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ASQUITH'S BOLD STROKE MAKES UNIONISTS GASP

(Continued from page 1.)
of which John E. Redmond is the head, uttered a word in the English night it out alone. Premier Asquith, Viscount Morley, Col. Seely and General French and Ewart all visited the king during the day.

The debate following Premier Asquith's withdrawal was tame. Frederick E. Smith, Unionist with Wilton division of Liverpool, renewed his accusations that the government had hatched a conspiracy against Ulster. "It was Napoleon, but there was no Napoleon," he said.

Tried to Seduce the Army.
Winston Spencer Churchill, first lord of the admiralty, said that the plotting had all been done by the opposition, who tried to seduce the army. He quoted from the Unionist leaders' speeches, in which they advised the army to refuse to serve against Ulster.

In the house of lords the Earl of Selborne spoke with the warmth of a lion heard in that house. He termed Churchill's charges as "foul falsehoods." Field Marshal Lord Roberts appealed to the country to dismiss the idle but dangerous and malicious accusations that the army was implicated in a political conspiracy and the ridiculous fallacy that the officers are a wealthy and privileged class. The government's ultimatum, he said, was like springing a mine on the army. He wished to nail to the counterpane the fact that any officer had disobeyed orders.

Viscount Haldane rejoined that the lords opposite were beginning to realize the seriousness of the situation raised by the issue of the army versus people.

May Not Oppose Asquith.
London, March 31.—It has not yet been decided whether the Unionists will contest Mr. Asquith's seat. A large section of the Unionists favor allowing the premier's re-election with a free opposition, which would permit his returning to the house of commons a week earlier than if he were opposed.

The Daily Mail and other Unionist papers accuse the premier of running away, and of deliberately taking the course he adopted in order to be able for a fortnight to avoid awkward questions in parliament. The more general view is, however, that he has taken the war portfolio because, after his experience with Col. Seely and Viscount Morley he was afraid to entrust it to anybody else during the present crisis.

The Liberal morning papers are evidently relieved at the unexpected turn of affairs. They admit that Mr. Asquith's course is astonishingly unimpeccable, and express admiration for his boldness and courage, which they believe will touch the imagination of the country and restore the government's prestige.

The Daily Chronicle declares that the premier's assumption of the control of the war office, is a plain intimation to all concerned that the government has determined that the civil power must prevail in the conflict with the military, and adds: "In Mr. Asquith, the imperial sovereignty of parliament and the outraged sanctity of civil freedom have the strongest champion available."

Unionists Alarmed.
The apprehension raised in the minds of the Unionist party at the war the Liberals and Laborites have seized on the election cry of "Parliament versus the Army" is illustrated by an editorial in the Times today warmly praising Mr. Asquith for having done the right thing in taking the war office. The Times says:

"We welcome the prospect of bringing back these unhappy controversies from issues involved in the army to the proper sphere of politics. The army has never sought enlightenment in political wrangles, and most devoutly desired to be left outside of them."

"Now that Mr. Asquith is next to the king, at the head of the army administration, he owes a new and special duty to the army, namely, to shield it from wanton attempts of his Labor and Nationalist camps to raise a new electioneering cry of the army against the people."

FORMER NOVA SCOTIA PASTOR'S CHURCH BURNED BY MILITANTS

Toronto, March 28.—A minister of the Presbyterian church of Canada, Rev. E. B. Rankin, of White Kirk, Scotland, at present suffering because the women have not got the vote in Scotland. A mob of suffragettes recently attacked and burned that historic structure in order to display their burning desire for the franchise. Mr. Rankin was once the minister of the Falmouth street church, Sydney (N. S.).

The Best In New Footwear Is Open For Your Inspection

Men's \$3.50 to \$6.00
Ladies' \$3.00 to \$6.00

Francis & Vaughan
19 KING STREET

64 SEAL HUNTERS DIE IN BLIZZARD

Terrible Disaster on Iceloes in Belle Isle Straits

One Hundred and Twenty Men of Str. Newfoundland Over-taken by Storm Far From Ship—Were Exposed to Fury of Elements Two Days and Two Nights—Rescue Boats Recover Many Bodies and Others in Frozen Condition—Report that Missing Southern Cross is Safe.

