MALADMINISTRATION AT OTTAWA ARRAIGNED BY MR. R. L. BORDEN IN VIGOROUS SPEECH AT HALIFAX

Continued from page 1.

"In section 21 from Winnipeg east, 247 miles, the Government estimate for solid rock was 3,696,336 cubic yards the contract rate which at $1.70 per cubic yard would have cost $6,283,771.20. This solid rock has increased to 6,415,862 cubic yards, costing $10,906,975. For loose rock the Government estimate was 733,454 cubic yards which at the contract price of 60 cents per cubic yard would cost $440,072.20. Through some remarkable metamorphosis this loose rock has grown to 2,056,297 cubic yards costing $1,233,778.20.

"On the other hand common earth excavation costing 30 cents per cubic yard has shrunk from 11,233,247 cubic yards to 2,215,876. Geologists tell us that wonderful changes have taken place in the earth's formation through the action of water or fire or as the result of tremendous pressure so that sofe fine material and debris have been converted into solid rock.

The accepted theories of geologists have led us to believe that thousands of years were necessary to bring about such tremendous changes. These theories must now be revised. All this can be accomplished within two or three years at the outside, but it is curious that such startling results seem so entirely restricted in area. Up to the present time the phenomena alluded to have only been observed upon the line of the National Transcontinetal Railway. It does not appear that they are due to fire or water, but geologists tell us that pressure brings about wonderful results.

Millions From the Treasury.

It is unfortunate for the country that these phenomena should have occurred in the precise localities where they have been observed as the natural result has been to abstract a great many millions of dollars from the public treasury. It is the claim of the Prime Minister that his government is especially favored by Providence. The mysterious laws of nature seem to have been extremely unfavorable to the interests of the people in this instance. It does not appear that any such sudden and startling geologic changes have been observed either north or south of the National Transcontinental. They have been miraculously confined to the exact area of this railway.

Was this remarkable and untoward circumstance included in the Prime Minister's "mountains of information?" It is not for me to say but I may venture to give you certain results which I take as they were extracted from the minister of railways a few days ago in parliament.

NATIONAL TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILWAY CONTRACTS.

Estimated by Government Engineers.

	Cubic yds.	Rate	Amount
No. 1.			
Solid Rock.	Nil	1.50	Nil
Loose Rock ...	129,379	.55	$ 71,158.45
Common Exca	1,841,152	.25	460,288.00
			$ 531,446.45
No. 5.			
Solid Rock ..	252,893	1.49	$ 376,810.57
Loose Rock ..	971,224	.35	339,928.40
Common Exca ..	1,224,284	.24	293,838.16
			$1,010,567.13
No. 10.			
Solid Rock ..	776,161	1.50	$1,164,241.50
Loose Rock ..	278,552	.50	139,276.00
Common Exca ..	4,508,480	.21	946,780.80
			$2,250,298.30
No. 11.			
Solid Rock ..	220,200	1.65	$ 363,330.00
Loose Rock ..	180,200	.60	108,120.00
Common Exca ..	1,966,458	.27	530,944.00
			$1,002,394
No. 21.			
Solid Rock	3,696,336	1.70	$ 6,283,771.00
Loose Rock	733,454	.60	440,072.00
Common Exca	11,233,247	.30	3,369,974.00
			$10,093,817.00

Actual Cost to 31st December 1909.

	Cubic yds Amt Fin.		
No. 1.			
Solid Rock ..	42,219	$ 63,328.00	94.3
Loose Rock ..	938,728	516,300.80	
Common Exca ..	520,728	130,182.00	
		$709,811.30	
No. 5.			
Solid Rock ...	801,189	$1,193,771.61	
Loose Rock	548,817	192,085.95	73.6
Common Exca	163,828	39,318.72	
		$1,425,176.28	
No. 10.			
Solid Rock ..	2,849,832	$4,274,748.00	
Loose Rock ..	1,351,519	675,759.00	87.7
Common Exca ..	1,552,331	325,990.00	
		$5,276,497.00	
No. 11.			
Solid Rock ...	847,949	$1,399,115.85	
Loose Rock ...	449,313	269,587.80	60.5
Common Exca	631,199	170,423.73	
		$1,839,127.38	
No. 21.			
Solid Rock	6,415,869	$10,906,977.30	
Loose Rock	2,056,297	1,233,778.20	93.7
Common Exca	2,215,876	664,762.80	
		$12,805,518.30	

