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TWELVE PAGES—FRIDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 14 1908—TWELVE PAGES

28TH YEAR

RICHARD BLAIN'S DEMANDS FOR MINORITY

House Again Threatened With Struggle Over Rights of Opposition to Investigate.

Early Morning Deadlock

OTTAWA, Feb. 14.—(Special.)—After the vote on the Blain resolution this morning, obstruction was resorted to by the opposition, George Taylor, who was the only front-bench Conservative present, declaring that he was ready to "stay here for three weeks" unless information was given as to the traveling expenses of Commander Spain.

"We'll stay here with you," replied Mr. Fielding.

At 1.15 Mr. Taylor said the finance minister had offered a truce. He announced the terms—hold the item over and pass three others. Opposition members objected to this arrangement, and the fight goes on.

OTTAWA, Feb. 13.—(Special.)—Protesting against the block system in force in the public accounts committee, Richard Blain (Peel) to-day moved that the committee on public accounts is constituted for the purpose of affording full and free examination and enquiry into receipts and expenditures of public moneys and circumstances in connection therewith.

In the public interest the greatest public freedom of investigation and enquiry should be enjoyed by that committee; that any action of the majority of that committee in excluding evidence or restricting enquiry should be subject to this house and upon request for that purpose the necessary report of proceedings ought immediately to be ordered.

Mr. Blain said he proposed to deal with the way the rights of the minority had been trampled upon by the majority in the public accounts committee, rendering it difficult to ascertain the facts in regard to some of the transactions of the government. He said a great deal had been revealed already. They had ascertained that under the system of this government middlemen profited largely thru the purchase of supplies, and that rake-offs ranging from 26 to 187 per cent. had been pocketed by them.

Sub-Target Transactions.

The sub-target transactions revealed that the government paid $250 each for 250 of these machines, which cost but $64 each.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier took the view that if the opposition desired to amend the rules governing the public accounts committee there was another way to go about it, but as the resolution stood it presented the form of a vote of want of confidence.

The prime minister declared that the minority had the right to appeal to the house, by presenting a minority report.

Dr. Sproule said the majority would not allow a report to be made to the house.

Sir Wilfrid said the report must be made when the case is concluded.

"How are we going to get out evidence?" asked Dr. Sproule. He pointed out that the public accounts committee might not report till near the end of the session, when there would be no time to go back.

Duty Falls on Minority.

R. L. Borden said he did not know of one case since 1896 where the minority had been refused an appeal to the house, except in a recent instance.

Proceeding he said the majority of the public accounts committee were not disposed to investigate the expenditures of the government, and that the duty must fall on the minority. That was so also when Sir Wilfrid was in opposition. What public interest could suffer if the minority were given the right to appeal to have a particular question determined pending the report of the committee?

Publicity was the chief weapon of the minority, who were out-voted by the majority.

A Fighting Speech.

Mr. Bennett (Simcoe) made a fighting speech, declaring that a great part of public expenditures were made dishonestly, and that there had been studied effort on the part of the committee to prevent the fact coming out. He mentioned the case of the Collingwood Dry Dock Company, which was entitled to a subsidy on its dock. Louis Coste, an employe of the public works department, was engaged to estimate the cost, and there was evidence that he also was an employe of the company.

A. K. MacLean rose to a point of order. The report of the committee had not been presented to the house, he said, while Mr. Brodeur also invoked the rule.

"I am surprised the minister of marine comes to the rescue; he will have dabblings enough of his own," declared Mr. Bennett.

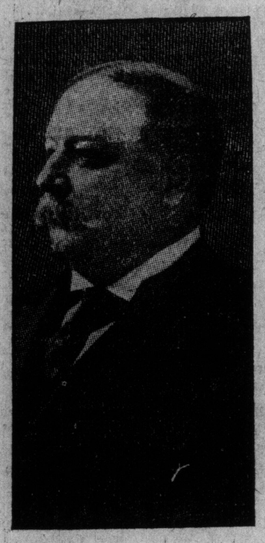
Mr. Speaker said he must accept the word of Mr. MacLean and rule discussion out of order.

Mr. Bennett went on another tack, but presently the Speaker located the

Continued on Page 7.

