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The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

VOL XLVIII. NO. 21. VICTORIA, B.C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1907. FORTY-EIGHTH YEAR

MEMBERS OF COMMONS GIVE REIN TO TEMPER

Duncan Ross and G. W. Fowler Engage in Very Undignified Altercation

UNPARLIAMENTARY EPITHETS USED

Leader of Opposition Makes Strong Plea on Behalf of Prince Edward Island

Ottawa, Feb. 19.—An extraordinary scene occurred in the house just prior to the dinner adjournment, and for a short time things were looking ugly; epithets of violent vituperation, fortunately seldom heard in the chamber, being hurled across the floor with the reckless regard of dignity which comes of anger and loss of self-control.

Geo. W. Fowler, of King's, and Duncan Ross, of Yale-Cariboo, were the principals in the match of verbal fisticuffs, and the question was Mr. Fowler's participation in certain land transactions. Mr. Ross deliberately provoked the outbreak. Trouble had been brewing since the Christmas recess, and only a few days ago Mr. Carvell of Carleton lifted the lid slightly, when, in defending the Robins irrigation deal, he intimated that the opposition would have enough of land deals before the close of the session. This drew from Mr. Bennett the challenge: "Bring it right along."

The storm burst suddenly. The house was in committee on the Hon. Mr. Lemieux' anti-strike bill, and Mr. Fowler, in supporting the request of the opposition that the bill be delayed, took occasion to refer to the political ambitions of Ralph Smith, who supported the measure. Mr. Ross followed and suggested that other members had ambitions also. He said Mr. Fowler had ambition to become a land owner in the Northwest.

This precipitated a chorus of retorts from the Conservative side, and amid the uproar Mr. Fowler's voice could be heard declaring that the whole story should come out now. Mr. Fowler in the course of a heated speech in which such phrases as "parliamentary prostitutes," "dirty insinuations," "debased mind," and "the sewer which takes the place of mind in him," were freely bandied, contended that he had nothing to be ashamed of in his business transactions. He had become a land owner in the Northwest, and he was glad to say the lands were increasing in value. These lands were not obtained from the government at a dollar an acre by means of closed leases; they were bought in the open market. Mr. Fowler then turned his batteries on Mr. Ross, referring to him as a wooden man who jumped when a string was pulled.

"My land transactions," cried Mr. Fowler, "are my private business and not a matter for the house to deal with."

Mr. Fowler intimated in no uncertain tones that if his private affairs were to be meddled with, he would defend himself and also show up the private characters of members of the government without fear or favor. He would expose the game of "women, wine and graft." He did not propose to be singled out for an attack of that kind. Mr. Fowler urged the government to bring on the attack, but he warned them that he would defend himself and retaliate along the lines he mentioned. He would show the real cause of indisposition on the part of certain members of the government. "Bring on these charges; you can't do it too soon to suit me," cried the member for King's, amid a scene of tumult seldom witnessed in the house. Throughout the whole of the affair Sir Wilfrid Laurier sat in his seat. Mr. Campbell, acting chairman, interposed only once.

The incident is the talk of the lobbies tonight, and is regarded as the sensation of the session.

The canned goods inspection bill received its second reading in the senate today. Maritime province members desired that canneries to be exempt, and Senator Bostock put in a similar plea for the salmon canners.

Mr. Lavergne asked in the house on what basis the government proposed to reform the senate, and whether a measure was to be introduced at this session. Sir Wilfrid Laurier replied that senate reform was still in order of consideration. No measure would be introduced this year, as it was the desire to make the session a short one.

In the house the question of a tunnel connecting Prince Edward island with the mainland was discussed. Members on both sides advocated this great public work as a measure of justice to the island, which for many winters has suffered from government neglect. Mr. Borden pointed out that in February, 1891, the present prime minister had declared that a tunnel must be constructed if reasonably practicable, yet this government since it came into power had not made any effort to ascertain whether it was practicable. Either the government should establish efficient and continuous communication by means of steamships or face the problem of a tunnel. The government was equally bound to defray the cost of maintaining telegraphic communication. Conditions had become exasperating in the extreme, and any one who had noted the attitude of the press and representative bodies could not fail to realize that most active steps should be taken to remove the grievance.

