

TRUCE IS CALLED BY THE GOVERNMENT DETERMINED FIGHT BY LIBERAL OPPOSITION FOR RIGHT OF FRANCHISE FORCES OTHER SIDE TO ALLOW BILL TO STAND OVER

Legislative Press Gallery, March 9.

Led into an awkward place again by the attorney-general, the government side in the legislative assembly now seeking a way out of the difficulty. The determined effort on the part of the opposition to see that the opportunity was not given to the government to disfranchise electors at will in wholesale lots has had its effect on the conservative members and a halt was called after this afternoon's sitting. Premier McBride probably realizing that his government could not afford to make themselves any more unpopular in the country, decided to give the bill consideration in caucus before again taking it up in the House. It was therefore left alone this evening and no announcement made as to when it would again come up.

The determined stand of the Liberal opposition, who were in this instance backed up by the Socialists, had its effect. The government was forced to terms and it is generally believed that when the bill comes up again will be prepared to amend the measure so as to make a time limit for absence from a riding before it will be possible to strike the name of the list. The government proposed to give the power to strike off all names of absentees even though only temporarily absent.

In a province like British Columbia this is especially unjust. A large number of workmen are engaged in mining, lumbering, fishing and other occupations which call them away from their homes for quite long periods during the year. Under the bill which the attorney-general introduced to get through the House these men's names could all be struck off. The opportunities for "doctored" lists would be attended with the gravest dangers. It is not yet to be seen whether the government will accept the amendments proposed by the Liberal members. The amendments proposed by the Liberal members were that the names of absentees should be struck off only if they have been absent for a period of six months and that a notice of at least six months should be given before a name is finally struck off the list.

The opposition showed that they were determined in their efforts to frustrate any attempts to disfranchise those who were entitled to vote at the elections. The government was forced to accept a compromise which would allow the names of absentees to be struck off only if they have been absent for a period of six months and that a notice of at least six months should be given before a name is finally struck off the list. The opposition showed that they were determined in their efforts to frustrate any attempts to disfranchise those who were entitled to vote at the elections. The government was forced to accept a compromise which would allow the names of absentees to be struck off only if they have been absent for a period of six months and that a notice of at least six months should be given before a name is finally struck off the list.

John McNeill was early checked by A. E. McPhillips, who had relieved Mr. Gifford in the chair. Mr. McPhillips thought the member for Grand Forks was wandering far afield. Mr. McNeill retorted: "In the opinion of the chair the debate must end some time." "That is a mistake," said Mr. Henderson, "you are entirely wrong." "If it is going to take a week to put our position fairly before the House and before the country we propose to take longer," said Mr. McNeill. "If it will take longer we claim the right to do so. We are only commencing now." "We know that human nature is weak and especially so in the case of men in politics," added Mr. McNeill. "Mr. Henderson had spoken from his heart some time ago when he said the main thing was to get in power and then when there keep in power. That was what was attempted by this bill. The government is now fortifying itself behind the amendment of the attorney-general in order to prepare for election. He read additional messages from trades unions complaining of the bill. Mr. McNeill resumed his seat shortly before six.

On motion of the premier the committee rose asking leave to sit again and the House adjourned until eight o'clock in the evening.

EDMONTON'S WATER PROBLEM. City in Communication With Foremost Engineers of Continent.

Edmonton, Alta., March 10.—The city commissioners in endeavoring to get the most expert opinion upon the proposed water supply for Edmonton have been in communication with a number of the foremost engineers of the continent. The first of those who have been communicated with to arrive in the city is Cecil B. Smith, of Smith, Kenney & Chase, of Toronto and Winnipeg, late chief engineer for the Ontario government hydro-electric commission. Mr. Smith has assisted in several large electric and water system schemes throughout the Dominion, and has recently been in Calgary working out a water system. During the present week Mr. Smith will look into conditions around Edmonton, with which he is as yet unfamiliar.

BANK MANAGER'S PROMOTION. Portage la Prairie, Man., March 9.—A. H. Dickens, for thirteen years manager of the Imperial bank here, has been promoted to Edmonton to open a new branch.

INTERESTING SAMPLES FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS Brackman-Ker Company Have Arranged Neat Display for Nature Study.

