# HON. P. J. VENIOT CONTRIBUTES TO THE DEBATE

But His Contribution is Mainly An Apology for the Heavy Expenses of His Department.

## REGARDING THE STUMPAGE MATTER

He Prefers to Let Things Remain as They Are, and Not Harass the Already Overburdened Lumbermen.

Fredericton, March 18.—In the Legislature, today, Hon. Mr. Veniot, on the order of the day being called, resumed the debate on the address. He said that when the House adjourned yesterday he was endeavoring to show that the hon. leader of the opposition was either misleading the country or dealing with matters concerning which he knew nothing. He (Veniot) had said that it was not the duty of the Legislature to fix the rate of stumpage, as that power had been taken away by acts passed, first in 1893 and again in 1913. Under that legislation the power was not vested in the Governor-in-Council. The hon. member claimed that the stumpage rate should be fixed at $7 per thousand. Two of his followers differed from him. The act passed in 1893 had been based on the report of a royal committee which had inquired into matters pertaining to the lumbering industry. A domain act was passed soon afterwards, its object being to bring about greater protection and development for the industry. That act was in force when hon. members opposite took office in 1908, and although they professed to be much interested in fostering the lumber industry, they made no attempt to carry out the public domain act until 1913, when they renewed the timber leases. The act of 1913 incorporated the provisions of the public domain act, and the Government undertook to classify the Crown Lands. Nothing was said in the act concerning the imposition of a flat rate of stumpage. It left the matter entirely in the hands of the Governor-in-Council. The hon. leader of the opposition was now going opposite the principle adopted by his party in 1913. The act empowered the Governor-in-Council to fix rate at various times. The hon. member might contend that his amendment only called for an expression of opinion, but that was not the case. The amendment really attempts to fix a policy for the Government. The hon. member in his amendment expresses regret that the Speech from the Throne said nothing about fixing a rate of stumpage. His hon. friends opposite were in power eight years, and he would like them to show wherein they had ever touched upon the stumpage question in the Speech from the Throne.

### Public Works Expenditures.

The hon. leader of the opposition had stated that the Hon. Premier was trying to throw the blame for the large expenditure in the Public Works Department on the shoulders of the Minister of Public Works. He wished to deny that statement, and would say that he took the whole responsibility for spending the money in the interests of the people. His hon. friends had excused their over-expenditure in 1912 by saying that the people had demanded the money and it was expended for their benefit. If that reason held good in 1912 it was good at the present time. As head of the department he had devoted almost his whole time to travelling about the Province, and enquiring into the needs of the people. When he had satisfied himself that an expenditure was needed in the public interests he had consulted his colleagues, who had agreed with him that the work should go on even though there would be a deficit. The hon. leader for the opposition had complained of money voted for permanent roads being spent in the construction of ordinary roads. Did the hon. member forget that during the last year of the old regime the then Minister of Public Works expended $178,000 on ordinary roads within a few months? The money had been spent in the fall of the year, and when spring came there was nothing to show for it. This money was spent on capital account and was bonded by the old Government before going out of office. Now when hon. members opposite discovered where a few dollars expended on ordinary roads are charged to permanent work they hold up their hands in holy horror. When the old Government and its friends played with the finances of the Provinces they did not expect to be defeated. When the House dissolved in 1917 so sure were they of being returned that they passed an Order-in-Council fixing the date of the session for March 15th. After the defeat at the polls they clung to office for weeks and sent emissaries about the Province trying to persuade members-elect to join hands with them. They charged that the present Government cannot deal with the Crown Lands because the big lumbermen have them by the throat. He would like to know where his hon. friends were in 1917. Did not they approach certain big lumbermen and promise that in the event of their supporting the party that the stumpage rate would be fixed for a period of twenty years. He was in a position to prove that they approached certain lumbermen on the eve of election with a promise that the rate would be fixed at $1.50 in return for support. These were the gentlemen who are today displaying such a keen interest in the public welfare. The promise made to the lumbermen in 1917 would not have been made had not the party who made it been certain that he had the Government behind him.

