

MR. CHAMBERLAIN EXPLAINS

The Colonial Secretary Finally and Definitely Refuses to Disallow the R.R. Railway Contract in Newfoundland.

Local Legislature Must Be Supreme Authority - Governors' Obligated To Be Advised by Responsible Ministers.

St. John's Nfld., Dec. 29. - Governor Murray has made public the text of the message received by him from Mr. Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies, in which he has definitely refused to disallow the R.R. railway contract, or to interfere in colonial affairs, the purport of which had already been made known.

The present position has aroused the deepest public excitement known since the Jameson raid, and it is plain that something must be done quickly to terminate a humiliating and intolerable situation.

The Johannesburg correspondent of the Times, telegraphing Thursday, says: "Yesterday's issue of the 'Bind Post' contains further inflammatory articles. The paper calls Saturday's proceedings a rebellious plot against the existence of the republic, and styles the petition as a 'brazen insult to the British agent's office.' It suggests that if a couple of wire-pullers were shot it would avert a formal war, and says that Great Britain should be requested to appoint a new consular staff, falling immediately into compliance with the request of the members of the present staff should be withdrawn."

The step which I am urged to take is one for which there is no precedent in the history of the administration. The measure the disallowance of which is sought, is not only of purely local concern, but one the provisions of which are almost exclusively of a financial and administrative character.

The right of complete and unfettered control over financial policy arrangements is essential to self-government, and has been invariably acknowledged and respected by Her Majesty's government and jealously guarded by the colonies. The colonial government and legislature are purely responsible for the management of its finances to the people of the colony, and unless imperial interests of great importance are imperilled, the intervention of Her Majesty's government in such matters would be an unwarranted intrusion and a breach of the charter of the colony.

It is now being alleged that the interest of any other part of the empire is involved or that the act is in any way repugnant to imperial legislation. It is asserted indeed that the contract disposes of assets of the colony over which its creditors in this country have an equitable, if not a legal claim, but apart from the fact that the assets in question are mainly potential and that the security of the colonial debt is Her Majesty's government in the matter. It is on the faith of the colonial government and legislature that they have advanced the money, and it is to them that they must appeal if they consider themselves injured.

No doubt it was a breach of faith or a confiscation of the rights of absent persons, Her Majesty's government would have to examine it carefully and consider whether the discredit which such action on the part of a colony would entail on the rest of the empire rendered it necessary for them to intervene. But no such charge is made, and if Her Majesty's government were to intervene whenever the legislation of a colony was alleged to affect the rights of non-residents, the right of self-government would be restricted to very narrow limits, and complications and confusion must arise.

It is not the duty of Her Majesty's government to attempt the task of deciding whether the act of the legislature has been in accord with the opinion of the electors.

Even a governor who was to some extent in touch with local opinion would be taking a serious step if in response to petitions such as have been addressed to me, and against the advice of his ministers, he refused to assent to a measure of local concern, which has been duly passed by the legislature, and if he failed to find other ministers prepared to assume responsibility for his action and able to secure the support of the legislature, his position would become untenable. It is not the duty of a governor who is bound to act on the part of a colony to take it upon himself to decide whether the act of the legislature has been in accord with the opinion of the electors.

Considerations which preclude me from advising Her Majesty to disallow the act apply equally to the alternative request that I should defer tendering advice to her majesty in regard to it until the people of the colony have had an opportunity of expressing their views on the matter. The act is already in force and the contract to which it gives effect has been in part already performed, and the continuing obligation of the contractor will not be suspended until Her Majesty's pleasure was finally declared. It remains in full force until the act is disallowed, and the contractor would be unjustly treated to the contrary, and would only add to the already heavy liabilities of the colony.

My action has throughout been governed solely by the constitutional principles on which I am bound to act, and I think it desirable that it should be made quite clear to the colony, in accepting the full responsibilities inseparable from the act of self-government, if the machinery provided for the work of legislation and administration has proved defective, or the persons to whom the trust is entrusted have failed to discharge their trust, they cannot look to Her Majesty's government to supplement the deficiencies, or to judge the merits of their acts, or to judge the merits of their duly chosen representatives.

