

BRITAIN BOUND BY AGREEMENTS

Constrained to Follow Russian and Japanese Plans in Regard to Railway Building and Operation in China

QUESTIONS ASKED OF GOVERNMENT

New Japanese Tariff Also Cause of Some Worry—Chamber of Commerce of England Urge Action

LONDON, May 2.—Earl Winterton gave the government another busy few minutes in the House of Commons with new questions relative to the international agreements on account of which Sir Edward Grey, the foreign secretary, has been endeavoring to explain the peculiar curves of the government's Far Eastern policy.

Sir Edward Grey, last month, answering the questions of Sir William Bull, contended that Great Britain was unable to join with America, actively in the Chin-Chow-Ru-Aitun Railway negotiations because she was bound to regard the Anglo-Russian agreement of 1896. On April 18 he admitted that an agreement had been reached between the British and German financial groups in 1898 relative to the railways in China, and that the British had been bound to the German interests in the Shan-tung peninsula and British interests in the Yang-tze Valley, but held that it was not a formal understanding between the governments, so that when the Germans protested that the agreement did not apply to the loans for the Hankow-Canton and Hankow-Szechuan railways the British backed down. Earl Winterton asked "whether His Majesty's government was content with the Anglo-German financial agreement, whether the same financial agreement was formally and specifically recognized by the subsequent Anglo-Russian convention, which embodied the principle of spheres of influence, regarding railway concessions in China."

McKinnon Wood, under secretary for foreign affairs, who represented the government, sought shelter in his answer of April 13, adding:

"His Majesty's government was consulted and assented to the agreement between the two financial groups, but it never became an agreement between the two governments. The answer to the second part of the question is negative."

"And we to understand that His Majesty's government did not recognize the agreement as binding?" Earl Winterton asked.

"Between the two financial groups the government approved the agreement," replied the Under Secretary.

"Will you say whether the government is prepared to support the English group of financiers in getting the agreement carried out?" persisted Earl Winterton.

"That must depend on circumstances," returned Mr. Wood. "It is not an agreement binding on the German government."

Thus the government dodged the effort to force a new line of action which would dislodge Great Britain's apparent obeying of the orders of Russia and Japan.

Great Britain's corroboration at Sir Gilbert Parker asked Mr. Wood whether it will injure the trade, especially Lancashire and Yorkshire, and also spoke of the possibility of cheap Japanese goods under-selling the British here at home, Mr. Wood said:

"I do not know what the government will do. An agitation is under way urging the chambers of commerce of England to force the government to call Japan to terms."

But it is the Anglo-Japanese alliance which is causing Great Britain to obey Japan's wishes regarding China.

Miss Oliver to Be Married.

OTTAWA, May 2.—The engagement is announced of Miss Clara Oliver, third daughter of Hon. Frank Oliver, Minister of Interior, to Allan Keefe, son of Charles Keefe and Mrs. Keefe, of Elmwood, Rockville.

Nanaimo Customs Returns

NANAIMO, May 2.—Customs and inland revenue returns for Nanaimo for the month of April were the largest in the history of the city. The total customs returns were \$18,777.77, divided among the various ports as follows: Nanaimo, \$10,618.84; Chemainus, \$12,131.91; Adamskiw, \$2,288; Union Bay, \$250; Port Alberni, \$122.88; Cumberland, \$77.75; Alberni, \$21.17 and Courtenay, \$17.18. The inland revenue returns for the city during the month were as follows: Spirits, \$327.04; malt, \$2,744.21; raw lead and cigars, \$380.02; licenses, \$250 and other receipts \$200, a total of \$3,515.37.

Murderer Goes Free

EDMONTON, May 2.—James Chapman, a negro, who confessed to the mounted police here to murdering James Matthews of Stillwater, Oklahoma, and who was to be extradited by Sheriff Fox, of Stillwater, who is in the city, was set free by the district judge of Saskatchewan in the proceedings for extradition on the ground of insufficient evidence. Fox will make another attempt to extradite the negro, Mrs. Matthews, wife of the murdered white man, who has been living in the city for some time, was also successful in her fight against extradition and was set free Saturday.

Northern Meteorological Station

EDMONTON, May 2.—W. E. W. Jackson, of the meteorological service is here and started today on a long journey north to the mouth of the Mackenzie River to inspect the meteorological stations along the route. The Canadian north official station is at Athabasca Landing, 100 miles north of Edmonton, but voluntary observations are taken by the Mounted Police and others at posts far into the north. The farthest north of these volunteer posts is on Herschall Island in the Arctic Ocean, where the Mounted Police have taken observations for years.

