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ASQUITH WILL NOT BUDGE ON HOME RULE

Determined to Carry the Measure

Premier Declares He Will Not Be Coerced By Threats

Says His Cabinet is Unanimous On This and Other Great Reforms—Willing to Consider Any Suggestions About Irish Bill—Laments the Enormous Outlay for Armaments But Sees No Hope of Retrenchment.

(Canadian Press.)

Leeds, England, Nov. 27.—Premier Asquith's speech today at the meeting of the National Liberal Federation, which was eagerly awaited because it was expected to throw light on the question of how far the negotiations for a settlement of home rule by agreement had been successful, disappointed those who were sanguine of a peaceful issue.

"I should be deceiving myself," he said, "if I said that I saw at this moment a prospect of agreement. But I cannot conceal from those who say that home rule is being wasted."

The prime minister declared that there was no foundation for the statement that on this or any other matter the cabinet was divided, which the Conservative press had been proclaiming for the last few days. With regard to a possible settlement by consent, he held that it should be carried on beyond the reach of electoral or parliamentary considerations, otherwise the Irish question would continue to be the football of party politics, to the infinite injury of both Ireland and the United Kingdom as a whole.

Determined on Home Rule.

It was in this spirit, said Mr. Asquith, that he took upon himself to invite, not a conference of party leaders, but a free and unprejudiced interchange of views and suggestions. He had no reason to despair regarding the acceptance of the invitation by the leaders of the opposition. The government was not going to make, either on its own initiative or on the suggestion of others, any surrender of principle, but it had not closed any door on a reasonable way to peace.

There was no ground whatever, he declared, for the demand made by the Conservatives for a general election. It could not be fought on the single issue of home rule, and could not result in a settlement of the question. So far as the Conservatives were concerned, he could not see any course but to advise a general election. The government was determined to give home rule to Ireland and was not going to be frightened or arrested by menaces of civil war.

Deplores Mad Race for Armaments.

The prime minister also deplored those who had been expecting some pronouncement from him indicating the prospect of a decrease of the vast expenditure for armaments, concerning which much dissatisfaction has been expressed among the Liberals recently.

He said every one of his colleagues in the government, he said, lamented as much as any men in the assembly the huge diversion all over the world of national wealth into non-productive channels. A national policy of frugality and economy, or even a burst of vainglorious rivalry, added as much as a pound to the expenditure for that purpose as the government, he said, lamented as much as any men in the assembly the huge diversion all over the world of national wealth into non-productive channels. A national policy of frugality and economy, or even a burst of vainglorious rivalry, added as much as a pound to the expenditure for that purpose as the government, he said, lamented as much as any men in the assembly the huge diversion all over the world of national wealth into non-productive channels.

Character Reading.

The best way to read a merchant's business character is by his advertisement. Just run over the advertisement in the Times and note the business news.

Don't the "ads" pretty well reflect the houses as you know them?

One man is appealing for one kind of trade, and another for another kind, and each one is directly or indirectly writing his own business character into his advertisements.

Mighty interesting study, these advertisements! Mighty good guide for you to go by.

But what kind of character is the merchant writing who is not advertising?

Oh, he's not writing at all—he's courting.

—Continging slowly but surely.

—The sign for the sheriff's sale.

LAURIER'S POLICY OF UN-TAXED FOOD POPULAR

Would Cheapen Cost of Living

Canadians Paid \$10,000,000 Duties Last Year on Foodstuffs—Borden Government, Shackled by Alliance with "Interests," Unable to Lighten the People's Burdens.

(Special to The Telegraph.)

Ottawa, Nov. 27.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier's promise to lighten the burden of the tariff with a view to reducing on a monthly basis the cost of living in Canada, is being attacked by the Conservative politicians in the capital to be a bold and popular stroke, adding greatly to the increasing troubles of the government in regard to its trade and defence policies.

From the Liberal standpoint, the announcement of the policy is received at the capital with general declarations of satisfaction. It was announced after careful consideration by the party leaders here, as to the whole problem of tariff revision, it was inevitable that such an announcement should be made. It is consistent with the attitude taken by the Laurier government in 1911, consistent with the fundamental principles of Liberalism, and consistent with sound economic policy.

