DOMINION FAIR WILL BE MAMMOTH EVENT

Although Exhibition Is Six Months Away Entries Are Pouring in to Manager in Calgary—Extensive Exhibits from Other Provinces—Suicide of Unfortunate Young Man.

Bulletin Special.

Calgary, Jan. 17.—The Calgary Exhibition Co. tendered a banquet to the board of directors, city council and school trustees, over sixty being present. Manager Richardson, of the Dominion Fair, gave out the following details of progress in the entries made. "Up to the present time the prospects for a successful exhibition have far surpassed our most sanguine expectations. Although the exhibition dates are nearly six months ahead the exhibits and entries already promised far exceed in quantity and quality those of any previous years. We have already booked government exhibits from Saskatchewan and Alberta, district exhibits from Macleod, Carstairs, Lethbridge, High River, Nelson, B.C., Vermilion, Raymond, Edmonton, Red Deer, Gleichen, Dewinton, Wetaskiwin, Strathcona, Olds and Innisfail, which will completely fill a special building, 130 by 96 feet. No less than twenty-five applications for space for manufacturing and industrial exhibits have already been received. In the live stock classes we have coming from British Columbia three carloads of cattle; one carload of sheep and swine, as well as six horses. From Saskatchewan, three carloads of excellent Clydesdales, and one car of shorthorns have been entered as well as a car of dairy cattle and swine. Manitoba has already booked two cars of cattle, Ontario one car of horses and one of cattle, and two cars of horses are coming from the United States. The entries in the poultry show will reach at last 1,000 birds. A car of 300 birds is coming from the State of Wisconsin and a car of 200 birds from London, Ont. This makes a total of seventeen cars of live stock already secured from outside of the province, to say nothing of the Alberta entries, which are going to be much more numerous than in past years."

Sensational Suicide.

Willie McGillis, a young man who had been employed in a local tailor establishment for some time, committed suicide at 4 o'clock this afternoon, drinking two ounces of carbolic acid. He had been drinking heavily for several days. He was sitting in the kitchen of his shack with several companions, when he remarked that if he had a gun he would blow his blank brains out. Shortly afterwards he got a cup of water and went to his bedroom. He came back to the kitchen and fell on the floor saying: "I'm dying, I'm dying."

They told him to get it over quick, as he had lived too long, thinking the man was joking, but on going to the bedroom they smelt the fumes of the acid and opening his mouth found it burned white. He lived about ten minutes. The doctors could do nothing for him. His father is a wealthy lumber merchant in Saginaw, Mich. He was divorced recently by a woman living in Davenport, Iowa, and had been brooding over it.

RATE WAR NOT SETTLED.

Steamship Lines Have Not Yet Come To Terms.

London, Jan. 17.—The Atlantic passenger war assumed a new phase tonight through the Cunard steamship Company making a partial concession to the demands of their competitors by the granting of a differential rate of ten shillings on second and third class fares by the Lusitania and Mauretania.

Whether the new move is a preliminary to an attempt to end the disastrous struggle cannot be ascertained, but it has the aspect of conciliation. The White Star company originally demanded a differential rate of fifteen shillings.

It appears likely, however, that if the latter company is content to accept this latter sum the dispute may be satisfactorily settled.

The Cunard company throughout has firmly contended that the conditions of business did not warrant a differential of fifteen shillings, and although the circular which is issued tonight does not refer in any way to a dispute, the fact that the company continues its rate cutting procedure is held to indicate that it is not inclined to further concessions.

The question of differences in the matter of passenger rates among the various steamship lines was expected to come up for discussion at a conference of the managers of the Atlantic steamship companies, including Herr, Ballinx, director general of the Hamburg-American line, which was fixed before the rate war began, to be held in London on January 18th.

The Cunard company, however, declined to be a party to the conference, which, it is announced, has now been indefinitely postponed.

New York, Jan. 17.—Following the refusal of the Cunard Steamship Company to come to terms, the International Marine Company has again reduced its east bound steerage rates on boats of the White Star and American lines, making a total reduction in this class of $11.25 since the rate war began.

