

CLEAN MAJORITY FOR LIBERALS IN FIRST DIVISION

Austen Chamberlain's Fiscal Amendment Voted Down by Majority of 31 in British House.

Nationalists Abstain from Voting Unwilling to Commit Themselves to Tariff Reform Policy.

London, Feb. 24.—The first trial of strength in the new Parliament occurred at a crowded session of the House of Commons, when Austen Chamberlain's fiscal amendment was rejected by a vote of 285 to 254. Speeches were made by Arthur J. Balfour, leader of the Opposition; Chancellor Lloyd George, Walter Runciman, president of the board of education; A. Bonar Law and others, none of which, however, gave any new aspect to the fiscal controversy.

Although victorious only by the narrow margin of 31, the Government may regard the result as very satisfactory, inasmuch as there was no cross-voting and no evidence of any entente on the part of the disaffected groups to overthrow the ministry.

All the Nationalists, the O'Brienites as well as the Redmondites, abstained from voting. The Tories voted with the Government, and three Liberals, H. H. Bell, Horatio W. Bottomley and J. C. Wedgwood, abstained.

Great Excitement.

Division was taken amidst a scene of great excitement and the figures as announced were received with tremendous opposition cheering. The Premier having given notice that he would move on Monday that Government business take precedence over all other business until March 24, the House adjourned.

The Government's existence now will depend upon the production of a plan satisfactory to the Nationalists and the Radicals for dealing in a drastic manner with the House of Lords' power of veto.

Freeman's Journal, of Dublin, tomorrow morning will say: "It cannot be stated with too much emphasis that the Irish party has not budged a hair breadth from the policy which John Reddyne has laid down. The Irish party will speedily produce a veto scheme and press it to an issue. The Irish party will enter upon a policy of vigorous opposition to the Government, with the result that the ministry either will be defeated in a few days or will be contented to take a contemptible assistance by the aid of Balfour's supporters."

Freeman's Journal further explains that it was not out of consideration for the Government that the Nationalists abstained from voting, but because they did not desire to commit themselves to a tariff reform policy or to take a step which would divert the issue of the next elections from the House of Lords to tariff reform.

OPENING OF NOVA SCOTIA LEGISLATURE

Halifax, Feb. 24.—The local Legislature opened this afternoon, the usual salute heralding the fact to the people. It was a splendidly fine afternoon and the streets in the neighborhood of the provincial buildings were thronged. The R. C. R. band and the band of the First Canadian Artillery were heard.

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The address in reply was moved by Mr. M. McGregor, of Pictou, and was seconded by J. H. Livingston, of Cumberland. J. M. Baillie, M. L. A., of Pictou is the new leader of the Opposition in place of the late W. B. Williams.

LABEL CASE BEFORE JURY

Evidence is Now All In in Macdonald Case at Toronto— Hon. Geo. E. Foster On the Stand.

The Cross-examination Waxes Warm at Times but Mr. Foster Emerges Scathless —Courtesies Are Exchanged

Toronto, Feb. 24.—The cross-examination of Hon. Geo. E. Foster, in his libel action against Rev. J. A. Macdonald was concluded shortly after six o'clock tonight and the case will be given to the jury some time tomorrow evening. The giving of evidence has now been completed and Mr. Johnston will address the jury tomorrow morning. He will be followed by Mr. Helmuth and Mr. Justice MacCree will then charge the jury.

The proceedings today were listened to with interest by a crowded court, there always being a waiting list outside ready to occupy vacant seats. Little new matter was brought out during the day, as the questions were based entirely on the transactions that have been detailed from day to day, thrown on them, Counsel for the defense by a skillful handling of words and no new light of importance was shed in his endeavor to throw an interpretation on the language of the documents in the case different from that held by the plaintiff, but Mr. Foster was perfectly cool and collected, and met every effort to draw him into a web of words as he has done in his opponent's. His presentation of his view of the case was admirable, and the jurors took a more pronounced interest in the argument than in any stage of the hearing. The exchange between counsel and witness at times became a trifle warm, but Mr. Foster met with smiling approval his opponent's assurance that of course nothing personal was intended by his questioning, and the conclusion of the day's proceedings was an interchange of truly Chesterfieldian bows.

