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The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY-SECOND YEAR. THE VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST MONDAY, MAY 29, 1899 VOLUME XLIII—NO. 50

Costigan's Sorry Tale.

Exacted From Sir Charles Tupper a Pledge to Push Remedial Legislation.

But Now Has Flopped to the Successful Opponents of That Policy.

His Mission in Public Life to Get All Possible for Men of His Religion.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 26.—Hon. John Costigan made his promised statement this afternoon. He observed that the Toronto Telegram and Mail and Empire had attributed selfish motives for his change of party allegiance, and the Telegram had even added cartoons, which were an unfair attack by Mr. Robertson, M. P., the proprietor. Mr. Costigan could not retaliate, as no picture could be made of the member for Toronto East that would not be flattering. (Laughter). The Mail had gone farther and charged that on a certain occasion, when Sir John Macdonald was hard pressed by a revolt of Quebec members, Mr. Costigan took advantage of the occasion to resign, and that as soon as the Quebec difficulty was settled Mr. Costigan came back. All the defense he would offer was contained in the reply of Sir John Macdonald to Mr. Blake, to the effect that Mr. Costigan's retirement was for private reasons, and had been withdrawn at Sir John's request.

Mr. Costigan read the statement made by Sir Charles Tupper to the press after he had announced his withdrawal of support. He had been surprised at these remarks, and thought them unworthy the dignity of the gentleman who was accidentally and temporarily leader of the party. Mr. Costigan said his change of attitude toward the Conservative leaders began with the time Sir Charles Tupper left England to become leader. Sir Charles' coming was the downfall of honest government, and of the leadership of an honest leader, Bowell. When the story of that transaction was written it would appear to be the darkest page in the history of this country. The day Mr. Costigan changed his allegiance was the day when the seven men walked out of the Bowell cabinet. "But," he said, "I might be asked why I went into Sir Charles Tupper's cabinet with these men." He would say that he did it reluctantly. Tupper offered him a place in the cabinet. He replied in writing, setting forth the conditions on which he accepted. This letter he read. It set forth that Mr. Costigan had entered Sir John Macdonald's ministry as a representative of the Irish Catholics, and had labored hard, as far as he could in the interests of that class. He had to make the humiliating confession that his labors in that interest had failed. He was not anxious to continue the struggle, but in view of the interest the government of Sir Mackenzie Bowell had taken in the remedial bill, and of the fact that this policy was to be maintained, Mr. Costigan would consent to assist Sir Charles Tupper. Proceeding, Mr. Costigan said that he took office and served loyally under Tupper. Attacks had been made upon him since. "I am a man of peace," he concluded, "but not of peace at any price. From this out, if any man strikes me, if he does not get blow for blow, it will be because old Costigan is getting too old." Mr. Costigan closed by saying he had not fired his last shot, nor struck his last blow.

A Political Freak.

Sir Charles Tupper said he deeply regretted the course taken by his former colleague, not so much on his (Tupper's) account or on account of the Liberal-Conservative party, as on account of Costigan himself. No one had ever before seen a privy councillor voting against his party on important motions without a word of explanation. As to want of courtesy, it seemed to Tupper that this had been shown by Mr. Costigan. It was a remarkable statement for a man who for fourteen years had held office, that he should declare he was under no obligation toward the Conservative party. Matters now under investigation made more clear the reasons for this announcement, in which Mr. Costigan had given no plausible reason for his change of attitude. He must have had confidence in Sir Charles when he took office under him. The difficulties to which Mr. Costigan ascribed his alienation took place before Mr. Costigan wrote his letter accepting Sir Charles as leader, and the fact that Mr. Costigan was in this letter obliged to make a confession that he had accomplished nothing for his friends was no reason for his present course. Sir Charles had not enjoyed many opportunities to assist Mr. Costigan in his mission, but he had recommended the appointment of the first Catholic ever appointed to the bench in Nova Scotia and the first ever appointed governor of his native province. Not until the Conservatives lost power was the want of sympathy shown by Mr. Costigan. He would not say much about the motives which led Mr. Costigan to his present course. The country might be trusted to understand and place value on them.

