

BRITISH PARLIAMENT OPENS; HISTORIC SESSION OUTLINED BY SPEECH FROM THRONE

Government To Bring In Measures Giving Home Rule to the Irish, Disestablishing the Church in Wales and Amending the Franchise Law.

NO REFERENCE TO GERMANY
OR TO LORD HALDANE'S VISIT

Royal Address Proves Colorless and a Disappointment to Large and Brilliant Assemblage—King and Queen Lustily Cheered in Street.

[Canadian Press.]

London, Feb. 14.—The second session of the second Parliament of King George's reign was opened today by King George in person, with all the time-honored picturesque ceremony which always marks such occasions. No speech from the throne has for many years been awaited with such absorbing public interest, and the King himself showed that he realized the momentousness of the occasion by the emphasis he laid on the more salient clauses of his address while he was speaking.

A COLORLESS SPEECH.

Blank disappointment, however, was easily read in the faces of his hearers over the colorlessness of the King's references to the historic legislation mapped out by the Government.

The speech was a short one. In referring to the measures to be brought before Parliament, the King said:

"A measure for the better government of Ireland will be submitted to you. A bill will be laid before you to terminate the establishment of the Church in Wales, and make provision for its temporalities."

"Proposals will be brought forward for the amendment of the law with respect to the franchise and the registration of electors."

This was all the King had to say about the three measures, which if they become law, will radically alter the constitution and history of the United Kingdom.

NO REFERENCE TO GERMANY.

The King in his speech made no mention of British relations with Germany, and did not allude in any way to Viscount Haldane's recent trip to Berlin, about which there has been so much speculation.

The most interesting reference to foreign affairs was the clause in his address relating to China, when he said:

"I trust that the crisis in China may soon be terminated satisfactorily by the establishment of a stable form of Government conforming with the views of the Chinese people. My Government will continue to observe an attitude of strict non-interference, while taking all the necessary steps to protect British life and property. I fully recognize that the leaders on both sides in China have shown every desire to safeguard the lives and interests of foreigners resident in that empire."

TRAVELLED IN STATE.

The King and Queen travelled in state to the House of Parliament at Westminster, the procession consisting of the old stage coach with eight cream ponies, in which King George and Queen Mary were seated, preceded by five state carriages conveying the officers of the household. An escort of cavalry brought up the rear.

READY TO MEDIATE.

The King remarked that the British Government was ready to associate itself with the other powers in mediation to bring and end to the war between Italy and Turkey, and was also striving, in conjunction with Russia, to enable Persia to re-establish order.

His majesty congratulated the international conference recently held at The Hague on the result of its labors to regulate the trade in opium.

THE LABOR UNREST.

He also briefly referred to the widespread labor unrest saying: "I firmly trust that a reasonable spirit will prevail on both sides in order to avoid a development which will seriously affect the trade of the country and the welfare of the people."

No intimation was given as to the magnitude of the coming naval estimates, and the suffragettes were not even mentioned.

LUSTY CHEERS.

Popular interest was demonstrated in the occasion by the masses of people who gathered along the route from the palace to the parliament buildings, which was lined by the regiments of the Foot Guards. The crowd cheered lustily as King George and Queen Mary passed.

IN THE LORDS.

There was a brilliant assemblage in the House of Lords, which presented a handsome picture, the black dresses of the women, necessitated by the court mourning, only serving to throw into greater relief the bright colored robes and uniforms of the peers, state dignitaries, members of the House of Commons, and naval and military officers, who crowded every foot of the historic chamber.

GAS FROM COAL STOVE OVERCAME THREE

Members of a Richmond Street Household Narrowly Escaped Asphyxiation.

Mrs. E. Anderson, 197 Richmond street, her daughter, and Miss Mary E. Spencer, had a narrow escape from asphyxiation this morning. They will be confined to the house for some days as a result of their experience.

When the family retired last night, the large coal stove was filled up, but nothing amiss was noticed. During the night Miss Anderson awakened in a suffocating condition. She got out of bed, but collapsed. Later she managed to make her way to a door, which she pushed open a little, allowing some fresh air to come in from the back portion of the house.

