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CANADA'S GIFT TO STARVING JAPS

Twenty Thousand Bags of Flour to Be Sent There

A Sample of Yeast in Each Package with Directions Printed in Their Own Language Telling Them How to Make the Best Bread on Earth---Shipments to Undergo Strict Inspection.

Ottawa, Feb. 22.—(Special)—The Canadian government has purchased \$25,000 worth of wheat flour which will be shipped to Japan for the relief of the famine-stricken sufferers in the northern part of the kingdom, where the rice crop, the staple food of the people, has proved a total failure. The flour has been largely purchased in Winnipeg and Portage La Prairie, but a part has been milled in British Columbia from Alberta wheat.

It will be sent forward in white cotton sacks, each holding 49 pounds and enclosed in a bag of coarse jute. The sides of both bags will bear this inscription in Japanese characters: "Canadian wheat flour for the special use of making bread in the eastern famine suffering people. The gift of the Canadian government."

Twenty thousand bags of cotton and an equal number of bags of jute will be needed to transport the flour. It will go forward in two shipments, the first leaving British Columbia on March 3.

Flour will not be the only thing in the bags. Advantage will be taken of this opportunity to impress the Japanese with the advantage of making bread from Canadian flour. At present they convert flour into macaroni and other foods which lack the substantial character of bread. Hence each bag will contain directions how to make bread and a sample of yeast to help to give effect to them. The directions are on leaflets of fine paper and are printed in the best Japanese that the Mikado's scholarly and erudite representative in the Canadian capital, Consul-General T. Nossé, could command.

Hon. Mr. Fisher's Idea.

It is scarcely necessary to state the reasons for such a practical demonstration

of friendship for the Japanese, nor to say that the minister of agriculture, Hon. Sydney Fisher, responsible for the recommendation, upon which the government has acted. Mr. Fisher learned with regret that owing to the utter failure of the rice crop in many districts of northern Japan, where the inhabitants are dependent upon the product for subsistence, a condition of famine prevails. By the participation of the dominion in the fifth national exhibition held at Osaka in the year 1903 the most friendly relations were established with the people of the Japanese empire, which have become closer as time has gone on.

As an evidence of the good will of the empire towards the dominion the latter has been admitted as a party to the Anglo-Japanese treaty whereby trade relations on the most advantageous terms were established between the two countries.

In Mr. Fisher's opinion the wheat flour of Canada can replace the rice of Japan as a food with benefit to the consumers in the present lamentable situation. Accordingly the minister recommended that as a mark of sympathy with the people of Japan in their distress there should be sent to that country out of the bountiful harvest with which it had pleased Divine Providence to bless the dominion as much wheat flour as could be bought for \$25,000. This recommendation met with the hearty and unanimous endorsement of Mr. Fisher's colleagues.

Most of the flour purchased has been inspected by an expert so as to insure the being of the right quality. Today Chief Inspector Horn, of Winnipeg, deputed an official to go to British Columbia and inspect the wheat emanating from the mills there.

WILL REVOLUTIONIZE THE LIFE INSURANCE BUSINESS

New York Legislative Committee Recommends Changes to Curb Graft and Give Policyholders a Chance---A Limit to New Business of Companies and Also to Salaries of Officials---Restrictions About Investments and a Stop to Syndicates --- Conclusions About Different Concerns' Solvency.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)
New York, Feb. 22.—The recommendations of the Armstrong investigating committee as presented to the legislature today will, if enacted into law, completely revolutionize the business of life insurance.

The salient feature of the report, which has been awaited with the greatest interest, were presented accurately in this correspondence on Feb. 16. At a glance, the principal recommendations are:

That the insurance law be amended to

That the limit of annual new business be fixed at \$150,000,000.
That a drastic measure be passed to prevent political contributions.
To Register Lobbyists.
That lobbyists be registered and that each company submit itemized accounts of its legislative expenses.
That all salaries over \$5,000 a year be fixed by the trustees and not by a committee or officer.
That the rebate law be amended to

do away with syndicate transactions, safeguard investments, prohibit contributions for political purposes, stamp out lobbying, prevent the big companies from increasing their business to the danger point, abolish preferred dividend policies and make agents' commissions uniform. These are a few of the recommendations.