### Pity the Small Operator.

He could repeat what he had already said that a fixed rate of $7 would cripple what was the most important industry in the Province. Why did not hon. members opposite stop to consider the effect such a rate would have on the small operator, when it would virtualy drive him out of the business. The hon. member must know that on Crown Lands the logs cut are limited to a certain size. In the case of granted lands it was different. His hon. friend from Carleton might retort that the New Brunswick Railway Company also regulated the size of the logs. That might be true, but on New Brunswick Railway lands the small operator could get along by cutting pulpwood in addition to his logs. On the Crown Lands he would be in a different position and a flat rate of stumpage such as proposed would drive him to the wall. The large operator might bear up under it, but the small one would be driven out of business, and a monopoly created in New Brunswick's most important industry. His hon. friends opposite might appreciate that, because when in power they always catered to the monopolists.

The hon. member for Albert, in referring to the stumpage question, had told of losing money on one operation because of the stumpage rate. He (Veniot) had before him a statement of a large lumbering concern showing its operations from year to year. In 1917 their stumpage cost them $6.17, and in 1918 it cost them $5.34. The difference was due to a smaller expenditure by $3,000 on fire protection in the latter year. He would say that it was not fair to make comparison of operations in the northern and southern parts of the Province.

Mr. Smith (Carleton): I would like to know how many square miles that concern holds under lease and how many they operate?"

Hon. Mr. Veniot said that he did not carry all the information around with him, but would say roughly that the concern held about 430 square miles and manufactured 20,000,000 feet during the year. Operations were more costly in the northern part of the province than in the southerly portion, and he had been informed that in Queen's and Sunbury they were carried on under quite as expensive conditions as prevailed on the north shore. Hon. members opposite when in power, had made no serious attempt to classify the Crown lands of the province. There was really nothing done until the present minister took charge of the department. The old government, instead of carrying out the provisions of the public Domain Act, undertook to classify the lands by Order-in-Council. They sat in council and fixed a rate per mile which rangeil from $1.00 to $40.00. They had done that notwithstanding the fact that apart from the then premier, not one of them had ever cut a log in his life. How they attempted to create the impression that the present Government did not have the interest of the Crown lands at heart because they refused to impose a stumpage rate of $7. per thousand. The hon. leader of the Opposition was rather late in his efforts to conserve the Crown lands. He should have stood up, not when the lumbermen took the Government by the throat, but when the Government took the lumbermen by the throat and bled them white. That was the time when he might have made his influence felt. The whole story of that transaction had been disclosed by sworn evidence taken before a Royal Commission, and after the report had been made public the hon. leader of the Opposition was one of those who supported a motion to whitewash his leader. And he might add, he was not the only hon. member on that side of the House who had voted to apply the whitewash brush.

The hon. leader of the Opposition in his address had made an error in one particular, possibly he had been misreported. He had been quoted as saying that a bond issue of $500,000 had been increased by $700,000 in 1918.

Mr. Murray (King's): What I said was that it had been increased $700,000."

Hon. Mr. Veniot said the hon. leader of the Opposition also had made a statement to the effect that there was the most rampant extravagance in every deparment of the Government, and that the Minister of Public Works spent freely and without any good being returned whatever on the roads of the province. If such a condition existed the hon. member was recreant to his duty in not searching and finding. If such a condition existed there must be graft and boodle. He (Veniot) did not wish to boast of his honesty. The people could judge. But if the hon. leader of the Opposition had any charges to make, let him make them before the House. Let him abandon innuendo. As an honorable member from St. John city was reported to have said there were things which should be said out in public and not whispered around lodge rooms. Such conduct was in marked contrast with that of the preceding Opposition, one member of which, the hon. minister from Madawaska, had made charges and proved them to the hilt. He (Veniot) challenged investigation of any alleged wrongdoing in the Department of Public Works during the past three years. He hoped the Opposition would not be like one hon. member who had refused to divulge the name of an informant and who made, for political purposes, statements behind the door of committee room which he would not make on the floors of the House.

