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SIR WILFRID'S ADDRESS TO PEOPLE OF CANADA

Premier Clearly Sets Forth Issues of Campaign— Says Reciprocity Has Been Policy of Canadian Statesmen for Half a Century

Will Result in Opening up New Markets for Our Products and Will Improve Friendly Relations Be- tween Great Britain, United States and Canada

Ottawa, July 31.—The opening gun in the campaign which will determine the fate of the reciprocity agreement between the United States and Canada was fired to-day by the Liberal leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

In the opinion of an open address to the Canadian people and sets forth clearly the issues involved in the present campaign. The question at issue is not a new one. Sir Wilfrid asserts reciprocal relations with the United States have been sought by both parties for over half a century. The present Conservative party, he declared, is seeking to reverse this long policy of its leaders of the past. The agreement, the premier predicts, will further improve the friendly relations between Great Britain, Canada and the United States, and will be an important factor in bringing about a general treaty of arbitration.

"At all times during the last 60 years," says Sir Wilfrid, "it has been the constant effort of all the political parties in Canada to make with the United States an arrangement for the free exchange of natural products between the two countries."

In 1854 Lord Elgin, on behalf of Canada and the Maritime provinces, negotiated with the United States a treaty for this purpose, which lasted until 1866 and which, within the memory of some of our oldest citizens, was of great advantage. Ever since the termination of that treaty all public men in this Dominion have endeavored to have their differences on other questions, have been unanimous in the attempt to secure the free exchange of natural products.

R. L. Borden's statement, in a statement issued this morning, declares that the government apparently decided upon the dissolution of parliament in a hurry for every one at the partying of ways. Those two ways lead in very divergent directions. The choice of the people would be fraught with momentous consequences to the future of the country. It is right, as just that they should speak, because with that rests the ultimate decision."

Mr. Borden condemns the government for having dissolved parliament without supply for the services of the country, and without having the census so that parliamentary constituencies could be re-distributed and the west given its proper representation.

NEW TARIFF ON COAL FOR WEST

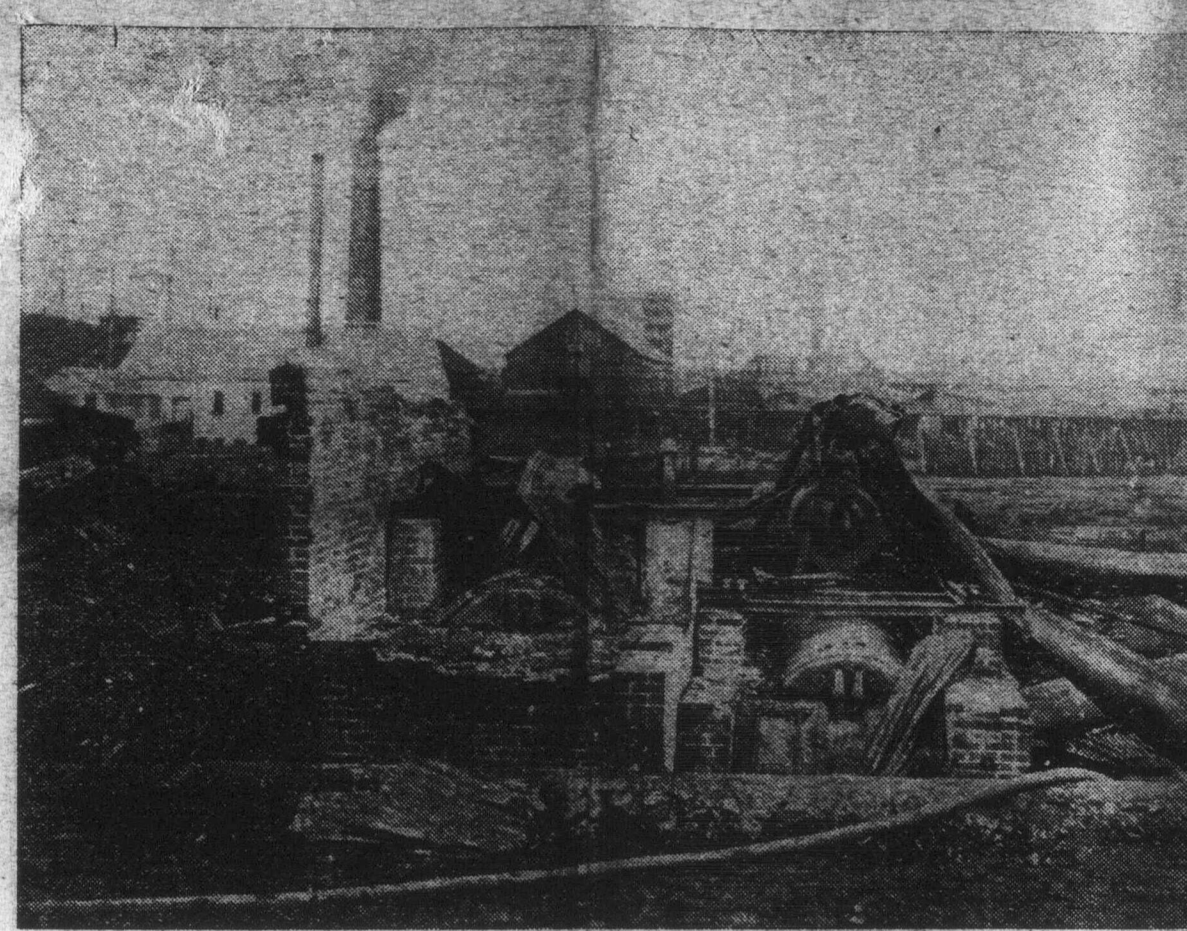
Reductions in Rates Will Go Into Effect in Few Days

