. The bill was immediately sent to the House of Lords, where it was read the first time.

The bill is not a life insurance measure, but provides insurance for the sick and the unemployed. It provides for compulsory deductions from the wages of the employed class, contributions from employers, and further contributions by the state. It is estimated that about fifteen million people will be affected by the measure. There is also an appropriation of $562,600 for the establishment of sanitary hospitals throughout England for the purpose of fighting the spread of tuberculosis.

MORE FOR CANADA

Ilderton Firm Carry Off First Prize for Bulls at Chicago Show.

Chicago, Dec. 6.—Canada again came through with flying colors today at the International Stock Show. In the senior yearling bull class J. A. Watt, of Salem, Ont., took the first prize. T. E. and H. C. Robson, of Ilderton, Ont., took third prize in the class for bulls two years old and under three years. Canada also carried off the highest honors in the sheep class, the grand champion wether being owned by J. Lloyd Jones, of Burford, Ont.

THE PARCEL POST RULES

The Packages in Future Will Come Direct From France.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 7.—The Hon. L. P. Pelletier, Postmaster-General, has just concluded new parcel post arrangements, the general outline of which is as follows: Under the parcel post arrangement at present in existence all parcel post parcels from France come to Canada via England. Canada had no direct arrangement with France, but made her arrangements through England, and when parcels left France and reached London, they became, in so far as Canada was concerned, British parcels, and the charges were settled on this basis. Under the new arrangement parcels will come direct from France to Canada, and go direct from Canada to France.

Try Cuticura Soap and Ointment Free

Although Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment are sold by druggists and dealers everywhere, a liberal sample of each, with 32-page booklet on the care and treatment of skin and hair, will be sent, post-free, on application to Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Boston, U. S. A.

When a Cold Begins

get after it quickly. Don't let it drag along. Start at once to take Na-Dru-Co Syrup of Linseed, Licorice and Chlorodyne, and prevent the cough from getting hold of you.

NA-DRU-CO Syrup of Linseed, Licorice and Chlorodyne

breaks up the cold, soothes the irritation in the lining of the air passages, and loosens the phlegm so that the cough never gets to the dry, hacking stage.

Na-Dru-Co Syrup of Linseed, Licorice and Chlorodyne is an absolutely safe household cough-and-cold remedy, compounded by expert chemists. Your Druggist will confirm our statement that you can give it to the little tots without any risk. It is put up in 25c. and 50c. bottles. 113

FOR EVERY AILMENT THERE'S A NA-DRU-CO SPECIFIC BEARING THIS TRADE MARK. SEE THAT YOU GET IT.

National Drug and Chemical Co. of Canada, Limited