

CLIFFORD SIFTON RESIGNS FROM DOMINION CABINET

Minister of the Interior Objects to Educational Clause
in Northwest Autonomy Bill.

SAYS LEGISLATURE SHOULD CONTROL SCHOOL FUNDS

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Ottawa, March 1.—Hon. Clifford Sifton, Minister of the Interior, has resigned his position as a minister in the Government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in consequence of the introduction of the educational clause in the Northwest autonomy bill.

It is understood that Mr. Sifton considers this clause establishes a dual system of schools which goes far beyond that which is at present established in the Northwest Territories, and furthermore, seeks to divert a portion of a very large fund which will arise from the sale of school lands in the Northwest Territories. This fund constitutes an endowment provided by Parliament for public schools.

Mr. Sifton declines to support any proposition for the diversion of this fund from the control of the Legislature of the Province. It is not known what action the Government will take in view of the resignation, which will be announced this afternoon.

Clause May Be Changed.
The general opinion here is that the educational clause of the autonomy bill will be changed, so as to include nothing more or nothing less than is contained in the Northwest territorial act in regard to education. If this is done, the Northwest Liberal members will support it. At any rate, this was what they suggested doing before the bill was introduced. If they do, the bill will go through.

KENT COUNTY OUT OF FEED

Serious Problem Facing the
Farmers to Keep Cattle
From Starving.

Chatham, March 1.—The question of securing feed for stock is becoming a serious problem with the farmers of Kent County. There are very few farmers in the whole country who have feed for sale, and these can find enough purchasers among their own neighbors. Matters are rapidly assuming a serious aspect. Farmers who are unable to purchase feed are forced to sell their stock, and others have barely sufficient feed to carry them over the remainder of the winter. Baled hay is also being shipped into the city from the east, and is greedily purchased by the farmers.

In some instances reports have come in of cattle starving to death. Only Saturday a farmer was in the city from Chatham Township asking the authorities to take action in regard to the livestock of stricken neighbors. His horses starved to death, and the cattle are ravaging the neighbors' forage. The authorities are at a loss how to deal with the case.

JAMMED HIS HEAD

Messenger Boy Killed by Elevator
in a Toronto Warehouse.

Toronto, March 1.—Harvey Hughes, aged 14, was killed in the new warehouse of the W. R. Brock Company this morning. He was employed as a messenger for W. P. Roger, and had been sent to Brock's on an errand. He stood on the third floor waiting for the elevator, when he put out his head into the shaft, which is not finished. The elevator came down and jammed his head. Part of the door had to be chopped away before the boy could be rescued. He died before he reached the hospital.

FELIX DOYLE WILL BE CHARGED WITH MURDER OF AGED MOTHER

Brantford, Feb. 28.—The coroner's jury in the Doyle case tonight returned a verdict to the effect that the aged woman had been murdered, and that in view of the evidence submitted, they believed that the deed was committed by her son, Felix Doyle, Crown Attorney Wilkes at once ordered Doyle's arrest, and he was immediately taken in custody by Provincial Detective Greer. After a preliminary hearing before Squire Cox, Doyle was placed in the county jail.

This morning's sitting of the Doyle inquest was given over to the examination of witnesses, who had called at the home after the body was discovered. The old lady's will was spoken of, and in it Felix is mentioned as the sole heir. The son is said to have declared after the murder, that he intended to sell everything and pay his debts and go away. One or two witnesses described Felix as a man whose intellect was not bright, and one who was an easy prey to implement agents.

Mrs. Southwick, a neighbor, told of

What the western members object to is the wording of the clause, which they say, creates a special system of schools.

On the other hand, the supporters of the clause say that the intention is to maintain the present system, and that the bill does not contemplate anything else.

Conferred With Premier.

