CIVIL SERVICE REFORM TALKED TO KILL TIME

Opposition Discussed It All Yesterday Though Government's Bill Was Promised For To-Day

Deadlock Over Election Bill Still Holds--Emmerson Stands For Common Sense in Civil Service Selection and Forces Fowler to Retract False Statements Regarding I. C. R.

OTTAWA, May 26.—The situation between the two parties regarding the election bill is unchanged. At the meeting of the prime minister and the leader of the opposition, Saturday, Sir Wilfrid stated some objections which the Western Liberals had to existing conditions in Manitoba regarding the lists and today the Conservatives considered a brief memorandum of these objections which had been forwarded to Mr. Borden by Sir Wilfrid. They decided that there was no reason for them to recognize these grievances and it was intimated that they will again resort to the blocking of supply, which they have relaxed for a couple of days. There is a belief in many quarters that this threat is a bluff and that the opposition will not dare to absolutely refuse to vote supply, as they threaten.

Today they continued their obstruction by prolonged discussion of civil service reform regardless of the fact that the government's bill for this purpose will be brought down tomorrow.

Hon. Frank Oliver, replying to Mr. Borden, said he had no information to bear out a statement that a government official at Halifax was acting under an arrangement which netted him $3 per head for all immigrants he could direct to a certain place, although they did not originally desire to go there. If such was being done, said Mr. Oliver, the official was acting contrary to his instructions, and the matter would be looked into.

Foster's Merit Scheme

Hon. Mr. Foster, on motion to go into supply, moved a resolution favoring the appointment to the civil service on merit alone, after competitive examination conducted by a non-partisan commission. In his opening remarks he outlined the steps in Britain resulting in almost absolute relief of the civil service from politics. He spoke of the vast improvement in the civil serice in the United States since 1882. In Australia the merit system was in operation and in the state of Wisconsin not only civil service, but legislative appointments were by merit.

Turning to the state of the civil service in Canada Mr. Foster said he proposed to discuss the question absolutely free from partisanship. His view was that instead of having made progress the civil service in Canada had retarded and its morale had distinctly deteriorated in the past 15 years. One step toward that retrogression was the abolition of the superannuation system by the present government. Never, he declared, had the patronage been so heartless, so conscienceless, as it had been in late years. "For heaven's sake, if it is to be done, can't we decently keep it under cover." Proceeding, Mr. Foster thought the promotion examination amounted to very little and suggested that only the friends of the government stood a chance.

Fielding Takes Exception

Mr. Fielding said the words of the motion and a greater part of the speech of Foster were not objectionable. But to that portion of the address in which there seemed to be a straining to make it appear that the defects existing today had grown up recently he took exception. As a matter of fact every one of these evils existed many years ago and were reported to the government of which his honorable friend had been a member, but they had taken no step to remedy them. He could not agree with Mr. Foster that the restriction as to statutory increases had been worked out along political lines. So far as his own observations were concerned this was not correct.

Later Mr. Fielding said that for his part he was not able to consent to the view that evils, and particularly political evils, in the civil service were so great as some would try to make the people of the country believe. Evils existed, it could not be denied, and they should frankly recognize these and seek to bring about a remedy. The people would understand and appreciate an effort of that kind. Alluding to a reference by Mr. Foster to the patronage committee, he said he was not a sufficient admirer of the system to have one himself, but he understood that occasions would arise where such a body would be useful. For instance where an appointment had to be made in remote districts a Minister would need to have information from some one, and who was so likely to be able to give that information as leading men of the party. So long as Canada had no system of competitive examination selections made by such bodies would be as good as those made by any other.

Mr. Fielding could not understand why Mr. Foster had brought the matter forward at the time and in the manner in which it was now before the House. First of all because it was a motion of want of confidence and brought the question on which all were agreed action should be taken in party politics; secondly because there was already on the order paper, in accordance with the intimation of the premier a short time ago, a government bill dealing with the subject. But for the absence of Hon. Mr. Fisher, for reasons all deplored, that bill would have been introduced and explained to the House today. Under these circumstances and particularly in view of the speech of Mr. Foster to which, as he had stated, little exception could be taken and which had contained considerable very interesting information, he hoped the member for North Toronto would withdraw the motion.

