SECRETARY ROOT AT OTTAWA

Reported That he Will Discuss National Differences—He Says Only Social Visit

London, Jan. 17.—The Associated Press learns that the exchange of certain definite proposals between the United States and Great Britain for the purpose of clearing up outstanding differences between the United States and Canada have reached a rather advanced stage, so that well informed circles not only hope, but believe, that the approaching meeting between Secretary Root and Earl Grey, governor general of Canada, at Ottawa, will result in arranging some, if not all, of the long pending controversies.

Although the visit is officially described as private, no secret is made in governmental quarters that a real political outcome is expected, as the visit follows exchanges which have been going on between Washington, London and Ottawa, in which Secretary Root first formulated a detailed plan of adjustment, which upon its receipt here was forwarded to Ottawa, the latter's reply having only been recently received. A high colonial official said to the associated press today: "We now know that both sides desire to 'clear up the slate,' to use Mr. Root's own phrase in one of his communications, and we have reason to believe that this will be partially accomplished before the assembling of the colonial conference in April."

Mr. Root's plan for settling the questions between the United States and Great Britain was brought to England by Sir Mortimer Durand last May, since when no time has been lost in working to a final settlement. After Mr. Root's plan had been referred by the foreign office to the colonial office, the whole question was submitted to Canada, as it was felt that the latter must indicate the lines of acceptance or dissent.

The Imperial government made certain suggestions but did not seek to lay down the law to the Laurier government which was considered to be able best to judge. In due course Canada's reply was received disclosing a real desire to reach an agreement as wished for by Secretary Root, but Canada wants not so much monetary consideration for waiving any interests as a national quid pro quo for anything she may have to give up. The question to be be settled include pelagic sealing, the lake fisheries, the Canada seal fisheries, the diversion of water from the St. Lawrence and the diversion from the boundary rivers.

These and other questions are not of first class importance, but they may become so at any moment and reasonable prudence requires their adjustment. The matters to be discussed also include a number of individual claims which the executive branch approves, but which congress left unpaid. Regarding the most important question, the one relative to pelagic sealing, the proposal of the United States tends to an agreement by which Canada shall have a share in the catch in the Pribloff islands, in which at present she has no share providing pelagic sealing discontinue.

ROOT REACHES OTTAWA.

Ottawa, Jan. 20.—Elihu Root, secretary of state for the United States arrived here Saturday afternoon along with Mrs. Root, and drove straight to Rideau Hall, Mr. Root was seen at Government House in the afternoon and talked freely, although reservedly on Canadian and United States affairs.

"Mr. Root, there is a great deal of interest in Canada on your visit, and a good deal of curosity as to its significence?" was the first question.

"It will be easy enough," said Mr. Root, "to satisfy the curosity of the people if the simplicity of the explanation does not take us out of the category of news. I am here because Lord Grey, when he was in Washington last winter was good enough to invite Mrs. Root and myself and daughter to come to Ottawa. It is purely a social visit.

"It has not any political, governmental or diplomatic side at all unless it is this: That all affairs in this world go better when people know each other and get to like each other. The great cause of controversy among nations is misunderstanding; the failure of people in one country to appreciate the point of view of the people in another country. A better knowledge leads to a better understanding and better understanding to more kindly feeling and more reasonable treatment. The more exchange of friendly courtesy, in that view has a political and governmental side. My visit has no other aspect."

CRITICISES COMMISSION

Writer in Municipal News Doubts Results of Taking Evidence in This Way

Writing to the Western Municipal News, a writer signing himself, "M. S." says with regard to the Municipal Commission:

Referring last year to the telephone commission appointed by the Manitoba government you said that you did not understand the reason of, or see much good in its appointment, and subsequent events in connection with the telephone question proved that in spite of a commission on the subject, the government did not get at the wishes of the people, nor did it procure data upon which to found a suitable system. Now, I think that the government of Saskatchewan would have done better had it revised the present municipal law with the aid, in case of need, of some such already existing and representative body as the Union of Saskatchewan Municipalities, whose sole reason of existance is the welfare of the municipalities. Thus would have been saved, not only the expenses not only of the commission but the dignity of the government, and would at the same time place the latter in a better position to frame a suitable municipal act.

