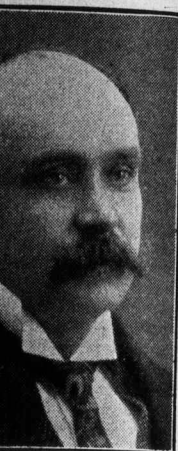


Canadians in Commercial Life.

A young fellow-countryman, who occupies a position in the commercial life of this city as a result of integrity, perseverance and determination is Mr. Bernard McNally. A portrait of him is published in this column. About three years ago he entered the office of the St. Lawrence Sugar Company, where he made his step by step he made his way through the various departments of that great manufacturing establishment, until he reached the office which he now occupies as Secretary-Treasurer.



BERNARD McNALLY.

Mr. McNally enjoys the respect and large section of the community with whom he has come into intercourse. In unconnected with his relation to his share. He is a member of the recently organized St. Leon, Westmount, and of the Catholic Sailors' and Social Organization of which he is held in



NICHOLAS POWER.

Nicholas Power, son of one of our highly esteemed fellow-countrymen and co-religionists, has been appointed to the new branch of the Credit Savings Bank, which has been opened on the Hill College Avenue and street. Mr. Power, a very young man, has twelve years of faithful services of the bank, which have been spent at Point St. Charles, for three years in the St. James street. He sincerely wishes Mr. Power in his new position.

PROVINCIAL BUDGET.

The provincial budget speech in the House on Thursday.

Receipts ... \$4,515,169 88
Expenditure ... 4,470,332 15
Balance ... \$44,837 73

Primary expenditure ... \$20,845 11
Secondary ... \$24,492 12

Mr. Wyndham, who was heartily cheered, rose to speak at 2.40 p.m. At the outset he announced that the Government thought cash was necessary for the fulfilment of the proposed scheme, but it attached greater importance to the credit operation than to the cash operation. He then unfolded the scheme, which provides for advances of money for the purchase of land by the tenants. The advances will be in the shape of cash and not of stock, but in order to enable the cash to be raised a new stock is to be floated. It will be called "Guaranteed 2 1/2 per

Irish Land Bill Introduced In the British Commons.

The Irish secretary, Mr. Wyndham, introduced the Government's long-anticipated Irish Land Bill in the House of Commons March 25. It proposes a free grant of \$60,000,000 for the purposes of the bill. Tenants are to pay two and three-quarter per cent. interest on loans from the Government. Mr. Wyndham said he thought the scheme would not involve \$500,000,000, but that \$750,000,000 would safely be advanced on Irish land. The advances to the tenants are limited to \$2,500 in the congested districts, and \$5,000 elsewhere. The bill also provides that untenanted farms and grazing lands shall be sold to neighboring tenants, and that three commissioners, to be known as estates commissioners, shall supervise the sales. The three commissioners are Michael Finucane, secretary to the Government of Bengal Revenue; Frederick S. Wrench, now one of the Irish land commissioners; and Wm. F. Bailey, one of the assistant commissioners on the Irish Land Commission. They will be under the general control of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. The bill will become effective November 1.

The keen interest felt in this new legislation, which, it is hoped, will promote peace and contentment in Ireland, was shown by the crowded House. The Peers gallery and the distinguished strangers gallery were filled, and there has been no such gathering of members of Parliament since the opening of the session. In the diplomatic gallery sat United States Secretary Henry White, an interested spectator, while almost every Irish peer listened to Mr. Wyndham's exposition of the bill. From an early hour in the morning, the stone benches from the House of Commons entry to the doors of the lobby were packed with Irishmen, among whom were many priests. Most of these went away without seeing even the inside of the legislative chamber, the galleries of which were crowded as has not been the case for many a day. Michael Davitt, "father" of the Land League, celebrated his 57th birthday by re-entering the House for the first time since he ceased to be a member, in order to hear the Chief Secretary for Ireland unfold his plans.

A hush of expectation fell on the assembly as John Redmond, the Irish leader, rose to speak. If he refused to countenance the bill, its death, and perhaps even the Government's downfall, was decreed. When the galleries of the House found him sympathetic and non-committal, a feeling of relief pervaded all sides. What Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the Liberal leader, and the others said had little effect. Even T. W. Russell, who, with others, criticized the details, and various omissions in Mr. Wyndham's plan, wound up with a guttural and reluctant admission that "it is a great bill."

