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WEATHER FORECAST.

MARITIME PROVINCES.
Strong Northwesterly Winds; Fair and Cold Today.
Temperature at 3 A. M. 14 Degrees Above Zero.

MR. SWEENEY TALKED MUCH BUT HE SAID VERY LITTLE

Opposition's Reply To Budget Speech Especially Weak
PITIFUL IGNORANCE

Ex-Surveyor General Caused Needless Worry by His Own Lack of Knowledge - A Lamentably Poor Showing.

Special to The Standard.
Frederickton, March 20.—The business of the House was considerably interfered with today by the fisheries sale, which took place in the Crown Land office, the result of which will be a considerable annual increase to the territorial revenue of the province during the next ten years.

A meeting of the accounts committee was held in the morning and the expenditures for education were considered, as well as those of the crown land department and two items in the latter department were held over for further consideration.

Mr. Robinson, who is a member of that committee, has not been in attendance this week and the responsibility of making the accounts has rested upon Mr. Tweeddale, who seems to be saving his strength until the public works expenditures are reached. It is upon this portion of the government's business that the opposition have determined to rest their case.

Practically the whole time of the session of the House was taken up by Mr. Sweeney, ex-Surveyor General, upon whom was placed the responsibility of making the budget speech of Mr. McLeod. The ridiculous statements made by Mr. Copp in December last, criticizing the receipts and expenditures of the province were a complete refutation of the figures presented by Mr. McLeod.

Mr. Sweeney cannot be said to have won much greater distinction than his leader in the method he pursued in dealing with so important a question. It would naturally have been expected that Mr. Sweeney, in the course of his remarks, would have given some explanation of his failure to point out the stumpage for lumber but on the stumpage during his term of office. Since the present government came into power the receipts from stumpage have more than doubled, notwithstanding that the quantity of lumber cut on the public domain.

ROOSEVELT IS FORTY DEAD FORMALLY OUT TO DEAT TAFT

The Strenuous Ex-President Starts His Campaign for Another Term in the Washington White House.

New York, March 20.—In the first speech of his campaign for the presidential nomination Col. Roosevelt tonight contrasted his position with that taken by President Taft. The real issue, he said, was whether the American people should govern themselves.

Col. Roosevelt's speech was delivered before a crowd which filled Carnegie Hall. So many persons wished to hear him that an overflow meeting was held in a smaller hall within the same building. The street in front of the hall contained a throng of persons who were unable to gain admission to either meeting. Col. Roosevelt was received with marked enthusiasm.

President Taft's recent speech at Toledo was referred to several times by Col. Roosevelt, who devoted a large part of his remarks to reply.

"Mr. Taft again and again, in quotations I have given and elsewhere through his speech," said Col. Roosevelt, "expresses his disbelief in the people when they vote at the polls." He asserted that the President's position was that "We have in this country a special class of person wiser than the people, who are above the people, who cannot be reached by the people, but who govern them and ought to govern them."

Col. Roosevelt said that this was "the old, old doctrine, which has been used to create a bulwark for special privileges."

"This doctrine is to me a dreadful doctrine," said the speaker, "for its effect is, and can only be, to make the courts the shield of privilege against popular rights."

AVIATOR INJURED IN AUTO ACCIDENT ON SLIPPERY ROAD

New York, March 20.—Frank C. Coffey, the aviator, and E. L. Harvey, secretary to the water commission of New York, were hurled from one of the east roadway of Central Park today, after it had skidded and crashed into a bridge.

Coffey was stunned and it was at first thought that his skull was fractured, but an examination showed that no bones were broken and he was not seriously hurt.

GERMAN SPIES ARRESTED.

London, Mar. 20.—Four alleged German spies were arrested today on the Isle of Wight. They were discovered within the precincts of St. Helens Fort on the west side of the island and opposite the Portsmouth naval harbor.

TRIAL OF SUGAR MAGNATES MAY BE GREATLY DELAYED

Sugar Trust Bought Up Many Refineries for the Sole Purpose Curtailing the Output.

New York, N. Y., Mar. 20.—The trial of John E. Parsons, Washington B. Thomas and other officials of the American Sugar Refining Company under the criminal clause of the Sherman law took a turn today that may prolong it for many months. This prospect came to view when District Attorney Wise began to put in evidence intended to show that for a long period the policy of the trust had been to purchase and close down rival sugar plants in order to monopolize the industry.

Forty Dead in Mine Believed to be Beyond Aid—Fearful Result of Explosion.

