

ONTARIO LIBERAL HAS NOVEL THEORY

Free Wheat to Keep Western Farmer From Going Into Mixed Farming.

BRILLIANT IDEA PUT FORTH BY A. B. McCOIG.

His Contribution to Budget Speech Good Evidence of Opposition's Lack of Solid Arguments.

Special to The Standard, Ottawa, April 16.—B. McCoig, one of the handful of Liberals in the house from Ontario has a novel theory to satisfy his conscience in advocating "free wheat." He stated in the course of the budget debate today that wheat should be put on the free list to keep the western farmer from going in for mixed farming. If we do not remove the wheat duties, he argued, the western farmer will give up growing wheat and will go in for mixed farming and in a few years will be flooding the markets of Eastern Canada with all sorts of produce and will be competing with the eastern farmer.

It was all very silly but it serves to illustrate the wild scramble of the Liberals for arguments to back up their "free trade" policy. "Free food," he asserted, would reduce the high cost of living. He did not care what became of the farmer.

It is evident that the Liberals are going to make a big effort to catch the urban vote and leave the rural constituencies to take care of themselves.

A Bid For Western Votes

Mr. J. A. Armstrong of North York, resumed the debate on the budget. He said that the Liberals in the house were making a bid for one vote and one vote alone, the vote of the farmers of the western plains. They showed no regard for the farmers of the eastern provinces, the mechanics, or the industries of the country. The member for North York commented upon the varying views of Liberals on fiscal questions. The member for Beauport, Hon. Mr. Beland, had practically admitted that he was a Conservative in regard to the tariff. Mr. German of Welland had opposed the Liberal policy of reciprocity with the United States. Sir Wilfrid Laurier himself had favored free trade and unrestricted reciprocity and had practiced protection.

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SPRINGHILL MAN KILLED BY AN EXPLOSION

Was Thawing Out Dynamite in Front of Stove—One Arm Torn Off.

Amherst, N. S., April 16.—Dynamite, he was thawing out beside a stove, blew up in James Porter's face today at the mouth of the new Black Diamond pit near Macdon. Porter's comrade found his mutilated body in the partially wrecked shanty, one hand was torn off as well as a hand, the face and part of the head. It was Porter's third shift on the job. He came from Springhill but has lately been residing at the Joggins, where his wife is.

Porter commenced to warm the dynamite in front of the stove in the shanty, near the bankhead. Bodreau, his companion, remonstrated with him pointing out that it was contrary to the rules of all mining regulations and when Porter persisted he left the shanty. Two minutes later the explosion occurred.

ANOTHER LOSS IN MEMBERSHIP OF THE WESLEYAN METHODISTS

Figures Submitted to Synod Show Decrease for Eighth Consecutive Year—Twelve Hundred Fewer Adults.

London, April 17.—For the eighth consecutive year the membership of the Wesleyan Methodist church has shown a decrease this year. The figures for the May 8 synod show an adult membership of 481,120, a decrease for the year of 1,282; juniors 104,483, an increase of 2,783. There are also 875 persons less on trial membership.

MELLEN MAY HEAD COUNCIL BROTHERHOODS

Has Been Asked to Lead Federated Council of Railroad Brotherhoods to be Organized this Month.

Boston, April 16.—Charles S. Mellen, formerly president of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company, may become the active head of a federated body supreme among the various organizations of the United States with which 2,000,000 railroad employees are affiliated.

It became known today that Mr. Mellen had been approached on the subject and that he was giving it favorable consideration. The new organization is to be known as the Federated Council of Railroad Brotherhoods, will be formed at a meeting of delegates in this city on April 26, and the former director of the New Haven railroad system will be nominated for the presidency.

The idea of the council has been promoted by the Order of Railroad Station Agents, which met here in January and appointed a committee to invite the many independent societies of railroad men to send delegations to the forthcoming meeting. It is stated that favorable responses were received and 100 delegates have been elected.

