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TH YEAR

BLAIR FAVOR OF PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

BLAIR DENOUNCES GOVERNMENT POLICY

Sir Wilfrid and the Ex-Minister Explain Circumstances Causing the Retirement of the Latter—Sole Reason Was His Inability to Support Cabinet's Proposals re Grand Trunk Pacific.

Ottawa, July 16.—(Special)—Over-

flowing galleries and a muster of mem-

bers such as has not been seen before

in the House this session listened this

afternoon with intense interest to the

statement of circumstances under

which Hon. A. G. Blair retired from the

cabinet. First the Premier and then

Mr. Blair related the events that led

up to the resignation and its accept-

ance by the Governor-General.

The bare truth as to the cabinet dis-

session has already been communicated

to the public.

Mr. Blair offered uncompromising hos-

tility to that portion of the govern-

ment's policy which contemplates the

construction of a road between Quebec

and Montreal. He opposed construction

of the line between Quebec and Winni-

peg on the ground that it is not advis-

able to proceed with impetuous haste

and without information concerning the

country which it is proposed to

open up. He also opposed as part of

the project the guarantee of bonds on

the road west of Winnipeg since the

Grand Trunk Pacific thus received

government assistance to open up the

fast part of the country, while the

country bore the responsibility for de-

veloping the lean portion.

Fourth of July.

Mr. Blair first made it known that

he would resign rather than endorse

such a policy on the 4th of July last.

On the 6th of July he wrote a letter

to the Premier setting forth in force-

ful language his reasons for resigning.

This letter, at the request of

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Mr. Blair held

open until July 15 when he forwarded

it to the Premier, accompanied with

his resignation. Sir Wilfrid's letter in

reply to the case presented by his then

colleague and his own letter forward-

ed on July 13, reiterating his complete

objections, are given in their complete

form in another column.

Mr. Blair's letters advance an un-

answerable argument. The correspon-

dence embodies the plea, the rejoinder

and a wonderful record of the course

can be no doubt that Mr. Blair has

succeeded in stating his case before the

eminent jurist, a courageous indepen-

dence and a wonderful rareness in the

presentation of argument.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's letter touched

but briefly on the merits of the Grand

Trunk Pacific scheme. His speech in

the House today was confined almost

wholly to the policy aspect of the

affair. He briefly upheld the govern-

ment's policy and discounted Mr.

Blair's action as a mistake to him-

self, to the party, to his friends and

THE

EIGHT PAGES—FRIDAY MORNING JULY 17 1903—EIGHT PAGES

LETTERS OF BLAIR.

POPE AT A NEW CRISIS

DIFFICULT TO BREATHE

Operation Delayed Because of His

Great Weakness—In State

of Depression.

PERMANENT FORCE OF 25,000.

England Will Police South Africa

at Cost of \$7,500,000.

28 TROUT COST \$480.

Such Little Ones That Game Warden

Arrests Fishers.

Harrisburg, Pa., July 16.—A fish-

warden of the Pennsylvania Depart-

ment of Fisheries in Centre County

caught John Kosick and J. L. Millard

fishermen for trout. They resisted the

officer who was compelled to use force.

Twenty-eight trout less than six

inches in length were found in their

possession. They pleaded guilty to violat-

ing the fish law and paid \$280 for the

short trout and \$100 each for resist-

ing the officer, making a total of

\$480.

DANGER OF DISEASE.

Secretary Wilson Sees a Menace in

Imported Hides.

Washington, July 16.—U. S. Secre-

tary of Agriculture, Wilson stated to-

day that the effort to have the consuls

in countries where foot and mouth

disease exists attend to the disinfect-

ing of hides and wool had not been

successful, and that if the consuls

continue to meet with failure the govern-

ment will be compelled, sooner or later,

to prohibit the entry of hides and wool

from the United States. The danger of

the outbreak in the United States from

the importation of hides and wool is im-

minent in the future.

STABBED IN FUN.

Peculiar Action of a Small Boy in

the Ambitious City.

Hamilton, July 16.—A twelve-year-old

daughter of Francis MacLennan of York-

street, an Italian shoemaker, was prob-

ably fatally stabbed to-night in a most

peculiar way. She had been sent to

the butcher shop for some meat, and

while there she had been talking to her

own name Earl Harat, who, it is al-

leged, stabbed her in the breast with a

sharp pointed nail. She managed to get

home, where it was found that her

dress was saturated with blood. She

was very weak, and the doctor fear-

ed she would die. She has since re-

covered, but it is not yet known if

she will recover. It is alleged that he

is a spirit of mischief.

HALL GOES FOR TRIAL.

Aurora, July 16.—Thomas Hall, who

burglarized the store of Wm. Warner

on the 8th, was brought from Toronto

to-day on remand to answer the

charge. The prisoner, who had been

shot three times, once in the head, and

twice in the shoulder, presented a very

pitiful appearance when brought into

court. He pleaded guilty and was com-

mitted for trial.

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