The cut was not by the Cunard company and it is probable that further reductions will be made in the next few days. An official of one of the steamship companies said today that a rate of $10 to Europe might soon be obtained.

Revelstoke Election.

Revelstoke, B.C., Jan. 17.—Mayor C. F. Lindmark, Councillors Foote, McCarter and Lefaux were elected today.

SASKATCHEWAN LETS NEW READER CONTRACT

To Morang Co., Toronto.—Set of Five Readers Finally Accepted After Repeated Revision by Joint Committee of Saskatchewan and Alberta Educationalists.

Regina, Jan. 17.—After investigations extending over the greater part of a year, the question of new readers for the public schools in the province has been finally settled, and a contract entered into with the Morang Educational Co., of Toronto.

The negotiations have throughout been carried on by the department of education of this province jointly with that of Alberta, and recently also with the department of education of Manitoba.

Early last year the publishing firms of Canada were invited to submit sample readers, with the result that books were sent in by W. J. Gage & Co., Copp, Clark Co., McMillan Co., Morang Educational Co., all of Toronto, and Thomas Nelson & Sons, Edinboro, which were duly considered by a joint committee of the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta at a meeting held in Calgary last spring, when over a week was spent in thorough examination of the different books submitted.

As the result of the investigation of that committee, the governments of the two provinces decided to ask the Morang Educational Co. to proceed with the preparation of a set of readers based on those submitted.

This was done, and the revised books again submitted to a committee representing the two provinces a process repeated several times, the various suggested alterations being duly embodied in the books.

Manitoba Joins In.

Before submitting the readers to the educational council, the two governments took up the matter with Manitoba, it having been suggested by several leading educationalists in that province that if possible the same new readers should be adopted by the three prairie provinces. A conference between the three ministers of education was therefore arranged, taking place in Winnipeg early in November.

As the result of that conference the books were submitted to the advisory board of Manitoba, by which they were duly approved. About the same time the readers were also submitted to the educational councils of Saskatchewan and Alberta, and were recommended for authorization by both councils.

Following upon that recommendation the books have been authorized by order-in-council and it is understood that the customary contract for ten years has been entered into, so far as this government is concerned. The details of the contract will doubtless be made public at a later date. Meanwhile there appears every reason to believe that the contract is extremely favorable to the province, both as regards price and conditions of sale to jobbers and retailers, quality of material and workmanship and facilities afforded for constant revision of the text. The readers embraced within the contract consist of a set of five, and it is expected that they will be ready for use in the schools within from sixty to ninety days.

Editors-in-Chief.

Acting as editors-in-chief of the new readers are John C. Saul, M.A., and W. A. McIntyre, principal of the Manitoba Normal School, who were responsible for the preparation of the "Victorian" readers which have been in use in Manitoba for the last ten years.

Those who have examined the new readers are agreed that from the standpoint of mechanical workmanship as well as scholastic merit they must take high rank, and admit that they are the best books of the kind ever prepared for Canadian schools.

The standing of the Morang Educational Co. may be judged from the extent to which their educational publications are in use. The firm indeed has done much to revolutionize the making of text-books in Canada. For Manitoba the firm in question publish the geographies, arithmetics, music readers, history of Canada and spellers in use at the present time in the public schools of the province, as well as the English history and Latin grammar in use in the Manitoba high schools, besides other important educational publications, which in itself should guarantee the standing of the firm as publishers of school text books.

Roosevelt Says Taft Will Win.

Washington, January 17.—President Roosevelt expressed the opinion to-day to a visitor at the White House that Mr. Taft will be nominated on the first ballot. This belief is based on the theory that all the Western States, except those with favorite sons, will vote for Taft, that the Southern delegations, originally secured for Cortelyou, will be delivered to Taft, and that Taft will get an even break in New England. The president believes Taft will have more than six hundred votes on the first ballot. This utterance of the president has created no end of talk. Respect for his political judgment is so great that Mr. Taft's opponents were much discouraged.

