

THE HERALD

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Cheaper Telegraphic Rates

A bill "to provide for more advantageous conditions for telegraphic communication between Canada, the United Kingdom and other parts of the British Empire," has been introduced in the Dominion House of Commons by Hon. L. P. Pelletier. It is intended to ratify a contract to fill a gap in the present all red cable service and at the same time creates an ocean telegraph board, to be composed of the Postmaster General, Minister of Marine, and Minister of Railways, and to make regulations governing the same.

At present the governments of Great Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand control a trans Pacific cable and the board of management of that line has leased a telegraph line from Vancouver to Montreal from the Canadian Pacific Railway Telegraph Co. By the contract which the Postmaster General explained to the house, a wireless service will be secured to complete the communication between the Antipodes and Britain.

Hon. Mr. Pelletier said that negotiations had taken place with the Commercial Cable Company and the Western Union system for a service to fill the gap in the All-Red line between Montreal and England. They had, however, been unsuccessful. It would cost \$5,000,000 to lay a state owned cable. Moreover, Mr. Samuel, the British Postmaster General, had favored the establishment of a wireless system which would cost only \$300,000 or \$400,000. Accordingly a contract had been made with the Universal Radio Telegraph Syndicate.

The syndicate would install in Canada the Polson system of wireless telegraphy and would establish stations in Canada and the Mother Country. It agreed to give a continuous night and day service, 400 words a minute, or twice as great speed as now given by cable companies. The rates between Montreal and any part of the United Kingdom would be, for code messages, 8 pence a word, for messages in plain language, 4 pence a word, for government messages, 2½ pence a word, and for press messages, 2 pence a word.

This was a substantial reduction in rates. A portion of the tolls on messages for Canadian points was to be borne by the wireless company, so that all parts of the country would be practically upon an equal footing. There was a condition under which the syndicate would hand over at Montreal all messages to be sent over the Pacific cable, it would also transmit business received over the Pacific cable at Montreal to Britain at the rates cited. The syndicate was prohibited from making any traffic arrangement or combine with any other wireless cable or land line company without the sanction of the Ocean Telegraph Board. The syndicate would build and operate its stations in Canada and in Britain at its own risk and expense. It had undertaken to complete its system within 12 months from the signing of the contract, or the granting of a landing license by the government. It had deposited

ten thousand pounds as a guarantee of good faith. Half of that sum would be refunded when the company had expended \$50,000 in all and \$25,000 in Canada. The balance would be returned when their service had been proven satisfactory. No subsidy is to be paid to the company which simply enters Canada as a competitive concern. The contract is for five years, and it contains a clause permitting the government to take over the whole system by expropriation or arbitration, in case Canada should decide to have a state owned service. Pending the organization of the new Ocean Telegraph Board wireless rates will be under the control of the railway commissioners.

Hon. Mr. White, Minister of Finance, delivered his budget speech in the House of Commons, Ottawa, on Monday afternoon. A mere glance at the figures presented by him in his financial statement shows that Canada's revenues are most buoyant and that our finances are in a sound condition. The total trade of the Dominion, for the last fiscal year was a shade over a billion dollars, and the surplus on consolidated fund was \$55,000,000, and there was a reduction of over \$23,000,000 in the national debt. The total revenue for the year amounted to \$1,682,500,000, an increase of \$32,000,000, or almost the total of the country's revenue of twenty years ago. The development of the country called for larger outlays; but these had not exceeded \$113,250,000 on current account. The expenditure on capital account had amounted to \$33,000,000, and with an allowance of \$1,300,000 for sinking fund, there was left, over all expenditure, the sum of \$23,000,000 to apply on the reduction of the national debt. The net debt now stands approximately at \$316,000,000.

As will be seen in our account of proceedings in the Federal Parliament, the Naval Aid Bill was reported from the committee stage and was ordered to a third reading at an early hour last Saturday morning. The fight over this bill has been very long; very persistent and very bitter on the part of the Opposition. The question was introduced to the House by Premier Borden on December 5th, and during these months the Opposition obstructed its progress at every stage. Our readers will remember how the committee was kept sitting continuously, day and night, for two weeks, except Sundays. This continuous obstruction by the Opposition necessitated the introduction of closure rules by the Government. Under the amended rules progress was rapidly made and the bill was reported in due time. But the Opposition made a very sorry exhibition of themselves at the close of the committee stage. Evidently their chagrin and impotent rage overcame their saner judgment and placed them before the world in a very unenviable light.