(Associated Press.)
St. John's, Nfld., April 2.—An official bulletin at midnight gives sixty-four dead and thirty-seven severely frost-bitten, in the disaster to the steamer Newfoundland. The steamer Bella-venture with fifty-eight dead and thirty-five living is due tomorrow morning. There is no word here of the Southern Cross.

The Southern Cross Safe in Port.
Sydney, N. S., April 2.—A wireless was received at North Sydney last night to the effect that the sealing steamer Southern Cross reported overdue and which it was feared had been lost or disabled in the recent storm has arrived safely at Channel with a full catch of seals. The Erick another sealer was also reported at the same port.

The report went on to say that 300 men of the Newfoundland had been caught in a blizzard on an ice floe that fifty had been located, the majority of them dead or dying and that 150 were still missing.

Caught in Blizzard.
St. John's, Nfld., April 2.—Death traveled in a gale that overtook the sealing fleet on Tuesday. The steamer Newfoundland lost probably fifty of her crew, while as many more, it is feared, will be maimed as a result of exposure. The vessel lost was far from their ship killing seals when the storm, with blinding snow, swooped down upon them.

They were exposed for forty-eight hours before assistance arrived. It is reported that three rescue boats were sent to the Newfoundland and one of these was carrying over 2,000 men scattered among the ice floes near Belle Isle Straits. The crews were on the floes hunting seals, which have their homes on these crystal plains, and the hunt had taken them from four to six miles from their ships.

When the blizzard came the crews of the other steamers managed to regain their vessels, but the floes on which the Newfoundland's men were hunting drifted away from the main body of ice and when darkness fell that night not one had returned. The ship's crew numbered 150, of whom 100 were on the ice. Captain Wesley Keen, his officers, engineers, stokers and cooks remained aboard.

This morning the weather cleared and the Newfoundland was seen.

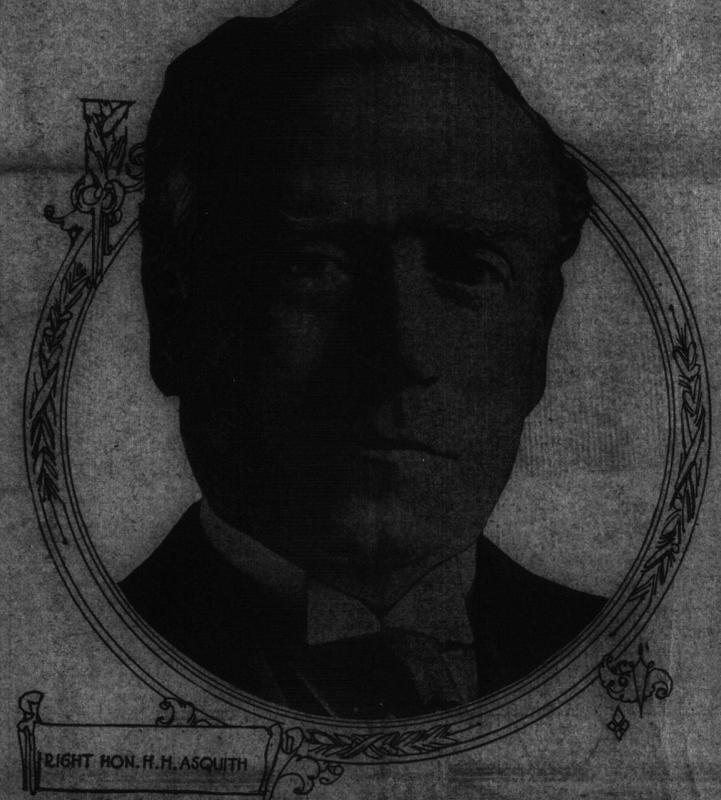
First Year Student at Purdue University Wants \$7,000 Damages for Ruined Health.
Lafayette, Ind., April 2.—As a result of having in the girls' dormitory of Purdue University last January, Mabel Rogers, of Shoals (Ind.), today filed suit against seven senior girls, demanding \$7,000. The plaintiff, who is a first year girl, alleges that, up to the time she was hazed, she was a healthy girl with normal eyes, but now her sight is impaired, and her health destroyed.

Miss Rogers in her complaint alleges that on a certain day in January, while she was preparing her lessons, seven girls dragged her from her room, tore off her clothing, painted her chest, back and neck with red ink, poured maculage on her back and stuck her with pins. In an effort to compel her to kneel to her assailants. She further states that she was flung in a tub of water. She declares she was forced to go to a hospital for treatment following the hazing, and that she has been unable to do her work in the university.

