

The Herald

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 1920.
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At The Federal Capital

The event which above all
others distinguished the week
ending May 15th, was the re-
turn to the House of Commons
of the Prime Minister, the Right
Hon. Sir Robert Borden. This
was a most agreeable and satis-
factory breaking in on the ordi-
nary daily routine of the proceed-
ings of the House. As in former
weeks, the discussion in com-
mittee of the Federal Franchise
Bill occupied a very large part
of the time of the House for the
first three days of the week,
at least. The progress made in
considering the bill was not
remarkable, but still advances
towards the end of the committee
stage were effected. The oppo-
sition members of the House,
with marvellous tenacity, held up
every clause that would seem to
them to conceal something in it
that might be possible to their
disadvantage when the election
comes, and as is not unusual,
they persistently offered amend-
ments and suggestions that might
in some plausible way catch the
promoters of the bill unaware.
Concessions have been made from
time to time on this clause or
that to what seemed like reason-
able propositions coming from
the opposition, but they are not
satisfied with anything of this
kind, but seek to engraft their
ideas on the essentials of the
bill, but in this they have not
thus far made any great progress,
and the probabilities are that
when the bill emerges from the
committee stage, so far as essen-
tials are concerned, it will be
practically the same as when the
bill was introduced to the House,
subject, of course, to certain
amendments that the Solicitor
General, who is piloting the bill
through, considers here and there
to be improvements on the
original draft.

As already stated, the most
pleasing event of the parliamen-
tary week was the home-coming
of the Prime Minister. It had
been announced beforehand that
he would arrive in Ottawa
towards noon on Wednesday the
12th, and, as was fitting and
altogether in the natural order
of things, he was met at the
railway station by a large con-
course of his friends and sup-
porters. As he and Lady Borden
emerged from their car they were
greeted with hearty continuous
cheering. Those assembled em-
braced the members of the
cabinet, almost all the Govern-
ment supporters in the House
of Commons and a number of Sen-
ators. The reception accorded
the Prime Minister and his lady
was of the warmest and most
enthusiastic nature. After the
cheering the Prime Minister and
Lady Borden shook hands with
every one of those who had come
to greet them, which in itself was
no indifferent performance. The
Prime Minister looks exceedingly
well and, on his first appearance,
it was plain to be seen that he
had devoted himself to outside
exercise, and had availed himself
of every possible opportunity
of the advantages of sunshine
and open air. His face was quite
tanned, and someone said he was
as brown as a berry, but his
eyes were bright, his step buoyant
and he seemed to have his old-
time vigour. After these friendly

greetings, the Prime Minister and
Lady Borden motored to their
home, and his friends and ad-
mirers moved away so as to be
ready to accord him a second
greeting when he would enter the
House of Commons. He came
to the House about half-past
three on Wednesday afternoon.
The business of the session was
proceeding in the usual routine
way, and the modesty of the
Prime Minister was noticeable in
the manner in which he entered
the Commons Chamber. It will
be remembered that up to that
time he had never been in the
new Parliament Building since it
was opened for business. Instead
of making any display by enter-
ing at the front and marching
up the floor of the House, which
would be quite natural and in
every way quite proper for him
to do, he quietly made his en-
trance from a side door near the
Speaker's chair, and the assembled
commoners and the numerous
spectators in the galleries were
scarcely aware that the Prime
Minister was in the chamber
until he was just observed look-
ing around the front row of desks
to see if he could discover one
which had on it the name of
Borden. When his presence was
realized there was the greatest
possible cheering and applaud-
ing, and for a few minutes the
whole House was in a mood of
jubilation. Truth to tell, it must
be said that the cheering and
applause on the Prime Minister's
first appearance in the new House
of Commons was not strictly
confined to the Government benches. From several desks on the
opposition side generous applause
was accorded. The Prime Minister's
reception was of the most
cordial and generous nature.

