SEMI-WEEKLY EDITION

The Edmonton Bulletin.

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CROSS AND BUCHANAN HAVE RESIGNED FROM GOVERNMENT

Attorney-General and Minister With Out Portfolio, Have Withdrawn From the Rutherford Administration.

CROSS GIVES REASON FOR TENDERING HIS RESIGNATION

Cushing Declares He Did Not Accept and Then Reject Premier's Invitation to Re-Enter the Cabinet.

In Statement He States Positively That He Did Not Give Premier Rutherford to Understand He Would Re-enter the Cabinet—Cross Says Premier Stated to Him Cushing Had Been Asked to Re-enter Cabinet and Had Accepted—Premier Refuses to Make Statement.

The past twenty-four hours have witnessed sensational developments in the political situation unprecedented in the history of this province or in the whole Dominion of Canada, and even those in closest touch with the conditions are unable to predict what will occur in the next day or two. It seems certain there will be a general election within the next few weeks.

As a thunderbolt from a clear blue sky came the announcement yesterday afternoon that Hon. C. W. Cross had resigned as attorney general, followed by the resignation of his deputy, Sydney B. Woods. Hon. Mr. Cross gives as his reason for his action that he had been informed by the premier that Hon. W. H. Cushing had been asked to re-enter the cabinet and had consented.

This morning Hon. W. A. Buchanan, minister without portfolio and slated for the position of minister of municipalities, tendered his resignation to the premier.

This morning a meeting of the remaining members of the cabinet was held at the premier's office. There were present Hon. A. C. Rutherford, Hon. Duncan Marshall and Hon. P. E. Lessard. After a short session the premier went up town to the King Edward Hotel, where it is understood he had arranged another conference with the ex-minister of public works.

It was reported among the members at the Legislative halls this morning that both Messrs. Marshall and Lessard had resigned, but each positively refused to make any statement to the Bulletin as to what was the result of the meeting.

The Premier's Lips Closed.

Premier Rutherford refused to discuss the situation this morning and when asked with reference to the resignations of the members of the cabinet reiterated several times "I have absolutely nothing to say."

It is altogether likely that he will make a statement in the House this afternoon, explaining the situation and probably announcing the resignations of the attorney general and the minister without portfolio.

Attorney General's Statement.

Hon. C. W. Cross made the following statement to the Bulletin:—

"In view of the fact that the premier informed me that he had asked the Hon. W. H. Cushing to become a member of his cabinet, and that Mr. Cushing had accepted, I could not, under any circumstances, remain a member of the Alberta government."

The attorney general had no further comment to offer on the situation. He did not know what had taken place between the premier and Mr. Cushing.

Hon. W. H. Cushing's Statement.

Hon. W. H. Cushing's statement was as follows:—

"When I came up from the buildings yesterday afternoon I found the premier waiting for me at the hotel. He intimated that he had something to say to me and we went to my room. He there made the proposal that if I would re-enter the cabinet Mr. Cross would resign.

"I told him that whatever my feelings might be in regard to a matter of that kind, the matter had now gone too far for him and me to go into a room and settle it between ourselves.

"I told him that my opinion was that nothing would satisfy the men who had stood out against the agreement, or the country, but a clean-up. I intimated that owing to my personal friendship for him I would be willing to sacrifice myself in any way if that would save the situation, but that I could not see how the course he proposed would help matters.

Could Not See it That Way.

"I told him I would tell the other members who had been opposing the agreement what he had said; that I had not tried to influence them in any way and was not going to try to do so. He seemed to think that if I would go back that would settle the whole trouble, but I told him I could not see it that way.

"I met him again in the evening in the office of the lieutenant governor, where we discussed the matter again with exactly the same result. I said then that so far as I could see there was only one solution. I said I would have a meeting of the members opposing the agreement and submit the matter to them.

"I did so and they were unanimous in demanding that there be no compromise. My own advice to them was that there could not be any compromise.

"I did not make any statement to the press last night and did not allow the other opposing gentlemen to make any, as I considered the communication between the premier and myself as private. However, as a report has been circulated that I agreed to re-enter the cabinet and then backed down again, it is right that the public should know the facts of the case.

Made No Such Statement.

