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BILL PROVIDES BIGGER PENSIONS FOR THE CLERGY

Introduced at the Synod by Canon Bolt.—Given Second Reading Yesterday

TO RECEIVE DEPUTATION FROM LORD'S DAY ALLIANCE

Many Important Matters Dealt With At the Second Session of the Synod

Wednesday, June 24. The House sat at 3.30, the Bishop in the Chair.

After roll call the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The Rev. Frank Smart moved that a Committee be appointed to consider the "Home and Foreign Mission Fund" and report to the Synod at an early date this session.

The following Committee was appointed—Revs. Canon Noel, A. G. Bayley, Pittman, Richards, Read, Shorter, Britnell, Upwards, Messrs. S. J. Young, J. Rowsell, C. T. James, F. Somerton, W. White, A. J. Goodland, I. Millin, and Rev. F. Smart, convenor.

Amending Bill. Rev. E. H. Fletcher introduced his bill to amend Chapter xvii. of the Constitution and Rules of the Synod, which was read the first time, and motion made to have it read the second time to-morrow.

Second reading of Bill to amend Chapter xviii. of the Constitution and Rules.

The House went into Committee on the Bill.

Canon Bolt reviewed the history of the Clergy Retirement Fund from its inception in 1873 as the Clerical Pension Fund, up to 1900, when it was reorganized under its present title. He then showed how that the Synod could now afford to pay \$12.50 for every year in service up to 40, to all clergy over 65 years of age, instead of \$10.00 as it now stood. This was his amendment.

The Committee then rose and reported the Bill amended.

The Bill will be read to-morrow for the third time.

Meet Lord's Day Alliance. The Bishop announced that he had received a message from the Lord's Day Alliance asking leave to wait upon the Synod. The Bishop set Tuesday evening at 9 o'clock as the time for receiving the deputation.

The Secretary introduced the report of the Executive Committee, and it was discussed by Revs. Canon Bolt, Noel, Colley, Revs. Read, Butler, Messrs. C. T. James, W. B. Grieve, J. W. Withers, W. W. Blackall, Chief Justice Horwood. At 5.25 the House adjourned.

Evening Session. The House resumed at 7.30 when the report of the Executive Committee was taken up and fully discussed until 10.

The S.P.C.K. depot was discussed. Canon Bolt dwelt at length on the work of the depot. Canon Colley referred to the great sentiment in connection with it. The Diocese owed much to the S.P.C.K. and he would regret very much to see the depot closed.

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NEARLY EVERY HOME IN HILLCREST BEREFT BY MINING DISASTER

Scores of Widows and Fatherless Attend Funeral of Hundred and Fifty Victims

ROLL OF DEAD NOW SET AT TWO HUNDRED

Feared That Bodies of Many of the Unfortunate Miners Will Never Be Recovered

SUPPOSED CAUSE OF DISASTER

Was an Explosion of Five Damp—Rescuers Tell Many Thrilling Tales of Experiences

Hillcrest, June 21.—Almost directly under the Turtle Mountain, the natural graveyard of victims of the Frank slide of a few years ago, was enacted this afternoon the last scene of the Hillcrest disaster. Over one hundred and fifty bodies were buried, while around stood widows and children.

The funeral was an impressive one. In the valley where yesterday the graves counted perhaps less than two score the number is augmented to more than two hundred, and there are more to come in the next few days. The bodies are being prepared, and it is feared several found permanent resting places beneath the tons of rock and debris in the bowels of the earth. Two bodies at least are known to be thus hopelessly buried.

Nearly Every Home Affected. Two days after the explosion which killed nearly 200 miners the "white man's camp," as Hillcrest collieries is termed, is beginning to breathe more freely and at the same time more fully realize the extent of the calamity. Taking stock of the catastrophe the little town finds itself with several scores of widows and hundreds of fatherless children. There is scarcely a home not affected by the calamity, while the mining camps in close proximity to Hillcrest count among the dead some of their numbers.

The stories of the survivors, now

that the tensely of the situation is relieved, are related more coherently.

Many Narrow Escapes. Narrow escapes were many, even though few in the danger zone of the explosion were saved; for others there were who a number of seconds before were engaged at or near the scene of the accident. That the forty-four men were saved almost entirely in a moment of time, and by a whiff of fresh air.