An interesting set of exhibits is being placed in each of the city schools by the Brackman-Ker Company. It shows various stages of the barley used in the manufacture of the company's new breakfast food, Caverhill's barley flakes. These are put up in small glass bottles in a neat case and will be placed at the disposal of the teachers to be used in nature studies. Mr. Caverhill has experimented for years along this line and holds the patents under which the new food is made. The samples show the natural barley. Then is shown the grain which has been allowed to sprout. In doing this a part of the starch is converted into sugar. The husked barley ready for undergoing the patent process is shown and the finished product. Potted barley and barley flour are also in the case for purposes of comparison. Accompanying the exhibits is a magnifying glass, so that the children may minutely inspect the grain.

Mr. Caverhill has gone to a lot of trouble with his cases for display, and the children should derive a lot of information from the samples.

Statement Absolutely False. "That statement was relied on to do the work. The hon. gentleman made a statement he was absolutely false, which involved a breach of the confidence reposed in him by a client," said Mr. Oliver. "This gentleman today held up his hands and cried out for pure lies. What can be expected from a source like this? Is it to be expected that pure water can flow from a tainted and polluted stream? The majority of the gross breach of confidence is author of this bill."

Newark, N. J., March 10.—The Rev. Father Erasin Anson, rector of the Polish Church of St. Stanislaus, was shot and almost instantly killed by three men in his rectory early today. His housekeeper who attempted to prevent the assault was slightly wounded. The crime is said to have been the result of a dispute over church matters. Three men called at the rectory while the rector was holding mass in the church; they were admitted to the parlor and as soon as the parson appeared they opened fire on him. The parson died in the ambulance on the way to the hospital. The men escaped. Four suspects have been arrested, but the house-keeper is unable to identify any of them.

Father Anson was assigned to the church by Bishop O'Connor last fall, after the former rector had been expelled from the city. O'Connor's opposition developed to Father Anson and he was threatened, many times. The police said that Father Anson had been collecting funds for a new church, and that this was the cause of the trouble.

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JACK JOHNSON SENDS CHALLENGE TO JEFFRIES PUGILISTS MAY MEET IN NEW YORK TO ARRANGE CONTEST.

New York, March 10.—James J. Jeffries today received an invitation from Jack Johnson to meet him in the office of an attorney in this city to arrange a fight. The invitation was handed to Jeffries as he appeared in a magistrate's court to answer a charge of sparring three exhibition rounds with his partner in a theatrical performance. The note read as follows: "My client, John Johnson, the world's heavyweight champion, desires me to announce to you that he is willing to meet you and arrange for a contest between the champion and yourself." The charge which was made by the police was dismissed, Jeffries' attorney contending that the sparring was part of the theatrical sketch.

OMAHA TALKING OF HEAVYWEIGHT BOUT Report That Jeffries and Johnson Will Meet for \$100,000 Purse.

Omaha, March 9.—The World-Herald prints details of arrangements under way for a fight between Jim Jeffries and Jack Johnson, the fight to take place in Omaha for a purse of \$100,000. According to this story James Coffroth and Martin Brady, San Francisco, and Enos Brady, Fresno, Cal., are engineering the contract portion of the deal, and Jabez Cross, of Omaha, is attending to the Omaha end, which includes the passage of a bill which the legislature permitting boxing in this state. Already this bill has been prepared and much work has been put in on it. The Californians will be in Omaha on April 1st to close the deal if the bill passes the legislature. Because of the central location of Omaha, the promoters believe, the largest fighting crowd ever gathered had been brought here if the laws will permit the exhibition. As planned now the contract will call for a 40-round boxing contest.

GLUTTED MARKET KEEPS WHALERS IDLE Supply of Whalebone More Than Sufficient to Meet Demand for Year

A glutted condition of the whalebone market, caused by the more extensive use of cheaper substitutes during the winter months, is expected to result in the leading fleet of whalers plying from the Pacific coast to the Arctic ocean remaining idle the coming season. Announcement of this decision was made by William H. Lewis, of the firm of Lewis, Anderson, Poard & Co., ship chandlers of Seattle, on the strength of advice received from his brother, who is at the head of the firm of William Lewis & Son, of New Bedford, Mass., controlling the whalebone output of the world.

