

THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1909.

SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.00 A YEAR. TO THE UNITED STATES \$1.50

Subscribers are now furnished with statements of their subscription accounts, and we trust they will not delay in remitting their respective amounts.

The Federal Parliament.

With the Parliamentary fight started in real earnest from the very first day, the present Session bids fair to be the most interesting for years.

Mr Fielding has already given evidence at this early stage of the session that he is a narrow gauge politician. He is determined to force through parliament the ratification of the trade convention with France which has been laid up for two years as a result of his own blundering.

would be as a result of the treaty with France before proceeding to ratify that convention. But Mr Fielding would have none of that. He had a fit of hysteria, and declared it was the sentiment of the Canadian people to deliberately work out their own commercial policy and that Canada while paying much deference to her great neighbor to the south, was no longer willing to be dependent on the action of the United States in tariff matters.

Mr Foster has already taken occasion to punch holes in Mr Fielding's financial policy, and his denunciation of extravagant expenditures formed a feature of his recent speech in the House. Mr. Foster has the great advantage of being able to support his assertions with facts and figures. It costs Canada five millions a year for what is called civil government that is to pay the salaries of the vast army of unemployed in the various departments on the hill at Ottawa.

Mr Fielding has already given evidence at this early stage of the session that he is a narrow gauge politician. He is determined to force through parliament the ratification of the trade convention with France which has been laid up for two years as a result of his own blundering.

The Australian Parliament has enacted that "in time of war or emergency, or upon a declaration by the senior naval officer representing the British Government that a condition of emergency exists, all the vessels of the naval force of the Commonwealth shall be placed by the Commonwealth Government under the orders of the Lords Com-

missioners of the Admiralty. Under that declaration, the British Admiralty would have the Australian ships in time to be of some service against the enemy. But Sir Wilfrid Laurier says that nothing can be done with the Canadian Navy without the leave of the Canadian Parliament.

McBride Triumphant

In the Provincial general elections in British Columbia on Thursday last, Premier McBride made almost a clean sweep of the Province. Before the dissolution of the Legislature, the Conservatives numbered twenty six in a House of forty-two; now they number thirty-six, so that the opposition is practically wiped out. Late returns show the standing of parties to be; thirty six Conservatives; three Liberals; two Socialists and one Independent. Premier McBride ran in Victoria and in Yale and was elected in both places, carrying his old seat in Victoria by six hundred majority over Oliver, Opposition Leader, and capturing Yale from the Liberals. Oliver, Leader of the Opposition, ran not only in Victoria; but in Delta his old seat, and was defeated in both places. Attorney-General Bowers, against whom the Grits, both in British Columbia and at Ottawa leveled, their keenest darts, lead the Government forces in Vancouver, defeating the ticket of the Leader of the Opposition by over fourteen hundred. All centres of population gave large majorities in favor of the Government candidates. Bossard, Nelson, Yale, Greenwood, Cranbrook, Skeena and New Westminster were transferred from the Liberal to the Conservative column. Vancouver elected the Conservative ticket of five with large majorities and Victoria landed its ticket of four, with a sweep in favor of the Government. Not one of McBride's supporters was defeated and only three of his opponents are left.

At the Federal election last autumn, the electors of British Columbia expressed, in no uncertain way, their poor opinion of the Laurier Administration, and in their vote of last Thursday they strongly emphasized their verdict of a year ago. Premier McBride has given his Province stable, strong and progressive Government, and British Columbia has gone forward rapidly under his administration. The Province is the largest in the Dominion, and its great extent, enormous natural resources in timber and minerals, as well as its vast crown domains, justify expenditures and guarantees for development, which might not be considered safe for smaller communities.

The principal question at issue in this election was the construction of a line of railway by the Canadian Northern. The proposed line is over 600 miles in extent and will traverse regions now hundreds of miles distant from transportation, either by land or water. Its construction opens up new lands for cultivation and, no doubt, new mineral and forest wealth. The McBride Government guarantees the interest at four per cent on the bonds for construction, to the extent of \$35,000 a mile. In the meantime, the Grand Trunk Pacific is creating a terminal port on the Pacific, which will run five or six hundred miles through the Province. From this it will be seen that wonderful development may in the near future be looked for in British Columbia, and Premier McBride will soon have in this progress and development. Three cheers for McBride.