In the wild rush to the mouth of the mine and in the intensity of the excitement prevailing it was quite to be expected that human beings would forget themselves and leave something undone upon which the human lives depended, and but for the reversing of the fan supplying fresh air to the depths below, perhaps some of the forty-four would not have been saved.

Brown the Hero. In this General Manager Brown, of the Hillcrest Collieries, Limited, was the hero of the hour. Realizing the perilous position of the inmates of the mine when the explosion occurred, it was his first thought that survivors would make their escape by means of the slope to Mine No. 2. Knowing the geography of the mine he immediately made a rush to the mechanism controlling the interior fan and quickly reversed it.

"When I felt that whiff of fresh air, I knew I was saved," is the statement of several survivors. They were ready to fall in their rush to safety, and but for that moment of time and that whiff of fresh air, the stories from the interior would have been eliminated either from the history of the greatest disaster that ever occurred in the Dominion, and forty-four additional lives would have been added to the already large list.

All Believe Dead. There are still a score of bodies in the mine. Hope has been completely abandoned that any spark of life remains, for while the interior fires have been extinguished no human being could exist for any length of time in the gas-impregnated atmosphere.

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NEW SCHOONER FOR GRAND BANK

Was Launched at McGill's Shipyard, Shelburne, N.S., for Geo. A. Buffett.—Her Name is "Wilfred Marcus," and She is 153 Tons Burthen.—To Build Another Vessel for Parties in Burin.

Shelburne, June 20.—The third new vessel to be completed this season at the Joseph McGill shipyard, was successfully launched here this morning. She was named "Wilfred Marcus," and is 110 feet over all; 25 feet, 6 inches beam; 10 ft. hold, and registers 153 tons.

She was built for George A. Buffett and others, of Grand Bank, Nfld., and was designed for the fish carrying trade between Newfoundland and Mediterranean ports.

Good Sailer and Carrier. This business requires a style of craft both speedy and able, and a good carrier; and the "Wilfred Marcus" promises to combine all these qualities. She will be rigged as a tern schooner, and in material, workmanship and outfit is thoroughly first-class.

She will sail in a few days for her home port, under command of Capt. Grandy, who is also part owner. The building blocks just vacated by the "Wilfred Marcus" will be at once occupied by a 90-ton fishing schooner, for parties in Burin, Nfld.

KING TO VISIT DOMINION SOON?

Understood That King George and Queen Mary Will Make Tour of Overseas Dominions in the Near Future.—Arrangements Will Likely Be Made for the Autumn of 1915.

Montreal, June 23.—A London cable to The Daily Mail says: Ever since the King's accession, it has been generally understood at Court that the King and Queen would, at the earliest opportunity, make a tour of overseas Dominions.

His Majesty has, indeed promised both the Australian and South African Governments that he would do this, and now the visit is expected to take place in the autumn or early winter of next year, the route being out by the Cape and home through Canada. The Colonial Office and the Governments of the Dominions have already discussed the details.

King George particularly desires to attend the official founding of the new Australian Federal Capital at Canberra.

LISBON SOCIETY MURDEROUS BAND

Whole Object of its Organization was to Commit Assassination of Political Opponents—Called Themselves "White Ants"—Were Led by Prominent Public Man.

Lisbon, June 23.—A political secret society which had for its object the murder of twenty-three persons, has just been broken up. Before this was accomplished one victim had been put to death.

The organization is called The White Ants, its headquarters being in the village of Alcabedeche, on the outskirts of Lisbon. The chief government authority of the town, himself a member of the White Ants, and a number of his underlings, all of them members of the society, are accused of seeking to do away with certain members of the moderate opposition republican party.

The First Victim. The White Ants belong to the democratic republican party. The first victim was murdered on his way home from a ball. A party of five of the White Ants had secreted themselves behind a wall near the man's home, and as he was about to open the door they fired upon him. He fell mortally wounded.

The chief authority of the village later was questioned and then arrested. A list of the 23 persons to be murdered was found in his possession, the list being headed by the murdered man's name. The trial is awaited with interest.