From almost every point of
view the return of the Prime
Minister is most satisfactory. In
the first place, it gives to the
House of Commons, some way or
other, an air of greater stability
and confidence than would seem
to permeate it during his absence.
From this it must not be inferred
that the business of the House
was not admirably conducted
and that everything necessary
for the successful carrying on of
the affairs of the country was
not admirably effected by the
Acting Prime Minister and his
cabinet associates, but there will
always be a feeling of uncertainty
when there is any doubt about
the return of the master, and
consequently, the Prime Minister's
very presence and the knowledge
that he is once more at the head
of the Government, and that his
great abilities are again at the
disposal of the people of Canada,
of necessity inculeated a spirit of
confidence and satisfaction. It is
quite apparent that the Prime
Minister's health has been almost
if not completely restored, and
that Canada is to have the benefit
of his great statesmanship for
some years to come. Of course,
it is yet too early to advance any
statement as to what the Prime
Minister's course is to be regard-
ing the future of the Government
party and the policy by which
it is to be guided in the immediate
future. These will all be made
known and published to the
Canadian people in due time,
probably within a few days. The
course the Government intend
to pursue and the policy by
which they shall be guided in
their administration of Canadian
affairs is already well advanced
towards completion, and will un-
doubtedly appear in a platform
which will be made public to the
world.

Thursday, the 13th, was a dis-
non so far as the business of the
House of Commons is concerned.
It was Ascension Day, and in
addition to being an ecclesiastical
holy day is a public holiday in
the calendar, and as a consequence
there was no meeting of the
House of Commons on that day.

Adjournment took place on Wed-
nesday evening until Friday, after-
noon. As there is no sitting on
Saturday a number of those who
live more or less adjacent to the
Parliamentary city were very
desirous of the adjournment being
made until Monday, but the desire
of the Government is to move
along with the business with as
little delay as possible, and as a
consequence Parliament met on
Friday as usual; but it must be
said that the attendance was not
very large, as a number of the
members from Ontario and Que-
bec who went home for their
holiday did not return, as a
matter of fact, until the first of
the following week.

Friday, May 14th, was a day
of very considerable importance
in the Commons. The business
of that day, apart from the ordi-
nary routine, was the presentation
made by the Hon. the Minister
of Agriculture of the operations of
his department for the previous
twelve months, when he moved
the House into committee of sup-
ply to consider the necessary es-
timates for the coming year.
Hon. Mr. Tolmie, the present
Minister of Agriculture, presented
to the House in his address on
this occasion an admirable ac-
count of the operations of his de-
partment, and made a speech
which was not only most useful
and most informative but ex-
ceedingly interesting. The in-
terest which the Hon. Minister
aroused in his presentation of the
operations of his department went
far to show how important it is
that the right man should be in
the right place. It was admitted
by nearly everybody in the House
that the Minister of Agriculture
on this occasion had presented to
Parliament a budget more inter-
esting and more important, and
containing more information than
any one remembered having come
from any previous Minister of
Agriculture. The extent of the
operations of the Agricultural
Department, in every phase of
agricultural science, and the pro-
gress and improvement in mak-
ing, from day to day and week
to week, in carrying out and ex-
panding the work of a great de-
partment of this nature. It was
suggested, while his estimates
were under consideration, that
the great amount of information
and practical lessons to be drawn
from the Minister's exposition of
his department should find a
wider publicity than the mere
embalming them in the pages of
Hansard. It is hoped and ear-
nestly desired that this speech of
the Minister of Agriculture shall
be published in pamphlet form
and distributed all over Canada,
so that agriculturists in every
section of the Dominion can learn
therefrom what the department is
doing, and also be able to draw
from the great fund of informa-
tion therein presented such prac-
tical lessons in improved agricul-
tural methods as will redound to
the success and financial advan-
tage of the agricultural commu-
nity generally. The Minister's
presentation was very well re-
ceived, and his practical common
sense method of furnishing infor-
mation, during the progress of
the committee stage of his es-
timates, earned for him the good
will of nearly all the members
and he succeeded in having his
estimates voted with very little
adverse criticism. Certainly Hon.
Mr. Tolmie has made a splendid
beginning as Minister of Agricul-
ture, and being a practical agricul-
turalist, it is felt that he will
no doubt, make a grand success
of his department.

