

Y?

(Globe.)

For the propagation of Parliament with correspondence between himself and the Association? That correspondence was within the past four weeks. Parliament interest. Its interest is measured by the studied and persistent efforts of it, it kept secret by the Prime Minister? The members of the Cabinet, deals very important lines of war-graft not investigation or before the House. A series of covering various types of exploitation, are described. Names and are rected. Evidence both illuminates all in the hands of the Prime Minister? The early days of the war-contrast scandal. It warns against delay. Allegations and earnest admonitions, he left for his golf vacation in the absence it was properly in the custody. More recently it engaged the serious more than one of his colleagues. Investigations it was kept secret from the

correspondence was known to several. It may be some Minister or some Minister of no public importance. The fact of the correspondence, and the deemed

Ottawa several weeks ago he was angry George Foster's evasions revealed angry. Why? His temper was very bad, "confidential." He professed willingness "permission." He needed no man's

private. It was between a public body with matters of high and serious public of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association may publish it if he chooses. Why that very important correspondence be

correspondence might clash very harsh condemnation of Garland and Foster, and utterly discount all his own protest. Why was not his zeal for Government robbery, his respect for the doors for political purity as professed soldierly qualities, his devotion to the principles of his friends in the Manufacturers' Association in Parliament be accused as war-ack at those warnings? That is the

## CANADIAN WAR TAXES.

Post Office—  
Letters—One cent.  
Post Cards—One cent.  
Postal Notes—One cent.  
Money Orders—Two cents.

Banks  
Bank Notes—Quarter of one per cent on circulation.  
Cheques—Two cents.  
Bills of Exchange—Two cents.

Insurance—  
Premiums—One per cent on net premium.

Trust and Loan—  
Company Tax—One per cent on gross amount.

Messages—  
Telegraph—One per cent.  
Cable—One per cent.

Transportation—Steamship Tickets—  
Exceeding \$10—One dollar.  
Exceeding \$40—Three dollars.  
Exceeding \$60—Five dollars.

Train Sleeping Berths—Ten cents.  
Train Parlor Seats—Five cents.  
Railway Tickets—Over \$1 and under \$5, 5 cents. For each \$5 over, 5 cents.

Rev. Dr. Mackay on Canada's Shame (Montreal Herald.)

There is in the March Westminster a scorching article on political conditions in Canada by the Rev. Dr. John Mackay, of Vancouver, formerly the pastor of the Crescent street Presbyterian church, Montreal. Corruption, he declares to be so rampant in Canada as to be comparable to that of China under the old regime. He proceeds to say:

"Unfortunately there is in the present cabinet a man who is rapidly nullifying any good which might have come from the change (of governments in 1911), a man who would not be tolerated in any high office in a country where there was anything like political morality and who in so-called heathen China would have short shrift meted out to him (the role). The only excuse I have ever heard given by his own party for his presence there, is his ability to win elections, but it is a sad commentary on the state of political morality to which we have fallen when a man who has debauched every constituency he has ever had anything to do with becomes the political master simply because he can win elections."

He further says that, in travelling in England, Australia, and the United States he has had to blush for his country's reputation as regards political morality. There are many hundreds of thousands of people in Canada who feel the same way as the Rev. Dr. Mackay, particularly since they have seen how shamelessly the splendid patriotism and loyalty of the Canadian people have been exploited at Ottawa.

"S. O. S." "Wings the measure over the waves!" While men's spirits droop and languish Facing death in watery graves!

But the hero's soul, afloat, Brooks no thought of death or fear! His the one, the soul desire, That the sister ship should sail.

Hear him call and swiftly heeding, Answer his peremptory call— "Save our people," he keeps pleading— "Pleading!—Then the silence falls."

Speed the rescuers; and tireless Snatch their brethren from the deep! While the hero at the wireless Rests now in immortal sleep.

There's another meaning dwelling In those letters "S. O. S." "Sons of success," they are spelling Heroes of the wireless.

Failure to secure suitable varieties is a frequent cause of poor crop.

## FACTORY ACT BILL AMENDED

Fredericton, April 19.—Amendments to the factory act, aid for wheat mills, encouragement for settlers and the possibility of free school books engaged the attention of the legislature this evening.

The first business was the consideration of amendments to the factory act and the house went into committee for this purpose.

The principal changes in the existing law, which this bill makes, are that a boiler in a factory, mill or other place, where labor is employed, if not insured by a boiler insurance company must be inspected by a duly authorized inspector. A board of examining engineers is appointed to hold examinations at stated intervals in different places in the province. Provision is made for the owner of a boiler, who may not be able to secure a competent engineer to issue a license to operate the boiler for a period not exceeding thirty days, and provision is made for reciprocity in matters of inspection with neighboring provinces.

Mr. Munro thought the section fixing the qualifications of the inspectors of boilers too severe but the section was upheld.

Mr. Dr. Landry said he proposed to add a section that the act should not come into operation until July 1, and engineers should have thirty days after the act came into force to get their licenses.

The bill was then agreed to with amendments.

Bonusing Wheat Mills.

The house again went into committee, with Mr. Young in the chair, and took up consideration of bill to provide for assistance to wheat mills.