The air in the House of Commons all yesterday afternoon was charged with electricity. In some manner the report that Mr. Sifton was resigning had got abroad, and it spread like wildfire. The fact that the Prime Minister and the Minister of the Interior went off together and had a prolonged conference in the former's room seemed to give color to the report. The conference between Sir Wilfrid and Mr. Sifton was interrupted by a division in the House, but immediately after the vote had been taken the Premier motioned to his colleague, and the two went back once more to Sir Wilfrid's sanctum. They conferred again about 5:30, and then it was seen that Sir Wilfrid wore a serious expression of countenance. On the other hand, on Mr. Sifton's face was to be seen an air of geniality, almost of gaiety. Mr. Sifton's cheerfulness did not seem to be forced. Mr. Sifton's good humor seemed to be such as would be engendered in a man who had crossed the rubicon, who was no longer laboring under suspense. He had finally made up his mind to pursue a definite line of action.

FOUND FATHER DEAD IN BED

Startling Discovery Made by
Daughter of Quebec Street
School Janitor.

Wilson Hall, janitor of the Quebec street school, was found dead in bed in his home, 461 Quebec street, this morning. Last night he retired complaining that he did not feel well. His illness did not appear serious, however, and nothing was thought of it. This morning his daughter arose, and as her father was not about as usual, she went to his room and found him dead.

The deceased was a well-known character about town, and was 88 years of age. He moved into London from Nissouri about fifteen or twenty years ago, and during ten years of this time he had been the janitor of the Quebec street school. He also sold fruit in the summer months from a small handcart, selling his wares from door to door. Born in County Armagh, Ireland, he came to Canada 45 years ago, and settled in Nissouri, where for many years he was a member of Purple Hill Lodge, No. 1, of the Order of the Bannockburn. He was a widower, and had a daughter, who is also in delicate health.

CHANGES ON THE POLICE FORCE.

A number of changes have taken place on the police force during the past week. P. C. Fair has handed in his resignation. He joined the force about two months ago, but since then he has been in poor health, and has been off duty a great deal. P. C. Dawson has been promoted to the rank of sergeant, and Arthur Dalglish is off duty also for the time being. Dalglish has, unfortunately, had serious trouble with his back, and has not been fit for duty for some time. When he produces a certificate to the effect that he is again physically fit, he will resume duty, as he is a valued member of the force.

Wm. Hunt, the next witness, said Felix had been at his place shortly after 1 o'clock on Wednesday. He had an envelope in his pocket which he wanted to show Hunt to prove he had no chattel mortgage on his stock. Frank Smith, the witness of the signature on a note held by Harry Cox for \$100, told that Felix Doyle had asked him to witness him sign his name and his mother's name. He was asked to get money to buy lumber for repairing the house. He saw Felix sign the two names, but was away as to the locality of it. About a week ago he went to the Doyle house and suggested to Felix that he see Felix, "leave it to some other time. Mother is hard to get along with sometimes, wait till she gets over it." Felix Doyle had told two different versions of the finding of his mother's body in ten minutes.

MILNER TO LEAVE SOUTH AFRICA

Premier Balfour Confirms the
Reports of His Intention
to Resign.

London, March 1.—Premier Balfour informed the House of Commons today that Lord Milner, the British high commissioner in South Africa, had, to his regret, announced long ago that he would not remain in South Africa, thus confirming his resignation announced months ago in these dispatches.

SHELLING POUTILOFF HILL

Jap Big Guns Open Terrific Fire On
Important Point.

Sachetin, Manchuria, March 1, 3 p.m.—The Japanese have opened a tremendous fire with field and siege guns against Poutiloff (Lone Tree) Hill. Columns of white smoke enveloped the hill on one side. The bombardment of the right flank continues.

HOCKEY PLAYER ARRESTED

Loney, Who Struck Blow That Killed
Laurin, In Jail.

Alexandria, Ont., March 1.—Early this morning A. Loney, of Maxville, the hockey player who struck the blow that killed Alphonse Laurin, this place, in a match at Maxville on Friday last, was arrested at Maxville by a constable from Alexandria, and taken to the jail at Cornwall on the advice of Crown Attorney Dingwall.

COMPANY IN TROUBLE

The Cumming Company of Renfrew
Said To Be Hopelessly Insolvent.