His hon. friend from Albert had said that farmers soon would be occupying seats in the House in greater numbers. The hon. member should be consistent and should co-operate with the farmers. Rumor had it that he had become a member of United Farmers. He had a perfect right to do so, as all farmers had a right to organize, but he should take a step further nd break away from the party with which he was connected, and to call down the Conservative press for its attempts to belittle the United Farmers' Movement. The hon. member was allied with men who said the United Farmers were neither honest nor sincere, whose press berated them. If that was the type of man the United Farmers were to have to lead them, God help the United Farmers. On the Government side of the House there was no opposition to the farmers movement.

Mr. Smith (Carleton): "Of course not."

Hon. Mr. Veniot asked where was the hon. ex-minister of Public Works when a United Farmer candidate ran for Ottawa in his own county? Where was he on nomination day? The farmers knew the hon. member well, and knew what were his political aspirations. While on the subject of the Federal by-election in Carleton-Victoria he would refer to another matter. Not only did the hon. ex-minister and his friend refuse support to Mr. Caldwell, but they had gone out of their way and imported from the province of Quebec the notorious Blondin, who had attempted to turn the French people of that province against the British flag, and who had told them that they would have to shoot holes through the Union Jack to breathe the air of liberty in Canada.

Mr. Smith (Carleton): I wish to say that I had nothing to do with the bringing of the hon. Mr. Blondin into the constituency. I did not even know that he was coming until I was informed that he had arrived.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said he would accept the statement. The hon. ex-minister always was ready to get out of a hole. However, he had not protested against the presence of Blondin in the constituency, nor had he raised his voice against him. He (Veniot) as a Frenchman was proud that Blondin could not influence the hardheaded and hard-working French farmers of Victoria county. If rumor was correct the United Farmers would not long have to fear the activities of the hon ex-minister. It was reported that he was about to transfer his activities to another country. It was to be hoped that he had not become so disgusted with conditions, political and otherwise, in New Brunswick, that he was to leave.

# "THE SQUEALING OF THE STUCK PIG"

The Winnipeg Telegram Addresses a Few Apposite Remarks to the Toronto Globe

(Continued from Page One.)

thing. It has been losing quite enough already. Not merely in money. It is the discard of every political element and invariably threw down its friends when most they needed it. These have been lean years for it. It cannot afford to lose a cent, or rather does not like to lose one. It dwells in dreams of the good old days when there was plenty of corn in the Liberal Egypt. Buttressed by senators, fattened in the lap of eastern trust the Globe was able to preach sententiously. It seems to fare badly on a slim diet. Advertisers have been "getting wise" to it. Manufacturers are "getting wise" to it and its class. They know now that when the Globe was making most noise it generally was preaching from a text that had no direct bearing upon the malefactions of its wealthy sinners. It told the people it forswears protection, but applauds the party it helped into power when it raised the tariff and protected the plutocrats who helped so much to enrich the Globe. It is a firm believer that if time heals all sores it also makes people forget. Five years between each election always has given the Globe its chance to get up a new line of editorials, and let the people forget its last.

