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TWENTY-SIXTH YEAR — EIGHT PAGES—TUESDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 21 1905—EIGHT PAGES — ONE CENT

G.T.R. TELEGRAPHERS WIN THO AWARD COMES 2 TO 1

Senate Reading Room

Company's Arbitrator in Splendid Isolation, Save in Adverse Decision on Vacation Wages.

The award of the board of arbitration to settle the differences between the Grand Trunk Railway Company and its telegraphers on three stated points was made public last night. The telegraphers win. It is not a unanimous decision, G. F. Shepley, K.C., who represented the company on the board, agreeing with his colleagues only on that point which is decided favorably to the G.T.R. J. Harvey Hall, for the telegraphers, and Hon. Justice Teetzel, the third arbitrator, however, as being the majority, bring to an end a long period of dissatisfaction and disagreement between the masters and men. Their recommendations are:

Minimum Pay.

Recommendation:

"That paragraph 21 of the said schedule, dated July 15th, 1904, be amended by providing that the minimum salary per month for agent and telegrapher, with dwelling, fuel and light, on main line, shall be $45 per month, and on branch lines $43 per month, instead of $40 and $37 respectively, and that such minimum wage without dwelling, fuel and light shall be $50 on main line and $48 on branch lines, instead of $45 and $42 respectively, and that the salary of all other telegraphers who are not also agents shall be $45 on main line and $43 on branch lines, instead of $40 and $37 respectively. In other respects, the said paragraph 21 shall stand."

The Meaning in Figures.

Argument:

"On main lines the present minimum salary is five dollars, and on branch lines six dollars per month less than the amounts stated in item 3. The rates proposed in this item are exactly the same as the rates paid on the C.P.R. under its schedule taking effect June 1, 1902, and on the Intercolonial in its schedule which took effect May 1, 1904. At present one hundred and thirty-seven telegraphers are in receipt of the present minimum pay, but the total who would be affected by the proposed increase would be 295, whose salaries would be respectively increased from 17 cents to six dollars per month. The total increase in the company's monthly pay roll for telegraphers in Canada, which now amounts to $34,434.11, would be $1171.67, or an addition of about 3 1-3 per cent. to the total. Of the said 295 whose pay would be affected by the proposed increase, 172 perform the duties of agent at a station as well as operator, and represent the company there in its freight and passenger business.

Labor and Responsibility.

"At stations where one or two operators are employed twelve hours, including meal hours, constitute a day's work. While the actual duties at many of the stations could be performed in two or three hours, if consolidated, the operator is required to be on duty, or within call, the whole day. While the duties are not onerous, they are exacting, and require great care, and fair intelligence, in their performance, and to become equipped as an operator one must serve an apprenticeship, without pay, for about one year. Having regard to these considerations, to the general increase in the cost of living, to the general prosperity of the country, and to the fact that for more than two years the minimum wage for men in similar positions and performing similar duties on the C.P.R. has been the rate now proposed, we are of the opinion that the company should have granted the increase asked."

Sunday Pay.

Recommendation:

"That paragraph 13 in the schedule of rules and rates issued by the manager of the Grand Trunk Railway Company on July 15, 1904, be struck out, and the following substituted therefor:

"Day operators and agents acting as day operators required to work on Sundays, except attending to regular passenger trains, will be paid extra, pro rata, on schedule of salary for such services based on thirty days per month (any portion of an hour less than thirty minutes not to count, any portion of an hour thirty minutes or over to count as one hour) with a minimum compensation of twenty-five cents for each call for which one hour's service shall, if required, be rendered. All telegraphers are to report for duty on Sundays at their regular hours without extra compensation, when, if not required for work other than to attend to regular passenger trains, they will be excused by proper authority."

As With Other Roads.

Argument:

"With reference to Sunday work a provision for many years has been in effect that telegraphers were not required to work on Sundays except when necessary to protect the company's interests. On the main lines a great proportion of the telegraphers do considerable work beyond attending to regular passenger trains, but except at periods of the year when grain is being shipped comparatively little Sunday work is done on the branch lines. All telegraphers are paid by a monthly salary, and while some allowance has been made by the company on account of Sunday work, in fixing the rates of pay we do not think such allowance is adequate. The schedules of pay fixed by the Michigan Central Railway Company and on the Intercolonial Railway, allow extra pay for all Sunday work by telegraphers, while on the C.P.R. the schedule contains a provision in the exact words of item 1. We are of the opinion that a similar provision should be made by the G.T.R."