"I have said in the House of Commons, and I repeat it here tonight, that the Government is face to face with this dilemma. Either the Government's estimated classifications of materials upon which these tenders were let was so absurdly and shamefully wrong as to surpass belief, or else the public treasury is being looted with the connivance of those who are responsible for its security. In one case there has been such criminal negligence as would justify the dismissal of the administration. In the other case there is deliberate robbery of the public revenues.

Naval Defence.

"The question of Canada's co-operation in the naval defence of the Empire has naturally attracted public attention to an unusual degree. We have taken the stand that the Mother Country is confronted with critical and grave conditions which demand immediate and effective aid, and which cannot be met by the Government's scheme combining as it does a maximum of expense with a minimum of efficiency.

"The prime minister has declared that no emergency exists, and his parrot followers, with one notable exception, re-echo that cry. The exception is Col. H. H. McLean, of New Brunswick, who has declared most emphatically that such an emergency does exist. And in truth there can be no question on that point. The present proposals of the Government arose out of an emergency and nothing else.

"In 1907 the prime minister at the Imperial Conference in London, absolutely and unreservedly rejected in the most unequivocal and abrupt terms a proposal moved by Dr. Smartt, of South Africa, which was of the precise effect and almost the identical terms of the resolution passed just one year ago tomorrow night. The prime minister accepted in March, 1909, a policy which he had rejected in 1907 because he felt himself forced thereto by the public opinion of the country. He did so with no very good grace, and he is said to have described it privately as a disagreeable necessity.

The Duty of Canada.

"We were not fully satisfied with the resolution of March, 1909, but we accepted it in default of anything better, because it did affirm the duty of Canada in unmistakable terms, and because it was most desirable that we should if possible appear of one mind. The present proposals of the Government absolutely depart from that resolution in its most important and vital aspect. That resolution gave the approval of the House to any necessary expenditure designed to promote the organization of a Canadian naval service along lines suggested by the Admiralty at the last Imperial Conference.

"What were those lines? Let me quote the language of Lord Tweedmouth at that conference, which embodies not only a suggestion but an expressed declaration that the command of all the naval forces of the Empire must be vested under one central control in time of war:

"'The only reservation that the Admiralty desire to make is that they claim to have the charge of the strategical questions which are necessarily involved in naval defence, to hold the command of the naval forces of the country, and to arrange the distribution of ships in the best possible manner to resist attacks and to defend the Empire at large, whether it be our own islands or the dominions beyond the seas.'

An Obvious Fact.

"It does not require an expert to understand the reason for that declaration. Scattered flotillas under local command and direction would be an easy prey to an enemy who had succeeded in defeating the fighting fleet of the Empire. There will be disunion, disorganization and utter confusion unless there is one central control and one direction. Lord Tweedmouth's view was reiterated at the defence conference of 1909. No argument worthy of the name has ever been advanced against it.

"What are the proposals of the government? Clause 18 of the bill is as follows:—'In case of an emergency the governor-in-council may place at the disposal of His Majesty for general service in the Royal Navy, the naval service or any part thereof, any ships or vessels of the naval service, and the officers and seamen serving in such ships or vessels or any officers, or seamen, belonging to the naval service.'

"I shall not dwell tonight upon the constitutional objections to this clause which is in direct conflict with section 15 of the British North America Act, but I invite your attention to its obvious meaning and results. The government propose that the Canadian naval unit shall be placed at the disposal of His Majesty when, and only when, an order-in-council has been passed by the government to that effect. If no order-in-council is passed then the Canadian naval force is not placed at the disposal of His Majesty in time of war.