Winnipeg, July 31.—The new coal tariff which will affect all coal carried west from Port Arthur and Fort William will go into effect in a few days. There will be no change in the rate directly affected by the coal strike, which normally get coal from the western mines, there will be a very material reduction. The Calgary reduction will be 33 per cent, and further west a greater reduction.

It is stated also that a large quantity of coal will be obtainable west of Montana. Sir William Mackenzie says a few cars from Montana will be brought in and he has a satisfactory large quantities will be imported. Investigations are being made with reference to the possibilities of securing rates on coal from Indiana and Illinois if the strike is not settled.

WOUNDED BY ROBBERS.

Butte, Mont., July 31.—Three masked robbers to-day entered a saloon in Meadville and probably fatally shot one of seven men, who were playing cards, and secured \$600, which was on the table. The robbers escaped.



ALL THAT IS LEFT OF THE TAYLOR MILL
Scene of the fire which early Sunday morning destroyed \$100,000 worth of property.

MIDNIGHT FIRE WIPES OUT MILL

TAYLOR LUMBER YARD RAZED TO THE GROUND

Great Conflict to Prevent the Flames Spreading—Several Exciting Incidents Occur

The fire broke out at the Taylor mill early Sunday morning and spread rapidly through the city of Victoria on Sunday by the splinter of the fire sirens as the full complement of the city's fire fighting apparatus raced over the intervening space between the fire halls and the scene of the outbreak, Taylor's lumber mill, situated on Government street.

Not more than three minutes elapsed from the time of the alarm to the arrival of the full brigade on the scene, and between what was practically the inception of the fire and the complete destruction of the mill, with the exception of the office which lies to the south, and which the firemen were able to save by applying all their energies in that direction.

In three minutes, from a torch-like flame emanating from the stack of the day-kin, to a seething mass of flames embracing the entire mill the fire developed, and as the lines of hose were arranged for play the impossibility of saving the premises was so palpable that it caused the fire chief to devote his attention to the saving of the office building and the adjoining premises of Lenon Gosman & Co. on the north, tasks in which they met with the utmost difficulty before success finally crowned their efforts. The lumber company, whose mill was destroyed, claim that the damage will reach \$100,000. Only \$23,000 worth of insurance was on the property, so that the firm stands to lose a considerable sum by the conflagration.

As may well be imagined the total destruction of a timber mill signifies some fire, and it is therefore gratifying to be able to report that while the fire was great no lives were sacrificed to give the blaze a more terrible significance in the annals of such outbreaks. Despite the fact that there were no lives lost no few people experienced exciting times. One man whose name is given as Jamieson, and who leaped from a window in the building while the fire was in progress, sustained such injuries as to necessitate his removal to the hospital for treatment.

