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TWELVE PAGES—TUESDAY MORNING NOVEMBER 30 1909—TWELVE PAGES

29TH YEAR

Council Endorse Tube Railway Referendum---Company Offers to Construct System---It's Up to the Voters to See It Thru.

BUDGET DEBATE ENDED UNIONIST PEER WARNS LORDS NOT TO REJECT

Lord James of Hereford Will Support Constitution and Vote Against Leader.

LORD MORLEY HEARD IN POWERFUL SPEECH

LONDON, Nov. 29.—Lord Morley's powerful speech was the event of the budget debate to-day in the house of lords. The secretary of state for India dilated on the importance of the struggle and called attention to the fact that foreign nations were watching anxiously the outcome, to see whether there would be any change in England's fiscal policy.

Lord Morley quoted Burke to the effect that the house of lords had no right in any sense to the disposition of the public purse, and contended that if there was one thing that could not wisely be submitted to a referendum, it was the budget, with all its complexities. In addition, a referendum would weaken what was most important to maintain, namely, a sense of responsibility in the house of commons.

As to the lords' contention that their action would arrest the wave of socialism, he refused to believe that the artisans were predatory or socialistic, but even granting that the misery existing amonf some classes had produced a movement akin to socialism, it was hardly wise of the lords to take up a position exposing them to the charge of straining the constitution as champions of the rich against the poor.

"Political Scandal."

"The more triumphant the majority for Lord Lansdowne's amendment," said Lord Morley, "the higher the disparity between the numbers of the government and the numbers of the opposition, the more flagrant will be the political scandal."

The amendment which the house of lords proposed to pass, said Lord Morley, tho it contained but a couple of lines, involved no fewer than five points, each in turn constituting a more radical departure from constitutional usage and practical convenience. In the first place the amendment allocated to the house of lords the taxing power. Next, it assumed the power of enforcing a dissolution by refusing supplies. Then there must be a new parliament whenever the sitting parliament had the misfortune to displease their lordships of the second chamber, and, again, if these propositions are proved, they are changing representative supremacy into an oligarchic and non-representative supremacy.

Can Not Control Finances.

Finally, said Lord Morley, they are throwing out of gear the whole financial machinery for the year. Taxes had been collected on the authority of the house of commons by custom and not by law, and all went on regularly until an appropriation bill was passed, when the resolution became a law.

Lord Morley concluded his speech with an impressive warning that when to-morrow the curtain fell upon an empty house they would know that the note had been sounded for an angry, and perhaps a prolonged, battle. When the secretary resumed his seat, the small minority of Liberal peers broke into enthusiastic cheers.

Lord Rothschild, Liberal-Unionist, spoke very briefly and chiefly on the difficulty of raising capital, even for the best English enterprises, while Russia and Japan found it comparatively easy to borrow money.

Lord James Bolts, Too.

Lord James of Hereford quoted Pitt, Palmerston and Lord John Russell against the lords' claim of power to reject the budget. It was entirely beyond the lords' competency to reject the budget. Precedent, practice, usage and acquiescence, all came into play to prevent the house from taking the action Lord Lansdowne contemplated. He added that he separated himself from his party with regret, and, displaying great emotion, appealed to his fellow Unionists to reconsider their decision.

"The coming contest," he said, "will be one-sided. None of you will be able to defend the course you have taken and you will be at the mercy of your opponents, who will not spare you."

Concluding, Lord James, who is a Conservative ex-minister, announced his intention to pursue the constitutional path and vote against the Lansdowne amendment. His uncompromising speech made an effect on the house second only to Lord Morley's.

Altho the result of the division to-morrow is a foregone conclusion, it cannot be doubted that the house and the country have been greatly impressed with the oratorical skill displayed in the upper house, and especially by the powerful arguments of the Liberal peers against the course the lords are pursuing.