Looks Like Taft to Be the Choice

What a Survey of the States Reveals in Republican Tendency Toward Candidates



SECRETARY TAFT

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 13.—Walter Wellman, who has made a trip over the Middle West for The Chicago Record-Herald, which is strongly supporting the presidential ambition of Secretary Taft, makes this report:

"Visiting the central west and making extensive enquiries as to the state of public sentiment in this region, one is forced to these conclusions:

"The people of the west, by an overwhelming majority of both political parties, uphold the policies of President Roosevelt and demand their continuance.

"By almost, tho not quite as great a preponderance of opinion, the Republicans favor the nomination of Judge Taft to carry on the Roosevelt work.

"Ignoring New England for the moment the real Taft movement, geographically considered, may be said to start on the Atlantic coast, in Maryland, which will send a delegation solidly for him. It then runs into West Virginia, where the same thing is true. His own State of Ohio is completely for him, barring the annoyance of four and possibly six Foraker contestants for seats in the convention. Michigan is for Taft. Minnesota and the two Dakotas are largely for him, tho La Follette has many admirers among the Republicans of those states.

"Iowa is for Taft. Nebraska and Kansas are both in line. Missouri, which should no longer be classified as a southern state, is also for Taft.

"Going further west, nearly all of the states of the mountain and coast region—Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, California, Oregon and Washington—show strong Taft tendencies and very little favor for other aspirants. The Territories, both continental and insular, almost without exception join the procession.

"The only blank space of noticeable size or importance are found in the five great states which have favorite sons, candidates put forward thru local pride and home admiration for admirable men. New York for Hughes, Pennsylvania for Knox, Indiana for Fairbanks, Illinois for Cannon, Wisconsin for La Follette, have together 256 votes in the national convention or about one-quarter of the whole number and about one-third of the north and west, leaving out the distinctly Southern States. Outside of the states presenting their favorite sons little if any sentiment in favor of those candidates is discoverable."

LAND GRANT TO VETERANS OF SOUTH AFRICAN WAR

Those From Prairie Provinces Who Served Under Arms Entitled to 320 Acres.

OTTAWA, Feb. 13.—(Special.)—The Dominion Government has decided to grant 320 acres of land to Manitobans and residents of Alberta and Saskatchewan who served in South Africa in 1899-1902 inclusive. The resolution to be moved in the house provides that every such grant shall be subject to the condition that the granter shall select his land on or before Dec. 31, 1910, and perfect his entry by settling upon the land six months afterwards.

In lieu of the land the volunteer may receive scrip for $160, acceptable in payment of Dominion lands. Grants of land or scrip are to be made by the minister of the interior upon warrant issued by the minister of militia. Entries and patents are to be issued free of homestead fees.

John R. Mott Here.

John R. Mott of New York, traveling secretary of the Students' Christian Association work, addressed a large gathering in Wycliffe College last night. This afternoon he will speak at Victoria, and to-night at McMaster, and on Sunday will give an address in convocation hall.

NEW FEDERATION FOR LICENSE REFORM

Church Workers and Moral Reformers Organize—Want Local Option Greatly Extended

Pledging moral and financial support to the mayor and members of the city council whose seats have been attacked by the anti-reductionists, and resolving upon many policies calculated to restrict the sale of liquor, the Toronto Moral and Temperance Federation was organized in the Labor Temple last night, about 300 being present. The association promises to take part considerably in municipal and federal affairs.

It was decided to apply to the government for the privilege of voting on local option in wards, or polling subdivisions of cities and towns, and also for a provision whereby residents may compel the removal of taverns or saloons from their immediate neighborhood.

The federation will also strive in all elections to secure the election of candidates in sympathy with its principles and will ask the government for a change in the license law making it compulsory that before the yearly renewal of any license the sanction of a majority of the electors of each district must be secured.

A resolution condemning the three-fifths clause in the Ontario License Act as unfair was rushed thru without discussion, altho C. Henderson, an adherent of Carlton-street Methodist Church, tried to raise an objection to such a resolution being introduced so late in the evening. The three-fifths stipulation had many good points, he said. It ensured a stability of the law when once carried, because it carried with it the weight of an undoubted majority and at the same time it precluded any ordinary chance of repeal inside of three years when the law was once in force.