But with reference to this commission, let us glance at the work done at one of their sessions held at Regina on Dec. 11 and 10th. I quote from one of the local papers: "That the Regina city charter is a model one and would therefore form an excellent base foundation for the new municipal law to be enacted by the legislature." "The question of the management of villages by overseer or council was taken up, but it was found that the general trend of the meeting was to the government by overseer alone. At other points where the commission has held sessions, it was found that the tendency was in favor of the council."

Mr. Reginal Gwynne, overseer of Grenfell was a prominent speaker on this subject, and he is an enthusiastic champion of the one-man government idea. The question of licensing hotels was brought up and, after some discussion, the meeting recommended that the rate should be a flat one of $100. Then too, the single tax question was taken up and found much favor, though it finally gave place to recommendations favoring the present system of taxation But perhaps the most important recommendation given the commission was that favoring the good, old fashioned, open voting.

The commission meets at Yorkton at a later date, when, as citizens of the country, the Doukhobors will have the right of expressing their views upon municipal government.

The result of the various meetings will be watched with interest, and although I do not agree with the idea of a commission, yet I earnestly hope that the outcome of the government's endeavors may be a municipal bill which will give to the municipalities of the province of Saskatchewan a measure of government suited to their position as part of a great Dominion.

Minard's Liniment Cures Garget in Cows

MUST LOOK ELSEWHERE

Fort William Coal Supply Will be cut off

Winnipeg, Jan. 18.—That there will be a very bad shortage of coal in the west before the winter finally terminates was the opinion expressed yesterday be gentlemen who arrived in the city yesterday from Fort William and who are carefully conversant with the situation at the lake ports.

In the course of an interview one of the gentlemen having a most accurate knowledge of the situation, said:

"Very careful inquiry made at Fort William revels the fact that in less than a month every pound of commercial coal for the western market will have been shipped. By Feb. 15 all shipments of hard coal from that port to Winnipeg will absolutely terminate for the season, as by that time there will be no more coal on the docks for the west.

"It would appear that the Winnipeg dealers had considerably underestimated the requirements of the country in giving orders for coal, and had left their orders too limited in amount to meet the large demands of the people of Winnipeg and the west.

"The hard coal intended for Winnipeg market is kept in store at Fort William docks by permission of the C.P.R., where the coal of the company is also stored.

"The supply of soft coal brought in by the C.P.R. for their own use is also being depleted, owing to the large demands being made upon it, but it is believed that the company will have no great difficulty in furnishing their locomotives etc. until navigation opens in the spring. At the close of navigation last fall the company had about 200,000 tons of soft coal on the docks. From this amount there has been withdrawn 60 carloads every working day since that time, and the requirements of the company demand that 60 cars be loaded every day till the opening of navigation.

"In addition to the coal supplied for the use of the company, several trainloads of coal have been shipped to private consuMers in the west. Although the officials are satisfied that there will be enough coal for their own purposes, it is apparent that there will be little to spare and that the western consumers cannot depend on getting any large supplies of coal from the C.P.R. in the event of a serious shortage in the west."

Minards Liniment Cures Garget in Cows

SASKATOON'S BIG FIRE

Ambitious City has Fire Loss of Over $50,000

Saskatoon, Jan. 17.—One of the most disasterous fires that have occurred in the history of Saskatoon, broke out this morning at eight o'clock in the hardware store of Oliver and Kempthorne on Second avenue. The blaze began in the furniture repair room upstairs and near the street. The early man who had just started the morning fires had gone away. Mr. Kempthorne, who with his sister, occupied rooms in the front of the building, was aroused by the smoke and made a hurried exit. His sister was soon afterwards taken from the burning building by way of the front window by a fireman on a ladder.

The total loss is estimated at $54,000, and the insurance is placed at $28,000. Oliver & Kempthorne have an insurance of $12,000 on the stock in a number of companies. The apaers of the firm both those in and out of the safe were saved. The building was also owned by the firm and their net loss will be about $12-000.

Bryce & Little also lost their building which they had recently purchased from Archie Smith. They carried $1,500 and the building was worth three thousand.