"I have, etc." "CHAMBERLAIN."

THE TRANSVAAL TROUBLE

"Oom Paul" Tries to Smooth Matters - Appeal to the Queen.

London, Dec. 30. - The Johannesburg correspondent of the Daily Mail, who utters a warning against the optimist reports cabled to London in the Kruger interest, says: "I have interviewed the British consul, who says that the Saturday demonstration impressed him as based upon deep public feeling, while the deputations which presented the petition was of high character and standing."

"Signs are multiplying that the Transvaal sentiment has been roused to the point of asserting claims for justice. The ex-reformers are detested under pain of banishment from interfering in politics, but they declare that despite the existing situation, they will not keep silent much longer. The present temper of the community is such that opposing demonstrations will almost inevitably be followed by serious riots. I learn on high authority that during the negotiations at Pretoria regarding Saturday's demonstration the British agent carefully avoided any admission that the British government admitted to the public meetings act. He even suggested that Great Britain might test the legality of that measure under the London convention."

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CURZON LANDS IN INDIA

The New Viceroy Receives a Royal Welcome Upon Arrival at Bombay - The City Gaily Decorated.

The Corporation of the City Present an Address of Welcome Goes on to Calcutta to Morrow.

Bombay, Dec. 30. - Baron Curzon of Kedleston, the new viceroy of India, who arrived yesterday noon, was welcomed by Lady Curzon and their children, landed today.

The viceroy in port fired a salute. The city was decorated with flags and Lord Curzon was received by the heads of the military, naval, legal and civil departments.

An address of welcome was presented to the new viceroy by the corporation of Bombay. It was enclosed in a silver casket of Indian workmanship and expressed the keen and intense gratification experienced by all classes at his appointment.

Lord Curzon replied, thanking those present for the graceful welcome extended to him and his wife, who he added, came to India with sympathies as warm as his own, and who looked forward with earnest delight to a life of happy labor in their midst.

At the conclusion of the reception Lord and Lady Curzon were driven in an open landau to the Government House, escorted by the Bombay Light Horse. Immense crowds of people assembled in the native quarter. They were demonstrative, but evidently very well intentioned.

Lord Sandhurst, the governor of Bombay, and Lady Sandhurst received Lord and Lady Curzon on the steps of the Government House, and says that Lord and Lady Curzon will start for Calcutta to-morrow evening.

A BIG STEAMSHIP DEAL. Montreal, Dec. 30. - There is evidently something in the wind in regard to the Richelieu & Ontario S.S. Co. For weeks past the directors have been in conference with an American syndicate from Chicago and New York had its eyes on the big island steamship company, which is only since a few days that proposition have been made certain shareholders with a view to the extension, if not the complete absorption of the R. & O. by American capital. It is understood that the parties who are instrumental in this line of business are the Richelieu & Ontario S.S. Co. For weeks past the directors have been in conference with an American syndicate from Chicago and New York had its eyes on the big island steamship company, which is only since a few days that proposition have been made certain shareholders with a view to the extension, if not the complete absorption of the R. & O. by American capital.

NEWS OF VANCOUVER. Vancouver, Dec. 30. - On Christmas eve G. C. Place listened to the hard-luck story of a crippled man, Frank Harwood, who had been disabled by a fall from a tree in the woods near his home. He has been arrested in Seattle.

NOTED MURDERER JAILED. Burlington, Ia., Dec. 30. - The Hawk-eye says that the person in the Des Moines county jail is no other man than James C. Dunham, who murdered six people near San Jose, Cal., and for whom a reward of \$1,000 is offered. Dunham was released to-day and re-arrested on charge of being a fugitive from justice, and will be held pending instructions from San Jose.

THE LIVE STOCK MARKET. Montreal, Que., Dec. 30. - There has been no improvement in the foreign live stock markets since Monday. A private cable received from London yesterday reported the sales of Canadian cattle at \$12 per head, sheep at 28c, 60c, and lambs 25c each. A cable from Manchester reported sales of sheep at 30c, each, and a cable from Liverpool gave the sales of lambs at 28c, 60c. All above prices, shippers state, are below cost, and consequently some small losses are being made, and on the whole the trade in a very unsatisfactory state at present.