The order-in-council abolishing the board of management of Canadian government railways, and appointing Frederick Passmore Gutelius as general manager of the whole system was tabled in the House of Commons on Wednesday last. The appointment is for a definite period of two years, and thereafter at the pleasure of the minister of railways. Mr. Gutelius' salary is to be \$20,000 per year. He will make regulations as to the organization of the staff, the conditions of employment and the collection of revenues. A yearly report is to be submitted to the minister

It is a rather unusual thing for a judge of a Provincial Supreme Court to be defendant in a trial before a higher court. But this is what has happened in a case just entered in the Exchequer Court. The Federal Government is plaintiff and a British Columbia judge is defendant. The action is taken against Judge W. H. P. Clement of the Supreme Court of British Columbia and is based upon an allegation of false representations by him as to travelling expenses. The amount sought to be recovered is \$4,290. The statement of claim says in part: "The said defendant in applications and certificates (re travelling expenses), falsely and fraudulently stated and represented that his residence from August 1907 to March 1910 was at Grand Forks, whereas the fact was, and is, that the said defendant during the said period resided in the city of Vancouver." Judge Clement was appointed to the Supreme Court of British Columbia in December, 1906.

The longest lived suit in the history of New York jurisprudence was settled on the 8th inst.—an action brought fifty years ago against the city of New York by Charles J. Appleby for damages done to his property at Eleventh Avenue and Forty first street, by a mob, during the Civil War. Mr. Appleby sued for \$7,300 and demanded interest on the principal, which would have brought his claim up to \$42,000. Through a compromise the city confessed judgment, and Mr. Appleby dropped the demand for interest. He was paid \$7,300. When the plaintiff brought suit he was a young man. He is now 88 years old. Since the suit was filed he has seen many vicissitudes of fortune, nearly all the lawyers connected with the case and most of the judges before which it passed have died. Nevertheless, he had twelve witnesses, all over 70 years old, who saw the mob wreck his house.

Matriculation Prizes.

The following letter received by Dr. Anderson, ex-Superintendent of Education, speaks for itself: Monroe, McKenzie & McQueen, Barristers, Solicitors, etc. J. C. W. Agnew, Hugh McKenzie, M. A. MacQueen, 32 Canada Life Building, Winnipeg, May 11, 1913, Canada.

Alexander Anderson, Esq., L.L.D., Supt. of Education, Charlottetown, P. E. I.

DEAR SIR,—I should like to offer three small prizes for competition at the ensuing Matriculation Examinations to Prince of Wales College. If you think the suggestion wise, I should be glad to give \$50.00 to the person taking the highest, \$30.00 to the person taking the second highest, and \$20.00 to the person taking the third highest standing in English at the examinations to be held this summer. The competition should be unimpeded by restrictions of any kind whatsoever.

If the above suggestion meets with your approval, I shall be obliged if you will bring the same to the attention of the teachers and pupils in whatever manner seems best to you. The same offer would apply to the examinations to be held in 1914.

Wishing you health and strength to continue the work in which you have exhibited such conspicuous genius for so many I am,

Yours sincerely,
M. A. McQUEEN

P. E. Island Railway.

Victoria Day.

In connection with Victoria Day the P. E. I. Railway will issue round trip tickets from all stations to all stations on May 23rd and 24th; return limit May 27th, 1913. A special passenger train will leave Charlottetown at 8 o'clock a. m. for Murray Harbor; returning will leave Murray Harbor at 4:45 p. m.

Federal Parliament.

The Naval Aid Bill.

Ottawa, Ont. May 6.—The discussion of the Naval Aid Bill was resumed for the first time in a month this afternoon and W. M. German of Weland, the first Liberal speaker, came forward with an amendment to the second clause of the measure which provides for the appropriation of \$35,000,000 to be expended to increase the effective forces of Britain on the seas.

Apparently Mr. German had endeavored to combine two separate speeches on the subject. First he argued that the money for the augmentation of the imperial fleets should be voted under the Laurier Naval Service Act, which provides for a Canadian navy and declared the Borden Naval Aid Bill absolutely unnecessary. He concluded however, by moving an amendment to the measure which he had condemned as unnecessary.

His amendment called for the striking out of the clause providing for an appropriation of thirty-five million dollars for the purpose of immediately increasing the effective naval forces of the Empire and for the substitution of the following: "Upon appropriations being, from time to time, voted by parliament, there may be paid, from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada, a sum not exceeding thirty five million dollars for the purpose of speedily increasing the effective naval forces of the Empire."