Evidence of this is beginning to shew itself in the Conservative press. The Daily Telegraph, which has been a firm advocate of the rejection of the budget, makes the significant admission that the morale of the brilliant debate is not that the house of lords should not be abolished or be shorn of powers of veto, which is essential to its existence, but that it should be reconstructed, so that its more distinguished members should not be swamped in the lobbies by the peers who have never given proof of political capacity.

LORD MORLEY,
Who yesterday warned the House of Lords not to reject the budget.

ALABAMA VOTES AGAINST STATE PROHIBITION LAW

After an Exciting Day at Polls Measure is Defeated By Large Majority.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Nov. 29.—Alabama to-day defeated a prohibition amendment to the state constitution by a large majority, estimated at from 12,000 to 20,000 votes. To-day's election was the first popular expression in Alabama on the subject of prohibition.

A state wide prohibition bill was passed by a legislature which had been elected on a local option platform; and, while several counties had declared for prohibition under the local option act, the voters of the entire state had never before been called on to pass on the question direct.

In Birmingham the election was the most exciting ever witnessed. Hundreds of people were crowded around each polling place, women and children were singing and brass bands stationed by the anti-amendment forces were playing patriotic airs.

Feeling was so high that a few words were sufficient to bring on blows. Every other voter was challenged and required to make affidavit as a qualified elector. This delayed the casting of ballots considerably, but, in spite of these handicaps, the vote was heavy.

As an instance of the deep feeling displayed, a preacher, on whose coat a young woman attempted to pin a white ribbon at the polling booth, declined, telling her it was improper for young women to speak in the street to men whom they did not know. The women began crying and the preacher apologized for hurting her feelings, but said the polling places were improper places for young women. The affair was taken up all over the city.

A procession of anti-prohibitionists, headed by a huge coffin labeled "amendment" was held here to-night.

Farmers voted largely against the amendment, and most of the counties went heavily against the measure.

Oscar Hall, tax commissioner of Baldwin County, fell dead at his home in Bay Minette, a few minutes after voting for the amendment.

AMERICAN COAL FOR STEEL CO.

About 150,000 Tons Received Since Strike in July.

NORTH SYDNEY, N.S., Nov. 29.—(Special.)—Coal shipments up the St. Lawrence for the season have been completed, and the imports of coal from Philadelphia by the Dominion Iron and Steel Co. have also ceased. The Dominion Coal Company is now in a position to supply all the fuel required by the big sister industry.

Since the beginning of the strike in July about 150,000 tons of American coal have been delivered at Sydney for the Steel Co.

AT 84, SLASHES THROAT

Aged Gardener Attempts Suicide Under Strange Impulse.

UXBRIDGE, Nov. 29.—Wm. Wallace, a gardener, aged 84, who lives at Sandy Hook, about a mile from here, early this morning slashed his throat four times. Dr. Shier had to put ten stitches in to close the wounds. The old man says he does not know what made him do the deed. He will likely recover.

REV. G. M. ATLAS LEAVES MANY VICTIMS

Worms Way Into Confidence of Crown and Swindles Illiterate Countrymen Thru Favor of Trusting Officials.

When Rev. George M. Atlas, Macedonian interpreter, preacher and lecturer upon the Orient, left his home at 175 Sackville-street, in this city, two weeks ago he let it be known to a few friends under bonds of secrecy that he went "on a mission for the crown." This mission seems to have been so secret that none of the officers of the crown kntw anything about it, nor do they know his present whereabouts. However, it leaked out and the secret was printed in the newspapers.

Also the voice of the stung has been raised in many quarters and the shortage is placed between two and three thousand dollars.

Atlas seems to have wormed his way into influential Toronto, official, social and religious. He is a specially ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church, friendly with more than one important crown officer and prints on the circulars advertising his lectures the endorsations of half a dozen Toronto divines in whose churches ha has preached.

The reverse side of the medal shows him a man who has by the meanest use of his knowledge of the English tongue and the ignorance of his fellow-countrymen swindled them out of thousands of dollars anw gained large amounts by duping those who extended to him the hand of hospitality and friendship.