Prisoners Free; Jurors Held.

St. Paul, Jan. 17.—Judge Page Morris in the United States District Court late this afternoon dismissed the case against the Woods brothers alleged officers of the Wisconsin Stock & Grain Company, on motion of the United States district attorney, who filed affidavits to indicate that the jury had been tampered with. Sherman Smith, of Minneapolis, and Jurors E. C. Benedict and Lyman Batchellor were cited to show why they should not be punished for contempt of court.

CANANDA FOREMOST IN RAILWAY FACILITIES

In Proportion to Her Population—Minister of Railways Laid Second Annual report on Table of House—Canada has 27,611 Miles of Railway—Total Earnings Last Year $146,000,000.

Ottawa, Jan. 16—The minister of railways today laid on the table of the House the second annual report of the statistical branch of the department organized a couple of years ago. This is the second report and it contains considerable information which was not given in the first statement issued.

The report shows an addition to the mileage of the Canadian railways during the year of 1,049 miles. The mileage of double track was also increased from 743 to 1,067 miles, almost wholly applicable to main lines and will represent a substantial addition to transportation facilities. The total of all tracks now amounts to 27,611 miles. The number of miles actually under construction during the year is estimated at 3,000. This does not include lines projected and not under construction.

This report shows that Canada has a higher mileage measured against the population than the United Kingdom, United States, France or the British colonies, but a lower mileage measured against the territory than any of these countries. In other words Canada stands foremost among the nations in transportation in proportion to her population, while her ample territory gives her greatest room for expansion.

The total earnings from operation were upwards of $146,000,000, of which $95,000,000 came from the freight service, $45,000,00 from the passenger service and $5,000,000 from other sources. This represented an increase of 17 per cent. over 1906.

The total earnings were equal to $6,533 per mile, and the operating expenses to $4,620. Last year 16,946 freight cars were added to the total supply. Allowing for wear and tear, etc., it is estimated that 3,762 new cars were acquired in 1907, to replace those put out of commission.

There were 1,099 miles of new railway put into operation during the year and on the basis indicated in the paragraph and applied to 1906 the additional mileage would call for an equipment of 4,523 freight cars. Figuring on this basis, it is estimated that 18,317 cars were necessary in order to maintain a normal condition or 1,368 more during the year. The total mileage was slightly in excess of 75,000,000, an increase of nearly 2,500,000 over 1906. This increase applied almost wholly to the passenger service.

A YOUNG NOVA SCOTIAN.

Dr. A. Ross Hill New President of Missouri University.

Halifax, Jan. 17.—Dr. A. Ross Hill, the young Nova Scotian who is winning a high place as a scholar and educationist, has just been appointed President of the University of Missouri, one of the largest of western universities. Dr. Hill is a native of Colchester county, and is only 37 years old. He is a brother of Mr. Dawson Hill, M.P.P., and of Mr. Charles Hill, who was Liberal candidate in the recent Colchester bye-election. He graduated from Dalhousie university in 1892, with honors in philosophy. He took a post-graduate course at Cornell, where he received the Ph.D. degree. He was appointed to Wisconsin State Normal school, later going to the university of Nebraska. From there he was called to the University of Missouri, where he organized the department of education, which is recognized as second to none in American universities. Subsequently he was appointed dean of the faculty of arts and sciences at Cornell, a position which he relinquishes to accept the presidency of the University of Missouri. The latter institution has over three thousand students, and the president's income is between seven and ten thousand dollars.

PORT DUTY ASKED FOR.

To Prevent Sending Pulpwood Out of Country.

Ottawa, Jan. 17—Hon. J. D. Rolland of Montreal, president of the Canadian Manufacturers' association, was in Ottawa yesterday interviewing Sir Wilfrid Laurier and other ministers to urge that government legislation be introduced this session providing an export duty on pulpwood, and making more adequate provisions for conserving the forests of Canada, on which largely depends the preservation of the splendid water powers of Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick. The Canadian Manufacturers' association intend to continue urging this question upon the attention of federal and provincial governments until adequate measures are taken to attain the end in view.