Leave of Absence.

Recommendation:

"That the telegraphers should withdraw and abandon their claim for leave of absence without pay."

Argument:

"While there never has been any general provision whereby telegraphers have been entitled as of right to a vacation while in the company's service, we find that in the past the managers have not been unreasonable in allowing employes off duty without deducting pay when they could arrange with other employes to do their work, and when the company's interest would not suffer. While the C.P.R. and the

Continued on Page 8.

POINTS ARBITRATED.

An increase in the minimum wage.
Overtime pay for Sunday work.
Two weeks holidays with pay during each year, in certain cases, with an alternative of two weeks' extra pay.

THE FINDINGS.

That the Grand Trunk Railway should grant the increase in wages asked by the operators.

That day operators and agents acting as such required to work on Sundays, except attending to regular passenger trains, be paid extra, pro rata, in schedule of salary based on 30 days per month.

That (in regard to two weeks' annual leave of absence without pay) it be left to the company of its own motion to pay for services not actually performed.

"We further recommend that the above recommendations shall take effect on March 1, 1905, and shall continue and be accepted by both parties for a period of three years thereafter."

—Decision of Arbitrators Teetzel and Hall.

IN DISSENT.

"I do not see how we can say that, as a result of what has been proved and argued, the arbitrators are judicially satisfied upon the evidence that this first ground, put forward as making an increase reasonable and proper, has been established."

"I should have been prepared to join in an award implementing the Sunday allowance in certain cases. The award of the majority, however, seems to me to go too far. It applies the rule to all who work on Sunday, while, upon the evidence, those who were working on Sunday before the change and were paid by the day were paid for so working and continue to be so paid since the change."

"With regard to the demand for two weeks' vacation, it does not appear to me to be reasonable and proper that this demand should be acceded to."

"The fundamental error in the majority award seems to me to be the departure of the majority of the board from judicial rules of conduct in dealing with the matters in dispute."

—Decision of Arbitrator Shepley.

THE LAW.

"In case of arbitration, pursuant to the provision hereinbefore contained, the findings and recommendations of the majority shall be those of the board."

—Railway Labor Disputes Act.

PROTEST PORT ARTHUR.

Preston Declares That He Has a Majority of Votes.

Port Arthur, Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Mr. Preston, the Conservative candidate, filed papers and put up a deposit for a protest against Russell in Port Arthur. To The World he stated that he had a majority of the votes cast and a scrutiny would give him 40 majority. More evidence of corruption has been procured. Action will be taken against wrongdoers so as to put a stop to the rottenness in politics which prevails in this riding. The Conservatives say they have a sure case against numbers of Liberal "heelers," and they will suffer. Russell's majority is claimed to be 14.

STOCK AGAINST MONTEITH.

Nominated, But Does Not Know Whether to Accept or Not.

Mitchell, Feb. 20.—The Liberals of South Perth met in convention here to-day. The convention was well attended, over 100 delegates being present. The convention tendered a unanimous nomination to Mr. Stock to contest the by-election against Hon. Mr. Monteith. Mr. Stock asked that a committee be appointed to advise him as to the desirability of contesting the riding. This was done and the decision of Mr. Stock and the committee will be made known at the nomination in St. Mary's to-morrow.

AYLESWORTH TO BE CALLED.

Sir Wilfrid Announces He is to Be Made a Minister.

Ottawa, Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Sir Wilfrid Laurier's announcement in the house to-day to the effect that A. B. Aylesworth, K.C., is to become a member of the government, bears out The World's prediction that cabinet changes are imminent. Hon. Charles A. Fitzpatrick has undoubtedly made up his mind to retire, and Mr. Aylesworth is being brought in to succeed him as minister of justice.

NOMINATIONS TO-DAY.

This is nomination day in the seven constituencies made vacant by the acceptance of office by Hon. J. P. Whitney, Hon. J. J. Foy, Hon. Dr. Pyne, Hon. W. J. Hanna, Hon. J. E. Matheson, Hon. Dr. Beaume and Hon. Nelson Monteith. There is no indication that any of the ministers will be opposed.

Union Blue Label Cigars are best.