Mr. Wyndham spoke for one hour and a half, giving the outlines of the complicated measure, and while not arguing the points of the bill, he brought out the plan in such a manner as to earn general commendation from both parties and all sections of the House. The bill was read a first time with little delay, and without a division. The discussion following Mr. Wyndham's exposition of the provisions of the bill brought forth little unfriendly criticism. On the contrary, John Redmond, T. Healy, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, and T. W. Russell, and others termed it a strong and probably effective bill. It is already conceded as absolutely certain that the bill will pass, although it may be modified in its minor details.

Mr. Wyndham, who was heartily cheered, rose to speak at 2.40 p.m. At the outset he announced that the Government thought cash was necessary for the fulfilment of the proposed scheme, but it attached greater importance to the credit operation than to the cash operation. He then unfolded the scheme, which provides for advances of money for the purchase of land by the tenants. The advances will be in the shape of cash and not of stock, but in order to enable the cash to be raised a new stock is to be floated. It will be called "Guaranteed 2 1/2 per

cent. stock," and will be unredeemable for thirty years. Mr. Wyndham doubted if \$500,000,000 of the stock will be needed. It will be issued at the rate of \$25,000,000 yearly for the first three years, and afterwards, possibly, in larger sums. In addition to this the Government proposed a free grant of \$60,000,000 to be raised by additions to the stock, the interest and sinking fund of which will be borne by the treasury, and the maximum annual charge of which will not exceed \$1,950,000. Against this charge on the British Treasury, the Irish Government proposes forthwith to commence reductions in the cost of administration amounting to \$1,250,000 per annum for ever.

Proceeding, Mr. Wyndham dealt with the points of the bill, which contains a bewildering mass of figures showing how advances will be made and the terms of repayment, but it seems, in the main, to be on the lines laid down by the land conference report and will be satisfactory to the landlords and tenants. In the course of his speech, which was punctuated by cheers, Mr. Wyndham said the landlords of Ireland were being ruined financially, and that the tenants were being ruined morally and the taxpayers of England were paying \$700,000 per annum to the land commission, and \$7,000,000 to the Irish police, which largely was needed to deal with illegalities arising from the land question.

"Is it remarkable, under these circumstances," asked the Irish Secretary, "if the landlords and tenants come together?"

Mr. Wyndham did not think any recalcitrant or veiled reasons need be looked for. Past experience showed the state incurred no risk in giving such aid. From the taxpayer's viewpoint it was stated that aid for land purchase was a safe commercial transaction. By the aid of the state \$0,000 tenants already had bought their holdings and the state had not lost a half-penny. Public opinion supported repayment, and this was high, moral security, besides which was the security of the land itself.

Mr. Wyndham also said that the number of anomalies which had to be dealt with rendered the work most embarrassing, complicated and very difficult to present to the House in an intelligible manner. The state of things in some parts of Ireland was such as could be scarcely believed in England. He instanced one village in which a landlord was in the workhouse during the greater part of the year, while the tenants lived under conditions worse than those of the Kaffirs of Africa. What the Government proposed to do to remedy this state of affairs was, briefly, while withdrawing no existing rights, it contemplated that the purchase of land in the future should proceed by the state of estates, under three commissioners—Michael Finucane, secretary to Government of Bengal revenue, general and statistical department; Frederick S. Wrench, now one of the Irish Land Commissioners, and Edward R. Bailey, one of the assistant Irish Land Commissioners.

The commissioners, who will be known as estate commissioners, will be under the general control of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. They are empowered to decide what constitutes an estate, which does not necessarily mean the entire property owned by the vendor, as a considerable portion thereof may remain in his hands. The commissioners may refuse to sanction the sale of poor holdings unless there are reasonable facilities for their enlargement, where necessary, and for adequate access to fur as fuel.

Mr. Wyndham proceeded, saying that in view of the strong recommendation of the recent land conference the Government had provided that the landlords might make their own arrangements with the tenants if they tallied with the policy of the present bill, which, instead of expatriating the landlords, as stated in some quarters, would, he hoped, enable them to remain in the country. The Government thought the period for the repayment of loans should be 18 1/2 years. There were strenuous provisions against subdividing mortgages on holdings.

The advances to tenants, through the provisions of the Land Bill, are limited to \$2,500 in the congested districts, and \$5,000 elsewhere. The bill will become effective November 1.

Mr. Wyndham said \$750,000,000 could safely be advanced on Irish land, but he thought the scheme would not involve \$500,000,000.