Earlier in the evening Wm. Munns, president of the West End Gospel Temperance Society, introduced a motion against the proposed increase in license fees for Toronto. High licenses were wrong on principle, because they created a monopoly, and there was not an atom of morality in the proposition. High licenses, when tried in Nebraska, had proven an undoing of the purpose for which they were instituted.

His motion didn't get a shadow of sympathy and he withdrew it.

Michael Basso, speaking as one familiar with the sentiment of the "ward," said that local Italians were as a rule in favor of license reduction and he had heard many of them say they would vote for prohibition if the issue ever presented itself.

Election of Officers.

The meeting was called by Ben H. Spense, secretary of the Ontario Alliance, and the result was a strong federation of all temperance and moral reform associations and societies, including churches in the city. The aim to to formulate and carry out plans calculated to advance the cause of temperance and good citizenship.. Each church and moral society is to have two representatives, one to be the minister or the president in charge. Those having over 50 members will be allowed one additional representative for each 50. Officers were elected as follows:

President—John Wanless, jr.
Secretary—Wm. Hamilton.
Treasurer—Henry Moyle.
General Vice-presidents—Ald. James Hales and F. C. Jarvis.
Vice-presidents for wards—(1) Chas. Bulley; (2), G. E. Henderson; (3), W. C. Senior; (4), W. E. Rainey; (5), Ald. Keeler; (6), J. A. Austin.
Executive—Mrs. E. A. Stevens, Mrs. E. S. Woodley, Mrs. Vance, Mrs. F. C. Ward, Rev. Dr. G. D. Chown, Rev. Lawrence Skey, Rev. Dr. Shearn, Rev. Robertson, A. M. Featherstone, Jas. Dr. Sowerby, J. O. McCarthy, J. S. Simpson, Controller Spence, T. W. Self, W. J. McCrea, R. C. Peake, Thomas Urquhart, R. R. Davis, Dr. B. E. Mackenzie.

INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY FAVOR PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

The Independent Labor Party last night announced their opposition to the granting of a Dominion charter to the radial railways, and their support of the policy that all lines within municipalities be public-controlled. The party will write to Australia and New Zealand asking information regarding their system of old age pensions.

A Hopeless Case

CUPID: Aw! What's de use?

NOTABLE POEM, TO-MORROW.

The World takes pleasure in announcing that it will publish to-morrow morning a notable Canadian poem from the pen of E. W. Thomson, erstwhile editorial writer on The Globe, editor of The Youth's Companion, author of many well-known books of fiction, and at present a journalistic publicist, resident at Ottawa.

Mr. Thomson's poem is entitled "Peter Ottawa," and is an artistic attempt to symbolize Canada-at-Large. How successful Mr. Thomson has been we will leave our readers to judge.

We bespeak for the poem an appreciative perusal, and confidently believe it will take a high place in our literature, as an intelligent endeavor to personify The Canadian Spirit.

GAME WARDENS AFTER ILLEGAL DUCK HUNTERS

Chase on Western Sandbar Attended by More or Less Exciting Incidents.

There was an exciting "tank" drama played at noon yesterday in the vicinity of the western channel, the dramatis personae being two "poachers" and a couple of game wardens.

The former were peppering away at the ducks which hover around the western sandbar, altho this is the close season.

The appearance of two strangers was viewed with alarm and the huntsmen began to make rapid tracks for the gap.

One was quickly overhauled, but the other, reaching the cribwork, recklessly jumped down upon the rotten and cracked ice. Those who were watching him from shore expected to see him go thru, but he kept on his perilous path.

Half way across he dropped his gun and didn't stop to recover it.

One of the wardens cautiously made his way to it and impounded it. The other sport was released after having given his name and address.

BRITISH LOCOMOTIVE WORKS FOR MONTREAL

Site Secured by Sir Vincent Caillard—Awaits Only Shareholders' Approval.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—(C.A.P. Cable.)—Sir Vincent Caillard, presiding at a meeting of the shareholders of the Beyer Peacock Company, railway engine makers, said he had sent to Canada to enquire as to representations made to his firm that the aggregate capacity of existing locomotive works there was not nearly sufficient to keep pace with the country's development. He confirmed the report. Sir Vincent Caillard and the manager consequently visited Montreal, where they received assurances of encouragement from the railway companies and therefore acquired a site near Montreal, and the scheme will be laid before the shareholders.

