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OUR XMAS SHOPPING
EARLY

The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

VOL. L. NO. 306. VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1909. FIFTIETH YEAR

DISREGARD OF TREATY

Mr. Foster Refers to Passage of U. S. War Vessels Up to Great Lakes

MAY BE MENACE TO CANADA'S TRADE

Premier's Delay in Choosing Between Two Seats Is Criticized

OTTAWA, Dec. 1.—The passing of United States warships through the canals and St. Lawrence river to the great lakes in direct defiance of the Rush-Bagot treaty of 1817 and the possibility of Canada waking up one morning to find trouble had broken out and the vast trade of that section of the dominion at the mercy of Uncle Sam's ships bristling with guns, was the theme of Mr. Foster in the House today. This drew from Sir Wilfrid Laurier the statement that the facts were only too true, but what were we going to do about it?

Mr. Foster brought the matter up by moving for the correspondence in respect to the agreement between the United States and Great Britain as to the maintenance of war vessels on the great lakes, the several requests made for permitting United States war vessels to pass the canals and the outcome thereof, a list of such vessels with description and armament, their stations and purposes for which they are used. He read the Rush-Bagot treaty, signed in 1817 by Great Britain and the United States, which was in reality a mutual understanding on the part of the two countries that on the great lakes there should be small naval armament. On Lake Ontario it was to be confined to a small vessel of 100 tons with an 18-pound cannon, two similar vessels on the upper lakes and one on Lake Champlain.

Mr. Foster then dwelt upon the United States war vessels that had passed up the canals to the great lakes and what appeared to be direct contravention of that treaty. Ten vessels of 3,000 tons displacement, 30 officers and 549 men, with modern guns and equipment afterwards installed, had gone through the canals. He gave their names as the Dorothea, Hawk, Wasp, Don Juan, D'Austria, Fern, Yantic, Sandaval, Nashville, Essex and Wolverine. All of these, with the exception of the Wolverine, had been transferred to the state naval militia, the duties of the Wolverine being of a recruiting character. It was a curious thing, commented Mr. Foster, that the permission sought by the United States authorities for these vessels to pass up had always been granted as speedily as possible, and with very little reserve, the conditions being that the boats should not be armed while going through the canals, and that they were to be used for training purposes only. In the case of the Nashville she took on her armament at Buffalo. The result had been that there were now 1649 men and officers of the United States naval reserve on the lakes, made up of Illinois 629, Michigan 177, Minnesota 117, New York 583, Ohio 143.

Mr. Foster then showed that as the situation rested today Canada was absolutely at the mercy of the armament which the United States had on the lakes, in so far as her great ports and rapidly growing trade were concerned. If it should happen that trouble arose, within twenty-four hours the whole lake trade would be absolutely controlled by the guns and men of those innocent looking craft which had been permitted to go up the canals. Having put his case, Mr. Foster moved for correspondence in the possession of the government.

The Premier, while admitting that the circumstances of the case might cause some anxiety, said Mr. Foster had not suggested a remedy. The Rush-Bagot agreement had served a very good purpose, but its tenure of life hung on a very slight thread. It could be put an end to in six months, and if Canada objected to the passage of these vessels up the canals, all the United States had to do was to denounce the convention. Mr. Foster had suggested a modification of the treaty, but, added Sir Wilfried, that was much easier said than done; indeed, it might end in an unlimited armament on the Great Lakes, with Canada forced to follow suit. However, the Premier stated in conclusion, the matter was engaging the government's attention. In the Washington conference of 1899 some modification of the Rush-Bagot treaty was suggested, but no amicable decision was arrived at. Sir Wilfrid promised to bring down all but the strictly confidential papers, and this ended the matter.

The Premier was criticized today by Mr. Meighen regarding his indecision as to whether to sit for Ottawa or Quebec East. He asked whether the Speaker had received a report from the election judges as to the disposal of the protest against the return of Sir Wilfrid for the Ottawa seat.

The Speaker: "If so, it is in the journals of the house."

Mr. Meighen continued to argue that under the rules there was no regulation in force as to the time limit within which a member elected for two seats could elect for which to sit. Therefore, the British procedure must be followed, which called for such selection to be made within a week of the formal disposition of the protest.