The Irish Secretary said that while the maximum charge of the English Treasury would not exceed \$1,975,000 in a single year, the reduction in the cost of the administration of Ireland would amount to \$1,250,000.

In conclusion, Mr. Wyndham said he was sure the landlords and tenants will continue to act in the reasonable spirit which actuated the

conference. The country could prolong for another 150 years the present tragedy in Ireland, he said, or could now initiate and henceforth prosecute a business transaction occupying some 15 years, based on the self-esteem, probity and mutual good-will of all concerned. Mr. Wyndham finished speaking at 4.10 p.m.

Mr. John Redmond, the Irish leader, followed Mr. Wyndham, saying everybody would admit that the tone and temper of the secretary's speech showed he realized the gravity of the situation in Ireland, and that he was anxious to sincerely attempt to grapple with it. Mr. Redmond deprecated hasty judgment of Mr. Wyndham's proposals, either for or against them. No one could question that the proposals were an enormous advance upon those of last year, or that they really aimed at a settlement of the question. He, however, took exception to the commissioners, especially Mr. Wrench. If the Irish concluded that the bill offered a reasonable hope of settlement it would be accepted by them.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the Liberal leader, said he would not pass summary judgment on the "great measure presented with so much power, and which raised such great issues," but he would ask for information on certain points, which he enumerated.

Mr. Healy (Irish Nationalist) gave the measure a cordial reception. He suggested alterations in the direction of the provision for the distribution of the free grant.

Mr. Wyndham replied. He said \$60,000,000 formed the limit. The Government would go no further. The secretary asked that no hasty judgment be passed in the House of Commons.

The bill was then formally introduced and passed its first reading. The second reading was set for April 22.

Earl Dunraven, who with John Redmond, shares the greatest responsibility for to-day's procedure, slipped out quietly to avoid congratulations. He said to the Associated Press correspondent: "I believe the bill will meet the requirements of all parties. Though I have not had a chance to read them, and cannot speak definitely concerning the details of the measure, it certainly seems as though a new era was dawning on a new Ireland. Mr. Wyndham to a great extent, has followed the lines of our conference. I think the landlords and tenants, with, perhaps, some slight amendments, will be able to agree to the main principles of the bill."

The Duke of Abercorn said: "To-day's proceedings are certainly a matter for congratulation. I hope the provisions of the bill will be carried out. It looks as though the ancient hatchet has been buried."

John Redmond said he was unable to add anything to his utterances in the House, but he seemed in a quite hopeful mood. Various members of his party, however, frankly discussed Mr. Wyndham's plan. The omission of adequate provision for those tenants already evicted; doubts whether the landlords would accede to the terms of the measure, and objections to the choice of Mr. Wrench as one of the three commissioners seem to be the chief difficulties, but all the Nationalist members appeared to be agreed that the bill went farther towards putting Ireland on a prosperous basis than any before introduced, especially as the system is intended to be administered on a commercial rather than on a judicial basis. Hitherto all the land acts have come under the interpretation of the judges, whose decisions could not be questioned.

The Irish Land Purchase Bill, introduced to-day in the House of Commons, is the outcome of a conference held in Dublin last December between prominent landlords and tenants of all shades of opinion. The movement was inaugurated by Captain Shawe-Taylor, a prominent landlord of Ardahan, who published a letter inviting the Duke of Abercorn, John Redmond, Lord Barrymore, Colonel Sanderson, the Lord Mayor of Dublin, T. P. O'Connor, Wm. O'Brien, T. W. Russell, and others to a conference at which he proposed to submit what he called "an honest, simple and practical solution of the present troubles, and one which will lead to a settlement satisfactory to both landlords and tenants."

On January 5, the report of the conference was issued. It declared that the only satisfactory settlement of the Irish land question was the substitution of an occupying, or proprietary, ownership of land for the existing dual ownership. The report then made a number of recommendations for the settlement of the question, emphasized the desirability of inducing landlords to continue to reside in Ireland, and said that with this object in view, an equitable price should be paid to the owners of land, based upon income, and that provision ought to be made for the re-sale of the land to owners of mansion house and demesnes. The purchase price, the report further set forth, either should be the assurance by the state of such income or the payment of a capital sum producing it at three per cent. or three and a quarter per cent. If guaranteed by the state, tenants' repayments should be extended for a term of years, securing a reduction of 15 to 25 per cent. on rents. To do this might involve some assistance from the state beyond the use of its credit, and the report considered that such assistance would be justified for the future welfare of Ireland and the settlement of this vexed problem.