From the government standpoint, the popularity and economic soundness of the policy of free foodstuffs is fully recognized, but the Borden cabinet is confronted with the embarrassment and the stand taken in 1911 against a reduction of the tariff on foodstuffs. The Conservative argument, used then, opposing a tariff reduction, was that it would be a policy now advocated by Sir Wilfrid.

The government has been urged by many of its advisers to proceed along the very line advocated by Sir Wilfrid as being the only hope of securing popular support in the coming election. But the alliance with the protected interests and the stand taken in the past makes it practically impossible for the government to come out now for tariff reduction even on foodstuffs. Political expediency, it is admitted, suggests the absolute necessity of doing something along the line advocated by Sir Wilfrid.

It is pointed out that the tariff reduction would reduce the cost of living, but the trouble is that the alliance necessitated by the temporary political expediency of two years ago, now practically absorbs Canadian surplus products of the farm, dairy, garden and orchard, and that there would be no real reduction in the cost of living by removing the Canadian tariff on foodstuffs.

An indication of what the removal of the duty on foodstuffs would mean to the people in regard to reducing the cost of living is given by the trade and customs figures for the last fiscal year. Despite Conservative argument that the United States would under the Underwood tariff consume to absorb Canadian surplus products of the farm, dairy, garden and orchard, and that there would be no real reduction in the cost of living by removing the Canadian tariff on foodstuffs.

Other appointments just announced by H. A. Richardson, the general manager, are the following: H. A. Fleming, to be manager at Halifax (N. S.); W. Cook, to be manager at Aylesford (N. S.); W. E. Wolfe, to be manager at Welland (Ont.).

CONSERVATIVE WON ONTARIO BY-ELECTION

Temperance-Liberal Candidate Beaten By 293 Majority in East Middlesex—London Vote Was Very "Wat."

(Canadian Press.)

London, Ont., Nov. 27.—John McFarlan, of Nissour, today defeated John W. Laidlaw, East Middlesex Alliance Liberal candidate for the legislature, by a majority of 293. The vote was a large one, totalling 4,397, of which Mr. McFarlan received 2,965 and Mr. Laidlaw, 1,432. The majorities by townships were:

Township	McFarlan	Laidlaw
London	523	105
Dorchester	105	130
Nissour	316	316
Westminster	688	395

The fight was a warm one, Mr. Rowell, the Liberal leader, appearing several times in the riding.

The temperance issue, while it played a large part in the fight, did not altogether account for the result. Mr. McFarlan's own township, Nissour, gave a majority against him of 130.

Bigger Oil Tank Steamer Launched. Jarvis, England, Nov. 27.—The largest oil carrying vessel in the world, having a capacity of 15,000 tons of oil, was launched here today. The vessel was christened San Hilario by Mrs. Herbert J. Cary, of New York city. The new ship is one of ten tank steamers of the same size now being constructed for the Eagle Oil Transport Company.

MEXICAN REBELS CLAIM ANOTHER VICTORY

Expect to Annihilate Huerta's Forces Near Border—United States Orders Another Transport With 800 Marines to Southern Waters—Washington Still Waiting for Developments.

(Canadian Press.)

Washington, Nov. 27.—Despatches to the Constitutionalist headquarters here report an engagement at La Cruz, on the Linares branch of the Mexican National railway, between Huerta's forces and the Constitutionalist forces. The Constitutionalist general, Antonio Villarreal, is said to have routed the federal troops under Rubio and to have taken their train.

The same despatches declared that the Constitutionalist generals, Aguilar and Abel Salazar, were moving on Tampico with about 7,000 men.

U. S. Marines Sent South. Philadelphia, Nov. 27.—With 800 marines and a full crew on board the transport Frigate, the United States is expected to arrive in southern waters. The transport carries stores and ammunition for a three-months' cruise. The marines are commanded by Col. Lejeune. The colonel and officials of the navy were here before the Pacific sailed. The orders received name Pensacola (Fla.) as the objective point of the trip. It has been removed at the navy's request, however, that these orders may be changed by wireless telegraph from Washington after the Pacific passes out to sea.

Rebels Take a Holiday. El Paso, Tex., Nov. 27.—General Villa announced today that he would leave tomorrow with his rebel army for Chihuahua to attack the federalists who retreated Tuesday night after attempting to take Juarez. He believes that other rebel forces have intercepted the retreating federalists and that he would be able to capture the entire command or annihilate it.