The Premier in reply remarked he had not been asked by either his constituents in Quebec or Ottawa to select for which seat he should continue to sit. If in the opinion of the Speaker the rules made him choose at once, he would bow to that ruling.

The Speaker said that he would look up the authorities and render judgmnt tomorrow.

The bill ratifying the French treaty was called for third reading, and secured it, after Martin Burrell had objected to the treaty on the ground that it would bring cheap French wines into competition with the home product.

The bill of Mr. Templeman to amend the inland revenue act in some minor details passed its final stages, and with the French treaty goes to the senate. The last hour of the sitting was consumed in supply. Mr. Pugsley again brought forward his public buildings votes. He secured some minor Quebec items before adjournment.

Mr. Fisher's resolution providing for a 160 pound barrel of potatoes was adopted in the commons today, and a bill founded thereon was read for the first time.

Elected by Acclamation

QUEBEC, Dec. 1.—Mr. Dupuis, government candidate in Kamouraska, was elected today by acclamation. Mr. Morin, his opponent, having withdrawn from the contest.

Colonial Navy Officers

LONDON, Dec. 1.—In the Commons today Dr. T. J. McNamara, parliamentary secretary to the Admiralty, replied to a question as to whether the admiralty would give the fullest facilities for the training of officers of colonial navies by receiving them aboard war ships. Dr. McNamara said the question had received the consideration of the Admiralty, which would give every assistance possible for the instruction of colonial officers.

PRIZES SECURED BY B.C. FRUIT

Government and Other Exhibits Do Well at London Exhibition

LONDON, Dec. 1.—Princess Louise opened the colonial fruit show at the Horticultural Hall today.

The following prize-winners were announced: The government of British Columbia, for apples, a gold medal; Kaslo district, silver and gilt banksian medal; Salt Spring Island, silver and gilt knightian medal; C. T. Cooney, silver knightian medal; Stirling and Pitcairn, silver and gilt banksian medal; Mrs. J. Smith, silver and gilt banksian medal; Okanagan fruit, silver and gilt knightian medal; Victoria district, silver and gilt knightian medal; Province of New Brunswick, silver and gilt medal; C. W. Peters, Queensdown, silver medal; F. A. Hibbard, Burton, silver medal; J. P. Belyea, Lower Gametowns, silver medal.

Asked why his province was not exhibiting, Major-General Howard, agent general for Nova Scotia, said: "We are resting on our laurels of 1908, when we took sixteen medals."

Colliery Case Appealed

LONDON, Dec. 1.—Special leave of appeal was granted by the judicial committee of the privy council in Burchell vs. Gowrie and the Blockhouse collieries.

Admiral Fisher's Successor

LONDON, Dec. 1.—King Edward today approved the appointment of Admiral Sir Arthur Wilson, commanding the British Channel squadron, as first sea lord, to succeed Admiral Fisher, who was recently elevated to the Peerage, and who will retire from the Admiralty on January 25 next.

Fears for Steamer

HALIFAX, Dec. 1.—Fears are entertained for the safety of the Norwegian steamer Maud, which left St. John's for Sydney on Saturday, and should have been at her destination yesterday. She has a crew of 25 men. A fierce gale has been raging along the Cape Breton coast since last night.

Mild November.

CHICAGO, Dec. 1.—All records for high temperatures for November since the local weather bureau was established in 1872 were broken last month, according to Prof. Henry J. Cox, in charge of the local bureau. The mean temperature in Chicago for November was 48.7 degrees above zero, compared with an average mean temperature for all Novembers since 1872 of 39.3. In addition to the high temperature, the rainfall during the month was one and one half inches above the normal. Prof. Cox declared that there is no real winter weather in the United States, with the exception of Alaska.

Earl Roberts Trophy

OTTAWA, Dec. 1.—In the latest militia orders the result of the Earl Roberts trophy competition for cadets is given for 1909. The competition was for teams of eight imperial cadets, the average of which was fifteen years. Teams were represented from all over the Empire, and the results are extremely interesting. Canada takes tenth place with a score of 411 at a competition which took place at Rockliffe on August 24th. England stands first with 495, Natal second with 489, New Zealand scored 483, Transvaal 480, New South Wales 470, Tasmania 448, Victoria 440, Commonwealth of Australia 439, South Australia 414, Canada 411, and West Australia 390.