The cost of a tunnel eight miles long is placed at $8,000,000.

A HUNDRED VICTIMS

Las Esperanzas, Mexico, Feb 19.—The death list from yesterday's mine wreck will probably number one hundred. Fifty-four bodies have been recovered.

LABOR MEN'S REQUESTS

A Deputation Waits Upon Premier Whitney of Ontario

Toronto, Feb. 20—A deputation from the Ontario executive of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada waited upon Premier Whitney of Ontario. It consisted of Joe Mark, London; Edgar Empey, Ottawa; S. L. Landers, Hamilton; James Simpson, Toronto, vice-president of the congress, and local gentlemen, including L. H. Gibbons, A. C. Sanders and John Virtue.

The deputation was introduced by Allan Studholme, M. P. for East Hamilton. A number of questions were brought up.

Premier Whitney, in reply, said he had not time to go into all questions raised. As to the matter of foreign detectives, it would receive much consideration. Fair wage clauses would be put into all contracts and were being placed in contracts for normal schools. Questions of property qualification in municipal elections was worthy of consideration. There was probably need of more factory inspectors. They had to consider the question of money.

"It is said," remarked the Premier, "that we are spending money, and so we are. We will continue to do so as long as the revenues will stand it and the needs of the people demand it. We are not going to hoard up money to see it grow."

The Premier hoped to see the time when there would be no prison labor contract of any description.

EXCLUDING JAPANESE.

Honolulu, Feb. 20.—Governor Carter received a request from Secretary of State Root to notify agents of steamship companies that Japanese laborers in Hawaii with transports for Hawaii only will not be admitted to the mainland. The steamship Mongolia, which sailed for San Francisco yesterday, carried over 300 Japanese from here.

DECLINING BIRTH RATE IN UNITED KINGDOM

A Reduced Number of Births Does Not Necessarily Imply a Decreasing Population

In a report on British vital statistics for 1905 the Registrar-General, Sir William Dunn, considers what seems like a revolutionary theory regarding the steady fall in the birth rate, which he generally held to be a sign of a nation's decay.

Sir William asserts that a high birth rate does not necessarily involve a larger, effective addition addition to the population than does an average or even a low birth rate. In too many cases high birth rates are associated with excessive sickness and mortality during the first few years of life, the result being that fewer than the normal proportion of children survive for five years, while those who do survive have fallen below the normal standard of physical fitness.

There is some ground, he says for the opinion that moderate birth rates, associated with low mortality among children, may be more effective toward keeping up the population than high rates associated with high mortality. Sir William's theory is based upon facts revealed by a remarkable inquiry undertaken with the object of taking the histories of children born, and these are set forth in statistical form.

Other investigations led to the conclusion that during the past thirty-five years about 17 percent of the decline in the birth rate was due to a decrease in the proportion of young married women. About 10 percent was due to a decrease in illegitimacy, while regarding the remaining 73 percent of the decrease, although a proportion was due to reduced fertility, ascribable to changes in the age and constitution of married women, there is little doubt that the great part was due to deliberate purpose.

Among other facts that stand out prominently, the death rate in England and Wales in 1903 was the lowest on record. Only four European countries had lower birth rates. Fifty-eight reputed centenarians of whom forty-seven were women, died that year.

NANAIMO NEWS NOTES.

Nanaimo, Feb. 20.—It is reported that quite a number of real estate deals have been or are about to be consummated soon. Among others the Earl Block on the corner of Commercial and Chapel streets. The selling price of the block, which has a large frontage on each street, is said to be $15,000. Two months ago it was offered for $8,000. It is a valuable piece of property. Mayor Planta is making or has made the sale.

William Tippett and Miss Alice Courtney were married last night. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Silva White in St. Paul's church. The young couple are both residents of this city and are well and favorably known by a large circle of friends. The bride was given away by A. C. Wilson and was assisted by Miss Dolly McCuish. Mr. Frank Newberry supported the groom. The bride looked charming in a dress of pale blue cashmere, trimmed with silk and wore in her hair a handsome spray of white camelias and carnations. The bridesmaid was dressed in white and wore a spray of pink camelias. After the marriage ceremony had been performed the wedding party retired to the home of the groom's sister, Mrs. A. C. Wilson, Comox Road, where an excellent wedding supper was served to a number of invited guests. The wedding presents were many, consisting of useful and ornamental articles, some of them very handsome and costly.

