

TALK OF OBSTRUCTION.

The opposition in the local legislature is threatened with dire penalties and, more also, if it refuses to sit down and let the government rush the business through the House so that the Premier may set off for London town to take part in the imposing ceremonies connected with the formal coronation of His Gracious Majesty King Edward VI. We are told it will be an awful thing, that some dread calamity will befall us, if Mr. Dunsuir be denied the privilege of donning knee "breeks" and a dress sword, with a cocked hat upon his head, and kneeling gracefully before the King, possibly rising as one invested with some distinguished order of knighthood. We think the opposition is justified in running the risk of affliction with all the plagues enunciated and in insisting that the business of the country shall receive proper attention, even though the Premier should be debarred from attending the great function. We do not believe the King will feel affronted or think a slight has been put upon him. We do not believe he will visit his displeasure upon this devoted province, especially if it be pointed out to him that our affliction in our government is quite as much as he can bear. In brief, we do not believe it matters a button to the province, or that the people as a whole care a continental, whatever that may mean, whether Premier Dunsuir represents them at the festival or not. The opposition thinks two days should be devoted to the consideration of the budget. If there is anything unreasonable in that, there should be no difficulty in pointing it out. But because Mr. McBride and his followers resisted an attempt to deprive them of their privileges they are accused of lack of patriotism, of disloyalty, of being small and petty in their tactics, and various other things worthy of condemnation and punishment. The root of all the trouble is that the government does not possess the confidence of the House, because the leader of the quartette which is really the administration knows he cannot increase his following by a dissolution and that a new election would deprive him of the grim satisfaction of posing as a dictator. As a matter of fact, if blame attaches to any party for delaying the business of the House, it must rest upon the government. It had no business ready when the Legislature was called together. It has delayed and procrastinated all through the session. No later than Monday it got up a windy member to talk for five hours because its majority in the persons of two members from Vancouver, Messrs. Martin and Gilmour, was off on a holiday or attending to its private business. The thirty-five other members of the House had therefore to sit and twirl their thumbs until the two cats came back. Then when they arrived they ordered the budget debate to be finished up in one day. The Premier admitted that he did not approve of that order, but what was he to do, poor man, when his majority was against him? All this talk about the Premier being prevented from attending the coronation if he so desires is nonsense. There is plenty of time before the 20th of June for the business of the province to receive proper consideration from the members and for the Premier to make the trip to London, order his court dress and his regalia and even to take lessons in deportment from the successor of Mr. Turveydrog if it be necessary, which we are sure it is not. Sir Wilfrid Laurier does not intend to leave until some time in June, and we are only at the most five days farther from London than Ottawa. Let scepter-plants cease their twaddle.

YUKON ADMINISTRATION.

His Majesty's loyal opposition at Ottawa is struggling hard to unearth some evidence of wrong-doing on the part of the government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. During the present session the attacks for the most part have been directed against the departments of the Minister of the Interior and the Minister of Railways and Canals. The attempt to discredit and ruin Mr. Tarte has been abandoned in despair. Not that the Tory hatred of him has become less fierce. The residue of the once grand old party can never forgive him for deserting it and exposing the corruption which eventually led to its undoing. The position of the Minister has simply been proved to be unassailable, the country has not been impressed with the gravity of the charges that have been made, and the attacking forces have been led by their leaders—Mr. Dorden not being among the number—to new positions supposed to command the weak spots in the administration of Messrs. Sifton and Blair. It is curious that no fault has yet been found with the work of the Minister of the Interior generally. The Yukon is the place to which the opposition baiters look exclusively for their material for fault-finding. There are a great many aliens and adventurers up there whose chief desire is to clean out the country, gather together as much of its wealth as possible and return with it to their homes. These people naturally claim that everything should be "wide open" in the Yukon. Such conditions are "good for business," especially their business, and they have joined with our good Tory friends in clamoring for the removal of all restrictions upon the freedom of citizens. In their estimation there is only one greater evil than the curtailment of individual "freedom." That is taxation in any form. This class has at all times been ready to co-operate with the Tories

for the purpose of turning the Liberals out. From the day of the appointment of William Ogilvie as administrator of the territory this clamor has been kept up. Yet when that appointment was made there were none louder in their praise of the man and in extolling his qualifications for the post than the Tory politicians and editors. Mr. Ogilvie was not a politician and it could not be claimed that the government was actuated by other motives than the welfare of the miners and traders of the new Eldorado in appointing him. It afterwards turned out, we believe, that Mr. Ogilvie was not possessed of all the qualifications necessary in one occupying such a responsible position. There were irregularities in the service which could not be condoned, the wrongdoers were punished and Mr. Ogilvie retired. He was succeeded by Mr. Ross, whose appointment has also been endorsed by politicians of all forms of belief and whose services have even been praised by Conservative members of the House during the present session. The Governor also possesses the confidence of all in his territory save a few irreconcilables, who, like our Tory friends, will never be pleased with any work which proceeds from Liberal hands. The concessions applied for by the Treadgold syndicate were unreasonable and were not granted. They were cancelled as soon as the government was apprised of their objectionable features. The aim of Mr. Sifton as Minister of the Interior is to secure the development of the country for the benefit of the people of the country. There is property up there, it seems, that can never be worked to advantage except under large concessions of some kind. So long as the rights of individuals are conserved there can be no valid objections to such grants. Franchises of very much the same character have been granted to companies in British Columbia and other mining countries. There was nothing political about the case as was properly laid before the Minister by Mr. Ross the concession was cancelled and a new one, in accordance with public opinion, granted. It is all nonsense to claim that the opposition had a hand in that "reform." The government made the change in accordance with the recommendations of its proper adviser. In all such matters it will be guided by his wise counsels. On his advice increased representation has been granted the residents in the Yukon Council and their right to representation in the Dominion Parliament will also be recognized. To prove how utterly irreconcilable the opposition is, how impossible it is to please it in any matter of policy or administration, it is only necessary to point out that it is complaining because these concessions and is growling because the control of the territory is said to be passing away from the Crown—because the inhabitants are gradually being given self-government. They know perfectly well that the return of a supporter of the government and Mr. Sifton from the territory will be a most conclusive vindication of policy of the government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and that the acts for which the Minister is really responsible in the more remote parts of the country can no more be successfully attacked than those in the territory with which we are more directly concerned.