In the Commonwealth House of Representatives at Melbourne, Australia, the Minister of Defence moved that the House approve of the Naval proposals and immediate steps be taken to provide an Australian Unit. The resolution was carried thirty to nine,—the minority opposing the Laborites. Mr. Fisher and other Labor Leaders voted with the Government.

According to Montreal advices tenders have been asked for the construction of the

Quebec Bridge, estimated at \$2,500,000 to replace the old piers which cost \$1,500,000. Tenders will also be asked for the superstructure to be nickel steel instead of carbon steel and weighing 130,000,000 pounds, against 70,000,000 pounds—the weight of the former structure. All the present piers will be demolished. The new North pier will be located 55 feet further out into the river. The total cost is estimated at \$10,000,000 and the bridge to be completed in five years. This public work, in life and treasure, is destined to be a dear job for Canada.

Dominion Parliament.

On Monday Nov. 22nd, Dr. Daniel of St. John brought to the attention of the House the extraordinary case of the wreck of the Hestia, the utter inefficiency which permitted the Old Proprietor buoy to remain dark and dumb all summer and autumn, the slackness which left the drowning men on the wreck for 35 hours, the callous effort to hush the matter up by a farcical investigation and the finding which cast the blame on the captain of the ship. Dr Daniel presented the facts fully, clearly and with great force and feeling. The House was moved to an unusual extent as he unfurled the ugly story of incapacity and indifference. Mr. Brodeur made a singularly feeble defence, the principal feature of which was his description of the trouble which the department had had with the automatic buoys. To defend his department in this case he was obliged to admit that these expensive subsidiary aids to navigation have proved extremely unsuitable. Dr Daniel brought the matter up on a motion for papers, "Relating to the condition and maintenance of the buoy on the Old Proprietor Ledge in the Bay of Fundy since January 1st, 1908, also of all reports, correspondence and other papers relating to the establishment, equipment, maintenance and operation of the lifeboat and life saving station at Seal Cove in the Bay of Fundy, also copy of all instructions issued to Captain Logar in connection with the inquiry into the wreck of the S. S. Hestia and of the findings and report on said inquiry."

Earlier in the afternoon of Monday the Prince Edward Island tunnel had its annual airing. Mr Warburton moving for papers on the subject. In doing so he said that he had waited till the revenue had recovered from its temporary check before bringing the matter up again. Mr Richards dwelt upon the need for the tunnel as regards the business conditions of the island. Mr Fraser held the argument that the building of the tunnel was called for by the conditions of confederation. Mr Fielding said that in earlier days the tunnel had been regarded as impracticable and visionary, but the progress of engineering science had brought into the realm of practical affairs many things formerly held to be impossible. He was inclined to think that this was one of them. He dissented from Mr Foster's view that the obligation was anything more than their desire to see Prince Edward Island share in the good things of the present growing time. If an inquiry would show that it could be got at a moderate cost, he would be inclined to take the project up vigorously and seriously.

On Tuesday 23rd the Lumsden correspondence was tabled in the commons. The papers brought down group themselves as follows: 1—The protests by the G.T.P. engineers which led to the arbitration proceedings. These began as early as October, 1907. 2—The appointment of the arbitration tribunal and the work it did. 3—Serious objections taken by the Transcontinental Commission to the work of the tribunal. 4—Mr Lumsden's resignation. 5—The negotiations between the Commission and the Grand Trunk Pacific with regard to the appointment of a new tribunal of arbitration.

Mr Lumsden's letter of resignation may be given somewhat out of its chronological order. It was as follows: "My recent trips over portions of districts B and F in connection with arbitration on points in dispute regarding classification and overbreak between the chief engineers of the Grand

Trunk Railroad Company and myself, which arbitration might have been proceeded with more than eight months ago, but for delay on the part of the G.T.R. have led me to the conclusion that neither general specifications nor my instructions regarding classification have been adhered to, but on the contrary, large amounts of material have been returned as solid rock which should only have been classified as loose rock or common excavation and material has been returned as loose rock which was or could have been handled by ploughing or scraping and should have been returned as common excavation. At several residences there seems to have been no attempt by the engineers to carry out any instructions and measure rock returned either by showing same on cross sections or by measurements of individual pieces but they simply appear to have guessed at the amount by taking a percentage of the total cutting. In some cases where cross sections were prepared showing ledge rock they prove to be erroneous resulting in a much larger amount of solid rock being returned than actually existed. What is known as overbreak has also been returned in many places where it was caused by excessive use of explosives and where material was wasted this should not have been done. Such being the case, I declined to certify to any further progress in the estimates in districts B and F, and in view of the general disregard of my instructions and having lost confidence in the engineering staff, I have concluded to resign my position as chief engineer, and have today written to the Hon Minister of Railways and Canals to that effect enclosing him a copy of this letter." Mr Lumsden followed this up by a supplementary note to the effect that his expression about having lost confidence in the engineering staff did not apply to the whole staff but only to a portion of the staff who were responsible for the measurement, classification, supervision and inspection of considerable portions in district B and east of Rennie Crossing in district F lately gone over by me. He also, to make the matter clear, formally resigned as arbitrator.