WHITE PASS ROAD OPEN.

Skagway, Alaska, Feb. 19.—The White Pass is now open from Skagway to Whitehorse and trains are moving today for the first time in nearly a week. The blockade was the worst in the quantity of snow on the road since it was built. The train that was stormbound for five days at Pennington, arrived last night. The Dawson and Atlin trails are again passable.

LABOR PROBLEM WILL BE METHODICALLY ATTACKED

Enquiry Instituted by Board of Trade to be as Thorough as Possible

PUBLIC BODIES INTERROGATED

Wrong Impressions in Regard to Salvation Army Immigrants Are Corrected

"What is the best and most expeditious solution of the labor problem now confronting British Columbia?" This is the question which a special committee of the board of trade is endeavoring to deal with and, already, a system has been evolved calculated to arrive at the consensus of public opinion throughout the province. The matter was discussed at some length at the last general meeting of the board. On that occasion a motion was introduced to the effect that the Dominion government be petitioned for the passing of registration necessary to bring about a reduction of the poll tax on Chinese from $500 to $100. The resolution, however, never came to a vote, the majority being in favor of having the situation thoroughly investigated before any definite action was decided upon. Hence the formation of the committee and the work which has been taken up by the members of that body.

At a recent gathering of the latter, Secretary Elworthy was instructed to insert advertisements in the daily papers inviting all interested in the labor question, whether employers or employees, to communicate with him in order that they might furnish evidence as to the need or otherwise of introducing skilled or unskilled labor, and to express their views as to what would be the wisest policy to recommend were either course deemed advisable. As a result responses have been received from quite a few Victorians, whose business interests qualify them to speak with authority upon the question. It is understood, also, that representatives of the Victoria Trades and Labor council intend being present in order that their attitude may be clearly explained to the board.

It is proposed to arrange meetings at which those who have signified their willingness to go upon record in regard to the matter will be given an opportunity to speak. A stenographer will be engaged, so that a verbatim report of the proceedings will be available. In this way it is believed that the ground will be fully covered, at least, as far as Victoria is concerned. Thus it will be possible to draft a valuable report.

Question All Parties

But the committee did not allow their enterprise to stop at arranging a method for obtaining an idea of the feeling among local citizens. The majority of the members thought that, having undertaken a somewhat heavy task, they should make their labors as complete as possible. With that object in view, the secretary was asked to draft a communication, outlining the course being taken by the Victoria board of trade and asking for an expression of opinion from the different public bodies of standing in other important communities of the province. These have been forwarded to the various boards of trade, the Farmers' Institutes, the Agricultural associations, and the Trades and Labor councils. It is hoped that satisfactory replies will be received at an early date.

It is thought that it will be possible, through the system explained, to obtain a grasp of the attitude of all classes towards the labor question. A special point has been made, in all questions propounded by the committee, as to whether the orginizations communicated with would favor a reduction of the Chinese immigration tax. With all the data which should be forthcoming, the board of trade should not find it difficult to arrive at a conclusion satisfactory to the majority of those concerned throughout British Columbia.

Government Action

In the meantime the provincial government is steadily pursuing its policy with respect to the encouragement of immigration. Hon. R. G. Tatlow, minister of agriculture, feels confident that the efforts of the Salvation Army combined with the reduced rates from England to the Pacific coast, should result in bringing large numbers of desirable settlers to western Canada. It is expected that in less than a fortnight the vanguard of the newcomers will reach British Columbia. Thirty mechanics are looked for about the first of next month. A number of the men are married and will bring their families with them. This fact indicates that the ranks of the wage-earning class will be augmented still further, for quite a few of the men have daughters who are looking forward to domestic service to assist their parents.

