



PREMIER McBRIDE GROSSY CASE FOR THE PROVINCE

HE WAS NEITHER FRANK NOR SINCERE

So Says Conservative Leader of Ontario-- Not Looking For Better Terms But For Grievances.

Ottawa, Oct. 15.—After a week's stay in Ottawa the provincial premiers have returned to their homes with the assurance of increased financial aid and a better understanding between themselves and the Dominion on a variety of subjects which in the past have created more or less friction.

Additional Expenditure to the Dominion of little short of two million and a half. So satisfactory were the whole proceedings, outside the attitude assumed by British Columbia's premier, that resolutions were passed thanking Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues for their attention and efforts to facilitate the work of the conference, and that there should be annual meetings of provincial premiers, to be convened by the premiers of Ontario and Quebec.

When the conference opened on Monday the premier of Quebec was appointed chairman. Under the auspices of the conference, which bore principally upon Premier McBride's attitude, which was undignified and undiplomatic throughout, can be obtained from several members of the conference who are all, however, ready enough to speak.

It was made very plain to every member of the conference on the first day that Premier McBride was looking for a political platform and not for financial help; for grievances, not for an increased subsidy. He did nothing by negotiations or proposition to facilitate the proceedings, and for three days refused to say what he wanted.

He asked at the outset that British Columbia's claim for extra consideration be referred to arbitration, but to this the conference was opposed. The motion declining it was carried unanimously, Premier McBride only dissenting.

In respect to this proposed reference, Sir Wilfrid explained to the conference that the view of the Dominion government was that the conference should determine all questions referred to it, but that if it approved of the proposed reference to arbitration he would be most happy to give the recommendation his best consideration.

Neither Frank Nor Sincere in dealing with the question, and finally moved that in addition to all other grants British Columbia be given \$100,000 a year for ten years. When this "insult" of a million dollars was offered to British Columbia, Premier McBride withdrew, which he probably would have done had the sum been doubled. He had been working for three days to compel the conference to provide a grievance for him to fight an election upon, and he feared if he did not get out pretty quick there would not be a semblance of a chance for

Sir Wilfrid Laurier informed the provinces that he would not be able to give all they asked. He could not accede to the financial resolutions of 1902, but would give them what was asked at the conference of 1887. The difference was that in the latter there was no amount for criminal justice. Along with Hon. Mr. Fielding, he said that he would visit England next spring and

Arrange For an Amendment to the British North American Act. The premier touched upon other subjects taken up at the conference. Taking the 1887 resolution what the provinces will receive will be: Special subsidies for government and civil legislation, Ontario, \$340,000; increase, \$140,000. Quebec, \$240,000; increase, \$170,000. Nova Scotia, \$190,000; increase, \$130,000.

New Brunswick, \$180,000; increase, \$150,000. Manitoba, \$180,000; increase, \$130,000. British Columbia, \$150,000; increase, \$115,000. Prince Edward Island, \$100,000; increase, \$75,000. The premier also announced that the subsidies will be as follows: Ontario, \$1,746,857; increase, \$629,484. Quebec, \$1,318,118; increase, \$429,865. Nova Scotia, \$867,633; increase, \$47,658.

New Brunswick, \$264,896; no increase. Manitoba, \$263,957; no increase. British Columbia, \$140,025; no increase. Prince Edward Island, \$82,000; no increase. The makes an increase for the old provinces of \$1,107,008 in per capita subsidies, and of \$905,000 in the specific, or total increase of \$2,014,018. To this will have to be added the \$1,000,000 Special Grant For British Columbia, and also the increases for two new provinces, which will be \$330,000 each, or \$280,000, making a grand total of \$2,374,008, which will have to be paid all provinces. Specific subsidies are based on \$100,000 for population of less 150,000; population 200,000, \$180,000; 400,000, \$190,000; population of 1,500,000, \$220,000, and over that \$240,000. The per capita subsidy is based on 80 cents a head. To do this will require an amendment of the British North American Act.

The special memorandum put forward by Premier Whitney for Ontario declared that Ontario was in favor of some definite and permanent arrangements regarding the Subsidies Question so as to do away with periodical applications for re-arrangement of the subsidies. The province did not agree with the idea that the British North American Act should not be changed. It would be strange, says the memorandum, if the Dominion was not bound by law for posterity and to bind provinces which came into existence afterwards. The income of the Dominion for customs and excise should not be taken into consideration in defining subsidies. The Dominion was not burdened with the responsibilities of an independent nation. The provinces spent money on immigration and pay their share of the Dominion expenditure of the same work. The expenditures of the province must go on increasing while the revenue of the Dominion also goes on increasing. Some of the provisions of the Australian act of union are cited. Because of the amount of the customs revenue collected in Ontario compared with the expenditure on railways to the Dominion special consideration should be given to the province for the future. There should be no special grants. The claim for administering criminal law had merged with Messrs. Whitney, Fox and Matheson, who signed the memorandum, asked, was a settlement on a just and equitable basis to all provinces.