She was unable to move after this, but the fresh air coming into the room undoubtedly saved the lives of the three women.

This morning the neighbors, seeing no stir about the house, investigated and found them still stifled from the effects of the gas. The house was thrown open and a physician summoned. After considerable effort all three were revived. They are very ill from the effects of the poisoning, and it will be some days before they are able to move.

Western Fair Committee.
The printing committee of the Western Fair Board met this morning, and discussed advertising for the year. The prize list will be prepared at once, and the publicity campaign arranged for. Mr. Jeffrey Hale presided.



LATE THOS. W. JOHNSTON, Former Londoner, Who Died Suddenly in Boston, Mass.

England's Home Rule Parliament Meets Today.



THE TEMPERANCE DEPUTATION WAITS ON PARTY LEADERS

Ask To Abolish Bars, Drinking In Clubs and Treating System.

[Canadian Press.]

Toronto, Ont., Feb. 14.—The deputation appointed by the Dominion Alliance to interview the Premier and the leader of the Opposition, waited upon Sir James Whitney at twelve o'clock today, and asked Sir James and Messrs. Duff, Hanna, Beaume and Pyne, the other members of the cabinet present, to enact a measure for the abolition of the bar, the treating system and drinking in clubs.

Sir James asked Mr. Hanna to reply to the deputation, and he did, claiming that the report of the executive committee of the alliance, published yesterday, was unnecessarily harsh on his department, and that the present administration of the license law.

The deputation is now interviewing Mr. Rowell.

"The deputation then repaired to the rooms of the Opposition leader, Mr. Rowell, where, in addition to Mr. Rowell, several members of the Opposition, including Messrs. Mackay, Proudfoot, Bowman and Elliott, received them. They reiterated the demands they made upon the Premier and his cabinet, and Mr. Rowell, in reply, stated that all realized the importance of the movement to which the alliance devoted its energies. He and his colleagues recognized the evil of the liquor traffic. The question for the Legislature to decide was the form of legislation to be enacted. It must be a measure for the general well-being of humanity. This being so, they would scarcely expect an answer to such a grave question without allowing time for due consideration."

He called attention to the clause in the Liberal platform dealing with the subject, and said that, true to the promise he made at the Massey Hall meeting, he was, with his colleagues, now making investigation which would solve the problem in a manner satisfactory to the people of the province.

"Are you going to carry out the promise of Sir Oliver Mowat?" asked President Gibson.

Mr. Rowell replied that he would take the promise in question into consideration.

"When you reach a conclusion will you give us the benefit of it, and will you make an announcement regarding it any time in the next three or four years?" was the next query of Mr. Gibson.

"We expect to reach a conclusion before the present session of the House adjourns, and when we do the announcement will be made," was the reply. "You may rest assured that any policy adopted will be in the interests of the country, and not considered from a viewpoint of expediency."

"I hope it is true," said Mr. Justice R. M. Meredith, chancellor of the Western University, to The Advertiser. "However, I have heard nothing as yet."

Says Premier Has Decided.

A well-known citizen, who is in the councils of the Conservative party, stated that the Premier had decided to make the grant, and that the estimates to be brought down during the present session would contain the grant. He stated positively that the news was authentic, and that confirmation of it would be forthcoming within a short time.

It is said that there will be certain indications from the Legislature as to how the money is to be disposed. Ten thousand dollars is to be used for a certain purpose, and the remainder is to be devoted to another department of the work.

That the check was missing, the paper was made out on the Bank of Montreal by the department of militia and defence at Ottawa, and was payable to Capt. P. Anderson, of the Canadian Ordnance Corps here. Mr. Harrison had cashed a number of department checks for Lambert previously, and while he made an examination of the paper, owing to the unusually large amount, he accepted it, thinking that everything was regular.

Lambert had evidently forged the indorsement as Capt. Anderson's name was affixed.

The missing man is an Englishman, 23 years of age, and weighs about 120 pounds. He was recruited in Toronto and sent on to London about month ago. When last seen he wore his military uniform, and as far as is known he owned no plain clothes.