Work for Your Own Pocketbook
After all a properly lined pocketbook is a very good friend to have.
What you save counts as well as what you make.
There is spending to advantage—and spending to advantage means spending with knowledge.
The wise man keeps posted on the market—and the best guide to the advertising arm company Saturday the day-to-day advertising in a live newspaper like The Telegraph and Times.
Don't buy "haphazard." Read the advertising arm company Saturday the day-to-day advertising in a live newspaper like The Telegraph and Times.
You are working for your own pocketbook when you follow this programme.

SALISBURY & ALBERT TRAIN STALLED NEAR SALISBURY
Salisbury, N. B., April 2.—A driving snowstorm, the worst of the season, is in full blast here today. The Salisbury & Albert train is tied up in a big bank about a mile out the line from the C. P. R. depot. The passengers were brought in from the stalled train by vans. It is understood that the train will not be moved until the storm abates as the strong north wind is piling the snow up in drifts in all directions.

UNIONISTS WILL GIVE ASQUITH A WALK OVER



RIGHT HON. H. H. ASQUITH
Report Did No One Justice.

London, April 2.—The opposition members of the House of Commons today declared that they would give Asquith a walk over. The Morning Post declares that there must be a contest, and that the opposition must see that the candidate has the support of the most powerful spokesmen of the party that can be put in the field.

BISLEY RANGES TO BE OPEN FOR PRACTICE SUNDAYS

Competition for Mavor Richardson Cup to Take Place Next Sabbath.
London, April 2.—For the first time in the history of the National Rifle Association, the Bisley ranges are to be open for practice on Sunday. The Mavor Richardson Cup will be competed for on Sunday next.

CANADA'S MILITIA LAST YEAR COST \$10,272,759

Ottawa, April 2.—At the opening of the house this afternoon the minister of militia gave F. F. Pardon, chief Liberal whip, a statement of the total militia expenditures, including pensions for each year since 1896.

In 1896-7 the amount was \$2,479,179. In 1901 it rose to \$3,168,717. In 1904-5 there was an increase of about \$1,000,000 and in 1907-8 the militia expenditures totalled \$6,871,897. The last three years the amounts were: 1910-11, \$7,009,927; 1911-12, \$7,729,948; 1912-13, \$10,272,759.

TORREON FELL IN REBELS' HANDS LAST NIGHT

Juarez, April 2.—General Carranza announced that Torreon fell at 10:30 o'clock tonight.

LAURIER BRANDS N. T.R. REPORT FALSE

Sir Wilfrid, in Masterly Speech, Exposes Its Partisan Character

Declares There is Not a Tittle of Evidence in the Star Chamber Proceedings Showing Graft—Takes Full Responsibility for Launching the Great Project and Declares It Will Redound to the Glory and Profit of Canada, if Tories Don't Destroy it in the Interests of Private Companies.

(Special to The Telegraph.)
Ottawa, April 2.—In a remarkable speech of nearly two hours' duration, marked by all his old-time fire, eloquence and vigor of argument and delivery, Sir Wilfrid Laurier tonight summed up the Liberal indictment against the "unbending partisan" label against the Liberal party, against the National Transcontinental Railway, and against Canada itself, contained in the report of Messrs. Guellet and Lynch-Staunton.

He dealt with all the essential points of that report, answered all the chief arguments which have been given during the past week from the government side of the house, and pointed the inevitable conclusion.

His concluding declaration that the Liberals gladly accepted the responsibility for the construction of the road, and were proud of its inception, laid faith in its future, provided it were carried through as parliament and the people of Canada intended it should be built, and his warning to the government that they could not escape the great responsibility of destroying the road to aid partisan or private interests, was greeted with enthusiastic and continued cheering from every Liberal in the house.

Sir Wilfrid was never in better form, and his speech was a fitting conclusion to the sustained and effective attack of the past week upon the government and its partisan investigators.

Report Did No One Justice.
Sir Wilfrid pointed out that the government had invited the report, and that the report was a partisan one. He said that the report was a partisan one, and that the government had invited the report, and that the report was a partisan one.

He dealt with the essential details of the report, noting that in point of law and in point of fact the commissioners were wrong in almost every particular. He said that the report was a partisan one, and that the government had invited the report, and that the report was a partisan one.