Following out the custom which is always adopted by the Salvation Army all members of the party will have positions to take immediately upon their arrival. It will not be necessary fo them to remain idle a day. The same will be the case in regard to all those who will be brought to the country, during the spring and summer months under the auspices of the Army.

Safeguarded

It has been contended by a number of Victorians, who expressed themselves as somewhat adverse to the contract which has been entered into between the provincial government and the Salvation Army, that the latter contemplate introducing only skilled labor. In reply to that allegation it is asserted by local officials of the organization that such a statement is absolutely without foundation. The agreement calls for "desirable settlers," and these the Army proposes to encourage to make their homes in the province. All the laborers, whether skilled or unskilled, for whom promises of situations can be secured, will be assisted to reach here. It is only necessary, therefore, for those in want of help of any kind to notify the local Salvation Army representatives. They will communicate with headquarters, and everything possible will be done to obtain the people wanted with little delay. The advantages of such a system, it is pointed out, are quite apparent. While the trend of immigration is directed westward it will be subjected to just sufficient regulation to prevent the country becoming flooded to an extent which might result in undesirable competition, a consequent reduction in the general wage scale, and, worse than all, the placing of men, having families dependent upon them, out of employment.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S CONDITION.

Physically Broken, But Still Alert in Mind.

London, Feb. 20.—An interesting authoritative statement concerning the health of Joseph Chamberlain is published today. It does not confirm the worst rumors, but it shows that Mr. Chamberlain is completely broken physically, although he is still alert. He passes most of his time indoors at Highbury, his Birmingham residence, but when the weather is fine he drives in a carriage in the grounds of his estate or on unfrequented roads in the vicinity. He seeks to avoid the public gaze. He never stays outside the house more than forty-five minutes at a time. He sometimes spends considerable time in his orchid house, as the temperature in these buildings suits him, or he will be wheeled in an invalid's chair about the grounds. He occasionally takes a short walk supported by his stout stick and the arm of his wife, but the invalid chair is always at hand.

ONTARIO'S FIGHT FOR PROVINCIAL RIGHTS

Companies Changing to Dominion Jurisdiction Will Incur Penalties

Toronto, Feb. 20.—The government, through a bill introduced yesterday by Hon. J. S. Hendry, has begun a battle for provincial rights.

The bill provides that any company chartered by the province and seeking to have its rights transferred to Dominion jurisdiction, shall, by the attempt to do so, thereby lose any franchises or bonuses, or other favors granted by the province or any municipality therein. The act will be retroactive, but will not affect the validity of any bonds or debentures issued in such circumstances held by bona fide investors.

The proposed legislation is due to the Hamilton merger and other similar evasions of the jurisdiction of the province by railway companies which have been organized with Ontario charters. This bill would have the effect of bringing them up with a round turn, as it would make it practically impossible for them to operate. The municipalities would likely join with the province in bringing such pressure to bear on the offenders. This, in addition to the taxation clause the premier hinted at lately, would certainly put a spoke in the plans of some of the corporations which are trying to evade Ontario's jurisdiction.

JAMAICA'S CAPITAL SCENE OF DESOLATION

Captain of Halifax Steamer Speaks of Swettenham—Davis Incident

Halifax, Feb. 20.—Steamer Bets, which carried a cargo of supplies forwarded by the Dominion government to the earthquake sufferers in Kingston, Jamaica, returned to Halifax today.

"It is impossible to say a thing about Kingston," said Capt. Hopkins. "There is nothing left of it. Every building in the city is in ruins. When we got there the post-office was out on the sidewalk, and all the streets were filled with wreckage. The supplies we took down were greatly appreciated, especially the tents, for everybody is living under canvas, most of the people being camped out on the race course.

"Governor Swettenham has done magnificent work, and if they take him away from Kingston now it will hinder the relief work. He has been working night and day ever since the disaster happened. Those reports in the American papers were nearly all lies. Many of the people whose names were signed to that paper criticizing Sir Alfred Jones never saw the document until it was published.

"It was the Colonial Secretary who caused the trouble between the governor and Admiral Davis, for he asked Davis to send sailors ashore. The people of Kingston generally are in favor of the stand taken by Swettenham, but there are some people there who don't like him, and they took this chance to get back at him."