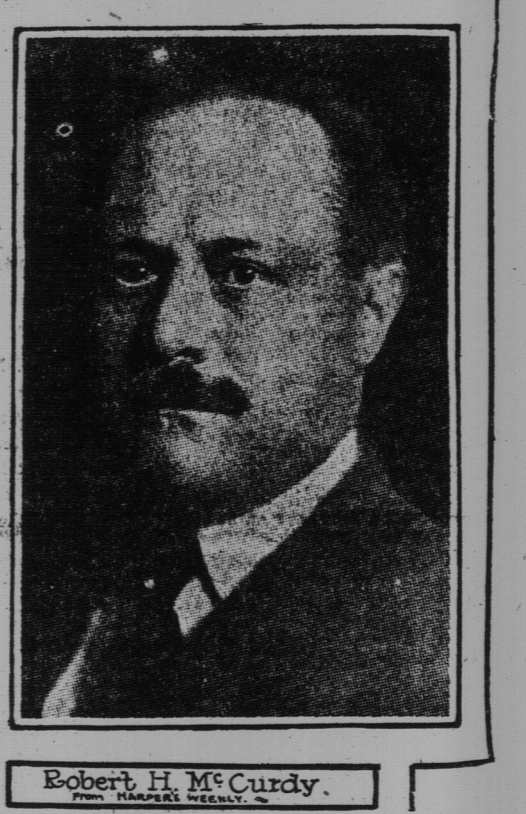
Want All Companies Mutual.

The committee advises that the insurance laws be amended to permit the formation of mutual companies without capi-

Men Sued by the Mutual Life Insurance Company



Richard A. McCurdy
New York, Feb. 22.—Charles A. Peabody, president of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, authorized the statement that civil suits have been begun in the Supreme Court against Richard A. McCurdy, former president of the Mutual Life, Robert H. McCurdy, former general manager, Colonel Charles H. Raymond and Louis A. Thebaud, constituting the firm of Charles A. Raymond & Co., late general metropolitan agents of the Mutual.



Robert H. McCurdy
New York, Feb. 22.—Charles A. Peabody, president of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, authorized the statement that civil suits have been begun in the Supreme Court against Richard A. McCurdy, former president of the Mutual Life, Robert H. McCurdy, former general manager, Colonel Charles H. Raymond and Louis A. Thebaud, constituting the firm of Charles A. Raymond & Co., late general metropolitan agents of the Mutual.

permit the organization of mutual corporations without capital stock.

That all stock companies be converted eventually into purely mutual companies.

That all present proxies be rescinded and that the life of proxies hereafter be limited to two months preceding election.

That provisions be made to give "free and effective expression to the will of the policyholders in elections."

That the terms of all present trustees or directors shall expire on Nov. 15 next, and that the next elections be held under the supervision of the superintendent of insurance.

That stock investments of the companies be prohibited except in stocks of municipal corporations.

make the receiver equally guilty with the giver.

That syndicate transactions be prohibited.

That dividends be distributed annually and that the issuance of so-called deferred dividend policies be prohibited.

That agents' commissions be made uniform and effective provisions be made to prevent the issuance of such policies.

That provision be made for publicity in the transactions of the companies.

In a word the committee recommends some sort of remedy for all the insurance evils disclosed in its recent investigation. It would utilize all life insurance companies, make the policyholders a factor in their management, curb extravagance in management and in salaries to officers,

It would not make the mutualization of existing stock companies compulsory, but the committee advises that in time the management should convert those companies from a stock to a mutual basis.

The report is explicit in the matter of the rights of the policyholders, who, it points out, are practically helpless under existing conditions.

The committee declares for accessible lists of policyholders before elections, for the nomination of candidates representing the administration and also independent nomination for the cancellation of existing proxies and "for voting either in person, by mail or by proxy, but for the

FAMILY IN CRITICAL STATE FROM EATING CANNED RHUBARB

Providence, R. I., Feb. 22.—The four members of the family of Gilbert Robillard were in a serious condition today as a result of poisoning from eating preserved rhubarb, and for hours it was feared that they would not recover.

The family consists of Gilbert Robillard, aged 67; Mary, his wife, aged 47; Napoleon, their son, aged 23, and the latter's wife, aged 21. They are all natives of Canada and came here recently from New Hampshire. The rhubarb was purchased in a sealed can and immediately after eating all the members of the family were seized with illness which soon assumed a violent form.

A physician who attended the sufferers and administered antidotes to them, is of opinion that the can contained a poison resembling corrosive sublimate.

DEVONSHIRE AND GOSHEN STILL FIRM FREE TRADERS

London, Feb. 22.—In the house of lords today the Duke of Devonshire provoked a debate on the fiscal question in opening which he announced that he and his friends would oppose to the best of their ability the proposals made by the Unionist leader. The duke added that he remained a Unionist but would not accept a leadership which involved him with the opinions expressed by former Premier Balfour and Joseph Chamberlain.

Former Foreign Secretary Lansdowne defended the policy of Mr. Balfour while Lord Goschen, the former chancellor of the exchequer, associated himself with the Duke of Devonshire in repudiating it.

