

PLANNING WORK FOR NEXT YEAR

Canadian-Pacific Programme for West to Be Drawn Up Shortly

OFFICIALS TO WINNIPEG

Many Millions to Be Expended on Improvements and Extensions

Winnipeg, Dec. 4.—Officials of the C.P.R. in various parts of the west are now busy considering the possibility of important undertakings which will be assumed for the operations of next year.

In connection with the discussion of the sum of money which will be asked for in January, when Mr. Whyte makes his annual report to Montreal for this purpose, a number of the western officials of the company will visit the city during the next few days, and with Mr. Bury will go over estimates of the work which in their opinion ought to be done next year.

General Superintendent F. F. Busted, Capt. Troup, of the Pacific Coast P. Steamships, and C. E. Cartwright, Pacific coast engineer for the C.P.R., left Vancouver today for this city, and will on Monday take up the question of the work to be done in British Columbia during 1909.

A week later General Superintendent Price, of Calgary, will be in the city, with other officials from the west, and the amount of money to be expended on that division and the work to be done will also be discussed.

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While the total sum to be expended in the west in 1909 by the C.P.R. in improvements, extensions, and operations, will be less next year than it was during the present year, it will still amount to many millions of dollars.

The total amount to be expended in this way during the present year in the west is said to have been about forty millions.

J. S. Dennis, assistant to Mr. Whyte in Calgary, who has just returned from his tour of inspection in connection with the great irrigation project of the C.P.R. in Alberta, is in the city today, having arrived here from the south.

Mr. Dennis is expected to leave for the west today, but before doing so, he will be in conference with Mr. Whyte with reference to the important work which is being done in the west under his supervision.

Curiosities of Ant Life. "On the morning of August 11," says a writer in St. Petersburg, "I gathered up black ants and a number of their small, brown, egg-shaped cocoons from an ant hill in my yard, and placed them in a shallow tin box, and that later I introduced among them.

"Not long after this I discovered a winged black queen peeping from under the apple tree—very like a blood sister of the others, for when I placed her with them she was not attacked, as was a large white ant, and a black ant that later I introduced among them.

"Strange how ants recognize both friends and enemies through the sense of smell rather than by the sense of sight. No sooner do two ants meet than they cross noses, so to speak, in order to ascertain who is who. If the insects find no common scent, a war is at once declared.

"This was the case when the ant with the red thorax was confined with the black ants. How vicious both species were, how they snapped at and bit each other. One black ant succeeded in grabbing an antenna of the red one, and the latter, in a rage, pulled it out, and the black ant dragged her from place to place.

"Another black ant, seeing her opportunity and caught the hind leg of the enemy who was thus greatly handicapped in her movements. Still, she succeeded in killing both black and red ants, though she could not see herself from their death grip until I came to her assistance.

SHAH IS IN FAVOR OF A CONSTITUTION

Says People of Persia Must Be Brought Gradually to Self-Rule

Teheran, Dec. 3.—His Majesty the Shah of Persia granted an audience this afternoon to the local representatives of the Associated Press and expressed a keen desire to dissipate some of the false impressions regarding his attitude on constitutionalism.

His Majesty asserted his belief in a constitution as an essentially necessary for the advancement of Persia and the wellbeing and prosperity of the Persian people. He said he realizes what a great source of progress parliamentary government has been to the other nations, but the deplorable results of the present situation in Persia, and the work of the last majlis, give ample proof of the necessity for a gradual development of the system in this country.

The work of the last majlis, of progressive and the experience of the people with the majlis led to a widespread feeling against a revival of the constitution, under which the intelligent masses anticipated a return of the evils to which they were subjected under the first assembly.

"It is necessary that the people be brought gradually to appreciate the value of these institutions, and this is my aim. It is quite true that there are two classes in the country, one for and one against a constitution, but it is precisely for this reason that I fear a hasty decision might lead to disturbances, which I am anxious to avoid. The work of the last majlis caused sufficient trouble and bloodshed.

"The council of state which I have summoned will deal with all these questions. It is true that the members of this council are not deputies, but from this small beginning I hope that the council will gradually develop into an important assembly. I hope to train my people properly to appreciate a larger constitutional regime.

Referring to the existing situation at Tabriz, his majesty said: "It is a mistake to suppose that the population of this city wants a constitution, or that it would be a source of trouble. Similar disturbances were prevalent a year ago in Tabriz, while parliament was sitting. The people of Tabriz are naturally a law-abiding people, and they do, a large number of Caucasians."

Sir Frederick Borden criticized humorously an article in the London Times yesterday by a gentleman who had spent a month in the Dominion. (Laughter.) He declared there was no fear that Canada would step aside from her present path of progress. (Hear, hear, and applause.) He said: "We claim the right to dictate and control our own trade policy. We do not intend to surrender to any other country the same right. We do not give the preference for the purpose of making a bargain." (Cheers.)

