

FRANCE TO BE CONCERNED IN ARBITRATION TREATY

United States Secretary of State has Submitted Copies of Proposed Agreement to British and French Ambassadors in Washington -- Provision for Arbitration in All Disputes.

Washington, May 17.—The principle of arbitration of practically all disputes between nations, including even questions of vital interest and national honor, assumed vitality today, when Secretary of State Knox submitted to the British and French ambassadors at Washington the draft of a convention to serve as a basis of negotiations. The fact that this world movement would be inaugurated with France as well as Great Britain came as a great surprise as it was generally understood that only the United States and England were concerned in the initial steps. When President Taft enunciated the doctrine of comprehensive arbitration, he received a quick response from Ambassadors Bryce and Jusserand that Great Britain and France were willing to begin negotiations with this country for the peaceful settlement of practically all differences that might arise. Secretary Knox has evolved a document, which has received the approval of the president and the other members of his cabinet, providing that all differences which are internationally justifiable shall be submitted to arbitration. It expands the scope of the existing arbitration treaties by eliminating the exceptions referring to "questions of vital interest and national honor." This elimination is the real accomplishment of the proposed treaty.

The exceptions mentioned are found in arbitration treaties the world over and have constituted the chief obstacle of the arbitration principle, for it is hard to conceive of a problem which in its essence cannot be regarded as having a controlling bearing upon "national honor" or "vital interests." Recognizing that there may be questions of policy and other matters likely to force nations to the

brink of war, but which no people would be willing to arbitrate, the tentative draft of the treaty provides that differences that either party consider within this category shall be referred to a commission of inquiry empowered to make recommendations for their settlement. In this connection the treaty will take another advance step by binding the disputants to arbitration in case the commission of inquiry declares that the controversy shall be arbitrated. Arbitration in all cases will be a last resort. After the two countries have concluded that it is impossible to settle a dispute through diplomatic interchange, the question will be submitted to a commission of inquiry charged with the duty of suggesting a way to avoid arbitration if possible.

The United States Senate will not be asked to relinquish its right to pass upon the question of arbitrating each dispute. All agreement to arbitrate will be entered into with "the advice and consent of the Senate" as under existing conventions. It is the desire of the administration to complete negotiations, if possible, in time for submission to the Senate before the adjournment of the present session of Congress. The vast importance of the proposed arbitration treaty has been the subject of discussion in diplomatic circles here ever since the idea was suggested. Now that this government's proposal has been reduced to concrete form, the state department assumes the role, which will lead to enter into negotiations on the same basis with all countries, signifying a desire to do so. It has been removed recently that Japan was anxious to join in the negotiations, but so far no formal discussion of the subject between the two countries has occurred.

INSISTED ON FRENCH SIGN

A Little Straw Which Shows The Direction Of The Wind In The Province Of Quebec.

Montreal, May 17.—A despatch to La Presse today from Vercheres says: A demonstration unique in its kind in the history of Vercheres has just been held in our village. The post office was indicated by a notice bearing the English sign Post Office. The population wholly French-Canadian, decided to protest against this state of affairs. The pupils of the college and the schools formed in procession before the church and headed by a banner assembled in front of the post office under the direction of Brother Regis, singing patriotic songs. A board bearing in gilt engraved letters the words, Bureau De Poste, was carried by members of the procession. Father Dulude, the vicar, and the brothers of the Christian schools also took part in the demonstration. At the post office the whole parish had assembled. Father Ballanger the curate of the parish, welcomed the processionists and delivered a stirring speech in favor of the French language. The French sign board was then placed in front of the post office amid the acclamations of the crowd. The sign board was engraved by P. A. Bouvier.

PARRSBORO LUMBERMEN HEAVY LOSERS BY FIRE

Timber Land, The Property Of H. V. MacKenna Burned Over Yesterday—Fire Is Spreading.