Smoke Perfection cool mixture. Bollard

City Streets Are Dangerous.
Unexpected and unexplainable accidents are not confined alone to the realm of fiction. They happen every day in real life. A liberal and easy policy is assured by the London Guarantee and Accident Company, Canada Life Building, Toronto.

Tuckett's "T & P." 10 cent plug. 245

Smoke Blue Union Label Cigars. 246

One Hundred and Five Men Buried By Disaster in Mines in Alabama

Every Man Considered Dead—Cave-in Due to Giving Way of Timbers Thought to Be Cause of Fatality.

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 20.—Meagre reports reached here to-night of a terrible disaster in the Virginia mines, which are located about 18 miles from Birmingham. One hundred and five men are entombed in the mine, and it is believed that all are dead. Relief trains carrying physicians and laborers have been sent to the scene of the disaster from both Birmingham and Bessemer. From reports at 10 o'clock every effort is being made to reach the men, but that they cannot possibly succeed before morning. The mines belong to the Alabama Steel Wire Company, and are leased by Reid & Co. Both white and colored miners are employed and only recently union miners went to work. The mines are considered models of their kind. The slopes are well located, and there never has been any trouble from gas heretofore, it is stated that the accident was caused by a cave-in, due to the giving way of the timbers.

STUDENTS SUSPEND STUDIES TEAR UP CZAR'S PORTRAIT SHOUT FREEDOM

Scholars, Professors and Directors Hold Rousing Meeting in St. Petersburg and Decide to Close the Universities Till Fall.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 21.—With the decision of the student body of the University of St. Petersburg yesterday to suspend studies for the remainder of the university year, almost the whole educational system of Russia has entered upon a period of stagnation. Other universities, gymnasia and even grammar schools already were on strike and the military thruout the empire has been obliged to be resorted to to restrain school boys of tender years, who are joining the general movement.

The meeting of 3000 St. Petersburg students, besides voting solidly to suspend studies until Sept. 1, adopted a set of political resolutions demanding the formation of a constituent assembly and characterizing the proposed summoning of the Zemsky Zobor as inadequate for the emergency. A large faction voted to stop the war. A strong revolutionary feeling was manifested, the red flag was waved and the Marseillaise and other revolutionary songs were chanted. A large portrait of the emperor was torn in strips. The police did not interfere.

Strong forces of Poles and Cossacks had been posted outside the building to meet an expected street demonstration, but none occurred. Many professors and instructors in the university were present, most of whom were in full sympathy with its objects. Two tutors and a small number of students who wished to obtain their diplomas this year, made an ineffectual attempt to stem the general tide.

Closed Till Fall.

The first joint meeting of students, professors and directors ever authorized assembled at noon yesterday to discuss the question of joining the general strike inaugurated by similar institutions in Russia and decided to close the university till fall. Over 4000 students attended, but the room would not hold one-fifth of that number. Strong speeches were delivered in support of the demand for freedom of speech, conscience and the press, and for the convocation of a national assembly and the professors were unable to stem the storm.

Still more extreme addresses were delivered at the overflow meetings, and the foreign newspaper correspondents present were amazed at their incendiary character. Wild scenes followed, the students singing the Russian Marseillaise, which begins, "You fell victims to love of your country." A red flag was unfurled, on which was written: "Hail to the constituent assembly."

Resolutions Passed.

After adopting a set of strong resolutions the student body, by an almost unanimous vote, decided to suspend all university work till September. The resolutions demanded:

A constituent assembly on the basis of universal suffrage and under conditions of liberty of speech, of the press and of association and the freedom of laborers to strike.

Second: Full amnesty for religious and political offenders.

Third: Autonomy for each part of the country not of Russian nationality.

In conclusion the resolutions call on every self-respecting citizen to struggle for the achievement of the above aims.

After the meeting broke up a band of the more violent students tore up the emperor's portrait, stripped and demolished the frame and carried off bits of canvas and gilding as souvenirs.

CZAR STILL OBDURATE.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 21.—There is no confirmation of the report that the Emperor Nicholas has decided to issue a decree on March 4, convening the Zemsky Zabor. In well-informed circles here it is believed that the question of convoking this ancient form of land parliament has not yet been decided.

E. F. CLARKE CRITICALLY ILL.

Pneumonia Sets in and Friends Are Seriously Alarmed.