Dr. Sproule spoke against Mr. Fielding's proposition. If there was so little to object to the government should not in his opinion regard the motion as one of want of confidence, but should accept. He somewhat strongly criticised the government in relation to the civil service, charging that relatives of the ministers had been able to secure the positions over the heads of men better qualified. Civil service reform was necessary and one thing he thought should be done among others was to make the civil servants pay their debts and taxes like ordinary citizens.

Mr. Armstrong regarded patronage as one of the greatest curses in Canada and advocated open and competitive examinations.

Mr. Emmerson's Views

Mr. Emmerson claimed that in the main the civil servants of Canada were men of high character and well qualified to fill the positions to which they were called. The passing of an examination and answering of certain questions were not necessarily the best qualifications for a man to fill a public position. His experience was that the man who was schooled by experience was better fitted in the majority of cases to occupy a position in the civil service than the student from the university. Alluding specifically to his experience on the I. C. Railway, he desired to discuss the outside as well as the inside service, he said the men had been and were now being appointed for qualification alone. There were more men today on that railway politically opposed to the government than supporters of the administration. He had never much faith in attempting to reform human nature by legislation.

For eighteen long years when Conservatives were in power, honorable gentlemen opposite had not, he continued, taken any step to reform the civil service. But now even his friend from North Toronto had joined the latter day saints in this respect. Some Conservative ideas of the civil service had been carried out by the dismissal of some 500 employes on the I. C. R. and many of the men appointed to succeed them were still in their positions today.

"I am not averse," he said, "to a civil service act, but if the keynote is the passing of a certain educational test which is simply a test of memory, if that is to be the standard and that alone, I will not favor such a bill, whether it comes from this or any other government. We must and should apply common sense."

Mr. Fowler took issue with Mr. Emmerson as to the majority of I. C. R. employes being Conservatives. Statistics particularly in regard to Westmorland (represented by Emmerson) showed the contrary. Mr. Emmerson owed his election to the majority given to him by the employes of the Moncton car shops.

Mr. Emmerson said his majority at the last election was between 1,000 and 1,100, of which 300 to 400 was outside of Moncton.

Fowler, who accepted this correction of his statement, a little later declared the late Hon. Mr. Blair and Mr. Emmerson had quarreled because the former would not dismiss one of the I. C. R. officials.

Mr. Emmerson emphatically denied this. "Mr. Blair and I always were the closest personal friends. We did differ on some political matters, but they were not in connection with the I. C. R."

Mr. Fowler, continuing, supported Foster's resolution.

Mr. Borden joined in condemning the system of appointment to the civil service by patronage committees. He did not believe that in every case a competitive examination would put the best man in the proper place, but he did believe that by a system of that kind they would get an infinitely better class of men than by the exercise of party patronage and political pull. Civil service reform would give a more assured status.

CIVIL SERVANTS SHOULD BE PAID.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that under ordinary circumstances he would have had no fault to find with Mr. Foster's motion, but he thought it had been brought forward at an inopportune time. Mr. Foster had had many opportunities earlier in the session to move his resolution. It had been called again and again, but the member for North Toronto had not availed himself of these opportuities. But for the very unfortunate occurrences which prevented the Minister of Agriculture from being in his seat today there would have been introduced a measure of civil service reform. It was not for him, Sir Wilfrid continued, to say at the present moment what the character of that measure would be, but he would have expected that when such a measure was on the order paper, and especially when the cause of its postponement was known, Mr. Foster might at least have waited until the measure was brought forward. Sir Wilfrid pointed out that the present government in making appointments to the civil service on party lines had merely followed the example of previous governments. He agreed it was not the best system that could be devised, but he thought it was only fair to say that the present civil service comprised a very efficient body of men. He was satisfied that whether appointed by a Conservative or Liberal government the majority of the members of the civil service ceased to be partisan the moment they entered the service. There was a great deal to be said in favor of the system adopted elsewhere, but as the U. S. had shown it was a task of considerable difficulty to establish it. Concluding, Sir Wilfrid said "My hon. friend from North Toronto has spoken eloquently on the great service rendered by that great public body. He has stated the great advantages which this and every other country derives from its high spirited civil servants. But there is one duty which we owe, I might say the primary duty, a duty which is above all others, and which we should never forget, we should pay them and allow parliament to appropriate the money." (Liberal cheers).