The Financial Times, discussing the Canadian banking return, says it should increase, if possible, the confidence of the public in those who so ably guided the destinies of these great monetary institutions thru a very troubleous period.

FATAL FIGHT AMONG BOYS.

One Dies From Stab Wounds and Three Others Seriously Injured.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—One boy is dead from stab wounds and three others seriously hurt as a result of a fight in the House of Correction on Randall's Island, in which 20 participated.

The fight occurred last Saturday evening, when 240 boys were at recreation in the playroom of the big building, but it did not become known outside the institution until after O'Shansky's death. There were several officers in the playroom when the fight broke out. Only about 20 boys were actually engaged, but the others crowded around them so closely that the officers had great difficulty in reaching the combatants. When they finally succeeded in breaking thru the line, the four wounded boys, including O'Shansky, were lying on the floor unconscious.

BIG ICICLE'S FALL.

An immense icicle dropped from the cornice of the Methodist Book-Room building yesterday afternoon and crashed thru a large skylight five storeys below, damaging a printing press and crushing a perrman's hand.

ANOTHER LIST OF SIMPLER WORDS

Progress Made in Task of Improving Spelling of the English Language.

The "simplified spelling board" have just issued, from New York, a second list of simpler spellings comprising "a selection of the more difficult and anomalous forms, simplified, and also certain classes of words simplified by the general rules." In March of 1906 the board published a list of 300 common words currently spelled in two or more ways. The latest circular says:

"The persons interested were askt to examin the list, and, if they preferred the simpler forms, to sign a card agreeing to use them, as far as might be practicable.

"This first step was taken in order to ascertain how far the public would go in supporting the principle and practice of simplified spelling and in approving the purposes of the board. The step aroused great interest. Some twenty thousand persons, including many thousand teachers, have signed the card. Many of these adherents are using other simplified spellings far in advance of the easy lesson of the three hundred words.

"With this public support the board felt justified in proposing a second list of simpler spellings. The executiv committee, after much deliberation and correspondence, prepared such a list and such rules, and submitted them to the members of the board, who gave their votes upon each word and each rule separately. By a rule adopted at the first annual meeting, every proposal for simplification must be approved by two-thirds of the members before it can be promulgated. A very few simplified spellings which were approved by the statutory two-thirds have been withheld at the request of the minority, for further consideration.

Beneficial Changes.

"These simplified forms not only have the now declared sanction of nearly all the two hundred educators, philologists, men of science, men of letters and men of affairs, who constitute the board and the council, and who have carefully considered the forms with the desire to effect a beneficial change with the least disturbance of custom and convenience, but they will have the support and approval of the many thousand other adherents of the cause who have repeatedly recommended, and have been awaiting, an advance along these lines of simplification. To this living sanction, given upon scientific and practical grounds, must be added the historic sanction of the long line of great authors who used such forms as a part of the customary rule and analogy of English spelling, before it became stereotyped by printers.

"This circular is spelled in accordance with the simplifications recommended. It will be seen that the amount of change in any one paragraph is still very small. The print-

Continued on Page 7.

"THIN RED LINE" MAN AGAIN IS ON THE JOB

R. E. A. Leach Employed in Connection With the Government Distribution of Seed Grain.

OTTAWA, Feb. 13.—(Special.)—In the house to-day Dr. Roche (Marquette) called attention to the despatch from Regina to the effect that R. E. A. Leech of the "Thin Red Line" notoriety, had been appointed by the federal government to superintend the distribution of seed grain in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Dr. Roche asked if Leach was the officer in charge of distribution or would be connected with it in any way.

"As far as I can gather, the despatch is in the main correct," replied Hon. Frank Oliver.

"If I ab in order—" Mr. Speaker called attention to the rule which forbids a member being interrogated giving more than a direct answer.

Mr. Foster asked if it was correct in regard to Leech, and the minister said Leech was "employed in that connection."