Parrsboro, N. S., May 17.—Fire started this morning in the woods near the Dugway about three miles from town. A strong west wind was blowing and the fire spread with amazing rapidity. A large tract of timberland was burned over and it is feared much more damage will be done. A big party of volunteers went out from Parrsboro this evening to fight the fire and others will go later. Most of the land now burned over belongs to H. V. MacKenna, but if the fire is not stopped tonight several other lumbermen will suffer. It is said the fire was started by a spark from a locomotive.

DEGINE INSANE FROM READING

Toronto Man, Great Reader Of Magazines And Books, Becomes Delirious — Would Read For Hours At A Stretch.

Toronto, Ont., May 17.—Without a moment's warning, Charles Collins, of 279 Richmond St. West went wildly insane yesterday, and threatened the lives of his wife and four children. Last night he was taken to the insane asylum. The cause of the remarkable delirium, which may or may not be permanent, was the excessive reading of books. Collins carried his hunger for literature to excess, and would lie awake all night and let meal time pass without relaxing his perusal of magazines and books.

PROSECUTION FOR SELLING COCAINE

Hull Druggist Is Fined \$50 And Costs For Dispensing The Drug Without Necessary Authority.

Ottawa, May 17.—The first prosecution in Hull under the new Quebec law for illegal selling of cocaine today, resulted in a fine of \$50 and \$18 costs on J. A. Langlais, a druggist of that city. He pleaded guilty to the charge of selling cocaine without a prescription calling for cocaine and selling the drug in a box which bore neither the dealer's name nor any label giving the nature of the contents.

CRIMEAN WAR VETERAN DEAD

Brockville, Ont., May 17.—The death occurred here, from blood poisoning contracted by the scratch of a thorn on the arm of Angus Shaw, of Lansdowne, aged 77. He took part in the Crimean war, having medals and clasps for the battles of Balaklava, Inkerman and Alma, and was one of the famous thin red line of the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders. One son, Dr. Shaw, of Lansdowne, survives.

MURDERER TO HANG.

Three Rivers, Que., May 17.—Hornada Trepanier, found guilty on Saturday last of the murder of Maurice Plouffe in March last, was today sentenced to be hanged on the 21st, of

WHERE CANADA WOULD BE WORSTED BY RECIPROCIITY WITH THE UNITED STATES

Report of Tariff Board Sent to Senate by President Taft, Shows that Under Existing Conditions Canada has Advantage Over United States in Question of Paper Manufacturing.

Washington, D. C., May 17.—President Taft sent to the senate the tariff board's full report of its investigation on the pulp and newspaper print inventory in the United States and Canada. Summarized, the report says that a ton of news print paper is made in Canada for \$5.35 less than it is made in the United States. The average Canadian cost is given at \$27.23 and the average cost in the United States at \$32.58. The duty upon a ton of news print paper under the present tariff is \$3.75.

Several factors entering into the increased cost of manufacture in the United States are taken up exhaustively by the report. The principal increases are said to be due to the fact that a ton of pulpwood costs nearly twice as much in the United States as it does in Canada, and that many of the American mills have much older and much less efficient equipment than the Canadian mills, which is said to be responsible for a large increase in manufacturing cost. The feature of the report shows that the cost of manufacturing news print paper in the United States varies widely. The lowest cost recorded is \$24.5 a ton, the highest is \$43. From this the tariff board strikes an average of \$32.58. At the Canadian mills the lowest price recorded for producing a ton of news print paper, is \$24.97 and the highest is \$30.18. Average, \$27.53.

To the question of how far American mills are on an equal basis for competition with the Canadian mills in the matter of equipment the report says that the United States varies in 44 per cent. of the American mills the lowest price recorded for producing a ton of news print paper is only slightly lower on the average. That

41.6 per cent. of the tonnage reported in the United States carries a manufacturing labor cost of less than \$3 per ton, while 54.3 per cent. in Canada falls under \$2. The total average for the United States is \$3.27 as against \$3.19 in Canada, notwithstanding Canada's advantage in average equipment. This indicates that there is greater efficiency and experience in the first class mills of the United States.