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DRIVING ON THE ST. CROIX RIVER

Considerable Evidence Adduced Yesterday Concerning Lumbering on Border River.

Calais, Feb. 24.—This morning's session of the St. John River Commission was occupied in taking the evidence of Prof. Harold S. Boardman, of the University of Maine, who spent two months on the river in the summer of 1907 making the survey of the storage of water available for use on the east branch of the Penobscot. Describing his work in detail, he gave the relative height of the dams on Chamberlain Lake and the other lakes and streams in the region, and the surface areas of the lakes, and in the methods used in driving logs on the St. Croix River and the amount of water conserved in that region, was given by Irving H. Todd, manager of the Eastern Lumber Company of Calais. It is to a few years ago, Manager Todd told the commission all the logs on the St. Croix River were headed by the St. Croix Log Driving Company, a mutual association of mill owners, who controlled nearly all the timberlands used. Recently, a contract for doing this work was made with the St. Croix Paper Company, which sorts the logs at Woodland, sends them down to the baring beach, and thence by raft to Hilltown, where the saw-mills are.

Water, he said, is conserved in Grand, Spednic and other lakes by means of dams and in ordinary seasons, little trouble is experienced in driving operations.

William A. Murchie, of the James Murchie Sons Company of Calais, corroborated the testimony given by Mr. Todd and added that the cost of driving on the St. Croix river is about 50 cents per thousand. After hearing Professor H. L. Boardman, of Orono, in executive session, the commission adjourned.

The commission will next sit in Bangor, about two weeks hence. Engineers will be called to estimate the probable cost of surveys to determine what volume of water may be conserved in the St. John River for the lumbermen.

FORESTRY MEETING ASSEMBLED IN THIS CITY

Greatest Forestry Meeting in Annals of Continent Brought to a Close at Fredericton Yesterday—Three Sessions Mark Final Day of Convention, All of Which Were Well Attended and all Productive of Excellent Results—Interesting and Instructive Papers Read.

Resolution With Respect to Exportation of Pulpwood Passed After General Debate—Delegates Satisfied That Better Forest Protection is Urgently Required—Proceedings of the Morning, Afternoon and Evening Sessions in Detail—Mr. Snowball Interviewed.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, Feb. 24.—The greatest in the history of Forestry on this continent was the verdict of Senator Edwards, Secretary Lyster, and the American delegates, upon the convention which ended here today. Although a certain amount of tension had been given to the proceedings by the apparent determination of Mr. Snowball and others to introduce a resolution and force a vote upon the question of the exportation of pulpwood, the resolution as finally presented was of so non-committal a character that it was adopted with scarcely a dissenting voice, even Mr. Oak reserving that it was so indefinite as to afford little opportunity for discussion. Apart from the discussions on this question during the first day's session, the proceedings were characterized by great unanimity. All the delegates and representatives of the New Brunswick lumber and pulp interests were obviously satisfied that there was great need of better forest protection, and the discussions were to a great extent confined to expressions of opinion upon the best methods of fulfilling this purpose.

Afternoon Session.

At the opening of the afternoon meeting the delegates resumed the discussion of Prof. E. J. Zavitz's paper upon reforestation. Mr. A. Knechtel, Inspector of Dominion Forest Reserves gave some facts and figures in regard to reforestation in certain districts where his interest had been enlisted. The land cost about \$3 per acre. The cost of planting trees was about \$12 an acre, but the cost of the growing forests from fires in certain districts where his interest had been enlisted. The land cost about \$3 per acre. The cost of planting trees was about \$12 an acre, but the cost of the growing forests from fires in certain districts where his interest had been enlisted.

Mr. Irving Williams, said that efforts at reforestation by seed planting in Pennsylvania had frequently given 55 per cent of the trees planted, and he referred to already cut lumber 1000 feet on the stump, it might be left to imagination what the forest would be worth 80 years hence. Mr. Irving Williams, said that efforts at reforestation by seed planting in Pennsylvania had frequently given 55 per cent of the trees planted, and he referred to already cut lumber 1000 feet on the stump, it might be left to imagination what the forest would be worth 80 years hence.

