

BOLD PROPOSAL OF GOVERNMENT

Its Four Radical Measures To Be Introduced At Earliest Possible Moment In Approaching Session

LORDS' VETO BILL LIKELY TO PASS

Home Rule, Abolition of Plural Voting, and Disestablishment of Welsh Church To Follow In Order

LONDON, Jan. 6.—Instructions just given to the leading departmental officials indicate the bold and almost sensational programme upon which the Asquith ministry has decided. Realizing that their existence depends on Mr. Asquith and the Labor and Socialist parties, they are preparing to confront parliament immediately with their four most bitterly contested measures, which they calculate, will firmly knit the coalition together. These four bills will be presented to the Commons at the earliest possible moment in the approaching session in the following order: Removal of the Lords' Veto Bill, Home Rule, Abolition of Plural Voting and Disestablishment of the Welsh Church. They look like a clever combination.

Mr. Balfour and Lord Lansdowne will, it is confidently believed, induce the House of Lords to accept the abolition of the veto substantially as the government proposes.

The nonconformist and other Liberal opposition to Home Rule, on the ground that it gives Rome domination over the Irish Protestants, will be assuaged by Welsh disestablishment, which English free churchmen regard as a necessary stepping stone to the disestablishment of the churches of Scotland and England. Moreover, the abolition of pluralism and the adoption of the principle of one man one vote will, the government anticipates, hand over to the coalition 30 or 40 Unionist seats in England.

Under the veto resolutions, these bills will become law if presented to the Lords and are three rejected. Thus the government regards their adoption as certain by 1913, if not before.

How hot a fight this programme will provoke may be judged by recalling Mr. Balfour's declaration of December 3, that the veto bill is a mere dodge to smuggle through home rule in a form which would destroy the principle of at least the ancient laws of the United Kingdom. This, added Mr. Balfour, would be one of the greatest crimes in history.

Tariff Questions
Professor Hewins, secretary of the tariff commission, in affirming that victory for their policy is inevitable, declares that the present situation in Canada shows that preference is the best means of the colonies securing their own industrial development in common. The policy of preference has grown more imperial in its scope, and the Empire's free list and is permanently embodied in Canada's fiscal system. The Morning Post, discussing Professor Hewins' letter, urges those interested in the tariff to forget the minimum duty on colonial products and advocate that the growing expenditure be met by the existing food duties and further taxes on home capital and employment. The Canadian grain growers are able to fulfill their side of the bargain.

Long Road for Home Rule
Although it has been stated with some show of authority that a Home Rule bill will be introduced during the new session, it is not to be understood that the measure has any opportunity of passing during the coming year. Parliament will first have to deal with the Lords' veto bill, a measure which will not be given easy passage by the Unionists in the House of Commons.

Then comes financial business, the introduction of the budget in March or April, and those who recollect how bitterly finance bills have been fought during recent years will foresee the necessity of a large share of parliamentary time for this purpose alone.

The coronation follows. When the overseas delegates to the imperial conference have departed and parliament resumes for the autumn session, there will be the plural voting bill to be disposed of. The abolition of pluralism and the adoption of the principle of "one man one vote" will, the government anticipates, hand over to the coalition thirty or forty Unionist seats in England. With this prospect in view, the government will not lose any time in forcing their measure forward.

Doubtless to satisfy the Nationalist party a measure of Home Rule of some kind will be brought forward, but it is most likely to read a first time in the manner that the Welsh church disestablishment bill was dealt with in 1909. The measure was debated on first reading, but the Lloyd George budget was so successful that church matters were entirely forgotten.

Months will be required before the Home Rule bill can be drafted, and its passage through the House of Commons will be fought tooth and nail, by the Unionists, who contend that the government has received no mandate on the Home Rule platform from any section of the electorate of Great Britain.

Welsh disestablishment will be pressed to the front by Mr. Asquith's nonconformist followers, and the Laborites

will not be behindhand with their demand for a reversal of the Osborne judgement regarding the payment of labor representatives for their parliamentary services.