E. F. Clarke, M.P., was reported last night to be worse than he has been since he was first taken ill a little over three weeks ago. Pneumonia has set in, and the condition of the patient has become very grave.

Mr. Clarke was ill before he went to Ottawa at the first of the month. During his ten days' stay in Ottawa he was confined to his bed for the greater part of the time. Since his return some two weeks ago the patient has not improved until now his friends are expressing alarm.

EVANTUREL OUT OF IT.

L'Orignal, Feb. 20.—In the recount of Prescott County election for the legislature, Mr. Labrosse, Independent Liberal, was to-day declared elected by the casting vote of the returning officer. Hon. Mr. Evanturel, ex-Speaker, was his opponent.

Ask for It Anywhere.
At tobacco shops, drug stores and news stands, in Toronto and throughout Ontario, you can now get "Clubb's Dollar Mixture." There's a reason. It's the only tobacco that smokes cool, will positively not burn the tongue, and sold at a popular price: 1-lb. tin, $1; 1-2-lb. tin, 50c; 1-4-lb. package, 25c; sample package, 10c. Trade supplied by A. Clubb & Sons, 49 West King.

PEOPLE'S RIGHTS NEGLECTED RE ACCESS OF PHONES TO STATIONS

Government Urged to Declare the Iniquitous Contract Against Public Interest, But Government Shows No Anxiety to Do So.

Ottawa, Feb. 20.—(Special.)—A brief debate that sprang up in the house this afternoon shows that the government is not at all anxious to facilitate the settlement of the question of the right of independent telephone companies to have access to railway stations. In fact the government does not seem to know how the case stands. The discussion arose from a motion made by Boyce of Algoma for correspondence in connection with the applications of Port Arthur and Fort William.

W. F. Maclean said the decis on given by the railway commission was very unsatisfactory. The chairman of the commission interpreted his own legislation in such a way as to give independent telephone companies access to railway stations only on the payment of heavy damages. The contract, Mr. Maclean said, was against the public interest and against the Railway Act. If it were referred to the supreme court it would be declared to be unconstitutional.

Time after time this question came up. The then minister of railways and canals, when he passed his Railway Act, and when he put a provision into the act which secured telephone entrance into all stations for all companies, said that the object desired at that time would be secured. It was not secured, but the then minister of railways and canals went upon the railway commission as chairman of that commission, and he interpreted that act as against the public interest, and in the interest of the Bell Telephone Company. Altho that decision was given months ago, nothing had been done to ascertain the rights of the public in this matter.

Much for Railways.

"Day after day," said Mr. Maclean, "we are passing legislation in this house in the interest of the three great railway companies which are parties to that contract, which is against the public interest. I say it is the duty of the government not only to remedy the grievance, not only to make it clear in the Railway Act that this relief should be afforded, but we should say to these railway companies, until you grant the public the remedy of the grievance complained of, we refuse to give you any of the legislation that you desire. Last year the Grand Trunk Railway Company was given the greatest franchise that was ever given in this country. The C.P.R., every session of this parliament, is given franchises and concessions of various kinds, and the only thing to be done on the part of the government, if they are interested in the public welfare, is to say to the railway corporations: Not one thing more will you get from this house or this government until you remedy that grievance. But the companies get more legislation, and the grievance complained of is not remedied."

How to Cure It.

The grievance, Mr. Maclean said, could be cured by passing an act declaring such contracts to be against the public interest or it could be cured by negotiation. "Then for a moment let us recall what this contract involves. In Port Arthur and Fort William the people had splendid municipal telephone service. That telephone service was refused access to the C.P.R. station, and the Canadian Northern station, and yet the people of Port Arthur and Fort William were the main customers in these towns of both railways. They were the people who did business with the railways, the people who traveled over the railways, the people who furnished to and received freight from the railways, and yet by reason of this iniquitous agreement, this agreement which was contrary to public policy and which should be declared to be contrary to public policy if the government were alive to its responsibilities was allowed to continue.

"Surely the government had enough courage, surely they had a sufficiently high conception of their duty to the people to tell these railway companies that if they do not cancel that contract the government would find a way of passing a law to abolish it. So far they have done nothing in that direction.