Mr. Knechtel remarked that the Dominion department has had several experiments along that line. On several occasions the seed sprinkled in the snow had fruited; on others there had been no result.

Mr. E. T. Carbonell, P. E. I., read a paper on the relation of forestry to game preservation, which provoked some discussion.

Forestry and Fish.

Forestry and Game Protection, Mr. Carbonell held, were twin sisters working to increase the attractiveness of the country and to preserve the health and vigor of the people of Canada. The great benefit of a day filled with rod and gun to a tired brain worker was generally acknowledged. There had been a steady decrease in the fish and game of Prince Edward Island due to the reckless destruction of trees. Partridges, snipe and woodcock all required the shelter of forests. In old days when fish and game were plentiful the streams were protected at their sources and shaded along their banks by trees. Now that these had been swept away both the fish and the feathered game were lacking while the streams themselves had been dried up or lessened and all this without giving the farmer one foot of additional arable land. If this were continued there would soon be no game birds left except migrating sea fowl. He suggested that in all future grants of land the Government retain a strip of forest on each side of the stream to be maintained perpetually in trees. This would provide game covers and improve the fishing. Where possible these strips on arable land should be replanted with trees. There should be great care of the insectivorous birds when were nature's foresters, preventing the ravages of insects on trees.

Mr. Connelly, in the discussion of Mr. Berry's paper, Mr. Robert Connelly said that the idea of lowering the standard of fire fixed by the government regarding logs was hardly consistent with the preservation of our natural resources. His firm was the only one in the province that conformed with the regulations.

The chairman called the delegate to order. The relations of any particular firm with the government was not under discussion.

Senator Edwards said Quebec had the best regulations, but they were not enforced. The colonization policy of the government was not wise. Settlements had been made for the purpose of taking off timber.

Mr. H. B. Snowball said the parties responsible for the organization of such settlements were operating in New Brunswick. Church and school settlements were being formed to carry on lumber operations without paying royalty to the government.

Mr. Buckley of Quebec asked if any reference was intended to the Trap Fathers, who had established settlements in various parts of the country. He said the Trapfather settlements were an object lesson to the farmers everywhere.

Not Trapping. Both Senator Edwards and Mr. Snowball admitted that these institutions were doing great good. The parties referred to were not connected with this religious organization; they were masquerading under the guise of religion and securing concessions of timber limits under false pretences.

The convention then adopted resolutions of thanks to the Lieutenant Governor, Premier Hazen, the Government and members of the Legislature, the Mayor and citizens of Fredericton. In replying, the Governor said that it had been a great trial to him that he had not been able to take part in the proceedings of the convention had convinced the people of the great importance of the forests, and how intimately connected with their welfare. The interest thus awakened would undoubtedly be productive of good results.

Mr. Snowball, in the following resolutions were then passed unanimously:—"That the Dominion Government should conserve for the benefit of the people of Canada, all water powers of Canada, especially those bordering on the neighboring Republic."

"That the Government should take measures to establish a forest reserve on the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains."

"That the Government compel railway to take greater precautions to prevent fires, and carry fire-fighters free, and that the I. C. R. be placed on the same footing as private roads."

Mr. Snowball then introduced the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of this convention the time has arrived when in the interests of the conservation of our forests the local government should limit the cutting of pulpwood on our Crown lands."

Mr. Snowball said that, as a first step, the government should secure more reliable information as to the nature, extent, and rate of growth of our forests. According to his information the exportation of forest products from New Brunswick was 60 per cent greater than the rate of growth; in 40 or 50 years the province would, if we acted as we are going, be without forests of merchantable value. The sooner, therefore, we took measures to assure that our trees reached maturity and so yielded their maximum value, the better for all concerned.

Mr. Connelly and several other delegates suggested that the words "pulpwood" be changed to "small growth" and that the resolution call upon the Federal as well as the Provincial Government to take action.

