

MR. BARKER'S MOTION LOST.

Government Not Responsible for Bridge Disaster.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier Severely Criticizes Such Tactics.

Address in Reply Carried—Amendment Voted Down.

Ottawa, Dec. 11.—What the Prime Minister described as an unfair and unworthy attempt on the part of the Opposition to make political capital out of the Quebec bridge disaster marked the concluding part of the debate on the address, which, after the defeat of an amendment proposed by Mr. Barker, ensuring the Government for the manner in which the ill-fated undertaking had been carried on, suddenly collapsed this afternoon. The address was passed without further division, and to-morrow the House will go into Committee of Supply on the estimates. Mr. Fielding announced that the length of the debate had upset the plans of the Government. Consequently the budget will not be presented until after the Christmas holidays. In an interval it is understood that in addition to the estimates several Government measures, including the French treaty, will be discussed. The speaker of the House, Finance and the Prime Minister completely disposed of the efforts of the Opposition to fix responsibility for the Quebec bridge calamity on the Government, and emphasized the tendency which has been so marked this session on the part of the Opposition to disregard recognized Parliamentary practice. The Government majority on Mr. Barker's amendment was 46.

Mr. Claude Macdonnell introduced a bill to amend the Dominion elections act by adding a compulsory voting clause with a penalty of disfranchisement, providing for a public holiday on election day, and repealing the provision which requires a \$200 deposit by the candidates.

Toronto Harbor Entrance.

Dr. Pugsley informed Mr. Macdonnell that the Government had decided to construct the proposed western entrance to Toronto harbor, subject to Parliament granting the necessary appropriation. The time of construction would be three years.

Replying to Mr. Foster, Mr. Fielding said an appropriation of \$8,000 was made and paid by Parliament to provide for the expenses of the Prime Minister in connection with the Imperial Conference, and subsequently a further appropriation of \$16,000 to cover the expenses of other Ministers who attended the conference. Of that appropriation \$4,000 had been paid to Sir Frederick Borden and \$1,000 to Mr. Brodeur. Answering Mr. Martin (Queen's), Mr. Templeman said that was very plentiful in Canada, and all the deposits had not been discovered or estimated.

The Quebec Bridge.

Mr. Barker (Hamilton), who continued the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne, devoted himself to a discussion of matters connected with the Quebec bridge. The burden of his contention was that the Government should have assumed the work of building the bridge, the cost of which might be anywhere from six to eight million dollars, as a national undertaking. There were people on the bridge, according to report, who knew something was wrong, but the unfortunate workmen were not allowed to go on the structure. Neither the bridge company nor the Government apparently had expected an amendment to be introduced as to the collapse of the Quebec bridge. The speech from the throne omits any reference to the unfortunate and unbusinesslike conditions under which that great national work has been carried on.

Mr. Fielding's Reply.

Hon. W. S. Fielding, in a short, but admirably delivered address, took Mr. Barker to task for his method of procedure. The hon. gentleman had chosen not to follow the well-established Parliamentary practice, and had tried to make a case out of press reports and rumors. The only inference was that he feared that when the official papers were brought down he would find that no fault could be found with the course of the Government. (Government cheers.) Therefore, he hastened to raise the question. If he had desired to be fair and obtain full and complete information he would have put the question on the order paper in the regular way. The hon. member had tried to make capital out of the answer of the Prime Minister to a question asked by Mr. Borden as to the approval of plans by the Government, in which Sir Wilfrid Laurier had answered that he did not know, but presumed the law had been carried out.