All the banks in the district were notified of the loss of the check today to forestall the thief, but he succeeded in obtaining the amount quietly from Mr. Harrison.

South London Liberal Club.
Meeting Will Be Held This Week on Thursday Night.

The South London Liberals will hold their weekly euchre and whist evening on Thursday night of this week, owing to the fact that Mr. Newton W. Rowell, the Liberal leader, will be here on Friday night at Hyman Hall. A cordial invitation is extended to all to be present.

YOUNG LONDONER DID NOT SUICIDE

More Particulars Learned of the Death of Thomas W. Johnston.

WORKED FOR HOBBS CO.

Gas Was Turned on by Mistake in a Boarding-House in Boston Where the Deceased Stayed.

Thomas W. Johnston, the young man found dead in his room in Boston on Tuesday morning with the gas turned on, did not commit suicide, as the dispatches state, but was the victim of an accident. The identity of the deceased was not learned until late Tuesday night, when he was discovered to be a young man who resided nearly all his life in London.

Mr. Geo. F. Logan, the undertaker, saw the item in the papers, and knowing a young fellow by that name, who formerly lived in the city, he at once began to make inquiries. The youth's aunt, Mrs. A. E. Hall, 40 York street, was communicated with, and in a short time a message came announcing the death of young Johnston in Boston. The relatives doubted that it was a case of suicide, and wired directly for particulars of his death.

The Facts.

"We received a message stating that Tom roomed in a large boarding-house," said Mr. Logan. "As is the case in many places, the gas is turned off at certain hours. The people in the house think that he fell asleep with the gas burning. At a certain hour it was turned off, and coming on later, suffocated him. I had an experience of a similar nature once myself, and can readily understand the explanation. There was no reason for suicide in the least. He was not hard up for funds. Last week he was sent \$50 interest on some money left him. The dispatch we received is emphatic in stating that he was not a suicide."

Born in London Township.

Thomas W. Johnston was born in London Township about twenty-two years ago. His parents died when he was quite young, and he was raised by his grandfather, the late William Hodgins, of Birt. At an early age he came to the London Collegiate Institute, where he took a decidedly good stand on all his examinations. He had qualified for a teacher before he was 18 years of age. He intended following that profession, but his age being against him he decided to enter business life.

He secured employment at the Hobbs Hardware Company, where he was given the position of customs clerk, and there his genial nature and ability made him many friends.

Left City Two Years Ago.

About two years ago he decided to leave London, and went to Boston where he had since resided.

His aunt, Mrs. Hall, resides at No. 40 York street, and his only sister, Miss Jean M. Johnston, is with her.

The family have many relatives in London Township. Mr. Hall, through Mr. George F. Logan, has asked the coroner at Boston to forward the body to London, and it will be received here tonight or tomorrow morning. The funeral arrangements have not yet been made.

A Presentation.

At a meeting of Court Brighton, A. O. F., Bro. R. Jupp, P. D. C. R., presented Bro. R. J. Howie with a P. C. R. jewel and certificate. Bro. Howie made a neat response.

MANY U. S. LABOR LEADERS PLACED UNDER ARREST TODAY

Warrants Served On Prominent Union Men In Chicago, New York, Detroit and Other Cities Following Finding of Alleged Dynamite Conspiracy Investigation at Indianapolis.

[Canadian Press.]

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 14.—Arrests in the dynamite conspiracy cases began today, and soon many of the fifty or more defendants scattered in various parts of the country were taken into custody.

Among the first arrested was Frank M. Ryan, president of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Ironworkers. He was taken in Indianapolis, where the ironworkers' international headquarters are located, and from which J. J. McNamara, the convicted dynamiter, was arrested last April.

Reports from many cities show the government's intention to arrest all the men at one time.

Agents Indicted.

Eleven business agents of the ironworkers, four or five officials and some members of the executive board, who are charged with knowing what McNamara did with money used to buy explosives, are among those indicted.