Mr. Lennox supported Mr. Foster's motion and at midnight a vote was taken, resulting in its defeat by 72 to 30.

Hon. Mr. Foster asked if it was the intention of the government to keep house later. In this weather it was asking too much of the endurance of members to suggest that they should sit after 12 o'clock at night in such hot weather. There was proposed legislation about which for some time there had been a difference of opinion that still existed. The government ought to be frank and treat the House fairly and promptly on this question. If they did that they would find the opposition willing to help in properly transacting business.

Hon. Mr. Paterson stated that he wanted to pass $2,074,500, all in one item. Usually this passed with little or no question. At the present time he would ask only for what was absolutely necessary and that was the pay for some 2,000 men all over the country, including 100 in the City of Ottawa, who, if the item was not passed, would not get the wages they had fairly earned.

Hon. Mr. Foster answered that there was another way to put the matter. These men were entitled to their pay and the money would have been put through long ago if the government had not obtruded obnoxious legislation. (Liberal laughter). They had it in their power to secure the passage of these items in a very short time, by the withdrawal or putting aside of the legislation which was not for the good of the country and was a party measure pure and simple. (Renewed Liberal laughter and renewed cries of "order, "order," and "oh," "oh").

OPPOSITION BLOCKING TACTICS CONDEMNED.

Mr. Fielding replied that the onus of blocking the business rested on the opposition. Time after time the House had been moved into supply for the consideration of legislation, only to be blocked by the honorable gentlemen putting forward motions, many of which were entirely unnecessary and useless, such as that which had engaged the atention of the House today. After a day of such tactics the opposition now said they were tired and did not want to do any real business.

Mr. Foster, amid considerable disorder, maintained that if the government expected to pass the estimates they must get an announcement on the election bill.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier declared that the attitude of the honorable gentleman was opposite to commentary upon his whole conduct today and upon the attitude of the whole opposition. Speaker after speaker on the opposition side had been asserting that appointments should not be made by the government, but by an independent body. The government had brought in a bill on which he (Sir Wilfrid) had offered as a compromise that certain appointments originally provided to be made by the government should be made by judges. In the face of that the honorable gentleman had the audacity to say there should be no supply unless the bill was withdrawn. The whole country would understand that to be the opposition attitude. (Prolonged Liberal cheers).

Mr. Borden said Laurier's statement was a misrepresentation. The men he now proposed should make the revision in Manitoba were the same judges now doing the work.

Hon. Mr. Paterson—Election bill or no election bill, I want my pay and the house then settled down to the consideration of the minister of customs' estimates.

KETCHELL, REFEREE ROCHE AND JACK TWIN SULLIVAN, JUST BEFORE BATTLE

Montana knockerout in his first fight as a light heavyweight on May 9 proved just as formidable as he was in the middleweight class, for he finished the clever Jack Twin Sullivan in twenty rounds. Several weeks prior to this bout, Ketchell knocked out Mike Twin Sullivan, a brother of Jack, in one round. Ketchell is taking on weight rapidly and hopes some day to be the successor of Tommy Burns. A year ago Ketchell was unknown, but he suddenly advanced to the front by leaps and bounds.

I. C. R. EXTENSION FROM MONCTON TO TIDEWATER

New Line Via Parrsboro to Halifax; Double Track to St. John

Strong Delegation Favorably Received by Govt.—Policy of Canadian Trade For Maritime Ports Pledged by Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

OTTAWA, May 26.—The premier and the Minister of Railways at noon today received an influential deputation from Nova Scotia, which practically asked for a change in the route of the Intercolonial railway from Moncton to Halifax.

The eastern division of the National Transcontinental from Quebec to Halifax will have a grade of four-tenths of one per cent., while the present grade of the Intercolonial from Moncton to Halifax averages one per cent. It is proposed that instead of double tracking the existing line a loop shall be built around the Cobequid Mountains, which would give a reasonable grade. The deputation included Premier Murray of Nova Scotia, the Mayor and Ald. Johnson of Halifax, Warden Stairs of Colchester, Mayor Holmes and H. S. McDonald of Parrsboro, C. R. Smith, K. C., James Baird, J. J. Taylor, James and Charles Lisbe of Amherst, Hance Logan, M. P., Hon. H. R. Emmerson, and several Nova Scotia members accompanied them.