Mr. Fielding then went into the history of the Quebec Bridge Company, formed to carry out the undertaking, showing it to be anything but a company of experts, which impression Mr. Barker seemingly was anxious to convey. It was composed of some of the most respectable citizens of Quebec, which city voted \$300,000 towards the cost of the enterprise. The Province of Quebec contributed \$250,000 and the Dominion Government agreed to give \$1,000,000. His impression was that not a voice had been raised in the House against the vote, of which \$400,000 was paid. The company found, however, as other companies had often done in other enterprises, that their obligations were larger than they could meet, and eventually came to the Government for further aid, and the Government granted it. Mr. Barker had given the guarantee given by the Government was the last thing that sensible men would do. "Well," said Mr. Fielding, "the records show that every man in the House voted for it." (Government cheers.) To Mr. Barker's contention that no engineer of standing would approve of the plan of the bridge, Mr. Fielding said that, so far as his knowledge went, nothing was ever done without the approval of the engineering head of the Railway Department, Mr. Schreiber. He was satisfied that when the report came in it would be shown that, so far as engineering was concerned, no step had been taken at any time without the consent of Mr. Schreiber.

Mr. Monk declared his approval of every part of the resolution and commendation of Mr. Barker's remarks. No doubt reports would be brought down, but he questioned if there would be anything in them not now known. Mr. Monk proceeded to assert that no money was

paid up in the capital stock of the bridge company.

Mr. Barker—I for one can say that I had paid up stock in that company. (Liberal cheers and cries of "Take it back.")

The Premier's View.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said it was to be regretted that the member for Jacques Cartier, who had admitted that he sometimes balked, had not balked on that occasion, rather than attempt to make some political capital out of a great national calamity. He ventured to assert that if that calamity had not taken place the motion of the hon. member for Hamilton would not be in the Speaker's hands. (Liberal cheers.) The gist of the motion was censure of the Government for having dealt with the Quebec Bridge Company rather than undertaken the building of the bridge themselves. If that was a wrong policy in 1903, then was the time to correct it. If it was a good policy then, it was a good policy now. The sessions of 1904, 1905 and 1906 had passed, and not a word of censure of the Government had been heard, and it was only now that the Government were censured, simply because there had been an unfortunate disaster. The bridge had been destroyed, and lives and money lost.

Mr. Monk—Because there was no supervision.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—These words are the strongest condemnation of the hon. gentleman's attitude. How does he know whether there was or was not supervision? (Liberal cheers.) At this moment there is a commission sitting which has been empowered to investigate the causes of the catastrophe and to find where the blame lies. It may have been the fault of construction or of something else, but the hon. gentleman has no information, and does not know what the facts are, and cannot know until the report is presented.

Sir Wilfrid expressed surprise that Mr. Monk had spoken of the Quebec Bridge Company as he had done, and attempted to cast a slur upon the men who were directors or question their motives. He ought to be aware that these directors were men whose lives were without reproach, some of the best men not only in Quebec, but in Canada. Mr. Parren, Mr. Sharples, Mr. Lemoine, Mr. Price and Mr. Audet were some of them. Conservatives, men whose business reputation and integrity were beyond reproach, who, it was impossible to believe, would be guilty of attempting to plunder the treasury in the summer of 1903. Such language was not tolerable in that House. (Liberal cheers.) Such language was not worthy of the hon. gentleman (Mr. Monk). It was beneath his dignity, and he should not have spoken as he did of men who, with all deference, were his equals in every possible respect. (Liberal cheers.)

"I must say," proceeded Sir Wilfrid, "that upon this occasion the hon. gentleman (Mr. Monk) spoke with a levity at which I was greatly surprised. The hon. gentleman stated that the motion of the member for Hamilton was justified because there had been lives lost through want of care and through negligence on the part of the Government. What warrant has the hon. gentleman to speak in that way? (Liberal cheers.) Mr. Monk—I based that allegation on the fact that the Government failed in the supervision of the work.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—Where is the evidence which leads the hon. gentleman to speak that way? Is not the hon. gentleman aware that the first thing done by the Government was to appoint a commission to investigate these very facts?

Mr. Monk—Afterwards.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—Of course, afterwards. How could it be before? (Liberal cheers.)