"What is the strength of the Bell Telephone in this country," asked Mr. Maclean, "that they are allowed to maintain a monopoly of that kind? I do not know what is the cause of the influence that they seem to have, but every proposition that is made in this house, every proposition that was made during the discussion of the railway act that seemed to tread on the corns

Continued on Page 2.

Pember's Turkish Baths remove all poison from the system. 129 Yonge-st. 246

A CURIOSITY.

Excitement on York Street.

In the window of the Siche Gas Office, 81 York-street, is now on view a "Baby Siche" holding just one lb. carbide, capable of running a 40 c. p. light for about ten hours at a stretch.

Filled with water it weighs about 12 pounds, and has been finished at the top as a table lamp. It is the only 1 lb. carbide-feed machine in the world, that has nothing but metal in its construction, and that is perfectly open to the air and has no gaskets, screws, catches, washers, diaphragms, or other complexities to get out of order. It works on precisely the same principle as the large 500-lb. machines, and is a good evidence of the soundness of the principle. The light from it is perfectly steady, and it can, of course, be turned out, when generation of gas instantly ceases.

The Siche Gas Company yesterday shipped twelve large plants, the biggest single day's business since the company started. If you require a gas plant, drop in and see the "Baby" and get full details. Siche, Toronto, Montreal, Winnipeg. Phone Main 1971.

Superior Workmanship on Union Label Cigars. 246

Elegant Persian Rugs by Auction To-Day.
Mr. Charles M. Henderson will sell this afternoon, commencing at 2.30, at the Oriental Art Rooms, No. 40 East King-street (opposite the King Edward Hotel), the largest and most magnificent collection of Persian and Turkish rugs, brass ware, inlaid furniture, etc., ever submitted to public auction in Canada. No art lover should fail to attend, as the sale is positively unreserved.

Pember's Turkish Baths will cure all diseases. 129 Yonge-street. 246

The unreserved auction sale of fine manufactured furs conducted by Mr. Chas. M. Henderson, auctioneer, at 89 West King-street (Romain Block), continues to-day from 11 to 2.30 o'clock.

CLIFFORD'S REGRETS

CLIFFY SIFTON: It's too bad I ain't well enough to go to school to-day. 'Cause when Teacher Laurier an' Inspector Hierarchy an' Trustee Canuck meets there's goin' to be doin's.

CANADA WILL GARRISON ESQUIMALT AND HALIFAX

Official Confirmation of the Report Given in the House of Commons by Sir Frederick Borden.

Ottawa, Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Official confirmation was given in the house to-night to the report published in the afternoon papers that Canada is to garrison Esquimalt and Halifax.

Col. Sam Hughes called the attention of the government to the report.

"I do not know," he said, "whether the article in inspired or not, especially the last clause of it when I speak of Canadian defences on Canadian soil. As far as I am personally concerned I hope the statement is not true. I would be very sorry that Great Britain should so far forget her duties to the empire as to surrender Halifax and Esquimalt, and, secondly, I would say that if Canada is to contribute to imperial defence—and I trust at no far distant day she will—in place of garrisoning Halifax and Esquimalt she may be found garrisoning Portsmouth, Gibraltar, Malta and other places, and we will contribute our fair share towards the defence of the empire."

Article Not Inspired.

Sir Frederick Borden denied that the article was inspired. It was true, he said, that Canada a short time ago renewed the offer, which was made to the imperial government in 1902, at the time of the colonial conference, to relieve the mother country from all expenditure in maintaining the garrisons at Halifax and Esquimalt and that the offer had been gladly accepted by the imperial authorities. Correspondence was now going on and negotiations were pending by which the transfer could be carried out. The principles upon which this transfer is to be made are these:

First, that the Dominion government will bear all the expenditure connected with maintaining them. In 1902, said Sir Frederick, it was stated in general terms—and there was no doubt as to the meaning—that while Canada was not able to accept the suggestions of the imperial government, the war office and the admiralty, particularly as to the method by which Canada would aid in the defence of the empire, the government and people of Canada would be desirous of relieving the British taxpayer, so far as that could possibly be done.

Sir Frederick said he thought Col. Hughes was differing from the views of a large majority of the people of Canada. Col. Hughes, while he was not willing to take over the expenditure in connection with the garrisons at Halifax and Esquimalt, wished to send troops to Malta and other places outside of the country.