The United States, he said, is not an object he would not define further had he not done so. He said he had defied her neighbor and had conquered. (Loud applause.) Canada's heart was in the world, Canada had defied her neighbor and had conquered. (Loud applause.) Canada's heart was in the world, Canada had defied her neighbor and had conquered.

"At a critical time when, above all, it was necessary that the National party should be united, the arrival of the leader of the party and of the meeting of the party summoned by his order to take counsel together, was a matter of great importance. The arrival of the leader of the party and of the meeting of the party summoned by his order to take counsel together, was a matter of great importance.

"Such proceedings, accompanied as they have been by foolish threats and abuse, and the effect than to discredit all who were engaged in them and to greatly encourage the treasury in resisting the reasonable demands made by the Irish party.

"Permit me to tell you, says Mr. O'Brien, in his letter to Mr. Birrell, 'That Ireland most certainly will stand the Cork deputation, and that I do not think that Ireland will be seriously disturbed.'"

"The keynote in all these proceedings is to be found in an extract from a letter in Mr. O'Brien's own paper, published on September 5 last: 'When the leaders have proved false to the national interests, the people will now, as always, be found alive to what concerns their own welfare.'"

"The Cork meeting was called in pursuance of this proclamation to save, with the assistance of the Barrymore and Dunneven, the people from the leaders who had proved false to them."

"And it is not an edifying spectacle to see Mr. O'Brien, with the aid of Lord Barrymore, struggling to rescue the Irish people from the hands of the leaders who had proved false to them, and not talking the language of alliance with a body of men who are at this very moment denouncing the government for refusing to use the Coercion Act and for allowing the State Commissioners to waste time and money on restoring the evicted tenants."

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ALBERTA LAND PURCHASE

Calgary, Dec. 5.—M. D. Terrel and W. G. O'Rut, of Spokane, have purchased a large tract of well-improved farming and stock lands located in Alberta, the price being \$28,750.

The tract is improved and is an up-to-date stock ranch, with a large part already cultivated. It is located in the southern part of Alberta, six miles from Lunenburg.

RIOTOUS PILLAGERS IN PORT AU PRINCE

Wild Scenes Follow President's Flight—Order Now Fairly Restored

Port au Prince, Dec. 3.—For many hours during the night following the flight of Nord Alexis, riot and pillage prevailed in Port au Prince. The population, maddened by the spirit of revolt, gave vent to their passions. They looted stores and residences and fought among themselves over the spoils.

The riotous pillagers were only held in check by General Perceval, which fired a volley into the mob and finally drove the rioters into submission.

In all twelve people were killed and many wounded before order was restored. The committee of public safety placed scores of citizens under arms today, and comparatively tranquility now reigns.

French and German ministers have jointly given notification that if the disorders commenced again they would lead forces from the warships already here.

Nord Alexis, the deposed president, who spent a restless night on board the French training ship, Duguay Trouin, has been the object of much consideration on the part of the commander of the ship and the officers.

A great quantity of stolen articles have been sent to the central police station, and 150 looters, men and women, have been arrested.

The last body of troops which were sent to Port au Prince, under General Simon, were charged for the different grades of workmen per day. The bookkeeper was called, but he could not tell the percentage of profit on supplies.

The inquiry is expected to close on Saturday.

The Halifax dockyard had a hundred men added to its staff during the month of October because there was an election on one of the boats.

Stevens, the bookkeeper for Howell & Company, was the most interesting witness in the case.

C. E. Schmidt, inspector of boilers for the department, told of commissions he had received from different firms doing business with the department.

Mr. Watson, Schmidt finally admitted that he had received a check for \$150 and that he had given it to the contractor to commit perjury.

MYSTERY OF LOANS IS STILL UNSOLVED

Standard Officials and Suggested Borrower Are All in Ignorance

New York, Dec. 2.—Efforts on the part of federal counsel to obtain information regarding the loans of \$2,000,000 to P. S. Trainor by the Southern Pipe Line company, a Standard subsidiary, came to nothing today in the cross-examination of John D. Archibold in the government suit to dissolve the so-called oil trust.

The cross-examination of Mr. Archibold was practically concluded today, when an adjournment of the case was taken until next Monday.

H. M. Tifford, president of the Standard Oil company of California, and A. Moffitt, president of the Standard Oil company of Indiana, will likely follow Mr. Archibold on the stand, after when Wm. Rockefeller will be called.

Each of Mr. Archibold's cross-examination today had to do with rebates paid by the railroads in the early days. Mr. Archibold took the position that rebates at that time were a matter of bargaining in which each shipper strove to obtain the best terms.