Mr. Borden—What supervision was there on the part of the Government? Sir Wilfrid Laurier said he believed there was ample supervision of the work. The Phoenix Company had two or three engineers on the spot, and the Bridge Company had Mr. Hoare. As to the approval of the plans, that was a matter which required special knowledge, and the Government had before them a report that the plans had been approved by Mr. Cooper, who was a man of recognized ability and authority.

Mr. Haggart—Were the plans drawn out by Mr. Cooper? Sir Wilfrid said his information was that they were not drawn up by Mr. Cooper, but were submitted to him for confirmation and approval.

Mr. Monk—Was Mr. Cooper acting for the Government?

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—Of course, afterwards, acting for all parties, certainly for the Phoenix Company and the Quebec Bridge Company.

Concluding, Sir Wilfrid declared that nothing could be more unfair or unjust than the attempt to cast a slur on the Government, when neither of the hon. gentlemen nor anybody else knew the facts of the case. (Liberal cheers.) The House divided on Mr. Barker's amendment, which was defeated by 96 to 50.

SECRETARY ARRESTED.

Sensation Caused Among the Mechanical Engineers of Montreal.

Montreal, Dec. 11.—A sensation has been created in mechanical engineering circles in Montreal by the arrest of one of the secretaries of the Amalgamated Society, Thomas Unsworth, who for some considerable time has acted in the capacity of secretary of No. 2 branch of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers. He had charge of the books dealing with the contributions of members, and was arrested at the instance of the society on the assumption that he had been stealing certain of the funds.

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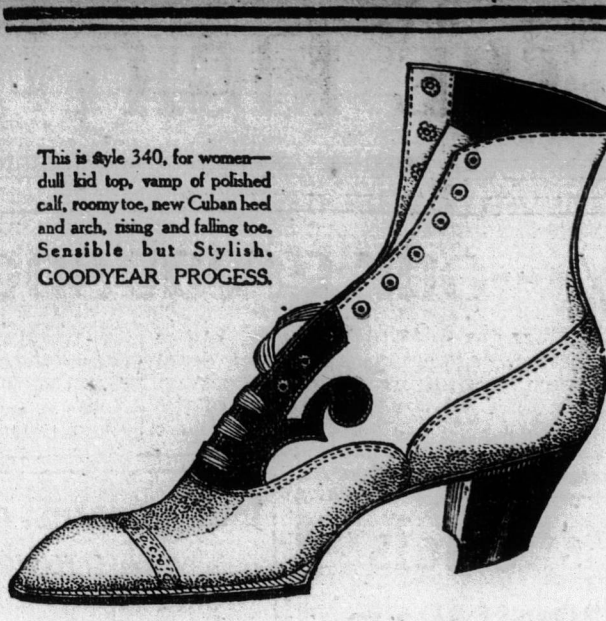
Lord Curzon's View of the Coming Imperialism.

London, Dec. 11.—Lord Curzon, speaking on true imperialism at Birmingham to-night, said he looked forward to the time when the Sovereign would visit all his dominions personally, and hold court in Calcutta or Quebec. The capital would never leave London, but there would be no stationary obligation on the crown.

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Jean Keiskidde was fined \$200 at Montreal manufacturing borino, an imitation of butter.



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Lastly but mostly, the reputation of the Slater Shoe is far more valuable than any Metropolitan shoe shop. Fifty years and hundreds of thousands of dollars have built it. It is now valued at \$500,000.00. Just one year of "one year old" styles would ruin it.

Any Slater Shoe store wherever located is just as style safe as any leading Metropolitan shop. Everywhere in Canada at \$4.00 and \$5.00 for women and \$4.00 and \$5.00 for men—\$1.00 less than the best American makes and precisely the same shoe.

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YORK LOAN.

SESSION OF LIQUIDATION DEALT WITH N. S. CLAIMS.

Counsel for Class Two Claimants Argues That Company Carried on Regular Business in Maritime Province in Violation of Law.