Charity At Home.

"Charity begins at home," said Sir Frederick, "let us incur our own responsibilities within our own borders first."

"Will these two ports, Halifax and Esquimalt," asked R. L. Borden, "be maintained in the same state of efficiency as they have been in the past so far as the fortifications are concerned?"

"Probably so," was the minister's answer.

Mr. Borden said "it had been suggested that the main reason for maintaining the defences, which exist there at the present time, is the fact that Halifax is a naval base for the North Atlantic squadron. If it was not to be a naval base in the future would that modify the attitude of the government in regard to these fortifications?"

Sir Frederick replied that so far as the negotiations had gone there was no indication of any intention on the part of the British government to abandon Halifax as a naval base.

"But have they not dismantled the dockyard?" Mr. Borden enquired.

"Well, they have removed some men from there," answered the minister, "but I do not think they have dismantled it in that sense. I think it is to be continued as a naval base."

V.C. Cigarettes for sale everywhere. 245

Senator Vidal Better.

Sarnia, Feb. 20.—Senator Alexander Vidal of Sarnia, who has been dangerously ill for some time past, is reported out of danger. He is in his 86th year and has been in public life over sixty years.

COMMENDS CANADA'S ACTION AS AN IMPERIAL PROJECT

But Morning Post Regrets That Britain Has Withdrawn Her Troops From This Country.

(Canadian Associated Press Cable.)

London, Feb. 20.—The Morning Post, commenting on the taking over of the charge of Esquimalt and Halifax by the Canadian government, says: It is a commendable product of the realization of her growing strength, and the wish to take a proper footing in the commonwealth of the empire. Referring to the importance of Halifax in the contingency of war with the United States, The Post says, it is vital to ask what guarantees the imperial government are taking that the present standard of defence, both in personnel and material, will be fully maintained on the transfer of the fortress to the Canadian authorities.

Tho expressing no desire to belittle the fighting qualities displayed by Canadians in South Africa, The Post says the Dominion government, with commendable frankness, has shown by its yearly publications that the Canadian forces as a whole are lamentably deficient in training, organization and equipment, and that their system of administration has far more regard to political considerations than preparation for war.

The Post thinks it is to be regretted that the imperial tie should be disserved by the removal of the imperial troops from Canadian soil. It thinks our aim should be not to encourage the colonies to build up separate armies and navies, but rather to encourage the blending of British and colonial troops into one great imperial force for the protection of the empire as a whole.

BACK FROM A RAID.

Russian Cavalry Made Daring Reconnaissance Around Jap Flank.

Mukden, Feb. 20.—Gen. Rennenkampff's division, which moved out Feb. 14, has returned from a daring reconnaissance, passing around the Japanese left flank and penetrating well to the rear, causing a considerable consternation along the line of Japanese communications. Losses were insignificant. The first day the division drove in the Japanese communications. Losses were insignificant. The first day the division drove in the Japanese cavalry screen and traveled 25 miles, stopping for the night in Santaitse, nine miles southwest of Syacobeke, on the line with Liaoyang and the southward Japanese positions. Thruout the night Russian videttes were in touch with the Japanese, and in the morning brought in information that a force of infantry was moving northwestward to cut off the Russians, while 5000 Chinese bandits appeared to the southward to prevent a movement on Yinkow.

The commander determined to strike in eastward, discover the strength of the enemy and threatens his rear. This bold movement was successful. At noon columns of Japanese cavalry were encountered, but meeting the fire of the trans-Siberian batteries, the Japanese fled, with Cossacks in pursuit. A battalion of Japanese infantry opened fire from a village. The Russian left, which had changed front, advanced and forced the Japanese to abandon the village.

On Feb. 16, the division moved eastward toward Oudiagantse, which was entrenched and occupied by Japanese horse artillery. The advance guards opened fire, concentrating on the trenches before the village. The Japanese cavalry suffered heavily, shrapnel bursting in their midst, stampeding their horses. Detachments of Russians occupied villages on the flank and drove back the Japanese.

The division having accomplished its task, retraced its road, leaving one Cossack killed and an ensign and 11 men wounded.

AUTONOMY BILL ON TO-DAY SEPARATE SCHOOL CLAUSE RE-ENACTED

Government's Defence of This Course Appears in Free Press Editorial That is Incorrect in Statement of Facts.

