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## IN THE PUBLIC VIEW



Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux.

THE reappearance of Hon. Mr. Lemieux at the Capital is the most important event of this session of Parliament. Since November last the Minister of Labour has been in Japan. He went as the representative of the Canadian Government in diplomatic negotiations with the Japanese Foreign Minister and United States Ambassador O'Brien regarding Japanese immigration into Canada. A few days ago Japanese Consul-General Nosse resigned his Consulate in Montreal. Recently the United States fleet of sixteen ships sailed for the Pacific. Two months ago Rudyard Kipling spent several days on the Canadian Pacific coast studying the Oriental question. Diplomatic despatches have been numerous.

These more or less related events have given Mr. Lemieux's return from Japan more significance than has ever attached to the ambassadorship of any other Canadian Cabinet Minister. Much has been said at the Conference but little reported. Envoy Lemieux has kept silence. At the last meeting of the diplomats, however, he insisted that Consul-General Nosse had repeatedly assured the Canadian Government, before the Anglo-Japanese treaty, that Japanese immigrants to Canada should not exceed six hundred a year. The Consul-General states that he stipulated no such figure and that his unofficial remarks were improperly construed by the Government.

For these reasons Ambassador Lemieux's dealings with Japan have been as much the subject of public speculation as Hon. Mr. Aylesworth's diplomacy in England over the Alaskan Boundary dispute. Mr. Aylesworth at that time, however, was neither a Minister nor a member of the House. It will be remembered that Hon. Mr. Lemieux is only incidentally Minister of Labour; that the Department of Labour was created by Sir William Mulock shortly after the Laurier Government came into power in 1896, when Mulock was made Postmaster-General. The present Deputy-Minister of Labour owes his position to the work which he did for Sir William Mulock investigating sweat-shop contracts let by the Conservative Government for the supply of uniforms to Post-Office employees. The Labour Department was created for the original purpose of keeping sweat-shop practices out of all Government contracts. Its jurisdiction was extended till it found expression in the Industrial Disputes Act, by virtue of which so many Canadian labour troubles have been satisfactorily settled by conciliation. The growth of the "yellow peril" on the Pacific Coast has elevated this department to an international status.

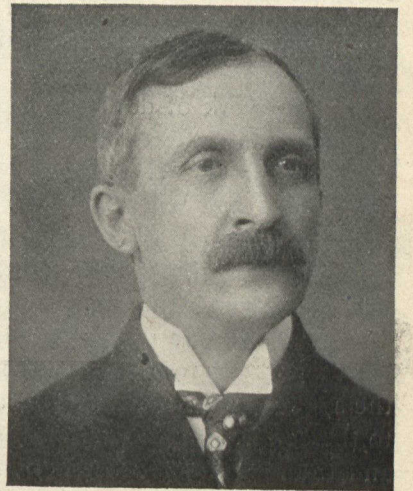
Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, the present Postmaster-General and Minister of Labour, is a young man, born in Montreal in 1866; he became a lawyer in 1891; was for some time assistant editor of "La Patrie"; he is the author of several works on law and lecturer on History at Laval University. He was first elected to Parliament as member for Gaspé in 1896. In 1904 he became Solicitor-General;

in 1906 he succeeded Mr. Aylesworth as Postmaster-General and Minister of Labour.

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MR. CY WARMAN, story-writer, poet, lover of nature and expert raconteur, appeared before the Canadian Club of Toronto and made two pleas. The first was that the Canadian forest should be preserved by cutting only the ripe trees and preserving the saplings for future harvests. The second was that Canada would be a Mecca for tourists, if hunting deer with dogs was made a criminal offence and if the amount charged for a hunting license was no greater than it is in Maine—\$15.

Mr. Warman lives in London, Ont., but that is because his wife loved her native city. By birth he is an American; by taste and sympathy he is a cosmopolitan; by adoption he is a Canadian. Ralph Connor was being entertained in London once and Mr. Warman as London's greatest literary citizen was asked to meet him at dinner. Apparently the Winnipeg novelist did not realise that he had met a man with the entree to the best magazines in New York, for when they met again and were again introduced in the King Edward, Toronto, Ralph Connor remarked, "What is your business, Mr. Warman?" The latter's sense of humour was too much for him and he replied: "I was in the radiating business, but I am not now." It was not a truthful answer, because wherever Mr. Warman goes he radiates cheerfulness, fellow-feeling and camaraderie. His inexhaustible "yarns," his homely observations and his unflinching wit have endeared him to a host of his adopted countrymen.

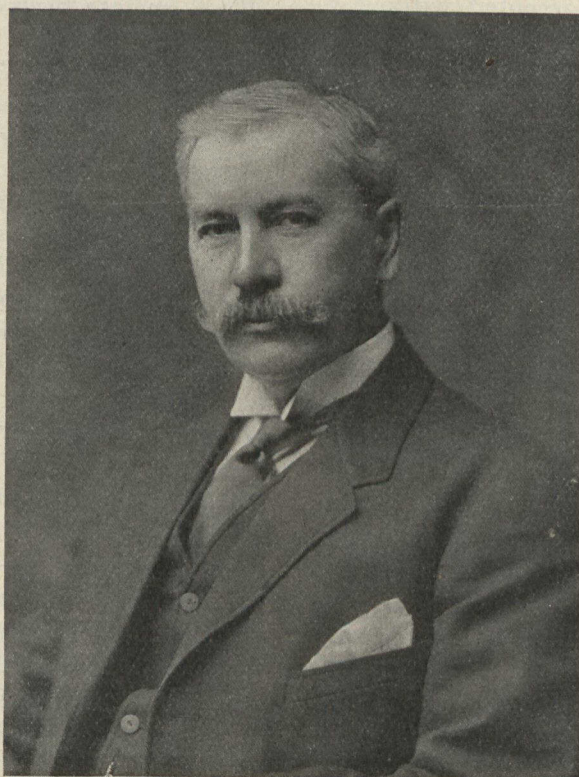


Mr. A. H. Clarke, M.P.,  
Chairman Public Accounts Committee.

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MR. WILLIAM MACKENZIE, president of the Canadian Northern Railway, returns from Great Britain with the assurance that Canada's reputation is steadily growing. He admits that the British financiers were doubtful about us for a few weeks, but is confident that this has passed. The stability of our institutions, during the recent financial crisis, has increased British admiration for this part of the Empire. Mr. Mackenzie believes that the tide of British capital and British immigration will continue west.

Mr. Mackenzie has been busy with the financial arrangements which his various companies have with the European investors. Judging from the rumours and from his remarks, he has been as successful as usual. Canada owes much to Mr. Mackenzie and those who like him have made visit upon visit to London to give personal explanations of our commercial and industrial progress, and to keep the British investor enthusiastic and well-informed. To perform such work successfully requires a great amount of ability and judgment, and the financiers of Montreal and Toronto have proved themselves the equals of any similar class in the world. Few of them have inherited their financial knowledge, but rather have gathered it quickly by stern, hard contact with the more experienced capitalists of New York and London.



Mr. Cy Warman.