

PETITCODIAC DEVOURED BY FIRE FIEND THIS MORNING

Mr. Potts Delivers Telling Speech To The Legislature

The Wonderful Game Laws Which Would Make Every Hunter a "Spotter" Reviewed by Speaker—Mr. Potts, an Independent, Challenged the Government to Bring on an Election as the People Had Lost Confidence in it—Hon. Mr. Veniot Wasted Three Hours of Valuable Time of the Legislative Assembly.

Fredericton, N. B., March 13.—Dr. Crockett (Fredericton) continued the debate this afternoon. He scored the government for raising the salary of the chief game keeper from \$1,500 to \$2,100, when teachers and professors were receiving much less. He characterized the ministry of health as a house of cards, and expressed amusement by his reference to its collapse. The minister he described as Lord of the Visionary Eye, intent on taking measles on alien and driving chicken pox to its ancestral home.

Hon. Mr. Veniot spoke for about three hours. With much fluency of language flexibility of purpose, he covered many subjects, not directly connected with the government's programme, with all the vigor of an old campaigner. When he raised his voice, or his hat, the government benches sat up, took notes, and thumped their desks. He complained of lack of discipline in the opposition ranks, but evidently had his followers well trained. He had long admired the intemperance and fair-mindedness of the leader of the opposition, but thought his last speech was not worthy of him.

Mr. Potts (St. John) "No fellow," made a telling speech. He declared he addressed the house as a representative of the people, independent of any party, and evinced the government to bring on an election, as the people had lost confidence in it. He thought the Minister of Public Works had been indulging in petty personalities, unworthy of the dignity of his position, and that if the good people of Gloucester had heard him they would not give him a nomination. He deprecated the government's tendency to impair upon the rights and privileges of the municipalities.

Mr. Potts said that three hours spent by the Minister of Public Works had been wasted. He himself appeared as an independent member of the opposition and

it had better not go to the country unless it wished for defeat. In the county of Queens the Minister of Public Works had built a magnificent road up to the home of the speaker of the House. That was a courtesy that the Government might just as well not attempt to carry, and in the future, Hon. Mr. Speaker would have plenty of time to sit on his veranda and commune with nature.



F. L. POTTS, M. L. A.

He did not speak on behalf of his party. The Hon. Minister of Public Works had thrown down the gauntlet and made the first break on the racial question in New Brunswick. He expected to show why the Province of Quebec should not dominate New Brunswick, but the Minister of Public Works dominated the Government and was the Premier and the great "Am." He would warn the Government that

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ELOQUENCE AND ORATORY STILL RULE OTTAWA

The Debate on the Address Flows on Copiously Regardless of Time, Place or Subject.

ANOTHER WEEK BEFORE ADDRESS IS ADOPTED

Premier Borden Not Expected Before the First of May, as He is Needed at Conference.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, March 13.—The debate on the address flows on copiously unconcerned of time, place or subject. With the end of the third week of uninterrupted oratory in eight, there are still more than a score of speakers to be heard, and the prospects now are that it will be the end of next week before the address is adopted.

The Unionists caucused again today on matters of policy, but the tariff, which is looming up as the great issue of the session, was not discussed. It is being reserved for a special caucus called for Thursday next.

As a result of today's caucus daylight saving next year appears to be foreshadowed. The overwhelming sentiment of the party was against it.

The latest word from Sir Robert Borden, announced to the caucus, was that he may not be able to return until the first of May. There are new and important developments in Paris, vital to Canada, which may keep him at the conference until then.

Rumors here of overtures to Quebec, looking to the incorporation of a number of Liberals, including Boland, Lemieux and Lapointe, into the government, find no confirmation in authoritative circles.