At present there is no central body in this country and the organization will be along the line of the English and German federations. Harry Phillips, deputy lord mayor of Westham, England, and associate secretary of the federal transportation workers of England will be present to aid in the organization. The council will represent all branches of the service, including conductors, station agents, freight handlers, telegraph operators, signalmen and track walkers.

The plan to place Mr. Mellen at the head of the council was a direct outcome of a statement made by him in an address at a dinner at the Boston Hotel here on November 20 after he had resigned the presidency of the New Haven. He had talked intimately with the men of the latent power in labor organizations and said that labor had not received the reward it otherwise might because of jealousy among the different bodies and a lack of loyalty to the common cause.

"Exercise your power with prudence," he said, "be fair, be prudent, but be steadfast to one another. You have the power and others must pay the price." With some feeling, he concluded: "I would like to lead you. I would like to advise you. I want to help you. Possibly the time will come when I can do so and when you call you will not find me wanting."

Furthermore the government is safe guarded, for if the St. John and Quebec Railway Company should fail to complete their contract the government has the authority to confiscate all monies and to renege on the contract under the former legislation and supplement them by the guarantee of the other \$10,000 per mile, applying the whole to the extent of \$5,000 per mile of road. Of this sum the government then agreed to guarantee \$25,000 per mile and the present legislation seeks to give the permission to guarantee the other \$10,000. Of course before these bonds can be guaranteed they must be turned in to the company so as to really issue new bonds as claimed by a section of the opposition press. It really gives the government authority to convert the unguaranteed bonds held by the company under their charter into guaranteed bonds. No further bonds can be issued.

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As Mr. Clark explained it there was no further issue of bonds contemplated, merely a guarantee of the portion of the original which had not been guaranteed. The statement of the acting premier clearly away the impression there might have been that the additional guarantee of bonds was to be undertaken in the interest of any railway company. As Mr. Clark himself expressed it, the legislation sought is for the benefit of the province, and not for any railway company. Opposition papers persisting in the attempt to convey any other impression are actuated solely by desire to make capital for the enemies of the government and not by any wish to tell the truth.

PROVINCE IS WELL SAFEGUARDED BY THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Attorney General Clarke Corrects Misleading Impression Regarding Guarantee of Further Bonds.

CONVERTS UNGUARANTEED INTO GUARANTEED.

Before Guaranteed Must Be Turned in by the Company and No Further Bonds Can Be Issued.

Special to The Standard, Fredericton, April 16.—Hon. George Clark, acting premier, in the house tonight, made a statement regarding the legislation now being discussed which gives to the government of this province the authority to guarantee for a further amount of \$10,000 per mile the bonds of the St. John and Quebec Co., or any other company which will complete the building of the road.

The opposition newspapers have sought to convey the idea that this proposed bill would not only place in the hands of contracting companies a large sum of money in addition to what had already been given, but would also leave the company or companies with unguaranteed bonds to the amount of \$10,000 per mile, which they could dispose of. This of course is not correct, and there is no ground for the view taken by the opposition newspapers. Equally false is the canvass being made by enemies of the government that the bill is being put through in the interests of the St. John and Quebec Co., and Mr. Goulet.

The fact of the matter is that under their charter the St. John and Quebec Railway Company had authority to issue bonds to the extent of \$5,000 per mile of road. Of this sum the government then agreed to guarantee \$25,000 per mile and the present legislation seeks to give the permission to guarantee the other \$10,000. Of course before these bonds can be guaranteed they must be turned in to the company so as to really issue new bonds as claimed by a section of the opposition press. It really gives the government authority to convert the unguaranteed bonds held by the company under their charter into guaranteed bonds. No further bonds can be issued.

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LIEUT.-GOV. OF QUEBEC DENIES CHARGES ABOUT BOY SCOUTS

Sir Francis Langelier Repudiates Charges that Movement was Object of Suspicion Catholic Church.

Quebec, April 16.—Sir Francis Langelier, lieutenant-governor of the province, denied the charges made by the ultra-montaine organ "La Verite," to the effect that the boy scout movement was neutral, and therefore an object of suspicion to the Roman Catholic church, and further that it had been affiliated with free masonry, in an address before the Quebec boy scouts and others at the Morris College hall tonight the Governor stated there were absolutely no grounds for the accusations. He added that he sincerely regretted such a wrong idea of the boy scout movement had been taken up in some quarters.

