

LIBERALS AND HOUSE OF LORDS ABOLITION NOT AIM, SAYS THE PREMIER Asquith Again Declares in Favor of Irish Home Rule.

London, Dec. 11.—At a monster meeting last night in Albert hall, Premier Asquith laid down the policy on which the Liberal government is appealing to the country. He repeated what had been said by other ministers, that if they were returned to power, the government would demand the limitation of the power of the House of Lords, and then went a step further and pleaded the Liberal party to grant self-government to Ireland. The meeting was marked by the greatest enthusiasm. The audience which filled the vast hall, greeted Asquith and the ministers who accompanied him with round after round of applause. The audience was entirely male, women having been excluded in the fear of demonstrations by suffragettes. They managed to get two male supporters into the meeting who interrupted Mr. Asquith momentarily with cries of "votes for women." They were promptly ejected. Mr. Asquith pointed out that just four years ago Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, when prime minister, had outlined in Albert hall the policy of a new Liberal government, which included many reforms. The representatives of the people in the House of Commons had labored faithfully to carry into law the measures promised, but they had been nullified, and as a fitting climax, the supplies which the House of Commons had voted had been stopped on by the House of Lords. Therefore, the House of Commons is now in a position to demand another dissolution, and it had fallen to his lot to take up the burden. The last time, he said, the government had reckoned without their host, but it was not going to make that mistake again. The Liberal Task. "I tell you in the name and in behalf of the Liberal party," Mr. Asquith proceeded, "we have at this moment laid upon us a single task—a task which dominates and transcends because it embraces and involves every great and beneficent social and political change upon which our hearts are set. That task is to vindicate and establish upon an unshakable foundation the principal of representative government." Referring to the education and licensing bills, the premier said that the government stood, in the main, on the principles of the bill which the House of Lords rejected. The franchise law, he added, was still encumbered with artificial distinctions and impediments, for which there was no justification. On woman suffrage, Mr. Asquith said his views were well known, and he had no reason to alter them despite the suicidal excesses of a small section of the advocates for such a change. Ireland. Mr. Asquith, turning his attention to Ireland, said he had been fortunate for once, because the measures set up in her behalf did not come violently athwart the prejudices of the House of Lords. "Speaking last year before my accession to the premiership," Mr. Asquith continued, "I described the Irish situation as the one undeniable failure of British statesmanship. I repeat tonight what I said then, and on behalf of my colleagues, and I believe on behalf of my party, I reiterate that there in one way—only by a policy, which while explicitly safeguarding the supreme, indivisible authority of the Imperial parliament, can set up in Ireland a system of full self-government, as regards purely Irish affairs. "There's not, and cannot be any question of separatism. There is not and cannot be any question of rivalry or competition for supremacy. Subject to these conditions, that is the Liberal policy. For reasons which I believe to be being adequately explained in the present parliament was disabled in advance from proposing any such solution, but in the new House the Liberal government at the head of a Liberal majority will be in this matter entirely free." Defends Budget. Mr. Asquith defended the budget as necessary to social reform and in this respect old age pensions were the first step. The budget, he continued, had been thrown out by the House of Lords after weeks of debate, and the government as a result was confronted with three constitutional innovations, first the claim of the House of Lords to control the levying of taxation; second the claim of the same House to the right to compel dissolution of the popular chamber; and third the assertion of the House of Lords of their power to make and unmake the executive government of the Crown. "What has been done," declared Mr. Asquith, "may be done again. It becomes our first duty to make it recurrence impossible. We shall therefore demand authority from the electorate to translate an ancient, unwritten usage into an act of parliament and to place upon the statute book recognition explicit of the settled doctrine of our constitution, that it is beyond the province of the House of Lords to meddle to any degree or for any purpose with the national finances." House of Lords. The premier said that neither he nor any other Liberal minister supported by a majority in the House of Commons was going to submit again to the rebuffs and humiliations of the last four years. They would not assume office unless they could secure safeguards which experience showed to be necessary for the legislative Chamber. The Liberal party, Mr. Asquith declared, was not promoting the abolition of the House of Lords, or the setting up of a single chamber, but it asked the electorate that the House of

Lords should be confined to the functions proper of the second chamber, and that the absolute veto must go. The government was unanimous in its demand for the absolute control of the finances by the House of Commons, the maintenance of free trade and an effective curtailment of the limitation of the power of the House of Lords. The meeting carried a resolution declaring unabated confidence in Mr. Asquith's leadership. David Lloyd George, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who moved a vote of thanks to the chairman of the meeting, received an ovation.

JAPANESE OPEN PORT ARTHUR EXPECTED TO RESULT INCREASE OF TRADE

Steps Taken in Connection With Colonization Policy in Manchuria.