Today was an off day for Juarez. Villa's army of 1,000 men, which had been routed at the dead had been buried and the wounded placed in temporary hospitals in Juarez. The rebel soldiers were preparing to attack the federalists who retreated Tuesday night after attempting to take Juarez. He believes that other rebel forces have intercepted the retreating federalists and that he would be able to capture the entire command or annihilate it.

Great Exodus of Americans. Mexico City, Nov. 27.—The Americans in Mexico joined their countrymen at home in the observance of Thanksgiving day. It is estimated by the consulate that there are now about 1,000 Americans in the capital, of whom 500 are women, compared with 1,500 under normal conditions. The members of this displaced colony dined today for the most part at the restaurants and clubs, because many of the homes have been broken up by the absence of the men.

An executive session of the chamber of deputies was held today, and the proposition to reduce the salaries of its members was discussed, but no action was taken.

There is a report current here that the rebels have evacuated Victoria, capital of the state of Tamaulipas, and are moving in the direction of Tampico, but the report has it that they practically razed the city and destroyed the archives.

Such reports of developments through the country as are available indicate rebel progress almost at all points, although the tone of the reports emanating from the war department is optimistic.

TWO BRITISH SCHOONERS RAM AMERICAN COLLIER

The W. N. Zwicker and Lady-smith Both Damaged in Collision With the Maud Palmer, Anchored Off Nantucket.

Vineyard Haven, Nov. 27.—The big coal carrying schooner Maud Palmer, Norfolk to Portland, swung at her anchor today off Great Point, Nantucket, crippled, as the result of two collisions. Her stern and bow were damaged, and her jibboom was carried away, but it was said that she was not leaking seriously.

In this harbor lay the British schooner W. N. Zwicker, Elizabethport for Halifax, with her bowsprit and head gear gone, and her bow badly damaged above water. Beyond her lay the British schooner Lady-smith, also from Elizabethport for Halifax, with her mainsail and spinnaker, badly torn, and bearing marks of other minor damage.

While the Palmer was anchored off Nantucket Monday, during a fresh northerly wind, the Zwicker, logging 1,000 tons, was in the harbor, and the two vessels struck each other at an hour with all. The result was that the Palmer's stern was struck by the Zwicker's bow, carrying away the Palmer's stern. The American boat stood the shock better than the British schooner, which was towed into port by the revenue cutter Aqueduct.

Tuesday night while the Palmer still lay at anchor in the same spot, the Lady-smith mis-stayed and drifted into the Palmer's bow, carrying away the latter's jibboom. The Lady-smith was towed into this harbor by the Aqueduct last night. The revenue cutter Aqueduct was expected from Portland to take the Palmer in tow, for her destination.

Canadian Bank Clearings. Halifax, Nov. 27.—The Halifax bank clearings for this week were \$1,968,502.24; and for the same week last year \$1,807,717.71.

CANADIAN LOANS FLOATED IN LONDON

TORONTO WOMAN, SMOKING IN BED, BADLY BURNED

(Canadian Press.) Toronto, Nov. 27.—While her back and limbs seriously burned as the result of her bed-dodding, catching fire from the ashes of the pipe she was smoking while in bed this afternoon, Mrs. Mary McCorkigan, 65 years of age, was taken from her home at 73 Ryerson avenue, to the Western Hospital, where she now lies in a serious condition. Mrs. McCorkigan had been an invalid for some time and when the fire occurred she was alone in her bedroom.

BORDEN LEAVES HOT SPRINGS FOR WASHINGTON

Premier to Call on President Wilson and Lunch With Bryan Today.

Hot Springs, Va., Nov. 27.—Robert Laird Borden, premier of Canada, left for Washington tonight on his way home. He will be Secretary Bryan's guest at luncheon tomorrow and will call upon President Wilson to pay his respects.

FAST CANADIAN CRUISER TO BE LAUNCHED DEC. 11

The Margaret Will Patrol the Gulf of St. Lawrence—Will Carry Two Six-Pounders.