May Mean Tragedy.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 1.—A possible tragedy is indicated by the discovery on the beach near Siwash rock yesterday of a coat and suit of underwear. In the pocket of the coat was found an envelope addressed. "George Maver, general delivery, Vancouver." The articles are at police headquarters awaiting identification. About noon yesterday W. W. Wigins, a boatman, was pulling through the Narrows when he saw a heap on the beach which essembled a human form. He rowed in and discovered the underwear and coat. Later in the afternoon he took the articles to police headquarters. An inquiry has been instituted with the object of finding out who George Maver is

LORDS THROW BUDGET OUT

Lord Lansdowne's Amendment Adopted by Large Majority

PARLIAMENT LIKELY TO BE ADJOURNED

Popular Verdict on Action of Upper House Will Soon Be Given

LONDON, Nov. 30.—Lord Lansdowne's amendment was adopted by the House of Lords by 350 to 75.

The cabinet met in Downing street at noon today for the purpose of discussing the form of the King's speech prorouging parliament.

While the government has not announced whether it proposes an adjournment or the prorogation of parliament, today's reports are to the effect that the latter course is certain. It is believed that Premier Asquith will see King Edward tomorrow. Both chambers will hold short sessions on Friday for the reading of the King's speech.

When David Lloyd-George, chancellor of the exchequer, on April 29 presented in the House of Commons the Liberal government budget he precipitated a struggle which has become historic. Accumulated wealth and "the trade," as the liquor business is popularly called, were made to bear the burden of the £15,762,000 or $78,810,000 deficit for the fiscal year incurred by the old age pensions and the race with Germany for Dreadnoughts. In a memorandum issued prior to the introduction of the budget, the chancellor estimated the revenue for the fiscal year of 1909-10 at £ 741,950,000, and the expenditure at $820,760,000.

The chancellor pointed out that nearly all branches of trade and industry suffered serious depression, the foreign trade returns showing diminution in value to the amount of nearly $570,000,000 as compared with 1907. Increased income taxes, death, estate and legacy duties, a tax of 20 per cent. on future increase in the value of lands due to the enterprise of the community, taxes on motors to be devoted to keeping up roads and stamp taxes on sales of property were the principal levies on wealth.

Features of Discussion

"The maddest budget ever introduced," Sir Frederick George Banbury termed it in a speech in the House of Commons. Austen Chamberlain denounced it for imposing so large a proportion of the nation's burdens on a few people. John Redmond, leader of the Irish party, condemned it for increased impositions on whiskey and tobacco.

The debate on the bill in the House of Commons began on May 3, but the measure was hung up on several occasions, and it was not until November 4 that the Commons passed the third reading, the vote being 379 to 149.

When the second reading of the budget bill was moved in the House of Lords on November 22, Lord Lansdowne, leader of the Opposition, offered a resolution that it be rejected, "because this House of Lords is not justified in giving its recognition to the bill until it has been submitted to the people." Throughout the debate during last week the oratory has been brilliant, particularly notable being the speeches of Lord Rosebery, the former prime minister, who warned the Lords of the grave risks they were running if they adopted the amendment to reject the budget; Lord Balfour of Burleigh; Lord Cromer, Lord Lansdowne, and Lord Morley, of Blackburn.

Lord Rosebery during the course of his address said: "This is the greatest political movement in the lifetime of any man born since 1832." In that year the last great struggle between the Commons and Lords arose over the reform bill. This resulted in new elections, the formation of a new cabinet and the continuation of the struggle, the ministers again leaving office. On the re-organization of the cabinet, under the menace of additions to their numbers, the peers abstained from further opposition, and the great charter of 1832 received the royal assent.

Mr. O'Connor's View.

NEW YORK, Nov. 30.—Commenting on the action taken by the British House of Lords in adopting Lord Lansdowne's amendment to the finance bill, T. P. O'Connor, M. P., one of the Irish Nationalist leaders in the House of Commons ,and now in this country in the interests of Irish home rule, said tonight that the rejection of the budget by the British peers pronounced their own doom, and he believed it would precipitate an uprising of the masses in one of the bitterest fights known to English politics for a century. In addition, the turn of events, he said, would act as a vigorous incentive to the cause of Ireland's independence, and meant the final emancipation of the English masses. "I am greatly pleased, and so is everyone who is an enemy of the House of Lords," said Mr. O'Connor. "Every Liberal and still more every Irish Nationalist, has known for several generations that it was impossible to have anything like steady, liberal progress so long as the House of Lords retained its power to defeat or postpone all democratic legislation. Ireland has been the special sufferer from the present power of that body, for the House of Lords consisted almost exclusively of the landlords, who have been the curse and enemy of Ireland and from the days of O'Connel downward, every single reform of the sorest we have won, has had to be won in the face of the opposition of the House of Lords. Its hospitality to Ireland has been maintained steadily to the end, for now it stands alone in the way of a home rule measure.

