

News from Ottawa

House discusses Reciprocity, the Lumber Duties and Railway Charges.
Grain Bill to be Introduced

By The Guide Special Correspondent

Ottawa, Dec. 1.—Parliament this week has covered a lot of ground. The debate on the address was concluded on Tuesday. The division on Sir Wilfrid Laurier's amendment, the first of the session, gave the government a majority of 44.

On Wednesday an avalanche of questions were answered and the government brought down in a practically unaltered form the forty-eight millions of estimates prepared by the late government for the expenses of the current year and which were not voted before the dissolution of the last Parliament. They have all been voted.

Next week government bills, of which notice has been given, will be introduced and there will be some general discussions. On Thursday the House will adjourn till Jan. 9. During the recess the government will prepare the estimates for the next fiscal year and other items of legislation. The adjournment will be taken to meet the views of the Ontario members, who desire to take part in the provincial campaign.

Mr. Foster has given notice of his resolution calling for the consolidation of the Manitoba Grain and Inspection Acts and the appointment of a commission to take over the control of the terminal elevators. It will be discussed next week and the bill based on the resolution introduced by the minister of trade and commerce.

Interest in the debate on the address, which had sagged somewhat towards the close of last week and on Monday, was revived on Tuesday evening when Hon. W. T. White, the new minister of finance, made his maiden speech and was replied to by Hon. Frank Oliver.

Finance Minister's Speech

In some respects Mr. White's speech followed the lines of his deliverance in Leeds county on the eve of his nomination. While declaring just as emphatically as he did in his former speech his belief that reciprocity is dead he did not go quite so strong in his support of the protective tariff.

Touching on the argument advanced by Sir Wilfrid Laurier that the West was discontented as a result of the issue, Mr. White said that the people of the West would not have reaped any permanent advantage had reciprocity been adopted because of the higher prices which prevail for farm produce across the border, but the removal of the American tariff would deprive the National Transcontinental and other railways of the haulage of western wheat eastward. Mr. White again gave an unequivocal denial to the charge that he is in the cabinet to represent the mergers and trusts. He said that he had no connection whatever with them and that no more unfair and ungenerous accusation had ever been made in Parliament.

Hon. Frank Oliver

Hon. Frank Oliver said he was glad to hear Mr. White disclaim any connection with the mergers or interests, but at the same time, as the leading representative in the government from that province which has declared so emphatically in favor of the rule of the combines, trusts and mergers; he was bound to assume that if Mr. White was not of them at any rate they were behind him. Mr. Oliver thought that Mr. White had made the mistake of thinking that the voice of Ontario was the voice of Canada. Mr. Oliver in vigorous language charged the government with having been placed in power by the most powerful combination of selfish interests which ever stood behind a political party. It included, he averred, the Canadian trusts, the American trusts and the British tariff reformers. The Canadian trusts, he declared, were worse than the American trusts and had a greater hold on the people, because they paid less to the farmer for his products and sold to the consumer dearer than the American trusts.

Mr. Oliver twitted Mr. White with being unduly solicitous on behalf of the railways when he pointed out that if Western wheat were to go to Minneapolis the Canadian railways would be deprived

on the eastward haul. Mr. White rose to say that he was merely pointing out that with the tariff wall down the farmer would not derive a higher price for his wheat than he does at present because it would be put at once on an export basis. "Then the minister has nothing to fear on behalf of his railway companies, on behalf of his milling companies, on behalf of his monopolies, trusts, mergers and combines," retorted Mr. Oliver amidst opposition applause.

When Mr. Oliver declared that the Canadian trusts were more merciless than those of the United States, Premier Borden queried: "How long has this evil condition of affairs prevailed?" Mr. Oliver replied that it was a growing condition in Canada; as it had been a growing condition in the United States, and the reciprocity agreement was one of the first steps to be taken by the people of Canada to shake themselves loose from its grasp, and that so far from the battle for wider markets having ended it had only begun.

Mr. W. M. Martin, of Regina, was not inclined to the view that there is at the present time a cleavage between the East and the West. He expressed the fear, however, that there would in the future be a cleavage if the East did not meet the West half way in its efforts to secure lower taxation and wider markets. He dealt at some length with the matter of freight rates and called attention to discriminations in rates against the West.

