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BRISK DEMAND FOR PRODUCE

LOCAL MARKET.

Tuesday, March 31.

The market today was not large, but fully up to expectations, as the roads are in a muddy state. The rain which fell doubtless kept many of the farmers from attending the market Sales were quite brisk in all lines,and prices kept up well. The farmers at the finish of the morning's business appeared to be well satisfied at the way produce sold.

Grain—Oats were scarce at $1 58 to $1 62 per cwt. The latter price was paid for a load of black oats. Wheat sold at 93c per bushel.

Hay and Straw—There was about a dozen loads of hay offered, which were in fair demand at $14 to $15 per ton. Straw was fairly well represented at $7 25 and $7 50 per ton.

Butter and Eggs—Butter was scarce and prices steady at 30c for crocks and 31c for rolls. Eggs a little firm at 15½c to 16c per dozen for crate and basket lots.

Vegetables and Roots—There was considerable offered in this line and prices were steady in the different classes purchased. A particularly brisk demand for potatoes which sold at $1 per bag wholesale, and $1 05 to $1 10 retail. Rhubarb sold at $1 per dozen. Lettuce, radishes and green onions sold quickly at 35c to 40c per dozen. Cucumbers, $1 25 per dozen, wholesale. Dry onions, $1 25 per bag. Turnips, 40c per bag. Parsnips, 50c per bushel.

There was no change in the price of poultry, and the supply was small. The brisk demand for dressed hogs was the feature of the market, which sold at $8 per cwt. There was no change in the prices of butcher's meat.

COTTON MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

New York, March 30.—Cotton—Futures closed steady. Closing bids: March, 9.47c; April, 9.48c; May, 9.60c; June, 9.57c; July, 9.60c; August, 9.56c; October, 9.45c; December, 9.46c.

Spot closed quiet; middling uplands, 10.40c; do, gulf, 10.65c; sales, 4,500 bales.

New York, March 31.—Cotton—Futures opened steady; May, 9.61c to 9.62c; July, 9.62c; August, 9.57c; October, 9.47c; December, 9.48c; January, 9.51c to 9.52c.

LIVERPOOL.

Liverpool, March 30.—Cotton—Spot in fair demand; prices 3 points higher; American middling, fair, 6.31; good middling, 5.95; middling, 5.69; low middling, 5.35; good ordinary, 4.91; ordinary, 4.41.

The sales of the day were 8,000 bales, of which 500 were for speculation and export, and included 7,600 American.

Futures opened steady and closed quiet and steady; American middling, G. O. C., March, 5.27; March and April, 5.27; April and May, 5.26; May and June, 5.27; June and July, 5.27½; July and August, 5.26½; August and September, 5.23; September and October, 5.18½; October and November, 5.14; November and December, 5.11½; December and January, 5.11; January and February, 5.10½.

SUGAR MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

New York, March 30.—Sugar—Raw firm; fair refining steady; No. 6, 85; No. 7, $4 95; No. 8, $4 90; No. 9, $4 85; No. 10, $4 75; No. 11, $4 70; No. 12, $4 65; No. 13, $4 60; No. 14, $4 55; confectioners' A, $5 20; mold A, $5 75; cut-loaf, $6 20; crushed, $6 10; powdered, $5 50; granulated, $5 40; cubes, $5 65. Molasses—Steady; New Orleans, open kettle, good to choice, 28c to 42c.

LONDON.

London, March 30.—Raw sugar—Muscovado, 11s; centrifugal, 12s 3d; beet sugar, March, 11s 5¼d.

TORONTO.

Toronto, March 30.—Sugar—Firm; Montreal granulated, in barrels, $4 90; yellow, $4 50; in bags, 5c less; Acadia, in barrels or bags, $4 80.

PHONE 433

FIRE

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DAIRY MARKETS.

CHICAGO.

Chicago, Ill., March 30.—Butter—Firm; creameries, 22c to 26½c; dairies, 20c to 26c. Cheese—Steady, 12½c to 14c.

ELGIN.

Elgin, Ill., March 30.—Butter—Firm, at 29½c; sales for the week, 443,400 lbs.

NEW YORK.

New York, March 30.—Butter—Firm; receipts, 3,878 packages; creamery, specials, 29c; extras, 28c to 28½c; thirds to firsts, 21c to 27c; held, creamery, common to special, 21c to 28½c; state dairy, common to choice, 20c to 26c; process, common to special, 16c to 24½c; western factory, firsts, 20½c; imitation creamery, 22c to 23c.

Cheese—Firm; receipts, 961 boxes; full cream, specials, 16¼c; state full cream, small colored, fancy, 15¾c; do, white, fancy, 16c; do, large colored and white, fancy, 15¾c; do, good to prime, 14½c to 15¼c; do, late October and early November made, 13½c to 14½c; do, winter made, 12c to 12½c; do, common to fair, 10c to 11½c; skims, 1c to 11c.