RECOVERING BODIES

Only Two Now Remain in Ruins of Burned Cornwall Hotel—Two Found Yesterday.

CORNWALL, Ont., May 2.—This evening it is understood that only two bodies remain in the Reamore hotel ruins, those of W. H. Holmes and Ernest Buller, late of Montreal.

Today portions of remains were found which were evidently those of C. C. Gray and his little son. They were both discovered beneath the rooms occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Gray and family. The corporation men who have been clearing away the debris in the front of the hotel will devote their energies to finding the bodies of Holmes and Buller in another part of the wreck.

The funeral of Mrs. Archibald will take place tomorrow from Trinity church. The funeral of Ben Fiddling will be held on Wednesday.

The town is once more settling down to normal conditions. The Bell Telephone company had connected all local phones with its new quarters, and with the exception of the burned-out or badly damaged premises, business is once more in full swing.

Capital From Holland

EDMONTON, May 2.—A. H. Hardell, of Rotterdam, Holland, representing the Netherlands Investment Company, is here to make investments in land in the Edmonton district.

Honors for Paulhan.

PARIS, May 2.—The auto club of France gave a reception tonight to Paulhan, several of the cabinet ministers being present. General Brun, minister of war, eulogized the aviator and said Paulhan had demonstrated that the moment was at hand when aeroplanes would assume an important role in the army, which was endeavoring to train as many officers as possible in that branch of aeronautics. The promotion of Paulhan to lieutenant-sub-lieutenant of engineers attached to the aeronautic section has been gazetted.

Horrible Attempt at Suicide

PARIS, May 2.—A horrible attempt to commit suicide has been made by a woman in the Paris Bordaux express. The train was approaching Bole, when some people in the corridor of the carriage heard cries from the lady, who was alone, and a small amount of roasted flesh. They broke open the door and to their horror saw a woman whose head and hair, and part of her breast were in flames. The woman, who is a maid called Marie Feljot, was rescued when the train stopped at Bole and was taken to the hospital in a serious condition. She had poured the contents of a can of alcohol over herself and then set fire to it.

Small Scandal Gets Attention

Public Accounts Committee Suggests That Government Should Abolish Graft in Lighting Rented Buildings

OTTAWA, May 2.—For some time past the public accounts committee has been dealing with the rental of the Woods and Canadian buildings for the Imperial Realty Company, and today in the committee the following resolution, moved by Major Sam Sharp, was unanimously adopted by Liberals and Conservatives: "Whereas the expenses of the government during the last year for lighting the Woods and Canadian buildings amounted to \$9,485.91, paid to the Imperial Realty Company which company is not an electric light company; and whereas the city of Ottawa has a better schedule of prices whereby the lighting would cost only \$5,404 or less thereby affecting an annual saving to the country of \$4,081.91 or more, therefore this committee desires to urge upon the minister of public works and the government the desirability of cancelling the present arrangement and giving the city of Ottawa or some other company the contract at the lower rates, and that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the minister of public works."

Irish League Convention.

BOSTON, May 2.—The biennial convention of the Irish League will be held in Buffalo during the last week of next September, according to the decision made today by the national officers. It is expected that John E. Redmond, M.P., will attend the convention, with his colleagues, T. P. O'Connor and Jos. Devlin. The convention will begin on September 28th and continue until the 29th.

Joke With Civic Authorities

PARIS, May 2.—Some light-hearted persons have played a joke on the dilatory municipal administration of Paris. Early in the morning they planted in one of the road-mending enclosures which for long months have disfigured the Rue Royale a little kitchen garden with carrots, cabbages, and lettuce growing in profusion. The whole was surrounded by a board with the inscription: "Garden to be planted by the month or year. Immediate possession."

Settlers for Alberta

EDMONTON, May 2.—Hon. Duncan Marshall, Minister of Agriculture, returned this morning from a trip to the publicity agencies of the Alberta government in the east, and reports that the agents have secured several thousand settlers for Alberta this year. One excursion of 150 settlers will come through from Montreal next week and will take the Victoria route to the district, east of Edmonton. Many are coming this spring from eastern Canada and the States.

