

THE PREMIER OUTLINES THE NAVAL POLICY DECLARES THAT PARLIAMENT MUST CONTROL

**Borden Moves to Have
Direct Contribution for
Two Dreadnoughts.**

**MONK DEMANDS
A PLEBISCITE**

**Sir Wilfrid in Powerful Address
Shows Up the Divided Views
of the Conservatives.**

Ottawa, Feb. 3.—In a speech unparalleled for breadth of vision, masterful handling of the fundamental principles on which the Empire is founded, eloquence and effectiveness, Sir Wilfrid Laurier today turned a new page in Canadian history. He defined the policy of the Government looking to the creation of the Canadian navy in co-operation with the navy of the motherland in a two-hours' address which will rank as a classic in the annals of the Canadian Parliament, and which at its conclusion was marked by the inspiring spectacle of the whole House rising and singing the National Anthem. Sir Wilfrid has shown that he is determined to better advantage in the House, touching first on the discordant and divergent views expressed by the various wings of the Opposition, following a unanimous indorsement of the resolution passed last session, he drove home with incisive argument the inconsistencies and anomalies of their opposing attitudes, and in a succinct and brilliant review of the whole course of constitutional development in this country, and in the empire at large, he drew the logical and incontrovertible moral that the permanency and cohesion of the empire depended upon the adherence to the basic principle of local autonomy in matters of defence, as in all other matters over which the daughter states now asserted their right to self-government, while at the same time being bound to the motherland by ties of loyalty and devotion, making enduring bonds of voluntary and based on the people's will. From the tale of the past he drew the moral as to the line along which the empire must develop, and with compelling force he pointed to the weaknesses in the policy suggested from the other side of the House, looking either to the outgrowth of the policy of direct contribution of funds, to be expended by the Government outside of Canada, or to the policy of the other extreme of not meeting the duty now resting on the larger and richer Canada of fulfilling her responsibilities as a grown nation and loyal daughter of the motherland.

Borden For Dreadnoughts.
He was followed by Mr. Borden, who, despite his previous indorsement of the Government's policy for the creation of a Canadian navy, after a month of hesitancy and shifting on the great issue now before the country, compelled evidently by the exigencies of pressure from within the party, finally gave up the ghost of his previously declared convictions, and cast in his lot with the ultra-imperialists, who have been advocating a direct contribution as a temporary expedient to meet the alleged crisis in respect to the maintenance of British supremacy on the sea. He proposed an amendment advocating the gift in cash to Great Britain of an amount sufficient to construct two Dreadnoughts, or about \$20,000,000, leaving the permanent solution of the question of Canada's defence as a part of the empire to be dealt with later after mature consideration. At the same time he did not make it clear just what his attitude was on the proposal to construct a Canadian navy, although it could be inferred from his speech that, in addition to the gift of twenty millions, he proposed that the country should also commit itself to the additional expenditure involved in the building of a Canadian fleet.

Mr. Monk in Opposition.
To both the policies enunciated by Sir Wilfrid and Mr. Borden, the latter's first lieutenant in Quebec, Mr. F. D. Monk, came out in unequivocal opposition. He took extreme anti-imperial grounds, declaring that Canada should hold aloof from any participation in the wars of Britain, and declared that the creation of a Canadian navy meant practically the giving up of the Dominion's freedom and unrestricted autonomy. He moved a further amendment, appealing for a plebiscite of the people of Canada before any action was taken along the lines laid down in the Government's bill.

Borden's Resolution.
Mr. Borden's resolution was as follows: "That the proposals of the Government do not follow suggestions and recommendations of the admiralty, and in so far as they empower the Government to withhold the naval forces of Canada from those of the empire in time of war, are ill-advised and dangerous." "That no such proposal can safely be accepted unless they thoroughly insure unity of organization and of action, without which there can be no effective co-operation in any common scheme of empire defence." "That the said proposals while necessitating a heavy outlay for construction and maintenance will give no immediate or effective aid to the empire, and no adequate or satisfactory results to Canada." "That no permanent policy should be entered upon involving large future expenditures of this character, until

THE BIG CEMENT CONVENTION MAY COME TO FOREST CITY

Great Effort Being Made to Have the 1,200 Delegates Gather Here in March—Includes Exhibition of Machinery.

The annual convention of the Canadian Concrete and Cement Association may be held in London the latter part of March. A meeting of the executive to decide upon the date and place of meeting has been called, and it is probable that Mr. C. F. Pulfer, manager of the Ideal Cement Machinery Company, will bear an invitation to the association to meet in London. The convention will be very large, between 800 and 1,200 delegates attending.

All that is needed is a place of meeting, and a large building for the exhibition of machinery. Mr. Pulfer takes it up. "This is the sort of thing that will boost London," said his worship. "It will be a great thing if we can get it, and we will do all in our power. The only question is whether or not we will be able to get the Princess Rink in March. If we can do that we will certainly invite the convention here. We will take it up immediately, and see what can be done."