Tokio, Dec. 11.—The Japanese foreign department to-day admitted that a decision has been reached to open Port Arthur to foreign trade, placing it upon the same footing as the port of Dairen. This step was taken, it was explained, as a necessary procedure in the furtherance of the Japanese colonization policy in Manchuria. Dairen was made a free port at the time of the Russo-Japanese war and following this move in the direction of commercial freedom, its trade increased by leaps and bounds. The decision on the part of the Japanese foreign office to open Port Arthur on the same terms provides two free ports along the Southern Manchurian peninsula, and is expected confidently to result in an enormous increase of Oriental trade with the commercial nations of Europe and the United States.

GIRL INJURED IN COASTING ACCIDENT

Sleigh Collides With a Delivery Wagon at New Westminster.

New Westminster, Dec. 9.—Miss Laura Lavery, second daughter of A. L. Lavery, of this city, is confined to the house at the present time suffering from a badly sprained and crushed ankle, the result of the first coasting accident of the present winter. Miss Lavery, in company with Miss Thelma Innesley, was coasting down Sixth street when the accident occurred. The sleigh, which was traveling at considerable speed, had just reached the corner of Agnes street when a delivery rig crossed the street. Neither the driver of the rig nor the two young ladies on the sleigh had time to do anything to avoid the collision, and the sleigh crashed headlong into the back wheel of the rig. Miss Lavery, who was seated in front, got her foot caught between the wheel and the front of the sleigh, and when extricated from the wreck was found to be suffering from a badly injured ankle. Miss Innesley escaped with a bad shaking up.

WANT WOMEN FOR SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Vancouver Local Council of Women Agitate for the Change.

Vancouver, Dec. 9.—At the regular meeting of the Local Council of Women the important question of women on school boards was again discussed. It was found by the committee appointed at the last meeting to make inquiries concerning the matter, that the law in vogue prevented the election of married women as school trustees. In view of this, the council finally authorized the committee on laws, consisting of Miss Bowes, Mrs. Kemp, and Mrs. Northrup, to prepare a resolution to be submitted to the national council at the annual meeting, with the request for permission to appeal to the city council, for the readjustment of laws concerning the election of municipal school trustees in order to secure the right of selecting women as school trustees. This it was stated, had been successfully carried through in other places, and the members of the council were unanimous in their decisions to proceed with the matter.

MAN MISSING.

Lillooet, Dec. 9.—Word comes from Bridge river that a young man stopping at the Big Horn ranch is supposed to be lost. He had just come to this part of the country and was looking after the Big Horn property for the Burdettes, the people he had come here with, they having recently purchased the property from B. S. Swanson. It is supposed that the young man was away before any passerby noticed anything wrong, but it seems that he only intended to be gone a short time as his dog was left in the house. He may have come through the ice trying to cross Bridge river, or he might have slipped over some bluff while pursuing mountain sheep or goats.

IMPORTING CHINESE.

Brownsville, Tex., Dec. 10.—In the Federal Court here yesterday eighteen indictments for conspiracy to smuggle Chinese into the United States in violation of the exclusion law were returned by the grand jury. Investigation revealed a concerted plan along the gulf coast for importing Chinese.

ZELAYA'S ARMY IS ON MARCH

PREPARING FOR ATTACK ON BLUEFIELDS

Panic Reigns in Nicaragua City—May Fall Into Hands of Government.

New Orleans, La., Dec. 11.—Zelaya's army, strengthened by several hundred recruits from the interior, are marching upon Bluefields to-day, according to a cablegram received here. The city is said to be panic-stricken. Estrada has thrown out his outposts to meet the attacking army, but it is rumored that the revolutionary force is inferior in numbers to the army Zelaya has mobilized. Estrada sympathizers apparently are consumed with a fear that the city is doomed to fall into the possession of the Zelayas. All the houses in the city, they claim, is the landing of marines from the American vessels. Reports from the front heretofore, have indicated that the revolutionists were superior in most of their equipment to the dictator's troops. It is said, however, that Zelaya's agents have been exceedingly active during the last two weeks and many conscripts have been added to their ranks. For more than two weeks Zelaya's army has been lying in the vicinity of Rama. Estrada's forces, expecting an attack, had erected fortifications and dug trenches about the town, which were interspersed with barbed wire. Several minor engagements took place, in which the revolutionists were signally victorious, led the defenders to believe that the dictator was planning a massed attack in the near future.

KILLS SEVEN AND ENDS OWN LIFE

AWFUL CRIME OF WINE MERCHANT

Slays Entire Family and Clerk and Then Puts Bullet Into Brain.