Not Like an Irishman.

Mr. Ross Robertson deal briefly with Mr. Costigan's reference to him and his paper. He was an admirer of the Irish race and therefore would strive to forget that Mr. Costigan had even been an Irish leader. He was lacking in the quality of the Irish people, that of faithfulness. He hoped the member for Victoria would live long but ventured to say that when he died his epitaph would be: "Here lies a Conservative who was faithful to the Conservative party so long as it was on a dividend paying basis."

The subject then dropped.

Discussion on the Drummond County railway matter was continued by McLennan, Tupper and Fielding. The resolution was adopted and the house adjourned at 12:25 a.m.

COAL OF COOK'S INLET.

Standard Oil Company Putting Large Expenditure Into Development of Fields.

Seattle, May 25.—The Standard Oil Company, having acquired not only the old Russian title, but a later mineral land grant from the United States government to the coal lands at Cook Inlet, Alaska, is preparing to develop the coal fields, which are of vast extent. The company has already deposited $100,000 with the local banks for the use of Alfred Ray, their present manager here, who has outfitted a corps of engineers that will sail on the Orizaba this morning.

These engineers will complete surveys already partially made and make other surveys for wharves, railroads from the mines to the shore, etc., and as rapidly as their work is completed contracts for building will be let here. In fact, one contract for a wharf to be built in the immediate future has already been let to parties here.

The Cook Inlet coal mines, as they are commonly known, were first worked by the Russians years ago and later by a San Francisco company, but questions of title and the vast amount of money required to fully develop the mines hindered the work until the Standard Oil Company secured control.

As soon as possible Mr. Ray will leave for Alaska and when he goes, one of the best known business men in this city will assume the position of resident assistant manager here.

"Don't use my name now," said this gentleman yesterday, "and for this reason only: If it were known that I am to be the resident manager of the new coal company I would be literally besieged by people wanting work, wanting to sell supplies and what not else. So long as Mr. Ray is here he will attend to all details. The Standard Oil Company has not gone into this venture on speculation. They know the extent of the coal fields, the quality of the coal and all else about it.

"Seattle will be their main supply point and it is going to be no little thing for the trade of this city, for, as I told you, the company will develop and work the mines to their fullest capacity. Once under the earth of Alaska, you know, you are much better off than on top of the earth in that country, and hence they will mine the year around."

Treaty Fizzle Works Mischief.

Canada to Suffer Because Sir Wilfrid Raised Hopes of Washington.

But Later Shrank from the Sacrifice—Blow at Lumber Industry.

By Associated Press.

London, May 26.—The foreign office officials confirm the statements made by the New York correspondent of the London Times to the effect that negotiations with the Canadian government on the subject of Alaska have reached almost a hopeless stage owing to the insistence of Canadians that they receive a slice of Alaska, which apparently precludes any agreement being reached on the subject between the United States and Canadian high commissioners. The evening newspapers reproduce the New York despatch with comment generally regretting the situation, but objecting to the conclusion that Canada is blameable.

The morning papers discuss the failure of the Anglo-American commission with an apparent desire to pacify both Canada and the United States. The Daily Chronicle says: "The whole boundary dispute is small but there is much reason to fear that the lumber quarrel is the cause of friction. Both sides appear to be thinking of perpetual retaliations and reprisals. Such a state of things is full of evil. It is urged that a settlement should be accepted. Should this fail and should the Nicaragua arrangement fail also, a very unpleasant relation might ensue. A return to any unfriendly temper between the two branches of the Anglo-Saxon race would be a disaster to everyone and above all to Canada herself."

The Daily Mail says: "It is obviously unfair for the United States to expect the British Empire to do all the giving and America to do all the taking. This is a form of diplomacy to which we are painfully accustomed in our dealings with certain powers."