"As to the effect in England, I believe the rejection of the budget will lead to an uprising of the masses, the strength of which the Lords has failed to realize. They will realize it before many hours. I believe we are on the eve of the fiercest fight we have seen in British politics for a century; that the fight will go against the Lords; that they have pronounced their own doom; and that before two or three years from now their power of mischief will be so broken as practically to be non-existent.

"This means the final emancipation of the English masses from the grip of feudalism and of Ireland from government of an alien parliament."

BLOCKADE UNRELIEVED

Traffic on Mainland Railways Is Still Tied Up by Washouts

VANCOUVER, Nov. 30.—Railways running into Vancouver have not yet recovered from the effects of the great storm of Sunday, traffic being still demoralized, on both the C. P. R. and Great Northern. The latter road is reported to be in as bad shape as the former, the country through which the Great Northern runs between Vancouver and Seattle having suffered from flood conditions to an even greater extent than did the lower mainland of British Columbia and Vancouver Island.

The line of the C. P. R. between Vancouver and Kamloops is now clear, with the exception of three points, where such damage was done to the roadbed that considerable pile driving and trestle building will have to be done before trains can be operated. To add to the trouble of the railway officials, the soft weather which has prevailed for a day or two in the vicinity of Revelstoke is responsible for a number of small slides east and west of that point. It is expected, however, that this obstruction will be cleared away by the time the line between Vancouver and Kamloops is open for traffic. It is hardly expected by C. P. R. officials that westbound trains will reach Vancouver till tomorrow night.

Havoc in Nanaimo Distict.

NANAIMO, Nov. 30.—Reports still continue to come in of damage to property by the unprecedented heavy rains. Bridges in all directions in this vicinity have either been carried away or damaged by floods. In the city a great deal of concern was felt for the safety of the new South Fork pipe line, built last summer. It is now, however, known that it has suffered considerable damage. Some 200 feet of the pipe has been carried away, besides other damage to the system.

Owing to washouts on the short line to Extension, it is impossible to ship coal from the mines to Ladysmith, and the mines at Extension will be idle for some time. The railway of the Pacific Coast Coal company between South Wellington and Boat harbor is damaged to some extent, 250 feet of railway being washed out. It is expected that this will be repaired in three or four days, when work will be resumed at the mines.

Much damage has been done to wagon roads leading into the city many bridges being washed away, and it will be some time before permanent repairs can be effected. The effects of the storm seems to have been felt in their most inconvenient form in the Haslam creek district. The Galloways were flooded out of their home, and forced to take refuge with the Cassidy family. The swollen creek made a new course for itself, and was running four feet deep through the bush and swirling past Galloway's residence. For a long time it was impossible to get to the barn to feed the cattle.

All the men living in cabins round about were driven out, and men employed on the bore hole in that district were swamped and forced to wade breast high to higher ground. Two milkmen who supply Ladysmith with milk, have been unable to make the trip since Saturday. The nearest approach to the week end rainfall goes back as far as 1883, when in 24 hours the rainfall reached 4½ inches.

HONORED BIRTHDAY OF HER MAJESTY

A royal salute of twenty-one guns was fired from the saluting battery of eighteen-pounder Armstrong guns at Work Point, near the mouth of the harbor, yesterday, in honor of the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Alexandra of England.

Promptly at 12 o'clock the battery of six guns were manned by men of the Royal Canadian Artillery and the first belched out its salvo with black powder, while many guns in other batteries scattered about the Empire set about the Seven Seas did likewise in honor of the Queen's natal day.