Atlas will be remembered as the interpreter in the trial of Pavlo Stefoff for the murder of Vani Simoff at their house at 16 Eastern-avenue last spring, for which stefoff is now under sentence of death in Toronto jail. At the trial he cut a heroic figure by refusing to disclose anything that might have been told him by the accused, to whom he acted as spiritual adviser.

Collected Witness Fees.

This is what now appears: Immediately after the trial Atlas collected from the city treasurer the witness' fees of a number of the illiterate Macedonian witnesses. None of these, or only a vry fw, were paid over to those who were entitled to them. He then proceeded to take out litters of administration for th property of Simoff, the murdered man. In this way he came into possession of about $400, but failed to get possession of the gold and bank notes found on the murdered, because Detective Mackie, who had been special officer of the court to hold this property, refused to give them up and was sustained by Mr. Justice Riddell, to whom Atlas had the affronterp to appeal.

He even held the fees of the surrogate court for granting the letters with a cheque for which there were no funds.

After the murder the Macedonians who had lived in the house refused to live there any longer, but they had paid several months' rent in advance. These now compalin that they gave Atlas $27, for which he promsed to secure a rebate of the unearned rent and also to scure payment from Pavlo Stefoff of certan sums which the others claimed he owed them. They say that Atlas never did eiter of these things, nor even partially performed his promise.

Another Estate Robbed.

Another Macedonian has complained to the police that Atlas took out letters of administration of the estate of a Macedonian who died in the General Hospital in June, which estate amounted to $138.75. This man says that Atlas paid him $20 and sent him out of town saying that there had been a delay and the rest would be paid later.

Another group of Macedonians declare that they gave Atlas $96 to pay six months' rent on a house which they occupied in Eastern avenue, but that he only paid one month's rent and kept the rest.

Another Macedonian, now in the city, says that Atlas got $27 from him as half payment for his fare back to Macedonia, and that Atlas told him the government would pay the other half. The man is still waiting for his ticket.

Got After New Comers.

In July last he made the acquaintance of seven Macedonians who were newly landed in Quebec. To these he represented that before they could proceed further into the country they would have to give security of $400 to the government at Ottawa for their good conduct for six months, when the money would be returned. He said that his expenses to Ottawa to arrange the matter was $160 and that the interest on his own money thus expended would be $50. In this way he secured a payment of $610 from the "strong man" or purse carrier of the group and no refund has ever been made. Needless to say no record of the transaction appears at Ottawa.

Up to the very day he left the city, Atlas was held in the highest repute by the crown officers, with whom he had been connected thru his trip to Macedonia as special envoy of the government to secure the attendance of a much needed witness at the Stefoff trial.

WILL THE ROUGH RIDERS DEFAULT?

CAPTAIN LAURIER: I'm afraid it's all off, Jimmy. Billy Paterson and Graham won't play if Old Man Ontario's to be referee.

VIADUCT TO PEOPLE ONE VOTE CONTRARY

Almost Unanimous Opinion of City Council in Favor of Submitting Bylaw in January—Encouraging Outlook for Needed Improvement.

An encouraging outlook for the carrying of the Bloor-street-Danforth-avenue viaduct at the polls on the first of January lies in the significant fact that the city council yesterday, after a broad discussion which covered practically every phase of the question, voted almost solidly in favor of the submitting of the bylaw to provide $759,000.

Ald. R. H. Graham was the lone dissenter. He didn't dispute the advisability of constructing the viaduct, but dwelt on the size of the debenture debt as a reason for a policy of retrenchment. The speakers who followed, while disclaiming any wish to increase the city's bonded obligations, made it clear that they consider the contemplated improvement a necessity and that, after the many years it has been shelved on one pretext or another, the public's patience has become exhausted.

A particularly effective argument was advanced by Ald. Foster, who can claim credit for a vigorous renewal of the viaduct movement this year. He pointed out that when he urged the construction a dozen years ago, the estimated cost was less than half of the present estimate, and that further delay of a project which is generally conceded must some day be undertaken will mean an ultimate increased outday. Ald. Bredin also laid stress on this argument, declaring that in a few years the improvement would cost $1,000,000.