Washingon, May 26.—There is little doubt our government is inclined to retaliatory action against Canada by the discouraging results of the negotiations in London looking towards the clearing of the field for the re-assembling of the joint high commission. The treasury department has now two courses open, both being retaliatory. The first is the preparation of an amendment to the tariff largely increasing the duties on lumber and forest products imported from Canada. There is possibly another course as a section of the Dingley act authorizes the United States, in cases where countries impose an export duty to add an equivalent import duty on such goods coming to the United States. The Canadian government is not imposing, in so many words, an export duty on logs, but it has prohibited their exportation. The question before Secretary Gage is whether this prohibition may not be regarded as in principle the same thing as an excessive, and therefore, prohibitive export tax. If this view is sound, the treasury has already at hand the measure of retaliation it seeks in the shape of an order prohibiting the importation of Canadian logs into the United States which would bear very heavily upon other provinces in Canada outside of Ontario.

THE PLAGUE IN EGYPT.

Alexandria, Egypt, May 26.—Four more cases of the plague have been reported here.

Machinery Of Mines.

Demand That Certified Engineer Should Examine All in Operation.

One Inspector Not Enough to Ensure Safety in Metalliferous Mines.

Jury Find That Defective Construction Caused War Eagle Accident.

By Associated Press.

Rossland, May 26.—In the War Eagle disaster inquest the jury returned a verdict at 9:30 last evening as follows:

First—We find that the deceased came to their death by the skip falling to the bottom of the shaft, which was caused by the slipping of a bolt out of its position, and that the machinery in question was defective inasmuch as safety pins should have been inserted in all the bolts to protect the nuts of said bolts.

Second—In view of the fact that certain defects took place previous to the present accident we are of the opinion that men should not have been permitted to ride on the skips until such time as the machinery was perfected beyond a reasonable doubt.

Third—We are also of the opinion that a daily report should be made by the engineer in chief as to the working of the machinery and that this rule should be strictly enforced.

Fourth—We would also strongly recommend that a certified mechanical and electrical engineer should be appointed to examine all mining machinery in operation.

Fifth—We would further recommend that the government should appoint several mining inspectors, as in our opinion the duties imposed upon the present one are greater than he can perform with satisfaction, and it is further recommended that a resident inspector should be appointed at least for this important mining section.

Sixth—That the practice of employing uncertified engineers for technical positions of responsibility in the mines of the province which has heretofore prevailed is to be condemned and that in future the strictest rules should be enforced and that if the present mining act be insufficient for this purpose it be amended at the next meeting of the legislature.

THE GENERAL FLED.

Such the Accusation of Italian Deputy Respecting Rout in Erythrea.

Rome, May 26.—Former Premier Crispi, in the chamber of deputies to-day, asked permission to explain the circumstances leading to the Italian rout in Erythrea. His remarks led to an immense uproar, during which anathemas were hurled indiscriminately, and the din became so great that the session was suspended.

After its resumption there was a repetition of the scenes previously witnessed. Signor Ferry, socialist, accused General Baratei, who commanded the Italian forces in Erythrea, of fleeing and leaving his troops in the lurch. Ferry refused to withdraw his accusation, and in the midst of indescribable confusion the house adjourned.

SIR WILFRID AT A DISCOUNT.

Quebec Comes to Realize the Premier's Sad Lack of Principle.

Special to the Colonist.

Sherbrooke, Que., May 25.—The Eastern townships Conservatives held a demonstration here to-day in honor of Sir Charles Tupper. There were large attendances at both afternoon and evening gatherings.

Mr. Thomes Chapais, Conservative leader in the legislative council, said Sir Wilfrid Laurier had greatly disappointed French Canadians, and they would rather have as a leader a man like Sir Charles Tupper, champion of the constitution and of the rights of the minority, than a man of neither principles or statesmanship, like Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Sir Charles Tupper devoted his speech mainly to reminiscences of the years from 1873 to the close of the Conservative administration, in 1896.

ALASKA BOUNDARY YARNS.

Washington Officials Deny Another Set—Hope That Treaty May Yet Be Made.

London, May 27.—The Washington correspondent of the Morning Post says:

"I am informed that the statements represented that state department officials have reported the boundary dispute as hopeless are absolutely untrue. The administration has been exceedingly annoyed by the statements made and hopes that no credence will be given to newspaper articles circulating the rumors.