Times change. Advertisers, any more than the people, cannot be fooled all the time. They are asking themselves why should they build up in the Globe a machine which is now doing its utmost to destroy the industries of Canada. That is what the Globe is doing with deliberate intent. It cares only for power. All its soul aspires for is to tag-along with a party which reigns at Ottawa. When it preaches the destruction of the tariff it jeopardises the very existence of Canadian industrialism. The Winnipeg Telegram has never been afraid to, nor failed to state that it believes that the future prosperity of Canada, and of every class within it, depends upon stabilized industry, upon a fair and moderate tariff, regularly regulated. It, too, if it had the chance, would flay alive the plutocrats from off whose golden skirts the Globe has not unwilling to cut metaphorical patches with which to bedizzen its Joseph's coat. The Globe explodes in a column of editorial. Its wrath is wonderful to read. Its squeals are snorts. Evidently the thought of losing money hurts it more than having the ring in its nose twisted. Nothing else could make it so embittered. Nothing, unless it should find it had given a quarter in mistake for a dime to the church collection. Then it could ask for the change after the service was over. The Globe could do that. It dares to question the conduct of the Toronto advertising agent of this paper for having the sagacity to explain to individual manufacturers what is, and what always has been, the policy of The Telegram. Everyone in Manitoba knows it. The Globe knows it. Yet it makes veiled allusions to a "reptile press." Every vile creeping thing under the sun crawls on the globe. Why shouldn't the agent of this paper explain its policy to those unacquainted with it? Isn't that what he is paid for? Isn't it his duty to do so? Doesn't every agency wishing to sell its wares display every good point they possess? Wouldn't the Globe, if it had any? Can it display its policy? What is it, anyhow? It shouts with the Farmers but wants to feed with their pigs.

The Telegram is not afraid to say what it believes, and believes what it writes. It accepts no catechism with "mental reservations." Its readers know for what it stands. It is willing that the great body of intelligent advertisers should know what it has been trying to do to promote industry, develop concord, and bring general prosperity to every class in Canada. The Telegram has no use for east against west, or west against east. It stands for Canada. The reverend Globe should have thought a little longer before it dipped into its ink slough after being disturbed in its snoring slumbers. But people will take pity on its squeals. They should. Certainly, as is admitted, it has been a well-fed pig, and at any fall fair would have had a yellow ribbon gracefully slung around its fat neck. And naturally perhaps, now that its time has come, it doesn't like being "stuck." It is hard. But man seems to have decreed that that shall be the mortal end of all pigs. The Globe cannot be exempted. Especially not now, when production in pork is such a patriotic duty laid on all good citizens. If only it will work into good edible bacon its squeals may be forgiven

# B. FRANK SMITH WINDS UP THE DISCUSSION

And Wants to Know Why the Vacancy in Carleton County Canont be Filled at Once.

## REFERS TO THE FARMERS' MOVEMENT

And Feels That the Additional Stumpage That the Amendment Calls for Could Very Easily be Paid by Operators

Fredericton, March 18.—In the Legislature this afternoon, Mr. B. F. Smith (Carleton) closed the debate on the Address speaking in part, as follows:

Mr. Smith said he wished to extend felicitations to the mover and seconder of the Address for their eloquent speeches. He had been impressed by the remarks of th hon. member for Westmorland, although he had confined himself pretty well to his own constituency referring to the gravel pits, the rise and fall of tide, and his own pet scheme of maritime union. The seconder also deserved congratulations for the manner in which he had dealt with the subject. The hon. premier had not been so fortunate, which was regrettable as it always was desired to keep the debate at a high level. He noticed his hon. friend was not in his seat. In fact it was noticeable that he had great facility in side-stepping. The hon. premier had made reference to the Standard, claiming that it had blackened his character, but the extracts quoted from the Standard had not been so bad. Could the premier protest in that manner and yet sit quietly and let the Telegraph blacken the character of others. As a citizen of the province he did not approve of many articles appearing in the press and had had occasion to write newspapers asking for moderation along certain lines. In general he believed the press kept within bounds, although in moments of heat articles might be produced which would sting and hurt those against whom they were directed.

### Carleton Vacancy.

The reference made to the vacancy in the Dominion cabinet by the premier he considered unfortunate, for it was not within the power of the hon. premier to criticise, when in four years he had not had the courage to fill the vacancy in provincial representation in the County of Carleton. There was no precedent for this in New Brunswick or in all Canada. He had been amused to read in the press of dickering between members of the Government and certain people in Carleton County for a possible candidate, not a farmer candidate for he already was in the field.