The letters of protest sent in by Mr Woods are fairly familiar, some word of them having come to light in the course of the Hodgins investigation. They are of the gravest nature. Speaking of a stretch near the Batiscan River, he said: "In nearly every case where the cuttings were nearly all ledge the estimate given for solid rock is double or more than double what it should be. He also complained of the excessive overbreak, i.e. the material removed in excess of the width of cutting designed by the engineer. By June 19 Mr Woods was complaining that out of \$500,000 cubic yards of overbreak 350,000 was excessive.

On Wednesday 24th, Mr Foster obtained an order for papers and information relative to Imperial conferences. The first of these conferences was summoned in 1887 and Mr Foster traced the history of the movement for these periodical consultations down to the very important conferences of 1902 and 1907. He dwelt especially upon the two last named gatherings, dwelling upon the advances attempted and accomplished in Imperial organization and defence. His résumé of the situation with regard to naval defence was particularly interesting. In 1902 the First Lord of the Admiralty, Lord Selborne, submitted a memorandum in which he laid stress upon the fact that "the sea is all one," emphasized the need of one control in time of war, of all naval forces, and laid down the doctrine that in no sense was the Imperial problem one of local defence. Colonies which followed "this heresy" could be beaten by a power which held to the doctrine of "one control."

Except on the part of Canada there was a general increase of naval contributions: New Zealand from \$20,000 to \$40,000; Cape Colony from \$20,000 to \$30,000, with no condition; Natal from \$12,000 to \$25,000, no condition; Newfoundland from \$3,000 to \$4,000 on condition of the maintenance to a naval reserve of 1,800 in the colony; Australia's contribution remained at \$200,000 on account of an Australian squadron and a royal navy reserve. Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that Canada was contemplating the formation of a local navy corps, but would make no such offer as the other colonies had. The memorandum which the Canadian ministers presented promised action with regard to a local force, and outlined the whole of its plan to "anti" defence, making no reference to the defence of any interest outside of Canada. In 1907 Mr Brodeur sub-

mitted a statement as to Canada's direct and indirect contributions. Mr Foster quoted. Then Mr Foster quoted the resolution proposed by Dr. Smartt, of Cape Colony, calling for a contribution to Imperial defence by each colony by way of "A grant of money for local naval defence or other services," and summarized the debate on it. Sir Wilfrid Laurier announced his opposition to this. Dr. Smartt explained that the phrase "other services" had been designed to meet the objection made by Canada. He added, "We have done so much in the way of a pious affirmation, that I would like to see something practical." In the face of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's continued opposition, however, Dr. Smartt withdrew his resolution.

Mr. J. D. Taylor, New Westminster, asked: "Has the Government or any member thereof, received from the executive of the Legislative Council of British Columbia, or any other political organization, any recommendation purporting to be made by resolution of that body in favor of the appointment of F. C. Wade, K.O., as lieutenant governor of British Columbia, and if so, what is the substance of the recommendation?" The office of lieutenant governor one as to which the jurisdiction of patronage committee is recognized? Sir Wilfrid Laurier replied that any information which the Government might have received on the subject would be treated as private. With regard to the second division of the question, the Premier replied that he did not understand the phrase "the jurisdiction of the patronage committee."