"I never in any language or in any way told him or gave him to understand that I would go back. And I do not believe the premier ever said I told him so.

"I have been wrongly regarded in some quarters as leading an opposition movement against the government. I have done nothing of the kind, and am not doing anything of the kind. I merely took my stand on a matter with which I could not agree with the government, and the other members of the House took their stand without any influence on my part. I have been blamed in other quarters even for not having canvassed the members and tried to get a majority against the government.

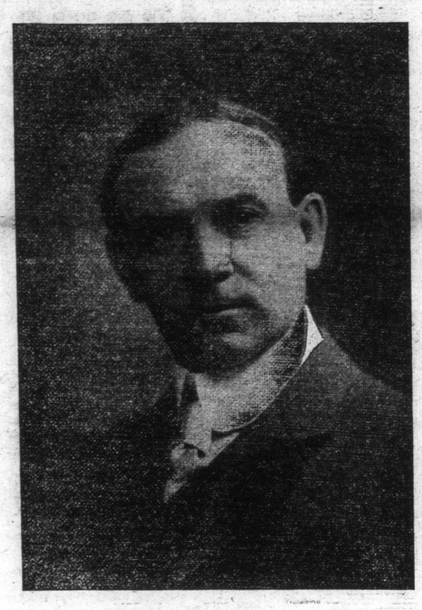
Hon. W. A. Buchanan's Statement

Hon. W. A. Buchanan, minister without portfolio, had nothing to say in connection with the reasons for his resignation. "I have resigned," was the terse answer he gave to a series of questions.

Hon. Duncan Marshall, minister of agriculture, and Hon. P. E. Lessard, minister without portfolio, refused to be interviewed.

Sydney B. Wood's Statement.

Sydney B. Woods, deputy attorney general, referring to his resignation, stated that he had interviewed Premier Rutherford yesterday afternoon and asked permission to resign. He informed the premier that he has received persistent overtures from two corporations who desire to secure his services, one of which offers an emolument three times the stipend attached to the position of deputy attorney general, which is $3,500. The premier consented to Mr. Woods' withdrawal, all of the legislation contemplated by the attorney general's department now being before the House, and the affairs of the department cleaned up.



HON. C. W. CROSS

Who Tenedered His Resignation as Attorney-General to the Premier Yesterday Afternoon.

Means an Election.

Dr. Warnock, Pincher—"I think that it will mean an entire new government. I don't think that the province will stand for Premier Rutherford after the developments of the past few weeks."

J. R. Boyle, Sturgeon—"I can't see that there can be anything but a new election under the circumstances. It will be impossible to select a government that will have the endorsation of the electorate until after an election."

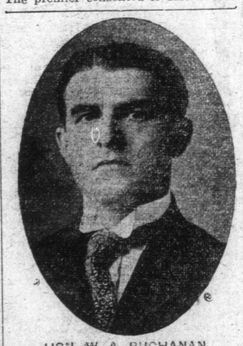
E. H. Riley, Gleichen—"I do not know what the end will be. I expect that the premier will make a statement o the House this afternoon and then we will be able to form some idea of what the result will be."

Conservative Member's Statement.

Geo. Hoadley, Okotoks—"We must have a new premier. The country will not stand for the iniquitous transaction that has been put through with the Alberta and Great Waterways."

Robt. L. Shaw, Stettler—"I am not worrying about the result. My skirts are clean and I am willing to go back to the people at any time on my action on this matter in support of the Rutherford administration."

R. B. Bennett—"I do not think it would be proper for me, occupying the position I do, to make a statement at present. I expect that the premier will announce the resignations of his ministers this afternoon and then I may give my views on the situation."



HON. W. A. BUCHANAN

Who Tendered His Resignation as Minister Without Portfolio This Morning.

BREACH OF PROMISE SUIT.

Regina School Teacher Sues Lanigan Farmer for $5,000.

Saskatoon, Sask., March 8.—In the Supreme Court a case was slated for today in which Caroline Kehoe, school teacher, Regina, sues Michael Hayes, farmer, Lanigan, for breach of promise of marriage and $5,000 damages. Both parties are 25 years of age and are Roman Catholics. The plaintiff alleges that the promise was made in 1905, when both were residents in the east.