What he had been doing in the building is not known, but it is believed that he was taking advantage of the unlicensed sleeping accommodation, unknown to the proprietors. At any rate he is not known in connection with the mill. His horror-stricken surprise at being awakened with scarlet illumination on the wall and luminous upon the walls can be much better imagined than described. His desperate leap for life was witnessed by the firemen and with their assistance he was safely removed from the scene to a place of safety, from where he was conveyed to the hospital when the ambulance arrived on the scene.

That was but the first of a series of hair-breadth escapes. A fireman in fighting back the oncoming flames which were threatening the adjoining mill, had to have his face and hands soured with water every few minutes to keep himself from falling up in the smoke. His plight, while most dangerous and heroic, had a humorous side which could hardly be withheld

SECRETARY AROUSES INDIGNATION OF KAISER

BLUNDERED IN DEALING WITH MOROCCAN AFFAIRS

Emperor Furious Because of Position in Which Ger- many is Placed

Paris, July 31.—The Malin's Berlin correspondent says he learns on high authority that the German Emperor is furious because of the situation in which Baron von Kiderlin-Waschter, the foreign secretary, placed Germany in the Emperor's absence. It was believed by the secretary that Great Britain was utterly indifferent to Morocco and would abandon France in the moment of danger. The arms of Germany then would be turned against Great Britain. However, instead of quick dispatch of the government ordered Aberdeen from this port and the Lady Laurier and Stanley from St. John, N. B., as well as several other vessels from other ports.

As from Yarmouth, reached the side of the Niobe before the government steamer, and Commander Macdonald decided to leave at once for a harbor so that it might have an expert examination of the damage. He proceeded to Shag Harbor, ten miles from Cape Sable, and there sent divers down to examine the hull.

STRIKE OF MINERS MAY SOON END

It is Believed Men Will Decide to Accept Majority Report of Board

Fernie, B. C., July 31.—The situation regarding the strike remains very quiet, but that there is a strong undercurrent running towards a favorable vote being the result of next Friday's vote upon the question of accepting the findings of the majority report of the conciliation board seems to be conceded by many who profess to be in close touch with the mining communities.

SIX FATALITIES AT MONTREAL

Woman Burned to Death— Three Men Drowned— Two Killed by Trains

Montreal, July 31.—Six bodies lie in the morgue to-day, the result of accidents yesterday and to-day.

A Syrian woman was burned to death, the result of a coal oil stove upsetting.

The bodies of John Andrews and August Nelson were found in the river; G. A. Watkins, an employee of McGill, was drowned while swimming; Harry Whibley, a Canadian Pacific yardman, was crushed to death beneath a train; John Ashford was killed on the Grand Trunk tracks at St. Hubert.

CRUISER NIOBE HAS BEEN FLOATED

HELD FAST ON ROCKS FOR FIVE HOURS

Hull is Damaged and Star- board Engine-room Swamped

Halifax, N. S., July 31.—The protected cruiser Niobe, flagship of the Canadian navy, was saved after being impaled for five hours on the southwest ledge of Cape Sable early yesterday. Her hull was pierced in several places, the starboard engine room swamped with water, and other compartments flooded. No lives were lost.

The exact means of the relief of the Niobe are not known here, but it is supposed she floated on a rising tide, Commander Macdonald would wreck the Niobe in a safe position some distance from the scene of her mishap, awaiting the arrival of the government steamers Lady Laurier and Stanley, which were dispatched to her assistance yesterday from St. John.

The cause of the accident is not yet known, but a heavy fog shrouded the coast and it is said that there was a southeast gale blowing. Six members of the crew who left the cruiser in two boats were the cause of much anxiety for hours after the accident, as they were lost in the fog and at the mercy of the sea and strong tide, which it was feared would wreck them on one of the many ledges about Cape Sable. It was learned by wireless that all have rejoined the ship. They went back to the cruiser and the boat, the other apparently having been wrecked.

So extreme was considered the plight of the Niobe when the ship first grounded, that Commander Macdonald ordered all the boats cleared away ready for abandonment of the vessel if necessary.

The two boats which were lost for a time with their crews were the first to be recovered. The British Columbia boats having been deferred until a definite idea of the condition of the vessel had been gained.