Sir Wilfrid expressed his entire sympathy with the views voiced by Hon. Mr. Rolland. It is probable that a royal commission will be appointed this session to take up the whole question of forest preservation, and the concomitant question of prohibiting the export of pulpwood. Parliament would then be next session fully seized of all the facts and needs of the case, and any legislation would be based on the authoritative report of the commission. It is unlikely that any legislation will be passed this session imposing an export duty on pulpwood.

Dies From Injuries.

Medicine Hat, Jan. 17.—Conductor J. A. McDougall, well known and respected here, who was injured at Coleridge yesterday morning, while coupling cars on a way freight, died this morning in the hospital. He leaves a wife and two children. He was a Toronto man.

POPE TO HIT MASONS IN NEW ENCYCLICAL

Gain of Roman Catholic Membership in Order Said to Be Reason—Grand Lodge in England Make Answer To Objections.

London, Jan. 16.—It is understood in Roman Catholic circles that the pope intends shortly to issue a new encyclical letter against Free Masonry. It has come to the knowledge of the high dignitaries of the Catholic church that in recent years, and especialy during 1907, increasing numbers of Catholics have become Free Masons.

In England and many other countries the order at the present time numbers thousands of adherents of the Roman Catholic church, and these will no doubt smile when they read the papal bull, which it is understood will describe the craft as being engaged in a definite conspiracy against the state, religion and social order, it having been reported to the pope on high authority that the Masons, who generally are regarded as brethren abounding in charity, tempered with some conviviality, are atheists who deny the immortality of the soul and communists who aim at the subversion of society and who have undermined the foundation of every law, moral and divine.

Defended by Member.

A member of the grand lodge of England in an interview with your correspondent said:

"The hard things said against the craft by the pope and the Roman Catholic bishops are enough to make the Duke of Montague, the first elected grand master in modern masonry, and all his successors since 1721 turn in their graves. Although the order is known to claim kings and other potentates among its adherents, it has been reported to the pope that Masonic lodges and arch chapters are iniquitous organizations, and in the new encyclical letter the clergy will be exhorted to adopt steps with the view to prevent an increase of this sect.

"Freemasons have for many years been ipso facto excommunicated. But this general condemnation has had little effect except with the zealots. Perhaps there is something in their fundamental principle, the fraternity of men and their indifference to theological belief, which justifies the suspicion and even hatred with which they are regarded by the ultramontane party.

Where Order Flourishes.

"Masonry in each country, of course, takes its color from the state of thought and feeling by which it is surrounded. Numerous encyclicals and papal bulls have been issued in opposition to it, and it has always been placed in the same category as secret political societies. Still it is a fact which cannot be denied that the order flourishes in nearly every Catholic country, the only exception being a few of the more bigoted republics of Central America. In Italy it has been a trick of conspirators to use the lodges as mere cloaks for hatching plots. But in England and America and many other countries it cannot be associated with anything worse than abuse of the latch-key.

"It is understood that the encyclical letter will deny the authority and prestige of Free Masonry to ancient descent on the ground that the mere conception of Free Masonry implies cosmopolitan brotherhood, and was therefore impossible in the ancient world.

"It is very curious to trace the almost ceaseless war which from time to time has been waged against Free Masonry, not only by the Catholic church, but even by civil governments in England. It is affirmed that the Jesuits made a strong effort to secure Free Masonry as a channel for their political influences, but, failing, became its avowed enemies.

"At the instigation of Cardinal Beaufort, Henry VI. prohibited Masons from holding their wonted chapters and lodges, but that law was never enforced, and the king subsequently became a member of the fraternity. There are more Masons than ever, and there can be no doubt that in the new encyclical letter the papal indignation will spend itself in vain on the existing lodges in England."

RUSSIANS WANT REVENGE.

