

FIRST VOTE ON RECIPROCITY

BORDEN'S AMENDMENT TO DEFER CONSIDERATION LOST BY 41 MAJORITY.

Ottawa, March 14.—The first vote on the reciprocity issue was taken in the Commons shortly after eight o'clock this evening. The result was a Government majority of forty-one. There were two ballots from the Government, ranked Hon. Clifford Sifton and Lloyd Harris, of Brantford, who subsequently spoke in opposition to the agreement. William German, of Welland, was not in the House when the division was taken but had been present here would doubtless have voted with the Government. It is said he will move an amendment to strike out the provision for free fruit, but will continue to support the main proposal.

The division was on an amendment to the motion to go into committee of ways and means, moved by Mr. Borden and which, among other things, set forth that in view of the failure of the American Congress to ratify the agreement further discussion should be postponed till the country has had an opportunity to pronounce on the merits of the proposal.

As Mr. Sifton sits in the front row of the Government benches his was the first vote cast. He was vigorously cheered by the Opposition when he arose. Later on, Lloyd Harris, who sits in the back row, got a cheer. The Liberals cheered Selsey, who he "kissed" and cheered again when the result was announced. Owing to the early hour at which the vote was taken, there was a considerable number of absentees on both sides of the House and many of those who did vote arrived in the chamber with a down town in a puffed condition. The vote indicated that three Liberals bolted on the final decision with a solid opposition against reciprocity including all the Conservative Nationalists of Quebec. There were 32 absentees, all of whom, with the exception of German, Forget, and Worthington were paired.

Mr. Borden spoke for almost an hour in support of his amendment to the motion but all other speeches made were brief.

Hon. Mr. Fielding in declining to accept the opposition motion, said that it would not be honorable for Canadian ministers not to carry out their promise to endeavor to secure ratification of the agreement by the Canadian parliament. Mr. Foster thought that the giving of such a promise was sufficient reason why Mr. Fielding should not have been allowed to go to Washington.

Sir Wilfrid combated the suggestion made by Mr. Borden that secret negotiations constituted a new departure.

Other speakers were W. E. Macdonald, W. B. Northrup, and Hugh Guthrie. The debate on the resolutions was after the division continued by Lloyd Harris, who argued that the Premier had given a definite promise to revise the tariff until an enquiry had been held.

Mr. Borden in criticizing the speech of Sir Wilfrid Laurier yesterday said that owing to the absence of any convincing argument in his speech he was more opposed than ever to the agreement. The Prime Minister had indulged in epithets and the protests of the fruit growers, which packers he characterized as the howling of wolves.

He read portions of Sir William Van Horn's letter, whose opinions were based on experience and the knowledge of the Canadian people. Sir Wilfrid asked Mr. Borden, that these proposals be passed through parliament because there was a condition of non-intercourse with the United States. If trade could not be conducted as it had been, what was the object of these proposals? If there is a state of non-intercourse with the United States, how did the Canadian people count for the fact that three-fifths of Canada's import trade was with the United States. The arguments advanced by Sir Wilfrid that trade could not be controlled by legislation brought forth the question of Mr. Borden's "what then is the object of these proposals?" He said the American millers were fearful that Canadian wheat would displace the home grown product and the paper manufacturers were looking with deploring eyes on the Canadian forests.

Borden Takes Issue. If this was true, what need was there for the building of the National transcontinental railway. How would Canada and Great Britain be granted a preference to Canadian wheat. How could they distinguish between American wheat mixed with a quantity of Manitoba No 1 hard. Mr. Borden took issue with the Premier's analogy between Mr. Foster and the Indians, who parted with their heritage for mercenary trifles. The political Indians of Canada are today on the treasury benches. He said, because no intelligent Indian would embark on such an enterprise as is proposed.

Sir Wilfrid had admitted over the policy of the Government in having "walk hand in hand in office, for all privileges." The farmers of Canada, said Mr. Borden, would try to establish to compete with the national products of twelve or fourteen countries. The leader of the opposition gave market quotations to show that when the tariff was taken off beef and pork shipments from Argentina they could be had in Canada at a price considerably below the market, yet Canada would be in the most common cause of insomniacs in the world.

Mr. Borden referred to the speech of the honorable gentleman and said, "I am referring to the speech of this motion." Mr. Fielding replied, no position to reap the corresponding advantage.