Mr. Oak said delegates did not have sufficient information to warrant such a resolution. What was small growth? The annual growth of forests in this province was about 315,000,000 feet. We could cut 60,000,000 more feet than we have every year without any depletion. More danger was done by cutting bigger lumber than taking out the trees suitable for pulp. The resolution as amended was then voted upon, and carried.

The Surveyor General then took the floor and said New Brunswick in the future had to depend largely upon its forests. But laws and regulations would not protect the forests unless the people could be convinced of the value of the forests to them. The work of the convention here would have great effect in arousing public opinion. A gratifying feature was that the convention in Fredericton was attracting greater attention than former conventions in the great Province of Ontario.

The little Kingdom of Prussia gets \$25,000,000 a year. Sweden gets \$3 an acre. New Brunswick has only 100,000 acres. Sweden gets \$3 an acre. New Brunswick has only 100,000 acres. Sweden gets \$3 an acre. New Brunswick has only 100,000 acres.

Personally he owed a great debt of gratitude to the convention. Its influence upon the public mind would greatly aid him in the work he was trying to do for the province. In time, the people would doubtless come to realize how much they were indebted to forestry association, its officers and delegates. He thought that probably they had been entertaining an unwise idea.

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MORE LIGHT SHED ON RICHIBUCTO WHARF SCANDAL

LIBERALS ARE REFRACTORY

Western Members Urge Premier to End Debate on Naval Defence or Withdraw Impassable Bill.

LEAN STRONGLY TO OPPOSITION POLICY

Mr. Borden's Platform They Freely Admit Appeals More Strongly to Their Constituents—Yesterday at Ottawa

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 24.—If the naval bill is not withdrawn and held over until next session, it will not be the fault of a couple of western Liberal members who are tonight circulating for signature a petition to Sir Wilfrid Laurier to do one of two things, either bring this naval debate to a sudden conclusion so that they can get to their homes by Easter, or withdraw the bill.

It is impossible of course, under the present conditions to limit this important debate and at the present rate the House cannot raise before June, even although future Wednesday evenings will now be requisitioned for the work of the Commons. Therefore the petition narrows itself down to a request for withdrawal of the bill.

Western Liberals in common with western Ontario Liberals are not enamored of the bill and would gladly see it dead. Mr. Borden's platform they admit freely, appeals more to their constituents.

Senators in Lively Tilt Over Bill to Regulate Transportation of Intoxicants—Debate Adjourned for Week.

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 24.—Senator Cloran today resumed the senate debate on the bill of Sir Richard Scott to regulate the transportation of liquor and on Senator Domville's amendment for a six months' hold. The bill Senator Cloran declared violated provincial rights and invaded individual liberty. He held that the bill was a restriction of trade and commerce.

Senator Yeo defended Prince Edward Island and the people of that province from an attack on their sobriety which Senator Cloran had made. While the prohibition act did not absolutely keep liquor out of that province, it was on the whole, effective.

Senator Baird said that restriction laws had greatly reduced the amount of drinking in Prince Edward Island, in the state of Maine and in the province of New Brunswick. The Scott act had worked well in New Brunswick. In one county where in years past the highways had been lined with taverns, today there was not a drop of liquor to be had. Senator Baird predicted that prohibition legislation would spread from the east until it covered the whole of Canada. Senator Robertson of Prince Edward Island testified to the sobriety of the people of that province and to the effectiveness of the provincial temperance act. He stated that the people of Prince Edward Island wanted the enactment of Sir Richard Scott's bill. There was no foundation for Senator McSweeney's statement that more and worse whiskey could be obtained in Prince Edward Island than anywhere else in Canada.

Senator Poirier said there was more drinking in his own little town under the Scott act than could possibly be ever had without it. He thought that the present bill might encourage drinking as it forbade the transportation of it for sale in an authorized place but did allow five gallons to be taken to every home in a prohibition district for consumption. This would in his opinion lead to disastrous consequences. He was a temperance man but as such could not favor that bill.