Many Officers Offer Swords to United States to Fight Japan.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 16.—Owing to a persistent rumor that Secretary Taft's recent mission was to arrange an understanding with Russia against Japan, and to engage a number of Russian artillery officers as instructors in the Philippines, the American secretary of war has received many offers of their services from well educated and energetic young officers, some of them being colonels in the general staff. Most of these officers speak English, and served in Manchuria, where the Portsmouth Peace came to them as a great blow. They are now discontented with the routine of garrison life, but none of them have any feelings of revenge against Japan.

One of them, a colonel in the general staff, who served in Manchuria throughout the war, told me he would just as readily offer his sword to the Japanese against Americans. Neither are they particularly attracted by the comparatively higher pay America gives her officers. They simply want stir and adventure. They find life in Russia insufferably dull and disagreeable after the exciting times they had in the far East; especially in view of the dirty police work the regular army is continually called upon to do, work which makes them incur the hatred of practically the whole nation.

THE DEFENCE OF PORT ARTHUR WAS HEROIC

Russian General Tells of the Courageous Conduct of Russians—Court Martial of General Stoessel Proceeds.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 15.—The court martial of General Stoessel was resumed in this city today and the court began the taking of testimony regarding the actual capitulation of Port Arthur. The general is charged with having surrendered this fortress to the Japanese before its resources became exhausted. The court adjourned today over the Russian New Year.

Before reaching the most vital point in the testimony, namely General Stoessel's motive in opening the negotiations of capitulation, Stoessel is expected to address the court personally on this point.

A Colonel Surprised.

Colonel Kvlobstok, a member of General Smirnoff's staff, who participated in the negotiations, testified today that the Japanese conditions had been accepted without discussion, as there was no time to consider individually the various points made. He said that he gained the impression that the parleyings were merely a cover to a pre-arranged surrender, and that when, to his amazement, he saw the white flag sent in, he asked the bearer what was the purport of his mission. He was told "to convey greetings of the New Year to General Nogi."

The testimony of the other officers was more favorable to Gen. Stoessel. Col. Goliztak, commander of the fort called the Eagle's Nest, maintained that the fall of this fort spelled the end of Port Arthur, as this position was the highest point of all the fortifications and commanded every other regard to the final successes of the Japanese, was done to restore the good name of the Port Arthur garrison, particularly with regard to the last days of the siege. It has been shown that the soldiers who had been defending certain important positions like fort No. 2 and the Eagle's Nest, died almost to a man and the allegations made by General Smirnoff that the fortifications were abandoned without a struggle clearly have been disproved.

Cheered Story of Defence.

The men in court today were moved to cheers when General Golitszaf related how the garrison under his command were annihilated by the fearful fire.

The evidence brought out to-day in rain of Japanese shells and bullets. The Russians repulsed the Japanese defence.

again and again with bayonets, hand grenades and stones and even their and two men was forced to abandon the position. Many wounded men were left behind. These the Japanese bayoneted mercilessly. The commandant of Fort No. 2 brought forth from his position only ten men of which was then reduced to one officer bare hands.

When the Japanese advanced for the sixth time the Russian garrison, original garrison of five hundred. The relief detachment of sailors and sharp shooters sent in to this fort having been wiped out to a man.

TRADE OF BRITAIN.

Export Figures Show Large Declines In Manufacturers' Wares.

Montreal, Jan. 15.—A special London cable says: The official Board of Trade returns afford striking evidence that the astounding three years' boom is fast coming to an end. The increase in December's exports consisted almost entirely of coal. The exports of manufacturers show large declines in iron, steel and other metals. Taking the year 1907 as a whole, the increase in exports was $250,000,000 of which about half is estimated as due to increased quantities exported, and the rest to increased prices of the raw materials original imported. The year's exports also include an increase of $53,000,000 in coal exports.

Canada's purchase of British manufactures has undergone a remarkable expansion during the year. Of British cotton piece goods Canada bought in 1907, $2,750,000 worth or 50 per cent. more than in 1906, and in quantity just double what was bought in 1906. The increase for the year in woollen piece goods is $900,000, though in December worsteds showed a decrease.