Toronto, Dec. 12. The claims of Nova Scotia investors in the York Loan came before yesterday afternoon. Mr. George Kappele, yesterday afternoon. This was the first hearing on class two claims since the return of the commission from Halifax.

Mr. C. A. Masten, for the Nova Scotia claimants, examined Mr. Stuart Lynn, formerly Secretary-Treasurer of the York Loan, as to what constituted "doing business." This was for argument on the point raised by Mr. W. M. Douglas, counsel for the general body of shareholders, that the York Loan did not "carry on business" in Nova Scotia. Mr. Douglas holds that in taking subscriptions the agents of the company were not transacting the real "business" of the head office, and that being so, the company was not violating the laws of the Province. Mr. Masten seeks to establish the contrary to this, and in so doing holds that if the laws of Nova Scotia were broken those of the Province who invested in the concern were not legally shareholders, but were creditors of the York Loan, and as such now have priority of claim over the regular shareholders.

Mr. Masten examined Mr. Lynn as to what business was done in Ontario. The witness said that up to a certain time the company merely collected subscriptions and loaned money to shareholders on their stock. None but holders of stock were loaned money up to 1904, when the York Loan engaged in the promotion of subsidiary companies. It was elicited from Mr. Lynn that practically this same business had been carried on in Nova Scotia, that is, subscriptions were collected through the Halifax agent and loans to shareholders were made.

The putting in of evidence was completed and argument will go on as soon as possible after the evidence of the commission is prepared, and judgment in a case bearing upon the present one, pending before the Supreme Court at Ottawa, comes out. This judgment is on the case of the C. P. E. against the Ottawa Fire Insurance Company and is expected to be out soon. The constitutional point involved in it is common to all claims outside of Ontario.

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SON-IN-LAW CASE.

PECULIAR EVIDENCE IN A TRIAL AT MONTREAL.

Albert Parthenais, Accused of False Pretences, Claims That Mrs. Parquette Gave Him Money to Marry Her Daughter, But He Gave It Back.

Montreal, Dec. 11.—"I never saw a woman so apparently anxious to have her daughter married. Why don't you let your daughter do the love-making herself?" So said Judge Choquette to-day to Clara Garceau, wife of Joseph Paquette, of Pointe Claire, who had charged Albert Parthenais of this city with obtaining \$360 from her by false pretences.

The complainant stated that the accused had promised to marry her daughter, and had told her with tears that he had no money, and asked her for \$300.

NEW LOCOMOTIVES.

The Grand Trunk Places Orders for 100 Engines.

Toronto, Dec. 12. The Grand Trunk management has just placed orders for one hundred new locomotives, which represent an expenditure of nearly \$2,000,000.

These locomotives will be built during the winter, spring and summer—the last delivered by August next—in time to take their place in the road's equipment for the movement of next season's crop. The fact that no less than seventy out of the one hundred engines are to be built in Canada is likely to give satisfaction to all who are interested in the development of local industries.

No Ability To Digest Food

The digestive system is a wonderful piece of machinery, but power is necessary to make it effective. In this case the power is the nerve force contained in the body, and if the nerve force is lacking the digestive system becomes crippled and there is suffering from indigestion, nervous headaches, neuralgia, pains, dizzy spells, weakness and discouragement.

Strength cannot be regained from the food you eat so long as digestion is imperfect, but you can be restored by Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, which contains in condensed pill form the very elements of nature which go to form new nerve force.

Overwork, worry, anxiety and excessive mental effort exhaust the nervous system at a tremendous rate, and repair must be made before some dreadful form of nervous disease sets in. Dr. Chase's Nerve Food invigorates the nerves which control the digestive fluids, sharpens the appetite, is slightly laxative, so as to encourage the action of the bowels, and strengthens every organ of the body. 50 cents a box, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

WANT THEIR OWN PRIEST.

There is Trouble in St. Patrick's Church, Montreal.