Sectionalism Absent.

A feature of the debate was that the viaduct was shown to have its warm champions in every ward of the city, and that anything like sectionalism was absent. It might be said, however, that the work is of such obvious general advantage, while particularly desirable for the eastern section, that narrow views were hardly to be expected.

A statement frequently made and accepted without contention was that the enhanced value of land in Northern Riverdale would so enrich the civic coffers in added revenue from increased assessment that the cost would be more than met. The advantage of a therofare from the east to the west boundaries of the city was impressed by Controller Hocken in an effective manner. For once he and Controller Geary were quite agreed, the latter asserting that after many

Continued on Page 3.

TO THE PEOPLE

Bloor-street-Danforth-avenue viaduct	$759,000
Exhibition improvement	320,000
Firehalls and police stations	262,000
Total	$1,341,000

DEFERRED.

Ashbridge's Marsh improvement bylaw for $500,000.

District Heating Company's application for a franchise.

VOTED.

Ten thousand dollars a year for forty years to Police Benefit Fund. Constables may retire on half pay after thirty years' service without consent of police commissioners.

B.C. JUDGES NAMED GALLIHER INCLUDED

Ex-M.P. Goes to New Court of Appeal, and So Does Late Liberal Leader in Legislature.

OTTAWA, Nov. 29.—(Special).—Now that the British Columbia elections are over the federal government has appointed the judges of the new court of appeal of that province, and it is worthy of observation that the forecast of the B. C. Conservatives in the commons has been verified.

J. A. MacDonald, late leader of the Liberal opposition, who took part in the election campaign, has been appointed one of the judges. The others are Judge A. Martin and Judge P. A. Irving of the British Columbia supreme court, and William Galliher, ex-Liberal member of parliament for Kootenay.

S. C. Gregory of Victoria and Dennis Murphy of Ashcroft fill the two vacancies on the supreme court.

KEEWATIN BEATS HAMONIC FOR LAKE SPEED HONORS

Saturday Night and Sunday Race Results in C. P. R. Greyhound Leaving Rival Behind.

OWEN SOUND, Nov. 29.—(Special.)—"The greyhound of the lakes," was a title well contested for in a race which just took place between the Northern Navigation Company's big new steamship Hamonic, running between Sarnia and Fort William, under Grand Trunk charter, and the crack new steamship of the Canadian Pacific Railway's fleet, the Keewatin, on the Fort William-Owen Sound route.

All season the rival claims as to speed have been the cause of much argument, but there was no opportunity of demonstration owing to the difference in the sailing days of the steamships from Fort William. Saturday evening, however, the opportunity was afforded. Ideal weather and clear moonlight prevailed. Officers and crews of both the steamers knew what was coming, and special care in trimming and coaling was evident as a preliminary to the run.

At 10.40, Capt. R. Foote of the Hamonic whistled for the lines to be cast off, and his vessel steamed out of Fort William. Five minutes later Capt. McPhee of the Keewatin gave a similar signal. Out into Lake Superior both vessels cut their way. By 2.30, the Keewatin had gradually closed the gap that the five minutes' start had given her rival. Then a prow and prow contest began, and it was not until some time after that it was seen that the Keewatin was in the lead. Still she kept creeping away and at 8.30 Sunday morning the black smoke from the Hamonic's funnels alone told of that vessel's coming.

At 3.30 p.m. the lines of the Keewatin were thrown out at the Soo, and two hours later the big Sarnia liner reached the canal.

THE MAYOR SEES IT

News: "What do you think of Mr. Fleming's offer in regard to the extension of the street car lines to the outlying districts of the city?" Mayor Oliver was asked.

"Oh, I don't think we need to pay much attention to that now. It seems to me that we are masters of the situation after the offer we received this morning [to build the tubes].

