

### NAVAL DEFENCE NO POLITICAL ISSUE

#### Politicians Can't Build or Run a Navy, Says Sir-Richard McBride.

Montreal, Aug. 19.—The question of finding some immediate solution for the problem of coast defence is still a serious one in the opinion of Sir Richard McBride, who arrived in the city last evening on the way to England.

"Every little republic in South America with a coast line to guard has at least a patrol boat here," he said. "The whole coast line of British Columbia without a ship to guard it. It is difficult for people living in land in Canada to appreciate as we do who live on the coast how serious this really is. And while we are waiting for protection and are in a position to see better every day the need of protection, the whole matter is being held up by being made a political issue."

"Naval defence should not be a political issue. Politicians can't build a navy, and politicians can't run one. What do you suppose they have an Admiralty for in Britain if the navy could be looked after from the House of Commons?"

It is a business matter and should be looked at from a business standpoint, not from a political one. Business men in any line of enterprise get the best expert advice they can and engage experts to handle the executive end of their business. Is it reasonable to leave this matter to politicians when Canada can have it undertaken by the experts who have obtained their experience in and are now conducting the affairs of the greatest navy in the world? It is too serious a matter to British Columbia, and it is too important to get us getting impatient when what we see as an immediate need is delayed by being made a political question.

#### Men Won't Go to Sea.

"But the matter of expert advice and expert direction is not the only economic reason why the British Admiralty should undertake the defence of Canada, as well as of the rest of the Empire. We want men in Canada to go to the land—men to produce things, to turn the latent wealth of the country into money so that we may be able to afford to have our coasts properly defended. We advertise for these men, and they are coming; and can we expect, or should we desire them, when they have come, to leave the land and enter the navy? They wouldn't do it. Just as long as there is a land to settle there'll never be men to go to sea."

Along the line of defence, Sir Richard saw as great need for inland protection in British Columbia as along the coast—not in a military sense—rather legislation.

#### The Yellow and White.

"The yellow races can never intermingle with the white," he stated. "They can never be assimilated in this country. They are different from us in every way, and no amount of legislation will make them the same as the white races. The Privy Council has recognized this fact so far as to uphold us in disallowing the franchise, but we are not allowed to go further. I have legislated against them, and my legislation has been declared unconstitutional. But I will go as far as I can, until the real seriousness of our problem becomes recognized as we recognize it."

"British Columbia is in entire sympathy with California. They have the same problem as we have, and we are able to understand one another's sentiments. The southern state would have the backing of every white man in British Columbia, I am sure, in their fight to hold their country for themselves against the encroaching yellow races."

The labor question of the province beyond the mountains Sir Richard saw brightening somewhat. He was said kept in close touch with conditions at Nanaimo, and the last word he had received was to the effect that there was now hope for settlement between the men and the mine owners within a few days. Order had been restored, and there was no further disorder anticipated.

As to the overflow of labor in Vancouver, he thought this was largely due to the unemployment themselves. He had been informed that just a few days past, one railroad had sent to Vancouver for fifteen hundred men to work on construction. Only thirty had been forthcoming. Civic work had eased up, and would not be pushed forward to any great extent until the money market became more accessible. The country was rich in natural resources, and was content to wait. It had no idea of paying fabulous rates of interest at the present time when in the natural sequence of things, the law of supply and demand would eventually bring conditions back to normal once more.

#### Plenty of Work in B. C.

There was plenty of work to be had in British Columbia. The railway development alone was greater than in any other part of America at the present time, and by the end of next year Vancouver would be served by two more transcontinental lines. These and the Panama Canal would, he felt confident, ultimately make Vancouver the greatest city in Canada.

Mr. McBride's visit to England is connected with provincial matters of a purely local nature, and his return will be within a month, as present conditions at the coast necessitate his almost constant presence in British Columbia.

Soulful Bore—"Ah, that I could be transformed by some kind fate into some article you wear, so as to be always near you!" The Bored One (absently)—"My muff, for instance."

A school site election in Lodi, N. Y., was postponed two weeks because the hall had been hired for a clam bake.

Theoretically, girls do not believe in flirting.

### SAY INWOOD VICTIM IS FARMER'S BRIDE

#### Mrs. Joseph Wells, of Centre Moriches, L. I., Missing Since August 4.

New York, Aug. 19.—The police are confident that Joseph Wells, a prosperous farmer of Centre Moriches, L. I., will be able this morning to identify as that of his bride the body of the young woman who was found Sunday night on Inwood hill with the skull fractured and twenty-five knife wounds in her neck. John A. Herby, captain of the detectives of the St. Nicholas avenue station, received yesterday from E. R. Pearce, real estate dealer of Centre Moriches, a description of Mrs. Wells, which tallies with that of the woman whose body is in Bellevue Morgue.

Mr. Pearce said Mrs. Wells disappeared mysteriously from her home on the morning of August 4. At the request of her husband and father, Jim Mickner, he has conducted a quiet search for the woman, who is seven years old. He told a reporter for the press that she had disappeared from some island year, when she went to Coney Island in the hope of becoming a moving picture actress. Members of her family think the same desire impelled her to disappear a week ago last Monday.

Mrs. Wells, a Polish girl, was five feet three inches in height and of medium weight. She had light brown hair. A birthmark was noticeable over her right eye. When last seen she was wearing a white shirt waist, blue skirt and tan shoes and stockings. That is the description of the dead woman and the clothing she wore. Inasmuch as she received a blow over the right temple the birthmark, if any was there, cannot be discerned.

"Mrs. Wells' maiden name was Mary Mickner," Mr. Pearce said. "Her father is a prosperous farmer and was able to give her a fairly good education. About a year ago she left home to become an actress for a moving picture concern."

"After leaving school this year she was married to Mr. Wells and they settled down on her father's farm."