"What's the matter with Wagner?" asked Mr. Bennett of Simcoe, but Mr. Oliver said as to him he did not know.

R. L. Borden questioned the prime minister as to some items of legislative program mentioned in the speech from the throne. There was a bill as to telegraph and telephone companies, boundaries of Manitoba, annuities, amendments to the Election Act and other bills.

Sir Wilfrid replied that the bill respecting telegraphs and telephones would probably be down next week. The election bill was about ready. The bill on annuities would be down on Monday. In re boundaries of Manitoba, the legislation of Manitoba had laid before the house a petition in which the position they had taken previously in regard to that and other matters had been materially altered, and it might be expected at no distant date.

GUESTS TOOK SPOONS

Train Stopped and Men Searched—Brodeur Says 'Twas Joke.

OTTAWA, Feb. 13.—The Laval students who visited Ottawa yesterday left on the G. T. R. special at 2.30 this morning, but the train was held up for 15 minutes by the police and searched for silverware taken by the boys as souvenirs from the Russell House. Over 125 spoons, knives and forks were recovered and the train then released. The silverware was taken during the course of a banquet given the boys at the Russell during the evening, when the Laval men were the guests of Hon. L. P. Brodeur, while in Ottawa, and that gentleman explained to the police and hotel men that the affair was only a joke.

DETECTIVE WATCHED THIEF.

Saw Young Italian Picking Pocket in Big Store.

After ten minutes spent in intently watching Beneancino Ciancone, an Italian laborer, 25 years of age, Detective Alex. Mackie took that worthy into custody, charged with picking the pocket of Emily Bullock, 14 St. Patrick-street. The operation, which was watched by the detective, was performed in the Eaton store yesterday afternoon and netted the performer one purse containing a handkerchief.

When searched he was found to have $20 strapped to his leg in a small purse, and a knife in his pocket.

PERJURY IS CHARGED.

F. M. Voorhees and F. H. Combes Faced With Majesty of the Law.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—Indictments charging perjury were returned by the grand jury to-day against Foster M. Voorhees, former governor of New Jersey and formerly president of the Bankers' Life Insurance Co., and against Frank H. Combes, formerly of that company. The charges are based on reports made to the New York State Insurance Department in 1904.

A MONTCALM MEMORIAL.

VAUVERT, France, Feb. 13.—The citizens of this town have started a subscription for the purpose of erecting at Quebec a statue of Gen. Montcalm, the French commander who was mortally wounded at the battle of Quebec in 1759.

CITY REQUESTS CONFERENCE.

Mayor Oliver will write the Toronto Electric Light Company to ask for a conference next week on the question of electrical distribution plant. Delay has been caused thru the company's declining to confer owing to the illness of Manager J. J. Wright and Solicitor E. F. B. Johnston, K.C.

Controller Hocken's Health.

Controller Hocken's health has become somewhat impaired and while able to discharge his daily duties at the city hall, he has been advised by his physicians that he must, for two months at least, take a complete rest as far as public appearance at evening meetings and other business and social functions is concerned.

Big Sportsmen's Ass'n To Meet Here in 1909

North American Fish and Game Protective Ass'n Also Elect Hon. J. O. Reaume as Their President.

ALBANY, Feb. 13.—At the annual meeting of the North American Fish & Game Protective Association, which was concluded here to-day, Hon. J. O. Reaume, minister of public works and fisheries of the Province of Ontario, was elected president, and E. T. D. Chambers of Quebec was re-elected secretary-treasurer. The convention next year will be held in Toronto.

A resolution was adopted urging the Canadian Government to set aside a tract of 400 square miles of forest land in British Columbia as a national game preserve.

Another resolution adopted urged both the Canadian and the United States governments to set aside all available forest tracts and waste lands for fish and game propagation.

A resolution was passed favoring the international control of the fisheries on the great lakes and the St. Lawrence.

A resolution introduced by Kelly Evans of Toronto placing the association on record as opposed to the granting of large tracts of wild lands to individuals for private game preserves was not adopted owing to the opposition of those from the Province of Quebec, who admitted that many members from different states were interested in private or club reserves in Quebec Province.

Kelly Evans and Oliver Adams, Toronto, were elected vice-president for Ontario and executive committeeman, respectively.