SUNBURY AFRAID RIVER WATER WILL BE WORSE

Provincial Board of Health Heard Their Protest Last Night About Fredericton Sewage Contaminating the Stream---City Clerk McCready Said One-Third was Emptying Into it Now---J. D. Hazen One of the Objectors.

Fredericton, Feb. 22.—(Special)—The annual conversation at the university this evening was attended by between 200 and 300 persons and passed off most successfully. The guests were received by Chaperones Madam Bailey, Scott and Perott. Dancing was the chief amusement and was carried on in the main corridor, which was artistically decorated with flags and evergreens. Hanlon's orchestra furnished music and a programme of eighteen dances with three supper extra was carried out. Light refreshments were served in the library. St. John, Woodstock and other outside places contributed to the list of guests.

Premier Tweedie's announcement in regard to the Central Railway has given rise to considerable speculation as to the identity of the parties behind the offer submitted to the government. A report that the proposition was made on behalf of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway cannot be traced to any authoritative source. A gentleman close to the government stated this evening that provincial capitalists were interested in the proposition.

A special meeting of the provincial board of health was held at the Queen Hotel this evening to deal with the complaint against the proposed sewage system for this city raised by the Sunbury authorities. Members of the board present were Hon. James Holly, St. John; Dr. Stevens, Moncton; J. H. Barry, Fredericton, and Dr. Forbes, secretary. The Sunbury county council was represented by Councillors Wilson and J. D. Hazen, M. P. P., and City Clerk McCready were present on behalf of the city. Mr. Wilmut read a letter from Dr. Atherton who expressed the opinion that if the sewage of Fredericton was emptied into the river it would make the water unfit for domestic purposes. He also read a letter from W. H. Clement, city engineer of Vancouver, who expressed the opinion that sewage dumped into the river should first pass through septic tanks. The cost of tanks of the kind would be between \$4,000 and \$6,000. Mr. Wilmut also read a letter from his brother, E. A. Wilmut, G. E., of Vancouver, who stated that the practice of discharging crude sewage into rivers passing through settled districts had been abandoned by all civilized countries.

J. D. Hazen claimed that the plans prepared by Engineer Barbour did not call for a modern system of sewage as laid down in the act of assembly passed last year. His views were opposed to having sewage emptied into the river.

Mr. McCready pointed out that already one-third of the sewage of the city was emptied into the river. He did not think that the residue of similar kind any ground for their fears. The system proposed by Mr. Barbour was considered to be thoroughly up-to-date.

There was a general discussion over the matter which lasted more than two hours and members of the board stated that they would give the matter careful consideration and report later as to what action would be taken.

Mrs. Stratton, widow of the late Judge B. L. Peters, of St. John, is critically ill at her home here from pneumonia. She is not expected to live through the night.

Frank McNally, son of Councillor Byron McNally, aged 26 years, died at Queensbury on Wednesday.

The body arrived here at noon today. Harold Boyd, formerly of Upper Canada, who died in Montague City (Mass.) on Monday as the result of an accident. A bridge across the Washademoak at the Narrows was asked for by a delegation that waited on the government this morning. The delegation consisted of Councillor J. S. Robinson, D. Wilson and J. W. Carpenter, M. P. P.'s. The bridge asked for would have to be about eight hundred feet in length. The government promised consideration.

The lieutenant governor entertained the following gentlemen to a state dinner at Government House this evening: Rev. Father Carney, A. F. Street, W. K. C. Parke, Judge Wilson, J. T. Sharkey, J. P. Winslow, S. S. Ryan, M. P. P., Hon. G. E. Hill, G. J. Clarke, M. P. P., Major Bridges, A. D. C. R. S. Barker, C. M. Lezer, M. P. P., R. Maxwell, M. P. P., George Robertson, M. P. P., J. W. Carpenter, M. P. P., F. E. Tweedie, M. P. P., James Barnes, M. P. P., T. A. Hart, M. P. P., E. Lantalam, M. P. P., A. B. Copp, M. P. P., G. G. Scovill, M. P. P., J. James Lovell, M. P. P.

SAYS PUBLIC LIFE IN CANADA IS VERY CORRUPT

Canadian Journalist Frees His Mind in London Paper—Testifies to All of Our Premiers' Honesty.

Montreal, Feb. 22.—(Special)—The Star's London correspondent says: Some small stir has been raised in the Anglo-Canadian fraternity by a Canadian journalist who, visiting England, in a letter to Pall Mall Gazette, alleges that the whole Canadian public life, and no inconsiderable portion of the business life, is permeated with corruption and says that he must be ready to cope with hoodlums at every turn.