"Both Uresident McKinley and Secretary Hay hope that Sir Julian Pauncefote will return to Washington with such instructions from Lord Salisbury as will insure the settlement of the matter."

Backache is almost immediately relieved by wearing one of Carter's Smart Weed and Belladonna Backache Plasters. Try one and be free from pain. Price 25 cents.

MR. COSTIGAN'S SON.

Unappreciated Consideration for His Father Kept His Delinquencies Out of Parliament.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 26.—W. J. Christie, ex-deputy collector of inland revenue at Winnipeg, was examined before the public accounts committee this morning. He detailed the shortcomings of H. A. Costigan while collector at Winnipeg, his absence from duty at times, and the use of several amounts of revenue, all of which, however, he repaid. It appeared also that upon his dismissal from the service in 1897, Mr. Christie requested Sir Hibbert Tupper to bring his case before parliament, but that Sir Hibbert while sympathizing with him declined to take the matter up as it concerned the son of an old colleague.

ALDERMAN HINKY DINK.

Favorite Son of Chicago's First Ward Deals With the Profits of Politics.

Chicago, May 26.—The Baxter investigation committee have adjourned until June 6. Alderman Michael Kenna, of the First ward, known as "Hinky Dink," appeared before the committee and proved to be the star witness of all witnesses who appeared before that body. In South Clark street vernacular he told the members of the committee that he did not believe that there was any gambling in Chicago, nor had he ever heard of any policy shop, colonization of votes or slot machines in the First ward. He admitted that his saloons remained open all night, and took the position that all-night saloons, instead of having a bad effect, had, on the contrary, a beneficient influence on the public, crime having actually decreased since they were allowed to remain open. The alderman testified that he paid out about $6,000 in his last campaign, and that he charged the difference between that and his fifteen hundred-dollar salary as allowance to "excitement and pleasure." "Politics is a losing game, then?" questioned a committee man. "Oh, I don't know," replied Ald. Kenna.

Pauncefote Makes a Hit.

Permanent Tribunal of Arbitration an Outcome of the Peace Conference.

British and Russians Join in Proposal with Prospect of Adoption.

By Associated Press.

London, May 26.—The correspondent of the Daily Telegraph at The Hague says:

"Peace prospects rose to high-water mark to-day, when the conference found itself face to face with arbitration, in a practicable and acceptable form, and as a permanent international achievement. This honor is mainly due to Sir Julian Pauncefote. When the members of the arbitration section had finished reading the Russian proposals on this subject, Sir Julian expressed his complete approval of them, but said it would be a great pity if the conference failed to embody the principle of arbitration in some permanent shape.

"I now beg to propose," he said, "the formal establishment of a permanent arbitration tribunal, empowered to deal with all matters in dispute capable of reference to the judgment of an umpire. I do not intend to trouble you with details as to its methods to-day, nor until you accept the principle of my proposal. Therefore, I ask you to accept the principle now."

M. De Staal remarked: "Sir Julian Pauncefote having presented his proposals, we are prepared to supplement and to complete the printed suggestions just distributed by others, dealing with a permanent arbitration board." Thereupon the Russian president of the conference drew a paper from his pocket and laid it upon the table, then and there. The paper contained the foundation of a permanent tribunal, suggesting the substitution of a new clause and referring to an appendix not yet drawn up. The amazed delegates crowded around Sir Julian, congratulating him upon having played the winning card, which had so quickly precipitated the Russian alternative scheme. Some stood aghast, the matter not being contemplated in their instructions. Finally it was decided to refer the matter to a sub-committee.

The Americans, it is believed, are elaborating an organic statute for the erection of a permanent tribunal, which will probably be laid before the conference and can be supported by the British delegates when the principle embodied in Sir Julian's resolution is accepted.

THE PARIS DOOMED.

Rolling Heavily on the Rocks—Theory of Compass Deflection Discussed.

Coverack, Cornwall, May 26.— The wind has veered to the eastward to-night. There is a heavy sea and the stranded Paris is rolling heavily.