Sir Wilfrid's Peculiar Views.

"Sir Wilfrid Laurier has expressed peculiar views in this regard. He has stated in so many words that he intends to exercise discretion and discrimination, as to whether Canada shall assist the Mother Country in time of danger. For example he has explicitely stated that if any such war as the Crimean war occurred under the conditions which prevailed in 1854 he would hesitate very much to permit Canada to take part therein.

"In one part of his speech he declared that when England is at war we are at war. A little further on he contradicted that statement by using these words:—'It does not follow, however, that because England is at war we should be at war.' And then a little further on he returns to his first love in these words:—'If England is at war we are at war, and liable to attack.' And then a few lines below he seeks to reconcile the contending expressions by making the emphatic declaration:—'Neither do I say that we would take part in all the wars of England.' All this evasion and contradiction is the froth and foam cast up from the whirlpool of contending forces behind him.

What The Result Would Be.

"What will be the result of all this? Imagine England drawn into war and Sir Wilfrid Laurier declining to issue an order-in-council. What is to become of our fleet in that case? Are our ships to fraternize with the enemy's? Are they to lower the British flag and fly another? The Prime Minister reserves the right to take no part in any such war. In that case our ships must either lower the British flag or be liable to attack. Is Canada thus to declare her neutrality and therefore her complete independence?

"The Prime Minister's statement, coupled with the provisions of the bill mean that or they mean nothing. This bill has within it a deliberate reservation of power to the government to declare the independence of Canada whenever Great Britain becomes engaged in a war which does not meet their opproval. Having established this naval force in pretence of fulfilling our obligation to the Mother Country the government reserving the sinister and dangerous power of shamefully withholding that force from those of the Empire in the hour of danger.

Revolutionary and Unworkable

"The proposition is at once mischevious, revolutionary and unworkable. Canada is part of the British Empire. When the British Empire is attacked Canada is attacked. Our ships must fly the British flag and their officers and crew must take the oath of allegiance to the Crown. The King is Commander-in-Chief of all the naval and military forces of the Empire, and that right is reserved to him by the British North America Act.

"If one of our cruisers were attacked, or the flag which that cruiser flies were insulted all the power of the British navy would be at our command to right that wrong and redress the insult. And so it must always be while we are part of the Empire. Yet we have from this Government a deliberate proposal that unless the Governor-in-Council otherwise orders) our naval forces shall not be at the disposal of His Majesty, and shall not form part of the British naval forces in time of war.

"Such a proposal may commend itself to those who contemplate the complete independence and separation of this country from the Empire. I regard it as not only cowardly but dangerous and revolutionary. It is nothing short of an inchoate declaration of complete independence and separation, which I will oppose to the end.

Thoroughly Ineffective.

"I object to the Government naval proposals for the further reason that they are thoroughly ineffective. One of the Government organs in the Province of Quebec in attempting to justify the scheme describes it in these terms:

"'We must content ourselves with rapid cruisers and torpedo boat destroyers, small vessels armed to attack and whose extreme rapidity enables them to elude pursuit. * * * * These ships will be at our expense and under our control, but if we are asked for them, we may lend them to Great Britain.'

"Considering that New Zealand with less than one-seventh of the population and resources of Canada furnishes cruisers of the Dreadnought type at cost of $10,000,000, and that Australia, with resources and population considerably less than our own provides a complete fleet unit as recommended by the Admiralty, we cannot feel proud of the proposals of our own government. They are ineffective, though exceedingly expensive. within the next ten years, according to estimates brought down they will cost more than fifty million dollars for construction and maintenance, including an allowance for interest and depreciation.

"In the meantime, if the Empire should unfortunately be involved in war, the Canadian cruisers would be utterly useless in battle. They must depend on their boasted ability to elude pursuit unless they could successfully invoke the protection of an Australian or New Zealand Dreadnought.

A Free Contribution From Canada.