The Lumber Duties

On Thursday the recent action of the department of customs in tightening up the regulations relating to the admission of rough lumber free of duty, was the subject of a warm debate.

Mr. W. E. Knowles, of Moose Jaw, described the Coast and Mountain Lumbermen's Association as a self-confessed monopoly, members of which had been found guilty of an infraction of the Criminal Code. After placing on Hansard the report of the proceedings at the meeting of the association at Calgary, when it was decided to curtail the output and remove competition, he expressed his regret that the government so soon after it had come into power had acceded to the requests of the association. It was bad news for the settlers on the prairies to learn that one of the first things the new government did was to lend a sympathetic ear to the lumber combine. Under the former conditions about five million dollars worth of rough lumber had come into Canada duty free in a year. Twenty-five per cent. on five million dollars would be a pretty stiff figure for the people to have to pay and they would also have to pay an enhanced price which would be put on their backs afterwards. "This afternoon," continued Mr. Knowles, "I have been standing before gentlemen whose cry has been let well enough alone. Could not this government let the poor homesteaders and the consumers alone? If they did not reduce the burden of taxation, could they not at least have refrained from placing a still greater burden upon them by making them pay a higher price for lumber?"

Minister of Customs

Hon. Dr. Reid said that the law required that lumber planed on two sides must pay the duty. It was shown that there were parties importing shipments of lumber planed on one side only, and mixed with it lumber planed on two sides. The orders that the Customs Department gave to all customs collectors were that they should examine the carloads of lumber and not allow any smuggling in lumber that was planed on both sides. He added that if the old government had allowed smuggling to go on that there was no reason why the law should not now be observed.

Dr. Clark, of Red Deer, supported the contentions of Mr. Knowles maintaining that the action of the government was proof that it had the backing of the trusts and combines.

J. D. Taylor, of New Westminster, in espousing the cause of the lumbermen of his province practically charged that

the late government had connived with the American lumber trust to evade the law.

The only ministerial supporter from the prairie provinces to speak was Arthur Meighen. He believed that the Customs Act should be lived up to, and that tariff reductions should be brought about by legislation and not by any evasion of the existing law.

Railway Rates

Today Mr. W. F. Maclean, of South York, delivered a speech in advocacy of action on the part of the government to bring about reductions in express, telegraph, cable, passenger and freight rates by going in for a policy of government competition. Mr. Maclean, as in the past, advocated a government system of parcel post to regulate express rates and government ownership of cable and telegraph lines.

Hon. H. R. Emmerson suggested that it would be better if Mr. Maclean in addition to making occasional speeches in the House would do something practical in the way of providing a basis from which the government of the day might work out some of his suggested reforms.

J. G. Turiff, whose views in many particulars coincide with those of Mr. Maclean, agreed that the high freight and express rates were a serious thing for the West. Still if the West had secured a free market in the United States it could have afforded to be robbed a bit. The rejection of reciprocity would cost the West ten dollars for every one that could be saved by a reduction in rates.

Premier Borden and Sir Wilfrid Laurier both made careful speeches. Mr. Borden frankly admitted that the questions brought to the attention of the House were important and that they would receive consideration when the government could find the time. Sir Wilfrid Laurier dealing more particularly with Mr. Turiff's complaint about the express rates raised the Railway Board and said that if it could be shown that the commissioners had erred they would be quite willing to have a rehearing of the express case.

Iron and Steel Bounties

Mr. Sinclair, of Guysboro, asked the minister of trade and commerce, Hon. Geo. E. Foster, if it was the intention of the government to renew the bounties on iron and steel.

"This is too large a question for me to give an answer to my honorable friend to-night," said Mr. Foster, and with that the opposition had to be content.

PRICE OF CEMENT REDUCED

The agitation for the investigation of the cement merger is having some effect. Senator Edwards, president of the Canada Cement Co., announced at Ottawa on Monday that the price of cement was reduced 7 cents per barrel of 350 lbs. on December 1.

"Our policy has been one of expansion and at the same time reduction of price," said Senator Edwards. "This has been carried out ever since we merged. Whether we incidentally make our profits out of it is a matter which should trouble nobody, as far as I can see."

