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# Is It Laurier Strategy To Strengthen Cabinet By Forcing Removals?

### One Interesting Conjecture as to the Hidden Motive for Springing the Civil Service Report—and Other Things.

## QUEBEC CONSERVATIVE WHO MAY BE WON OVER

MONTREAL, March 27.—(Special.)—A gentleman who came here this evening from Ottawa, and who has good sources of information, says he believes that Sir Wilfrid Laurier is deliberately making all the moves these days with a view of very extensive reorganization of the government.

## BRODEUR WON'T QUIT.

### At Least Not Until His Character is Vindicated.

OTTAWA, March 27.—(Special.)—Why should the minister of marine be surrounded by enemies? This was a question asked by a Liberal member at the caucus for the party this morning, and which remained unanswered.

## ROTTSCHILD RESIGNS.

### Cannot Attend Board Meetings of Grand Trunk Pacific.

MONTREAL, March 27.—(Special.)—The Star's London correspondent cables as follows: Hon. N. Charles Rothschild, who represented the great banking house of Rothschild on the Grand Trunk Pacific, has resigned from the board.

## MURDER IN CHINESE QUARTER.

NEW YORK, March 27.—A street murder, which is believed to have been an outgrowth of the recent trials of a number of Chinamen for murder in Boston and Philadelphia, threw the local Chinese quarter into intense excitement for some time this afternoon.

## FELT AT WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—Two great earthquake shocks were recorded at the weather bureau last evening. Four excellent records of each shock were obtained, in which all the details of the phenomena are shown with great distinctness.

## Government May Conduct Appeal.

It is very probable the government will appeal against Justice Britton's decision in the Collingwood strike license case. The argument made by John Birnie, K.C., did not do justice to the view taken by the government, in the first place, nor present the question as it was understood. The decision given entirely defeats the object that was contemplated.

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## Supplementaries Passed.

## BATTLE CRY WILL BE CALLED FOR RAILWAY

### West to Be Baited by Hudson Bay Line—East by Georgian Bay Project.

MONTREAL, March 27.—(Special.)—The statement is made in this city that the federal government will go to the poll during the coming fall on the question of building the Georgian Bay Canal and the Hudson Bay Railway, the belief being that the first will be as popular in the east as the second project is known to be in the western provinces.

It is said that when Hon. Mr. Fielding stated in the commons that some of the proposed enterprises would have to be postponed for a while, he had no reference to those two schemes, and that before parliament is prorogued, there will be evidence to the effect that the present ministry has serious intentions of launching those two great projects before the country, and that in this manner a monster campaign fund may be forthcoming.

## WILL COST MILLIONS.

There is also a charter possessed by Montreal parties for the construction of the railway, and in fact those people claim that theirs is the only valid charter for the building of the road in question. It is estimated that the canal will not cost less than \$120,000,000, and that the estimate of the cost of the Hudson Bay road will be in the vicinity of \$30,000,000 per mile, the official information at hand going to show that prairie country is encountered within 120 miles from the coast.

## Prominent Speakers at the Ontario Motor League Banquet Refer to Pending Measures—The Right to the Road.

The prevailing sentiment expressed at the banquet of the Ontario Motor League held at the National Club last night was one of warm resentment against automobile legislation pending in the Ontario Legislature. The chair was occupied by T. A. Russell, and the gathering was a large and representative one.

## BRIDGE JUMPER AT 17.

### Despondent in Love Affairs, Leaps From Brooklyn Bridge to Death.

NEW YORK, March 27.—Another was added yesterday to the long list of Brooklyn Bridge jumpers—and was the youngest who has taken the leap. He was Edward J. Dittmars, the 17-year-old son of Dr. James G. Dittmars, a physician, residing at No. 538 1-2 Sixth Avenue, Brooklyn, and a man of prominence in the neighborhood.

## MEXICO CITY SHAKEN.

MEXICO CITY, March 28.—Investigation shows that four persons were injured during the earthquake, one probably fatally. The shock was felt for 500 miles from north to south, extending itself at Guajuato on the north, and Rincon on the south. Calls San Francisco, the main thoroughfare of Mexico City, was cracked in places for many blocks.

## SUFFRAGETTE LEADER HERE.

### Mrs. Wells Will Speak at Massey Hall To-Morrow Evening.

Mrs. Borrmann Wells, one of the leaders in the suffragette movement in England, and who has been in New York for some weeks, will be in the city from to-day until Monday.