Some amusement was created when Mr. Archibold declared that when one obtained a rate from a railroad man he was not always sure but that on his way home the railroadman would give some other shipper a lower rate.

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HOUSEDOMSTRAKES

Moosejaw, Sask., Dec. 3.—The total number of housedomstrokes for the month of November recorded at the land office was 1,806.

Prince Albert, Sask., Dec. 3.—An epidemic of diphtheria has broken out in the lumber camps. Three are quarantined and eight men are laid up.

Paris, Dec. 3.—King Peter of Serbia states in an interview with a representative of the country, Serbia will not return to the north, but will depart from a correct attitude towards Austria.

He said the calling out of the reserves was merely a precautionary measure, and that the country's sense of security. The result of the conference was awaited by Serbia with concern, as the peace was at stake. But should Serbia be attacked she would fight to the death.

AUSTRALIA WAS CROSSED BY MOTOR

First Automobile Has Crossed Continent From Adelaide to Port Darwin

Sydney, N. S. W., Dec. 3.—Australia is the latest continent to be crossed by motor. H. Dutton, of the Automobile Club of Australia, accompanied by a mechanic, has successfully accomplished the journey from Adelaide in the south to Port Darwin in the north, a distance of about 2,100 miles.

Other transcontinental journeys, this performance is, nevertheless, a sufficiently remarkable achievement. A great part of the country traversed is practically a trackless waste.

On this occasion a more powerful car was provided, and every possible obstacle was done beforehand to guard against failure.

The worst parts of the journey were crossing the parched, steep and stony hills of the Flinders Ranges, and the Flinders Ranges, with their mulls and splinters, and the sandy spinifex desert constituting most of the country between Barrow's and Powell's Creeks, across the rough Sturt Plains between Powell's and Pine Creeks.

Approaching the last-mentioned place the motorists encountered a bad crossing, in which a car was 4 feet of strongly running water. A tarpaulin was secured over the front of the car, which was driven full speed through the stream, carrying by its impetus a sheet of water some 20 feet to 30 feet up the opposite bank.

The car and its occupants were covered on several occasions by clouds of green mud, and other insects dislodged from their nests overhead.

Winnipeg, Dec. 4.—A remarkable triumph of discipline was accomplished at the Machray school this morning. Owing presumably to the heat of the building, a bottle of methylated spirits was thrown and exploded. The word was immediately given, and the children to go outside, and the first alarm was rung in. It took just one minute to get the children out, and the last child to leave the building, which was nearly two minutes before the arrival of the brigade.

The judge said that it was impossible for a crippled man to go upon the market, and the firm must pay the 10s. 1d. a week.

"But," he added, I should think work of some kind would be good for him."

"You are looking forward to 10s. 1d. a week for the rest of your life?"

PLANS TO REFORM HOUSE OF LORDS

Report of Select Committee on Subject Offers Radical Suggestions

London, Dec. 3.—The report of the select committee of the House of Lords appointed to suggest a plan for the reform of the upper house, issued today. The committee finds it undesirable that the possession of a peerage should of itself give the right to sit and vote in the House of Lords, and it recommends that qualification should be the main test of admission to the reformed house.

Hereditary Peers to Be Represented By Two Hundred Elected

The report sets forth that all hereditary peers should be formed into an electoral body for the purpose of electing two hundred of their number to sit and vote in the House of Lords, in place of the present 260 hereditary peers.

The report also suggests that the number of hereditary peers should be reduced to ten, to be elected by the bishops, the two archbishops sitting during the tenure of their sees, and the other eight for the duration of parliament; that Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa have official representation in the House of Lords; that a number of hereditary peers, estimated at 130, possessing certain qualifications, should sit without the necessity of election, these to include men who have held the post of cabinet minister, viceroys, governor-general of Canada and the other chief officers of high rank, and that twenty years' service in the House of Commons should entitle one to a seat among the peers.

This plan will give the reformed House of Lords about 350 members, namely three peers of the royal blood, 200 peers to be elected, 10 spiritual lords and 5 Judges.

The report adds that the commission of the Parkes Bill, in power, should be able to make a substantial following in the House of Lords, but as opinions are so diverse, it is unable to make any recommendations.

More Landsealers. Calgary, Dec. 4.—Messrs. Crapo and Robinson, of the Canadian Pacific, are in the city today with a party of landsealers.

Compensation and Unemployment. Many of the evil results arising from the British Workmen's Compensation Act have already been pointed out. To-day the report of the select committee on the subject of unemployment in Great Britain.

Large numbers of middle aged and elderly men have been discharged by employers on the assumption that they are more liable to accidents than younger men.

An evil effect of another kind was shown in the case of the Bow Court the other day when the demoralizing influence of the act on a young man was demonstrated with great clearness.

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