McNAMARA BROTHERS CONFESS

James B. McNamara pleaded guilty to murder in the first degree at Los Angeles on Friday last to the charge of dynamiting the Los Angeles Times building in October, 1910, in which twenty-one persons were killed.

His brother, John J. McNamara, secretary of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, arrested in Indianapolis, entered a plea of guilty to having dynamited the Llewellyn Iron Works in Los Angeles on Christmas Day, 1909.

James B. McNamara's confession clears up absolutely the tragedy of the explosion and fire which at 1.07 o'clock in the morning of October 1, 1910, wrecked the plant of the Los Angeles Times at First and Broadway and caused the death of twenty-one persons.

For nineteen of these deaths the McNamara brothers were indicted.

The prisoners were sentenced on Tuesday, James B. McNamara being sentenced to life imprisonment, and John J. McNamara to 15 years.

APPOINTMENT FOR GLEN CAMPBELL

Glen Campbell, ex-M.P. for Dauphin, has been appointed Inspector of Indian Agencies by the Dominion government.

MANITOBA STUDENTS' SUCCESS

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 3.—Canadian students with Manitobans well to the front, made a big clean up at the live stock show which opened yesterday with "College Day," when many students from the United States and Canada took part in the competitions.

The principal judging competition goes to the "Land of the Maple," Macdonald college, St. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec, being first, and Manitoba Agricultural College, second. Manitoba was first in hog judging, winning a scholarship of \$205; second in horse judging, and third in sheep judging. In the individual rating Manitoba had three men in the first ten, and seven out of the first ten were from Canadian colleges. The Manitoba Agricultural college team consisted of G. H. Jones, A. K. Olive, P. M. Brett, J. G. Rayner and W. H. Hicks.

BECOME CANADIANS

Ottawa, Dec. 5.—During the past year 18,348 persons in Canada were granted naturalization certificates. The grand total issued to date is 146,833.

HOW TO DRESS AND SHIP POULTRY

In the first place poultry should be well fed and well watered, and then kept from 18 to 24 hours without food before killing. Stock dresses out brighter when well watered and adds to the appearance. Pull crops injure the appearance and are liable to sour, and when this does occur, correspondingly lower prices must be accepted than obtained for choice. Never kill by wringing neck.

Dressing Chickens

Kill by bleeding in mouth or opening of veins of the neck; hang by the feet until properly bled. Leave head and feet on and do not remove intestines nor crop. Scalded chickens sell best. For scalded chickens the water should be as near the boiling point as possible without boiling—160 to 175 degrees Fahrenheit; pick the legs dry before scalding; hold by the head and legs and immerse and dip up and down five or six times; if the head is immersed it turns the color of the comb and gives the eyes a shrunken appearance, which leads the buyers to think the fowl had been sick; the feathers and pin feathers should be removed immediately, while the body is warm, very cleanly and without breaking the skin; then "plump" by dipping ten seconds in water nearly or quite boiling hot; hang in cool place (or better place on shelves in shape you wish them to appear when cooled—hanging draws the breast muscles and makes them look thinner when cool and harder to pack) until the animal heat is entirely out of the body. To dry pick chickens properly, the work should be done while the chickens are bleeding; do not wait and let the bodies get cold. Dry picking is much more easily done while the bodies are warm. Be careful not to break and tear the skin.

Dressing Turkey

Observe the same instructions as given for preparing chickens, but always dry pick. Pick when warm to avoid tearing. The tail feathers come off with a twist—a straight pull will "set" them. Dressed turkeys, when dry picked, always sell best and command better prices than scalded lots, as the appearance is brighter and more attractive. Endeavor to market all old and heavy gobblers before January 1, as after the holidays the demand is for small, fat hen turkeys only, old toms being sold at a discount to canners.

Ducks and Geese

should be scalded in the same temperature of water as for other kinds of poultry, but it requires more time for the water to penetrate and loosen the feathers. Some parties advise after scalding to wrap them in a blanket for the purpose of steaming; but they must not be left in this condition long enough to cook the flesh. Do not undertake to dry pick geese and ducks just before killing for the purpose of saving the feathers as it causes the skin to become very much inflamed and is a great injury to the sale. Do not pick the feathers off the head;