Fort Smith, Ark., Mar. 20.—Forty miners are known to have been killed as the result of an explosion in mine No. 2 of the San Bois Coal Company at McCurtain, Okla., 37 miles west of here today and hope that 47 more entombed in the mine are alive has been practically abandoned.

Thirteen of the miners escaped shortly after the explosion occurred. Several of these, however, are so badly injured that it is believed they will die. A systematic search of the wrecked mine began early tonight under the direction of government experts and up to 9 o'clock five bodies had been recovered and 35 others found. At that hour the rescuers had reached the 11th level but here their progress was retarded by a mass of coal, earth and twisted timbers.

The explosion occurred shortly after 9 o'clock this morning. According to an official statement from the officers of the Fort Smith and Western Railway Company, owners of the property, about 100 men were working in the mine at the time. Whether gas or coal dust caused the explosion has not been determined. Eight of the men who escaped alive were at work in the mine at the time and made their way to the surface through the passage used for the cars. The first party of volunteers to enter the mine at noon found five men badly injured in a wrecked shaft. Three of these probably will die.

After their first survey of the wrecked mine, government experts expressed the opinion tonight that all of the men imprisoned are dead and 75 coffins were ordered shipped to the grief-stricken mining camp. Mayor Bouldard of Fort Smith has issued an appeal for aid for the families of the victims.

A MOTHER AND HER CHILDREN TRY GAS ROUTE

Toronto, Mar. 20.—Mrs. Emily Orr, wife of James Orr, a cattle maker, put her three children to bed this afternoon at their home, 23 Sackville Place, and with a borrowed wrench unscrewed a cap from an unused gas pipe. She then injected with her hand a gas into the pipe, and shared their death by suffocation. The four bodies were discovered by the husband on his return from work. Mrs. Orr left a rambling and incoherent letter addressed to her mother, an elderly woman who lodged with the Orr family, its contents indicating that brooding over comparatively trifling grievances had unhinged her mind.

Mrs. Orr, who was 47 years of age and the children were a girl aged 8 years, a boy aged 6 and a girl aged 4.

BALFOUR TO AGAIN TAKE THE REINS?

Will Move Rejection of Minimum Wage Bill in Commons. DIFFICULTIES EXPECTED.

Little Doubt Bill Will Pass Its Second Reading As Labor Party and Nationalists Offer Support.

London, March 20.—The fate of the minimum wage bill seems to be trembling in the balance. A. J. Balfour will move the rejection of the bill in the House of Commons tomorrow. The dramatic re-appearance of Mr. Balfour in the roll of leader of the opposition comes as a great surprise, the decision being taken at a meeting of prominent unionists including Austin Chamberlain, Walter Hume Long and F. E. Smith, at which Andrew Bonar Law, who assumed the leadership on the retirement of Mr. Balfour last November, requested that the former leader undertake the duty of moving the bill's rejection.

Whether this development heralds the return of Mr. Balfour to the active leadership of the party remains to be seen. The unionists lately have been greatly elated at the growing difficulties the government has been encountering, due in part to the unpopularity of the insurance bill. The increasing labor troubles and the greatly increased public expenditure involved has been given in recent by-elections.

If, as some of the unionists assert, the government is riding for a fall, it may come over the mining wage bill, but there is little doubt that the government can carry the second reading of the bill as the labor party and their supporters have decided to give their support to that end. The difficulties will arise in the committee stage when laborites will move amendments with the object of having inserted the scheduled minimum rate as fixed by the miners' federation. It appears, however, that the federation only carried the resolution in favor of this procedure by a majority of 12 in 120 votes. Evidently, therefore, a large section of the committee stage will be a less than a committee stage and possibly more reasonable councils may prevail. A cabinet council will be held tomorrow to consider the full situation.

It is stated that the ministerialists still hold to the opinion that much of the opposition to the bill will disappear when it comes to actual discussion, and there is little doubt that the unionists in the country are miners that resume work. Will Thorne, the labor leader, tonight expresses the opinion that the coal owners are entering the trades union to deplete and drain the financial necessities will tend to shorten the duration of the strike. The probability now is that the parliamentary dispute will end, and that there will be no resumption of work until the bill is passed.

NEW BRUNSWICK WILL GET \$25,000 FOR AGRICULTURE

Province Will Benefit to This Extent by Operation of the Burrell Aid to Agriculture Bill.