With the exception of the machine tenders the labor employed in Canadian mills is French-Canadian. The mass of French-Canadians have been workers on the farms, and in the forests, and almost entirely out of touch with industrial life, in shops, mills, or factories.

Regarding American labor, the report says: "The wages in the groups of occupations in which the proportion of skilled employees is large, for example, occupations in news print paper mills are much higher in Canada than in the lake states, while the contrary is true of the wages in the groups of occupations in which most employees do work requiring little skill or training. This is probably due to a relative scarcity in Canada of skilled workers. The representatives of the tariff board found that in the Canadian mills visited, most of the unskilled workers were Canadians of French descent. On the other hand, nearly all of the employees in the better paid occupations were of the English speaking race. Many of these men were of American birth, or had worked in paper mills in the United States." The board's report makes no attempt to go into the subject of profits of news print paper mills, but it refers to it in treating on depreciation.

CANADA WILL TREAT DIRECT WITH JAPAN

Treaty Between Great Britain And Mikado's Kingdom Not Suitable To Canadian Needs And Conditions.

Ottawa, May 17.—That the terms of the new trade treaty between Great Britain and Japan are not suitable to Canadian conditions and circumstances, is the chief reason why Canada declined to adhere to the treaty, is made clear in a return tabled in the Commons tonight, setting forth the reasons why Canada proposes to continue the existing treaty with Japan in effect for a couple of years in order that Canada may have an opportunity to make a treaty of her own with the Mikado's Kingdom.

The return shows that since the announcement of the new pact between Great Britain and Japan, T. Nakamura, Japanese consul general at Ottawa, took up with Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues, the question of the advisability of Canada adhering to the new treaty. Canada's reasons for declining to take this step are set forth in a letter addressed by Hon. W. S. Fielding under date of May 10, 1911, to the Japanese consul general, in which the Canadian minister says he had observed that the terms and conditions of the treaty do not seem to be in their entirety, satisfactory to the circumstances of Canada, and that in consequence the Canadian ministers had some hesitation in advising that adherence to its terms which the Japanese government desired.

In view of the circumstances Mr. Fielding intimates: "If a commercial agreement is to be made to suit these conditions it will probably have to be by means of a separate treaty." Mr. Fielding then states that Canada proposes to avail itself of the clause in the new agreement between Great Britain and Japan which provides that in the event of Canada not desiring to adhere to a new treaty, a temporary agreement can be made pending the framing of a new treaty.

Mr. Fielding says: "The question of indemnification has been discussed between us on several occasions. I do not deem it necessary that this shall be more than mentioned here, inasmuch as the assurances received from you as to the willingness of Japan to continue the friendly understanding on the matter at present existing is entirely satisfactory."

RECIPROCIITY HEARING STILL ON IN SENATE

Representative Of U. S. Lumber Manufacturers' Association Declares In Favor Of The Annexation Of Canada.

Washington, D. C., May 17.—The reciprocity agreement with Canada was characterized as "cowardly abandonment of a grave duty" in a speech delivered in the senate today by Senator Crawford, of South Dakota. Mr. Crawford spoke for several hours in opposition to the agreement. He charged that not only would it fail to promote the general welfare, but it would do irreparable harm to agriculture. Indeed, he declared, it was a discrimination against the farmer in favor of the trusts and of Canada. He found in it an especial effort to favor the newspapers. The president's contention that it would reduce the cost of living, he would not accept.

"The proposed law," Mr. Crawford said, "is in effect, a declaration that we intend no longer to depend upon the cultivation of our own soil and the industry of the American farmer for our food supplies."

The subject of Canadian annexation was introduced into the hearing by Leonard Bronson, of Chicago, representing the lumber manufacturers' association, who said most Americans would be glad to see Canada a part of the United States. He said he would not oppose the reciprocity bill if it was really reciprocity, but declared that it was not.

CANADA AND WEST WOMAN S. S. SERVICE

Committee Of Montreal Board Of Trade Reports On Interview With Sir Richard Cartwright Concerning The Line.