Best in the world but to tell the business men of Canada that the service is always there to serve them. That is their business. He closed by saying that the consular service will be just what the business men of the country make it.

THE SIX BEST DESIGNS HAVE BEEN SELECTED

Sixty-three Sets of Drawings for New Departmental and Court Buildings at Ottawa Were Submitted to Assessors.

Special to The Standard, Ottawa, April 16.—The assessors of the plans of the new departmental and court buildings at Ottawa, T. E. Collett, of London, Ont.; B. H. G. Russell, of Winnipeg, and J. O. Marchand, of Montreal, have completed the work of selecting the six best of the designs which have been received by the Minister of Public Works. Sixty-three sets of drawings have been sent in.

The authors of the six selected designs will be asked to prepare further working plans and designs to be submitted by September 1 next, for examination by the same assessors. The first choice of the assessors of these six elaborated designs will be commissioned to prepare working drawings upon which tenders are invited and supervise the carrying out of the work at a commission of five per cent of the working price. Each of the five successful final competitors will be paid the sum of three thousand dollars for his labor in elaborating his preliminary design.

RAILS MAY OPERATE AGAIN

Work of Taking up Rails on Blackville - Chatham Jct. Section of Canada Eastern Railway to be Stopped.

Fredericton, April 16.—Instructions have been received from the I. C. R. authorities to stop the work of taking up the rails of the Blackville-Chatham Junction section of the Canada Eastern division of the Intercolonial Railway.

This has given rise to a report that the line will be repaired and put in operation again.

The court of appeals at the conclusion of the hearing of the Robinson vs. Haley case this afternoon the court of appeal adjourned until next Friday to deliver judgments.

More than four inches of snow fell here today in one of the worst April storms experienced in Fredericton in years. The weather has been unusually cold the last few days, and the ice in the river is apparently still very solid.

J. B. Brown, of New York, the single tax advocate, delivered an address before the board of trade and others here this evening.

SIXTY-FIVE DOESN'T WANT TO QUIT WORK

Head of Toronto Educational Institution to be Superannuated Much Against His Will, His Will.

Toronto, April 16.—Very much against his will Dr. L. E. Embree, principal of Jarvis street Collegiate Institute, Toronto, will be superannuated at the close of the present school year. The Toronto Board of Education tonight agreed to stand by the by-law providing for the superannuation of principals at the age of 65 years, which Dr. Embree has attained. The superannuation is to be at \$1,000.

Washington, April 16.—Sir Cecil Spring-Rice and Lady Spring-Rice will leave Washington April 27 for Ottawa to be the guests of the Governor-General of the Dominion.

REVISING THE CONSTITUTION OF CHINA

Sole Aim of Yuan Shi Kai and Cabinet is to Secure Strong Central Government.

New York, April 16.—The provisional constitution of the Chinese republic is still pending, according to a cablegram received today by From Jermiah W. Jenks, formerly financial adviser to the Chinese government, from Wellington Ku, general secretary of the Wa-Chiao-Fu, or department of foreign affairs at Peking.

A convention for the purpose of amending the constitution of the Chinese republic has been in session at Peking since March 18, and despatches have been published to the effect that a new constitution has been adopted, and purporting to give its outlines. The cablegram from Secretary Ku is as follows:

"No constitution adopted yet. Revision of the provisional constitution is still pending. The sole aim of President Yuan Shi Kai and the cabinet in effecting revision is to secure a strong central government for the nation's welfare. The foreign advisers concur."

KING'S NAME SECOND ON TOAST LIST

Lively Discussion Follows Action of Banquet Committee in Putting Pope Ahead of His Majesty.