When the debate was resumed, Hon. Mr. W. T. White recalled the assertion made by Dr. Michael Clark of Red Deer that he had read a garbled report of a speech of Mr. Churchill. The finance minister, in view of Dr. Clark's statement, read the exact language of the First Lord of the Admiralty as given in the official record of the British House of Commons absolutely bearing out what Mr. White had said.

Hon. J. D. Hazen and Hon. Wm. Pugsley were the principal speakers in the evening the Minister of Marine and Fisheries completely upsetting Mr. Pugsley's contention as to the cost of warships in the Fore River yards.

Ottawa, May 7.—The first move toward the termination of the dreary repetition of so called arguments by opposition speakers for the purpose of obstruction of the government's plan to augment the naval power of the British Empire, was taken early this evening.

The debate in committee of the whole on the second clause of the Naval Aid Bill had been carried on throughout a great part of the sitting and Liberal speakers had adduced no new arguments or facts on the subject. Mr. Carvell of Carlton, N. B., had rehearsed to the extent of more than an hour the speeches which he had made before when, at 8:45, the prime minister rose and enquired of Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, who was leading the opposition for the time, whether or not progress could be made toward the passage of the clause. The latter returned an evasive answer and Mr. Borden at once moved "that further consideration of section two be postponed."

The motion caused some surprise in the ranks of the opposition because it was not couched in the language prescribed by the amended rules for the notice that the closure would be applied. It was carried, without adverse demonstration on a standing vote of 70 to 28 and the committee proceeded to the consideration of clause three.

Liberals in the house had expected that the prime minister would have taken the course, as he certainly might have done under the new rules, of giving notice that the debate upon all the clauses of the bill would terminate at 2 o'clock a. m., during a given sitting of the house. The prime minister, however, wishing to give the opposition every opportunity to discuss each clause of the bill, did not take such a drastic step. Instead the motion to postpone further consideration of each clause will be moved when it is seen that no progress towards a vote can be made and that the right of debate is merely being used as an instrument to delay the passage of the bill.

When all the clauses have been before the committee notice will be given that the debate on those which have not been adopted will terminate within twenty-four hours: twenty minute speeches will be the rule of proceeding and the several amendments and clauses will be voted upon in due course. It is expected that the voting in committee will take place either on Friday or early next week.

Shortly after one o'clock Premier Borden moved that further consideration of the third clause be postponed. The motion was not debatable. In order to make way for a discussion, Mr. Pugsley moved the previous question—a debatable motion. Deputy Speaker Blondin ruled this previous question out of order in such a motion, whereupon Mr. Pugsley appealed to the House, which sustained the ruling on division.

The vote to sustain the ruling stood 84 to 39, a majority of 45.

Ottawa, May 8.—At one o'clock this morning Premier Borden gave formal notice of the closure for the purpose of passing the clauses of the Naval Aid Bill in committee. The motion will be made tomorrow in accordance with this notice that further consideration of the clauses be not further postponed.

There was no row, no demonstration. Nothing could have been more tame. The naval bill comes back tomorrow in committee as the first order of business and will be before the house until two o'clock Saturday morning when the discussion terminates automatically and the clauses are adopted. The same course will be followed for the third reading of the measure early next week.

The application of the closure tonight effects all but the first clause of the bill, which was adopted by the committee of the whole. It covers five clauses, including a new one added tonight by the Prime Minister, providing for a statement of the years expenditure within fifteen days of the opening of each session.

F. E. Carvell sought to have this new clause amended to require the letting of all contracts by tender. Mr. Borden stated that much of the work would probably be done by tender but that some of it might be done in His Majesty's dockyard. Mr. Carvell, after a little further discussion, suggested that the committee "glide" over this clause, whereupon the Prime Minister moved that further consideration be postponed. This was adopted on a standing vote, by 85 to 45.

Premier Borden, in dealing with the last objections of the opposition, again declared the determination of the Dominion to stand by the Mother Country and aid in the defence of the Empire, a declaration which was received by the ministerial members with a storm of applause and by the Liberals in silence.

Ottawa, Ont., May 10.—At 2 o'clock this morning the consideration of the Naval Aid Bill in committee in the Commons came automatically to an end.

The termination of a long struggle was waited by crowds in the gallery, and was welcomed with enthusiastic cheers by ministerial members.

At last the hour was reached, the votes were taken, and the measure framed for the purpose of lending Canada's assistance to the Empire in the task of naval defence now stands for the third reading, probably on Tuesday next.

The discussion in the committee last night was devoid of those spectacular incidents which had been confidently predicted. The new rule confining discussion to twenty minute speeches was applied and worked satisfactorily.