The memorandum informally handed in by the Premier of British Columbia Asking For an Extra Subsidy beyond that given other provinces of \$1 per head until the amount reached \$300,000 per annum and the population 400,000; after 400,000 of a population it was to be 75 cents per head until the amount reached \$400,000 and a population of 500,000; when over that population it was to be 50 cents a head until \$500,000 was reached, where it would remain until the population was one million and a half; then 83 cents until \$600,000 was reached, and until the population became 2,500,000, and after-

wards 25 cents per head in perpetuity. There was no resolution putting this to the conference, but as soon as Mr. Whitney's resolution, giving British Columbia \$100,000 extra, was submitted to the parliament of Canada, Premier McBride withdrew, and this was the only incident that marred the harmony of the proceedings from the opening address of welcome by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, down to singing of "God Save the King," in the conference and the clinking of glasses with Hon. J. P. Whitney in the Ontario room on Saturday evening at the close. The Manitoba premier, who presented his own case in a brief and business-like way, did his best to get Premier McBride satisfied, and Premier Whitney lost his patience with the man from the Pacific slope.

The record of the proceedings of the conference follows: Monday, October 8th. It was moved by Premier Whitney, seconded by Premier Roblin, that Premier Gouin be appointed chairman. Adopted. Moved by Premier Tweedie, seconded by Premier Peters, that Chas. Lanctot, K. C., assistant attorney-general of Quebec, be secretary. Adopted. The subject matter of the resolutions of 1902 were referred to a sub-committee composed of Premier Gouin, Quebec; Premier Murray, Nova Scotia; Attorney-General Pugley, New Brunswick; Premier McBride, British Columbia; Attorney-General Campbell, Manitoba, and Hon. Mr. Weil, Quebec.

Moved by Premier Roblin, seconded by Premier Peters, that the report of the committee charged with the preparation of the resolution embodying the views of the conference on the resolutions of 1902 be adopted, and it was unanimously adopted as follows: "Whereas, as members of this conference are of the opinion that it is desirable in the interest of the people of Canada and essential to the development of the provinces that immediate provision be made for an increase of subsidies granted by the Dominion to the several provinces and for an award to the provincial governments by Canada of an amount sufficient to meet the costs of the administration of criminal justice, not exceeding 20 cents per head of the population, therefore it is unanimously resolved:

(1) That the subject matter of the resolutions adopted by the conference of representatives of several provinces held at Quebec in December, 1902, and which were shortly thereafter presented to the government of the Dominion, and which were ratified by the legislatures of the then existing provinces, except that of British Columbia, be now pressed upon the government of the Dominion for immediate and favorable action; under reserve of right of any province to now submit to such government a memorandum in writing concerning the claim which may have larger sums than those set out in the said resolutions, or to additional con-

sideration or recognition. (2) That in case of the government of Canada concurring in the views of the conferences, as expressed in the above resolution, a measure should be submitted to the parliament of Canada, at the next session providing for the payment of such increased subsidies and allowances as may be determined upon pending amendment of the British North American Act, if such amendment would be deemed necessary. Moved by Premier Tweedie, seconded by Premier Murray, seconded by Premier Roblin, that the resolution "C" of resolution No. 1 adopted at the conference held at Quebec in December, 1902, be amended, and it was unanimously resolved that it be amended so as to read as follows: "The population as ascertained by the last census to govern, except as in British Columbia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and as to these four provinces the population as taken be that upon which under respective statutes, in that behalf the annual payments now made to them respectively by the Dominion are fixed, and thereafter the actual population as ascertained by census to govern."

Moved by Premier Roblin, seconded by Premier Peters, that the resolution embodied in the resolutions of 1902 be adopted, and it was unanimously adopted as follows: "Whereas, as members of this conference are of the opinion that it is desirable in the interest of the people of Canada and essential to the development of the provinces that immediate provision be made for an increase of subsidies granted by the Dominion to the several provinces and for an award to the provincial governments by Canada of an amount sufficient to meet the costs of the administration of criminal justice, not exceeding 20 cents per head of the population, therefore it is unanimously resolved:

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Friday, 13th October. Moved by Premier Murray, seconded by Hon. Mr. Weil, that in the opinion of the conference it is inadvisable that the claim in the way of subsidies of any province now be referred to arbitration. The conference dividing upon this question, the names of the provinces were taken down as follows: Contents—Quebec, Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Non-content—British Columbia—1. Premier McBride then laid before the conference the following declaration: "I protest that the question of British Columbia's claim upon the Dominion government for a reference should not be considered by the conference, but that it is a question between the government of British Columbia and the Dominion government."

