

## SPEECHES AND PROCEEDINGS IN THE COMMONS

## MOVEMENT TO HAVE COURTS DEAL WITH DIVORCE CASES

Parliament Hears Interesting Discussion by Premier Borden, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Hon. Mr. Fielding and Others—Long Argument on Yukon Election Case.

Ottawa, May 16.—In the House of Commons this morning Hon. Roderick D. Duff drew the attention of the government to the unusual number of divorce bills. He asked if the prime minister had noticed a recent judgment rendered by the supreme court in Manitoba in which it was decided that the courts in that province had the right to grant divorces. It was said that by the provisions of the British North America Act, Manitoba retained the benefit of the English law on divorce. Mr. Laurier said he had heard no contradiction of this pronouncement and he understood Saskatchewan made the same contention. In view of the seriousness of the matter he asked for an expression of an opinion on the part of the government.

Sir Robert.

Sir Robert Borden said that he knew nothing of the decision referred to save what had appeared in the public press. The three maritime provinces had exercised the right of granting divorces in the past and this right had never been questioned. In his opinion, it was very desirable that divorce cases should be referred to the courts and dealt with in a judicial way. In a divorce court the presiding judge, in undefended cases, must appoint a proctor to take charge of the defence. This officer must assure himself that there was no collusion between the parties. The prime minister said that he was glad that the right to grant divorces had been asserted in the western provinces. The present system was highly unsatisfactory. It might be a good idea to see if the right to grant divorces could be transferred to the courts or at any rate, to a judicial committee. The senate might ratify the divorce after receiving the report of this committee.

Sir Wilfrid.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that the right of the provinces to grant divorces was a constitutional question which could be decided only by the supreme judicial authorities. The question was whether any province established since confederation had the right to establish divorce courts. It was a question of interpretation of the constitution and the sooner it was decided the better.

Hon. Mr. Fielding.

Hon. W. S. Fielding said it was not contended that the province of Manitoba could create divorce courts. The claim was that the divorce court was already there, and that it was not the fact that Manitoba had recently granted a divorce. The parliamentary system was a bad system. There should be a general divorce court. Consideration of the Yukon election case followed. The point at issue was whether overseas military voters could vote on election day in the Yukon (December 31, 1917), should be included. The votes were 256 for Dr. Thompson, Unionist, and 238 for Congdon, opposition.

Mr. Tweedie, of Calgary, moved that the report of the committee on privileges and elections which favored the case being submitted to the supreme court of Canada or two judges of the supreme court of Ontario, be not concurred in, but that it be referred back to the committee for further consideration and reported.

Amendment Moved.

Mr. Devlin (Wright), said the case was purely a question of law and should go to the supreme court. He moved an amendment to Mr. Tweedie's motion, to the effect that the committee's report be concurred in. The motion was seconded by D. D. McKenzie (North Cape Breton). Hon. Arthur Meighen, supported Mr. Tweedie's motion. Hon. W. S. Fielding could not agree with the minister of the interior, that the question had been referred to the committee on privileges and elections to settle it. Surely, Mr. Fielding said, that was not the spirit in which the House adopted the motion. He said that the committee should consider and act as it thought best. The point was whether the House should settle the question itself or obtain a judicial opinion on a judicial matter.

Afternoon Session.

Discussion on the Yukon election case was continued at the afternoon sitting of the House. Ernest LaPointe said that even if any act of parliament was necessary to give effect to the report of the committee on privileges and elections, such an act could very easily be passed. There was no question of the fact in the case.

Sir Robert Borden said that Mr. LaPointe attached a meaning to the report of the committee on privileges and elections, and to the later amendment which it was hard to follow. Did Mr. LaPointe suggest that the governor-in-council or the House of Commons had the power to refer a matter of this kind to two judges of the supreme court of Ontario. The whole thing would degenerate into a farce if an attempt to do this was made. Neither the governor-in-council nor the House had any such power. With regard to referring the matter to the supreme court of Canada, Sir Robert expressed the opinion that such action had been taken by the governor-in-council in the past and that he thought it should not be done in the future. The committee, he said, had made a report to the House which was impracticable and ineffective, and

this report should be referred back to it for further consideration.

Soldiers' Votes.

Should three or four hundred men who went overseas to fight the battles of their country be deprived of their votes on a mere technicality, asked Sir Robert. The men from the Yukon had the same right as those from other parts of Canada to a voice in the political affairs of the country. The war time elections act contained a clause which deliberately sanctioned votes recorded, not for the party candidate, but for the party, the idea being to permit the men to cast their votes whether they knew the candidate or not.

"It never was the contention of this parliament from first to last, added Sir Robert, 'to deprive any man of those 100,000 men overseas of the right to vote because he did not happen to know who the candidate was.'

Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said the legislation of the last session was so hasty that one could not be surprised if a good deal of confusion arose out of it. There had been no reference, he said, to disfranchisement of soldiers. But if soldiers were disfranchised it was the fault of the law and not the intention of parliament. The law should have provided for such a case.

Sir Wilfrid indicated that the ballot paper supplied to soldiers contained a provision under which they could vote, not only for government or opposition, but they could designate by name which candidate they desired to support.

"The soldier could have voted for Mr. Congdon or Mr. Thompson," he said, "but at the time he voted he could not vote for either for neither was a candidate."

The soldier could not select between this candidate and that. If it was intended that the vote should apply in the Yukon, the act should have contained provision to this effect. Some one had blundered and now the present situation had arisen.

Hon. Mr. Doherty.

Hon. C. J. Doherty emphatically opposed the view of the leader of the opposition, that because the votes were taken before nomination, they should be declared illegal. He was far from admitting, he said, that under a correct and reasonable interpretation of the statute by members of the judiciary, the votes would not be counted. Parliament, he said, was not bound by the strict letter of the statute, but such was the case with the judiciary. He maintained that because "some one had blundered" in the drafting of the statute making its meaning not quite clear, this was not sufficient reason for the disfranchisement of the soldiers. He said that if the matter went to the Supreme Court the judges would make no decision, but offer advice which the government might see fit to act upon.

MRS. CATHERINE BOYER DIES VERY SUDDENLY

Widow of Well Known Hotel Man of Woodstock Had Heart Trouble—St. John Woman a Step-daughter.

Special to The Standard. Woodstock, May 16.—A very sudden death was that this afternoon of Catherine S. Boyer, widow of the late T. J. Boyer, for many years proprietor of the Victoria Hotel, aged 73 years. She was getting ready for an auto drive when she died almost immediately from heart trouble. She had not been well for some weeks. She is survived by a step son, George W. Boyer, proprietor of the Aberdeen Hotel, one daughter, Carrie, both of Woodstock, and two step daughters, Mrs. Scarborough of St. John, and Mr. Chas. Burpee of McAdam.

HERRING FISHING IN THE EAST NOT GOOD

Smoke-house Men Experiencing Lean Season—Ice Hamper Schooners.

Port Elgin, May 16.—Manford Young, of Grand Manan, who was formerly manager of the old original fish smoking establishment in regard to the fish business, it looks now as if the catch will be very poor for this season. Up until the present no fish have been caught and some are beginning to believe there will be no large run now as the season is about over for large catches. The fleet of schooners chartered to go to the Magdalen Islands have been blocked by the large fields of ice from the north. Unless things improve very quickly it will be a great loss to both the fishermen and also the operators.

HALIFAX CLEARINGS.

Halifax, May 16.—Halifax bank clearings for the week ending today are \$4,290,514, as compared with \$2,784,576 in 1917.

## ANNUAL MEETING NEW BRUNSWICK TELEPHONE CO.

W. B. Snowball, R. O'Leary, F. W. Sumner, A. W. Bennett Among Directors.

HON. F. B. CARVELL AND COL. McAVITY IN LIST

Financial Statement of Company and Amount of the Dividends.

Special to The Standard.

Frederickton, May 16.—The annual meeting of the New Brunswick Telephone Company was held here this afternoon and following a meeting of the general board of directors, officers were elected as follows: President, S. H. White; 1st vice-president, Hon. F. P. Thompson; 2nd vice-president, Lt.-Col. F. B. Carvell.

Additional directors are: W. B. Snowball, R. O'Leary, F. W. Sumner, A. W. Bennett, J. M. Robinson, Lt.-Col. J. L. McAvity, R. B. Emerson, H. P. Robinson, Hon. I. R. Todd, A. R. Slipp, Hon. F. B. Carvell, L. B. McFarlane. The business of the company was reported to be buoyant and increasing, but unfortunately not in proportion to the cost of labor and material. This feature of the operation of the company was discussed in full together with its probable effect upon the earning power of the company.

Improved Service.

The matter of improved telephone service at Miramichi was discussed and the matter will be looked into. It is hoped that a proposition can be made to the people of that place which will result in a marked improvement in telephone facilities.

The financial statement of the company is as follows: Assets and Liabilities, March 31st, 1918: Assets, \$729,258.99; liabilities, \$93,983.09; accounts receivable, \$64,783.58; liquid assets, \$112,198.91—\$2,296,942.17.

Liabilities—Capital stock, \$1,433,460.00; debentures, \$45,500.00; total reserve for depreciation, \$729,258.99; Bank of Nova Scotia, \$18,501.23; accounts payable, \$28,512.88; dividend declared March 21st, 1918, \$28,469.20; total liabilities, \$2,273,802.30; surplus, \$23,140.87—\$2,296,942.17.