MILITARY CHANGES.

Quebec, Feb. 20.—Lieut.-Col. R. E. W. Turner, V.C., D.S.O., is to retire from the command of the Queen's Own Hussars, and his appointment to the command of a brigade of cavalry, to consist of 1,200 men, will be shortly announced. Major A. F. Ashmead, second in command, will succeed to the command of the regiment.

LITTLE REPUBLICS WAR IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Nicaragua and Honduras Armies Commence Work of Slaughter

OFFERS OF MEDIATION REJECTED

Both Countries Appear to Claim Victory in Their Encounters Up to Date

San Salvador, Feb. 20.—Despatches received by Senor Davilla, the representative of Honduras here, say that the Nicaraguan army invaded Honduras territory at Portillo del Espino, and that after two hours' fighting the invading forces were completely defeated, leaving 37 men killed and wounded on the field.

The losses of the Honduras army are said to have been insignificant.

Proclamations establishing a provisional government in Honduras were captured by the Honduran troops. They were signed by Maximo Rosales, Miguel Oquelli, Bustillo and Ignacio Castro. These men are prominent Honduran revolutionists, who are now serving with the forces of President Zelaya of Nicaragua.

Managua, Nicaragua, Feb. 20.—The Nicaraguan army, under General Vasquez and General Fornos, has defeated the forces of Honduras at several points, capturing important positions.

President Bonilla, of Honduras, has issued a proclamation in which recent events are distorted, and appealing for recognition of the boundary question, which Nicaragua has not taken into consideration since the king of Spain rendered his award in the matter.

From the outset Nicaragua has only demanded ample satisfaction for the violation of her territory, for the attacks made on property, and the burning of buildings in Nicaraguan territory by the regular troops of Honduras, and for the killing of the Nicaraguan soldiers who composed the small frontier guard which was attacked by Honduran troops.

City of Mexico, Feb. 20.—First Assistant Secretary of State Hill gave this afternoon out a statement to the Associated Press to make the following statement: "A telegram has been received by President Diaz from the president of Honduras, saying that at 4 o'clock on the morning of the 18th, the forces of Nicaragua and Honduras met on the border, and a fight ensued. He characterized the encounter as a small affair.

"The place where the battle occurred, but will not effect the validity of any bonds or debentures issued in such circumstances held by bona fide investors. The number of killed or wounded and other details were not given. The president of Honduras declares that the Nicaraguans were defeated and compelled to retreat."

It is believed in Mexico City that the telegrams from President Bonilla, of Honduras, to President Diaz are tantamount to the non-acceptance of the good offices of Mexico and the United States, and that war between Nicaragua and Honduras is now certain.

Managua, Nicaragua, Feb. 20.—As a result of the hostilities which broke out on February 13 between Honduras and Nicaragua, resulting in the repulse of the Honduran army, the Nicaraguan troops are now advancing into the interior of Honduras. General Canas, who led the attacking force, was killed during the fighting.

MANY MATTERS BEFORE THE LABOR COUNCIL

Use of Union Label—Pronouncement on Shortage of Labor —Mr. McNiven

The Victoria Trades and Labor Council met last evening. The president being absent, Vice-President Frank Slavin occupied the chair.

R. T. Williams presented his credentials as representative of the bookbinders, and Alex. Stevens as representative of the Blacksmiths' and Helpers' Union.

Chairman Shanks reported that the label committee had held a meeting and was arranging to take active steps in pushing the use of the union label.

Chairman Ryan presented a report on behalf of the finance committee, which showed the finances to be in a healthy condition.

The International Typographical Union wrote asking the council to take active steps in having their members call for the union label on all kinds of printing. The secretary was instructed to notify all union men in accordance with the request.

S. L. Landers wrote regarding the strike of garment workers, and the matter was referred to the label committee with instructions to take immediate action.

Mrs. Anderson, secretary of the Garment Workers' Union, wrote enclosing $5 towards the anti-tuberculosis fund. A vote of thanks was passed to the donors.

The secretary of the Canadian Labor party wrote asking the council to take action on monetary and other matters. The matter was referred to the legislative committee for report at next meeting.