Mr. Wells and the girl's father were unable to come to New York city yesterday, information concerning the young girl's fate having arrived too late. They will arrive here this morning at ten o'clock.

#### CURIOUS EPISODE OF WAR

Athens, Aug. 19.—A story, not altogether devoid of humor, has reached here from the Greek headquarters, which are stationed at a village near Djumaya. It appears that the village was originally Turkish, but when the Bulgarians arrived there last October they determined to Christianize it at once.

They demolished the minaret on the mosque and turned the mosque itself into a church with a huge timber cross in place of the minaret. They then proceeded to forcibly baptize the inhabitants, men, women and children.

A pile of gaudy baptismal certificates were procured from a local printer and placed at the door of the church every day. A candidate was forced to take a certificate and pushed with it to the font, where a priest and clerk stood ready respectively to baptize and to register the baptism.

When the Greeks arrived last month they were in a quandry. They did not like to tear down the cross. Neither did they like to baptize the Turks made Christians by force. The baptisms were, however, declared to be void, and the Turkish priests were allowed to rebaptize their flocks with Turkish names. One of these priests or hodja added a touch of humor to the situation by saying that after all he was not certain whether his name was Ali Hassan or George Ferdinand.

#### PLAYMATES MOURN FOR SLAIN GIRL

Body of Bertha George, Victim of Attack, Reaches Home in Jersey City.

New York, Aug. 19.—The body of Bertha A. George, thirteen years old, who was the victim of an atrocious attack by a man on August 8, was sent to the home of her father, William George, No. 44½ Cottage street, Jersey City, yesterday, from the hospital in Newburg, N. Y., where she died Saturday. Not until Thursday did her parents know of the attack or her condition, her aunt and uncle, with whom she had been stopping at Buraside, near Maybrook, Orange County, believing her condition to be not serious. Her assailant has not been captured.

The girl did not tell her aunt of

#### PLAYMATES MOURN FOR SLAIN GIRL

the attack until the day following, when she became ill. Later she was sent to the hospital in Newburg and there the efforts of physicians to save her failed. When her father, a conductor for the Pennsylvania Railroad, learned of the matter, he hurried to Newburg with his own physician, but they could do nothing.

Playmates of Bertha, including the pupils in the Simpson Methodist Episcopal Church, crowded about the house yesterday sharing the grief of the family. Many children will attend the funeral this afternoon.

### HOW LAURIER WENT DOWN TO DEFEAT

#### Borden's Majority in 1911 was 47,000 Over Straight Liberals.

Ottawa, Aug. 19.—The Clerk of the Crown in Chancery is preparing a series of resumes of the Federal general elections since 1896. The figures show a steady increase in the vote polled, and an increase in the proportion of the electors going to the polls.

In 1896 the total vote was 1,014,000, of which the Conservatives polled 416,000, while the Liberals obtained only 297,700. Thus the straight Liberal vote was some 16,000 smaller than the straight Conservative vote. The independent vote, however, was abnormally heavy, 224,000. In 1900 the total vote had risen to 1,500,000, of which the Liberals obtained 490,000, and the Conservatives 450,000, the independent vote being only 5,000; the Liberals thus had a majority of nearly 44,000.

In 1904 the total vote was 1,914,000. Of this the Liberals obtained 528,000, and the Conservatives 475,000. In the election, which was the high-water mark of the Laurier Government, its majority over the Conservatives was nearly 53,000.

In 1908 the total vote was 1,176,000, of which the Liberals obtained 587,000 and the Conservatives 563,000. In this election the independent vote was nearly 25,000, and the situation was that, while the straight Liberals had a majority of 24,000 over the straight Conservatives, they did not quite get quite half of the votes. The straight Conservatives combined having a majority of nearly 1,000 over the ministerialists. Yet with less than half the vote the Liberals carried 134 seats in the House of Commons. M. P. elected represented 6,476 votes, and every Liberal M. P. only 4,418 votes.

In 1911 the total vote cast was 1,307,000, or 250,000 more than three years previously. The Conservatives vote was 660,000, of the vote cast for Mr. Joseph Russell in East Toronto, he added, 671,000. The Liberal vote was 625,000; the independent vote, excluding that cast for Mr. Russell, around 10,000. Mr. Borden's majority was nearly 47,000 over the straight Liberals, while the total majority from all sources against the Laurier Government was over 51,000. Thus the popular majority scored by Mr. Borden in 1911 was greater than that scored by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in any election except that of 1904.

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Faint heart ne'er won fair lady—but there is the brunette.

### INFLATION OF LAND VALUES IN CANADA

Strong Point in Attack on Canadian Borrowing, Says the London Times.

London, Aug. 19.—The Times, in an article on Canadian borrowing, says: "The inflation of land values in Canada is one of the strongest points in the attack on Canadian conditions. It is easy to quote extravagant examples, and also easy to exaggerate the importance of these. To a great extent the land values of any particular district have been merely a matter of bookkeeping, but if the property changes hands extensively on inflated values, and if the sellers treat the price as profit to be spent in personal luxury, then there is possibility of some danger in the financial situation."

"The increase in values of sites in Canada is not very great. The outcry of inflation was not caused by increasing values in the larger towns as much as by the fabulous boom in Western Canada suburban lots. It is gambling, while harmful at the moment, will not likely injure the prosperity of the country."

"The increase in value of sites in the larger towns was better justified. There will undoubtedly be fluctuations in values in places like Vancouver and Winnipeg, and perhaps even Toronto and Montreal, but in such cities well situated property will always have a substantial value irrespective of growth, as their future growth is a certainty."

There was once a married man whose wife's folks didn't try to work him through her. She had no folks.

A pair of yellow shoes doesn't age more quickly than a pretty girl after a mistaken marriage.

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