Winnipeg, April 16.—Considerable discussion was occasioned in religious, state and civic circles here today when it became known that on the last list of the big Catholic banquet dated for tonight, the Pope was placed at the head with His Majesty the King, second. Because of this Sir D. C. Cameron, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, and several other prominent men, refused to attend. T. R. Deacon, Mayor of Winnipeg, at first refused to be present, but the matter was compromised and the mayor was in attendance. The compromise agreed upon by the banquet committee of receipt of numerous protests was that the National Anthem, "God Save the King," should be sung at the opening of the banquet, the toast to the Pope to follow, and the toast to the King entirely omitted.

The programme was carried out, and in answering the toast to the Pope His Grace Archbishop Langevin stated that he would "render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's." Hon. C. J. Doherty, minister of justice, was to have attended, but his message of regret stated that "under ordinary circumstances," he would have been most happy to attend.

If the program had been carried out as presented, the banquet would have been a very different affair. The alleged affront to His Majesty in placing the royal toast second on the list was first brought to the mayor's attention by A. J. Taylor, president of the Sons of England in Winnipeg and the mayor notified the banquet committee that he could not officially attend. Sir Douglas Cameron notified the committee to the same effect. Interviewed Sir Douglas said: "I am not going to the banquet. My reason is obvious. I have nothing to say."

Sir Rodmond Roblin was also invited to attend but was unable to do so owing to a prior engagement. Hon. Joseph Bernier, provincial secretary, was thereupon announced as representing the provincial government, and by E. A. Turgeon, attorney-general. Interviewed prior to the banquet Mr. Bernier said: "I see no reason why the toast list should be changed. The Pope has never asked Catholics to be disloyal to the King. This agitation about positions of honor is a poor example of British fair play."

Archbishop Langevin, head of the Roman Catholic church in western Canada, in an interview said: "The Pope is a foreigner, he has nothing to do with our country. This toast which precedes the King is a most extraor-

WILL BE GUESTS OF GOVERNOR-GENERAL

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U.S. GOVT. APPEASED BY HUERTA'S OFFER

SMUGGLED OUT OF MONTREAL IN CRATES

Bandits Follow Plan of Jean Valjean, of Hugo's "Les Miserables," in Making their Get-away.

Montreal, April 16.—A despatch to La Patrie from Hull, Quebec, today says: "The two bandits, Foucault and Bourret, wanted for the murder of Constable Bourdon some weeks ago, were sent to Ottawa or Hull in crates on Friday or Saturday last."

The idea is said to have been originated by friends of the bandits, who finding the hue and cry was making things too hot for them, apparently borrowed a plan already described in Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables," when Jean Valjean escaped from the police in a coffin perforated to admit of breathing.

The bandits friends hid to Ottawa after first casing up the bandits in the crates and sending them in this way, to be called for at the Hull or Ottawa railway station.

Everything worked well. The bandits were got away successfully and their friends received them safely. They were at once hurried to a house, where they are now in hiding.

Detective Riopelle and a squad of sleuths from headquarters are hot on their trail, but have not, up to the present, succeeded in locating the fugitives.

Washington, April 16.—The United States government tonight accepted General Huerta's offer to salute the stars and stripes as an apology for the arrest of American bluejackets at Tampico a week ago today. The Huerta government's salute to the American flag will be answered with a salute to the tri-color of the Mexican nation.

This arrangement, the details of which were being finally arranged tonight in an exchange of official messages between Washington and Mexico City, ended, in the view of all high administration officials, the crisis that had arisen in the last few days resulting in the despatch of American war fleets to Mexican waters. Executive quarters and congressional circles breathed a sigh of relief that the tension had passed.

No time has been set for the firing of the salute, and until the details are arranged no further orders will be sent to the American fleets now proceeding south. It is practically certain, however, that while many of the vessels will be turned back, others will continue south, and a substantially increased naval force will be maintained in Mexican waters.

Inquiry as to the character of pressure which had been brought on General Huerta to yield brought out the fact that foreign governments had an active interest in the events of the last twenty-four hours. Both the French and German ambassadors, after conferences at the state department, were in communication, it is understood, with their representatives in Mexico City. Another phase of the situation was a well authenticated report that the last installment of a loan due Huerta was about to be held up by foreign bankers if he did not comply with the American demands.