Montgomery, Ala., March 10.—Five people were drowned today in the Alabama river in the rising waters which followed last night's storm. Three whites and a negro were drowned from a ferry and William Dillard, a white boy, fell in and was drowned. Last night's rain was the heaviest here in twenty years, five and a half inches fell in a little more than five hours.

FRENCHMEN HAVE LONG LEAD IN 6-DAY RACE

New York, March 10.—Painfully limping over the sawdust covered clay and cinder track the surviving pedestrians in the six days, "go-as-you-please" race in Madison square garden, were today reduced to eleven and one-half teams. Louis Semorah, of Brooklyn, for the second time since the race started without a partner, composed the half team. The first man who drops out today will be replaced by Semoran.

—News has been received in the city of the death of Charlotte, P. E. L., of Hon. Matthew Smith, speaker of the Prince Edward Island legislature. Hon. Mr. Smith was married to a cousin of Mr. R. W. Roper, of this city. By a remarkable coincidence he succeeded as speaker Hon. Dr. Douglas, who was a first cousin of Mr. Roper, and of his two brothers, H. H. Roper, of this city, and Dr. F. S. Roper, of Vancouver. Hon. Mr. Smith had sat in the legislature for eight years, representing the first electoral district of Queens county, P. E. I., and resided at Hampton, where he had a law office.

WOMAN USES DOG WHIP ON BOSTON LAWYER Breach of Promise Case Leads to Lively Street Scene.

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John Reid, a carpenter, told the court he had \$81.50 and had spent it. He could not account for the balance. H. Delongate, a waiter, said he had seen Soley shake Reid, who was asleep in a chair, and afterwards the former had paid \$4 for a pair of shoes. William W. Brugg, a colored seaman, said he had seen Soley put his hand into Reid's pocket and take a red purse from him. The proprietor of the saloon, D. W. Brugg, testified that Soley had said to him: "Somebody might 'roll him (Reid) for his money." He had looked on it as a suggestion to stand in and rob the man. He called the police in when the money was found to be missing.

H. O. Henry gave evidence for the defence, saying he had been in the saloon on Saturday and had knocked down \$80. He could not say what had become of the money. He had been shaking dice for champagne with Reid and the latter had no money left to pay for drink when he lost the last throw. He had lent Soley \$5 to buy the shoes. Joseph Errington, an electrician, corroborated the previous witness and had seen money thrown over the bar and on the floor by Reid which had been handed back to him. Soley had handed back money thrown on the floor.

William Dulvey testified that in conversation the proprietor of the saloon had said to him: "There are a couple of 'live ones' in here. We are charging them \$5 a bottle for wine." At 6 o'clock he met Soley, who then had only a small amount of money, perhaps two dollars, and Soley had told him he had borrowed money for the boots. He offered the opinion if customers paid \$5 a bottle for wine they could drop \$50. Other witnesses gave similar evidence.

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—The funeral of the late Mrs. Mary Jamieson took place Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the family residence, 1044 Johnson street, where Rev. Dr. Reid conducted impressive services. There was a large attendance of friends and many flowers were sent. The following acted as pallbearers: J. Fullerton, A. Wilson, J. Berryman, W. P. Allen, W. J. Speed and A. E. Haynes.

EXPULSION FROM CHURCH OF ENGLAND Smyth-Piggott, the Notorious Agapemone, is Deprived of Holy Orders.

London, March 10.—With impressive rites the decree deposing from holy orders Rev. J. Hugh Smyth-Piggott, a Church of England clergyman who has been posing as the Messiah, was pronounced by the Bishop of Bath and Wells in Wells Cathedral. Smyth-Piggott was not present. Smyth-Piggott has been for years the head of a notorious religious community that occupies an establishment known as the Agapemone, or Abode of Love, in Somersetshire, England. His followers worship him, and teach that the ordinary rules of morality are not binding upon those to whom spiritual light has been given. He was tried last January before an ecclesiastical court at Wells cathedral and found guilty of immorality, and expelled from the church was decreed.

NEW COAL PROPERTY Mines Are Being Developed at North End of Vancouver Island.