A large section of the population, he says, is not capable of being convinced that any man can be so foolish as to run for underman or member of parliament merely for his health. According as a member with a collection, judgeship, or other government place. He winds up with: "There has never yet been a federal premier who has not been free from suspicion of personal enrichment."

PENSION FUND FOR NOVA SCOTIA TEACHERS

Government to Introduce Measure to That Effect—House Opened Thursday.

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 22.—(Special)—The provincial legislature was opened this afternoon with a speech from the throne by Governor Jones. Regarding railway matters, the speech stated that the company, which proposed the construction of the Nova Scotia Eastern Railway having been unsuccessful in the making of its financial arrangements, the government is now conducting negotiations with other parties which, it is hoped, will secure the construction of the line.

A measure will be introduced to authorize the government to grant substantial aid to any responsible company willing to undertake the enterprise.

Several amendments to the education act are promised. One of them is the creation of a pension fund for teachers.

The subject of a readjustment of the financial arrangements between the dominion and the province continues to engage the attention of the government, as well as that of the governments of the sister provinces.

With considerable increased population in some parts of the province, it is desirable to improve the system of conducting criminal prosecutions. It is believed that both efficiency and economy may be promoted by the appointment of permanent crown attorneys in the most populous districts. A measure for the purpose will be submitted.

The resolutions of the Ottawa forestry convention are commended to the house with a view of the adoption of measures that may be required from time to time.

FRENCH PRESS GLOOMY ABOUT MOROCCO STRUGGLE

Warn Germany That No New Advances Will Be Made to Settle the Dispute.

Paris, Feb. 22.—The government does not give any further indication of its intentions in regard to the Moroccan question.

The tone of the French press is that the conference situation is desperate, the only thing remaining being for France to state her case and depart. However, there is no evidence that President Fallieres and Premier Rouvier, both of whom are men of an extremely conservative and pacific character, entirely share the view that the conference is doomed to failure. The semi-official Temps, however, prints a leading article saying that "An accord is impossible."

The Temps adds:

"The Germans begin to believe that France will make new advances. We affirm in the most categorical manner that the German expectations are baseless. France's former proposals represent the maximum of our concessions. Therefore France is resolved to repulse desperate resolutions. She has only to plead her case before the open conference and if Germany persists France will content herself with the status quo, which is less perilous than so-called accords."

DOUBLE DROWNING IN BAY OF FUNDY

William and Heber Prime of Freeport N. S. the Victims

Boat Upset While They Were Tending Lobster Traps---One Clung to Craft and was Almost Ashore when Huge Wave Tore Him From His Hold and He was Lost---Men on Beach Prevented by Gale from Attempting Rescue.

Digby, N. S., Feb. 22.—(Special)—Another sad drowning accident occurred in the Bay of Fundy late this afternoon. Albert William and Heber Prime of Freeport had visited their lobster traps and were returning home in a sail boat their small craft upset off Nineteen Cove on the north shore of Long Island.

Lobster fishermen on the shore saw one man thrown out of the boat as she tumbled over. The other man clung to the wreck, and finally the boat righted herself, filled with water. The wind was blowing a gale from the northeast and the sea was a nasty one.

The waterlogged boat continued to drift towards the shore with its half-drowned occupant but just as it neared the surf three huge waves washed poor Prime overboard and he went down in sight of those on the rocks.

Byron Delaney of Central Grove and Timmie Sullivan jumped over into the surf and nearly lost their lives trying to get hold of the drowning man but he soon disappeared.

The boat washed ashore. The bodies had not been recovered tonight.

William Prime, aged 24, was married and leaves a widow who formerly resided in Annapolis county, and a little child five months old. He was a son of Deacon and Mrs. George Prime and is survived by his parents, three brothers and three sisters. He was an Oddfellow, a Son of Temperance, and highly respected in his native village.

Heber Prime was aged 21, a son of Mr. and Mrs. John Prime, and leaves besides his parents several brothers and sisters. He was a general favorite with everybody.

Digby county loses a large number of lobster fishermen who risk their lives at this time of year in rough weather endeavoring to supply the American market during the season of high prices.

A big sea is running along Digby's water front tonight. The only vessel off Digby is supposed to be the Bear River schooner Yaldare, just arrived from Boston to load lumber at this port.

CONSERVATIVES HELD SEAT IN NORTH TORONTO

D. K. McNaught Had 1421 Majority in Thursday's By-election

Defeated ex-Mayor Urquhart, Liberal---Socialist Candidate Got 286 Votes---Dr. Nesbitt Had 1,480 Over Opponent in Last Contest.