In connection with the Home Rule bill, too, it must be remembered that the conditions are today very different from what they were when Mr. Gladstone sent up Home Rule to the House of Lords. Local government has been set up in Ireland. Land purchase has produced a generation of younger farmers. The university question has been settled, and Ireland is sharing in old age pensions. Consequently, unless the Nationalists threaten immediate and open revolt, Home Rule will not reach the statute book for a year or two yet.

SIX DIE IN FIRE Burning Of Lodging House In New York's Chinatown Has Fatal Results—Two Bodies Found

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—Six persons are believed to have perished today in a fire which destroyed the "House of Five Entrances," a five-story lodging house in Chinatown. Two bodies have been recovered, and the firemen who explored the ruins say four more are still in the ruins of the third floor. The building is in such an unsafe condition that Chief Croker ordered the search suspended until tomorrow.

The two bodies recovered are said to be those of relatives of Tom Lee, "Mayor of Chinatown." The last fireman to leave the building, said that one of the four bodies seen was that of a woman. More than 100 Chinese were in the building when the fire started.

Boy Murderers Captured

DULUTH, Minn., Jan. 6.—After a chase of several hours, William Mazard and Albert Johnson, who this morning robbed the Hotel McKay, of this city, and after being arrested shot and killed Patrolman "Chesmore," were captured at Isaac Brown's logging camp, 15 miles north of here, by the Duluth police.

FIRE LEAVES CITY WITHOUT LIGHT

Electric Company's Plant In Minneapolis Destroyed By Explosion And Flames—Remarkable Escape of 11 Men

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Jan. 6.—The explosion and fire that almost destroyed the plant of the General Electric Company early this morning, injuring three men, and causing an estimated loss of \$750,000, left the city practically in darkness.

A few of the main office buildings got light and power for elevators from the street railway company until 11 o'clock, but after that, as is the custom, all power was turned off. Street lamps were dark, and all save the main section of the city was entirely without light all night. The General Electric Company has 500 men at work making connections so that the company's power plant at Taylor's Falls can be utilized. The power from this plant has always been distributed through the main plant in Minneapolis, but the wrecking of the latter prevents this.

The police department is now working to pick their way through a mass of charged, tangled wires, with gas flames burning all around them, and bricks and parts of the building tumbling down on all sides.

Fearing the darkness of the city may induce lawlessness, the entire police and detective force is held in reserve with waiting automobiles.

DEFAUDRED MERCHANTS

Smooth Individual Held On Charge Of Passing Worthless Cheques

E. J. Jeans, alias James Lytton, after whom the police have been hunting for the past three days, was finally located in a Chinese noodle joint last night by Detectives Hutchinson and Handley and this morning will be arraigned on a charge of passing worthless cheques. But his appearance was decidedly different from that which the sleuths had been led to expect. Instead of the well-dressed individual with a handsome and fur be-collared coat and the large blonde mustache, who has beguiled four merchants to accept his worthless paper, the detectives found a rough-looking customer with a coal, sans mustache and attired in a sweater and indifferent clothing.

The prisoner, it is alleged, passed four cheques aggregating \$170 in amount.

CAPT. PYBUS WILL RETIRE FROM SEA

Master Long in Service of the C. P. R. on the Pacific Announces His Resignation

It was reported on the arrival of the Empress of Japan from the Orient that Capt. H. Pybus, R.N.R., of the white liner, who has held command of the steamer since she entered service, intends to retire from the sea and his place will probably be taken by Capt. Davidson of the Empress of Japan will take out that liner on her next trip.

Mr. George Heal and Mr. H. J. Heal leave tomorrow for New York, whence they will sail on the White Star liner Adriatic on an extended visit to the Old Country.

ANOTHER WEAPON AGAINST TRUSTS

Wilson Tariff Act Is Cited By U. S. Government In Suit For Dissolution Of American Tobacco Company

SUPPLEMENTARY TO SHERMAN ACT

Argument In Case Is Begun By Special Assistant To Attorney-General—Standard Oil Case Comes Next

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—Oral argument on the proposed dissolution of the so-called "Tobacco Trust" began today in the supreme court. As a year ago, when the dissolution suit was argued for the first time before the court, so today J. C. McReynolds, special assistant to the attorney-general, made the opening address. He had not concluded his remarks when court adjourned until Monday.