"We have proposed immediate and effective aid by placing at the disposal of the Imperial authorities as a free and loyal contribution from the people of Canada such an amount as may be sufficient to purchase or construct two battleships of the latest Dreadnought type. We have contended further, that the proposals of the Government being immature and ill-considered and involving enormous and continuous cost with no practical result should be withdrawn for the present; that new proposals should be submitted, debated in Parliament, and placed before the people of this country; and that before such proposals shall be carried into effect the people of Canada shall have a right to pass upon them and give their mandate to Parliament with regards thereto.

"The Prime Minister according to the clear and uncontradicted statement of one of his followers has always strenuously maintained that Canada should not participate in the wars of Great Britain. Some echoes of that sentiment have been heard on the Government side during the recent debate when at least two of his supporters declared that they share the aspirations for independence which he openly expressed in 1891 and 1892.

"In estimating the sentiment of the Province of Quebec I am not greatly influenced by such isolated incidents. The teaching of the Liberal leaders of the Liberal party in that province before 1896 was unhealthly and misleading, but I do not believe that the people of that province were greatly influenced thereby. Let it be remembered that occassional aspirations for independence have been heard from time to time in other provinces, and even in this loyal province of Nova Scotia.

"It is impossible for us to expect from the French speaking population the same sentimental affection for Great Britain which we entertain, but let us equally remember that they profoundly appreciate and value the liberties which they enjoy under British institutions to which they are thoroughly loyal, and that in the past they have proved themselves as ready and as valiant to fight in defence of Canada as the English speaking portion of our population.

"Recall the American invasion of 1776 and remember the events of 1812-15. Who more gloriously vindicated the honor of Canada, who defended the liberties of Canadians at Chateauguay? Our fellow citizens of French descent are a brave and loyal people, ready to do their full share in the defence of the Empire.

A Difference of Opinion.

"The chief, if not the only difference of opinion between my colleagues from Quebec and myself on this question is in the estimate of the gravity of existing conditions. I believe that an emergency has arisen which makes it the imperative duty of Canada to proffer immediate and effective aid, to offer it now and so stand shoulder to shoulder with our fellow dominions. The French speaking Conservatives from Quebec are not satisfied that such emergency exists.

"That Canada must co-operate in defence of the Empire goes without saying. I have expressed my views in that regard fully and frankly and I have nothing to withdraw. I firmly believe that the ultimate basis of such co-operation will be the establishment of a Canadian naval unit which in time of war must be under the control of the Admiralty, in a great strategic scheme by which all the naval forces of the Mother Country and the dominions will be effectively united and co-ordinated for the preservation and defence of the Empire wherever attacked. Defence under certain conditions can best be accomplished by attack. It has never been the tradition of the British navy to act on the defensive and Canadians inheriting those traditions will not be slow to follow them.

An Absurd Argument.

"The absurd argument that our autonomy is in danger by a direct emergency contribution is hardly worth mentioning. Was our autonomy destroyed by the gifts to unfortunate sufferers at San Francisco, Messina, and Paris? Has it been affected by our grants in aid of the Pacific cable, by our subsidies to steamship lines? Did Australia and New Zealand lose their autonomy by making annual contributions to the Imperial navy for ten years? Did we, did any of the great dominions beyond the seas lose their autonomy by sending their troops to South Africa to fight under the Empire's flag?

"The Conservative proposal if carried into effect would certainly not decrease or affect the autonomous statue of Canada, but should on the contrary increase the self-respect of her people. What is ours to give or to withhold, we may freely give."

RUTH WHEELER BURNED ALIVE

New York, Mar. 28.—Spurred on by the discovery that Ruth Wheeler, the girl stenographer victim of the sensational murder uncovered last Saturday, was smothered and stuffed while unconscious into the fireplace of Albert Wolter's apartments and there burned to death the authorities today continued with added zeal the task of trying to develop the real motive for the crime. Coroner's Physician O'Hanlon is authority for the statement that Ruth Wheeler was burned alive. After the autopsy on the body he declared that the discovery of a remnant of a square of linen over the right nostril of the girl and traces of soot in the nostril and lungs, convinced him that she was still living when after being strangled by the cord about her neck, her body was set on fire by the murderer.