THE DEBATE ON MOTION OF MR. DUGAL

Reason for Postponement of the Discussion—Government Ready to Proceed Whenever it Suits Opposition.

Special to The Standard, Fredericton, April 16.—An indication of the absolute fairness with which the government prepared to treat the Dugal charges was furnished in the House this afternoon when Hon. Mr. Clark, acting premier, arose to correct what might otherwise prove to be a misunderstanding regarding the attitude of Mr. Dugal and his preparedness to proceed with the charges. He read from the Standard in the House this afternoon who reported that the opposition were not prepared to go ahead, and for that reason had asked for the postponement of the hearing until Friday.

As a matter of fact, he states, the lateness of the trains on Wednesday evening and the consequent delay in the hour of opening the House caused him to hold a private consultation with the opposition leader, and Mr. Clark requested that the hearing be adjourned until today. The government was prepared to go ahead today but Mr. Dugal asked for a further postponement from Thursday to Friday as his legal adviser could not be present sooner. In order to meet the opposition leader wherever possible, Mr. Clark acceded to the request and the matter stands until tomorrow.

The Standard knew of Mr. Dugal's request for a postponement, but was not informed of the private conference between the opposition leader and the acting premier held previously. The government's reason for asking for an adjournment from Wednesday night to Thursday was to assure attendance of all members, as they are prepared to go ahead whenever it suits the opposition, and will probably be taken up tomorrow.

NO SIGN OF THE MISSING SEALING STEAMER

St. John's, Nfld., April 16.—Steamer Kite searching for wreckage supposed from the Southern Cross reports to-night the finding of a lot of timbers, but nothing from any sealing steamer. She also reports speaking to the sealer Fogota with 2,500 pellets, and short of coal, but all well.

Ordinary affair in a country dominated by Protestants. If it were a purely religious affair, at which no politics were to be discussed, it would be different.

Instead an official of the city and a representative of the government are asked to take part. It is an invitation of the traditions of our emperor and disloyalty to our King."

The banquet was a big affair and attended by representatives from all parts of the west. Right Rev. W. F. Fallon, Bishop of London, was a prominent speaker.

Will Answer Salute to American Flag by Salute of Mexican Tri-color.

MANY OF THE WARSHIPS TO PROCEED SOUTH.

Foreign Powers Were Actively Interested in the Proceedings of Past Few Days Between the States and Mexican Government.

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OPINIONS OF PRES. WILSON ARE VARIED

London Graphic Says He Scored Moral Victory Over Huerta, but it Will Leave Latter Just Where He Was.

London, April 17.—The London morning papers, commenting with satisfaction on the conclusion of the Tampico incident, continue to criticize President Wilson's policy. The Daily Telegraph says: "It means plain that Huerta's face is thoroughly well saved, and a very considerable strengthening is given to his position in the eyes of his countrymen. He will call the acknowledgment of his salute a measure of recognition, and if the Mexicans regard it in that light it matters little what Washington may say about it. The truth is that the policy of picking and choosing among the competing desperados in Mexico can only be exercised safely on the old principle of recognizing the one who is uppermost. If a statesman's moral sense revolted at doing that his only course would be to leave the whole situation severely alone."

The Graphic says: "The bargain has a double advantage, satisfaction to President Wilson and the saving of Huerta's face."

The Post says: "It is a moral victory for the United States, which will leave Huerta just where he was. President Wilson's policy is not quite intelligible to observers outside the United States. It is a policy not of non-intervention but rather of intervention without the trouble and expense of using force. But for the Monroe doctrine it is probable that several European governments would co-operate to secure the re-establishment of order and the protection of their interests in Mexico."

"President Wilson," adds the Post, "is a clear headed and courageous man, and will doubtless find a way out of the difficulty. In the meantime it seems as if Mexico must settle down to its civil war."

The Daily Mail: "President Wilson's disapproval of the matter seems likely to attain its object. President Wilson has scored a distinct success by his vigorous diplomacy. The world will now hope that face will show equal firmness in enforcing upon the constitutionalists that respect for the American flag which he required from Huerta."