Toronto, March 1.—The N. R. Cumming Manufacturing Company, Limited, of Renfrew, according to the admission of its directors, is hopelessly insolvent. The company was capitalized at \$75,000, of which stock was issued for \$43,000, the stock being sold in blocks at \$1 a share. The liabilities will exceed \$100,000. The N. R. Bank is a creditor for \$13,000. Other creditors include the Merchants Bank and the Bank of Montreal. The company was formed to manufacture wood hardware.

ASK IMPERIAL CONFERENCE

British Chambers of Commerce Want
Fiscal Matters Discussed.

London, March 1.—The conference of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom now sitting in London, today discussed fiscal reforms, and ultimately decided by a vote of 42 chambers against 21 that "Changes in the fiscal system are essential to provide against unfair competition, and an imperial conference should be called to discuss the question."

THE TILTING INSTITUTE

Montreal, March 1.—The annual meeting of the Canadian Mining Institute opened here today with a business session this morning. The meeting will continue three days. The institute maintains an overland route to the Yukon via Edmonton and Peace River. Inspector Constantine is to be in charge. The men are volunteering for two years.

NEW QUEBEC MINISTER.

Quebec, March 1.—Hon. Nemese Garneau was sworn in this morning as Minister of Agriculture in the Provincial Government.

ARABIAN INSURGENTS WHIP TURKS AND SURROUND YEMEN'S CAPITAL

Constantinople, March 1.—The present insurrection of Yemen Province, Arabia, appears to put in the shade all previous revolts. The center of the movement is at Saada, northward of Sanaa (capital city of Yemen Province), and already there are signs of its extension to the Province of Assyr. The insurgents have again surrounded Sanaa, and a stubborn fight has been going on for several days. The Turkish troops refuse to resist further, and are deserting. In the south the towns of Aab and Hidgeh, the latter containing 2,000 troops with four guns are surrounded, and on the point of capitulating. The alleged victory of Feb. 1, when it was officially announced that the Turkish forces had routed the rebels investing Sanaa and Hodeida, the Yemen Province, and had relieved the besieged garrison of Sanaa, turns out to have been an insurgent success. Turkey's defective transportation delays the dispatch of reinforcements. The object of the insurrection is believed to be the creation of an autonomous Arab state.

THE WEATHER.

Tomorrow—Fine and Cold.

Sun rises, 6:55 a.m. Moon rises, 4:03 a.m. Sun sets, 6:30 p.m. Moon sets, 1:38 p.m. A few light local snowfalls have occurred today in the Maritime Provinces. Elsewhere in Canada the weather has been fair, and in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories continued very mild. Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria, 32-40; Medicine Hat, 22-34; Winnipeg, 28-38; Port Arthur, 18-24; Parry Sound, 15-24; Toronto, 17-23; Ottawa, 16-28; Montreal, 16-25; Quebec, 2-22; St. John, 8-22; Halifax, 12-30.

THE FLAG HAULED DOWN

Esquimalt Formally Abandoned by
the British Commander.

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 23.—Esquimalt naval station was formally abandoned today when Commodore Goodrich hauled down his flag. The Bonaventure, the only remaining cruiser, leaves for the City station. The ship Shearwater will remain in order to do patrol work in Behring Strait. The survey steamer Egeria will remain to do another season's hydrographic work in the North Pacific, the cost of which will be borne by the Canadian Government. All naval departments of the station have closed. Commodore Goodrich and his wife will return to England via the United States.

FOURTEEN DAYS IN AN OPEN BOAT

Survivors of Texas Relate
Their Terrible Experience.

When Rescued Had Drawn Lots to
Decide Who Should Be Killed
for Food.

New York, March 1.—Captain J. A. Minot, of the steam dredge Texas, which foundered at sea with a loss of 22 lives, was brought here today on the steamer Rotterdam from Rotterdam and Boulogne. The other survivors of the Texas were landed at Waterford several weeks ago, having been rescued by the brigantine Mercedes, after a terrible experience with hunger, thirst and cold in an open boat.