He considered that the Government had set a most dangerous precedent in the matter of the Carleton vacancy. If his friends opposite were sincere in speaking of agricultural progress, let them open the constituency of Carleton. They would soon know whether or not that county was in agreement with the policy of the Agricultural Department. The hon. Minster of Public Works, referring to the Federal by-election in Carleton-Victoria had said the Conservative papers had decided the United Farmers' candidate. He challenged him for a statement from any Conservative paper.

Hon. Mr. Veniot "The St. John Standard of Monday last."

Mr. Smith said that was not an answer. Let the hon. minister read the article. The time had come when neither the House nor the people of the province took the word of the hon. minister very seriously. During the by-election he had not set foot upon a platform except on nomination day when he was invited by both parties. On election day he never had left his office, to solicit a vote.

Mr. Veniot: "Why did not the hon. member go out on the hustings and help the United Farmers?"

Mr. Smith said he was custodian of his own actions. On two occasions the hon. Minister of Public Works had attempted to tamper with the farmers of Carleton, and had got his answer. When he (Smith) ran a by-election as Minister of Public Works, the present minister, with his colleague, Mr. Carter, was very active. Yet it was the only occasion on which he ever had emerged with a majority at every poll. What had the hon. Minister of Agriculture done for the farmers. When the call to arms had come from across the seas he put his farm in his son's name to prevent him from serving at the front.

Hon. Mr. Tweedale: "I want to make an absolute denial. That farm has been in my name ever since I owned it and is now."

### Mr. Tweedale's Farm.

Mr. Smith said that he had seen correspondence with the St. John office in which the hon. minister begged that his son be left to work the farm. The farm may not have been in the son's name, but was used to keep him from going on service. The hon. premier had referred to the Opposition convention in St. John evidently with an idea that trouble had occurred there. He could say that a more representative convention never had been held in the province. Because delegates in attendance had expressed their opinions freely, it could not be said that the convention had failed. He could remind the premier that another convention had been held in St. John. The premier had attended and after staying as long as he could had had to go out.

Hon. Mr. Foster: "That is wrong."

Mr. Smith: "Well he was asked to get out."

Hon. Mr. Foster: He was not."

Mr. Smith said they had had a very good convention, and had come out with a better understanding. It was true that the present leader of the Opposition was not selected unanimously, but he was chosen by a majority of those present. His friends opposite could hardly say that the great Liberal convention was not closely divided. In fact the present Liberal leader in Federal politics scarcely was chosen. Compared with him, the leader of the Opposition had a large majority in convention. Reference had been made to Mr. F. B. Carvell, who had retired from politics to take an important position. Every one knew of the political warfare between Carvell and himself (Smith). Mr. Carvell was where he was without (his (Smith's) support, and he believed he could say that he was there without the support of the hon. premier. While the latter had chosen to laud Mr. Carvell, it was not clear what great services he had rendered to the province. It was more probable that praise was bestowed upon Mr. Carvell for his assistance to the hon. premier in getting $55,000 for an old rattle-trap railway in St. John county, which was worthless and worn out.