In regard to the Transcan shops, he said that the commissioners had said \$2,000,000 had been illegally expended. Sir Wilfrid noted that Mr. Staunton had deliberately and dishonestly ignored the opinions of a half-dozen of the highest legal authorities and the findings of the official arbitrator, Sir William Whyte.

In regard to the Davis contract, which the government speakers have made almost their one charge of possible scandal, Sir Wilfrid noted that the late government had no legal justification for cancelling the contract, and that the commissioners had not taken the honest course of examining Mr. Davis before condemning him.

In regard to the question of over-classification, he gave the conclusive answer that the government itself had admitted that the contractors, not according to the findings of their commissioners, but on a much more liberal basis than the late government had been prepared to settle.

A Scuttling Policy.
He dealt in a conclusive manner with the whole question of policy as to the standard of construction of the road and the building of the New Brunswick section, and declared that the obvious intention of the government seemed to be to degrade the whole line from Cochrane east and make it a local road to please the C. P. R. without regard to national consequences or the effect of diverting traffic to American ports.

He wound up with a remarkable and splendid peroration declaring his pride in the whole undertaking, his faith in the successful achievement of the objects for which the road was designed, his glory in the fact that a two-years' investigation had failed to show that a single dollar of the whole \$100,000,000 had been dishonestly spent.

Premier Borden, in replying, frankly stated that he did not intend to discuss the report in detail. He spent considerable time in giving Messrs. Guellet and Lynch-Staunton a certificate of character and he handed back to the reciprocity campaign, as an answer to Sir Wilfrid's charge that the government was nullifying the whole object of the road. He read the greater part of his speech which followed pretty much the line of previous argument adopted by Sir Wilfrid.

The vote was taken shortly after midnight on Mr. Graham's amendment declaring that the government deserved the censure of the house for ignoring and endorsing so partisan and untrue an attack on the National Transcontinental, and on the interests of Canada.

Venezuelan Uprising.
Willemstad, Curacao, April 2.—Rumors are in circulation here that a revolution broke out on March 30 in the interior of Venezuela. It is stated that the movement started in the State of Falcon.

Halifax Bank Clearings.
Halifax, April 2.—The Halifax bank clearings for the week ended today were \$1,948,530.88 and for the corresponding week last year \$1,949,948.51.

Star Chamber Proceedings.
"Mr. Lynch-Staunton was better known," said Sir Wilfrid, "as a first-class and a good lawyer," observed Sir Wilfrid, amid laughter. "Though there are many much better, but he had no superiors as a partisan. He had left the work of the commission to campaign South Bruce and had returned disappointed to write his report."
"He outraged the sense of public morality and prostituted the judicial spirit. Such were the commissioners," continued Sir Wilfrid. "Now let us see in what manner they performed their high duty."
"Did they observe the proud British maxim that there is no fair trial unless there is a free press and a public trial? No, these men sat in camera behind closed doors. They feared the light, and nothing was allowed to come out but what the censorious and malicious purpose of the commission so desired."
"The proceedings of this investigation," continued Sir Wilfrid, "were held behind closed doors, though by some mysterious process, as yet unexplained, semi-official statements filtered through from time to time to the government press. First they told of 'awful discoveries'; then, millions had been abstracted from the public treasury; next fifty millions had been taken; at last, we had the report in the house."
Round No Graft.
"But what do we find? From the first to last, Sir, it is an unblinking partisan case out in distortion and misrepresentation. But amid all this insinuation and falsetto one fact rings true: there has been no graft, not one dollar has been diverted from the object for which it was voted by the parliament. If the railway has cost \$100,000,000 every dollar has gone into the road."
"The charge is that we have built too well, too substantially, with too much faith in the future, too much regard for Canada. Our faith was great, but not greater than it had reason to be; our expectations were higher, not higher than they should have been."
"Sir, this road will fulfill the object with which its construction was undertaken; this it will do provided—provided it is not degraded by those at present in power."
Report Intentionally Dishonest.
"If the statement made by the commissioners were true, Sir Wilfrid continued, there must have been a great crime against the country. "But when the report is false, what language is strong enough to describe the calamity upon Canada. In that report there are not only statements which cannot be maintained, but there are also statements which are intentionally dishonest."
(Continued on page 8.)