The defendant submits that the promise was purely conditional, that he never has been, nor is yet in a position to marry, and that owing to the failure of his crops in 1907 and 1908, he is without means, further that he has never refused to marry the plaintiff. Sixty letters of a sentimental nature written by Hayes will come in as evidence. Hayes himself received many letters from Miss Kehoe but destroyed the bulk of them.

Messrs. Turgeon and Calder are appearing for the plaintiff and Mr. Bence, Lanigan, for the defendant.

Wants Marriage Restricted.

Toronto, Mar. 8—That the government should make it necessary for every person obtaining a marriage license to pass a medical examination was the statement made by Rev. R. J. Hutcheon, pastor of the Jarvis Street Unitarian church, in an address to the Canadian Purity association. In many cases, the speaker declared, disease was the cause of children being born mentally defective. These were the care of the state and a menace to citizens. Criminals and drunkards should also be forbidden to marry.

GREATEST IMMIGRATION MOVEMENT IN HISTORY.

Montreal, Mar. 8—The steamship companies report unprecedented demands for berths from European points to Montreal. They look for the greatest movement up the St. Lawrence in the history of Canada. Many thousands of Scandinavians are expected.

END IS NOT YET IN THE NAVAL BEBATE

There Are Still a Number of Members Who Desire to Speak on This Question in the Federal House—Division on Second Reading is Postponed.

Ottawa, Mar. 8—The naval debate did not come to a close tonight, although the party whips last week had proposed that a division on the second reading should take place at today's sitting of the House. It was found that there were still a number of speakers who desire to be heard and a division is not likely to occur before late on Wednesday night and perhaps not till Thursday.

The speakers today were Messrs. Clare, Reid, (Grenville), Beattie and Smythe, on behalf of the Conservatives, and Neely, Gervais, Gladu and Seguin for the government. Mr. Loggie moved the adjournment on behalf of Mr. Emmerson, former minister of railways. Apart from the naval debate no business of importance engaged the attention of the House.

Opposition Not Present.

When the Lumsden investigation was resumed this morning it was observed that three Conservatives of the minority were not present. Messrs. Houghton, Lennox, Samuel Barker and T. W. Crothers at last meeting withdrew from committee on the ground that they were not allowed to appoint a counsel to represent the public commissioners, having named R. C. Smith, K.C., to represent these interests. However, the committee appointed Wallace Nesbitt, K.C., of Toronto, to represent the public. This morning Victor Geoffrion, chairman of the committee, read a brief letter from Nesbitt stating 2his2 capability to undertake the duties. The commitee thereupon appointed F. H. Chrysler, K.C., of Ottawa, to act in his stead. J. H. Moss, K.C., of Toronto, announced that he had been engaged to represent the district engineers.

Mr. Chrysler, who was then present intimated that he had no knowledge of the matter which the committee was to investigate and he would require some time to go over the evidence taid before the committee by Lumsden. He should like to have an opportunity to make himself acquainted with it. In this the committee concurred, and it was agreed that they should meet again on Thursday. Mr. Lumsden was asked by E. M. McDonald, if he still refused to be represented by the counsel and informed him that the cost would be defrayed by the government. Lumsden replied that he had no interests to look after but his own, and he did not desire any counsel to represent him.

Criticises Independence Speech.

In the senate, Senator Landray called the attention of the government to an address by Judge Langley in Quebec, on February 4, when he was reported to have delivered an address on Independence. It was somewhat remarkable that utterances of the same sort had been recently made by members of the House of commons.

Senator Landry quoted Judge Langley as saying among other things that Canada has a population of 50,000,000, should no longer continue in her colonial status. Sir Richard Cartwright said the government could not be held responsible for Langley's after dinner utterances.

Favor Anti-Gambling Bill.

The commons committee on H. H. Miller's anti-gambling bill met in private today to consider its report. No decision was reached and the committee will meet again Thursday. It is understood, however, that the majority of the committee are in favor of the bill and that it will be reported to commons.

NOT A HENRY GEORGE MAN.

Premier Whitney Opposed Bill Framed on Single Tax Principles.