Exports of pig iron show an increase of 57,000 tons during the year, and of $900,000 in value. Exports of galvanized sheets increased nearly $500,000. Steel bars and sections declined 17 per cent. in quantity, while the exports of tinned plates remained practically stationary.

A startling item in British imports from Canada is the decline of the butter trade almost to the vanishing point. The whole year's butter imports from Canada were 35,000 hundredweight, or one-sixth of the total imports for 1906 and one ninth of the total in 1905. What Canada has lost in the butter trade, Denmark has gained. Cheese imported from Canada also declined a quarter million hundredweight and $3,000,000 in value. The British cheesemaker apparently gained what the Canadian and other exporters lost. Eggs and tinned salmon were only about one-half the amount imported in 1906. The importation of bacon was stationary.

As for the three years past, the trade in cattle has declined considerably, namely, by 35,000 head, valued at $3,000,000. The importation of cattle from the United States also declined by 50,000 head. The British are apparently eating more mutton and pork and less beef than previously.

On the other hand, Canada overtops her wheat record. Britain last year imported 23,500,000 bushels of Canadian wheat, or 23,500,000 bushels more than she imported in 1906, which was in itself a record year. The average price at British ports in 1907 was just over $1 per bushel, compared with 87 cents in 1906. Imports of Canadian flour increased by 14,000 barrels. The Canadian sawn timber decline in British markets was 25 per cent. in value and 40 per cent. in quantity. Sawn split timber declined by 20 per cent. in value and quantity.

Sentenced to Siberia.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 15.—A court-martial has sentenced five persons to death, and two to the mines for the robbery during last April of the estate belonging to the Alexander Newsky monastery. The robbers expected a big haul, but secured only a lot of rubbish worth only a couple of hundred roubles. The governor general of Kiek has confirmed six death sentences for theft, and at Warsaw two thieves were hanged in the citadel yesterday. At Odessa, Vilna and Moscow, two death sentences each were confirmed, and at Tchernagoff and Rena one each, all for theft.

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SEED GRAIN TO BE GIVEN FARMERS

(Continued From Page One.)

secure the necessary amount of cash to buy the seed grain which he requires.

Cannot Get Loans.

"Generally speaking, he must get it at from a loan company and under the present financial conditions it is impossible for him to secure an advance in that way. Neither the banks, as I under stand it, nor loan companies are in a position to tie up a large amount of cash in transactions of that kind and I have been assured that the position is such thta some arrangements will have to be made, not for furnishing charitable assistance, but for financing the operations necessary to secure the seed grain required to seed the land that is ready for crops."

Mr. Lake (Con.), Qu'Appelle, agreed as to the conditions in certain districts, and while under favorable conditions frozen grain would grow, it was not a wise policy to plant more than could be helped. If the financial conditions were normal, he did not think there would be any necessity for a call on the government for assistance.

He reminded the ex-minister of drawing attention to the situation on December 16. He thought it would be necessary to advance the money with the necessary guarantee that it would be used for the purchase of seed only, to be collected in installments by the local authorities. Were the government to distribute seed, it might give a wrong impression abroad, where the usual conditions were not understood.

Dr. Cash (Lib.), Mackenzie, said in his district seed oats was of the greatest necessity, and he spoke of a farmer with $12,000 assets who could not raise $700. The banks not only will not lend, but they are hard on those who owe them. Two bad seasons owing to seed shortage would be a calamity.

Manitoba Needs No Help.

Hon. Mr. Greenway (Lib.), Lisgar, referred with evident pride to $40,000,000 worth of farm and dairy products raised in Manitoba during the past year, and except in limited areas, he did not think any help was needed therein. As there was plenty of grain available in the prairie provinces, it would be better to deal with the question before it was all shipped to the east.

Mr. Staples (Con.), McDonald, concurred. He hoped the province would not be overlooked, however, in any arrangements that might be made. He thought the provincial authorities were in the best position to handle the details of the distribution.