By arrangement, counsel on both sides agreed to conclude their arguments in twelve hours. This will bring the close of the presentation about 3 p. m. next Wednesday. At that time, the Standard Oil dissolution suit will be taken up for oral argument.

At least one important point was accomplished in the few minutes that Mr. McReynolds spoke. He surprised some members of the court by saying the dissolution was asked not only under the Sherman anti-trust law, but under the Wilson tariff act of 1894. Mr. McReynolds told the court this was the first case that had ever been brought under the Wilson tariff act. This, he explained, applied to instances of restraint of trade where an importer was a party.

Much discussion has taken place in the "trust" cases as to whether the phrase of "restraint of trade" as used in the Sherman anti-trust law, was equivalent to "restraint of free competition."

Mr. McReynolds pointed to the Wilson Act as the congressional interpretation of the Sherman Act, passed four years previous, in which all doubt as to the meaning had been removed by using the phrase "restraint of free competition."

Nearly the entire time that Mr. McReynolds spoke was devoted to a history of the so-called "Tobacco Trust" from the time the first American Tobacco Company was organized in 1890, for the alleged purpose of effecting a monopoly in the cigarette trade down to the incorporation in 1904 of the new American Tobacco Company, a holding company, controlling 85 per cent of the business in various branches of the tobacco business.

The trade of the world in tobacco had been paraded, he said, the American "trust" taking the United States and Cuba for its own; the British trust, Great Britain, Ireland and the Isle of Man, and the British-American Tobacco Company, organized by the two "trusts," carrying on the tobacco business of the world.

He alleged that competition for the purchase of leaf tobacco had been eliminated in the United States.

MAYOR GILL SCORES

Judge Hanford, of Federal Court, Issues Injunction Against Further "Recall" Proceedings

SEATTLE, Jan. 6.—Federal Judge Hanford today issued a sweeping injunction against any further move in granting the election called for by the "recall petition." The injunction was served at the instance of Mayor Gill, against whom the recall movement was directed. This means that Gill cannot be ousted from office.

Judge Hanford granted the injunction on the representation that many of the names signed to the petition were fraudulent or secured by fraudulent representations, that forgeries appeared on the petitions, etc.

The advocates of the recall assert that they will not abandon their fight because of Judge Hanford's injunction, and the order will probably be fought in the higher courts. A conference of leaders was held today to consider plans for opposing the order. It is understood that the corporation counsel will take an appeal for the city to the United States Circuit Court immediately.

BELLEVUE INQUIRY

BELLEVUE, Alta., Jan. 6.—James Cardell was again upon the witness stand this morning, and was examined at length by Mr. Woods, who took him over the ground gone over with Mr. Campbell yesterday. Cardell again explained the finding of the gas in No. 60 chute near the top and close to the roof of the mine. Mr. Woods wanted to know why he had not endeavored to go further, and try to find the extent of the territory covered by gas, and why he had not tried to get into the chute lower down. The witness thought that it was the wisest plan to get out of the place, as soon as the gas showed such a cap on the flame in his lamp.

His evidence remained practically the same as he gave it before. He was finally allowed to go, and Bovi, his companion on the trip of inspection was sworn. He was instructed by James Anderson to go with Cardell through the old workings on the 7th of December.

ber. He did so, and his report he gave to Mr. Anderson the next day. His recital of how they proceeded through these workings killed almost exactly with what Cardell had told before. They had gone over the rock falls, and were able to see into number sixty chute near the fourth and Stevens. Cardell's lamp showed plainly the presence of gas. The cap indicated considerable gas, and they returned to the gangway. After that they went as far as seventy-five chute, and found gas near the roof in seventy-three. There was not so much of a cap here, indicating a less percentage of gas.

The first authentic account of what happened immediately after the explosion in the mine was given this afternoon, when John Powell, manager from December 1 to December 9 gave evidence. He told of the instructions given after the accident, of how while leading rescue parties he had found many bodies, and these had been taken out. In one of the workings far in a dash was made to get overcome men out. Powell was overcome, but recovered himself before getting out. He was in the mine from a little past seven in the evening until after daylight in the morning. The mine was a gaseous one, but not fierce. The roof rock was hard flinty sandstone, and would produce sparks by friction.