London, May 26.—Captain Creek, head of the compass department of the British admiralty, said to-day in discussing the wreck of the Paris near the Manacle rocks that he had his doubts about the theory of magnetic attraction in the Manacles. Even if this existed, he said, inasmuch as the Manaclese lie due north of the line followed by steamers passing the Lizard the needle would be drawn only along its usual line of polar attraction. Mr. Creek said that the theory itself was not untenable, as there was a place known as the Cossacks on the coast of Australia where iron in the cliffs deflects ships' compasses thirty degrees.

A Bargain With Rome

Laurier Will Help Manitoba Catholics If He Secures Second Term.

Costigan Well Posted When He Turned to Liberals for This Relief.

Good Reason Why the Ontario Constituencies Should Be Muzzled.

Special to the Colonist.

Toronto, May 27.—The World, Conservative, has a Montreal special which says:

"Mr. McGuire, of the Quebec Mercury, recently returned from Rome. While at the Vatican it was stated to McGuire that there would be a general election in this country in the very near future.

"In a talk McGuire had with certain gentlemen of the papal household who are familiar with Canadian affairs he says certain items as to what would be the government's policy in elections were to his surprise made known to him.

"The statement was made at the Vatican that the present government had virtually promised it would secure for the minority of the Prairie Province a full and further measure of justice in keeping with the judgment of the privy council if it was returned to power again."

ST. JOHN'S BIG FIRE.

Two Hundred Workmen's Families Rendered Homeless in a Few Hours.

St. John N. B., May 26.—This city was visited yesterday by the heaviest fire since 1877, when nearly the entire city was swept away. To-day the conflagration was in the north end or Indian Town, at the mouth of the St. John river. The alarm was sent in for a fire in Penazee & Sons warehouse about 2 p.m. Some time was lost before water could be secured and by this time the fire had gained headway. At one time it looked as if the whole north end would be destroyed. The firemen tried hard to stop the headway of the flames by blowing up a few buildings to make a breach. Everything, however, was dry, and no sooner was the fire totally stopped in one quarter than the men were called to another place to try to stop its onward march. Thus matters went on until 6:30 before the fire was fully under control and over 200 houses went down or were rendered useless.

The loss is a heavy one, as all the buildings destroyed were either owned or occupied by men who worked in the sawmills or on the river. In many cases the furniture was also lost. One life was lost an old unmarried lady named Conrad, who was burned to death. Her charred remains were found in the debris. Another woma, named Mowry, who was suffering from heart trouble, died of fright.

The loss is placed at $500,000; the insurance at $300,000. The loss however will be much greater than the above, as the value of the furniture of the workingmen is not included in the statement. Many people are left homeless on Main Street, the principle street in the district. Not a single structure is left at the riverside, where the Fredericton and lake boat wharves are situated. The Quebec and Union Company will be the heaviest loser among the insurance companies.

SECOND MATE'S FATAL FALL.

Caught by Tail Rope of Ballast Tub and Dropped Into Hold.

Special to the Colonist.

Nanaimo, May 26.—Albert Smith, second officer of the Hawaiian ship Willscott, discharging ballast at the New Vancouver Coal Company's docks, became entangled in the tail rope of a ballast tub, while hoisting ballast yesterday, and was carried to the main deck where he lost his hold and fell headlong down the hatch striking his head on the keelson and completely crushing the skull. The unfortunate officer was taken to the hospital where he expired last night. Smith was a native of Chicago and shipped from San Francisco six weeks ago.

CHINESE IN WAR PAINT.

Hint That Germans May Be Driven From Shantung and Italians Kept Out.

London, May 26.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Mail says: "Orders have been issued from Pekin directing the viceroys and governors of the neighboring provinces to put all their forces on a war footing, owing to the arrival of six Italian warships in San Mun harbor. It is thought also that the Chinese propose to drive the Germans from Shantung peninsula."

PHYSICIANS IN A FIX.

Cologne, May 26.—Two physicians were arrested here to-day on the charge of assisting men to escape conscription in the army by administering pills to them which caused palpitation of the heart. Four of the men who took the pills died from the effects of them. Suspicion was aroused and an investigation was begun.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE KILLING.