Special to The Standard.
Ottawa, Mar. 20.—The first federal subsidy to the provinces under the Burrell aid to agriculture bill will, it is expected, reach the half million mark. The apportionment of this sum among the provinces on a basis of population will, it is believed, provide enough for a beginning and will prepare the way for a larger expenditure next year under a more clearly defined system. It is for the purpose of working out a scheme which will be a permanent basis for future federal help to agriculture in the several provinces that C. C. Jones enters the Dominion service.

The half million to be spent this year will give Ontario about \$170,000, Quebec \$130,000; Nova Scotia \$33,000, New Brunswick \$25,000, and the other provinces in proportion.

THE ROYAL EDWARD AT HALIFAX

Special to The Standard.
Halifax, March 20.—The steamer Royal Edward came in this evening from Bristol with the English mails and 1,925 passengers. Her reports are rough weather.

PREMIER PLEDGES HIMSELF TO NEW BRUNSWICK FARMERS

MONCTON TO GET NATURAL GAS FRANCHISE IN RAILWAY TOWN MAKES IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

Company Operating Gas, Light and Power Franchise in Railway Town Makes Important Announcement.

Moncton, Mar. 20.—Herbert Leaman, the star witness in the inquiry commenced last week by Commissioner Adair of Sussex, into charges of alleged theft against John W. Gaskin, foreman of the I. C. R. electrical department, again took the stand when the hearing was resumed today and gave further testimony along the line of that already published. Several other employees are implicated by Leaman's testimony and the inquiry is likely to take a wide range. Other witnesses examined today were W. E. Logan, assistant storekeeper of the railway, Edmund Hicks, Charles Cassidy and Philias Leblanc. They were examined as to the operations of the stores, the goods kept there, etc. It is understood many other witnesses have been summoned.

At a meeting of the Moncton Tramways Electricity and Gas Co., called by the new owners, the following directors were appointed: Robert Law, Jr., Pittsburg, president; E. H. Reeser, Pittsburg, vice president and general manager; Dr. J. A. L. Henderson, London, England, P. W. Sumner, O. P. Boggs, Moncton; Homer C. Stuart, Pittsburg, treasurer; R. O. Bartlett, Pittsburg, secretary; Harold N. Price of Moncton, has been appointed superintendent of tramways and electricity and A. S. Farmer, of Pittsburg, superintendent of natural gas. The new management announced that the gas will be turned on in the city on Friday next and they are making arrangements for having it carried to Hillsboro and also to Amherst. If a franchise is obtainable to that point, Dr. Carter, superintendent of education, addressed the school board tonight, urging the adoption of manual training and domestic science in the Moncton schools. A committee was appointed to look into the matter.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT SCORES PRACTICE OF DOCKING HORSES' TAILS

Ottawa, Mar. 20.—"I think the docking of horses' tails is a relic of barbarism. The dealers may not agree with me. The horses' tail better when they are docked. I think it is a shame to deprive this dumb animal of the tail which God has given it." This was the declaration of the Duke of Connaught at the annual meeting of the Ottawa Humane Society today.

His Royal Highness also spoke strongly against reckless driving and overloading which the Humane Society is fighting in this city.

"I hope there will grow up a strong sentiment against reckless driving and overloading," he continued.

AMENDMENTS TO MANITOBA BILL DEFEATED IN SENATE

Senator Daniel Introduced Into Red Chamber and Casts His First Votes Against Amendments.

Ottawa, March 20.—The Senate spent most of its session today discussing the school question, which has been brought up on the Manitoba boundary bill.

Senator John W. Daniel, of St. John was introduced by Hon. Mr. Loughheed and took his seat. He cast his first vote against the amendments to the Manitoba Boundary Bill.

The debate on the Manitoba bill was resumed by Senator Balfour. At present the people in the territory of Keewatin were under the jurisdiction, and were constituents of the Dominion Parliament, and transferring them to the jurisdiction of Manitoba, it was the duty of parliament to see that their rights were safeguarded.

WESTERN MINES WILL CLOSE AS OBJECT LESSON

Work Will Be Suspended for Two Weeks Pending Negotiations for New Wage Scale—What Miners Ask.

Cleveland, Ohio, Mar. 20.—All the mines in the bituminous coal fields of western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois will shut down on April 1, and 200,000 miners will quit work for at least two weeks, according to the operators and miners' union officials who conferred here today.

It will not be a strike, they say, but merely a suspension of operations for a two year wage scale to follow the present one which expires March 31. The conference of eight operators and eight union officials from each of the four states was convened by John H. White, president of the United Mine Workers of America, but after a brief session it adjourned until 2.30 o'clock, this because of the non-arrival of some of the delegates.