Hon. Mr. Murray said that this legislation was supplementary to legislation passed for similar purpose in 1888. It was desired to encourage the growing of wheat, but there was not much use in doing this unless the government was willing to give it when it was grown. Regulations would be prepared by the lieutenant-governor-in-council for control of the mills owned by the province, which were required to be on the most up-to-date principles.

The bill was agreed to.

A bill to amend the act to encourage the settlement of farm lands, was agreed to.

A bill to provide for the purchase and sale of school books by the province was then taken up.

Mr. Slipp suggested giving the vendors a larger commission and placing the business on a cash basis but he would prefer to see school books provided free of charge.

Hon. Mr. Wilson said he was looking forward to the time when the government could provide free books.

Premier Clarke agreed with the principle but said that economy is necessary at the present time.

The committee also agreed to a bill for the prevention of smoke and noises in cities and towns.

The house adjourned at 11:10 p.m. South West Drive.

Fredericton, April 20.—The house met at 8 o'clock.

Mr. Dugal gave notice of inquiry for the purchase of potatoes for the patriotic fund.

Mr. Pelletier gave notice of inquiry as to fees paid by municipalities and towns in bond issued by them.

The house went into committee with Mr. Young in the chair, and agreed to a bill relating to a loan for the Normal school annex, and a bill to establish a home for girls and women at Moncton for the counties of Westmorland, Kent and Albert.

The house again went into committee with Mr. Munro in the chair, and agreed to bills to amend the act relating to New Brunswick Railway, and relating to settlement of certain crown lands by New Brunswick Company, Limited.

The bill to amend the act respecting coroners was then taken up. This bill provides for the taking of affidavits by coroners of the finding by a medical officer of his report of post mortem examination with the nearest hospital, and provision for the undischarged persons, and provides for a revised scale of fees.

The house again went into committee with Mr. Munro in the chair, and agreed to a bill to consolidate and amend the liquor license act.

Mr. Carter, on the section allowing objection being made to granting of a license, thought that the petitioners should be compelled to state specifically what their grounds of objection were and what grounds of objection were stated in the petition the petitioners had no standing.

Mr. Tilley said he could not see why it should be necessary for petitioners to prepare a brief and take other form of proceedings on objections. When an application was made for a license any person who had bona fide objection to it was at liberty to come and state it, and he did not think petitioners should be required by any hard and fast rule.

Mr. Carter said petitioners were in the position of complainants and they should be called upon to present their statement of claim so that an applicant for a license might know just exactly what he had to meet.

Hon. Mr. Baxter said that if petitioners did not so state their objections they would have no standing.

Mr. Lockhart, on the section to regulate tavern license which could be sold under a tavern license, said that he was against the change which would increase the amount of liquor which could be sold in a bar and be taken away from the premises.

Hon. Mr. Clarke said that section of the bill made no change over the present law and its amendments.

Mr. Tilley said that if the law, at present, was wrong, there was no reason why it should not be amended. He

thought a gallon of malt liquor was too much to be allowed to be sold. Mr. Tilley favored returning to the law as it was prior to 1900, when the largest quantity a man could buy in a tavern at one time was a quart. He certainly thought it was calculated to make a man the worse for liquor to allow him to consume as much as a gallon at a time.

Mr. Carter thought that the limit of a gallon was a wise provision. If a man desired to entertain any friends he could buy a bottle of whisky or a gallon of ale at a tavern. If this privilege were denied him he would be driven to the wholesale dealer where he would have to buy in even a larger quantity still.

At this stage progress was reported, with leave to sit again.

The house then took recess till 8 o'clock.

The house resumed at 8:30 p.m. and went into committee for further consideration of the liquor license bill, with Mr. Munro in the chair.

Mr. Stewart (Gloucester) moved to add to the oath required of a voter in whose name a vote had previously been given that he should swear that he had not previously voted at that election.

The amendment was agreed to.

Progress was reported with leave to sit again.

The house adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Fredericton, N. B., April 21.—Up to yesterday, one hundred bills were presented to the legislature, of which fifty-five were government measures and forty-five were private legislation. The number of private bills this year is far less than usual.

The city and county of St. John have less legislation before the house this session than for many years. The number of bills which have been presented here has not met with very favorable consideration. The more important sections of the valuation bill were amended or struck out, the tax exemption measure has, as it were, been referred back to the city of St. John for reconsideration, while the bill relating to the holding for a plebiscite under the ward system which, while a private measure, largely affected the people of St. John, is passed with such alterations as to postpone consideration of it by the electors for another year.

Its passage in this form is a surprise to many of the country members who thought that it had been agreed to give the commission form of government a longer trial period. It is apparent here that politics had a good deal to do with the decision finally arrived at, and the claim is quite freely made that faith has been broken with some of the prominent Conservatives in the city government.

Fredericton, April 21.—The house met at 8 o'clock, and at once went into committee with Mr. Stewart (Gloucester) in the chair, and agreed to a bill to confirm assessment of St. John, 1915.

The bill to provide for the appointment of an assessment commission in the city of St. John was then taken up.