ONE BANDIT CAUGHT

BELLINGHAM, Wash., Jan. 6.—W. R. Stevens, manager of the R. C. W. Logging company at Bellingham, died at the hospital at Sedro-Woolley tonight, the second victim of the fight at Acme on Thursday. Stevens was a little past seven in the evening until after daylight in the morning. The mine was a gaseous one, but not fierce. The roof rock was hard flinty sandstone, and would produce sparks by friction.

His companion is believed to be hidden in Sedro-Woolley or Bellingham.

MINERS TRAPPED BY FALL OF ROCK

Nine Men Imprisoned In Morning Mife in Cœur d'Alenes—Given Food And Water Through Small Opening

WALLACE, Idaho, Jan. 6.—Hungry and thirsty, but otherwise unharmed, nine miners, imprisoned for 20 hours two miles underground in the Morning Mife mine near Manzanita, were given food and water through a small opening broken through at 8 o'clock tonight by the untiring efforts of rescuers under C. K. Cartwright, superintendent of the Federal Mining & Smelting company, who cleared away one hundred tons of rock to make a passage through the tunnel.

The nine men were working on the night shift when old stopping ground above them began to warp and filled the tunnel for a distance of thirty feet with rock, the men being 200 feet distant from the scene of the cave-in. Cartwright immediately set a crew at work clearing away the wall between the entombed men and freedom. Communication was possible between the two parties, and the information was received that the imprisoned men were safely accomplished. The cause of the cave-in is about to be determined.

While the entombed miners were reached tonight they will not be able to get out until morning. Only a narrow opening was made through the old chute and the removal of rock, giving free passage to the outside, will be completed until morning. The men are quite satisfied, and declined the offer of a rather difficult exit through the mine opening, preferring to await the clearing of the tunnel.

Careful investigation of the mine workings in the vicinity of the cave-in shows no danger of a further fall of rock. Practically no anxiety is expressed by the homes of the entombed miners, the women seconding the men's decision not to risk the danger of the exit now available.

CHINAMEN DONE

Wash House Proprietors In Mad Chase After Whites Who Victimize Them

Pedestrians on Port street about 10:30 o'clock last evening were given numerous thrills as they witnessed a wild man-hunt participated in by two whites who, with a flying start, were making in the direction of Government street, followed by a number of wildly gesticulating Celestials, proprietors of a wash house just above Quadra street. When the hunted and pursuers were last seen the whites were still in the lead but the Chinamen were doggedly hanging on. Records for all distances were being rapidly shattered.

The trouble commenced when the two whites entered the wash house presumably to change a "bill." When one of the Chinamen produced a purse and was about to abstract the required coin one of the pair snatched the purse and darted out of the place, followed by his companion. With hue and cry the Chinamen followed, but whether they succeeded in coming up with their quarry is not certain. The victimized Celestials made no report to the police of the robbery.

Mr. J. Kingham went over to Vancouver last night on a business trip.

No Goods Charged or Sent on Approval During Sale

Campbell

No Goods Charged or Sent on Approval During Sale

January Sale Prices For Today

Ladies' Coats, Suits and Dresses

1 Short Caracul Coat. Regular \$35.00. January Sale Price	\$17.50	1 Old Rose Dress, regular price of which is \$25.00. January Sale Price	\$15.00
1 Short Caracul Coat. Regular \$15.00. January Sale Price	\$5.00	3 Pretty Green Dresses. Regular \$18.00. January Sale Price	\$12.50
2 Short Black Satin Coats. Regular \$25.00. January Sale Price	\$7.50	1 Brown. Regular price is \$18.00. January Sale Price	\$12.50

Other Mantle Reductions

Suits up to \$32.50 now go for	\$22.50	Suits up to \$20.00 now go for	\$12.50
Suits up to \$27.50 now go for	\$15.00	Coats regularly selling up to \$45.00 for	HALF PRICE
		A few Tweed Coats left. January Sale Price	\$6.00

The Children's Section

Children's All-Wool Ribbed Hose, all sizes, January Sale Price, 25c and	35c	Children's Embroidered Cashmere Hose. Regular 50c. January Sale Price, 25c and	35c
Children's Cashmere Hose, lace ankle, all sizes, Regular 50c. January Sale Price	35c	Children's Flannel Gowns, in white only, 10 to 14 years. Regular 90c, for	60c