Marseilles, France, Dec. 11.—Suddenly struck by an insane blood lust, Pierre Bouvier, a wealthy wine merchant, to-day shot and killed his wife and mother, butchered his two small daughters and a son with a razor, and shot and killed an older daughter and the chief clerk in his counting house. He ended his bloody carnival by sending a bullet into his own brain. Bouvier was one of the most prominent and wealthy residents of this city and was known throughout the surrounding vineyard country. He arose as usual this morning, but while preparing to go to his place of business, the mania to kill came upon him.

MILLIONAIRE'S SON HAS DISAPPEARED

Is Timber Cruising in the Cariboo—Not Heard From for Month.

Kamloops, B. C., Dec. 9.—A considerable amount of anxiety is being felt by their friends over the mysterious disappearance of a young man named S. V. Howe and his companion, a timber cruiser named Cunningham, who nearly three weeks ago left Kamloops in a motor launch to cruise the Clearwater river and of whom no word has been received since November 13th.

CLOVERDALE LINE SOON TO BE OPENED

New Branch of B. C. Electric From Westminster is Ready.

New Westminster, Dec. 9.—The B. C. Electric Railway will place the Fraser River Valley line in operation as far as Cloverdale about December 20th. At the start three cars will be placed on the run. The schedule and passenger fares have not been yet determined. The distance is about 12 miles and the company expects that the running time from here will be about 45 minutes. As the line continues in operation this time will be probably improved. A gang of men has started laying the tracks on Eighth street for the switching of cars from the Westminster-Vancouver line to the Cloverdale branch. Right after New Years the company will commence tearing down the present station on Columbia street to make way for the handsome new station that will be erected on the old site, and the property to the west on the corner recently acquired.

REPORT ON PLAGUE CONDITIONS.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 9.—Attention to the plague conditions on the Pacific coast is given by the surgeon general of the Public Health and Marine hospital service in his annual report, which was made public yesterday. No cases of human plague occurred in San Francisco during 1909, he says, and there were but four cases of rat plague. The effect of the inspection by the service in San Francisco he continues, has been to place the city in a satisfactory sanitary condition.

SAWMILL WILL BE BUILT NEAR MIDWAY

Logging Operations to Begin Soon—Plant Will Be in Operation Next Year.

Greenwood, Dec. 10.—The Boundary Mining & Exploration Company has sold a tract of land comprising about ten acres, to the owners of the Ingraham creek timber lands. It is understood that the consideration was \$100 per acre. It is the intention of the purchasers to erect a mill immediately on this site, and it is planned to have the mill in operation by the coming summer.

MAJOR HALL DID NOT MAKE HIS PROMISED STATEMENT RESPECTING THE SMITH'S HILL RESERVOIR AT FRIDAY'S MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL, BUT THE LETTER FROM A. L. ADAMS, THE WATER EXPERT, CAME TO HAND WITH INFORMATION WHICH PUTS A NEW LIGHT ON THE WHOLE CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING THAT PIECE OF CIVIC WORK.

MONEY BY-LAWS AT VANCOUVER

Ratepayers to Vote on Proposal to Raise \$1,546,400.

Vancouver, Dec. 9.—The money by-laws to be submitted to the civic electorate on January 13th next, have been formally passed by the council and, as finally decided upon, mean an expenditure of at least \$1,700,000 more than was recommended by the special meeting of the finance committee. The increases briefly are: The Coal Harbor bridge will be made 150 feet wide instead of 100 feet, and the by-law therefore jumps from \$85,000 to \$135,000. The sum of \$10,000 has been added to the parks improvement by-law, to provide for the improving of Hastings park other than exhibition grounds. Nearly \$80,000 extra has been put on the property purchase by-law, with which to acquire the block of land between the General hospital and the High school, and the gate at the intersection of Westminster avenue and Westminster road, as far up the hill as the south side of Eighth avenue. The firehall by-law of \$35,000 has been increased to the original \$50,000, and the extra amount is to be used for the construction of a new hall in West Keesling. A new by-law, in so far as amount is concerned, was added in the adoption of a measure calling for the expenditure of \$30,000 in acquiring property to widen Robson street at its intersection with Cambie street and thus provide an easy approach to the Cambie street bridge.

SHOT BY DOG

Hunter Falls to Rally From Effects of Accident.

Pendleton, Ore., Dec. 11.—Henry LaBrash, who was shot by his dog while hunting near Gibbon a few days ago, died at the hospital in this city. An operation was performed in which his leg was amputated, and the shock, together with great loss of blood, caused his death. LaBrash had leashed his loaded gun against some bushes and walked a short distance away, when his dog jumped into the bushes and his gun to the ground and causing it to explode. The bullet entered LaBrash's leg.