Hours of questioning of the closest sort have failed to shake young Wolter in his declaration that he had never seen the Wheeler girl and know nothing of the way in which she met her fate. In his cell in the Tombs, where is lodged on a charge of murder, he remains insistent in protestations of innocence, but steadfastly declines to explain the entry of Ruth Wheeler's name in his memorandum book or to account to the satisfaction of the police for his movements on the day when it is learned Miss Wheeler visited his rooms in answer to an advertisement for a stenographer and was not again seen alive outside of the East 75th street house in which Wolter lived.

Information obtained from Katie Miller or Muellar, Wolter's companion, who was arrested yesterday, was mostly of a negative character. A fresh trail in Wolter's case, however, was struck by the authorities in a story told them by a young woman, who confessed to having known Wolter well. Her tale of the many young girls who she said had been associated with the prisoner, set the authorities to looking up the numerous girls whose names and addresses were found in Wolter's memorandum book to see if any of them are missing. The investigation is expected to reveal whether or not Wolter had any active connection with "White Slave" operations.

Since the latter part of January over fifty girls between the ages of 15 and 17 years have been reported missing to the police. All but fifteen have been accounted for.

SUDDEN DEATH OF TEAMSTER AT CAPITAL

Fredericton, March 28.—The death occurred today with tragic suddenness of Mr. David Day, a well known local truckman.

Recently Mr. Day returned from the lumber woods where he had been working harder than usual and where he also suffered a severe blow on th head from a falling tree. Yesterday he was not feeling very well, but this morning he got up and after lighting the fire returned to his bed to rest. He was then suddenly seized with an attack of heart trouble and died an hour later without having rallied.

The deceased was in his 66th year and is survived by his wife, one son, Frank, of this city, one daughter, Mrs. Joshua Phair of Boston, his mother, Mrs. John Day of Woodstock, two brothers, Holland of Boston and Solomon of this city, and six sisters, Mrs. Clara Hartan, of Minneapolis, Mrs. Lily Jasques of Woodstock, Mrs. Annie Nobles of San Francisco and Mrs. Kate Nobles and Mrs. Julia McLean, of Blaine, Me., also survive.

The funeral arrangements have not yet been completed and the date will be announced later. Rev. A. A. Rideout will conduct the services.

Outing Club Dance.

Members of the Outing Club held an informal dance in Keith's Assembly Rooms last evening. About forty-five couples were present and a programme of fifteen dances was carried out. The Nickel orchestra furnished music. The chaperones were Mrs. J. O'Regan, Mrs. Josh Ward, Mrs. John McDonald and Mrs. Henry Regan.

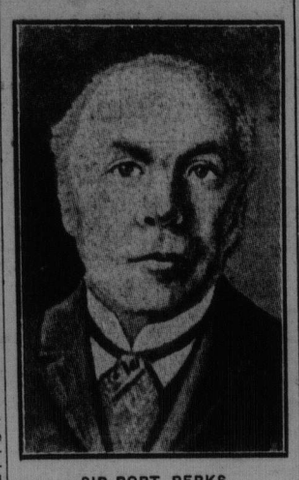
Sir Robert Perks On Politics And Society

Great Nonconformist Leader, in New York, Tells of Conditions in England Today--Plight of the Liberals--- Parliament Membership a Farce--- Men, Measures and Reform.

New York, March 28.—Sir Robert Perks, Bart., who is at the St. Reges, is to the Non-conformist part of the population of England what the Duke of Norfolk is to the Roman Catholic element of the country. He is spokesman of a much larger part of the population than the Duke for the Methodists and other Nonconformists represent, it is estimated fully one-third of England.