Underwear and Hose Specials

Ladies' Wool Combinations, "Health Brand," long sleeves, ankle length, white and natural. Regular \$2.75, for	\$1.75	Ladies' Llama Hose, seamless. All sizes, 35c, or 3 pairs.	\$1.00
Special Line of Ladies' Flannel-ette Gowns, in white, to clear at	\$1.00	Ladies' 1-1 Ribbed Cashmere Hose. All sizes, 35c, or 3 pairs.	\$1.00
Ladies' Flannel-ette Drawers. Regular 65c, for	50c	Ellis Brand Vests and Drawers, extra fine wool. Regular \$1.50. January Sale Price	90c
Ladies' Flannel-ette Drawers. Regular 75c, for	60c	A few odd lines in the Health Brand Vests and Drawers. Regular \$1.75. January Sale Price	90c

H. B. COMPANY'S STORE POLICY

Mr. Burbridge Decides On Enlargement At Vancouver And Removal Thither Of Victoria Wholesale Business

VANCOUVER, Jan. 6.—H. B. Burbridge, the new sales commissioner of the Hudson's Bay Company, arrived in the city on Thursday evening from Vancouver. He announces that it is his intention to carry on an aggressive policy, part of which will be in all probability the enlargement of the company's stores in this city, and the transfer of the Victoria wholesale business to Vancouver.

It is proposed to erect on the site of the present store at the corner of Granville and Georgia streets, a six or eight story steel building, which will run back to Seymour street, so that it will have a frontage of about 100 feet each on Seymour and Granville streets.

Mr. Burbridge states that the business of the company in Vancouver has grown so rapidly that some enlargement was an absolute necessity, and when the plans were decided on construction would be pushed forward without further delay.

Another part of the programme which has been planned is the amalgamation of the Vancouver and Victoria wholesale houses of the company and the establishment of a retail branch in Victoria instead. This will be arranged on a visit to Victoria which he intends to make next Tuesday.

Mr. Burbridge before leaving for the east will, accompanied by Mr. H. T. Lockyer, visit the company's stores at Kamloops, Nelson and Vernon. Mr. and Mrs. Burbridge will return to Winnipeg about January 22.

Question Of Grain Rates

WINNIPEG, Jan. 6.—The board of trade has been notified by the railway commission that the C. N. R., C. P. R. and G. T. P. have been notified of the application of the Vancouver board of trade for an order directing the C. P. R. among other things, to cease from charging discriminating rates on Alberta grain to the Pacific coast as compared with grain rates to Port Arthur and Port William, and that the companies will be required to speak as to the reasonableness of rates on grain and grain products between Lake Superior and the mountains.

Mr. J. L. Skene left on the Princess Royal last night for Vancouver.

The store that serves you best.

Ross' Saturday Bargain Bouquet

EGGS, FINE, LOCAL, STRICTLY FRESH, special today, per dozen	45c
CANNED TOMATOES, today, per tin	10c
EXTRA LARGE NAVEL ORANGES, dozen today for	30c
SMYRNA FIGS, today per lb.	15c
FRESH AUSTRALIAN BUTTER, today per lb.	40c

DIXIE H. ROSS & CO.

Independent Grocers, 1317 Government St. Tel. 50, 51, 52. Liquor Dept. Tel. 1590

VESSELS DRIVEN BY MOTOR ENGINES

New Departure In Transatlantic Navigation Proposed By Russian And German Steamship Companies

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—A steamship line plying between this port and Russia announced today that it would put into operation next September an 11,000-ton transatlantic "motor boat," equipped with internal combustion engines and accommodations for 400 passengers.

The ship is now building on the Clyde.

One of the German lines also has building two 8,000 motor-driven freighters. The outcome of this experiment will be watched with the keenest interest, not only by the merchant marine but by the navies of the world. If it proves a pronounced success, the days of steam will be numbered.

A marriage has been arranged and will shortly take place between Miss Edith C. Davie, second daughter of J. C. Davie, Esq., M. D., of Victoria, B. C., and Mr. H. Hugh Sims, eldest son of the late Henry A. Sims, Esq., architect of Prescott, Ont.

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