Thursday, 15th, was Mr. Lancaster's day in point of time occupied—it hardly was his day from the standpoint of results. It really takes him about six years to worry a bill through. For a couple of years it is safe for the Commons to throw them out. Then for two years more it is expedient for the Commons to pass them, leaving the killing job to the Senate. About the fifth year the psychological moment comes for the Commons to pass the bill and the Senate to devise a harmless substitute which it insists is preferable on technical legal grounds. In the sixth year he gets it through in something like its original shape. At present he is scoring three railway bills up long and shiny roads. One is to give shippers greater liberty of contract. Another is to restrain appeals from the Railway Commission so as to preserve for it the character of a court of quick justice. The third is to throw on railways the full expense of protecting level crossings. It being early in their career it is fairly safe to maltreat them. The third was given the six months hoist by a division the first of the session which yielded a majority of 34. The others were given second readings, but to Mr. Lancaster's outspokenness Mr. Borden, Mr. Taylor and others scored the Government on this matter. Mr. Taylor noted the fact that the candidates for the Lieutenant Governorship designated had also been a candidate in the election held last August and that by making candidates in the election were in violation of the administration with which he would be brought into close touch it made the representative of the crown. Mr. Wade had noted that the McBride Government had passed a secret bill to allow a 200 acre land in the New Westminister Valley that were worth \$3,500 an acre. The facts of the case were that the lands in question were no provincial, but Indian lands, and as such were under the control of the Dominion, that the person in question intended to buy these lands from the Dominion and that the Provincial Government had sold not the lands but its reversionary interest in them, if the Dominion Government should sell them. Turning to the matter of the Supreme Court Mr. Taylor stated that at this moment a man is confined in prison in New Westminster waiting for the supreme court to be constituted and assembled. The judge who tried him sent him to jail to await the answer of certain questions by that court. At the time the judge took this action the court was expected to begin work on the 2nd of November, but there is no court in existence yet, and the man is languishing in prison.

Mr. Barrill noted that Mr. J. A. MacDonald the late leader of the British Columbia opposition, who resigned to take a chief justiceship has been taking part in the campaign. Mr. Borden said that Sir Wilfrid Laurier's conversations as to the tendering of advice were different from what went on in practice. The Government became responsible when it recognized and acted upon the advice of the patronage committee. The patronage committee of British Columbia was doing right along. Speaking of the independence of candidates taking part in elections with promises in their pockets, he drew from the Premier a declaration that there is no promise to Mr. Wade. Referring to the case of the premier at New Westminster, Mr. Borden said that a more intolerable condition or a more disgraceful condition could not be imagined, and he sharply criticized Mr. Aylesworth for his delay in constituting the court. Mr. Fielding advanced the doctrine already described and then the subject dropped.

St. Andrew's Day was duly celebrated in Charlottetown last evening, under the auspice of the Caledonian Club. A programme of songs, recitations, poems and speeches was followed by refreshments. Dancing then commenced and was kept up till the wee sma' hours. In addition to the Presidents opening greeting of welcome, addresses on "The Day as a Whole," "Honor it," "The Land O' the Heather," and "The Land We Live In," were delivered by Alex. MacInnis, M.P., Lieut. and Governor McKinnon and ex-Chief James McInnes respectively. The sword dance, admirably executed by little Miss McDonald, daughter of Mr. J. B. McDonald, was a capital number. The delightful entertainment was concluded with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and "God save the King."

The Market Prices.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Items include Butter (fresh), Butter (sub), Calf skins, Ducks per pair, Eggs per doz, Fowls, Chickens per pair, Flour (per cwt), Hides (per lb), Hay, per 100 lbs, Mutton, per lb (carcase), Oatmeal (per cwt), Potatoes, Pork, Sheep pelts, Turnips, Turkeys (per lb), Geese, Blk oats, Fressed hay, Straw.

STANLEY BROS.

Our mail order department gives immediate and careful attention to all orders received by mail or telephone. There is no reason why you should not enjoy all the advantages of a large and carefully selected stock. We can do as well for you as any house in Canada. Absolute satisfaction guaranteed or your money back. We prepay the freight on all parcels over \$5.00 in value.

MEET ME AT The Always Busy Store

REDUCED PRICES

Ladies' Fur Lined Coats

Now if you have been thinking of a FUR-LINED COAT

Go To STANLEY'S

We are going out of this branch of the fur business and have resolved to clear out every coat before January 1st.

- \$45.00 for \$33.00
\$48.00 for \$35.00
\$55.00 for \$39.00
\$63.00 for \$45.00
\$75.00 for \$54.00

Stanley Bros.

You can distinguish MacLellan-Made Clothes from other makes, no matter where you see them. At a distance they are distinguished by their distinctive cut and stylish appearance—and at close range the contrast is made more apparent by the faultless workmanship and good material embodied in their make-up. Let us make your next suit.

Macellan Bros. THE 'EXPERT TAILORS.'