No Mandate from People. Mr. Borden contended with some force that there was no mandate from the people in the three previous general elections to negotiate a reciprocity treaty. It was more correct to say that on each of those occasions the Government received specific mandates to abolish the Senate. Instead of saying that he merely discontinued his efforts to obtain reciprocity, the Premier should have said he never received any mandate to renew them. The government was now proposing a standing offer of reciprocity. Canadians had worn out a good deal of leather in going to Washington, now let Washington wear out some shoe leather coming to Ottawa.

Mr. Borden then quoted from the Congressional order to show that the next Congress which would be Democratic in the House of Representatives would probably pass special legislation dealing with a general tariff revision and Canada might get more than under this arrangement. He also quoted Lord Selborne's report on the tariff conference in South Africa in 1904. The report stated that surreptitious proceedings were highly unsatisfactory. Borden was opposed to any scheme of secret tariffs. There was a cast iron agreement which must not be altered. Mr. Borden said he approved of an increase in the British preference. He would stand for the empire against the world and Canada first the empire, and then in Canada was worth as much to the empire as one in Yorkshire.

In conclusion, Mr. Borden said: "I realize that Canada has a plain duty and a grave responsibility in one important aspect. She ought to be, I trust she will be, a bond of union and a link between the Empire and the Republic. That high mission can best be fulfilled when Canadians are inducted by their institutions, their duties, their country and themselves as intensely as that which prevails in the people of the United States. Our strong determination to work out our own destiny with a firm heart by our own efforts and along our own lines will ensure that we will hold in September an election which will have given us therein an inspiring example."

Mr. Borden's Amendment. Mr. Borden moved "That all the provisions of the reciprocity agreement embodied in the resolution submitted to this House by the Minister of Finance on the 24th day of January last, and which was approved by the House by special message of the President to the Congress of United States of America, which was then in session. The said session has now expired and Congress has failed to approve the said reciprocity agreement. That a considerable length of time must necessarily elapse before said agreement can be dealt with by Congress at a special session. That the fiscal changes proposed by the said agreement are of a far-reaching character and constitute a substantial reversal of the policy which has been approved by the people of Canada. That in the opinion of this House, the said resolutions should not be proceeded with until the electors shall have had an opportunity of pronouncing upon their merits."

Hon. Mr. Fielding's Reply. Hon. W. S. Fielding in reply said that Mr. Borden's motion was not for a general discussion of the question and he proposed to deal more particularly with the matters touched on by the motion. The agreement had been discussed in the House and for his part he hoped the discussion would go on because he believed that every day is increasing the number of its supporters. He remarked that the tariff revision of the people, the side-show motions with the speaker in the chair unless it is that the Opposition would go on because he believed that the agreement and desire to give certain members to the left of the speaker an opportunity to dodge the vote. As for the Liberals, they desire to vote and would make it their business to see that the Opposition members placed themselves on record.

Government With People. Mr. Fielding repeated that he would not enter into a discussion of the general terms of the agreement even to oblige Sir William Van Horn to whom he paid some brief attention. The Government, he said, would be glad to have his opinion on this or any other question. They had differed with him in the past and would differ with him in the future no doubt. But if on one side of the question there was to be Sir William Van Horn and various other estimable Sirs, and on the other side the tolling masses of the people, there would be no doubt which view would prevail. Mr. Fielding then quoted from the official record of the Washington negotiations to show that President Taft on the one hand and the Canadian Ministers on the other had undertaken to have the proposals ratified. Whatever views might exist as to the agreement, there should be no difference of opinion as to the desirability of obtaining the judgment of the House on the matter.

Terms of the Agreement. H. Cowan (Vancouver) asked if the negotiators had entered into an agreement at Washington not to allow the Canadian people to vote on the question. Mr. Fielding—"I have read the terms of the agreement. You are at liberty to interpret it as you please." The Finance Minister then dissenting from the statement which he said had been made by Mr. Borden to the effect that Congress had failed to ratify the agreement. He denied this emphatically.

He added that what had been the deliberate intention of the President and Congress had been frustrated by a few filibusters who had prevented a vote being taken. Some of these filibusters would not be members of the new senate. Mr. Fielding then placed the President's proclamation on the records to show that an extra session of Congress had been called specially to consider the reciprocity agreement. That, he said, was another evidence of his good faith in the matter. The calling of an extra session of the Canadian parliament to consider any question, he said, would be considered as pretty conclusive evidence that the government intended to ratify the agreement of the day was in earnest about it.

Mr. Fielding, in conclusion, reiterated his belief that the agreement should be dealt with by the House. When the American Congress definitely declines to ratify the agreement of the day was in earnest about what should be done next.