The weather, which has all
along been quite cold, has taken a
turn for the better, and the great
lawn in front of the Parliament
Buildings furnishes evidence that
vegetation has been moving along
with fairly rapid strides, as some
days ago the first crop of grass
was clipped from the lawn. It is
true that possibly it would not be
of any great use for feeding pur-
poses, but it is wonderful how
long it had grown in the very
short time since the snow had
disappeared therefrom. The lawn
looks nice and velvety now, but
no doubt the mower shall have
to be used on it quite frequently from
time to time, so as to maintain
its beautiful appearance for the
summer months.

Three men were killed and
Sistersville, West Virginia, was
rocked by the explosion of 100
quarts of nitro-glycerine at the
plant of the Young Torpedo
Company a few days ago.

House of Commons

In Committee—Franchise
Bill.

(Hansard, May 12th, 1920.)
Mr. McISAAC: There is what
I might call a double franchise
in Prince Edward Island. One
half the members of the legis-
lature are called councillors, and
the other half are called assembly-
men. That arose in this way.
We had a legislative council there
at one time, and it was a very
difficult thing to abolish, because
the councillors naturally were re-
luctant to abolish themselves.
The Prime Minister, however, of
that day, introduced a Bill, and
we must assume that he talked
nicely to these gentlemen of the
legislative council, twelve in num-
ber, and told them: "You will be
councillors still after you have
abolished your chamber; you will
be elected to the assembly. In
that way he managed to per-
suade these councillors to abolish
themselves, and from that day
to this we have the peculiar con-
dition of having councillor elec-
tors and assemblymen electors.
The councillor electors require a
property qualification amounting
to \$325, and those who vote for
the assemblymen only must have
paid their poll tax; it is practi-
cally manhood suffrage in their
case. When these two classes of
members elected to the legislature
come into the chamber and take
their seat, no one can tell which
of them is councillor and which an
assemblyman. There are fifteen
electoral districts in the province
and each district sends one coun-
cillor and one assemblyman to
the legislature. A not very strong
party man might be disposed to
attempt to cross his votes, but he
cannot do it very successfully in
this case. He has to vote for a
councillor and an assemblyman, if
he polls two votes. He is not
allowed to vote for two coun-
cillors or two assemblymen, but
for one of each. That is the
peculiar condition we have in the
province so far as elections to the
legislature are concerned.

As to the manner of holding
the elections and the preparations
therefor, there are no lists. The
districts are mostly rural and
everybody is supposed to know
everybody else. Charlottetown
has a population of 12,000 and
there are incorporated towns and
villages, but generally speaking
the people know one another
pretty well, and the candidates'
agents are supposed to know who
are entitled to vote. For my
part I think it is rather a chaotic
and haphazard way of carrying
on an election, and I am in favour
of having lists of some descrip-
tion. Every one who is qualified
to vote for an assemblyman—
that is to say, every one who is
twenty-one years of age and has
the other necessary qualifications
as to residence, poll tax, etc.—is
qualified to vote for members of
the House of Commons. As re-
gards women-voters, I may say
that, so far, women have not been
allowed to vote for members of
the provincial legislature. In the
Dominion elections in 1917, of
course, it is well known, certain
women were given the vote.
Under this Act they will be given
the franchise, and that fact of
itself, in my opinion, should be a
good reason why we should
have voters' lists. I should not
like to see elections carried on in
that province, especially for mem-
bers of the House of Commons,
in the rather antiquated way in
which they have been conducted
for the legislature, without lists,
I do not think it is a proper
way, and for my part I am quite
satisfied to have this clause go
through as it is. The Bill gener-
ally, I think, will meet conditions
in Prince Edward Island, so far
as I am able to judge; and I
think I am safe in saying that it
will be generally acceptable to
the people of that province. I
do not think it would be well to
continue, in the election of mem-
bers for the House of Commons,
the practice in vogue in Prince
Edward Island in connection with
the election of assemblymen, for
I think it is very much behind
the times.