Ottawa, Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Sir Wilfrid Laurier will introduce the autonomy bill in the house to-morrow. Acting on the inspiration of ministerial sources, newspapers friendly to the government are saying that the debate need not be a long one. It is admitted, however, the bill will reenact the clause which guarantees separate schools to the territories. The government's defence of this course is indicated by an editorial published to-night in The Free Press, the government's Ottawa organ.

The Free Press says: "A great deal of oratorical bombast is being used to try to convince the people that people are being coerced into accepting a school system which they do not want. Everyone who looks into the question will see that there is no coercion whatever. The clause relating to the schools, which it is understood will be introduced in the bill—the clause as it stands in the existing constitution of the territories—leaves the people of the province absolutely untramelled in their action with regard to the schools they may establish.

"The clause is not compulsory; it is permissive. It declares that a majority of the ratepayers of any district or portion of the Northwest Territories, or any lesser portion of sub-division thereof, by whatever name the same may be known, may establish such schools therein as they may think fit and make the necessary assessment and collection of rates therefor; and, further, that the majority of the ratepayers therein, whether Protestant or Roman Catholic, may establish separate schools therein.

"The centre of the agitation against this clause is Toronto, where it is being flourished with almost terrifying effect. But, is the representatives of the people concerned are satisfied with this, what has Toronto to do with it? Surely those who live on the land have a better right to say what shall be done than those at a distance, who, it is to be believed, are influenced only by prejudice."

The editorial is, of course, incorrect in its statement that the people of the new province will be left absolutely untramelled in their action with regard to schools. The re-enactment of the separate schools clause in the Northwest Territories will make it impossible for the new province to abolish separate schools if at any time in the future they should desire to do so. The government's organs also make it known that Edmonton will be the provisional capital of Alberta, the Western Province, from which it would appear that Calgary, the natural capital, is to be punished for electing an opposition candidate in the late federal elections.

Still more extraordinary than the choice of Edmonton as a provisional capital is the semi-official intimation that the Dominion is to retain the Northwest lands, giving a partial cash equivalent to the territories. The lands are an immense political influence, and the government's decision to retain them means that it proposes to exploit them in the future as it has in the past, for the strengthening of its political prestige.

It is not likely that Hon. Clifford Sifton will be in the house during the debate on the bill. Owing to his health and to other reasons he is prolonging his stay in the south.

A significant Ottawa despatch is published in Le Canada, the government's organ in Montreal. Le Canada partly contradicts the report that the minister of the interior is staying away in order that he may not have to take responsibility for fastening separate schools on the territories. There is no foundation, is says, for this rumor.

"All Mr. Sifton's friends in Ottawa," it continues, "know that the reasons for his absence are personal, and that his trip was decided on before the government gave out its intention of organizing the territories into provinces. As to the sickness of Mr. Sifton, it is unhappily too true, and moreover, it is such as to create anxiety. He has insomnia and earaches from which he suffered from childhood, and to-day it has developed to such an extent as to give intense neuralgia. Entire rest is necessary, and has been prescribed by his physicians."

SHOOTS WIFE, THEN SELF FOR CAUSE YET UNKNOWN

W. H. Blackwell, a Toronto Eye Specialist, May Die at Roseneath From Bullet in Neck.

Cobourg, Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Roseneath, a small village back of Cobourg, was the scene of a serious shooting affray on Sunday evening. An eye specialist named W. H. Blackwell, who has been doing a big business thruout the back townships, in a fit of drunken frenzy at some fancied wrong, deliberately shot his wife and then turned the weapon upon himself.

The Blackwells have been making their home at the Commercial Hotel, Roseneath, and, according to all reports, have always lived on the happiest terms. The shooting occurred about 8 o'clock Sunday evening and enquiry into the cause of the noise by another boarder was greeted by Blackwell, with a smoking revolver in his hand, declaring that he would blow his enquirer's brains out, too. He then shot himself in the neck, inflicting a serious wound.

Mrs. Blackwell's injuries are not so serious, the bullet having lodged in the cheek. Blackwell originally hails from Toronto, where he has relatives among the higher circles. No legal action has yet been taken, as the self-inflicted wounds may result fatally.

Blackwell has a brother living at 241-2 Scollard-street, who says the wounded man went east last week, his wife joining him on Saturday. They were on good terms and he could not imagine what could have led up to the tragedy.