Mr. White announced the miners delegates had come to meet the operators on friendly terms but they intended to adhere to their demands. The miners' demands as presented today were: a ten cent increase for lump coal and the mining of all coal on a tonnage basis. Seven instead of eight hours a day. Five hours on Saturday instead of eight.

Pay every week, instead of every two weeks.

The operators headed by W. K. Fields, of Pittsburg; E. A. Cole, of Columbus, Ohio; P. H. Pema, of Terzahaut, Ind., and H. M. Taylor, of Chicago, representing about 7,500,000 tons informed Mr. White that the demand equalled a 20 per cent increase and was excessive. It was pointed out by both sides that a strike or even a prolonged suspension of business was not desired. But it was declared that, even if a satisfactory adjustment was reached, it would have to be submitted to a referendum vote of the union, or a convention of the union would have to be called, and pending this delay of not less than two weeks after April 1 business would have to stop.

CHATHAM SCHOOL TROUBLE SETTLED.

Chatham, March 20.—The trouble between the school board and Principal Merrick was amicably settled at a meeting of the school board this afternoon, and Mr. Thersereau will resume his classes in the morning.

THREAD MAGNATE DEAD.

Brookline, Mass., Mar. 20.—Orrin H. Merrick, assistant treasurer of the Merrick Thread Company of Holyoke, Mass., and a former director of the Home Market Club, died at his home here late today aged 55 years. He is survived by a widow and two sons.

A MORNING BLAZE ON ST. JAMES ST.

A fire that threatened to be serious was discovered shortly after three o'clock this morning in the new wood tenement house, numbers 46-50 St. James street, owned by A. E. Hamilton and occupied by Zacharias Larsen, John S. Malcolm and George H. Dean. The building is three stories in height.

The occupants were all asleep at the time and the fire was discovered through smoke in the bedrooms, the sleeping occupants awakening in a partially smothered state. All had difficulty in getting out of the building, making their escape by the cold outer air in their night clothing.

In one of the houses Mrs. Long was lying ill. She was taken out on a mattress. It is not known how the fire originated, but at the time of writing, just before the Standard went to press, it was expected that the whole block would be consumed.

WOODSTOCK MAN GETS PROMOTION IN C.P.R. SERVICE

Special to The Standard.
Woodstock, N. B., Mar. 20.—Andrew Williams, who came here as a train dispatcher of the C. P. R., some ten years ago, and has since been promoted several times, has again been promoted to be assistant superintendent of the C. P. R. at North Bay, Ontario, and left here this afternoon for his new home.

A presentation was made in the Carleton Hotel this afternoon which was attended by a large number of the friends of Mr. Williams. Mayor Ketchum presided, and read the address and presented the guest with an expensive gold watch and chain. Mr. Williams briefly replied. The employees of the C. P. R. in large numbers gathered in an adjoining room of the hotel and adjourned their address and address, presented Mr. Williams with a travelling bag to which a brief response was given by the recipient. Mr. Williams will be greatly pleased as a citizen, particularly as an active worker in the Conservative ranks and an all round sport, being one of the leaders in baseball here for some years, and a heavy contributor to the funds.

Frederickton, Mar. 20.—There was another large attendance at the session of the Farmers' and Dairymen's Association in the exhibition building this morning. The judging of the dairy cattle was the feature of the programme and it was no easy task for Prof. E. S. Archibald and Andrew Elliott to decide the prize winners. This exhibit was a splendid one and brought forth very favorable comment from those present. An informal discussion participated in by several members of the association took place at the close of the judging.

The afternoon session was held in the exhibition building at 2 o'clock when Prof. E. S. Archibald and Andrew Elliott gave instruction in the judging of beef cattle. Specimens of shorthorn grade cattle were exhibited and Prof. Archibald enumerated the points by which cattle are best judged and illustrated his remarks by means of animals in the ring, after which Mr. Elliott referred to possibilities for beef raising in New Brunswick. He had travelled extensively in the western states and Canada, but in no place had he found conditions better suited to the raising of beef cattle than in this province.

Certain business remaining unfinished from last night's proceedings, an evening session opened at 7.30, half an hour earlier than usual.

Anders Jensen, of Salmonhurst, vice president, occupied the chair and called A. W. Paveott, of Sackville to the platform to speak on the subject of co-operation. Mr. Paveott at some length deplored the prevalence of party politics, advocated public owned utilities, and the organization of the farmers to support all legislation in the interest of agriculturists.

Address by Premier Fleming.
Col. Campbell then took the chair and introduced Hon. J. K. Fleming, enjoining the premier for the interest he has always taken in agriculture.

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