PORTE WILL ATTEMPT FLIGHT ACROSS OCEAN VIA THE AZORES ISLES

Distance From Newfoundland to This First Stopping Place Over One Thousand Miles

CHARACTER OF PORTE, VENTURESOME AVIATOR

Not a Daredevil, This Transatlantic Flyer, But Cool, Calculating Scientist

AVIATION RECORD IS BRILLIANT

Is Famed As a Safe and Sure Air-Man—Regards Venture as Serious But Possible Feat

Montreal, June 23.—A special from Hammondsport, N.Y., says: "Lieut. Porte, chief pilot of the Rodman Wanamaker transatlantic flier yesterday, admitted that he was practically decided to shape his course from Newfoundland to the European continent via the Azores Islands.

The distance to the Azores Islands from Newfoundland is approximately 1,100 miles to fly, from which Glen H. Curtis decided a huge flying boat could be constructed which would possess many advantages of safety and comfort over the light weight machine originally planned.

Thrills and More of 'Em. To fly across the Atlantic! Just a thought of it produces thrills and thrills.

Two thousand miles of watery grave between Newfoundland and the Irish coast! The whims of a gasoline engine! The uncertainties of fog and wind and waves! The frail body of a flying boat probably your sole salvation!

Truly it is the most sensational adventure of modern times, and he who succeeds in it will be acclaimed the Columbus of the air.

You conjure up the man, for this adventure. You likely imagine that only a devil-me-caring, loop-the-looping sky acrobat would essay such a jump into the great unknown.

Then you meet up with the man picked from the aviators of both Continents as the "one best bet" in this greatest race for aeronautical honors, with the Harmsworth prize of \$50,000 as added incentive.

This man is John C. Porte, Lieut. of the British Navy, who is now preparing at Hammondsport, N.Y., to pilot the Rodman Wanamaker expedition across the Atlantic next month. You talk with Lieut. Porte for ten minutes, and all your preconception of heroics in trans-ocean flight goes to smash; you gain a new impression of aviators and a conviction that you have met in this quiet-spoken young son of an Irish clergyman, the man who WILL cross the Atlantic in an aeroplane.

Not Matter of Holiday Sport. "I have never described the trans-Atlantic trip as 'a jolly adventure,'" he said; "but the story still persists. I don't like it. I have never regarded the trip in the light of adventure but as a very serious expedition in search of a definite result."

Rodman Wanamaker, millionaire sportsman and philanthropist, son of John Wanamaker, the merchant, set his heart last winter upon the aerial linking of the Continents in this year that marks the centenary of Anglo-American peace. He told his executives to spare no expenses on the machine, so they are putting about \$40,000 into two specially designed Curtis flying boats. For the pilot, Mr. Wanamaker said to search the lists for the one man most likely to approach the staggering task with assurance of success; he must not be a spectacular flyer of the type that is always "ready to take a chance," but a man of disciplined mind and body, equipped with scientific knowledge and a love for service.

Mr. Wanamaker's men selected Lieut. Porte because he had built his reputation and success as an aviator on the rule never to take an avoidable risk in the air. Porte had become noted as the most careful, successful airman on either side of the Atlantic.

REV. F. MATTHEWS NEW PRESIDENT OF CONFERENCE

Succeeds Rev. Jas. Wilson as Head of the Methodist Church in This Country

SESSIONS OF CONFERENCE WERE OPENED YESTERDAY

Feature of the Evening Was Lecture by Rev. Dr. S. Halfyard on "Self-revelation of God."

The Newfoundland Methodist Conference opened its thirty-first session in George Street Church on Wednesday morning. President Wilson occupying the chair. There was a goodly attendance both of ministers and laymen present.

After devotional exercises the retiring President gave a short, but helpful address to the Conference.

The Officers. Election of officers was then proceeded to, and resulted as follows:

President—Rev. F. R. Matthews, B.A.

Secretary—Rev. Charles House.

Journal Secretary—Rev. J. R. Saint.

Statistical Secretary—Rev. C. A. Whitmarsh, M.A., B.D.

Assistant Secretaries—Rev. R. H. Maddock, Rev. W. J. Morris.

This was followed by the Conference Prayer Meeting which was intensely spiritual and profitable.

The afternoon session was given up to miscellaneous business.

Prof. Halfyard's Lecture. In the evening the Rev. S. F. Halfyard, Ph.D., who is a native of this Colony and is now Professor of Philosophy and Theology in Wesley University, North Dakota, delivered the Theological Lecture. Dr. Halfyard took as his subject "The Self-revelation of God."