Today's debate was rescued from mediocrity by a brilliant speech by Joseph Archambault, a young French-Canadian Liberal. Mr. Archambault proved to be the keenest critic of the

FAMILIES DRIVEN FROM THEIR HOMES HELPLESS TO SAVE THEIR EFFECTS

Flames Breaking Out in the Hicks Carpenter Shop Leaped With Intemperate Speed from Building to Building Laying in Waste Practically the Whole Town—Bank of Nova Scotia and All Stores in Village Destroyed—Mansard House Burning at 3.30 a.m. — Moncton and Sussex Send Fire Apparatus.

Petitcodiac, N. B., March 14.—About 1.30 o'clock this morning fire broke out in Hicks' carpenter shop, near the Main street, and in a very few minutes the building was a mass of flames, and when the residents of the village were aroused they found that the shop would not only prove a total loss, but with the high wind blowing, matters looked serious for other buildings. The male residents of the village rushed to the scene, and there was an endeavor made to stop the flames from catching to other buildings, but all efforts were useless, and with the flames spreading to an adjoining building it was but a very short time when the buildings on the main street had caught. One after another the buildings became a prey to the flames.

Willie hands worked, as never before, in an attempt to save the contents of stores and residences that were in the pathway of the fire, and while large quantities of furniture and goods were carried by hand or hauled on teams to a safe distance, so rapidly did the fire spread that little could be done to stop it. One building after another would catch on fire and, being wooden structures, they made ready fuel for the flames.

At 2.30 o'clock this morning it was estimated that six or eight buildings had been burned to the ground, the fire was progressing through the village, and there were fears that perhaps the entire village would be wiped out.

Among the buildings burned, up to 2.30 o'clock this morning, were the post office and three stores owned by Messrs. Stockton, Innes and Brown respectively. In addition to these there were some other buildings in the vicinity of the Mansard house,

one of the hotels, and reports from the scene were to the effect that it was feared that among those that were destroyed would be this well known establishment.

There is great excitement in the village and every person is doing all they can to save property. Those who have been made homeless and many of them were obliged to leave their homes with very little clothing, are being cared for at the homes of others who reside a distance outside the path of the conflagration.

At three o'clock this morning the fire was still raging and there appeared to be no let up, and it looks as if the fire would not stop until it had burned every building in its pathway. Just what caused the fire to start could not be learned this morning, nor could the amount of damage be estimated, but it will certainly amount to many thousands of dollars.

LATER.

Petitcodiac, 2.30 o'clock.—The fire is still raging and all of the stores in the village are destroyed and at present time it looks as if the entire village will be swept by the fierce fire. It is raging ever worse than ever, and at the present time the Mansard House has caught on fire and will be nothing but a pile of ruins within a short time.

The Bank of Nova Scotia building is among the dozen or more buildings that have so far been burned to the ground.

The residents are about tired out in their endeavor to save some of the contents of the buildings that are in the district of the fire. To try and save anything from the buildings close and save anything from the buildings, to those on fire, appears to be about madness, the smoke is very dense, and all that can be accomplished is to save goods from buildings which are quite a distance away from the fringe of the fire. At the present time there appears to be no hope of saving anything from entire destruction unless help arrives soon.

Moncton Fire Department Chief has been called with and has promised to send firemen and apparatus

to the scene just as soon as they can get a train to bring it. Every effort is being made to get into communication with Sussex, and what is wanted is a steam fire engine from Sussex that can be used to pump the water and force the same through the lines of hose that will be brought from Moncton. Immediate help is urgently needed, and the hours that it will take for this help to arrive will perhaps be too late, for there is nothing here at present to even check the onrush of the fire, and it is feared that by the time help comes from either Sussex or Moncton it may prove too late to save hardly any of the buildings.

LATER.

Petitcodiac, 4.10 o'clock.—The big hotel, the Mansard House, is at present a prey to the flames, the upper portion is burning fiercely and the building will from all appearances be totally destroyed in a short time. There has been at least one dozen buildings destroyed within the past two hours and there seems to be no let up. There is still about half a dozen buildings within great danger, and among these structures is the Clark warehouse, in which is stored a large quantity of machinery, furniture, etc., and unless help arrives within a very short time these buildings will be burned.