The Federal Budget

In the House of Commons, Ot-
tawa, on Tuesday, May 18, 1920,
Sir Henry Drayton, Minister of
Finance, delivered his budget
speech. The financial position of
Canada, as therein disclosed, may
be briefly summarized as follows:
Actual gross debt \$3,014,483,774
Estimated net debt 2,278,305,436
Estimated expendi-
ture for coming
year, including
supplementary
estimates to come,
and probable
railway deficits 625,000,000
Government resour-
ces meet expendi-
ture, including:
(a) Estimated reve-
nué from ex-
isting taxation;
(b) Outstanding ac-
counts, including
balances due from
Great Britain;
(c) Estimated re-
turns from new
taxation 871,000,000
Estimated balance
take care float-
ing obligations 44,000,000

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY—
AGRICULTURE.

(Hansard, May 14th, 1920.)
Mr. McISAAC: I rise simply
for the purpose of expressing my
appreciation of the admirable
way in which the Minister of
Agriculture has presented the
facts regarding his department.

Certainly his address this after-
noon was a splendid one from
every point of view. It contained
a great deal of valuable infor-
mation and I sincerely trust that
the suggestion which has been made
will be carried out, and that his ad-
dress will find a wider range of
publicity than it will receive by
being simply recorded on the
pages of Hansard. I hope it will
be printed in pamphlet form and
distributed throughout the Do-
minion so that farmers in every
part of the country may derive
some real benefit from the infor-
mation which it gives in such
abundance. I am sure that a
careful study of the minister's
speech will enable the farmers to
employ improved methods in their
pursuit of agriculture, and I
am inclined to think that the
facts contained in it will be a
revelation to a very large number
—probably the majority—of the
farmers of Canada. A perusal of
the minister's speech will show
them how extensive is the work
carried on by the department and
what excellent progress has been
made in the development of
agriculture. In my province there
is an experimental farm, which, so
far as I know, is doing good
work, and I shall be extremely
pleased to hear from the minister
some reference to the progress
which that farm is making. If
it is the hope of the minister to
visit the experimental farms in
the various provinces I shall be
delighted to learn that he will
include in his itinerary the Gar-
den of the Gulf and see how
things are getting along down
there. I do not think I shall
trespass upon the time of the
House any longer. I might per-
haps have been disposed to extend
my remarks somewhat farther
were it not for the enormous
amount of subjects discussed and
passed under review by the hon.
member for South Renfrew (Mr.
Pedlow).

Mr. TOLMIE: With regard
to the remarks of the hon. mem-
ber for King's P. E. Is. (Mr.
McIsaac) I am glad to say that
the farm at Charlottetown is
making satisfactory progress. A
good deal of work has been
carried on in connection with
crop production, poultry and
feeding experiments. We are in-
creasing our live stock at that
farm, we are taking up dairying,
hog raising and so on, and the
farm is making good progress
under present conditions.

Daily, except Sunday, leave
Charlottetown 7.00 a. m., arrive
Emerald Junction 8.25 a. m.,
Borden 9.10 a. m. and Summerside
9.55 a. m., passengers for Sum-
merside transferring at Emerald
Junction; returning leave Bor-
den 4.10 p. m., arrive Sum-
merside 6.15 p. m., Charlottetown
7.00 p. m.

Daily, except Sunday, leave
Charlottetown 1.40 p. m., arrive
Borden 4.45 p. m., returning
leave Borden 9.00 p. m., arrive
Summerside 10.50 p. m., Charlot-
tewtown 11.20 p. m.

Daily, except Sunday, leave
Charlottetown 4.40 p. m., arrive
Emerald Junction 7.10 p. m.;
leave Emerald Junction 9.50 p. m.
on arrival of train from Borden;
arrive Summerside 10.50 p. m.