Felix McManus sustained a loss on his stock and building of about two thousand dollars.

D. I. Smith, head of the firm of Smith & Brown, had an insurance that practicafly covers their loss on both building and furnishings. His loss was about $3,000.

W. W. LaChance who had apartments over Byce & Little's, is in the east and his insurance could not be ascertained. His loss was about one thousand.

Several of the lesser losses will bring the total loss up to over $50-000.

The strenuous efforts to keep the fire out of the bank building were crowned by success at noon. They had worked for some hours with this object in view, and both the bucket handlers and the hose men concentrated their efforts to that end. In their icy clothes and half frozen they cheerfully worked away, encouraged by the cheers of the bystanders.

FIFTEEN DAYS ON TRAIN

St. Paul, Jan. 17.—Out from the great snow banks of North Dakota there rolled into the Union depot here today twelve long continental trains from the coast bringing passengers who had been on the cars from seven to fifteen days, many of whom were nearly famished for the want of food and many more who were worn out and sick with the seige and the monotonous view of huge snow banks everywhere along the route. Some of the passengers in North Dakota had embarked for their homes on branch lines on January 2nd, and had been travelling ever since in one way or another, by sledge, on snow shoes and by work trains until they had reached the main line. These trains were over the Great Northern, Northern Pacific, St. Paul, Minneapolis & St. Ste Marie and Canadian Pacific roads.

To have beautiful, perfect, pink, velvet-like lips apply at bedtime a light coating of Dr. Shoop's Green Salve. Then next morning, notice carefully the effect. Dry, cracked or colorless lips mean feverishness, and are as well ill-appearing. Dr. Shoops Green Salve is a soft, creamy, healing ointment, that will quickly correct any skin blemishes or ailment. Get a free trial box at our store and be convinced. Large glass jars, 25 cents. The Regina Pharmacy Stores.

NEW BUILDING FOR STOCK SHOW

The Regina city council has taken a step which will assist greatly in assuring the success of the fat stock show, horse show and cattle sale, that are to be held on March 20th, 21st and 22nd under the auspices of the Saskatchewan Stock Breeders' association. A new building 144 by 101 feet is to be erected to be used as a show and sale ring and for stabling accommodation. In the centre will be a show ring which will be admirably adapted to the judging of horses and cattle and make a first class sale ring.

Surrounding the arena is seating accommodation for over two thousand and underneath the seats are thirty-two box stalls 11ft 6in. by 9 ft. 6 in. for the accommodation of horses, with a five foot passage to allow entering the show ring without going outside. The building will cost in the neighborhood of $15,-000 and will be completed in time for the show. The well known firm of Snyder Bros. are erecting the building and this is an assurance that the work will be well done.

NOT SO BAD

Winnipeg, Jan. 18.—James Ryan, of the firm of Ryan & Fares has returned from a trip to his cattle and horse ranch in the Red Deer country and his account of weather condition is especially interesting at this time in view of the fact that so many disturbing stories have been handed out of late regarding the damage done to cattle by the severe winter weather and snow.

Mr. Ryan says: "The weather has been very bad beyond a doubt, but the condition of the cattle on the ranges is not as bad as has been stated. We have about four thousand head of cattle of all ages, and some two thousand head of horses on our ranch in the Red Deer country, about sixty miles east and forty miles north of Calgary.

"I travelled along the line where it was reported that one thousand dead cattle were to be found along the railway, and I saw just seven, of which four were calves. Except some weak cattle and calves, I did not see anything to alarm me on our ranch or wherever I travelled among the cattle. We are feeding about 1,000 calves now, but we have plenty of hay for that. We had about 2,000 tons when we started to feed, and that will last a good while for winter feed.

GOVERNMENT TELEPHONES

Grain Growers Call Upon Provincial Government to State Policy—Resolution for Annual Convention

Owing to the condition of the roads there was a small attendance at the annual meeting of the Regina Grain Growers association held in the Oddfellows hall on Friday, 18th. The president, Walter Simpson was absence owing to illness and the chair was taken by R. Moore.

Before the election of officers was proceeded with a communication was read from Walter Simpson regretting his absence and thanking the association for honoring him with election last year and for assisting him so faithfully in the work of his office. Under no circumstances could he allow his name to go before the meeting for re-election as he would be away from the district next season and his health is such that he is unable to do active work.