H. M. S. Egeria, the only representative of the navy at Esquimalt, is not a saluting ship and her three-pounder quick firing guns remained silent. The last time the Egeria fired a salute—she has not fired one for many years—was when one hundred and one guns were fired as Her Late Majesty Queen Victoria was being laid at rest at Frogmore. The Egeria was then equipped with the old Armstrong twenty-pounders, an ancient weapon discarded some time ago.

NOW RIDING IN WINNIPEG

Restored Electric Power Allows Street Cars to Run Again

VILLAGE CONDITIONS NO MORE PREVAIL

Full Services of Light and Transportation Are Expected Today

WINNIPEG, Nov. 30.—As the result of increased power, aided by the generator now working at the damaged plant at Las du Bonnet, Winnipeg's street cars will operate tonight until 12 o'clock, much to the satisfaction of theatre-goers and others.

The company expects to make an announcement tomorrow to the effect that the street cars will almost immediately be placed on full schedule.

A week ago lighting facilities and means of transportation within the limits of this city were nearly approached the conditions of a primeval village than the boasted triumphs of 20th century civilization. Today, in spite of the undoubted magnitude of the calamity that occurred at Lac du Bonnet, Winnipeg has emerged from the "dark" ages; the lighting system has been and will continue to be uninterrupted; street cars have been in operation from early dawn and will do public service until midnight; a continual buzz of almost feverish activity may be heard in all manufacturing institutions, and, most important of all, the unlucky wight who has had a week's struggle with an uncompromising molar may have the same summarily extracted as the dentists' electrical appliances are working once more.

Yesterday citizens were able to enjoy the benefits of the restored power supply from Lac du Bonnet in anticipation. Today there is further cause for satisfaction. The power supply forthcoming last night has not only been maintained but increased this morning, and official statements make it plain that daily, almost hourly, improvement may be looked for. Indeed it is quite safe to predict that one or three days hence at most, Winnipeg will have the usual car service till 2 in the morning.

Bishop of Honan

TORONTO, Dec. 1.—At St. James Cathedral yesterday, Rev. W. C. White was consecrated bishop of Honan, China.

Wants Damages

OTTAWA, Dec. 1.—An action has been instituted by J. B. A. Bourdeau against Arthur B. Van Felson for slander to the amount of $5,000. The action arises out of the marine department enquiry which was conducted some time ago.

Customs Revenue Increases

OTTAWA, Dec. 1.—The customs revenue of the Dominion for the eight months of the fiscal year to Nov. 30, totalled $39,110,567, an increase of $8,141,329 over the same period last year. For month of November the increase was $1,302,703.

Mr. Johndro Recovering.

NEW WESTMINSTER, Dec. 1.—Victor Johndro, architect, who on Monday night fell six storeys from the top of the Dominion Trust building here, sustaining only a broken thigh, is doing well, and a speedy recovery is looked for at the Royal Columbian hospital, where he is undergoing treatment.

Salesman Missing.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 1.—The police have been asked to institute a search for J. A. Dick, travelling salesman for the Hudson Bay company, who suddenly disappeared on Monday with a large sum of money. He was last heard from in New Westminster, where he transacted business for the company. It is feared that he has met with an accident.

Death of Mrs. Theodore Bryant.

NANAIMO, Dec. 1.—The death took place this morning at Ladysmith of Mrs. Theodore Bryant, wife of Postmaster Bryant, of that city. Mrs. Bryant was well known in town and in the Wellington District, having lived in the city and district since 1890. She is survived by her husband and three or four young children. Mrs. Geoffrey Planta, here, and Mrs. John Matthews, of Cumberland, are sisters, while her mother, a brother, and sister reside at Victoria.

Civil War Incident Recalled.

ST. JOHN, N. B., Dec. 1.—The death of Isaac Treadwell, yesterday, which took place at the St. John municipal hospital, recalls an affair of the American civil war back in the sixties. Mr. Treadwell, together with David Collins, Linus Seeley, James McKinney, and a man named Wade, all of this city, were passengers on the American passenger steamer Chesapeake in 1863, and in company with others of the passengers, took charge of the steamer, overpowering the crew while the Chesapeake was on a voyage from New York to Portland, Me. They gave as their authority that they were representing the confederate government. They brought the Chesapeake off Halifax, but were not in possession long before they were overhauled and captured by the gunboats Ela and Annie. The gunboats landed them at St. John, where they were given a preliminary hearing before a magistrate on a charge of piracy, but were acquitted.