"The people are bound that they are going to have relief," the mayor concluded.

What do The Globe, The Star, The Mail, think of themselves? Do they agree with Mayor Oliver that it is the Toronto Railway that will now have to change its tune instead of defiance, a pretence at least of submission?

GIVE FREE SCOPE IN PROBING ACCOUNTS

Reorganization of Important House Committee is Likely—Opposition Complain of Persistent "Blockading."

OTTAWA, Nov. 29.—(Special.)—It seems probable fro mthe premier's attitude to-day that the public accounts' committee, which ought to be the most important in connection with parliament, but which has in recent years been degraded into a mere farce, will be reorganized. He indicated that it will have the consideration of the government.

The degradation of this committee has been brought about chiefly by F. B. Carvell of Carleton, N.B., and F. F. Pardee of West Lambton, who have done much to turn it into a purely partisan committee by adopting an attitude of baulking anything and everything proposed by the members of it. This is purely a people's committee, which seeks to straighten out all matters connected with payments made from the people's money.

When Mr. Wharburton, the new chairmans of the committee, in presenting the first report of that body, moved that the public accounts and auditor-general's report for the last fiscal year be laid before the committee for consideration, Haughton Lennox said he proposed to discuss the question of the advisability of changing the procedure of business followed in the committee. For certain reasons, enquiries made by the committee were not as complete or satisfactory as they ought to be; that the one conspicuous cause of failure was the determination of a number of the government's supporters to prevent a full enquiry. Much more could be divulged than had been possible in the past, if only the proper facilities were afforded. He suggested that the public accounts for the two preceding years should be open to enquiry.

Temptation to Obstruct.

Mr. Lennox expressed the opinion that the government supporters were tempted to block proceedings because of their knowledge of the fact that if an enquiry could be successfully burked for one session, there was no possibility of its being re-opened. No member would desire to go back for two years, unless for a very good reason.

Hon. W. S. Fielding said that his impression of the proceedings of the committee differed entirely. The enquiries, he thought, were very thoro and took a very wide range. It was quite the custom of the committee to take into consideration things which did not pertain at all unto the matter under enquiry. Members should remember that the readings and rules of committees were based on those of the mother parliament, and they should not be departed from. It was undoubtedly true that there were times when it would be advisable for an enquiry to extend over a period of two years. It would be quite safe, however, to leave the decision in these cases to the committee itself.

Mr. Monk Contrasts.

F. D. Monk dissented. Proceedings

Continued on Page 3.

ARMOURS COMING TO CANADA.

CHICAGO, Nov. 29.—The big flotation of bonds by the Armour Co. just listed on the exchange is to be used for expansion—among other things a big plant in Toronto and another in Winnipeg.

Winter Millinery at Less Than Half Price.

The entire stock in the millinery department of the W. & D. Dineen Company is being sacrificed to make room for the display of Xmas furs. Half price is a low estimate at which to place the goods now being offered. With the exception of the fur and fur-trimmed hats, everything in the millinery showrooms is to be sold at once. Nine-dollar hats for three ninety-eight, twelve-dollar hats for five ninety-five and eighteen-dollar hats for nine ninety-five.

AT THE PHONE.

Robert John: Is that you, Little Eva?

Little Eva: Yes, sir.

R. J.: Reg. Geary says you're hurting him. Better leave him alone.

L. E.: Yes, sir.

THE WORLD DOIN' THINGS.

The World has done a good many things since it got in its new building: Aroused the Conservatives against being used to elect municipal candidates who antagonize the Whitney power policy (Father Crawford and Father Osler explained things to the brethren of the Fifth ward on Saturday night); got the tubes movement going in good shape; got the Bloor-street viaduct bylaw fairly launched after much opposition; put The Mail, Star and Globe in their true colors on tubes and public power; exposed the injustice suffered by the public who travel on trains from the private cars of railway and politics magnates; besides turning out a fairly good newspaper.

But we're going to do still bigger and better things.

The World is the people's paper every day in the year and all the time.