Moved by Premier Whitney, seconded by Premier Murray, that in view of the large area and geographical features of the province of British Columbia, it is the opinion of this conference that the said province should receive a reasonable additional allowance for the purpose of civil government, in excess of the provisions made in the Quebec resolutions of 1902, and that such additional allowance should be to the extent of one hundred thousand dollars annually for ten years."

Saturday, October 13th. Moved as an amendment to Hon. Mr. Whitney's motion by Premier

Scott, seconded by Premier Rutherford: "That the following words be added to Mr. Whitney's motion respecting exceptional treatment to British Columbia: "In view of the exceptional conditions of settlement existing in the provinces of Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan, each of the said provinces should be granted for a period of ten years an allowance of fifty thousand dollars per annum in excess of subsidies provided by the Quebec resolutions of 1902 as amended." The question then being put on Premier Roblin's motion, the conference adopted it unanimously.

It was proposed by Premier Roblin, seconded by Premier Peters, that: "As a result of the deliberation of this conference with representatives of the government of the Dominion of Canada: "This conference recommends to each legislature to abolish the special tax on commercial travellers, provided that this recommendation do not apply to any license payable under any act concerning the sale of intoxicating liquors."

"This province also recommends that the legislatures of the several provinces should make no discrimination in taxation of companies incorporated by the Dominion and companies incorporated by the province wherein such tax is imposed." As to the second part of the above resolution Premier Whitney and Premier Murray desire to consult with their colleagues before assenting to its adoption.

It was resolved: "That a meeting of prime ministers of the several provinces of Canada be held every year to consider matters of common interest, and that every such meeting shall be convened by the prime minister of the province of Ontario and prime minister of the province of Quebec." It was moved by Premier Whitney, seconded by Premier Rutherford, and unanimously resolved: "That the members of this conference place on record their hearty appreciation of the attention shown them by the premier minister of Canada and his colleagues and their efforts to facilitate the work of the conference."

Moved by Premier Roblin, seconded by Premier Whitney, and unanimously resolved: "That the thanks of the conference be extended to Mr. Charles Lanctot for the satisfactory manner in which he has acted as its secretary."

Moved by Hon. Mr. Pugley, seconded by Premier Peters, and unanimously resolved: "That the thanks of the conference be extended to Hon. Mr. Gouin for the satisfactory manner in which he has presided over its deliberations."

of 74, is unable to attend to the business of government. Sir Charles Norton Edgecombe Elliot, K. C. M. G., C. B., was also a passenger. He has spent his whole life in the British diplomatic service, having been stationed at St. Petersburg, Constantinople, Morocco, Bulgaria, Serbia, Samoa, Zanzibar and the British East Africa Protectorate. In 1838 he was secretary of the British embassy at Washington. He retired from the service in 1894, when he occupied the position of consul-general for German East Africa. There were several officers on board, including Lieut.-Col. G. Chevenix Trench, and Lieut. R. Holt, R. N., of the British service, and Brigadier-General Pershing and Capt. W. F. Gwynne, U. S. A.

MAKING THUNDER FOR THE CAMPAIGN

Premier's Preparations For Early Appeal to Country Go Merrily On--His Plans Working Satisfactorily.

On September 17th the Times announced that Hon. Richard McBride had resolved to appeal to the country before another session of the house, and that the legislature would dissolve on his return from Ottawa from a meeting of the provincial premiers.

It was also stated that the election would probably be held in December of this year. Immediately upon the announcement being made it was challenged by the premier, and was denied in an explicit way by the daily government organ. This denial was amplified by those weekly and monthly supporters of the administration, which entertained lively hopes of favors to come and learned discussions on the ethics of journalism by men who haven't learned of his alphabet were written with a view of convincing the premier that his lesser minions were more zealous than those who are supposed to voice his views in the daily press.