Nurse's Fatal Fall

OTTAWA, Dec. 1.—Minnie Corrigan, a nurse in training at St. James hospital, died today as a result of injuries received on November 23 by falling down an elevator shaft.

Dominion Bye-Elections

OTTAWA, Dec. 1.—The bye-election in Dufferin county caused by the death of Dr. John Barr, Conservative, takes place on December 22. The bye-election in Luenenburg, N. S., caused by the resignation of A. K. McLean, Liberal, to become attorney-general of Nova Scotia, takes place on December 11.

Jeffries-Johnson Fight

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.—No decision as to the successful bidder for the world's championship heavyweight prize fight between Jeffries and Jack Johnson was announced in New York tonight, because the promoters wished to avoid any clash with the police authorities. The decision will be made in Hoboken, N. J., at 1 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

Boston Men on Tour

BOSTON, Dec. 1.—More than 120 business men of this city, members of the Chamber of Commerce, left today on a trip of education to Chicago, where they will remain three days. The trip is the second which the committee on trade extension of the chamber of commerce has undertaken. The first one was in May last, when a successful visit was made to the leading cities of Maine. The delegation had as special guests Governor Draper of Massachusetts and Governor Pothier of Rhode Island.

RAILWAY UNION IS DISSOLVED

Rock Island Drops Control of Frisco Road and New Men Take It Over

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.—Six thousand five hundred miles of railroad, forming the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad company's system, generally known as the "Frisco," changed hands in New York today, with its severance from the Rock Island company, with which it was merged in 1903. The purchasers are B. F. Yoakum, former chairman of the Frisco-Rock Island board, and B. L. Winchell, formerly president of the Rock Island, who now becomes president of the Frisco. It is understood that Messrs. Winchell and Yoakum have as their associates some of the leading capitalists of the middle west.

All accounts agree that the dissolution was brought about by fear of federal intervention. The lines parallel and tap each other at various points, and there is reason to believe that the Interstate Commerce Commission had taken cognizance of that fact.

Another interesting phase of the matter is that despite denials the current belief is that the Frisco will form some alliance with the lines of Edwin Hawley, the new figure in the railroad world, who recently acquired control of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas. At the same time the relations of the now divorced Frisco and Rock Island are to be friendly and for the benefit of both. Authoritative statement of the transaction today confirms reports long current here and marks the official severance of the relations of the two systems.

Nelson Mayoralty

NELSON, Dec. 1.—Mayor Selous has announced his intention of seeking re-election in January. He is certain to have at least one opponent, and if the moral reform party can agree on a candidate, there will be three men in the field for the mayoralty.

Mr. Templeman's Disclaimer

OTTAWA, Dec. 1.—When asked if there was any truth in the rumor that he would be appointed successor to Lieut. Governor Dunsmuir in British Columbia, Hon. William Templeman, Minister of Inland Revenue, said the report was "frigid and calculated misrepresentation."

Fatally Crushed

LONDON, Dec. 1.—James E. Cook, a foreman in the boiler works of E. Leonard & Sons, was terribly injured when a huge plate weighing two tons fell on him and pinned him to the floor. For more than two hours he was in an unconscious condition. He died last evening.

Veteran Minister Dead.

ST. JOHN, N. B., Dec. 1.—Rev. Donald MacRae, D.D., for many years one of the foremost Presbyterian clergymen in eastern Canada, died at Edmonton last night, where he was the guest of his son, Prof. A. O. MacRae, of the Alberta university. Rev. Dr. MacRae was born in 1833 in Hopewell, N. S., and was pastor of many prominent Presbyterian churches. He was also for a time professor of systematic theology and homoletics in Queen's university, Kingston, Ont., and was later principal of Warren College, Quebec. He was well known as a writer on theological subjects.

Germany's Parliament.

BERLIN, Dec. 1.—The Emperor William opened the Reichstag yesterday by personally reading the speech from the throne. The speech dealt largely with domestic legislation, and contained the important announcement that the government had prepared a measure extending the sick benefit insurance to the working classes not heretofore protected, and creating a system of insurance for the dependent relatives of deceased workers. One of the principal tasks of the government, the Emperor said, was to fortify the financial position of the Empire with the gains provided by the finance bill of the last session, and this task would be accomplished through the appropriation bill in 1910. "I nourish with confidence," said His Majesty, "the hope that the three allied Empires will continue to get together, using their strength for the welfare of their people and the maintenance of peace."