Everything is ready for a detachment of the Moncton fire department to come here, and orders were given fifteen minutes ago for a special train to bring the firemen and their apparatus.

The citizens of Petitcodiac are anxiously waiting for this fire special to come, and it will be glad news when they learn that the train has started from the railway town for here, as there are still hopes that with even a couple of good streams of water from a steam fire engine, that some of the buildings will be saved and the fire stopped on its rash of destruction.

By the way the wind is blowing in such a way that the fire will be saved, and not come within the fire zone.

Many families are homeless and have saved practically nothing but the clothing which was gathered quickly as they rushed from their residences.

Special to The Standard.

Halifax, March 13.—A batch of Halifax city officials, who felt sure their salaries would be increased, were disappointed today, when Mayor Hawkins vetoed the resolution of the board of control. The officials affected are the following: City solicitor, city treasurer, city clerk, assistant city clerk, city engineer, city of city assessor, deputy assessor.

"These officials," the mayor said, are receiving a fair living wage, largely for routine services, with short hours, and my present action causes no severe hardship or injustice, under existing conditions.

At a recent meeting of the board of control, the stipendiary magistrate's salary was increased from \$2,800 to \$3,100, which, said the mayor, is not enough for a man of Mr. Fielding's ability. "I consider the proposed increase of \$300 entirely inadequate for the valuable service he has been rendering the community," says the mayor.

The board of control today decided to purchase four pieces of machinery, two of them for the fire department, to cost altogether over \$45,000. A truck will take \$27,000, and for the works department an educator for clearing out sewer manholes, and a tax distributor for street making will cost, together, \$18,000. And besides this \$1,000,000 is to be borrowed for street construction.

from Copenhagen says that on demand of the majority Socialists, a prohibition against dancing has been issued in Berlin. The despatch adds that during the week white women and children were being murdered, dancing revels in fancy dress were engaged in on the streets.

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The Anglo-American Peace Alliance Wins Victory at Paris

The Idea of Establishing an Independent Republic on West Bank of Rhine Has Been Abandoned—Germany Will Have No Territorial Grievances Such as France Had in 1871—British Fear Anarchy Has Too Much Headway in Germany and Help is Too Late.

By Arthur S. Draper.

(Special to The St. John Standard and New York Tribune. Copyright, 1919, New York Tribune, Inc.)

London, March 13.—With considerable assurance I can state that the Council of Ten has abandoned the idea of establishing an independent republic on the west bank of the Rhine, to serve as a buffer state between France and Germany. This decision means that the moderate forces in Paris have won a big victory, and that the Anglo-American Peace Alliance has won over the French statement to its point of view; that the treaty will be signed in a comparatively short time, and that Germany will have no territorial grievances such as France had in 1871. Announcement of this decision may be expected soon after the president of the United States reaches Paris. Two things were instrumental in bringing about this decision. First, the adoption of the military arrangement limiting Germany's army to 100,000 men and ending conscription, and the reduction of Germany's navy to the size of a police force, and, second, the increased faith of the French statement in the League of Nations as a practical machine for minimizing the dangers of war. Incidentally, the proposed channel tunnel is playing a political part of no small importance.

Secretary Lansing's grave speech in Paris synchronizes with the grave news from Berlin. The Spartacists hold the eastern suburb of Liechtenberg and, apparently, are showing a disregard for life and property which has made Bolshevism the symbol for extreme terrorism.