Sir Robert is often called the biggest Methodist in England and he is the man who when that denomination came to the conclusion that it needed a fund of a million pounds for educational and other purposes raised the slogan, "A million guineas from a million Methodsts," and actually got it.

For twenty years Sir Robert represented North Lincolnshire in Parliament. Indeed it is as "R. W. Perks,



SIR ROBT. PERKS.

M.P.," that he is best known. It was only recently that he was made a baronet, and when the last election came he decided that he had had enough of the House of Commons and refused to stand again. By occupation Sir Robert is a contractor. He has built a number of great things in different parts of the world, notably the port works and docks at Buenoh Ayres, which took fourteen years to complete and which cost $50,000,000. The Manchester ship canal was constructed by his firm.

Too Busy.

"Why did I get out of Parliament?" Sir Robert repeated yesterday. "Well, the truth is that I was too busy to stay in it. When I put to myself the question, 'What have you got by being a member of that body?' I realized that for twenty years I had been sitting in the House of Commons from 3 o'clock in the afternoon until midnight every day for twenty sessions, taking a cup of tea and perhaps smoking a cigar or two with friends, hearing a lot of talk that amounted to nothing and voting as I was told. After twenty years of that sort of thing I convinced myself that it was time I devoted my remaining energy to something more useful and more permanent. I have spent $250,000 for my party.

"A busy man cannot afford to give his time to Parliament. He goes and sits in the House of Commons and listens to speeches that are mere repetitions and only the echoing of the pronouncements of ministers who are probably misinformed on the subject which is under treatment. To a business man who is accustomed to quick decisions who knows his own mind, it is irritating to listen to the playing to the galleries and the government's evasive replies, which the politician is bound to give.

"Persons in foreign countries who have not kept their eyes on British parliamentary institutions are unable to appreciate what is a fact that the House of Commons nowadays is merely an echo of the Ministry that is in power. Ours has become an oligarchial form of government.

"The House of Commons represents about the same amount of power as would an equal number of men with wooden arms unless you who happen to be a member are in the Government or are expecting to be. There has been a tremendous change in the Commons in twenty years for in that time the power of the private members has been reduced to a nullity.

Four Groups.

"The present Liberal Government is broken into four groups. First there are the Irish, with 80 votes that are always in the market. 'Something for Ireland,' they are always crying, and I do not blame them. Then there are the labor members, all paid by the different trade organizations to which they belong and whose object is to divert taxation for what are called social objects, which means taking property from men who have it, and giving it to those who have not. They would turn over to the state all means of producing and make every home a hovel of the state into which the inspector could be admitted at any hour of the day or night to see whether the occupants was doing his duty as a citizen. They would take away property, make the fool the equal of the wise man, and pay the man who will not work the same wages as those who will.

"Then there is the Liberal party, which is split into two irreconcilable sections, one strongly imperialistic, advocating a powerful navy and following up the old Gladstonian traditions of finance, favoring sound, modern and progressive reform and holding that the citizen must be left free as far as possible of state control in building up his business and his home. This wing is led by Mr. Asquith, Sir Edward Grey and Mr. Haldane.

"Then there is the other section of the Liberal party which is strongly socialistic, opposed to a powerful navy and crying peace when there is no peace and not likely to be, in favor of universal arbitration and putting great burdens of taxation on the thrifty and industrious classes. This wing is led by Lloyd-George, whose great qualification, and I may add, his only one, is that he is a brilliant speaker. He calls himself 'a child of the mountains' and 'a son of the people' but in the twelve months in which he has been in office as chancellor of the exchequer he has got the finances of our country into the most awful muddle of any chancellor since the days of Lord North.

"Those veto resolutions of the House of Commons, stripped of all their verbiage, simply mean that Great Britain is to be ruled by a single chamber, and in the lifetime of one party any measure, however repulsive to the country it may be, must be passed by the House of Lords, or must go to the king for approval when the lords reject it and the commons have passed it three times in one session of parliament.

The Choice.