Montreal, May 17.—At the weekly meeting of the council of the board of trade this afternoon, the chairman Mr. Huntley Drummond reported that he, with Messrs. Norman Wight, D. W. Campbell, W. K. Graftley, John A. Gunn, Jos. Quintal and the secretary, had waited upon Sir Richard Cartwright, the minister of trade and commerce, at Ottawa on Wednesday last, with regard to the council's desire that Montreal should during the season of St. Lawrence navigation be made the Canadian terminus of a subsidized steamship line to the West Indies, while a winter service should connect the island with either St. John or Halifax.

Mr. Drummond stated that the deputation had been received with cordiality by the minister, who had displayed a close and detailed knowledge of the matter, and had shown that he was in sympathy with the desires of the board.

A memorial of the subject drafted by the members who had formed the deputation, was submitted to the council and approved for dispatch to the minister.

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE, A ROMAN CATHOLIC INSTITUTION, BURNED EARLY THIS MORNING—INMATES HAD NARROW ESCAPE.

Special To The Standard. Halifax, May 18.—At 1 o'clock this morning fire was discovered in St. Mary's College, a Roman Catholic institution in this city, where 70 boys at present are in attendance. In half an hour the greater part of the building was in flames. Father Walsh was asleep with the boys on the top floor. He was awakened by the smoke and quickly mustered the boys and got them out safely. It was possible to do this because the fire was on the opposite side of the building from the stairs, otherwise the freescapes would have been availed of, and the fire to rescue been sterner. The interior of the building is completely gutted. The college is owned by the St. Mary's College Corporation. The building is insured, but there is none on the furniture or equipments.

WOULD MAKE ALL TRUSTS LOOK ALIKE

Washington, May 17.—The expected renewal of another trust legislation following the Standard Oil decision in the Supreme Court came today when Senators Jones of Washington, Brown of Nebraska, Culberson of Texas, and Reed of Missouri introduced bills designed to offset the interpretation of the law as laid down by Chief Justice White and to take away from the courts the discretion to differentiate between "good" and "bad" trusts.

WILL ASK FOR VOTE ON RECIPROCIITY

Washington, D. C., May 17.—Senator Stone of Missouri announced today to the senate finance committee at the hearing on the reciprocity and free list bills, that he would soon press for a vote on reciprocity. He said he did not propose to let the hearing drag along indefinitely. An unsuccessful attempt was made by the

RAILWAY BILLS UP IN SENATE AND COMMONS

Senators Discussed The Position of Dominion Government and The St. John Valley Railway -- Bargain Between Intercolonial and C. N. R. Talked of in the Commons.

Special To The Standard. Ottawa, Ont., May 17.—Sir Richard Cartwright on the bill, providing payment fortnightly for railway men and Senator David's amendment that the application of the bill be limited to mechanics and workmen at railroad terminals said he heartily approved of the objects sought to be attained by the bill.

While in thorough sympathy with the bill he thought, in view of its importance, and all the circumstances, it would be better to adjourn the debate until after the recess. Senator Ellis said the reasons given by the acting prime minister were good and, under ordinary circumstances, he would approve of the adjournment asked. However, there was a feeling that the senate was playing with the bill and intended eventually to defeat it. The debate was adjourned.

On motion to take up in committee the bill to authorize the government to lease the St. John Valley Railway, Sir George Ross objected to this bill. He thought it would establish a dangerous precedent, and would involve the country in an annual loss of \$500,000. This was giving aid to a purely local line. When Ontario wanted a local road it built and operated it. This was a proposal for Ontario and other provinces to bear the expense of a local road in New Brunswick.

Senator Cosgrove approved the bill. The valley of the St. John was the proper route for the National Transcontinental to reach this water and be approved of it. Senator Baird declared that the Transcontinental should have been built down the valley of the St. John. It was pulled off across the height of land on the estimate of engineers that this route would be cheaper. The building had not justified this estimate. The valley of the St. John was an easy route and would prove a profitable road. The country was one of the best parts of Canada.