The aim of the lecturer was to show that God revealed Himself in the world of nature and in human life. All agnostic theories which affirm that God cannot be known by the human mind were proved to be illogical and absurd.

Proofs of Revelation. (1) God has revealed Himself through the physical universe. There is order and arrangement in the universe.

(a) Everything in the heavens goes according to mathematical rule.

(b) The same is true in the organic life. Not a leaf on a tree varies from its proper order.

The lecturer explained this law and order by the power of an infinite intelligence behind it all.

(c) God has revealed Himself in the beauty of the world. The beauty and sublimity of nature manifests God.

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WEATHER REPORT.

Toronto (noon)—Fresh South to West winds, showers and local thunderstorms. Friday, fresh, West to North West winds, generally fair.

Government Slated By Own Supporters Re Education Affairs

London, June 24.—The Government's proposals for the revision of the National Education scheme were subjects of condemnation by the Council of National Educational Association. A non-political, but strong denunciation, emanated from Lord Sheffield and Rev. Dr. Clifford, both supporters of the Government.

The main objection to the Bill is that free education as understood in the Act of 1891, is to be abolished.

Won't Accept Them. Lord Sheffield refused to accept statements made in the Commons by the Right Hon. J. A. Pease, President of the Board of Education, that the rights of parents to free education would not be endangered by the proposals of the Finance Bill.

He condemned Liberal and Labor members who helped to kill the school attendance Bill which was directed against the half time system, prevalent in Lancashire.

No Tampering. Rev. Dr. Clifford demanded that there should be no tampering with had been travelling in the provinces and had heard complaints everywhere against the Board of Education. All the evils of the present situation arose from the support given by the Government to the perpetuation of denominational education; for a Liberal-Labor Government to sustain such a system was an anachronism, as well as a display of infidelity to their principles.

35 Fatalities In Big Storm On Inland Sea

Tempest Came On Without Any Warning And Scores Of Fishermen Were Drowned.

Frederichshaven, June 24.—Ten bodies were recovered this morning from Lake Constance, and 25 more missing are believed to have been drowned by a sudden and terrific storm, which occurred over this region.

The storm broke so quickly that the fishermen were unable to reach the land, only a mile or so away. Many were rescued by Lake steamers and other craft, after their light boats had capsized.

Barq. Gaspe has arrived at Pernambuco after a run of 32 days.

Have Decided Make Attempt To Get Bodies

Divers Ordered Back To Scene The of Empress Tragedy After Quebec Conference.

Quebec, June 25.—A noteworthy feature of the Commission's hearing today in the Empress' inquiry was the evidence of Gunner Wilfred Whitehead, diver of H.M.S. Essex, who, in addition to inspecting the hull of the Empress, risked his life in an effort to save that of Edward Cossboom, the diver who died from injuries received at the wreck.

Whitehead and other divers from the Essex were ordered from the court to the scene of the wreck this afternoon, after a conference between Capt. Walsh, Marine Supt. of the C.P.R., and Capt. Watson, of the cruiser, at which it was decided to attempt to get the 800 bodies entombed in the Empress.

Opposition Express Blank Disappointment Over Amending Bill

London, June 24.—Blank disappointment is expressed by the entire Opposition press with regard to the Government's proposals in the Home Rule Amending Bill, while the Ministerialist organs recognise that the policy of exclusion is most unsatisfactory.

During several weeks past doubts and fears have been soothed by the feeling that the Government had something in reserve, beyond what Asquith had offered Carson in the Commons last March, but the Amending Bill has shattered these hopes, as it embodies only the old offer of every county having the right to vote itself out of the operation of the Bill for a term of six years.

Carson, who listened to the proceedings in the Lord's, afterwards declared there was nothing new in the Bill, recalling what he said in Lancashire

on Saturday, that if the Bill only repeated the offer of March, it would be useless.

He also asserted that, while anxious for peace, Ulster would, if necessary, fight against being put under the dominion of a Dublin Parliament.

Lord MacDonald, six years permanent Under Secretary for Ireland, thought the Amending Bill capable of being made a really effective measure. Hope was not extinguished yet, because the Government practically admitted that the Amending Bill would have to be amended.

GEORGE STREET CHOIR

The members of George Street choir are requested to take their usual places at this evening's service.