SEE MAN DROWN.

Pathetic Struggle of Stranger Who Sinks Thru Ice.

Sarnia, Feb. 20.—An unknown man was observed yesterday morning walking on the broken ice which is piled up in the St. Clair River and suddenly fell into the water. He was opposite the foot of Lochiel-street at the time and about 300 yards from shore. He struggled in the water for some time and three or four times succeeded in raising himself partially upon floating cakes of ice, which sank slightly beneath his weight and compelled him to let go. He finally became exhausted and threw up his hands and disappeared. Every effort is being made to ascertain the identity of the victim. The ice is not in a condition to permit crossing, and it is not known how the man got to the spot where he disappeared, as there was a large stretch of open water between him and the Sarnia shore. Several persons saw the occurrence. The body will probably not be recovered until spring, as the current is swift.

David Hoskins, F.C.A., Chartered Accountant, 27 Wellington StE., Toronto.

BIRTHS.

SMITH—At 14 Laurier-avenue, Feb. 19th, 1905, to Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Smith, a daughter.

WARWICK—Sunday, Feb. 19th, at 407 Markham-street, to Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Warwick, a daughter.

DEATHS.

CRAVEN—The only son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Craven, Woodbine-avenue (Norway), Britton R. Craven, born May 31, 1904, died Feb. 20, 1905.

Funeral Wednesday, 22nd, at 2 p.m., to Norway Cemetery.

GEDDES—At 290 Pacific-avenue, Toronto Junction, Rebecca Geddes, widow of the late R. S. Geddes, in her 80th year.

Funeral Wednesday at 2 p.m. to St. Phillip's Cemetery, Weston.

MARSHALL—On Feb. 18th, in her 80th year, Mary Jane, widow of the late P. W. Marshall, and mother of Thos. Marshall.

Funeral from her late residence, 78 Gloucester-street, Tuesday, 21st inst., at 3.30 p.m., to St. James' Cemetery.

PETRY—Richmond Thomas George, beloved son of Florence and Thomas Petry, late of Blackburn-street, aged 5 years 3 months 5 days.

Funeral to Norway, Friday, Feb. 17 (private).

Have a smoke. Try a Lord Nelson. 246

BOY GETS $1000.

In the case of Banks against the Shedden Co., a verdict of $1000 was given in the civil assize court yesterday.

Seal Skins Have Advanced.
A shipment of $25,000 worth of London dyed seal skins have been received by the W. and D. Dineen Company. Those desiring to have jackets made up for next winter, at this season's prices, should communicate. There has been an advance of from 25 to 40 per cent. in seal, but Dineen's will take orders to make up garments without regard for the advance. Corner Yonge and Temperance-streets.

FAIR AND MILD.

Meteorological Office, Toronto, Feb. 20.—(8 p.m.)—Mild weather has prevailed thruout Canada to-day, except in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, where somewhat lower temperatures have been recorded:

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 4 below—6; Simpson, 28—42; Victoria, 46—52; Calgary, 18—44; Qu'Appelle, 18—24; Winnipeg, 6—18; Port Arthur, 10—34; Tarry Sound, 16—34; Toronto, 20—38; Ottawa, 2—34; Quebec, 6 below—30; St. John, 2—36; Halifax, 10 below—32.

Probabilities.

Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay—Light winds; fair and mild.

Ottawa and Upper St. Lawrence—Fair; a little colder again by night.

Lower St. Lawrence and Gulf—Fresh westerly winds; fair, becoming a little colder again.

Maritime—Fresh westerly winds; fair and not much change in temperature.

Superior—Fair; a little lower temperature.

Manitoba—Fair, with about the same temperature.

STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS.

Feb. 20	At	From
Roma	New York	Naples
Republic	New York	Naples
Ryndam	New York	Rotterdam
Mongolian	Glasgow	New York
Zeeland	Dover	New York
Liguria	Gibraltar	New York
Moltke	Naples	New York
Dominion	Portland	Liverpool
Parisian	St. John's	Liverpool

Want to buy high-class manufactured furs at your own figures attend the unreserved auction sale being conducted by Mr. Chas. M. Henderson, auctioneer at the Kahnert store, 89 West King-street, from 11 to 2.30 to-day.