Earnings and Expenses.

Earnings and expenses for twelve months ending March 31, 1918: Earnings, gross revenue, \$638,944.81; expenses, operating expenses and depreciation, \$474,959.19; net revenue \$163,975.62; profit and loss by surplus March 31st, 1917, \$2,296.95; premium on stock, \$328.00; net revenue, \$113,975.62; \$139,292.67; dr. to interest on bonds, \$2,275.00; dividend Oct. 15th, 1917, \$28,469.20; dividend July 15th, 1917, \$28,469.20; dividend January 15th, 1918, \$28,469.20; dividend declared March 21, 1918, \$28,469.20—\$116,151.50; carried forward, \$23,140.87.

ANOTHER OF NOTORIOUS FAMILY IN ST. JOHN

James Perry of Perry Settlement Sent to Reformatory Here for Burglary—Sisters Burned Church.

Special to The Standard. Sussex, May 16.—The young lad James Perry of Perry Settlement, who was charged with breaking and entering a lumber camp in the Parish of Havelock, owned by Hanford Pine, was tried before Judge "Jonah" in chambers here, under the speedy trials act. He was found guilty and sent to the reformatory at St. John for two years. This boy is only 12 years of age and is brother of the three children, two girls and a boy who are serving terms for setting fire to and burning down the Roman Catholic chapel at Whites Mountain, last year.

BANK OF ENGLAND

London, May 16.—The weekly statement of the Bank of England shows the following changes: Total reserves increased £49,000; circulation increased £294,000; bullion increased £242,884; other securities increased £2,112,000; public deposits increased £3,884,000 other deposits increased £25,690,000. Notes reserve increased £80,000; government securities increased £1,445,000.

CAT'S PAW CUSHION RUBBER HEELS

Those whose steps are none too steady, Need the bracing, helpful grip, That they get by wearing "Cat's Paw"

—Safe and sure, and never slip.

50¢ A PAIR PUT ON

## CURTAILMENT OF PRODUCTION OF RED TAPE MILLS IN ST. CROIX VALLEY EVIDENTLY NEEDED

How Cargo of Coal Arrived to Within Few Yards of St. Stephen, but Had to be Unloaded in Another Country and Re-shipped by Rail Several Miles Before it Reached its Destination Near the Vessel Which Brought it.

St. Stephen, May 16.—Red tape regulations were applied by two customs "specials" here recently, and now another, example comes from the United States side of the line.

This one particularly shows how the business of a company can be tied up by the application of a bit of the lurid red tape.

The Maine Central Railway has a coal dock on the Calais bank of the river and John McVey & Sons have a coal dock on the St. Stephen side, directly opposite and not one hundred yards distant. But in that hundred yards is located the boundary line that separates the two nations.

U. S. Regulations.

Under recent regulations, no American vessel can take coal to any port outside of the United States, for the present at least, and no Canadian vessels are available for the business. The schooner carrying this coal was an American vessel and she could not discharge it at Calais. St. Stephen was "out of bounds," as they say in the army. She tied up at the point.

## A SERIOUS BLAZE AT FOREST GLEN

Lumber Mill of S. H. White Co., Three Houses and Barn, Owned by Same Concern, in Westmorland Co., Destroyed.

Special to The Standard.

Sussex, May 16.—The large mill at Forest Glen, West Co., three houses and a barn, the property of the S. H. White Co., of Sussex, were destroyed by fire on Wednesday afternoon. The fire originated from sparks from the refuse burner. The wind was blowing a gale and the fire soon got beyond control of the mill hands and other willing workers who were assisting. The loss which is heavy is partly covered by insurance.

SAMUEL B. WALKER IS SUPERINTENDENT OF KINGS COUNTY HOME

Parlee Brook Man Succeeds the Late James Loughery of Norton Institution.

Special to The Standard. Norton, May 16.—The position of superintendent of the Municipal Home at Norton made vacant by the death of the late James Loughery, has been filled by the appointment of Samuel B. Walker of Parlee Brook.

Mrs. Walker will act as matron. Mr. and Mrs. Walker will assume their duties next week. Both were highly recommended to the commission as being very capable persons and suitable for the positions.

SUSSEX PRINCIPAL EARNED DEGREE

How Principal E. C. Rice Obtained Master of Arts Honor at University of New Brunswick.

Special to The Standard. Sussex, May 16.—At the Encoenial Exercises of the University of New Brunswick held at Fredericton today the degree of Master of Arts is being conferred upon Principal E. C. Rice of the Sussex High School. Principal Rice was graduated with the degree of B. H. with first class honors in May 1914. The additional work for the M. A. degree represents two years work in advanced Economics and Phil.