Toronto, Mar. 8—Premier Whitney vigorously opposed the bill of A. E. Fripp (West Ottawa), aiming to give municipalities the right to tax improvements at a lower rate than land values. The bill was withdrawn. Mr. Fripp said 270 Ontario municipalities, includinig Ottawa, had declared for such legislation. He said Manitoba did not tax houses and buildings in rural districts. Alberta and Saskatchewan taxed land only. He quoted an American magazine article stating that the exodus of farmers to the Canadian west was due to the new system of taxation there. Mr. Whitney declared that the municipalities had been stampeded by the circularizing campaign of the "single taxers." He pointed to the United States' rejection of Henry George's ideas. If there was unearned value in land, there was also in personal property, he asserted.

RUSH WILL BE TO NORTH THIS YEAR

J. Bruce Walker, Immigration Commissioner, Says People Will Flood North This Year.

That Edmonton will be a strategic point in the immigration into Western Canada in the present year, is the opinion held by J. Bruce Walker of Winnipeg, Canadian commissioner of immigration. Mr. Walker was in the city on Saturday to inspect the local offices of the immigration bureau, and left yesterday on his return to Winnipeg. While in Edmonton he expressed the opinion that there would be a greater influx into Edmonton district this year than ever before.

The chief reason for this was that almost all available land in the southern portion of the province had been taken up last year and the tide of immigration would have to turn elsewhere during 1910. Mr. Walker stated that it had been necessary last year to extend more aid to immigrants into Saskatchewan than to Alberta immigrants. The inference of which of course is that a better class of settlers are coming to Alberta than to Saskatchewan.

Mr. Walker expects to see a large number of Welshmen settle in Canada this year. An office has been established in Wales and immigration propaganda has been actively carried on amongst the miners. The bulk of European immigration will in all probability come this year as last, from Germany and Scandinavia. No diminution is expected in the immigration from the United States.

PASSENGERS' STORY OF GREAT AVALANCHE

Trains Held by Rogers' Pass Slides Reach Vancouver, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Cole, of Edmonton, Were Passengers on Train Which Escaped Miraculously Being Overwhelmed.

Vancouver, B.C., March 6—One hundred and fifty passengers on the two trains which were stalled by the Rogers' Pass slides reached Vancouver early this morning.

They bring stories of the avalanche and the miraculous escape of train No. 97 as told by C. G. Anderson and his companion A. G. Clark, both commercial travellers of Toronto.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Cole, of Edmonton, who were also among the passengers arriving this morning add features to the awful story.

"Bad as it was it is a miracle that i was not infinitly worse," said Anderson, interesting a number of guests all eager to hear from first hand a recital of the worst avalanche in the history of the Pacific division of the Canadian Pacific. "I have been over the continent many times, and been in wrecks and snowslides but I never say anything so gigantic as this and no railway catastrophe that was so well handled."

Equally graphic was the description of the scenes and incidents at the slide given by Messrs. N. S. Inglis, of Montreal, and W. C. Waddell, of New York. Their own train itself and its 150 passengers, including about 30 ladies and children, had a remarkably close call from destruction.

"We were six hours late leaving Winnipeg and three hours late leaving Calgary. To this circumstance we may probably owe our safety," said Mr. Waddell. "Friday afternoon just as the train was nearing Bear Creek station there was a succession of slides on the adjacent peaks but not near enough to endanger the railway line.

A brakeman was sent back to flag another train in the rear. A few minutes later we heard a mighty roaring sound as a slide crashed on to the road around a bend, two hundred yards away. The brakeman hurried back covered with snow. He had to run for his life when he heard the slide approaching. As it was he just escaped by a miracle as he was covered with snow from head to foot. He missed the mighty avalanche by only a few feet.

"At Bear Creek station we were not out of the danger zone as the mountains there rise precipitously. Just as darkness was approaching we got word of the first slide at a point one mile west of Rogers Pass station at the summit of the Selkirks. It was at that same point that the second and bigger slide occurred shortly after midnight, burying the crew of a work train and the section men and bridge crews. The news of the first slide coupled with our own experiences put us all on the qui vive and on our train there was an air of suppressed excitement. Everybody realized that our own turn might come next. But I must pay a tribute to my fellow travellers. The women, if anything, were braver than the men and laughed and joked about their predicament. It was a case of trying to show indifference in the face of impending peril. Shortly after dark we were moved further west to Rogers' Pass station, at a point about three quarters of a mile from the slide which a rotary engine was busy digging out when the second avalanche descended. I imagine very few on board our train slept Friday night. The smoking compartments were crowded throughout the night and the men whiled away the time telling stories.