"In my judgment the English electors have got to choose between an efficient second chamber or no second chamber at all. If we have a second chamber it ought to be greatly reduced in numbers from the size of the House of Lords. The hereditary principle should no longer be recognized, and if I had my way we would clean out every bishop who sits as a legislator.

"For some years I was the chairman of the 200 Nonconformists in Parliament, but I could never induce them to act with vigor and unity. If that had been possible the Nonconformists could have obtained anything they wished in the last Parliament. As it is the great reforms for which there is the greatest demand, namely, equal religious rights through out the land and the rescue of our elementary schools from the control of denominational teachers and the clergy, will get no attention from the present Parliament.

"As for the veto resolutions I expect they will go to the House of Lords and there will be rejected, and this will involve another general election within a few months. Then you will find that the country will get pretty tired of the squabbling and discover that it does not exist merely to keep A or B in office, or to patch up the quarrels of those political leaders, and that the conduct of the government business requires men who have sound, commercial, economic ideas, who will conserve the financial resources of the country, maintain relations abroad on a peaceful footing, enable the country to command a supremacy on the seas, and introduce the modern social reforms which an overwhelming majority of the public demands but at the same time not going too far ahead of those demands.

Another Factor.

"There is another thing that should be borne in mind, and that is that the appeal to the country in favor of what was called the 'people's budget' resulted in returning to Parliament not many members who favor the budget at all. If the Irish are placated so that they will vote for it, it will be in contravention of their convictions, for Ireland is protectionist. That country wants protection for its cattle and farm produce, for mind you, Ireland is a different country to what it was twenty years ago. There are now 300,000 peasant proprietors in Ireland as the result of the Irish land act, which pledged the credit of the government to enable peasants to acquire a freehold of property.

"As for the present position of the Nonconformists in England, they are beginning to discover what their forefathers found out in the time of the Commonwealth, and that is that it is never safe to follow clerical advice, and that no greater mistake can be made than to intrust their political destiny to the leadership of their preachers. In fact British Nonconformity, so far as its laymen are concerned, is feeling the truth of what Gambetta told the French, that "Clericalism is the enemy.' Unfortunately, a very influential section of the Nonconformist preachers has allowed itself to be tied to the chariot wheels of party politics, and this undoubtedly restrained and indeed prevented the accomplishment of such great religious reforms as in the days of John Bright were secured under the lay leaders of Nonconformity. In my judgment, this lesson is eating its way very deeply into the minds of British Nonconformists, and the time is quickly coming when they will say to the parsons, 'No priests in politics, and no politicians in the pulpit!'

Trade Conditions.

"As for trade in England that is just now extremely prosperous. There has been no rise in the price of commodities consumed by the people; housing conditions, as a whole, have greatly improved particularly in manufacturing towns such as Derby, Leicester, Nottingham and Birmingham. Our cities are being steadily rebuilt. Our municipal institutions are well managed and the government of our cities has greatly improved. Though we have a very large surplus population, yet on the whole the condition of the working classes of our country, in spite of the congestion and poverty so apparent in London, Liverpool and Glasgow, is better than at any time during the last fifty years. Also it may be remarked that the percentage of crime is lower and the standard of living higher.

"The stringent trade union regulations in England restrict the application of machinery as far as possible in manufacturing and strictly limit the number of youths permitted to acquire technical instruction, or at all events, if they acquire it, prevent them from utilizing their knowledge.

"That is why I have always been of the opinion that trade unionism is one of the most objectionable forms of protection. Its great evil is that it denies the right of a man to use his brain and his peculiar knowledge and his energy and his utmost power for the purpose of improving his social condition. It kills individualty, makes the idler and the sluggard the equal of the intelligent, energetic man and checks progress by stilling hope and murdering ambition."

HIS DEATH DUE TO POISONING

Coroner Reaches Verdict In Case Of Chicago Manufacturer Believed To Have Died From Ptomaines.