However, he thought that it might

be built to St. Leonard's to connect with the Intercolonial Railway rather than to Plaster Rock. Senator Thompson declared the best evidence of need for the construction of the road, was the willingness of the province to subsidize it handsomely. It would not be a local line, but a part of the main line of the Grand Trunk Pacific.

Senator Donville declared the National Transcontinental should never have gone to Moncton as it had. It had been diverted from the proper course to please the people of Halifax, and another road had to be built there to go down the valley. The Senate went into committee on the bill. Progress was reported.

In The House. The House of Commons spent the greater part of the day in passing the bill to give a guarantee of \$35,000 a mile to the C. N. R. main line from Montreal to Port Arthur. The opposition pressed for greater definiteness in the bill and succeeded in getting the length of the line limited to 1,050 miles.

One subject discussed was the interchange of traffic with the Intercolonial. The government is bound to use the Grand Trunk terminals at Montreal for 90 years, so that the situation may develop into the Intercolonial trafficking with the Canadian Northern from Grand Trunk terminals.

Mr. Graham stated that the problem was so difficult that it had been left out of the bill. He hoped that the senate would bind the company to keep its traffic agreement with the Intercolonial.

SIR SANFORD'S CHARGES OLD

Director Of Canada Cement Company Says They Were Made Before And Were Proved Groundless.

Montreal, May 17.—At the regular meeting of the directors of the Canada Cement Company, which was held here this afternoon, the sensational charges recently made by Sir Sanford Fleming were brought up. At the close of the meeting the secretary was authorized to make the following statement:

The meeting was for the transaction of regular business. With regard to the charges made by Sir Sanford Fleming, these are the same as he made last year. The meeting then had Sir Sanford's charges investigated by a committee of his own choosing, and also by two prominent counsel, one of whom was nominated by Sir Sanford Fleming himself. The result of these investigations showed that there was no justification for his charges, and that Sir Sanford's position was untenable.

MONCTON WILL SOON HAVE NATURAL GAS

Contract Awarded For Laying Of Pipe Line From Alberta County Wells To City Of Moncton.

Special To The Standard. Moncton, N. B., May 17.—A cable was received here today from Dr. Henderson, president of the Maritime Oil Fields, accepting the tender of F. M. Wholley for laying the main pipe line from the gas wells in Albert county to the city. This is welcome news as it means the introduction of natural gas in the city within the next few months. It is understood, also, that work will be at once proceeded with on the street railway.

AN AVIATOR KILLED.

Los Angeles, Cal., May 17.—A V. Hardless, an amateur aviator, was killed at Dominguez Field today while trying out an aeroplane. Hardless came here recently from Ohio and had made several successful flights.

CIVIL SERVICE MORE POPULAR

Candidates For Canadian Civil Service Increasing In Numbers Every Year — More Than 1,100 Tried Exams.

Ottawa, Ont., May 17.—"The number of candidates for the civil service is growing larger every day," remarked Mr. William Foran, secretary of the commission. "Young people are beginning to realize that if they qualify they will have an assured position. This year it was larger than ever."

Beginning on Tuesday of last week, examinations for entry to the civil service were held, in all the important centres in the country. Altogether, the civil service commission are beginning to realize that if they qualify they will have an assured position. This year it was larger than ever."

FIERCE BATTLE IS RAGING NEAR FEZ

Sultan's Troops Are Engaging Rebels In Suburbs Of The City—All Road Communication Cut Off.

Tangier, Morocco, May 17.—A courier who recently left this city for Fez, returned here today and reported that he was unable to get within ten miles of the southern capital, having been turned back by the rebellious men. A fierce battle according to the courier, was waged around Fez. The sultan's troops had left the city and were engaging the rebels in the environs. Both sides were fighting desperately. The rebels admitted having suffered heavy losses.

SAILORS AND FIREMEN INCEPT GREAT STRIKE

Southampton, Eng., May 17.—The long threatened strike of sailors and firemen, it is reported here today, has been fixed for May 25, with the object of dislocating traffic during the coronation of King George. Well informed persons do not believe, if it even materializes, it will be a formidable one.