Daily, except Sunday, leave
Tignish 9.00 a. m., arrive Sum-
merside 12.25 p. m., leave Sum-
merside 1.35 p. m., arrive Emerald
Junction 3.25 p. m., Borden 4.45
p. m., connecting with second
trip of Car Ferry for Mainland
points.

Daily, except Sunday, leave
Summerside 7.05 a. m., arrive
Emerald Junction 8.10 a. m., con-
nect with train for Borden and
arrive Charlottetown 10.50 a. m.

(3) Taxation reduced or re-
moved; (a) Business Profits Tax
substantially reduced.
(b) Tax on moving picture
films removed.
(c) War Duties Tax of 7 1/2 per
cent abolished.
(4) Estimated increase in reve-
nué from new taxation, \$100,
000,000.
(5) Estimated loss from taxation
abolished, \$30,000,000.
Net gain revenue, \$70,000,000.

Connolly Estate
Scholarships

Applications will be received
by the undersigned until June
15, 1920, from all students desir-
ous of competing in a written
examination for one of the Con-
nolly Estate Scholarships offered
annually by the "Trustees Estate
of Owen Connolly."
This examination, to be held
in the latter part of July in
Charlottetown and Summerside,
will be open to all deserving
students, who, upon investiga-
tion, shall be found eligible to
compete in accordance with the
provisions of the Will of the late
Owen Connolly. Each applicant
must state (1) his name in full;
(2) age; (3) names of both pa-
rents; (4) Post Office Address,
and (5) the nature and extent of
his studies during the past year.

MATTHIAS J. SMITH,
Secretary "Trustees Estate of
Owen Connolly."
Kinkora, P. E. I., May 24, 1920.
May 26, 1920—21

CANADIAN NATIONAL
RAILWAYS

Change of Time—P. E. I.
District
Commencing Monday, May 3rd,
1920, Trains will run as follows
WEST.

Daily, except Sunday, leave
Charlottetown 7.00 a. m., arrive
Emerald Junction 8.25 a. m.,
Borden 9.10 a. m. and Summerside
9.55 a. m., passengers for Sum-
merside transferring at Emerald
Junction; returning leave Bor-
den 4.10 p. m., arrive Sum-
merside 6.15 p. m., Charlottetown
7.00 p. m.

Daily, except Sunday, leave
Charlottetown 1.40 p. m., arrive
Borden 4.45 p. m., returning
leave Borden 9.00 p. m., arrive
Summerside 10.50 p. m., Charlot-
tewtown 11.20 p. m.

Daily, except Sunday, leave
Charlottetown 4.40 p. m., arrive
Emerald Junction 7.10 p. m.;
leave Emerald Junction 9.50 p. m.
on arrival of train from Borden;
arrive Summerside 10.50 p. m.

Daily, except Sunday, leave
Tignish 9.00 a. m., arrive Sum-
merside 12.25 p. m., leave Sum-
merside 1.35 p. m., arrive Emerald
Junction 3.25 p. m., Borden 4.45
p. m., connecting with second
trip of Car Ferry for Mainland
points.

Daily, except Sunday, leave
Summerside 7.05 a. m., arrive
Emerald Junction 8.10 a. m., con-
nect with train for Borden and
arrive Charlottetown 10.50 a. m.

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Also a few Oxfords and Pumps. Sizes 2 1/2 and
\$1.98
Men's Rubbers, Sizes 9, 10, 11
75 Cents
Women's Rubbers. Sizes 2 1/2 to 7.
75 Cents
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Queen City Early Potatoes
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Cracked Oats, Oil Cake
Feed Flour, Oats
Bone Meal, Linseed Meal
Calf Meal, Chick Feed
Schumacker Feed, Hay
Crushed Oats, Straw
Rolled Oats, Cornmeal
Oat Flour, Cracked Corn
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quantity for sale.

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and your money will be refunded. Address
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