Port Townsend Exercised Over Arrest of Former Collector.

Port Townsend, May 24.—The receipt of the news that James C. Saunders, ex-collector of this district, had, with his wife, been arrested on the charge of manslaughter at Buffalo, N. Y., caused a great sensation here. Word had been previously received that the boy had died, but the particulars of the case were not known. During his long residence here Saunders and his family, while prominent in church circles, never affiliated with the Christian scientists, who are surprisingly strong in this city. Sympathy here is evidenced on every side for the collector. Two years ago no family was more prominent nor respected in the Northwest than that of James C. Saunders, but with his retirement from the office of collector of customs here his troubles began. The Commercial bank, of which he was president, and the Copper River Transportation Company, in which he was heavily interested, both collapsed simultaneously, involving the retiring officer in everything from personal abuse to accusations of forgery, with no end of damage suits staring him in the face and as yet unsatisfied.

Although Saunders was a rustling and intelligent man of business, he speculated in mining stock, and many thousands of his money has been sunk among the wildcat mining schemes of Eastern Washington.

His arrest in Buffalo is the first made under the law enacted at the last session of New York's legislature, making the failure to give attention to a patient of a regularly licensed physician a penitentiary offense. The measure is intended to discourage the calling in of Christian scientists, fair curists and other similar practitioners.

SPANISH GENERAL'S END.

Manila, May 26.—The Spanish General Montero, while on the way hither with the Spanish garrison from Zamboanga in the steamer Leo XIII, died of wounds received in the engagement with the Filipinos.

TRACKMEN'S STRIKE.

Montreal, May 26.—The Union Counties railway trackmen are on strike. They were asked to take Grand Trunk strikers' places, but refused, and in their turn asked for more money.

Yukon Mails Only a Pretence

Even Registered Packets Refused and No Newspapers Yet Taken In.

Liquor Importers Lose Heavily by the Governments Shifting Policy.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 27.—The quality of the Yukon postal service was illustrated today by Mr. McDougal, who told the Commons that he had sent a registered parcel containing papers to Dawson, but the parcel was opened at Victoria and returned from the dead letter office there with the information that the mail was not carrying papers to Dawson.

Mr. Mulock admitted that newspapers could not be sent to Dawson in winter.

Sir Hibert Tupper asked if public notice had been given that newspapers could not be sent to Dawson through the mails, but Mr. Mulock was not able to answer.

THE CANCELLED PERMITS.

Ottawa, May 27.—In the house to-day Col. Prior called attention to some cases of hardship in connection with Yukon liquor permits. In several instances permits had been secured from Mr. Ogilvie and the liquor bought, but before it could be shipped the permits were cancelled by the government. He thought that in such cases it would be only fair that the men should be allowed to take to Dawson whatever liquor they bought previous to the date of cancellation. He also desired to call attention to the fact which he had learned from a correspondent that there was a brewery running in Dawson, and apparently paying no revenue to the government. Sir Henri Joly said he was astonished at the latter statement, which was news to him. He would make inquiry forthwith.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier could not hold out any hope to the men whose liquor permits had been cancelled. They were cancelled because the government felt it was not proper to allow such quantities of liquor to be sent into the territory.

STOLE FROM A CHARITY.

High Saxon Official Held for Appropriating Two Hundred Thousand Marks.

Dresden, Saxony, May 26.—Herr Hopffe, treasurer of the Albert Society, has been arrested on the charge of misappropriating 200,000 marks of the society's fund. Hopffe is a high Saxon official. The Albert Verein is a charitable organization, under the patronage of the Queen of Saxony.

BILLIARDS BY MASTERS.

The Wizard and His Mate Victors in Four-hand Professional Contest.

New York, May 26.—The second night in the four-handed professional billiard match at three-cushion caroms resulted in a victory for "Wizard Schaefer and W. D. Harrison of Chicago, who scored 65 points, against 55 for "Napoleon" French Ives and John A. Thatcher. This gave them the match, their total score being 125 to 100 for the other game.