The delegation was introduced by Mr. Logan, who made a strong plea for further development of the Intercolonial from Moncton to the seaboard. He proposed to the government the double tracking of the Intercolonial from Moncton to Amherst. From there he advised that the line be diverted via Parrsboro to join the main line at or near Truro. He made abundantly clear the benefits to the general traffic of the country as well as to local traffic of the adoption of this scheme.

J. A. Johnson, representing the Halifax Board of Trade, was the chief speaker on behalf of the delegation. He dwelt at some length on the merits of the scheme proposed. The construction of a line via Parrsboro, as outlined by Mr. Logan, he said, would be the most effective way of dealing with the proposition.

Mr. Emmerson laid special stress on the desirability of at once proceeding with the work of double tracking the Intercolonial from Moncton to Halifax and St. John. He favored that scheme as an immediate proposition rather than the extension of the Grand Trunk.

Mayor Crosby and others also spoke in favor of the proposed scheme of building by way of Parrsboro.

Hon. Mr. Graham in a few words pointed out to the delegation that some forty million dollars had been expended by the present government improving the Intercolonial. For this the government had come in for severe criticism at the hands of their opponents, but that did not mean that they wavered in their determination to give the Maritime Provinces the best transportation facilities. He asked the delegation for an expression of opinion as to whether they preferred the extension of the Grand Trunk or the double tracking of the Intercolonial. The delegation evidently held divergent views.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier assured the delegation that as the results of representations made to the government by supporters the question had already engaged the attention of himself and his colleagues. "We are in," he said, "for large expenditure, and we are moving as fast as possible in the direction of bringing the trade of Canada to maritime ports." Before long, he said, he hoped to see C. P. R., G. T. R., C. N. R., as well as Intercolonial at Moncton. The outlook from there to the ocean was too restricted, and doubtless would have to be enlarged. The building of further lines to the seaboard should, he said, be commercial and engineering problems rather than political ones, and in that respect diversion of line via Parrsboro commended itself to the government.

He joined in tributes offered by the delegates to the services performed by Mr. Logan, and expressed his own regret and that of his colleagues at his contemplated retirement.

PILLS THAT NEVER GRIPE.

They cure headaches, relieve constipation, help digestion, clear the skin, make you feel better in one night—that's how Dr. Hamilton's Pills act. No family medicine equals Dr. Hamilton's Pills, try them.

ITALIAN BURGLARS CAUGHT AT CODY'S

One of the Men Supposed to Have Robbed King Store Lodged in Jail

John Shorey, one of the Italians supposed to have broken into Senator King's store at Chipman on Sunday night, was captured a few miles from Cody's by Officer Ferris on Monday afternoon. The Italian, who is about forty years of age, had not made any change in his appearance or clothing from the time when he was employed at King's lumber mills at Chipman.

After the robbery was committed the police at Chipman telephoned to persons at Young's Cove and Cody's to be on the lookout for the Italian, and in the afternoon of Monday Constable Ferris located the suspected burglar. He boarded a train on the Central Railway that the Italian had taken at Young's Cove. Nearing Cody's he approached the Italian and placed him under arrest, but experienced some difficulty in getting him from the train. Several of the stolen watches and $45 in cash were found on the prisoner, all amounting in value to about $100. It is believed the Italian walked from Chipman to Young's Cove, a distance of about twelve miles.

The prisoner was taken to Gagetown and lodged in the jail. Mr. Demmons, who is employed at King's lumber mills, was brought from Chipman to identify the prisoner, and on arriving said that he was the man wanted and that he had stopped at a boarding house owned by Mr. Demmons at Chipman. The Italian had been behind with his board bill.

The prisoner will be tried at Chipman on Saturday. The other Italian is still at large.

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. The Kind You Have Always Bought

OUTLOOK BRIGHT FOR GOVERNMENT IN QUEBEC PROVINCE

News of Dalhousie and the North Shore—Victoria Day Observed

DALHOUSIE, N. B., May 25.—The steamer Lady Eileen arrived here at 4 p. m. today from Bay Chaleur and Gaspe port with a large number of passengers. Among them was Bishop Blais of Rimouski, who was returning from Bonaventure River when he ordained yesterday two Bay Chaleur young men to the priesthood, Messrs. Forest and LeBlanc. The ceremony was performed in the parish church one of the finest wooden structures in eastern Quebec. A large number of people from all parts of Bonaventure county, with several citizens of Campbellton and Dalhousie attended the ceremony.