UNIONISTS TALK TARIFF

Endeavor to Make It Leading Issue in Coming Political Contest

COMMENTS OFFERED BY LEADING PAPERS

Campaign Opens Tomorrow With Speeches From Men of Each Party

LONDON, Dec. 1.—Commenting editorially on the budget situation today, the Times says: "In taking this course, the House of Lords is discharging its primary constitutional duty, a duty broader, deeper and more vital to the prosperity of the nation than any compliance with superficial convention or custom. Tariff reform may be unwelcome to many, as it is to Lord Cromer, but his dislike of it only adds to his warning. It is immeasurably the smaller of two evils. The vote of the Lords was given under a serious sense of responsibility and so far as possible without regard to party interest. We believe the peers will be generously upheld by the great majority of the electors. Above all Premier Asquith will be prevented from setting up a fiscal system which he expected to serve as a solid entrenchment against tariff reform."

The Daily Mail says: "In this crisis of England's fate the House of Lords has shown faith in her people and itself. Other even more tremendous issues than the constitutional issue are bound up with the people's verdict. There is the navy. There is the great national aim of drawing closer the states of the Empire, which can only be accomplished by tariff reform. The sands are running out. One opportunity has been thrown away. Shall we lose this last chance?"

The Daily Mail forecasts the downfall of the Empire if the people choose wrongly in the coming elections.

The Chronicle says the Lords have committed suicide, and that an oligarchy has been substituted for democracy, but the stroke will be short-lived. The watchword of democracy will be "never again."

"Tariff reform, with a two shilling tax on foreign corn," said the Unionist whip, "would provide the funds for the old age pension instead of paying them out of capital. So then," says the Chronicle, "wealth is to be exempted and the old people are to pay for their bread."

The Daily Telegraph says: "The issue is open once more throughout Great Britain. The masses have tariff reform in their grasp. They can break the chain of an unjust, injurious and iniquitous policy, and they can break it now. The people can make an end of the system under which our foreign competitors are enabled more and more to monopolize their markets."

The News says: "The weight of argument and the weight of personality went against the Lords during the debate. The opposition have given no alternative to the budget but the discredited and cruel policy of tariff reform, the wanton thoughtlessness of shabby class selfishness and incredible folly. The whole performance stands out in pitiless light, and cannot be hid. Democracy has learned its lesson and can be depended on to act. The leaders of the Lords, ignoring grave warnings, have declared for revolution. In the fight that is beginning there can for the Liberals be no question of defeat, compromise or hesitation. It may be severe, even long. It may involve confusion and chaos, but it can end only one way. No Liberal government will ever again take office on any terms short of an immediate reduction of the existing powers of the peers."

The time of the deliverance of the speech of prorogation, the substance of which was agreed upon yesterday will depend upon the time occupied for debate on the premier's motion which will begin tomorrow. It is expected, however that this discussion will be brief, the speeches by pre-arrangement being confined to the leaders of the Unionist, Liberal, Labor and Irish parties.

Parliament will be prorogued doubtless until the middle of January, but the choice of a date is a mere formality as the present house comes to an end by dissolution early next year. The election campaign will open in earnest on Friday when David Lloyd-George, chancellor of the exchequer, and Winston Spencer Churchill president of the board of trade, who are held chiefly responsible for the budget and Lord Lansdowne and Austen Chamberlain, the most ardent opponents of the government's measure, will deliver speeches, and with the exception of a brief respite at Christmas the fight will be continued until election day.

New Diocese

QUEBEC, Dec. 1.—A new Roman Catholic diocese is to be formed on the Lower St. Lawrence, comprising Gaspe and vicinity.

Rifle Accident

TORONTO, Dec. 1.—Jean Buckley, 16 years old, was probably fatally shot by the accidental discharge of a rifle in the hands of her brother at their home on Osler avenue this morning.

Farmer Killed

ROCK ISLAND, Dec. 1.—When going from here to his home at Fitch Bay this morning, Niles Smith, a farmer, 55 years old, met death in a peculiar manner. When found his head was hanging out of the wagon and was struck by the spokes of a wheel every time the wheel revolved.