The American Federation of Labor wrote giving very minute information as to the recognized union labels, which the secretary was instructed to transmit to the different unions.

Delegate Garland reported that the Waiters' Union was increasing its membership rapidly, and he hoped by next meeting to be able to report that there were no waiters outside the union.

J. D. McNiven, who for five years has acted as secretary and manager of the Labor Hall trustees, made a report in detail, stating that everything was in readiness to transfer the lease and stock to new trustees.

The question of lowering the head-tax on Chinese was brought before the council. The general opinion was to the effect that if reasonable wages were paid, as in other parts of Canada and the United States, there would be no scarcity of white labor in this province. A committee was appointed to secure all necessary information with a view of having it presented before the board of trade inquiry committee.

In view of the arrangements that have been entered into between the provincial government and the Salvation Army authorities by which the latter undertake to bring settlers from Great Britain, the secretary was instructed to write the Premier, asking that the government take such steps as will prevent said settlers from being used as strikebreakers.

Messrs. Johnson, Sivertz, Williams, Gilligan and Ryan were elected as the new board of Labor Hall trustees.

A delegate drew the attention of the council to the misunderstanding between the telephone company at Vancouver and its employees. The proper committee was instructed to inquire into the matter and report at the next meeting of the council.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to J. D. McNiven for his long and faithful services in the interests of labor in this city. A committee of three was appointed and a sum of money placed at its disposal to enable it to present him with a properly engrossed souvenir on behalf of the Trades Council.

The same committee was also instructed to present D. L. Kelly, ex-treasurer of the Labor Hall trustees, with the thanks of the council and a purse of $25.

The meeting then adjourned.

THE MORMON SENATOR WILL KEEP HIS SEAT

Committee Resolution Against Reed Smoot is Voted Down by the Senate

Washington, Feb. 20.—The committee resolution to unseat Senator Smoot, as amended, was defeated by a vote of 28 to 42. The vote ended the contest against the senior Utah senator of three years' standing. Every available seat in the senate gallery was occupied during the voting, and the floor was crowded with members of the House of Representatives and employees of the Senate. At the conclusion of the voting, Senator Smoot was given a reception in the Republican cloakroom.

CANADA'S FAR NORTH.

Ottawa, Feb. 20.—Senator Poirer will move a resolution in the Senate declaring that the time has come for Canada to make a formal declaration of possession of the lands and islands situated in the north of the Dominion and extending to the north pole.

WINDSOR CITIZEN DEAD.

Windsor, Feb. 20.—Edward D. Mooney, a well-known citizen, who was for two years a member of the city council, died today. He was 62 years of age.

CONSTITUTIONAL PARTY ADMITS ITS DEFEAT

Result of Russian Elections Strongly in Favor of Radical Groups

St. Petersburg, Feb. 21.—At this hour the Radicals' success in the parliamentary election is known. Late returns show 251 Radicals elected. At midnight Prof. Milukoff, leader of the Constitutional Democrats, admitted that the results spelled defeat for his party. The Constitutional Democrats will have at the outside around hundred delegates less than one-fifth of the total representation, and with the recognition of this fact there disappears the last hope of this party of taking over the ministry. The party, however, is strong in the character of its adherents, who are skilled parliamentarians and who represent that body of intelligent political opinion committed to a clear programme. But the organization of the Socialists is equal to that of the Constitutional Democrats, and the radical tactics, although simple, will be hard to withstand.

The results confirm the anticipation of a strong drift to the Left party, and show that the Constitutional Democrats will be forced to seek allies among the Moderates in order to maintain its independence of action. They also indicate an overwhelming majority in opposition to the government reforms and a majority against the extremist demand for the immediate destruction of parliament.

The rumor that the date of the opening of the Douma will be postponed is denied by the ministry. It will meet on March 5, as previously arranged. After the officers of the Douma are elected, the ministerial programme, with the financial budget, will be introduced and the Douma will be left to work out its own fate.

LICENSE INSPECTOR DEAD.

Mitchell, Feb. 20.—William White, license inspector for South Perth, died today at his home in Hibbert township of pneumonia.