Chicago, Ill., Mar. 28.—That Alexander J. Moody, a wealthy pie manufacturer, died of arsenic poisoning on February 20, was the assertion made today by Coroner Hoffman, after an investigation. The death had been reported as due to ptomaines.

That the poison was contained in hamburger steak eaten by Mr. Moody seems clear to the authorities, but the manner in which it was placed in the meat is a mystery that the coroner and the police have been unable to solve.

While the coroner and Assistant Chief of Police Schuettler declare that they accuse no one, it is admitted that a woman of Mr. Moody's household and one of his employes have been under surveillance for a month.

On Thursday, Feb. 17, the Hamburger steak in question was purchased. It was on Saturday the family partook of the meat without ill effects. The meat was prepared by Agnes Hartwick, a servant who had been in the family for 13 years. On Sunday morning, at breakfast, the servant served Mr. Moody the steak and some corn bread and coffee. Miss Hartwick ate a piece of bread dipped in the gravy from the meat and later she was taken violently ill.

When Mr. Moody returned home that night he was so ill he could scarcely stand. The family physician, Dr. F. S. Hartman, was sent for, but the patient died. The doctor was about to leave the house when informed that the servant was ill, exhibiting symptoms similar to those of Mr. Moody. In this case medical aid proved efficacious.

Dr. Hartman that night took the remainder of the steak and sealed it in a glass jar. Walter Haines, a chemist, after analysis, reported to the coroner that the meat contained enough arsenic to kill half a dozen persons.

The kidneys, heart and stomach of the deceased according to the coroner, also showed pronounced traces of the poison.

Coroner Hartman is a friend of the Moody family, when he learned of Mr. Moody's sudden death, he visited the household with the idea of saving the family the notoriety of an autopsy.

Detectives are keeping close watch on all who might possibly shed light on the mystery. An officer is still at St. Charles, Illinois, near the Moody farm. Peter Peterson, also known as Peter Reilly, who has been in the employ of the Moody household for 15 years as coachman, farm manager and general factotum is said to be at present at St. Charles.

A year ago Mr. Moody narrowly escaped poisoning, it is said. At that time, among other things, he was served soup. The servant who had previously tasted it, was afterward seized with severe cramps. Mr. Moody merely tasted the dish, then pushed it from him, declaring that it burned his stomach. Peterson, or Reilly, was then at the house, but left the premises before the meal, returning some time later, according to Miss Hartwick.

HALIFAX DEFEATS ISLANDERS

Halifax, March 28.—One of the best basketball games seen here for years took place at the Y.M.C.A. gymnasium tonight between the Prince of Wales College team from Charlottetown and the city Y.M.C.A. The collegians were little more than youngsters compared with their heavier opponents and were at a great disadvantage. The locals took fully seven shots on the basket to the students one, but shot very poorly, especially in the first half. The Islanders are wonderful shots, Milford's shooting being the feature of the game.

Bournea for the Y.M.C.A., also shot well during the last half. The score at half time stood 18-17 in favor of the collegians, but the superior weight of the locals wore them down and the game ended Y.M.C.A., 35; Prince of Wales, 29.

PINEAPPLE SCRATCH RESULTS IN DEATH

New York, N. Y., Mar. 28.—Mrs. Helen M. Mitchell, a widow, living in Brooklyn, died today as the result of a specule of a pineapple she had been paring, entering her thumb. The wound was a slight one, but in half an hour her hand was swollen. Her arm then became inflamed and turned black and green in color. The family physician was called in, but the swelling spread to her body and the woman was soon in great agony and later died.

The doctors are of the opinion that the pineapple was infected with some powerful and deadly West Indian poison.

GIVES UP HIS CHURCH TO GO INTO POLITICS

Revere, Mass., March 28.—Rev. W. Lathrop Meeker has resigned from the pastorate of the First Unitarian church of this place to become an independent candidate for congress in the Seventh District against Ernest W. Roberts, the present representative, who will doubtless be again the Republican nominee.

Rev. Mr. Meeker will advocate public ownership and the elimination of bosses in politics.