Ottawa, Nov. 27.—Word has been received by the customs department that the new fast cruiser which is being built for the service will be launched at Southampton on Dec. 11. Mrs. G. H. Freney will christen the cruiser, to be called Margaret, the Christian name of the Duchess of Connaught. The cruiser is under contract to be delivered at Halifax at the end of the year. It is a steel twin-screw boat and will be used for patrol service in the Gulf. It is very fast and thoroughly modern, and will be armed with two six-pound quick firing guns. There has been a great deal of smuggling and poaching in the Gulf, which it is expected the new boat will put an end to.

NO EMBARGO LIKELY ON CANADIAN SPOUS

Powdery Scab Said to Exist on Both Sides of the Line, and the Governments Are Trying to Stamp It Out.

(Special to The Telegraph.) Ottawa, Nov. 27.—There has been no intimation that the United States authorities contemplate placing an embargo on Canadian potatoes on account of the disease known as powdery scab. The existence of this potato trouble is known to both the Washington and Ottawa authorities as existing on both sides of the line. It has been the subject of discussion among experts at both the Canadian and American capitals who have exchanged views as to the best way of eradicating it.

However the question of an embargo has not been raised. The matter of correcting the disease is receiving the personal attention of Hon. Mr. Burrell and his experts.

PROMINENT CANADIANS VISITING BRITAIN.

R. T. Riley, vice-president of the United Bank of Canada, arrived in London yesterday and left last night for Scotland.

Major George Washington Stephens, ex-chairman of the Montreal Harbour Commission, has gone for a short visit to the Channel Islands.

L. J. Burne, secretary of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, is visiting various provincial cities to make representations to the various chambers concerning the exhibition train scheme, which is receiving favorable notice from several trade papers.

Saskatoon Issue a Success

Toronto Offers Bonds to the British Investors

Anglo-French Fleet at Piraeus—Premier Asquith's Speech Disappoints Carsonites—Hamar Greenwood Deplores Revival of Hatred of Catholic Religion.

(Special Cable to The Telegraph.) London, Nov. 26.—A British squadron under command of Admiral Sir Berkeley Milne and French squadron under Admiral Boue De Lapeyere will meet today at Piraeus, where they will remain for several days.

"The meeting," says Le Matin, "is a manifestation of the identity of British and French interests in the Mediterranean unconnected with questions concerning Albania and the Aegean Islands now before the chancellors of Europe. Britain and France will remain faithful to the understandings arrived at between the powers at the conference of London."

SASKATOON LOAN FULLY SUBSCRIBED.

The Bank of Montreal announces that the issue of \$169,700 city of Saskatoon five per cent consolidated debentures has been fully subscribed and the first closed at noon yesterday, letters of allotment being issued last night and advertised in the Times this morning.

Encouraged by the success of the Montreal loan, Toronto is now appealing to the market. Underwriting arrangements were undertaken yesterday in connection with an issue of £1,200,000 city of Toronto four and a half per cent 35 year bonds at 97. There are no existing Toronto four and a half per cent bonds outstanding. The loan is being handled by Goats Sen & Co.

ASQUITH NOT TO BE COERCED.

The long looked for and eagerly awaited pronouncement of the prime minister was made last night at Leeds before one of the largest political gatherings ever seen in the smoky Yorkshire city, and the nature of it was not such as to indicate that the head of the government was inclined to bend before the political breezes that have been playing around him lately. The whole tone of the speech was to the effect that the government would not be coerced into any modification of its bill for the extension of the franchise.

The demand for a general election was met by the declaration that there was no ground for such a election, and that even if it held it would not advance the position.

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SEES DANGER IN EXISTING LAW.

Addressing the Leeds Chamber of Commerce on trade and taxation in relation to public policy, Mr. Hirst, editor of the Economist, yesterday read a message from Lord Lorcuburn in which the former lord chancellor said he was convinced that if England were engaged in a great war there would not exist a single man in the country who would not be ready to support the government.

However the question of an embargo has not been raised. The matter of correcting the disease is receiving the personal attention of Hon. Mr. Burrell and his experts.

KINGSTON, ONT., SOCIETY BARS TANGO DANCE

Kingston, Ont., Nov. 27.—A ban was placed on the Tango at a big assembly held in the city hall by the Iniquitous Club of this city, when it was announced for the benefit of all dancers that such dances as the Tango would not be allowed. The Alma Mater Society of this city has also barred all such dances from their social functions, and at the Royal Military College they are not allowed.