McCURDY MAKES GOOD FLIGHT.

Rises and Lands at Will on Ice of Baddeck Bay—New Machine Ready.

Sydney, March 8—This morning aeroplane Baddeck No. 1 was taken out on Baddeck Bay, opposite Dr. Graham Bell's estate, and with Douglas McCurdy as aviator made several successful rounds of the course. A fairly strong breeze prevailed, but apparently the young sky pilot had complete control of his machine, rising and landing at will.

Dr. Bell's new machine, a combination of the aeroplane and a tetrapedral kite, is rapidly nearing completion and will be given a test shortly should the ice hold good.

Smallpox Epidemic in Quebec.

Quebec, March 8.—Dr. Tremblay, of the Board of Health of Montreal, who went down the coast on the Montcalm, landed at Seven Islands to investigate an alleged outbreak of smallpox there. He reports the epidemic to be very light.

CITIES DESIRE FINAL SAY ON FRANCHISES

Important Meeting in Ottawa at Which Resolution was Passed, Asking Parliament to Make All Charters Subject to Approval of Municipalities.

Ottawa, Ont., Mar. 8.—At a meeting held here today, of the mayors and representatives of the large cities of Canada, a resolution was passed declaring that in order to prevent confusion of the plans of operation and of different controls (provincial, federal and civic) and to prevent injury to local franchises, it is essential that all plans of railway or telegraph companies be not granted rights by parliament, except the plans be subject to the consent of the municipalities, expressed by by-law.

The present meeting included Mayor Guerin and Controller Wanklyn of Montreal; Mayor Geary and Controllers Spence, Ward and Church, Toronto; Mayor Hopewell, Ottawa; Mayor Pelletier, Fort William; F. P. Christler, K.C., representing Winnipeg; M. S. McCarthy, M. P., representing Calgary and officiers of the union of municipalities; W. D. Lighthall, K.C., secretary; George S. Wilson, assistant secretary and Fred Cook, past president. The mayors of Halifax, Victoria, Vancouver and Port Arthur gave their assent to the resolution by telegraph.

BIG CROWDS PREVENTED DUEL

Seconds Were so Harassed That They Could Not Make the Distance.

Rome, Mar. 9.—Deputy Chiesa was to have fought a duel with General Prudente, under secretary of state for war at Porta Sanpaola yesterday, owing to the former's references to Mme. Seimens as a foreign spy in the chamber of deputies last week. Prudents was the first of the four antagonists Chiesa must meet. When the combatants arrived at the meeting place, they found several thousand people, photographers, etc., there, and windows of nearby houses filled with spectators. The crowds so harrassed the seconds that they could not mark the distance. They then sought another ground, the crowd followed in carriages, bicycles and other conveyances, compelling the adversaries to postpone the meeting until this afternoon as teh police intervened.

FELL UNDER MOVING CAR.

Ex-Mounted Policeman Meets Terrible Accident at Fort William.

Fort William, Ont., Mar. 9.—While checking car seals on a train being made up, Ronald Davidson, ex-R.N.W.M.Policeman slipped and fell under the car, both feet and the left hand being cut off, late last night in the C.P.R. yards. His companion sa wthe lantern fall, heard a cream, signalled the switch crew to stop, and picked up Davidson, who is in a most precarious condition at the hospital. He is aged 26, and spent three months in the Old Country after leaving the police force. He has been in his present position but three months.

POTTS OF WINNIPEG DEAD.

His Case Against the C.P.R. for $20,000 Will Still Go On.

Winnipeg, Mar. 8.—Private advices state that G. A. S. Potts, who was taken off the blockaded No. 97 at Field, B. C., died there tonight. Potts' evidence has been already taken in his famous suit against the C.P.R. for $20,000 for settling the machinists' strike, and it is not thought his death will materially affect the suit.

Distinguished Prelates Coming.