The question of stumpage was the most important confronting the Province of New Brunswick. He believed all who had spoken concerning it had approached the matter in the wrong spirit. The situation in the Province was serious, and the people were face to face with direct taxation. The efforts of the Leader of the Opposition to obtain an expression of opinion on a $7 rate of stumpage deserved praise. The amendment to the address had been intended, not to embarrass the government, but as a matter of duty. The hon. Leader of the Opposition had been criticized for not bringing this matter up in caucus. As a matter of fact, members were so late in arriving that there was not an opportunity to hold a caucus. They were approached individually on the subject, however. He could say that the hon. leader of the Opposition did not tie his followers hand and foot in any public matter, but gave them the right to use their own judgment. He had moved the amendment, although he knew some of his followers were not in accord with him, and in so doing he had displayed courage. From information received from competent persons he (Smith) believed that the extent of standing timber in New Brunswick was exaggerated and that a sort of wood famine was closer than was thought. In 1908 there had been a cut of 452,000,000 feet in 1919 the cut was 330,000,000. Scalers said that in 1908, 17 logs made a thousand, while in the last year it took 32 logs to make a thousand. The figures told their own story. The size of the logs was decreasing. I naddition to the heavy cutting there were losses by fire, insect pests and blights. It would be better to cut 100,000,000 feet the next year than 330,000,000. Conservation of natural resources was more necessary than a large revenue of a low rate of stumpage. He doubted if some of his hon. friends opposite would take the attitude they did if it were not a matter of convenience to themselves. They referred repeatedly to 1912. Conditions had changed entirely since that time.

### Northumberland Deal

He was not there to defend what the old government did in connection with timber lands. If his hon. friends opposite wished to go back farther, they could recollect the Northumberland deal, under which licenses were granted for twenty years for one dollar. When hon members had risen on either side of the House and tried to argue that the lumbering business would not bear a stumpage rate of $7 they were not putting the matter in a proper light. As a matter of fact $7 was not suggested as a flat rate, but rather as a base rate, and would not be applied to all parts of the province. The decrease in the size of logs was the strongest evidence that forest growth was not keeping up. Cruisers had informed him that large lumber in New Brunswick had been well cut. Personally he had an acquaintance with the lumbering business. He felt safe in saying that the lumbermen were making an average profit of $10 per thousand. Instances could be brought to show losses on minor operations, but the average would hold good. One operator had asked him to estimate the profit on an operation of 7,000,000 feet. His estimate was $140,000. The operator replied that he would make that and $10,000 more. It was time to stop and take stock. This should not be a party question but one of conservation. We knew there was a rule of the House which might prevent certain members from voting on the amendment, personally he would leave the decision to themselves.

### Stumpage

It would be remembered that two years before the government had advanced the rate of stumpage and had been compelled to recede from the position it had first taken. A speech delivered by the hon. member from Moncton City prior to the last general election had contained a statement that $5 should be the rate of stumpage. If he could claim that then what should the rate be now. Reference to orders-in-council passed previously would not solve the present situation, for conditions had changed radically. The public services were starved for lack of money and the people knew it. He would not be afraid to appeal to the people on the principle of the stumpage rate of $7. Much had been said about classification of Crown Lands, and large expenditures had been made upon it. Of what value was a classification made several years ago, and of what value was a classification in which only four acres were taken in every hundred.

Hon. Mr. Smith—"That is the percentage which is taken in forest classification surveys all over the United States and Canada.

Mr. Smith said he believed that was right, but wondered why so low a percentage was taken. Did the minister believe that proper information could be obtained in that manner.

Hon. M. Smith said he believed sufficient information could be obtained, as not only were four acres taken in every hundred, for classification, but lines were run through the whole block and other information secured.

Mr. Smith, continuing, said the time had come when the heavy cut must be stopped. The hon. minister of Public Works had tried to bolster up the case of the lumbermen by referring to heavy cost of portaging supplies in the county of Gloucester. He believed that that was on an operation of the Bathurst Lumber Company, and had been informed that that company moved most of its supplies up the Nepisiquit river in the summer time. It must be remembered that one of the changed conditions in lumbering in the province was the construction of railways across many lands which formerly could be reached only by portaging. He would not care what became of the amendment if the government would promise that by August 1st, 1920, it would adopt $7 as a base rate for stumpage and stop indiscriminate cutting.

# ADMIRAL SIMS CONTINUES STORY

The Burden of Which is That All His Recommendations Were Disregarded by Navy Department.

Washington, March 17.—Unity of command of the Allied and American naval forces overseas similar to that which afterwards obtained on the Western front, was recommended by him to the Navy Department as early as July, 1917, but was not taken up, Rear Admiral Sims today told the Senate committee investigating the Navy's conduct of the war.