ITS INSCRUTABLE WAYS.

The organ of the government finds the prospects of the Ollala Copper Mining & Smelting Company a thing of never-ending wonder and delight. All the attacks upon the ministers are met most convincingly by quotations from the most respectable document. Now how would it do to put that absurd prospectus aside altogether and compare the proposal received by the government from a legal firm of standing in Toronto—possibly of as high a standing as Greenshields & Greenshields of Montreal—for the construction of the Coast-Kootenay road with that of McLean Bros.? We invite the Colonist to do this, and at the same time to compare the standing of the favored charter-monsters with the legal firm aforesaid, who were prepared to take up the bonds of the company immediately a charter was granted and proceed with the work of construction.

FIFTY BURNED TO DEATH.

Cairo, Egypt, May 3.—Fifty persons have perished in a fire at Mit Gamar, a town on the Nile, the result of a gas explosion. The flames were started by the intensely hot weather prevailing. Thousands of native residents and two hundred stores were destroyed.

BABY CONSTIPATION.

Can Be Cured Without Resorting to Harsh Purgatives.

Constipation is a very common trouble among infants and small children—it is also one of the most distressing. The cause is some derangement of the digestive organs, and if not promptly treated is liable to lead to serious results. The little victim suffers from headache, fever, pain in the stomach and sometimes vomiting. While in this condition neither baby nor baby's mother can obtain restful sleep. If proper care is taken in feeding the child and Baby's Own Tablets are used, there will be no trouble found in curing and keeping baby free from this disorder. Mrs. T. Guymer, London, Ont., says: "My baby was great sufferer from constipation. She cried continually, and I was about worn out attending her. I tried several remedies, but none of them helped her till I procured some Baby's Own Tablets. These tablets worked wonders, and now she is in the best of health. I can now go about my work without being disturbed by my baby's crying. I consider Baby's Own Tablets a great medicine, and would advise mothers to keep them in the house for they will save baby from much suffering by curing and preventing the minor ailments common to infants and small children." Baby's Own Tablets are sold under an absolute guarantee, and contain no opiate or other harmful drug. They are easy to take, mild in action, promote healthy sleep and will be found a never-failing cure for constipation, baby indigestion, simple fever, diarrhoea, sour stomach, colic, etc. They allay the irritation accompanying the cutting of teeth, break up colds and prevent croup. Price 25 cents per box at all druggists or sent by mail, post paid, by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

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Much Time Consumed on Private Bills.—Workmen's Compensation Bill Stifled by Government.

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The labor member for Nanaimo, Mr. Hawthorthwaite, was compelled to see the consideration of his bill providing for compensation of disabled workmen postponed after the Premier's return, although he made a gallant fight for its consideration, and succeeded in thoroughly confirming the opinion that it be put through. Mr. Martin, he hoped, would not be a party to killing the measure. If he and his section opposed the bill he supposed it would be killed, but he wanted the responsibility for it to rest where it belonged.

Mr. McInnes—With yourself.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite added that the Premier's mention of the bill in the House would be a great help to it. He understood the modifications he had agreed to were satisfactory, and that opposition to the bill was at an end.

Mr. Martin said it lay with the House to decide what modifications should be introduced in the bill. It was not best to push bills through in that way.

Mr. McPhillips said the argument of Mr. Martin against crowding things through was a peculiar one in view of his determination to crowd the budget through. The bill was drafted on the English law, and not coming into effect for twelve months, he saw no objection to now committing it. The motion that the committee rise and report progress would certainly kill the bill.

Mr. McPhillips said the argument of Mr. Martin against crowding things through was a peculiar one in view of his determination to crowd the budget through. The bill was drafted on the English law, and not coming into effect for twelve months, he saw no objection to now committing it.

The Attorney-General said the motion of the Finance Minister that government business be given precedence was the usual one and not designed to kill any bill. He accused the opposition of trying to prolong the session.

Mr. Curtis regarded the motion as one designed to kill the bill. The government had a few days ago given notice of two sessions, and he was giving their bills priority of consideration twice a day. His own bill relating to trades unions was only now down for second reading after six weeks.

He also pointed out that even if the bill were completed in committee to-day Mr. Martin could introduce any amendments he proposed on report to which the bill would not be reached before next week. The speaker was extremely anxious to have the bill passed, and alluded to the case of McKelvie vs. the House, when, had this law been in force, the hardship on McKelvie would not be worked. He hoped the House would not accept the dictation of the senior member for Vancouver to throw the bill out, more especially as he had sought to thrust the budget and the Education Bill down the throats of the opposition. To all intents and purposes this would be a test vote of whether the House approved the principle of the bill or not.

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