ENGINE HUNG OVER PRECIPICE

Grand Forks, Dec. 9.—A C. P. R. freight had a close call near Shields. A rockslide had torn the track and the engine left the track and was stopped in such a position that it was hanging over a sheer drop of over one thousand feet. The train had to be transferred twice while the damage was being repaired and the engine hauled from its dangerous position.

ALBERTA WINTER WHEAT

Calgary, Dec. 11.—Grain experts and farmers are carefully noting with reference to winter wheat all conditions of weather, system of soil culture adopted, etc., that may affect the crop. Weather conditions at present must materially aid the crop, and it is now generally conceded by experts that those who irrigated wheat lands this fall secured a stand which excels in every way fields of grain that were dependent for their moisture upon the natural rainfall.

WILL ASSIST JEFFRIES

Burlington, Iowa, Dec. 11.—Jack Root, ex-pugilist, who is now running a theatre here, has been asked to assist training Jeffries in his fight with Johnson's style, the negro having trained him for several fights ten years ago.

MUST EMPTY THE RESERVOIR

EXPERT ARTHUR ADAMS WANTS THIS DONE

Sends Important Letter to the Council—Mayor Maintains Silence.

Mayor Hall did not make his promised statement respecting the Smith's Hill reservoir at Friday's meeting of the city council, but the letter from A. L. Adams, the water expert, came to hand with information which puts a new light on the whole controversy surrounding that piece of civic work. Mr. Adams points out that the city should have emptied the reservoir and examined the bottom, as he repeatedly suggested. Why this action was not taken was explained to the press after the meeting by Water Commissioner Raymond.

WESTMINSTER MAY ABANDON CHARTER

Its Citizens Will Vote on the Question on Monday Next.

New Westminster, Dec. 9.—In addition to the balloting for mayor, trustees and aldermen on Monday next, the electors of the city will be called upon to decide whether New Westminster shall remain under its present charter, or whether it should abandon the charter and allow itself to be governed along with the majority of the other cities throughout the province and all the municipalities under the Municipal Classes Act.

PURCHASES HOME

Chief Justice Has Bought W. F. Burton's Residence on St. Charles Street.

Hon. J. A. Macdonald, chief justice of the Court of Appeal, has purchased the residence of W. F. Burton on St. Charles street. There is a large house on the property which embraces half an acre of land. The sale was put through by Helsterman, Forman & Co. The premises will be occupied by the purchaser shortly.

BUILDING ACTIVE

Kamloops, Dec. 8.—The growth of Kamloops during the past year has been remarkable, particularly so in the matter of capital investment in building and civic improvements. A summary of the amount of building completed in the city during the past eleven months and those structures which will be completed during the close of the year reached the total of \$383,000.

AN UNNATURAL MOTHER.

Held Son's Hand Against Red Hot Stove to Punish Him for Disobedience.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 11.—Found guilty on a technical charge of battery, Mrs. Lillian Hooper, who held her baby son's hand against a red hot stove to punish him for a childish disobedience, was sentenced to-day to spend 30 days in the county jail. The child was brought into court to-day and the seared little hand exhibited as evidence against the unnatural mother.

NEW GOVERNOR IS SWORN IN

HON. T. W. PATERSON TAKES OATH OF OFFICE

Ceremony Took Place on Saturday and Was Simple.

Hon. Thomas Wilson Paterson was sworn in as Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia at 11 o'clock on Saturday by Rodolphe Boudreau, clerk of the Privy Council, who came out from Ottawa for the purpose. The simple ceremony took place in the executive council chamber at the government building and was strictly private, not even the press being admitted. Hon. Price Ellison, Chief Commissioner of Lands, represented the government, and the only other present were Hon. James Dunsmyr, the outgoing holder of the office, and H. J. Muskett, private secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor.

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FAIR DEFICIT IS GROWING

STATED IT MAY AMOUNT TO \$15,000

Facts Not Available Until Auditor's Report Has Been Made.

It was reported to the Times Saturday on excellent authority that the amount to be met by the city in connection with the financial affairs of the late Fair under the auspices of the Agricultural Society would amount to a much larger amount than was previously mentioned—that the figure would not be \$7,000, as stated a few weeks ago, nor yet \$10,000, as given in another estimate, but in the neighborhood of \$15,000.

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STANDS

POSTPONED

Amendments Before B...

From S... No immediate... by the City C... creation of a... accordance with... last session of... decision was... meeting of the... ing when it v... tain suggested... before the U... What these m... will be made... ing's regular... The by-law w... presented last... erred.

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