Montreal, Que., Mar. 8.—Monseigneur Heilen Bishop Namur, president of the permanent committee of the Eucharistic congress, has written Archbishop Bruchesi confirming the statement that his eminence, Cardinal Vincent Vanutelli will be present at the forthcoming congress in Montreal as a representative of the Poppe. With the Cardinal Legate there also will come from Rome several distinguished ersonages of the Roman Catholic church. Monseigneur Laurent Janssens, secretary of the religious congregation and celebrated orator, and Very Rev. Father Lepicie Emiritus Professor of Dogma of Propaganda. There will be several pilgrimages from Italy, Belgium, England and France.

AGENTS LOOTED PUBLIC PROPERTY

French Government Swindled Out of Proceeds From Sales of Confiscated Church Property.

Paris, March 8.—By the arrest on a charge of embezzlement of M. Duez, a government liquidator of the Catholic congregations, which were dissolved by the law of 1901, one of those great financial scandals which have marked the history of the third French republic has at last forced its way on the public attention. While it is not as big as the Panama affair, the probabilities are that it will dwarf the Humbert scandal and others of recent years.

M. Duez was employed to sell certain of the confiscated properties of the religious orders, whose aggregate value at the time of the confiscation was announced to be in the neighborhood of $200,000,000. Duez was the official liquidator of ten congregations, which included the Redemptionists, the Oblates, Oratorians, Ladies of St. Maur, and the Brothers of Christian schools, which latter has 1,600 establishments in France and Algeria.

According to an official statement issued tonight, M. Duez has confessed that he has lost in Bourse speculations over five million francs (1,000,000) of the proceeds of his sale of the ecclesiastical properties. This trmendous shortage will not, however, close the scandalous reports, for it is charged that lawyers employed in the liquidations have mulcted the government in other enormous sums in excessive fees.

The eye of suspicion has been directed towards M. Duez for some time, and some months ago M. Briand, who was the minister of justice, reported to parliament that the work of three liquidations of church property would bear watching.

Duez was one of the three, and an investigation of his accounts was undertaken. He succeeded in putting off the final exposure by requests for delay, but the investigators finally broke into drastic action and his arrest followed.

At the time sequestration it was stated with much political effect that $200,000,000, which represented the hospitals, schools and convents of the various religious orders would be turned over to the state and used to pay the old age pensions to the laboring classes. All this property has been sold, or is now being sold by the various public officials. Naturally the politicians and political lawyers were not idle and the speculations have eaten up a good part of the proceeds. The minister of justice in his third report dealing with the sales effected in 1908, disclosed some amazing facts. Thus out of 108 sales of religious houses, forty-three brought in absolutely not one penny—everything went in "costs." The fees paid the lawyers have run up into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Among those whose names figure in the official list is M. Millerand, the former Socialist minister, with his secretaries. The names of many other deputies appear.

La Libre printed an article which it headed "Theft of the goods of the Church," while L'Eclair and other papers demanded to know what has become of the vanished millions of the monks. The report of 1908 also shows that in one year 505 sales were effected. They brought in a little over $500,000. The total amount of sales so far approximates $5,000,000 and this pretty nearly covers all the property which was estimated as being worth $200,000,000. People are beginning to ask where the money has gone. Newspapers have been making the most extraordinary statements, backed up by figures, of certain pieces of property which were knocked down on a single bid. Other big properties were sold at ridiculous prices.

La Libre Parole instances the sale of the historic Hotel Biron, in Paris, which was formerly a monastery with huge gardens of immense value and which was bought in at only one-fourth its value. The paper declared a similar deal was being made for the property of the Sacre Coeur. It really looks as though two hundred million dollars worth of church property has vanished into thin air. Apropos of excessive charges, one of the liquidators of confiscated property brought in a report in June, 1909, showing that the cost of selling a particular piece of property was nearly double the amount realized from the sale.

Governor Haskell Assessed Costs.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Mar. 8.—Governor Haskell's failure to appear in the United States district court here today caused the court to asses costs of $75 against him. This represents the expenses of Charles N. Loder in coming from New York city to Oklahoma City to be present at the calling of the case wherein Loder sues Haskell for an adjudgment of $10,000 obtained in New York several years ago. The case may be tried during this term of court.

Kaiser's Son to Enter Navy.

Berlin, March 9.—Prince Joachim of Prussia, youngest son of the Kaiser, has decided to enter the navy on his graduation from the School of Pion.