MILITARY INSTRUCTION AT ESQUIMALT STATION

Minister of Militia Makes Statement in Response to Inquiry

OLD AGE PENSIONS DISCUSSED

Senators Talk About Canada's Possessions in the Direction of the North Pole

Ottawa, Feb. 20.—The Commons had an interesting discussion today on old age pensions. Several members favored the scheme. Sir Wilfrid Laurier thanked Mr. Pringle for bringing the matter up, but said he could not go the length of adopting the New Zealand scheme. He rather favored a plan of pensions whereby the state should supplement by an annual grant the contributions of those who expected to benefit by the fund.

Ralph Smith learnt from Sir Frederick Borden that the Esquimalt garrison now consists of one company of artillery engineers, one company of Canadian artillery, one company of Canadian engineers, with detachments of the Canadian permanent army service corps, permanent army medical corps and medical corps. The government intended to establish schools of instruction for artillery and infantry operations as soon as possible. It was the intention of the department to maintain Esquimalt at the standard mutually agreed upon with the Imperial government.

Senator Poirier moved his resolution in the Senate declaring that the time had come for Canada to make a formal declaration of possession of all lands and islands extending to the north pole. Mr. Poirier thought the time was coming when some of the northern lands would be found valuable. There were clear indications that there had been no less than four glacial periods in Canada, and at intervals temperate climatic conditions extended to what is now the absolute Arctic. A thousand years hence, the climate might have so changed that possession of the north would be essential to Canada's welfare, and ownership of the ways necessary to Canada to be able with her products to markets. It would be well for Canada to lose no time in securing clear title to those lands.

Sir Richard Cartwright said Canada had good reason to regard Hudson Bay as a closed sea, and that Canada's title to it was clear. There might be some doubt as to the value of ownership of the north pole. Canada had taken steps to make secure her claim to northern possessions. An examination was now in order, exploring, planting the Canadian flag, and establishing and making good Canada's title to the ownership of lands which, while not regarded as valuable, might become so. Until the present work in the north was complete, it was inexpedient for the Senate to declare the limits of Canada's domain in the north.

The debate was adjourned sine die.

There were some indications of an early closing of the house at Mr. Monk's special committee on co-operative and industrial questions this forenoon, although there were no such signs of prorogation at yesterday's sitting of the house. Some of the members of the committee wanted the matter cleared up as speedily as possible, so that it could be dealt with this session. It was suggested that as parliament was to close early in April, the measure should be taken over by the government, or the committee should be allowed to sit during the sittings of the house. Mr. Lemieux, the chairman, said that he had no objections to the committee sitting when the house was in session, but it was too early for the government to step in, and therefore he thought that they should go on with the evidence, which was done.

Hon. A. B. Aylesworth, in answer to an enquiry in the house today, said the question of retired judges who were receiving pensions having opened law offices and were practicing the legal profession was a question for the attorney-general of the province or the law society, who regulate the practice of barristers. The government was not able to express an opinion as to the right of judges to do so.

In appeal cases from the supreme court in reference to the taxation of C. P. R. lands in the west, Mr. Aylesworth said that instructions were given to the London solicitors of the government to apply to the judicial committee of the privy council for special leave to appeal. A petition has been prepared, and an appointment is to be made during the present sittings.

Hon. Mr. Oliver, replying to Mr. Lake, said that the Saskatchewan Valley Lands company had earned all the land they were entitled to, and 142,000 acres had been patented.

SIMILAR TO THAW CASE

Kentucky Court of Appeals Rules on Point of Law

Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 20.—A case similar in many ways to that of Harry K. Thaw was decided by the court of appeals today. In reversing a judgment sentencing James A. Shipp to life imprisonment for killing J. A. Smith for alleged improper relations with Shipp's wife, the court holds that it was competent for the defendant to tell the jury of a confession to Shipp by the wife regarding her relations with Smith. This confession, he says, she made to him two days before the killing. The court decided that it was not competent to prove her chastity as rebutting the idea that she would have made such a confession to her husband. Shipp swore he killed Smith on sight after hearing the story. A new trial is ordered.