Various reports from Germany indicate that the revolution is spreading, and the deeds of the Spartacists are increasingly violent. Following the capture of fourteen British officers, and General Phumer's description of conditions in Germany, it needed only Secretary Lansing's warning to convince the British of the necessity of taking immediate steps to help Germany economically. The fear, today, is that help has been too long delayed and that anarchy has received too big a handicap. The question is: Can a

stable government maintain itself in Germany and union between the Bolsheviks and Spartacists be prevented? Two fundamental economic problems are confronting the British and, incidentally, other entente countries. The first is to maintain adequate food supplies, and to reduce the cost of living on the west bank of the Rhine, and the second is to transport adequate supplies into Central Europe. I am in a position to state that all Allied statements are long agreed on this point, and that they have already taken steps to carry out the distribution of food. The Armistice Commission, which will meet with the German representatives in Brussels tomorrow, will be in a position to guarantee quick deliveries of food, and it is expected that the refusal of the enemy to turn over his mercantile shipping will be withdrawn. The members will meet on common ground in that all desire to end the welter of anarchy. Food experts state that the British and Americans must be prepared for further sacrifices, "otherwise the plight of the liberated people will soon be such that the fruits of the war may be gravely imperilled or partly lost." The gravity of the situation is emphasized in all sections of the press, now that the fear of being classed as "pro-German" is gone. Says the Westminster Gazette: "We have ourselves received, the last fortnight, statements from highly competent witnesses who have travelled through Germany in January and February and they one and all agree that famine is at the root of Bolshevism and Spartacism and that there is no hope that any German government will be able to maintain itself, which is not able to relieve the famine. At present there is no prospect of Germany being able to relieve her famine conditions without aid from outside. Confusion and anarchy are increasing east of the Rhine. Those who are not moved for humanitarian reasons in the argument for the necessity of feeding Germany, must admit that the practical arguments for speedy assistance are unanswerable. The countries west of the Rhine are not so secure that they can afford to take any chances."

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GERMANS LOOKING INTO QUESTION OF RESPONSIBILITY

At Berne Conference They Pass a Resolution That the Much Mooted Question Should Be Brought Before a German Tribunal.

Berne, Mar. 12.—The German members of the league of nations conference being held here, at a special meeting today, adopted a resolution by twenty-six votes to eight that the question of responsibility for the outbreak and the prolongation of the war should be submitted to a German tribunal with all documents from the German secret archives. The resolution declared that the charge against the German rulers shall be based especially on the fact that the Central Powers twice refused a proposition to submit the Serbian case to the Hague court of arbitration. The conference today adopted a resolution in favor of international legislation for the protection of women, girls and children, and against white slavery. The conference then took up the question of disarmament.

The administration that has yet arisen from the opposition benches, and the effectiveness of his criticism was not impaired by a rasped "which time and again brought a shiver to the house with its cutting sallies against the cabinet.

Hon. W. S. Fielding was to have spoken today, but finally decided to hold over to speak until tomorrow. His address is expected to be one of the most important of the debate, and is awaited with the keenest interest by both sides of the House.

Speaking last evening Mr. R. C. Henders, a former Liberal and prominent Manitoba grain grower, who was expected to break with the government on the tariff issue, completely disappointed the opposition by eulogizing Union Government, taking a fling at the Liberals for free trade apostasy after 1896, and declaring that he had confidence the government would bring down a tariff policy satisfactory to all sections of the nation.

LOUIS KLOTZ GIVES STATUS OF FRANCE

In the Chamber of Deputies—Reviews the Financial Situation, Denying France Was Richer Since the War.

Paris, March 13.—Louis Klotz, the minister of finance, began his eagerly awaited speech in the Chamber of Deputies today on the financial situation, by denying that he had made the statement that France had become richer since the war. From the fiscal point of view there had been more resources created, the minister conceded; but it would be absurd to say that any country with departments in such a condition as the invaded departments of France had become richer.

The yearly budget, M. Klotz announced, would be three or four times greater than before the war, the deficit to meet being \$1,750,000,000 francs.

M. Klotz gave some striking figures of war expenses. He said that more than thirty-nine billion francs was spent for artillery, and eleven million francs for the pay of the troops. The total expenses of the ministry of war were one hundred and nineteen billion francs, while the navy department spent only six billion francs.