## INJURED IN SHAM BATTLE.

VANCOUVER, March 27.—(Special.)—In the sham battle last evening at the military tournament, one of the six Royal Canadian Mounted Cavalry men were injured, one named Henry Alder seriously, by the loss of a leg. Ammunition had been supplied in the regular way, but it was not of the type generally used for blank firing. It was old mark IV. ammunition, with dum-dum bullets reloaded, but the brass caps were of the type in almost every case flew off, making combat too real to be comfortable.



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## 20,000 SOLDIERS WILL GO TO QUEBEC

### Troops Will Be Massed at the Citadel Instead of in the Annual Camps

OTTAWA, March 27.—(Special.)—Sir Frederick Borden made an important statement in the house to-day with regard to the participation of militia in the tercentenary celebration at Quebec in July next. He said it was proposed that about 50 per cent. of the militia, or about 20,000 men, should go to Quebec.

As far as the western battalions were concerned, it would, of course, not be expedient to transport half the strength of the battalions east, but Ontario, Quebec and Maritime regiments would be represented by 50 per cent. There would be no recruits and with regard to the rural battalions, the tercentenary exercises would constitute their annual drill.

The vote of \$300,000 for the tercentenary would not be used for the militia display at Quebec.

Dr. Reid asked why the cost of militia had doubled in ten years. The minister replied that the militia and Esquimaux forces had been taken over, the pay of the men had been increased, and there was a larger force. The cost per man at the annual camp was \$1.50. The house then went into committee of supply.

In the militia department Mr. Foster thought it was a mistake for last year's annual drill required explanation. Sir Frederick Borden explained that \$65,000 was for railway accounts for carrying the troops. A large amount was for the pay of Toronto and Montreal corps.

"Any kicking?" asked Foster. "No," replied the minister. The city regiments funded the money and did not mind waiting. Then \$81,000 was withdrawn from the general appropriation and this had to be provided for. Parliament, observed Mr. Foster, was getting to be a farce when this thing could be done.

Defends the Douks. A further vote of \$125,000 for general immigration expenses was next discussed. George Taylor read the report of the farmers in Yorkton district contradicting statements of the minister of the interior and Dr. Cash. The Doukhobors led annual camps of undesirable settlers. Dr. Cash declared the Douks were a clean living people, men and women, and that the Saskatchewan concurred in this opinion.

Mr. Oliver said none of the money of this vote would be devoted to the importation of immigrants. Mr. Taylor and Dr. Reid complained that correspondence asked for had been brought down incomplete. Mr. Taylor's complaint had to do with a horse, which was carried away, and being rebuilt, was blown away. The report did not deal with these occurrences. Could it be that the minister expunged the papers?

Mr. Pugsley spurned the idea, which was unworthy of Mr. Taylor, and promised to oblige the hon. gentleman if the papers could be found.

Could it be possible, asked Samuel Barker, that when the horse was carried away, no enquiry was instituted?

British Columbia Fisheries. R. L. Borden asked what the report of the commission on British Columbia fisheries would be brought down. He had information that it was made in November and was now in the marine department archives. The report was being printed and would be available soon, said Mr. Borden.

Mr. Borden also enquired concerning the new wing of the central block. Would the minister confer with the opposition as to the disposal of room? Mr. Pugsley said he would be pleased to do so.

Then Mr. Foster asserted that the disposal of rooms should be with Mr. Speaker. He wondered whether a large number of the rooms were to be summarily furnished and placed at the disposal of members of the house.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said what his minister of public works failed to say definitely, was that he was in agreement with the concurrence of the house, to deal with.

## THE 2-CENT RATE.

### Illinois and Missouri Roads to Fight — Michigan Will Test.

CHICAGO, March 27.—Presidents and general counsel of railroads in Illinois and Missouri conferred here to-day and decided to attack the two cent fare laws in those states and also the freight rate in Missouri.

Railroads in Michigan have decided to comply with the two cent rate law for a sufficient time to demonstrate whether the reduction in the rate is such as to be confiscatory. This in no way waives the right of the roads to test the constitutionality of the law at any time they may elect.

## CLARKE FOR THE BENCH?

M. P. for South Essex Slated to Succeed Mabee.

OTTAWA, March 27.—(Special.)—A. H. Clarke, M.P., South Essex, has the reputation in well-informed circles, has the reputation of the succession to J. P. Mabee as the high court bench of Ontario.

Mr. Clarke is a lawyer of long standing and acknowledged ability. His ambition is to get on the bench.

## Supplementaries Passed.

OTTAWA, March 27.—(Special.)—The remaining supplementaries for current year were passed to-night.

V. Barber was found guilty in the sessions yesterday of forgery and was remanded, without bail, for sentence.

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