OIL MARKETS.

OIL CITY.

Oil City, Pa., March 30.—Credit balances, $1 78.

LONDON.

London, March 30.—Petroleum, American refined, 6 9-16d; spirits, 7¼d.

ANTWERP.

Antwerp, Belgium, March 30.—Petroleum, 22 francs.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

TORONTO.

Toronto, March 31.—Trade active, prices firm; run light; 56 loads in today, including 1,063 cattle, 106 sheep and lambs, 400 hogs and 219 calves. Quotations:

Export cattle, choice, cwt.	$5 00	@	$5 20
Export cattle, medium	4 90	@	5 10
Export bulls	4 25	@	4 50
Export bulls, light	4 00	@	4 25
Export cows	4 00	@	4 25
Butchers' cattle, choice	4 90	@	5 15
Butchers' cattle, medium	4 25	@	4 50
Butchers' cattle, common	3 75	@	4 00
Butchers' cows	3 50	@	3 75
Butchers' bulls	3 25	@	3 50
Stockers, choice	3 25	@	3 50
Stockers, medium	3 00	@	3 25
Stockers, common	2 75	@	3 00
Stock bulls	2 50	@	2 75
Feeders, heavy	4 65	@	4 75
Feeders, short-keeps	4 75	@	4 80
Milch cows, choice, each	40 00	@	50 00
Milch cows, common, each	25 00	@	35 00
Springers, each	25 00	@	40 00
Export ewes, cwt.	4 75	@	5 25
Export bucks	3 50	@	4 50
Grain-fed yearling lambs	7 00	@	7 75
Common lambs	5 50	@	6 50
Spring lambs, each	4 50	@	7 50
Calves, cwt	3 00	@	6 50
Hogs, selects, cwt, off cars	5 75	@	5 75
Hogs, lights and fats	5 60	@	5 60

EAST BUFFALO.

East Buffalo, March 31.—Cattle—Steady; prime steers, $6 25 to $7. Veals—Receipts, 150 head; active and steady, $5 to $7 75.

Hogs—Receipts, 2,100 head; active and 10c to 15c higher; heavy and mixed, $6 50 to $6 55; Yorkers, $6 40 to $6 55; pigs, $5 to $5 85; roughs, $5 50 to $5 75; stags, $3 50 to $4; dairies, $6 25 to $6 50.

Sheep and Lambs—Receipts, 1,000 head; active and steady, unchanged.

CHICAGO.

Chicago, March 31.—Cattle—Receipts, 3,500; steady; beeves, $4 70 to $5 70; cows and heifers, $2 to $6 15; Texans, $4 50 to $5 50; calves, $4 50 to $6 50; westerns, $4 50 to $5 60; stockers and feeders, $3 25 to $5 20.

Hogs—Receipts, 14,000; 10c to 15c higher; light, $5 80 to $6 20; mixed, $5 70 to $6 25; heavy, $5 80 to $6 25; roughs, $5 80 to $5 95; pigs, $4 90 to $5 70; bulk of sales at $6 10 to $6 15.

Sheep—Receipts, 15,000; steady; natives, $4 75 to $7; westerns, $5 to $7; yearlings, $6 25 to $7 70; lambs, $6 to $8 25; westerns, $6 50 to $8 25.

HIDES, TALLOW, WOOL.

TORONTO.

Toronto, March 30.—Hides—Ruling prices here are: Inspected steers and cows, No. 1, 5½c; No. 2, 4½c; No. 3, 3½c; do, country hides, 3½c to 4c; calfskins, 8c to 9c; veal kips, 6c to 7c; lambskins, 90c to $1; horsehides, $2 50.

Horsehair—25c.

Tallow—Rendered, 4½c to 5½c.

LEATHER MARKET.

TORONTO.

Toronto, March 30.—Leather—No. 1 Spanish sole, for jobbing, 27c to 29c; No. 2, 26c to 28c; No. 1 Spanish sole, for manufacturing, 25½c to 27c; No. 2, 24½c to 26c; No. 3, 22½c to 24c; No. 1 oak sole, 27c to 29c; No. 2, 26c to 28c; No. 1 English sole bends, 43c to 45c; No. 1 slaughter sole, heavy, 29c to 30c; medium, 28c to 29c; lights, 28c to 29c.

Harness Leather—No. U. Q., 34c to 35c; rejected, 30c to 32c; No. 2, 30c to 31c.

Hemlock Country Harness—No. 1, 29c to 30c; No. 2, 25c to 28c.

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BEAN MARKETS.