Dr. McIntyre (Lib.), Strathcona, thought the newer settlers require it aid more than the farmers who were already settled.

Mr. Herron (Con.), Pincher Creek, thought no aid would be required in Southern Alberta, except some isolated cases, but he agreed that some thing should be granted on the recommendation of the improvement boards.

Col. Hughes having expressed sympathy with the proposal, E. B. Osler (Con.), Toronto, expressed the opinion it would be a mistake to lend money directly to the farmers, as in many instances the money would never be repaid. He suggested the matter be dealt with in a business way through loan companies.

Seed Not Money.

Mr. McCraney (Lib.), thought it would be better to supply seed than money. There was plenty of good seed available for purchase in the Goose Lake district.

Mr. Jackton (Lib.) agreed with the other Manitoba members that the province would not require much help, and that it would be better to distribute through the provincial governments.

Mr. Crawford (Lib.) approved, as did George Taylor, chief Conservative whip, but he thought the best way would be to deal through the banks and grain dealers.

Dr. Schaffner (Con.) was surprised that an old parliamentarian like Mr. Sifton should bring up the question without more data. No member who had spoken had mentioned that a request had been made of them for seed. There was certainly none in his district. However, he was prepared to support the proposal to aid those further west. It would be better to supply seed than money. Before anything was done, more definite information should be gathered.

Mr. Knowles (Lib.) opposed the idea that the problem would be best handled by the banks and grain dealers. He had no confidence in the latter, and the former had stretched branches all over the country and were now taking advantage of the confidence that they had. Influences should be brought to bear on the banks to make them more reasonable. He approved of supplying seed through the provincial governments.

Dr. Roche (Con.) depreciated the discussion as liable to be hurtful abroad, and he thought Mr. Sifton's informants might not be altogether disinterested. He thought the municipal authorities were the best judges, and to them the provincial authorities would doubtless appeal to distribute.

Mr. McCarthy (Con.), Calgary, expected no demand in his section. If any plan were decided on there should be no discrimination as to the length of settlement.

The Necessity Regrettable.

Hon. Mr. Oliver regretted the necessity, but, as it exists, it might as well be discussed. The past season had been unfortunate, but it would be a double misfortune should there be another short crop for lack of seed. Probably the provincial government and municipalities could supply all the needed help in Manitoba. The greatest assistance needed was in Saskatchewan and Northern Alberta. The matter had been discussed with the provincial governments and the necessity of action was fully realized, but no decision had been reached yet as to the share of responsibility of each, as there must certainly be co-operation. Representatives of the western governments would be in Ottawa in a day or two and the matter could then be taken up.

In view of the greater necessity of Saskatchewan it will possibly have a different arrangement than Alberta. The commissioner of immigration had been in the west investigating, and seed tests were being conducted by seed commissioner. Up to the present the government had had an abundance of advice bit little information from the parties interested. The railways would be communicated with, and in a short time measures taken to meet the difficulty. Referring to Mr. Lake's speech, the Minister of the Interior said the political advantage would be all on the side of the opposition. The necessity of action was unfortunate from a government standpoint, and he expressed the hope that the government would receive a fair criticism.

Mr. Borden Approves.

R. L. Borden approved the proposition and urged care that the distribution was as efficient as possible. He was sure no political capital would be made of it. He was prepared to support the government in giving reasonable assistance to secure seed for the western farmers.

At the evening session, Hon. Mr. Brodeur resumed the discussion of the French treaty, devoting his attention to prove the treaty marked a new era in Canadian diplomacy, as negotiated by Canadians alone. He quoted a despatch of the Colonial Secretary in 1905, that after that the British ambassadors alone must negotiate trade treaties.

Mr. Brodeur quoted a mass of statistics effected by the treaty.

Mr. Ames, while he hoped the bulk of the trade would be direct, he deprecated compelling all goods to come direct, as the freight rates from the south to the north of France, whence the direct lines run, will kill the benefit in many cases. A bill embodying the treaty was given the first reading, and the House rose at eleven.