Mr. Grannan explained that the bill now before the house was in substitution for the bill originally drawn, which had been disapproved of by the committee on corporations, and the amended bill was, in his opinion, a very great improvement over the original.

Mr. Tilley said the bill, as amended, was very different from that sent up by the commissioners from St. John which the house was asked to pass. The corporations committee felt that it would have been better for the commissioners to have dealt with the "subject themselves. They had it in their power and they had it ever since their appointment to appoint a commission to formulate a new assessment act for the city, and having done so to send it to the legislature for its sanction. Instead of such a course, which was reasonable and proper one to take, they came up here and asked that some 8,000 citizens be relieved of taxation altogether.

Where commissioners would have their revenue from if the house had agreed to their bill he did not know; neither did he know if the commissioners themselves, if they would have been unwilling to have passed the bill in the form in which it was sent up. What the proposed assessment commission would do he could not say, but he thought it would be a good idea to have it done, for he hoped that when they got down to work they would think out some means whereby the small wage earners who did not earn more than \$800 or \$800 a year would be relieved of the burden of taxation. The bill provides that an assessment commission shall be appointed within three months to revise the assessment act. This commission should go thoroughly into the present assessment law, which he considered was most unfair one, and he hoped that they would report to the council in favor of some sort of an amended act which would be satisfactory to citizens in general.

Hon. Mr. Wilson.

Hon. Mr. Wilson said the bill had created more or less feeling in the city, but it did not follow that the use of the bill as introduced was rejected by the corporations committee that the city's representatives were not in favor of some exemption for working men. Persons who felt that the man with a small income should not pay more than a \$2 poll tax, but the representatives of the city people generally, and they were by no means sure that the bill as presented would have helped these interests. Under the bill as originally drawn working men might have saved a few dollars in taxes, but they would have had to pay more in an increased rent. Parts of the bill were reasonable, but without further information it was impossible to say whether it would have helped to further the interests of the least well-off citizens. The amended bill asked for commissioners to carry out the law by providing something that the legislature could deal intelligently with.

Mr. Lockhart agreed with his colleagues.

Mr. Grannan was also in complete accord with what had been said.

The bill was then agreed to as amended, as also was bill to provide for the taking of plebiscite on the system of civil government in St. John.

The house again went into committee with Mr. Dr. Monaghan in the chair, and agreed to the bill relating to the parishes of Elgin and Gummer in the county of Restigouche, and also to the bill relating to the parish of Elgin only.

The house again went into committee with Mr. Munro in the chair and agreed to bills relating to the Highway diversion at Arcturich, in the county of Victoria, and to amend bills of sale act.

The bill to consolidate and amend the liquor license act was then taken up.

Mr. Stewart (Northumberland) when section providing that any member of the municipal council convicted of any offense under the act should forfeit his seat desired to add that "members of legislature" should be included in the section.

Mr. Lockhart also thought the idea a good one.

The section was stood over.

The house took recess till 8:30 p.m. The committee resumed at 8:45 p.m.

Mr. Carter, referring to convictions for

## SIGNS POSTED TO AN EARLY ELECTION

Ottawa, April 21.—Although there is still a cleavage in the cabinet in regard to the question of an early dissolution of parliament and a general election this summer, the government's preparations are going steadily forward.

The printing bureau is rushing work on the annual printing of the voter list and campaign subscriptions are being collected from various manufacturers and contractors. The staff of the clerk of the crown in chancery has been increased in view of the extra work required in preparing the voters' lists.

Tons of campaign literature have gone out from Ottawa during the past week, ready for distribution from local organization centres as soon as an election is announced.

Since his return from the west, Hon. Robert Rogers, minister of public works, has been urging upon his colleagues the necessity of an immediate appeal to the electors. Mr. Rogers represents that the west is a seething mass of discontent and that the government is in danger of being overthrown by the "dreadnoughts and soldier votes" bills, and there is an insistent demand for a showdown. The strongest pressure for an election comes from him.

Mr. Thomas L. Kane, of Fredericton, received a letter from his brother, Sergeant Edmund Barthe, of the Army Medical Corps at Winnipeg. Dr. Harris practised in Winnipeg for many years, and was transferred from the Canadian hospital at Cliveden to London.

Letters received tell of the promotion of Corporal Theo Barker, of Fredericton, and Gilbert are with the battalions in the North Sea and Walter, after five years' service in India, is now at the front in Belgium.

Local War Notes

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th brigade forthcoming that was of public interest. Things are going on in regulation fashion and on the whole, satisfactorily.

Several more men are being taken on by the Railway Construction Corps.

Saw Siderman's Son.

A letter received from Sgt. Norman D. Case, of the 2nd Battery of Field Artillery at Shorncliffe Camp, England, states that already 120 members of the 2nd Battery, and of the 4th Brigade, have gone to the front. Sergeant Case in his letter also tells of witnessing a French destroyer sink a German submarine off Calais a few weeks ago. Writing to his brother, E. D. Case, Fredericton, he says: "You have no doubt read in the paper that a French destroyer sank a German submarine off Calais. We witnessed this through our glasses, although the submarine was practically invisible."

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