Parties coming from Quebec province predict a great victory on June 8th for the Liberal government. In Bonaventure county, where John Hall Kelly, a former graduate of Memramcook College, is the government candidate, there is no opposition.

Tonight Mr. Kelly will deliver an address to the electors of Carleton, a parish situated at twelve miles from Dalhousie. So far there is no opposition to the Gouin government in Bonaventure. During the last session of the legislature Mr. Kelly made many friends. His action in getting the government to appoint a commission to examine into the claims of the descendants of the Loyalists, and descendants of the Acadians who have never received the grants of their farms, has made him a strong candidate. Everything points now to his election by acclamation. In any case his election is certain by a very large majority.

At the recent convention held by the Liberals at New Carlisle, at which Mr. Kelly was nominated as the Liberal candidate for the provincial election, Mr. Charles Marcil was nominated the Liberal candidate for Bonaventure for the House of Commons.

Victoria Day was well celebrated in Dalhousie. All the stores were closed and lots of bunting was flying to the breeze. Several fishing parties went out of town and generally our citizens enjoyed the holiday. The weather could not be more appropriate for the occasion.

The steamer Florence, which met with some damage while picking up logs on the Restigouche River last week, will arrive at Dalhousie tomorrow to begin the regular ferry service between Miguash and Pleurant's Point, P. Q., and Dalhousie and Campbellton.

The appointment of James E. Stewart as high sheriff of Restigouche county, has made a vacancy in the county council. An election will be held tomorrow in Dalhousie parish. Two candidates are in the field, Reginald Chayton, farmer, of Point Lekim, and Alexis Lebesque, merchant, of Eel River. Both men are well qualified to fill the position. The contest promises to be a close one.

The pupils of the Dalhousie public school will give a patriotic concert on May 27th, in St. Mary's Sunday school hall.

Herring have been very plentiful in the Bay Chaleur this spring, but so far salmon have been scarce. Our fishermen are hopeful that the warm weather will help the salmon fishing.

LOCAL HOUSE TO BE PROROGUED SATURDAY

Yesterday's Business at Fredericton—Compulsory Education—Highway Act, and Private Bills.

FREDERICTON, May 26—The House met at three o'clock this afternoon.

Several bills were read a third time.

Hon. Mr. Hazen moved that the bill to amend the compulsory education act be recommitted for further consideration.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer, replying to Mr. Sweeney, said the government had no information as to charges made by H. A. Powell that the lumbermen were known to pay but forty or fifty cents on the dollar of their debts to the government and that they had not instituted any investigation or had any correspondence with Mr. Powell on the matter.

Hon. Mr. Flemming introduced a bill to authorize the funding of the floating debt of the province.

The House went into committee to further consider the bill to amend the compulsory education act. The bill as previously passed, alters the age up to which children are compelled to attend school from sixteen to fourteen, but confines the operation to the city of St. John.

Mr. MacLachlan moved that the bill be altered to include the towns of Newcastle and Chatham.

The House went into committee, with Mr. Munro in the chair, to consider acts to revise and amend the act relating to the Twin Tree Mines Railway Company, to fix the valuation of certain properties in Bathurst, to authorize the municipality of Gloucester to issue debentures, to enable the treasurer of the Free Baptist Women's Missionary Society of New Brunswick to pay over certain moneys to the treasurer of the United Baptist Women's Missionary Union of the Maritime Provinces, to authorize the fire commissioners of Gibson to issue debentures; to change the name of the St. John Protestant Orphan Asylum to the Orphans Home and permitting said home to receive orphans from all parts of the province; providing for small grants to be given widows to assist in supporting their children, and also to provide that the children of inebriates, though not orphans, may be admitted to the home. These several bills were agreed to with amendments and adopted by the house.

The time for the introduction of private bills was extended till Thursday. The premier stated, as he saw no reason why prorogation should not be reached on Saturday, that no further extension could reasonably be asked. House took recess till 8 o'clock.