According to M. Klotz, it would be relatively easy to meet the ten billion franc deficit of 1919 by an increase in indirect taxes, an income tax, receipts from the liquidation of war stocks, and a revision of the law governing the transportation of troops over French railroads, by charging

PATIENCE OF CANADIANS AT KIMMEL WERE EXHAUSTED

London, March 13. (C. A. P.)—The Bishop of St. Asaph writes to the Times: "As one closely associated with and near Kimmel Camp," and says: "The Canadians bore the discomforts inevitable to the perpetually changing demobilization camp with patience, but the cancelled sailings, week after week to war-worn men yearning for home, have been a serious matter."

The Bishop continues: "A man arrives in Kimmel having been told he is to sail in a few days for Canada, and is disappointed. The weeks pass and he is still there. He may have been in the fighting line and sees those who had little or no fighting allowed over French railroads by charging French are charged. The railroad deficit, the minister said, would be four billion francs.

Concerning the tax on capital property, M. Klotz said the French capitalist tax payer would not be called on to pay one franc of additional taxes until Germany's indemnity figures to France were settled upon and guaranteed. But even should Germany pay completely the damages and the restoration of the devastated provinces, M. Klotz said, this would not balance future budgets after 1919. The tax on capital, the minister asserted, was destined to reach war profiteers.

M. Klotz did not hear interpellations from all sides of the chamber asking him to name the amount which would be demanded from Germany. Victor Dalbiez, socialist, created some excitement referring to former Premier Joseph Caillaux, who is under arrest charged with having dealings with

to sail before him. The fire began to smoulder. It burst into flame when the illustrious Canadian peers the men saw acclaimed on their arrival conscripts who had done no fighting. I doubt whether Englishmen would have borne similar conditions without protest. I am certain Welshmen would not. As to the behavior of the men in Kimmel Camp I can speak from personal knowledge. Those in charge of the canteens whom I know well, speak in high terms of praise of the conduct of the men. The superintendent of the largest hut camp (he speaks with long experience) week after week reports to me the admirable conduct of the men who have done their bit.

The enemy. The chamber was filled with officers and soldiers, who loudly hissed Dalbiez. One officer shook his fist at the deputy and shouted a challenge to a duel.

M. Klotz during his address mentioned a future financial society of nations, the plans of which have been discussed and will be given out shortly, as the only means for France to balance future budgets. He also spoke of additional taxes after Germany's war indemnity has been deducted from the present French debt.

Former minister of Marine Agneur said he regretted that the discussion had been purely academic, because neither the chamber nor the government was able to fix the amount to be received from Germany and consequently it would be impossible to determine the expenditures.

After a lively debate during which several of the deputies expressed dissatisfaction over the statement of M. Klotz, the order of the day was voted 247 to 152.

THE DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME IS BOTHERSOME

Government Supporters Believe Such a Bill Will Not Be Introduced at This Session.

MUCH OPPOSITION FROM RURAL DISTRICTS

Thought That Railways-Boards of Trade, etc. Will Insist That Canadian Time Conform to U. S. Time Which Will Have Daylight Saving.

Ottawa, Ont., March 13.—Government supporters, subsequent to the adjournment of the Unionist caucus today, asserted the belief that a daylight saving bill will not be introduced this session. They based their statements on the amount of criticism of the measure heard in caucus. According to these members, practically no one spoke in favor of Canada again adopting the experiment of last year. Members representing city constituencies, where daylight saving is in favor, it is understood, did not seriously attempt to meet the avalanche of objections registered by the representatives of rural constituencies. In some cases they stated that if the feeling of parliament was so strongly against the reintroduction of the measure, the cities would introduce the scheme on their own account.

The development of so much opposition to daylight saving created a difficult position for the government. It has generally been assumed that Canada would follow the example of the United States in this matter. While daylight saving was strenuously opposed across the border, by

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