The Texas, which sailed from Danzig for Galveston in December, foundered at midnight on Christmas Eve. Two of her boats were launched, but one containing the chief officer and 21 men sank immediately, and all its occupants were drowned. In the second boat the survivors drifted fourteen days, the last six of which they were absolutely without food or water. One man died from exposure, another became insane, and the remaining twelve were on the verge of hysteria when help came to them. They had drunk sea water and their bodies were covered with boils. When taken on board the Mercedes one of the survivors said that they had just drawn lots to decide which one should be killed to furnish food for his fellows.

St. Petersburg, March 1, 1:50 a.m.—Last evening's news from Manchuria is of the most important nature, the Associated Press telegraph from Mukden transmitted at noon Tuesday indicating that a general battle was being fought along the 100 miles of front occupied by the two armies. General Kuropatkin appears to have taken a leaf out of Field Marshal Oyama's book, and repelled to General Kuropatkin's attack on the Russian left, in which General Kaulbar's initial success is better for the Russian than the best efforts of General Gripenberg, the Russian vanguard being established at the outskirts of Sanchuan. At the same time General Kuropatkin delivered a blow against the Japanese center, seizing a railroad bridge across the Shukhe River. These reports, therefore, give a more hopeful aspect to the situation, as the Russian army, though driven out of Da Pass, appears to have stopped, at least for the moment, the further advance of the Japanese eastward and beaten off the attack on the center.

The effect of yesterday's developments on General Kuropatkin's reported intention to withdraw from the Shukhe is problematical. Retirement in the face of any enemy, which is extremely hazardous under any circumstances, is doubly dangerous when the armies are engaged in a general engagement; but if General Kuropatkin succeeds in rolling up the Russian left, much further the perilous expedition may become necessary. The counter strokes on the right and center may possibly be intended to cover the withdrawing of troops and stores. If, however, Gen. Kuropatkin is determined to stand and fight out the battle on the lines which he has held during the winter, and if he should be able to administer a vigorous check to Gen. Kuropatkin, he has secured a good position for his second move in the great game.

Russian Headquarters, Huan Mountain, Manchuria, Feb. 23.—The Japanese attack was renewed last dawn. The fighting was along the whole eastern front, and Da Pass was taken, after fighting of the most stubborn character. On the most serious front, the Japanese were in progress on the front, extending almost 20 miles from the extreme left, eastward of Kankolean, where the Japanese opened a heavy artillery fire, to the district of Liaoan, where they advanced in great force, meeting with stubborn resistance. Another line of attack was directed toward the road to Fushun, east of Mukden and the Pass, but the Russians are gathering a strong force to meet the threatened attack on their line of communications. The Japanese attack

was supported by a strong force of artillery, a reserve of seven batteries being discovered east of Kankolean, which is yet silent.

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GEN. KUROPATKIN HITS BACK WITH HARD COUNTER-ATTACK

Hurls an Army at Oyama's Left Flank and Beats Off
Assault On His Center.

THE FIGHTING GENERAL ALONG A 100-MILE FRONT

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BALFOUR SIDETRACKS FISCAL?

What Will Chamberlain Do?

London, Feb. 28.—The political situation is undergoing some rather interesting developments, and there are several indications of the intention of the Government to sidetrack the fiscal controversy.

An attempt was made on the part of the Chamberlain section of the Unionist party to compel Lord Hugh Cecil to resign the parliamentary seat for Greenwich, but Cecil politely declined to quit, and in that determination received unexpectedly strong support from Sir Alexander Acland-Hood, chief of the Conservative party in the house, which he is a brilliant member, simply because he does not support the Government on the fiscal question.

This letter, which virtually accords to all Conservative candidates complete freedom of action in fiscal affairs, is resented keenly by the Chamberlain group, whose irritation is increased by a letter from the Unionist party to the Conservative candidate in Bute, in which, with reference to changes in the fiscal policy, the Premier says: "Important as are the issues raised, we must not let them obscure the fundamental principle of the Unionist party. If I rightly regard the signs of the times, the policy of home rule only awaits the advent of the Radical party to power to become active and perilous."

This letter is interpreted as showing Mr. Balfour's resolve to thrust fiscal reform into the background as an election cry, and keen curiosity is excited as to how the move will be met by Mr. Chamberlain.