Hon. Geo. E. Foster said it was an unworthy appeal on the part of Mr. Fielding to endeavor to set class against class in the House. He suggested that the House should discuss it at all. The United States had pledged this parliament to pass the agreement and gave him authority to pledge parliament. If parliament had no right to object to the agreement, why were they discussing it at all. The United States had pledged Canada. Two bad points of doctrine, said Mr. Foster, were laid down by Mr. Fielding. The first was that people need not be consulted. 2. That because two members of the Government without a majority could commit this country to a proposal, the country was bound to carry it out. Mr. Foster's objection to the doctrine was that it was for parliament to decide these matters.

W. F. McLean Warlike. W. F. McLean, South Grey, contended that there was no reason why this matter should be rushed through. He suggested that the House should sit until after the House should be possible to bring in a resolution bill. An objection could be held in September and the House would have an opportunity of deciding the matter. He pledged himself to hold this position until the people had had an opportunity of discussing it.

Hugh Guthrie Speaks. Hugh Guthrie, Wellington, South, who followed, said that if the Government was to go to the country every time that it was wanted, they would do so, there would be a constant succession of general elections. The question was whether the Government was to go ahead with the agreement, there was every reason to believe that the agreement would be made to the advantage of Canada.

Mr. Guthrie said that the Government would not be as much plus as the Americans chose to give but minus. Mr. Guthrie expressed his belief that the agreement would be made to the advantage of Canada. He said that the agreement would be made to the advantage of Canada. He said that the agreement would be made to the advantage of Canada.

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THE RECIPROCITY DEBATE DRAGS ON

H. H. MILLER, OF SOUTH GREY, ABLY DEFENDS NEW TARIFF MEASURE. Ottawa, March 14.—Today was another day of long speeches in the Commons on the reciprocity agreement. After a few preliminaries had been disposed of, H. H. Miller, Liberal member for South Grey, who moved the adjournment on Wednesday night, resumed the debate and spoke for two hours. A. S. Goodvee (Kootenay) followed with a three-hour speech and the rest of the time till adjournment shortly before midnight was occupied by the deputy speaker. Mr. Miller, who was presiding over the committee of the whole House, declared the deputy speaker was maintained in a ruling he had given. Mr. MacKenzie had been quoting from a lecture by Prof. Hopkins, of Illinois University, professing that the "one would come to Quebec, to Ontario they had the great elevators of the American seaboard will start empty and the United States people will be looking to other countries for the necessities of life. Mr. Miller argued that if these predictions are to come true, it means that the agreement will remain a permanent thing and that for the day comes when Canada's production will have increased by one hundredfold we will be very glad to have a big American market.

The member for South Grey then dealt with the declaration of Mr. Sifton that the agreement would make the Canadian West the back yard of Chicago. There was a time, he said, when the middle states might have been regarded as the backbone of the manufacturing Atlantic coast states, but by growing produce in these states, the farm land of the middle states increased in value from five to two hundred dollars per acre. I identify, he said, with large manufacturing centers. It is under this agreement that the same fine cuts are accomplished in the Canadian West, there is no force left in the argument of the member for Brandon. Mr. Miller ridiculed the idea that the agreement would affect Canada detrimentally. As against the opinion of Sir William Van Horn, he would quote the opinion of Thomas Salmers, an English director of the C.E.R., who said that in the whole of Canada would be advantageous to the country.

Money to Make Public Opinion. The opponents of the agreement, Mr. Miller said, had by organization and the spending of money created a certain amount of public opinion against it but this would not last. The manufacturers were entitled to the same consideration as other people but they would find that their troubles were largely imaginary and would disappear. Discussing the reduction of the duty on agricultural implements, Mr. Miller said that the Cocksfoot Plow Company had been competing successfully in the United States. Touching on the attitude of the leader of the Opposition, Mr. Miller said that Mr. Borden had spoken in support of a reduction of the duties on agricultural implements but his vote on the reciprocity proposals had been against reduction. Opposes Agreement. A. S. Goodvee, of Kootenay, B. C., in opposing the agreement, said the reason the Government had for entering into it was plain. There was a feeling of uneasiness through the country caused by the Government forcing upon the country the naval bill of the United States in cattle, beef, wheat, butter and other products of the United States. The members placed themselves on record.

When the speaker left the chair at six o'clock, Sir Wilfrid had the floor and it was presumed that he would continue to speak at eight. When the House met, the Premier, however, indicated to the Speaker that he was through and as no one rose to continue the debate on the Opposition side of the House, a division was taken and Mr. Borden's amendment was rejected by a vote of 111 to 70, a Government majority of forty-one. The Debate Continued. Lloyd Harris, Brantford, speaking in support of Mr. Fielding's resolution said the agreement was not to be made to the advantage of Canada. He said that the agreement would be made to the advantage of Canada. He said that the agreement would be made to the advantage of Canada.