## HILLSBORO PEOPLE HONOR MEMORY OF CAPT. A. W. EDGETT

Chief Officer of Edward H. Cole Lost from Vessel and Another Man Drowned in Attempting to Save Him.

Special to The Standard.

Hillsboro, May 16.—A memorial service was held in the Valley Baptist church in memory of the late Capt. Albert W. Edgett who was lost overboard in storm at sea on trip from Norfolk, Va., to San Juan, Porto Rico, on March 5, from the schooner Edward H. Cole. He was chief officer at the time of his death, and Capt. Humphrey Newcomb, formerly of Hillsboro, was master. The late Capt. Edgett was a son of the late Capt. Edward Edgett. He was fifty-two years of age, having followed the sea since when twelve years of age. He was mate of the ill-fated Edward H. Winslow, which was burned at sea near the coast of France in 1917. Rev. G. W. Brooker conducted the service, reading from Revelations, chapter 21, and Psalms, chapter 107, verse 23. Rev. Mr. Brooker paid a fine tribute to our departed friend. He also referred feelingly to a colored man who gave his life in an attempt to save Capt. Edgett's, and a message of help and peace to those who are sorrowful was conveyed to a very large congregation.

The hymns sung were "Jesus Lover of My Soul," "In That City," "A Shelter in the Time of Storm," by the choir, and "Will the Circle be Unbroken," by a male quartette, Messrs. Thompson, Berrie, Steeves and Sherwood. The late Capt. Edgett was a member and past master of the L. O. L. No. 101, of Edgett's Landing, and a member of Howard Lodge No. 15 F. and A. M. of Hillsboro. Members of both lodges attended the service in a body.

## "HIS MASTER'S VOICE" RECORDS



Patriotic Selections for Victoria Day

90 cents for 10-inch, double-sided  
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Laurentian March Grenadier Guards of Canada 216006  
Land of the Maple Grenadier Guards of Canada  
12-inch, Purple Seal Records  
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## Are You Tied Up Indoors?

If so, your whole system naturally gets tied up too. A lazy liver and constipated bowels are bad things, dangerous things. Exercise as much as you can—but keep your liver and bowels up to the mark all the time.

Take one pill regularly—until you are sure you are all right again.

Carter's Iron Pills

Genuine bears Signature  
Carter's Iron Pills will help this condition.

The funeral of Frances, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Currie, 116 St. James' street, took place yesterday morning. Interment was made in Holy Cross cemetery.

## THIS WOMAN ESCAPED AN OPERATION

By Taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Many Others Have Done the Same.

Troy, N. Y.—"I suffered for more than seven months from a displacement and three doctors told me I would have to have an operation. I was dragging down pains, backache and headaches and could not do my housework. My sister who had been helped by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound asked me to try it. I have taken several bottles and am now entirely well—I do all my work—and not a trace of my old trouble. I have told many of my friends what wonderful results they will get from its use. I am Mrs. E. Seidler, 1650 5th Ave., Troy, N. Y.

Women who are in Mrs. Seidler's condition should not give up hope or submit to such an ordeal until they have given Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound a trial. For suggestions in regard to your condition write Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Mass. The result of their 40 years experience is at your service.

Dandruff Heads Become Hairless

If you want plenty of thick, beautiful glossy hair, and rid of dandruff, for it will starve your hair and ruin it if you don't.

It doesn't do much good to try to brush or wash it out. The only sure way to get rid of dandruff is to dissolve it, then you destroy it entirely. To do this, get about four ounces of ordinary liquid arvon; apply it at night when retiring; use enough to moisten the scalp and rub it in gently with the finger tips. By morning, most if not all of your dandruff will be gone, and three or four more applications will completely dissolve and entirely destroy every single sign and trace of it. You will find, too, that all itching and digging of the scalp will stop, and your hair will look and feel a hundred times better. You can get liquid arvon at any drug store. It is inexpensive and four ounces is all you will need, no matter how much dandruff you have. This simple remedy never fails.

Use Coconut Oil For Washing Hair

If you want to keep your hair in good condition, be careful what you wash it with. Don't use prepared shampoos or anything else, that contains too much alkali. This dries the scalp, makes the hair brittle, and is very harmful. Just plain multifield coconut oil (which is pure and entirely greaseless), is much better than anything else you can use for shampooing, as this can't possibly injure the hair. Simply moisten your hair with water and rub it in. One or two tea-spoonfuls will make an abundance of rich, creamy lather, and cleanses the hair and scalp thoroughly. The lather rinses out easily, and removes every particle of dust, dirt, dandruff and excessive oil. The hair dries quickly and evenly, and it leaves it fine and silky, fluffy, and easy to manage.

You can get multifield coconut oil at most any drug store. It is very cheap, and a few ounces is enough to last everyone in the family for months.