The amendment he said effects to direct a large force of American ships and men by cable and a war from a point three thousand miles away gave too many opportunities for misunderstandings of messages and for their interception by the enemy.

"The enemy secret service proved itself to be extraordinarily efficient, he said. In his letter recommending that naval authority be concentrated at London, Admiral Sims, said it was unquestionable that efficiency would be greatly improved if any one of the Allies were selected to direct all operations, the others merely keeping the one selected fully informed of their resources available."

"I realize my position in London renders me open to suspicion that I may be unduly influenced by the British viewpoint of the war," the Admiral's letter stated. "It should not be necessary to state, however, that I have done everything within my ability to maintain a broad viewpoint."

Rear Admiral Sims said that his urgent appeals for an adequate staff in London were ignored until November, 1917.

Admiral Benson, Chief of Operations, reached London during that month Admiral Sims said and "convinced himself of the necessity for establishing a real advanced base headquarters of the Navy Department abroad with an adequate staff to make possible full co-operation with the Admiralty and co-ordinating all activities with the Allies.

"I had been recommending such action for five months and specifically in my letters of May 16, July 16, and October 23, 1917, had pointed the necessity for the establishment for such an advance base headquarters abroad, said Admiral Sims.

After Admiral Benson had reported the department changed its attitude and a cable to Benson on November 11, said a decision had been reached that it would be advantageous to have a permanent war staff to work with the plans department of the British Admiralty.

"If this meets your approval additional officers will be sent to augment those already in England who are fitted for this work," it said.

Admiral Benson, then asked that Captain F. F. Schofield, and Commander Knox be ordered to report to Admiral Sims and Admiral Jellicoe for such duty and this was done at once, Admiral Sims testified, while his own references for nearly six months for the same action had been disregarded.

"It is hardly necessary to state that this is merely another instance of the attitude of the department during all those first critical months of the war," said Admiral Sims. "A recommendation I had been making for months was carried into effect until admiral Benson, during his short stay in London convinced himself that it was justified.

"The soundness of the policy was again demonstrated by the fact that the department adopted it and throughout the remainder of the war continued to recognize, though some times grudgingly, the necessity for what had been continually recommended and which should have been obvious from the very first."

Admiral Sims was expected to conclude tomorrow his long statement begun more than a week ago. He has not been interrupted by committee members during its presentation and if his statement is concluded tomorrow, examination probably will not be taken before Saturday or possibly next week.

# WOMEN IN POLITICS

To Hold Office Women Should Have Special Fitness.

"To send women to conventions simply because they are women is to make sex and a war of sexes the basis of feminine political effort, says the New York Times. Time and time again there have been attempts to organize women or a certain number of women into women's parties, leagues, political associations and what-not. The attempts have usually been frowned on by judicious women suffrage leaders. No woman, in the present stage of the game, or in any stage of it, should seek or be named to any office or political function save for her proved fitness. That is, she should be superior to or at least equal with men candidates, and her fitness should be a special political fitness. That she is distinguished in some other way does not necessarily prove that political fitness. Neither Republicans nor Democrats would elect a man a delegate at large because he was an eminent pianist or the greatest living authority on edible mushrooms, an illustrious golf player or the best dancer in his state. It is for the best interests of the state and the nation that women should never be preferred to men in politics merely because they are women. They should deserve the preference on intellectual or other valid grounds."

# THE SENATE AND THE PEACE TREATY

Attempts to Bring in the Irish Question Were Choked Off and Attempt Made to "Clean Up."

Washington, March 17.—Hastening to clear the way for final action on the peace treaty, the Senate today choked off a St. Patrick's day debate on the Irish question by tabling 54 to 21, a proposal to declare by reservation that Great Britain should proclaim Ireland free.

The motion tabled was made by Senator Kellogg, Republican, Minnesota, who denounced the proposal as "politics."