Toronto, Feb. 22.—(Special)—D. K. McNaught, Conservative, was elected today over ex-Mayor Urquhart, Liberal, by 1,421 votes for the North Toronto seat in the Ontario legislature. Simpson, the Socialist candidate, was not in the running.

McNaught, Conservative, 3,839.
Urquhart, Liberal, 2,418.
Simpson, Socialist, 286.

The vacancy was caused by the resignation of Dr. Nesbitt to accept the registration.

Dr. Nesbitt was elected last year by a majority of 1,483.

GERMANY AFRAID OF GREAT BRITAIN

Tariff War With United States Would Greatly Benefit Her

High American Duties a Great Obstacle to Its Expansion Says Von Buelow to Reichstag---Wants Nothing Done Till Negotiations for New Treaty Are Concluded.

Berlin, Feb. 22.—Chancellor Von Buelow opened the debate in the Reichstag today on the government's proposal to extend reciprocal tariff to the United States until June 30, 1907. The house was thinly occupied.

The chancellor said that although the United States was the principal exporter of agricultural products and raw materials, German agriculture was not so much interested in a commercial treaty with the United States as is German industry and commerce which suffered through the high American tariffs and by obstacles in the American customs houses.

The imperial government asked the Reichstag to authorize the application of the treaty rates to the United States as a right under the most favored nation interpretation, but in order that the negotiations pending might still be conducted to a satisfactory end and because it was in the interest of both countries to avoid a tariff war.

The chancellor said that he placed a high value on good political relations between Germany and the United States, which were a blessing to both lands, but it would be deceptive to believe that he would buy political friendship by the sacrifice of Germany's economic interests. Although the United States would be injured in its exports the advantage of such a war would rest with a third country.

The chancellor presumably meant Great Britain.

Regarding the length of the period of the tariff arrangement the chancellor said that a longer time might have the appearance of a definite settlement while a shorter one would aid in overcoming the difficulties in the way of a commercial treaty.

"We are therefore forced," said the chancellor, "to ask parliament to consent to this proposal so that we may continue in peace with the United States."

PROMOTION FOR HALIFAX EDITOR

C. S. Barnstead of the Acadian Recorder Now Clerk of Legislative Council---W. B. MacCoy, Assistant.

Halifax, Feb. 22.—(Special)—C. S. Barnstead, editor of the Acadian Recorder, who had been assistant clerk of the legislative council under Arthur Troop, resigned, was today appointed clerk.

There was quite a race for the assistant clerkship, thus vacated, the chief competitors being W. B. MacCoy, barrister, of Halifax, and C. S. Pelton, barrister, of Yarmouth. A contest was held tonight, when MacCoy was elected.

BILL INTRODUCED TO LIFT CANADIAN CATTLE EMBARGO

London, Feb. 22.—A bill was introduced in the house of commons today aimed at the removal of the embargo on the importation of Canadian cattle. The second reading was set for April 6th. The supporters of the measure included several Canadian members. There is every hope of the bill passing the house of commons, but it is feared that it will be defeated in the house of lords.

AN OPEN VERDICT IN CAPE BRETON TRAGEDY

Coroner's Jury Finds Stetka, Wife and Children's Deaths were Suspicious and Recommends Further Inquiry---Opinion that N. S. Shareholders of York Loan Co. are Creditors Because Company Did Business Illegally in the Province.

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 22.—(Special)—A meeting of the Halifax six creditors, of the York County Savings and Loan Company was held tonight. The main point of interest in the proceedings was a written opinion from W. B. A. Ritchie, K. C., stating that the company's shareholders in this province rank as creditors and not merely as shareholders. This is because of a statute passed two years ago which directed that loan companies such as this should take out a license to do business in Nova Scotia. The York County Company never obtained a license, and hence their collection of money here was illegal and those who paid in are entitled to collect as creditors. If this contention succeeds the shareholders in Nova Scotia ranking as creditors, will have a lien on the assets.

The coroner's inquiry into the Stetka tragedy at Dominion No. 1 (C. B.), was concluded this afternoon when the jury returned an open verdict as follows: "In certain respects the death of Anton Stetka, wife and two children, which event occurred at Old Bridgeport, in the county of Cape Breton, the coroner's jury, selected to investigate the same, desire to state that after hearing all the evidence produced, and verifying the same most carefully, we believe such deaths occurred under most unusual and suspicious circumstances, and would recommend a further inquiry under the direct supervision of the Crown."

Judge Meagher, when discharging the grand jury after they had completed their duty, stated that nothing had come before him to warrant him in detaching them from the business at Dominion No. 1.