Spurgeon H. Meadows, business agent of the District Council of the International Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, was also arrested in Indianapolis. He represents one of the three labor unions alleged to be implicated in the conspiracy. The officials of the other union represented is E. E. Dowd, of the Machinists' Union, under arrest at Rochester, N. Y.

Frank C. Webb, a former member of the ironworkers' executive board, who was arrested in New York, figures prominently in Orrie McNamara's confession. Webb is charged with meeting McNamara, and showing him where to deposit "jobs" in Hoboken and Jersey City, N. J.

Before night it is expected a majority of fifty or more men indicted will be apprehended, and the government will reveal the facts, all the names involved, and the extent of a conspiracy which, it charges, has for six years been carried on by labor union officials and others against "open shop" contractors.

A Serious Charge.

Among the early arrests reported were those of Richard E. Houghan, of Chicago, who is charged with furthering the violation of the federal statutes in connection with explosions at South Chicago, and by assisting Orrie McNamara.

E. McNamara, the confessed dynamiter, E. E. Phillips, a former official of the Ironworkers' Union, was arrested at Syracuse, N. Y., and Edward Clark and Ernest Baise, also labor workers, were arrested at Cincinnati.

John T. Butler, Buffalo, first vice-president of the International Ironworkers, and Herbert S. Hockin, Detroit, second vice-president and acting secretary-treasurer, and Fred Sherman, local business agent, were arrested.



FRANK M. RYAN, President International Association of Bridge and Structural Ironworkers placed under arrest today in connection with dynamite conspiracy probe.

Arrested here after Ryan was taken Hockin succeeded J. J. McNamara now in San Quentin Prison in California, as secretary-treasurer.

Orrie McNamara, in his confession to the government, charged that Hockin was "the man who put him in the dynamiting business."

It is charged in the indictment that Hockin went to Detroit in June, 1907.

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MORE MONEY TO LIGHT STREETS

With Lights On Every Pole, the Cost to Citizens Will Be Greater.

\$67,000 IS THE ESTIMATE

But the Water Commissioners Would Blush to Present Such an Item to the City Council.

There will be a conference between the water commissioners and No. 3 committee tonight to discuss the question of a street lighting contract. This will cover the proposed extension to the present system, by which a light will be placed on every post.

General Manager Glaubitz will present figures showing the cost of the upkeep of the present system, with amount of power used, etc. There is no question but that the commissioners will ask more money than was paid for lighting the streets last year.

According to the figures submitted by Engineer Glaubitz, it will be necessary to use 600 horsepower to supply the light on every post, together with the ornamental system that will be constructed on Dundas and Richmond streets.

Whew! Listen to This!
If the same rate is preserved, the city will this year pay about \$67,000. That would wipe out the \$35,000 surplus handed to the present council by last year's aldermen. The up-keep will be proportionate to the horsepower used.

It is understood, however, that the water commissioners will not ask this large sum of money for lighting the streets. They claim that at \$30,000 a year under existing circumstances, the city did not receive a bad bargain at all, but they will not say that the council will have to pay up in the same proportion for extensions.

While the statement is not authoritative, The Advertiser was informed that \$45,000 would be the annual charge for the new scheme. Whether or not this will be satisfactory to the aldermen is not known, but it is thought that it will be.

THE WEATHER.
TOMORROW—MILD.
Forecasts.

Local snow flurries, but mostly fair today and on Thursday, with stationary or slightly higher temperature.

Temperatures.
The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours prior to 8 a.m. today:

Stations. High. Low. Weather.
LONDON 25 3 Clear.
Calgary 44 30 Cloudy.
Port Arthur 16 10 Cloudy.
Perry Sound 29 18 Cloudy.
Toronto 23 19 Cloudy.
Ottawa 14 6 Cloudy.
Montreal 15 2 Cloudy.
Quebec 16 4 Cloudy.
Rathfriland 22 4 Fair.

Minus (—) means below zero.

Weather Notes.
The high pressure area has now been transferred from the Great Lakes to the Middle Atlantic and New England States, while the pressure is still low in the Western Provinces.

The weather continues very mild in Alberta. Elsewhere it is moderately cold.