The Pacific Coast Coal Mines, the company with which John Arbuthnot, of this city, and other capital including New York financiers are connected, will soon be in a position to furnish coal. The property is situated at the northern end of Vancouver Island, with properties also on Malcolm Island. A shaft is being sunk to a depth of about 370 feet on the Vancouver Island property. Work is nearing completion on that part of the undertaking and then the development of the mine will follow.

A spur line of railway will be built to deep water, where shipping will be done to all parts of the coast, and the company will enter the general market. The shipping port has not been announced, the company having not yet finally settled matters connected with that part of the undertaking. About 20,000 acres of coal lands are held by the company, and with abundance of capital behind the concern, there can be little question as to the success that will follow. The quality of coal is, according to analysis, of a very high order, and no trouble will be found in placing it. The opening up of the mines will be done as quickly as possible.

CHARTER MARKET CONTINUES DULL West Coast Business Has Fallen Off—Coastwise Rates Unchanged.

No grain charters have been announced during the week, says the San Francisco Commercial News. The markets here and in the north have advanced beyond an exporting level, and no further business is expected during the season except possibly small parcels.

MEMBERS REST WELL ON IMPROVED BEDS Sleeping Quarters Have Been Fitted Up About the Parliament Building.

(From Wednesday's Daily.) The wearing fight, which was put up in the legislature by the Liberal opposition against the iniquitous interference with the Elections Act, by which the attorney-general hopes to provide the means for controlling the elections, had some humorous features. With very few exceptions the slumberers, after the long vigils enforced upon them, slept well. The Liberal side had an advantage from the fact that the government had to see that a quorum was always present, and that enough members were within reach to control the House. Until last evening the government side had no beds in the building, so that it was necessary to keep on duty 16 members at least. These had to sleep in the chairs for the most part. For some of them the chairs seemed built purposely to give them trouble.

James Garden was the envy of all. His form seemed to be peculiarly adapted to the chair, and he was able to sleep by the hour without any inconvenience. In the Liberal camp there was one disturbing element. It was a moving member. Sleepy as the members were few could withstand his fusillade. It was finally decided to break the news to him gently that he had better take his rest away from the building. James Jones, of Cariboo, had a bitter complaint of rheumatism in the neck and shoulder. During the change of watch while J. M. Yorston vacated his half of the mattress for Mr. Jones, the bed mate awakened sufficiently to lay out, on the pillow, when Mr. Jones arrived his mate was reposing on two pillows, while he himself had no choice but to rest his head on a bulky volume of the sessional papers. What made the situation more aggravating was the fact that his mate, with two pillows, only used a small corner of each of them.

MINING ENGINEER BACK FROM NEW ZEALAND Gold Dredging Operations Out of Date in the Antipodes.

D. A. McDonald, an American engineer, whose speciality is gold dredging, returned from a trip to Australia on the Makura Tuesday and registered again at the Dominion hotel after having been through New Zealand and some of the Australian states in search of the latest methods of gold dredging and machinery.

At the hotel Tuesday in speaking of the trip and of New Zealand in particular Mr. McDonald said he had learned nothing and had been much disappointed by the examples of gold dredging he had seen in New Zealand. The machinery and methods of dredging, as used there, are out of date and altogether behind the times. The operations in gold dredging are conducted on such a small scale that there is nothing worth taking up by American capital. Out there they do not go into it in the right way, according to Mr. McDonald. They will not spend the money necessary to secure large returns, but instead potter about with a small antiquated plant for years achieving practically nothing. All the American dredging propositions are far in advance of those of New Zealand.

Talking on the affairs in general of the southern land, he says New Zealand is one of the finest countries on the earth, but is suffering from too much government at present. There is far too much government ownership in existence by which the taxpayer gets a third rate railway service and pays dearly for it. The hotels also are behind the times, being with perhaps one exception third rate and in one of the principal cities candles are still in use as a means of bedroom illumination. While labor appears to be plentiful, Mr. McDonald found wages were not high and that the price of land was too high to allow the working man any chance of ever settling. The closer settlement propositions which the government has been following for some years has cut up large parcels of good land but the price has nevertheless risen till in many cases farm lands now at \$25 to \$30 per acre, such price making them prohibitive to the settler.

From New Zealand Mr. McDonald went to Australia, where he found things on a more up to date basis, but as regards dredging propositions there was nothing to alter the opinion formed in New Zealand.

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