Stabbed for Eighty Cents

PARIS, May 2.—A debt of 80 cents led to a tragedy between two women employed at a local factory at Mar-selles. One of the two, a woman called Henriette Brochier, aged 45, having fallen on bed terms with her neighbor, a woman of 55 named Adelaide, asked her to give her back 80 cents, which she lent her some time ago. A dispute followed and as the latter woman refused to pay the debt, Henriette Brochier took a knife and stabbed her several times in the back of the head. The woman fell dead. The assassin has been arrested.

EXPENDITURE ON CANADIAN NAVY

Government's Estimates Go Through Committee of Supply in Commons—Ten Ships to Be Placed Under Contract

BUILDERS MUST HAVE PLANTS IN CANADA

Sir Wilfrid Laurier Admits Bad Condition of Esquimaux Dockyard—Rates of Pay for Officers and Men

OTTAWA, May 2.—Premier Laurier piloted the naval estimates through committee of supply Saturday. The total amount voted was \$3,675,500, of which \$3,000,000 are for the navy proper. None of this, however, is for the construction of new vessels. Tenders will be asked at once for the construction of ten ships, but the first thing that the successful tenders will have to put up are shipbuilding plants in Canada. The purchase price of the Niobe, \$1,075,000, will be taken out of this appropriation, also \$50,000 for alterations and \$25,000 for the pay of the crew, maintenance, upkeep, fuel, etc. The Rainbow was purchased last year for \$250,000. Re-tenant, British \$2.50 to \$5.10, American \$4.50 to \$10.95, Canadian \$4.00 to \$6.50; midshipman British \$1.42, American \$3.50, Canadian \$2.00; engineer captain, British \$3.50 to \$9.50, American \$10.75 to \$15.70, Canadian \$13.50; surgeon, British \$4.45 to \$14.15, American \$5.48 to \$10.65, Canadian \$4.00 to \$8.00; seaman class, British 30 cents to \$1.30, American 58 cents to \$2.56, Canadian 50 cents to \$2.40; engineroom department, British 40 cents to \$1.82, American 80 cents to \$2.56, Canadian 75 cents to \$2.50.

It is proposed to grant men in the naval service of Canada an allowance of \$1.50 per month for each re-enlistment if the term of service is five years. The age of the admission of midshipmen is fourteen to fifteen years; in the British navy the age is twelve to thirteen years.

The Niobe, which will arrive at Halifax some time in July, will be stationed on the gulf and Atlantic coast. She will be in command of Captain Macdonald, who has not yet been appointed, but has been designated for command.

"He is a Canadian," explained Sir Wilfrid, "son of Senator Macdonald, of British Columbia, and has had considerable training and experience in England. The Rainbow will be stationed on the northern coast of British Columbia. The amount appropriated for the first year's pay of the 422 recruits on both steamers is \$40,000.

The estimated expenditure for the navy educational service is \$35,000. It is intended to prepare at once for the building of a naval college at Halifax, but in the meantime the Niobe will be utilized as a school ship. An appropriation of \$25,000 was made for dockyard, this sum being to cover expenditure by the admiralty at Halifax and Esquimaux during the years 1904-5, after they were taken over by the Dominion. Upon the dockyard at Esquimaux it is proposed to expend \$50,000. This fund, it is estimated, will be applied to the erection of a naval college, houses for officers' barracks, light and battery sheds, drill shed and general repairs.

Sir Wilfrid admitted that Esquimaux dockyard was in bad condition, the trouble being that, for some time, like Mahomed's coffin, it was between Heaven and earth, not belonging to either the admiralty or the Dominion. The dockyard at Halifax was not quite so bad, and most of the expenditures there would be for buildings.

The prime minister agreed that the suggestion of Major Currie, M.P., was a good one, namely that a naval reserve should be created for the great lakes and that seamen and master mariners be given an opportunity during the winter months to take a special course of training on naval vessels. The naval flag, it was explained, would be that of the British navy with the Canadian arms in the field. The officers and men who were to compose the skeleton crew of the Niobe and Rainbow would continue to belong to the British navy but would receive the Canadian rate of pay. The intention is that their places shall be filled by Canadian officers and men who shall have completed their naval training.

Tombstone Cause of Suit

BERLIN, May 2.—A tombstone on the grave of a man who died lately at Heligoland has resulted in an extraordinary lawsuit.

The widow had the following legend inscribed on the tombstone: "Neglect shortened your life, my beloved, when you were in the prime of manhood."

Dr. Woltersdorf, who attended the patient, regards the inscription as a reflection on himself, and he is bringing an action for libel against the widow.

On the other hand, maintains that the inscription refers to her alone, and that she wishes it to remain as an everlasting reproach of her negligence.

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