Harrison was the star of the night's game, and his individual score showed 39 points to his credit, against 33 for Ives, 26 for Schaefer, and 22 for Thatcher.

There are many forms of nervous debility in men that yield to the use of Carter's Iron Pills. Those who are troubled with nervous weakness, night sweats, etc., should try them.

Grand Trunk Trackmen

Company's Patrons at Ottawa Refuse to Consider Their Hard Lot.

Alaskan Boundary a Fit Question for Permanent Court of Arbitration.

Hint That Forcing Through Gerrymander Will Be a Long Process.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 27.—The house set three hours this afternoon and transacted important business.

Mr. Clarke Wallace, of West Toronto, called attention to the trackmen's strike on the G. T. R. by which the safety of the travelling public is endangered. He thought the government should interfere to secure justice for the men, who are receiving only 98 cents a day. This view was supported by Mr. Wallace and others.

Mr. Blair and Sir Wilfrid Laurier thought the government could not well intervene unless requested by both sides to the dispute.

The Alaskan Boundary.

Sir Charles Tupper made a lengthy speech regarding the joint high commission. For the first time yesterday, he said, the Premier stated clearly and he was glad to hear him, the position which the British commissioners assumed regarding the Alaska boundary. It was evident from Sir Wilfrid Laurier's statement that unless the boundary question could be removed by diplomatic action there would be no re-assembling of the commission. From the inception he (Tupper) had treated the question as above and beyond party. He was glad to see the peace conference at The Hague had suggested that international arbitration be established for the purpose of dealing with controversial questions which might arise between two nations. The Alaska question was one which might well be referred to such a tribunal. They would therefore look forword hopefully to the re-assembling of the commission in August, but in order to enable the ministers to get away he suggested that they should withdraw the redistribution bill for this session.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said the government would be pardoned some feeling of satisfaction at the language of Sir Charles Tupper. The wisdom of the course Laurier had adopted in February in breaking off negotiations was fully vindicated by Tupper's speech. What would have been the use of re-assembling in August or any other time if the question on which they could not agree remained in the same position. They hoped the respective governments would have effected what the commissioners could not, and settle the Alaska boundary, the most important question submitted to them. Two ways of settlement suggested themselves, one giving more and taking less, the other giving less and receiving more, but they could not come to an understanding on the question, and only arbitration remained. When that question is submitted to arbitration it would leave them free for other questions. He did not expect to settle all questions before the commission to the extreme limit of Canada's rights and pretensions, but he hoped honorably and satisfactorily, also so as to intensify the good feeling between Great Britain and the United States. He was not prepared to withdraw the redistribution bill but would place the matter before his colleagues. Fair consideration of the bill would take only a few days but the suggestion should be treated with respect and consideration.

SAMOA QUIET AGAIN.

Belligerents Leave Their Dispute for Settlement by International Commission.

Washington, May 26.—The British embassy has received advices from Samoa, coming via Auckland to the foreign office, and forwarded here, that Mr. Elliot, the British commissioner, announces the arrival of himself and associates and their initial meeting. He says also that when they reached Apia it was found that an armistice had already been affected and was in force, so that the commission began its work under peaceful auspices. The German embassy had not yet heard from Baron Speck Von Sternberg, the German commissioner.

The feeling is entertained in diplomatic quarters that the arrival of the commissioners disposes of all critical features of the Samoan question.

Admiral Kautz's position as senior naval officer at Apia will be taken by Capt. Goodrich, the commander of the cruiser Newark upon the arrival of that vessel at Apia.

Admiral Kautz will return to the United States with the Philadelphia, which will be replaced at Apia by the cruiser Newark. The latter started from New York about six weeks ago. It is due at Samoa about the middle of June.

The navy department has received a cablegram from Admiral Kautz dated Apia, May 16, saying: "Badger arrived May 13. Philadelphia will leave so as to reach San Francisco about June 25. Commission may desire to return on the Badger."

Berlin, May 26.—The newspapers here are jubilating over what they term Admiral Kautz's "recall" from Samoa. The Lokal Anzeiger says: "This shows anew the American government's good will to remove all obstacles to a peaceful understanding."

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