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The wireless apparatus was brought into play. Calls were heard at East-Point, Cape Sable, and other points, and were picked up also at Cape Race, N. E., and Cable Island, also at Father Point in Quebec. This resulted in a quick dispatch of the government steamer Aberdeen from this port and the Lady Laurier and Stanley from St. John, N. B., as well as several other vessels from other ports.

CONSERVATIVES APPEAL TO M'BRIDE

B. C. PREMIER UNWILLING TO ENTER LOSING FIGHT

Declines to Give Assurance That He Will Be Candidate in Elections

Ottawa, Ont., July 31.—For nearly three hours Hon. Richard McBride was closeted with Mr. Borden in the latter's office at the Parliament building Saturday night. The doors were closed against all but Mr. Perley, chief opposition whip, who was present for a portion of the conference.

Premier McBride landed in Montreal on his return from attending the coronation ceremonies, Saturday, and found an urgent Macdonaldian call awaiting him from Ottawa. The wires, it is said, burned with appeals to come to the capital. He reached Ottawa at 7 and departed at midnight Saturday for the west. It is understood that the Conservative leader and chief whip spent the time in seeking to obtain an assurance that British Columbia's premier would be a Conservative candidate at the forthcoming federal elections.

After the conference with Mr. Borden, Mr. Perley assembled the Conservative members still in the capital, and Mr. McBride joined them in caucus. There was considerable cheering, and it is understood that every inducement was held out to the British Columbia premier to save the situation.

But McBride would give no assurance. He interviewed at the close of the gathering he stated his loyalty to the Conservative party, but added discreetly that he had responsibilities and obligations to the people of British Columbia, and his colleagues and supporters. He would be able to make known his decision after reaching home, but he was sure, "no matter whether I am a candidate or not," that the British Columbia would make a good showing in the Conservative columns.

The Conservatives were plainly disappointed in obtaining no assurance from the British Columbia premier. The second impression of the Mr. McBride will prefer to sacrifice his attorney-general on the altar of his party exigencies.

In the opposition camp the news of the situation was received with no enthusiasm. Despite the earnestness of the obstructionists to force an election on the reciprocity issue, it has been an open secret for some days past that a considerable number of Mr. Borden's followers believe a tactical mistake has been made and that on this issue the party is doomed to hopeless defeat. However, it was recognized that the party, after making valor the better part of discretion, had burned its bridges and left no retreat open.

Having forced dissolution, they attempted to welcome it with as good grace as possible and publicly declared confidence in the result, although privately they admit that the best they can hope for is to cut down the government's majority sufficiently to compel another election next year, meanwhile continuing the blockade of reciprocity.

WILL COST \$700,000

Union-Labor, It is Estimated, Will Spend \$475,000 in Defence of Two Men

BOY KILLS FATHER.

Lad Did Not Know Rifle Was Loaded When He Pulled Trigger.

Kansas City, Mo., July 31.—"Hold up your hands, Daddy, or I'll shoot," called five-year-old Ernest Spillman from behind the dining-room door as his father, Carl Spillman, a member of the Kansas City fire department, entered his home. Before the father had time to turn, a small rifle in the boy's hands was discharged and the father fell dead. Ernest did not know the gun was loaded.

BOMB OUTRAGE.

New York, July 29.—An east side policeman was stunned and temporarily blinded by the bursting of a Black Hand bomb at 11th street early to-day. The policeman was passing a six-story tenement house owned by an Italian when the bomb exploded in the vestibule. The damage to the building was slight. The owner admits he had received several threatening letters.

SHOOTS HIMSELF.

Fort William, Ont., July 31.—William Morton ended his life by shooting himself.

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Los Angeles, Cal., July 31.—The trial of John J. and James B. McNamara, alleged dynamite, it is estimated, will cost \$700,000. It is calculated that \$250,000 will be the cost all the county, and union labor, it is estimated, will spend \$475,000 in defending the two men. It is said that the salaries of Attorneys Darrow, Davis and Scott, and Hartranft and Trol, for the defence, probably would exceed \$300,000.

Attorneys Le Compte Davis and Joseph Scott are away from Los Angeles on business connected with the defence. Davis has gone to Portland and Scott is en route to Chicago and Detroit.

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