THE CORNISH MYSTERY. New York, Dec. 30. - There is hope that the silver-plated trinket received through the mails by Harry Comish may furnish a clue to the person guilty of the murder of the Cornish. It is not a bottle holder as supposed, but a toothpick holder. It was stated at the detective bureau that the trinket, where it was sold has been discovered. Beyond this the detectives refused to talk.

STEAMER GLENAVON WRECKED. Hongkong, Dec. 30. - The British steamer Glenavon, Capt. Ritchie, which sailed for London from here last evening, has been wrecked on a rock. Part of her crew have been saved and landed here. Capt. Ritchie, the first officer and second and fourth engineers, are reported to be on board. The steamer Glenavon hailed from Glasgow, and was 1,912 tons register.

THE TROUBLED PHILIPPINES

Advices From the Madrone Islands Received at Manila.

Manila, Dec. 30. - The British schooner "Emeralda," which has just arrived here from the Madrone Islands, reports that after the United States cruiser Charleston left the island of Guam in June last, the Spaniards refused to acknowledge the authority of Francis Portocarrero, who was verbally authorized by Captain General to continue his former regime as governor, and Jose Sieto, a former public administrator, was declared governor. He armed part of the native guard, collected a tax, and dollars a head, and secreted fifteen tons of powder and a small stock of ammunition, when the island was taken by the Americans.

The schooner also reports the massacre of the Spanish garrison on the combined native force of Panabo, Caroline Islands. Henry Naves, an ex-chieftain, has been elected as ruler. He is reported to be favorable to the Americans. The British cruiser Bonaventura has gone to Iloilo to protect British interests there.

The Spanish steamer Romulus, which has arrived here, reports insurgents at Iloilo are being whipped around by the Americans if they are satisfied with the form of government which will be accorded them.

TWO OBENT POSTAGE. Canada To Have The New Rate After January 1st.

Ottawa, Dec. 30. (Special). - The Canadian government have decided to give a two cent, instead of three cent domestic rate after January 1st. Capt. Bowie, who has been sailing on the Ottawa river for the past 35 years and is 64 years old, died here this morning. He has been ill for several weeks. The assistant sergeant-at-arms of the House of Commons is a son of deceased.

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RUSSIA AND THE CANAL

Evidently Beginning a Campaign Against the Nicaragua Project and Favoring the Panama Scheme.

Bitter Dislike for the United States - The Russian Press Openly Advocating the French Plan.

New York, Dec. 30. - A Paris dispatch says: The Herald's European edition contains the following: "Russia is evidently beginning a campaign against the Nicaraguan canal. The Novoye Vremya publishes articles not only warmly advocating the Panama scheme, but filled with bitter dislike of the United States. The writer says the predominance of the United States would have been desirable for Russia a few years ago, but all this has changed since the last war. The writer goes on to say that, having despoiled poor Spain, the United States has become a colonial power. Regarding the American doctrine, America for Americans, implies the other doctrine that American domination must be confined to America. The writer declares the Panama route to be more beneficial to Russia than the Nicaragua route. This latter canal, he adds, even supposing its completion possible, would be purely an American undertaking, whereas the Panama canal remains in the hands of our allies, the French, or it may become an international affair, with the addition of a strong American element in its shareholders."

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ROYAL BAKING POWDER

Absolutely Pure!

Made from pure grape cream of tartar.

PERSONATION AT ALBERNI.

The Conviction of Two Men at Alberni - How the Turkeys Fought the Election.