HOPE MILITANCY HAS DONE ITS WORK

**English Suffragettes Announce a
Change in Their Tactics.**

London, Feb. 4.—The militant suffragettes seem to have realized the futility of militancy.

Anyhow, it is announced that it will be abandoned, and that it will not be resumed "unless we are convinced that the Government will yield to nothing else. We hope the need of it is over, and that militancy has done its work."

Opposition to the Government will, however, be continued, and the suffragettes will take the field in every election to urge the electors to vote against the Government.

It has been submitted to the people and has received their approval. "That in the future the immediate duty of Canada and impending necessities of the empire can best be discharged and met by placing without delay at the disposal of the imperial authorities the free and legal contribution from the people of Canada, such an amount that may be sufficient to purchase or construct two battleships or armored cruisers of the latest type, and to place under the control of the military full discretion to expend the said sum at such time, and for such purposes of naval defence as in their judgment may best serve to increase the unity and strength of the empire, and thus assure to it peace and unity."

Ovation for Premier.
Sir Wilfrid on rising was greeted with prolonged applause by his followers. He made a reference to the illness of Mr. P. B. Brodeur, and regretted that the Minister of Marine could not be present himself to take charge of the bill.

The Premier said that the question of the naval bill was the first time at the imperial conference of 1902. It was discussed with great care, and the fact was revealed that between the advisers of his majesty in Great Britain and in the dominions beyond the seas there was a diversity of opinion. The Secretary for War suggested that the dominions beyond the seas should train and equip a force to be placed under the control of the war office. It was suggested that contributions should be made to the plan of naval defence. Most of the colonies agreed with this, but the Canadian representatives did not agree, and put forward the policy from which never deviated, and which had been embodied in the bill now before the House.

Canada's Status.
"By this policy the present Government stands or falls," said the Premier, "but we shall not fall."

Sir Wilfrid explained that the policy of the Government was to give to Canada the dignity and status of a nation within the British Empire; in other words "daughter am I in my mother's house, but mistress in my own."

If today this policy was adopted it would mean the laying down of the principle that Canada was a nation, but a daughter-nation of England.

Conservative Policy.
Referring to the policy of the Conservative party, the Premier said he did not think he would be offensive or unjust in describing them as divided in council and divided in action. Yet this policy as outlined in the bill has received the tacit assent. Outside of the House the naval proposal of the Government had received the commendation of the best minds in the Conservative party. Others whom he described as afflicted with "Phariseism of imperialism" had condemned the bill. Mr. Foster, who had criticized freely, was yet committed to indorsement of the policy of the Government.

In the House last year he had been slow to move his resolution regarding naval defence.

Mr. Foster interjected "My right honorable friend knows the reason why."

The Premier said he did not know, but Mr. Foster insisted that the delay was due to conferences which he had had with the Premier from time to time. Sir Wilfrid remarked that, while he could not admit that the fact remained that there had been a long delay in bringing forward the resolution, Mr. Monk had declared that the time was inopportune, and was still of the same mind.

Fiddlers Out of Tune.
Meanwhile the air was charged with

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A Booster.
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Mayor Takes It Up.
Mr. Pulfer and Mr. A. J. Hunt had an interview with Mayor Beattie at noon today, and his worship will take the matter up this afternoon, and every effort will be made to bring the convention to London if suitable buildings can be secured.

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SON OF THE LATE FIRE CHIEF MEETS WITH ACCIDENTAL DEATH

**Mr. Gordon Clarke Was Hit by a Grand Trunk Train Near
Ingersoll Last Night and Instantly Killed.**

Gordon Clarke, 20 years old, son of the late Fire Chief Clarke, was killed last night about midnight, between Ingersoll and Woodstock. The remains were brought back to Ingersoll, and will be interred in London. Clarke had been employed by the hydro-electric commission for over a year, and had been at Ingersoll for some time. Last evening he and two companions, chairman, left Ingersoll for Woodstock to attend a hockey match. They missed a trolley, and all three went to the Grand Trunk station. A freight train was pulling out, and Clarke said he would catch it. He did so, although his companions called for him to jump off. After that no more was seen of him until his body was picked up near Beachville. He was struck and carried to Beachville, where his body was thrown off. His watch, one that was presented to the late chief when he left the Hamilton brigade, was found near Ingersoll, and was given to his friends. The body will be brought home this evening, and interment will be made in London. Gordon Clarke was the only son of the late Fire Chief Clarke and Mrs. Clarke. He was 19 years of age in September last. He had been employed with the hydro-electric commission with their surveying parties for over a year, and was very highly regarded. He is survived by his widowed mother, and one sister, Anna. Hon. Adam Beck was notified late last night of the fatality, and Rev. A. J. Vining broke the sad news to the boy's mother. He could not get out of the way of a train running east. He was struck and carried to Beachville, where his body was thrown off. His watch, one that was presented to the late chief when he left the Hamilton brigade, was found near Ingersoll, and was given to his friends. The body will be brought home this evening, and interment will be made in London. Gordon Clarke was the only son of the late Fire Chief Clarke and Mrs. Clarke. He was 19 years of age in September last. 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