Senator G. W. Ross supported the bill. The people of Prince Edward Island wanted this legislation and they should have it. To give the government an opportunity of considering the application of the Prince Edward Island legislature for this legislation he moved the adjournment of the debate for a week. This motion was adopted.

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Mr. Andrew Loggie on the Grid at Ottawa Makes Many Startling Disclosures.

Probing Process Extended to New Brunswick Dredging Scandals with Interesting Results.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 24.—Mr. Andrew Loggie was the chief witness before the public accounts committee today when the inquiry into the Richibucto Sawdust wharf was resumed. Mr. O. S. Crockett who conducted the examination brought out the fact that Mr. Loggie had met Mr. Thomas Murray in August 1908 and had been advised by Murray that he got it for \$1,000 and that was a good profit. Mr. Loggie declared that the wharf would be a good purchase for a railway terminal but was not aware that the 100 acre field in the immediate vicinity had recently been sold for \$120.

Mr. Loggie knew the wharf property had been lying idle for several years. He had never proposed to buy it from any one although the firm of A. and H. Loggie had recently offered the government \$5,500. This offer had been accepted in part by the government. The firm had bought about 200 feet of the property for \$500.

Mr. Crockett—"Do you know that Mr. Richard O'Leary said he sold the very same wharf to Murray for \$700 and would have sold it to you for the same figure?"

Mr. Loggie said he neither knew of or believed this statement. The naval debate pressed witness to admit that this counter proposition which the Loggies had accepted to take all but 200 feet of the wharf would cause the original scheme to build a railway station and facilities at that point to fall through. Witness would not offer any opinion on this point although he thought that the part left to the government, 200 feet was too small for the station scheme. He was also pressed for a statement as to any business deal he had had with Mr. Pugsley. He swore that he had never endorsed notes or exchanged checks with Mr. Pugsley.

At Loggieville. Here the Loggies were the only tenderers and got 35 cents a yard. The earliest authorization to go to work was dated 27th June. In September the Loggies wrote to the minister saying that they had not been paid for work done there in May and June; so that it was apparent that the dredge was working for nearly two months prior to the earliest authorization. Mr. Stead reported that there had been no inspection for the work done in May and June. Notwithstanding which the chief engineer wrote to Mr. Stead to get the accounts certified in the usual way.

Truly at Dalhousie—Work was started at the public wharf at Dalhousie in July, 1908. On 17th August the dredge was moved to their wharf and worked there till 26th Sept. In front of the Dalhousie Lumber Company's wharf, in all 42 thousand cubic yards were removed at Dalhousie and over one-half of this quantity was taken from in front of the wharf owned by a company in which Mr. Pugsley was a stockholder.

Letter Produced. A letter was produced from Mr. Stead stating that the Dalhousie Lumber Company had written to him reporting the progress of the work and stating how much more would be needed to enable it to erect its conveyors. When the Loggie dredge was moved away the company asked that the prohibition act be suspended until the Loggie dredge was put on the job. The Loggie dredge continued at the wharf late season. The inspector at Dalhousie was a man named Louis Alain, keeper of a boarding house and holder of a liquor license. Mr. Loggie admitted that one of his employees, L. E. Durham, had pressed a claim against Alain for making out dredging returns for him. This was settled for \$30. Mr. Loggie understood.

Mr. Loggie Caught. Once in the course of the afternoon Mr. Loggie was caught. He described O'Leary's wharf as worth \$8,000, in order to show that \$5,500 was a fair price for the Sawdust wharf. However a telegram his firm sent to Mr. Carvell was produced which asked the member for Carleton to purchase if possible O'Leary's wharf for \$2000 but not to go beyond \$2,500. This telegram he explained was sent when he learned that Mr. O'Leary had valued his wharf to the public accounts committee at \$2,000.

However Mr. Loggie admitted to Mr. Crockett that he had purchased a lot with a waterfront of 41 feet with a licensed hotel upon it for \$1,000, another lot he had got for \$200, thus showing the value of property in Richibucto. An effort was made by Mr. Carvell to place in the evidence a paper signed by thirty residents of Richibucto declaring the value of property in the town. Mr. Crockett was in the alert and on pointing out this

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