

# News from Ottawa

## The New Cabinet

By The Guide Special Correspondent

Ottawa, October 13.—After a fortnight of turmoil a great calm has come over the capital. The disappointed aspirants for cabinet honors and their friends, who together numbered several scores, have departed. Premier R. L. Borden and his ministers have gone to Quebec to officially welcome His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, which means that there will not be any developments in the political line until next week. Subsequent to the swearing in of the ministers which occurred on Tuesday at noon two cabinet meetings were held. Apart from the selection of the new Treasury Board, a division of the cabinet which reviews all financial transactions, the only business accomplished was the fixing of the dates for the by-elections made necessary by the creation of the cabinet. When a member of parliament accepts an office of emolument under the Crown his seat in Parliament automatically becomes vacant. When the emolument is that which pertains to a portfolio and a seat at the cabinet council it is necessary for the recipient to go back to the people and secure their endorsement. In fixing dates for the by-elections as soon after the ministry was sworn in as possible precedent was followed. That is the regular procedure for a new government and little important business is dealt with until the ministers are re-elected. Nominations will be held on October 27 and voting, if any, on Nov. 3.

It is doubtful if any premier-elect of the Dominion ever had a more strenuous cabinet making job than did Mr. R. L. Borden. The slate-makers were constantly on the jump and in the end failed to keep quite in touch with all the movements on the political chess board. On

Monday last, the final day of the struggle, the air was electric with rumor. The word was passed from mouth to mouth that there was serious trouble over the Quebec representation. Hon. Rodolphe Forget, who carried two constituencies for the Conservatives in Quebec came up from Montreal. Sir Hugh Graham, the proprietor of the Montreal Star, did likewise. A conference was held at the Russell House. When it was over Mr. Forget, who was slated as a minister without portfolio, said that he was out of it and took the afternoon train for home. It was apparent that the trouble was over the Nationalist representation in the new government. When it was announced late that night that F. D. Monk, Dr. L. P. Pelletier and W. B. Nantel had been given portfolios it was clear that the Nationalists had won out. Mr. Forget and Sir Hugh, it is understood, were backing T. Chase Casgrain and L. T. Mareschal, a brilliant Montreal lawyer and both straight Conservatives. They were naturally disappointed over their failure to include them in the ministry. Nantel's luck in becoming a full-fledged minister was the chief surprise as he had won a place on only a few slates and then only as Solicitor-General. His good fortune was no doubt in a measure due to the fact that Geo. H. Perley was not anxious to take charge of a portfolio. He is a wealthy man with large lumbering interests and his health is none too robust. He preferred to come into the government in an advisory capacity only.

### The Agricultural Portfolio

Next to the Quebec representation the big surprise of the last moment was the exclusion of Mr. Andrew Broder,

member for Dundas. Mr. Broder has for many years been the most effective Conservative critic of Hon. Sydney Fisher's administration of the affairs of the Agricultural Department. To ninety-nine men out of a hundred Mr. Broder was first choice as Mr. Fisher's successor in the event of a change of government. His speech from a farmer's standpoint against reciprocity was looked upon as a masterpiece by the opponents of the agreement. Everybody thought that with a Conservative victory Mr. Broder was as certain almost of being a member of the government as Mr. R. L. Borden. But the unexpected happened. A few hours before the cabinet was announced "Andy" Broder climbed onto a train and went back to his farm in Dundas county. He knew that Dr. J. D. Reid, who represents the neighboring constituency of Grenville, had got the plum and that his chance of running the Agricultural department for practical farmers like himself had gone, perhaps forever. And Mr. Broder had some practical ideas about the department to which he gave expression a day or two before the pen was drawn through his name. The department, he said, should be for the farmers only. All the frills such as the administration of the copyright act and the regulation of patents should be cut off and attached to some other department. The majority of people will likely agree with this and though "Andy" may never be minister of agriculture his suggestion will doubtless be acted upon some day.

With Andrew Broder set aside the choice as minister of agriculture naturally fell to Mr. Martin Burrell, of Yale Cariboo, B.C., who at the time of writing has not yet been sworn in. Mr. Burrell has never

tilled a Canadian grain farm but he has grown fruit successfully in both the Niagara district and British Columbia. He is an expert horticulturist and for a time was one of the fruit experts of the British Columbia government. Mr. Burrell is young and vigorous and possesses a nice personality which will win him friends wherever he goes. He has a practical turn of mind and is a good speaker. Mr. Burrell is the kind of a man who will master the details of his department in short order and those who know him best would not be surprised if he is one of the successes of the Borden administration. He is the only member of the cabinet who was born in England and, quite appropriately, is the one minister who will be sworn in by the Duke of Connaught.

### The New Finance Minister

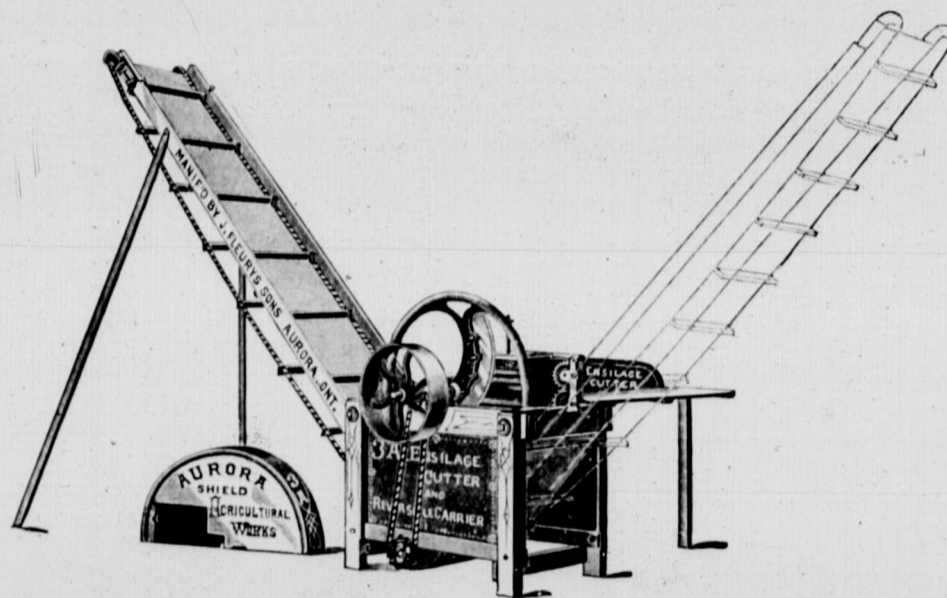
For the inclusion of Mr. W. T. White, Vice-president of the Toronto National Trust Company, in the cabinet the public mind had been prepared. He was put down as a certainty in spite of grumblings from Montreal and Toronto. The inside story of Mr. White's selection as minister of finance would make interesting reading and it will no doubt be told some day. But for the present those who are curious will have to be satisfied with conjecture. Mr. White was one of the eighteen Toronto Liberals who issued the now famous manifesto against reciprocity. During the course of the anti-reciprocity campaign he spoke at some of Hon. Clifford Sifton's anti-reciprocity meetings and there are those who say that he represents the Sifton element in the cabinet. A more generous view is that Premier Borden thinks he has found in

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