The Times reiterated its statement, and the events of the past two weeks have verified in very particular the information available when the article of September 17th appeared. It was stated that the premier was preparing to leave for Ottawa to attend the conference of provincial premiers. He already had his plan of action mapped out, and naturally was annoyed that the development should be anticipated by his opponents. He had drawn up a claim for this province, which he not only believed, but hoped, would be rejected by that conference. Upon its rejection he planned to return to British Columbia and rush to the country on a cry of better terms, but to frustrate another in the dust of that agitation his record of incapacity and the unsavory Kallen Island deal and its brood. The hope, of course, was that the personal records of men like the chief commissioners would be lost in a wave of enthusiasm for British Columbia's

valiant champion of her rights, Hon. R. McBride. Every move he made at Ottawa proved what a mockery his fight for better terms was, and how thinly it veiled his real object, namely, the obtaining of a cry on which to appeal to the country. The dispatches he caused to be sent to the coast were worthy of the Sanch Ganza of such a political Don Quixote. They were full of sneers at all the premiers excepting Roblin and Whitney, of sinister suggestions of connivance between the provincial Liberal premiers and Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and charges of "sloggers, coaxing and bluff" against men whose reputation for at least the first and last of these qualities dwarfs into insignificance beside that of Hon. Mr. McBride. If he were honestly seeking to win his colleagues to his side, were these the tactics he would have adopted? They merely reflected the diplomatic attitude of British Columbia's premier—an attitude so perverse that even Premier Whitney, after a long and patient attempt, gave him up.

British Columbians accustomed to these ways of "bluff" were not prepared to believe that the premier would carry these methods into the federal arena. Now the public is told that he will "carry our case to the foot of the throne." British Columbia is also gravely informed that Premier McBride wants "peace" but it must be "peace with honor." This assumption of the Disraelian role is really a limit of what would be comic-opera were the interests of the province not being jeopardized.

The Times repeats that Hon. Mr. McBride went to Ottawa resolved not to obtain better terms, but to frustrate better terms. He was not seeking the good of his province, but an election cry. In the hope of obtaining that cry he had already prepared to appeal to the country before the meeting of the legislature, and if he does not do so it will be due to a miscarriage of some of his plans.

THE TRANSFER OF ONTARIO BANK

THE NOTE HOLDERS AND DEPOSITORS PROTECTED Bank of Montreal Representative Appointed General Manager--Raid on Chinese Gamblers.

Toronto, Oct. 14.—The Bank of Montreal took over the Ontario Bank on Saturday, acting under a guarantee given by a number of other banks to the extent of two and a half millions, the Bank of Montreal agreeing to protect all the depositors and note holders of the Ontario bank. It is expected that after the assets have been realized upon that there will not be a great deal left for the shareholders, but it is not expected that they will become liable for the double guarantee or that the guarantee of the banks will be required. C. McGill, general manager of the Ontario, has been deposited, and a representative of the Bank of Montreal appointed general manager.

Calgary, Oct. 14.—Countess Grey and other lady members of the vice-regal party, who have been touring the West, left this evening for Ottawa. His Excellency will remain for a few days longer duck shooting. Chinese Gamblers. Winnipeg, Oct. 14.—Police last night raided a Chinese gambling joint and gathered in forty-three Celestials, who were enjoying a game of fan tan. Changes Hands. Montreal, Oct. 14.—La Presse has again come into the control of Hon. Mr. Berthoumieu, who sold the paper some time ago to David Russell and Mackenzie & Mann. The deal was consummated on Friday in Toronto. Thomas Cote, who was manager of the paper at one time, resumes his position.

HUNDREDS OF LIVES LOST AT HONGKONG BY THE BURNING OF STEAMER HANKOW

Panic Among the Chinese Passengers, Many of Whom Were Burned to Death.

Hongkong, Oct. 14.—The British steamer Hankow, from Canton, was burned this (Sunday) morning while lying alongside her wharf. Hundreds of Chinese passengers were burned to death, and a valuable cargo was destroyed. All the European passengers and crew were saved.

THEIR APPARENT TO PRINCIPALITY ARRIVED ON EMPRESS OF JAPAN THIS MORNING

Distinguished Party of Chinese and Nearly Two Hundred Hindus on Board.

(From Monday's Daily.) There was a wealth of Oriental splendor on the Empress of Japan that reached Victoria this morning on her 78th homeward voyage.

The steamer Hankow was owned by the China Navigation Company, of London. The vessel was constructed of iron, her dimensions being: Length, 308.5; beam, 42.3; depth, 15.2 feet. She registered 3,078 tons gross.

HINDU IMMIGRATION. Complaint to Colonial Office Has Been Sent to Ottawa.

Ottawa, Oct. 15.—The department of trade and commerce received to-day a complaint from the colonial office which was forwarded there from British Columbia against the influx of East Indians.

The collector of customs at Vancouver informs the department that the arrivals to date were 1,468.