DISTRICT NEWS

KITSCOTY. The Farmers' Association county district have strongly the reciprocity agreement. J. Dale, of Kitscoty, has the homestead of Perry Hugh and accommodation for the week and made enquiries of C. P. R. land office here. It was the intention of them to bring in sections during the season of 1911. At 11:30 last night the school struck and the school board more belonging to the of Kitscoty, March 8, 1911.

WETASKIWIN. Bulletin News Service. At the city hall yesterday, before E. Roberts, Queen Assent Minn. of three Indians of the Hobb serve were prosecuted by Michael Joseph Gould, found on licensed premises, ing intoxicants in their possession of \$15.00 and costs were in each case. After these cases had been of a charge was laid against W. H. Hobb and W. H. Hobb, playing liquor to a Treaty in evidence of the corporal in the village of Hobb. A fine of \$10.00 and costs were in each case. Yesterday afternoon a fire broke out in the bar of the Hotel about 6 p.m. on the and that this fire caused a fire in the bar of the Hotel. The fire was caused by a gas stove and the fire was extinguished by the fire department. The fire caused a loss of \$100.00 and costs were in each case.

WETASKIWIN. Bulletin News Service. Last night two very odd of hockey were played by teams. The first match was between the Alberta and a ladies team from the town. The school put fight, but was beaten by the girls. The result was a tie. The second match was between the P. E. Island and a ladies team from the town. The school put fight, but was beaten by the girls. The result was a tie. The third match was between the P. E. Island and a ladies team from the town. The school put fight, but was beaten by the girls. The result was a tie.

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A BIG EXPLOSION DESTROYS TOWN

THREE TONS DYNAMITE BLOW UP PLEASANT PRAIRIE IN WISCONSIN. Kenosha, Wis., March 9.—With a roar that was heard for fifty miles, a glare that was seen fully as far, and with a concussion that broke windows more than hundred miles away, three carloads of dynamite exploded at the plant of the Dupont-Nemours Company shortly after 3 o'clock to-night in Pleasant Prairie, six miles west of this city. It will be impossible for many hours to tell accurately the number of the dead. Nearly every house in the village which contained 700 residents, has been badly damaged, and some of them utterly demolished.

Reports from the country ten miles distant are to the effect that houses even that far from the explosion were thrown down. It is believed that many people have been killed or injured, but our the surrounding country. So far as is known at present, however, but one man, E. S. Thompson, foreman of the mine, was killed outright, and Charles Brady, the superintendent, and Joseph Flint, the engineer, are badly injured and may die. The loss is nearly two million dollars.

The cause of the explosion is not known at the present time and it will be some time before it has been definitely determined. The plant which covered 150 acres of ground has been completely wrecked, only one building remaining. This is one of the magazines and it is also filled with dynamite. The first explosion took one of the magazine buildings, and in quick succession four others followed. The explosions following so quick, however, they seemed to be but one.

The force of the concussion was terrible, houses, barns and outbuildings in the immediate neighborhood were swept from their foundations as though struck by a tornado. It was reported that hundreds of cattle and horses had been killed; a telephone report from there stating that some of them were hurled entirely through barns and residences. It is reported that the town of Bristol, Wisconsin, ten miles distant was badly wrecked, but the details were not obtainable from there at midnight. Special trains were hastily dispatched from Kenosha, carrying every available nurse and physician. Several of the injured have been received in this city, but none of them have sustained more than minor injuries.

Criticism. Dr. Clark, of Red Deer, the member for Kootenay said he had advocated exactly what the Opposition was contending for, the making of the Canadian tariff independently of the United States.

Money to Make Public Opinion. The opponents of the agreement, Mr. Miller said, had by organization and the spending of money created a certain amount of public opinion against it but this would not last. The manufacturers were entitled to the same consideration as other people but they would find that their troubles were largely imaginary and would disappear. Discussing the reduction of the duty on agricultural implements, Mr. Miller said that the Cocksfoot Plow Company had been competing successfully in the United States. Touching on the attitude of the leader of the Opposition, Mr. Miller said that Mr. Borden had spoken in support of a reduction of the duties on agricultural implements but his vote on the reciprocity proposals had been against reduction.

Opposes Agreement. A. S. Goodvee, of Kootenay, B