The report offered no definite financial proposal, but it considered that an unexampled opportunity existed for dealing with the question successfully.

Michael Davitt and T. P. O'Connor gave the Associated Press correspondent signed statements. Mr. Davitt's opinion, in part, is: No fair or final judgment can be passed on the Government's Irish Land Bill until the full text of the measure can be read carefully and studied. The impression left on my mind by the speech of the Chief Secretary for Ireland is that the bill he outlined offers unreasonable compensation to the landlords, and therefore does not offer sufficient inducement to buy their holdings on these terms—terms which appear to me to be fully ten years' purchase above the present market value of the Irish landlords' property.

However, it is possible that there may be some provisions in the bill when we can see it in print, which will offer some minor advantages to the tenants and the country that may to some extent redeem the objectionable terms provided for the landlords. The one consoling feature of this latest attempt of the British Parliament to settle the Irish land question is the proof it offers that the Celtic people of Ireland have compelled an English landlord Government to provide money with which to buy out the British landlord garrison for Ireland.

"As a whole, I think our friends in United States who have done so much to help us bring this fight for Irish land to the present somewhat hopeful outlook, will follow the example of our leaders and reserve their opinion on the merits of the measure. I cannot see my way to agree to the bill as it is, but when I remember that in 1879, I served my first term of imprisonment for proposing almost exactly what a Conservative Irish Secretary proposed to-day, I realize how times change."

T. P. O'Connor writes in part: "I believe the bill will go into committee; that is to say, there is sufficient good in it to make it difficult if not impossible for the Nationalists to reject it. One hundred million pounds of English credit and something like £15,000,000 in bonus are given to substitute peasant ownership for landlordism."

"It is true that Ireland will subscribe her share of the £15,000,000 bonus; true that a purely Irish fund will have to pay a portion of the bonus; true that the financial grievance of undue Irish taxation remains, but Ireland is not mistress of her revenues. Her appeals for financial redress have been in vain, and probably this is the one way in which relief of her financial grievance can be got. The mind and energies of Irishmen should now be devoted towards amending many of the defects in the bill. I believe that a united move towards amendment may enormously improve the measure, which is big and bold, though in parts a defective attempt to abolish landlordism."

They are never alone who are accompanied by noble thoughts.

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The Stage Irishman.

A correspondent under the "nom-de-plume" of "Irishman," writing to the New York "Irish World," says:—

The daily press reports of the protest which was made on last Friday night, the 20th inst., during the performance of "McFadden's Row of Flats," were entirely inadequate to give a true idea to readers of them as to the exact nature of the proceedings. They were, in fact, absolutely wrong in some particulars.

The facts are as follows: The committee appointed on Sunday, the 14th inst., by the New York Philo Celtic Society to investigate the character of the play reported so unfavorably as to its nature, that it was decided to have a large number of the members attend on Friday evening, and express their disapprobation of those sections of the "play" which were degrading to our race. This they did in the manner which theatre-goers unusually adopt to express such feelings, that is by

hissing, and they were joined in this action by a number of those in the audience, who, like themselves, could not and would not tolerate such an outrageous performance. The ladies and gentlemen who thus protested were not (with a few exceptions) requested to leave. They were, however, threatened, but this peculiar kind of a request to cease hissing was not acceded to, as they considered they had the same right to hiss the objectionable features as they would have had to applaud them. As those who protested would not refrain from hissing, a band of cowardly ruffians were brought from the corner saloon to do the dirty work of ejecting them by force. This they accomplished by degrees, commencing with the few who were in the orchestra; but they took special care to reserve their dastardly and brutal attacks until out of sight of the audience. Even some of the ladies were assaulted by those hired scoundrels.

As to the gentlemen—the two who were arrested happened not to be (Continued on Page Eight.)

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Florida Grape Fruit—36, 46, 54 and 64 to the box—
Florida Shadocks, "Mammoth," 30c. each, \$3.25 per dozen, \$9.25 per box.
Florida Shadocks, "Superlatives," 25c. each, \$3.25 per dozen, \$9.25 per box.
Florida Shadocks, "Queens," 20c. each, \$2.25 per dozen, \$9.25 per box.

California Washington Navel Oranges, 96, 112, 126 to the box—

All Extra Fancy Fruit.
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California Seedless Oranges 65 cents per dozen, \$5.50 per box.
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