Montreal, Dec. 11.—Trouble is brewing in St. Patrick's Catholic Church in this city. Some few days ago Father Callaghan, the parish priest, resigned, or was requested to resign, by Archbishop Bruchési. This has worried the people of the parish, and a large number gathered to-night to protest against the action of the Archbishop and to request that Father Callaghan be allowed to remain. Between fear of offending the Archbishop, and their desire to retain their parish priest, the meeting proved a quiet one for a gathering of indignant Irishmen. Finally a petition was drafted, and sent to Archbishop Bruchési, asking him to allow Father Callaghan to remain in St. Patrick's parish as parish priest.

NOT ORATORY, BUT BUSINESS.

CHARACTERIZED THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THIS YEAR.

December Session Concluded Yesterday, and the Council Separate for the Year—Overdraft of About \$10,000.

Westworth County Councilors have paid their last visit, as such, to the city for this year, having completed the year's work last evening, after a businesslike session. The Councilors have a record that they may well be proud of for this year, having conducted their business with a quietness and despatch that must have been more than pleasing to the people of the county, and who elect these men.

It cannot be said that the Council indulged in the wonderful flights of oratory that prevailed during 1906, but their work stands out in bold relief in comparison with that accomplished the year before. Council fees have been greatly reduced, as is shown by the fact that the present Council has had very few working days. There may be an overdraft of \$10,000 for this year, but the present Council started the year with an overdraft of \$9,000. Warden Vankieck deserves a lot of praise for the manner in which he looked after the county's interests, and most of the Councilors come in for a share in the words of commendation.

At the session yesterday afternoon a resolution of thanks was passed to the Warden, the County Clerk, the Treasurer, Superintendent Taylor, Geo. Henderson, the caretaker, and Engineer Broadbent, for their efficient services to the county. All the Councilors spoke in eulogistic terms of the good work done by the Warden. Councilors Emery and Davis moved a vote of thanks to the press for its honest and fair reports of the meetings of the Council during the year. The Superintendent was authorized to place to the credit of each road enough money to enable him to make a balance for the year's work. The Warden, Councillor Ptolemy, as the Chairman of Finance, and Councillor Gage, as the Chairman of the Roads and Bridges Committee, were instructed to guard the county's interests in the damage actions of Messrs. Egan and O'Dowd.

This closed the business for the year, and the Councilors said good-bye to each other.

LIGHT BREAD.

SEVERAL BAKERS PLEADED GUILTY IN COURT YESTERDAY.

Magistrate Kingsford Makes Strong Comment in Passing Sentence—Shortage in Most Cases Was Great—More Summonses to be Issued.

Toronto, Dec. 12.—"This is a very serious matter. Bread is the staff of life, and these cases affect the poor people of our city even more than they do the rich," said Magistrate Kingsford in sentencing the bakers for selling light weight bread, yesterday.

The evidence which was adduced by Inspector Wilson of the Medical Officer's department showed that in some cases the shortage in weight was very great, and heavy fines were imposed in several cases.

In one case a 1 1/2 lb. loaf was 5 1/2 ozs. short, and three two pound loaves from the same baker only weighed five pounds—a clear shortage of one pound in six. Seventeen small loaves seized in another place aggregated a shortage of 26 1/2 ozs., and another 1 1/2 lb. loaf supplied by the same firm was 5 ozs. short, and six others were 2 ozs. short.

Magistrate Kingsford remarked that in several instances it appeared as if the baker were making his whole batch to a uniform lightness, and in the case of Lewis Markowitz, who supplies several stores in the ward, told him that he was robbing the poorest people.

The bakers blame the ovens and their dividing machines for the trouble. They say that the automatic divider is set to permit enough dough to enter the tins to allow of 2 ozs. for shrinkage in weight during baking.

The Health Department will summon other bakers for selling short weight bread. Inspector Wilson having made a seizure of thirty-eight loaves on Monday which totalled 245 ozs. short, a shortage of nearly 16 lbs. in the thirty-eight loaves.

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