The Irish declaration proposed by Senator Shields, Democrat, Tennessee, as an amendment to Senator Owen's reservation declaring that the British protectorate over Egypt was to be considered a war measure only. The vote tabled carried down the reservation itself and all proposed amendments including that by Senator Thomas, Democrat, Colorado, for Korean independence and another by Senator King, Democrat, Utah, providing for freedom for the Porto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Hawaii.

Senator King said he offered his amendment merely to show how ridiculous the senate was making itself.

Attempts to revive the Irish issue failed, the Senate voting 46 to 21 to table a reservation proposed by Senator Reed. Under this reservation the league council might recommend by a three fourths vote the release of any country held "by the power of another nation."

Thirty Republicans joined and sixteen Democrats in voting tabled the Reed reservation while six Republicans and fifteen Democrats voted against tabling.

The Senate next rejected 51 to 15 a reservation introduced by Senator Norris, Republican of Nebraska, similar to the Owen reservation relating to Egypt.

The Republican irreconcilables, combining with the Democrats, overturned today the plan of Republican leaders to attach to the peace treaty a general declaration of American policy toward future European wars.

The declaratory reservation, which would pledge the United States to regard with "grave concern" any threat to Europe's peace or freedom, was voted down 25 to 39 after the irreconcilables had tried in vain to amend it.

Intended as an offset to the reservation denying the obligations of article ten, the proposal had been expected by the Republican leaders to attract many Democratic votes, but on the roll-call only two Senators on the Democratic side supported it.

Disposition of the reservation was regarded as clearing up the last doubtful issue of the treaty fight and the leaders immediately made plans to bring a vote on ratification by Friday. By unanimous consent it was agreed to limit speeches on all other pending reservations to fifteen minutes and to run tomorrow's session into the evening if necessary to put the ratification resolution into final form. About a dozen reservations remain to be voted on, but it is generally conceded that none of them will be adopted.

# EXTRAORDINARY DEMONSTRATION AS PRINCE LEFT

Great Cheering Mob Hurled Police Aside to Bid Edward Farewell.

London, March 17.—An extraordinary scene of enthusiasm marked the departure this afternoon of the Prince of Wales on his Australian tour. It was intended to be semi-private, and the public was kept off the platform at the Victoria Station 250 yards from the Royal train.

There the King, the Queen Alexandra and a few notabilities gathered in a litle knot to bid the Prince farewell. "But," says the Evening Standard correspondent, "what did we see right away? At the far end of the platform came a great multitude, cheering, waving arms, bearing away feeble human impediment like straws. The King stopped shaking hands, the Queen tiptoed to get a glimpe of the sight, the Prince wondered.

"On came the crowd. At point after point an effort was made to stop it but it was like stemming a mill-dam burst with strands of cotton. Thousands of men, women and children had broken through and, officialdom or no officialdom, meant to say good-bye to the Prince. Then from the King's circle dashed generals, naval officers and gentlemen in waiting half wondering what it all meant They got into some sort of position just as the leaders of the crush were needing their second wind.

"There was a great straining and pushing. Then some Australian soldiers joined barrier and top hats, bowlers and the red bands of the singaree wale-awakes al. formed across the road. The stampede, with many a bulge, at length came to a halt thirty yards from the royal party. Everybody wanted to see what would happen next. Out through the circle pushed a slight boyish figure in blue, his gilt handled sword dangling at his side, his naval hat tilted jaumtily on one side. Out from the pavement, out, in the middle of the sanded road, he stood alone, facing the surging crowd. Up went his hand to salute.

"You should have heard the cheer that went up It shook the glass roof, it rattled, it thrilled.

"Don't they love him," murmured a woman next to me her eyes dimmed with the emotion of the incident. The Prince travels far but wherever he goes there will go with him the echo of that unrehearsed outburst of patriotism and affection with which London sent him off this afternoon."