Liberals members accepted the regulation requiring the condensation of speeches and some of them administered a decided snub to William Pugsley when he seemed inclined to appear in the character which he filled on the famous Saturday, March 15.

Mr. Carroll, the Liberal member

for South Cape Breton, the first speaker, had not quite concluded his remarks when his time expired and the Prime Minister courteously informed him that, with the consent of the committee, he might continue for a few minutes longer.

At once Mr. Pugsley advised the Cape Breton member to occupy as much time as he pleased, because there was no binding rule to prevent him from doing so.

Dr. Michael Clark, of Red Deer, administered a direct rebuke, by asserting that the new rules were now legal guides in debate, and by suggesting that they be enforced, impartially, but strictly.

Mr. Chisholm, of Antigonish, took the ground that the twenty minute regulation should be observed, because favors to one member might work injustice to another who wishes to speak.

Mr. Nesbitt of North Oxford, moreover, closed his speech with the pointed declaration that he was "tired of those who wished to infringe the rules." It may be that the commendable compliance of opposition members with the rules was due to a confidential belief that the Liberal majority in the Senate could be relied upon to destroy the bill and prevent, for the time, any grant of naval aid to Britain. Whatever was the reason, however, the course taken certainly produced a superior brand of debating to that heard during the days of unlimited talk and obstruction.

The scene in the Commons on the report stage of the Naval Bill early Saturday morning was one of wild disorder. The opposition had made no demonstration when the discussion automatically came to a close at 2 o'clock; they simply divided the House on each amendment and each clause a dozen votes in all. But the moment Premier Borden moved that the Deputy Speakers report the bill trouble commenced. Mr. Carroll, Cape Breton, jumped to his feet and insisted upon moving for the addition of a seventh clause for the use of Canadian steel in construction. He was backed up by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and other Liberals, but after a long argument the Deputy Speaker managed to obtain a hearing and ruled that the Premier's motion had come first. The opposition sought still to hold the bill in committee, but the chairman put the vote.

All the Conservatives voted yes but the entire opposition refrained from voting, sitting in their seats and shouting "gag" and "shams" when the chairman made his report to the Speaker the Liberals loudly shouted "no" and "no report" and kept up the din. The Speaker appealed in vain for order.

Frank Oliver stood up and declared "the prerogatives of this house have been usurped."

Mr. Pugsley told the Speaker that the chairman had made a false report.

In the midst of the uproar the Prime Minister moved the adjournment. The Conservative members massed in the back of the chamber cheering and singing the National Anthem, the Liberals setting up rival choruses of patriotic songs. It was one of the noisiest and most disorderly sittings ever witnessed. All the galleries of the house were filled from eight o'clock till half past three.

DIED.

McGARTHY—At his residence, Morrell, on Friday, 25th of April, Mr. Patrick McCarthy, in the 86th year of his age, leaving two sons and one daughter to mourn their loss, Charles on the old homestead, and Michael residing at Morrell Bay, and Mrs. John D. Simons at Morrell. On Saturday, the 26th, the funeral which was largely attended, took place from his late residence to St. Joseph's Church, where a Requiem Mass was celebrated by the pastor, Rev. A. J. Moloney, after which the procession returned to the cemetery, where the last and rites were performed and where the deceased, beloved and respected for his many Christian virtues, was laid to rest in the family vault. May his soul rest in peace.

BURROWS—On May 8th, 1913, Mrs. Thomas Burrows—R. I. P.

McPHAIL—At Clyde River, on May 6th, 1913, Jessie McPhail, aged 70 years.

O'CONNELL—At Tarantam, on May 6th, 1913, Catherine, beloved wife of Maurice O'Connell, in the 69th year of her age. A sorrowing husband, five sons and six daughters are left to mourn the loss of a kind wife and a loving and affectionate mother. May her soul rest in peace.

JARDINE—At Morrell, on May 15th, John Jardine, aged 82 years.

Intercolonial Railway.

Cheap Fares for Victoria Day.

For Victoria Day, May 24th, the usual holiday excursion fares will prevail over the Intercolonial Railway. Round trip tickets at first class one way fare for round trip will be sold on May 23rd and 24th, good for return until May 27th, between all stations on the line and to points on connecting lines. May 14, 1913—21

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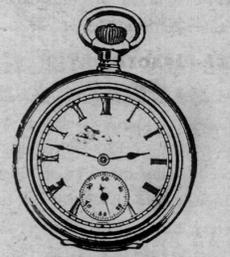
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