THE EVENING SESSION.

The house resumed at 8 p. m. and went into committee, Mr. Sproul in the chair, to further consider the Highway Act. In discussing the section providing remuneration of taxpayers who preferred to work out their tax by statute labor, the amount to be allowed was made 12 1-2 cents per hour, or $1 for a day of 8 hours. The allowance for teams was placed at 30 cents per hour for double teams and 22 1-2 cents per hour for single teams.

Mr. Lowell said this was too small for St. John county conditions.

In regard to the provisions for the collection of road taxes a section was added to the act providing that the special act relating to the collection of rates and taxes in the parishes of St. John County should apply under this act.

The Speaker having resumed the chair progress was reported.

Mr. Clarke presented the petition of Geo. J. Clarke and others in favor of a bill to incorporate the St. Andrews Corporation, Ltd.

The house adjourned at 11 o'clock.

BOY BADLY HURT BY HUGE CRACKER

Young Jas. McCurdy Loses 4 Fingers

Cracker Explodes in His Hand—His Companions Swear Off

While some boys were playing with fireworks in a field near St. Peter's Church last night, a huge giant cracker, with a gun cap attached, exploded in the hands of James McCurdy, a twelve-year-old boy, seriously injuring his hands and face.

It appears that a crowd of about ten boys were together in the field and several firecrackers had been set off before the unfortunate boy was hurt. One large cracker was fitted with a gun cap and James McCurdy held this in his hand while he lighted the fuse. The cracker exploded prematurely and blew three of the fingers of his right hand nearly off and seriously injured several on his left hand. The boy was also bruised and cut about the chin and jaws.

The noise of the explosion brought several people from the houses in the vicinity of the field and when they reached the boy, blood was pouring in streams from the wounds. He was groaning and yelling frantically with the pain. The boy was hurried to the home of his father, John McCurdy, 270 Main street, and a doctor hummoned.

After examining and dressing the wounds the boy was taken by his father to the Public Hospital, where it was found necessary to amputate three fingers from his right hand and one from the left. The little fellow suffered much pain previous to the operation, but was progressing favorably this morning.

The other boys who were with the unfortunate lad were badly frightened and declared that they would leave firecrackers alone in future.

MARITIME BOYS CAMP ON THE GRAND LAKE

The New Brunswick section of the Maritime Boys' Camp (now in its sixteenth season), will be held this year, July 8th to 22nd, at Robertson's Point, Grand Lake, N. B., three miles from Upper Jemseg. The camp will be under the leadership of Mr. Frank A. Hyman, physial director, Moncton Y. M. C. A., assisted by a number of competent leaders. These camps are open to all boys of good moral character, betwen the ages of 12 and 17. The cost for the two weeks is $7.50. Make application early to Frank A. Hyman, Moncton, care of Y. M. C. A. Information furnished on application to any local Y. M. C. A. secretary, or to F. G. Marshall, New Glasgow, or to Rev. E. W. Forbes, Canso, chairman Maritime Boys' Work Committee.

BODY FOUND IN A WELL

CUMBERLAND, R. I., May 26—With his head buried deep in the mud at the bottom of a well, the body of John Chandler, 45 years old, was found today, after a long search. Chandler purchased a farm in this town recently. Today Jas. Allen, one of the men who boarded with him, missed Chandler, and after an unavailing search over the farm, went to the well to draw a pail of water. As he let down the pail he saw Chandler's feet above the water, and after calling for help, the body of the unfortunate man was hauled to the surface. Coroner Alexander Marshall, of Arnold's Mills, after an examination said that the death was accidental, and gave it as his opinion that while reaching down for a pail of water Chandler lost his balance and plunged down head first, driving his head into the mud at the bottom of the well. It is believed that he leaves a wife in Boston.

THE MAN WHO WORKS HARD

Perseverance and will power he must have, but whether he has strength and vigor is another consideration. Hard working men usually have irritable nerves and should fortify their systems with a course of Ferrozone, a tonic that rebuilds and revitalizes beyond all telling. It's just wonderful the strength that Ferrozone imparts to broken-down men. It forms new blood, supplies the system with abundant nourishment, and where formerly there was tiredness and lassitude Ferrozone establishes a reserve of energy and vim. Try Ferrozone—price 50c. per box.