The election of officers then proceeded and resulted as follows:

Hon. President.—Walter Simpson.
President—R. Moore.
Vice Pres.—B. E. Graham.
Sec.-Treas.—Thos. Elliott.
Directors—Messrs. Stebbings, R. McKell, Walsh, W. F. Kerr and John King.

Owing to the lateness of the evening and to the fact that no official notice had as yet been received regarding the annual convention they decided not to adopt resolutions for the Saskatoon convention. A list of subjects will be furnished by the central executive, and a special meeting will be held.

GOVERNMENT TELEPHONES.

After discussing informally the issues recently raised raised before the grain commission the question of a government owned telephone system was brought up by Mr. Walsh, and he moved the following resolution seconded by R. W. Kerr and carried unanimously:

Whereas the governments of Manitoba and Alberta have committed themselves to a government owne telephone system in these provinces;

And whereas no announcement has yet been made by the government of Saskatchewan respecting the telephone system in this province;

Therefore be it resolved that this association urge upon the government of Saskatchewan the necessity of giving early consideration to this matter and that we endorse a government owned telephone system for the province.

And that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to W. J. Stevens, of Indian Head, secretary of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' association, the same to be submitted to the annual meeting of the association at Saskatoon on Feb. 20th.

The meeting then adjourned to meet at the call of the president.

GOVERNMENT CO-OPERATION

Public Works Department Districts to Outline Work for This Year

The department of public works has sent out a circular to cities and towns with respect to road building for the present year. The abject of the department is to co-operate on a general scheme that will harmonise all interests. The following is the circular letter:

Regina, Sask., Dec. 28, 1906.

Sir,—We are preparing our estimates for next year's public works, and in connection with the grading of roads, we are desirous of adhering, as closely as possible, to the roads that will eventually form the main lines to the market centres. Even adhering to the main road proposition you will understand that it will be impossible for us to make all the needed good roads at once, owing to the fact that so many good roads require our attention. We therefore hope that the various local councils will assist us, so far as they are able in making some of the minor repairs to these roads, and co-operate with us in improving the roads, which may be considered the more important ones.

In order that we may not be working at cross purposes, we have considered it advisable to ascertain as nearly as possible, which are, or will be the main roads, and would be obliged if you will indicate on the enclosed township diagram those which you, as a council, consider the most important within your district or, if you would suggest a road outside of your district, as a main road in which the residents are particularly interested, I would appreciate advice as to its location.

We propose asking for similar information from all the local councils and after consulting the various village overseers and town councils we hope to be able to lay down a system of main roads throughout the country on which we can expend the monies we can spare for this purpose, and have a commencement made on the main lines of traffic, that may be taken up and carried to completion by the municipal organisations which must sooner or later take control of such matters, leaving the provincial government to attend to the larger works with which the local councils are unable to cope.

If, in suggesting a main road you will consider the convenience of the districts on each side of you and endeavor to choose a road with which other districts, towns and villages will co-operate it will make the selection easy, but if there is a variety of opinions it will be necessary for us to have a thorough examination made by an officer of the department, and a final selection from the different ones suggested.

You will understand that it will hardly be possible for us to attempt to improve all roads that are selected this year. We intend, however to work on the worst places of the most used ones so far as the monies provided for this purpose will go.

We propose organising road gangs on the same principal as our bridge gangs are worked at present, a competent foreman being placed in charge, who will be employed for a whole season. He will be furnished with tools and implements and instructed to engage a permanent force sufficient to carry on the work independent of local labor, but will be supplied with tools in order that he may give work to any local labor that may come to the place of operation. We have found this course almost absolutely necessary, owing to the difficulty we have experienced this year in securing tools and labor locally when the foreman to whom we have entrusted the work were at leisure to oversee it.

You will assist us very much by presenting this letter to the first meeting of your council, and endeavoring to have a reply sent to us before February 15, in order that the question may be thoroughly considered and a decision arrived at in good time for the commencement of work in the early spring. Your obedient servant, F. J. ROBINSON
Deputy Commissioner.

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