Alberni, Dec. 27. - The court-house here was crowded to-day, great interest being taken in the trial before J. P. S. Forrest and Justice of the Peace, of two men charged with personation at the recent by-election. On information laid by A. W. Neill, Frank Fraser and W. Cooper were charged with having at Alberni, on the 15th inst., applied for ballot papers, and having voted in the name of some other persons. Constable Cox discovered the fraud in the name in which he handled the case. Evidence was first given by Albert, who returned thence the following night. Mr. George Fraser, farmer, Alberni, who gave his evidence in a particularly straightforward and convincing manner, was declared to be the accused having voted at Alberni under false names, although one of them, Fraser, had meantime shown of two whiskeys and moustache. There was practically no defence offered, and the prisoners were found guilty and sentenced to one day's imprisonment and a fine of \$100 each. There is a general feeling that the sentence was a very light one, considering the gravity of the offence. Both men subsequently admitted their guilt and stated they were led astray by others, who assured them that no penalty attached to personation. If the votes cast by these two men and those of the four others known to have been personated at Alberni, were counted, Ward's votes at Alberni, their result would give Neill a majority there, as at the other polling stations, and increase his vote to a majority in the election.

Two questions are now agitating the politically-minded people of Alberni, which induced these men to personate; second, who supplied the votes?

IMPERSONATORS PUNISHED. No Truth in the Reported Second Resignation of Mr. Neill.

Provincial Constable Cox, of Alberni, arrived in this city at 10 o'clock last night, saying the Nanaimo Free Press having in charge two prisoners, Thomas Harrison, sentenced to three months imprisonment for having been convicted of having the liquor in his possession, who received a life sentence, and Frank Fraser, charged before Justices of the Peace J. S. Sutton and George Forest with impersonation on December 15th, and sentenced to 24 hours' imprisonment. Properly impressed by the fact that the carpenter of Alberni, who is now in the Old County, while Fraser impersonated J. S. Sutton, a blacksmith, of Clayoquot, who is now thought to be in Vancouver. It is thought there are other cases of impersonation, but they have not yet been detected.

It appears there is no truth in the Victoria report that Mr. Neill, the twice elected member for Alberni, has resigned, owing to going bail for a voter. Mr. Neill will come over on the mail stage on Monday, so it is not in the course of the opening of the provincial house on Thursday next.

The cause that has given rise to the report that Mr. Neill has resigned is as follows: On Thursday, December 8th, a man convicted before Justice of the Peace on a charge of being drunk and fined \$10. He asked for a few days' grace to pay the fine, which was granted, owing to going bail for a voter. Mr. Neill volunteered to go the man's bail for a few days, if it was necessary. However, no bail was required on Saturday, December 10th, the \$10 fine was paid by the man himself. The situation was held on December 11th, and resulted in the re-election of Mr. Neill. It is somewhat difficult to conceive that there should even be a suspicion of corrupt practices in the facts outlined above.

To all who had themselves with health gradually slipping away, kidneys and liver so disorganized that they are incapable of keeping the system free from poisonous waste material, Shonach's Disinfectant, Constipated, Head Aching, Back Pain, take Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills. The quick way they help you back to health will surprise you.

TWO POINTED QUESTIONS ANSWERED. What is the use of making a better article than your competitor if you can not get a better price for it? How can you get a better price for it? There is no difference in the so that while our profits may be smaller on a single sale they will be much greater in the aggregate.

How can you get the public to know your make is the best? If both articles are brought prominently before the public, both are certain to be tried and the public will very quickly pass judgment on them and use only the better one.

This explains the large sale of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. The people have been misled by cheap imitations, but it can always be depended upon. They may occasionally take up with some fashionable novelty put forth with exaggerated claims, but are certain to return to the one remedy that they know to be reliable, and for coughs, colds and croup there is no other equal to Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. For sale by Henderson Bros., wholesale agents, Victoria and Vancouver.

DOCTORS' TESTIMONY. There's strong testimony by eminent physicians of wonderful cures made by Dr. Chase's Family Remedies - particularly Dr. Chase's Catarrh Remedy.

28 BELOW ZERO. West Superior, Wis., Dec. 30. - The thermometer shows 28 degrees below zero. The mercury was 34 below during the night. This is the record this winter.

CHAMBERLAIN'S COLIC, CHOLERA AND DIARRHOEA REMEDY can always be depended upon and is pleasant and safe to take. Sold by Henderson Bros., wholesale agents, Victoria and Vancouver.