DETROIT.

Detroit, March 30.—Beans—Spot, $2 25; April, $2 27; May, $2 32; all nominal.

PRODUCE MARKET.

TORONTO.

Toronto, March 31.—The grain markets are in the doldrums so far as domestic trade is concerned. A fair amount of export grain is going forward. Prices are generally unchanged, and are:

Wheat—Manitoba No. 1 northern, $1 20; No. 2 northern, $1 17; feed wheat, 67c; No. 2 feed, 62c; Ontario No. 2 white, 90c to 91c, at point of shipment; No. 2 red, 90c; No. 2 mixed, 89c; goose, 87c.

Corn—Firm; No. 3 yellow American, 72c; kiln-dried, 74c Toronto freights; No. 3 mixed, 1c less.

Barley—Very dull; No. 2, 60c.

Peas—No. 2, 87c outside.

Rye—No. 2, 85c to 85½c.

Buckwheat—No. 2, 67c.

Oats—No. 2 white, 47½c outside, 49c on track at Toronto; No. 2 mixed, 45c.

Flour—Manitoba patents, special brand, $6; seconds, $5 40 to $5 50; strong bakers, $5 30; winter patents, $5 45.

Bran—Full cars, $26, at North Lay.

Shorts—Scarce, $24, f. o. b. at mills.

HAY MARKET.

TORONTO.

Toronto, March 30.—Baled Straw—Dull, at $9 to $10 per ton on track here; wheat straw, $8 50.

Baled Hay—Dull; timothy is quoted at $16 in car lots on track here.

WOOL MARKET.

TORONTO.

Toronto, March 30.—Wool—Local quotations are: Washed wools, 19c to 20c; unwashed wools, 10c; rejects, 14c to 15c.

ENGLISH MARKET.

LIVERPOOL.

Liverpool, March 31.—Wheat—Spot quiet; No. 2 red western winter, 7s 1d. Futures barely steady; May, 6s 11d; July, 7s ½d.

Corn—Spot steady; prime mixed American, new, 5s 4½d; do, old, 5s 7d. Futures steady; May, 5s 6d.

Peas—Canadian steady, 7s 8d.

Flour—Winter patents quiet, 29s 9d.

Hops (at London)—Pacific coast dull, £1 10s to £2 10s.

Beef—Extra India mess firm, 90s.

Pork—Prime mess western dull, 68s 9d.

Hams—Short cut, 14 to 16 lbs, strong, 42s 6d.

Bacon—Cumberland cut, 26 to 30 lbs, strong, 42s 6d; short ribs, 16 to 24 lbs, strong, 42s; long clear middles, light, 28 to 34 lbs, strong, 43s; do, heavy, 35 to 40 lbs, strong, 41s 6d; short clear backs, 16 to 20 lbs, strong, 41s 6d; clear bellies, 14 to 16 lbs, strong, 43s; shoulders, square, 11 to 13 lbs, strong, 32s 6d.

Lard—Prime western, in tierces, strong, 42s 3d; American refined, in pails, strong, 43s 6d.

Butter—Good United States dull, 80s to 85s.

Cheese—American finest white, firm, 61s; do, colored, firm, 63s; Canadian finest white, steady, 63s; do, colored, firm, 64s.

Tallow—Prime city dull, 26s 9d; Australian (in London) quiet, 29s 7½d.

Turpentine Spirits—Dull, 38s.

Linseed Oil—Dull, 22s 9d.

Petroleum—Quiet, 6¾d.

Rosin—Common steady, 9s 6d.

Cottonseed Oil (Hull refined)—Spot firm, 23s.

STOCK MARKETS.

TORONTO.

Toronto, March 30—Close.

Afternoon Sales: Winnipeg, xd., 10 at 144½; General Electric, xd., 5 and 2 at 99, 25 at 99½; Soo, xd., 25 and 25 at 109; N. S. Steel, 5 at 55; Mackay, common, xd., 25, 1 and 25 at 57, 3 at 57¼; do, preferred, xd., 3, 7 and 15 at 63½, 50 and 10 at 63; Rio, bonds, 2,000, 3,000 and 2,000 at 79⅞, 1,000 at 79¼; Nipissing, 25 and 5 at 7; Imperial Bank, 5 at 213; Bank of Commerce, xd., 1 at 161½; Dominion Coal, xd., 10 and 15 at 42.

CZAR'S CASE THROWN OUT

Canadian Courts Have No Jurisdiction, Both Parties Being Foreigners.

Winnipeg, March 30.—The Czar of all the Russias has been bowled out of the court of king's bench by Mr. Justice Mathers. Stefan Ludkofsky was treasurer of Turkestan, and decamped with a large sum of the public money. The Czar's legal representatives began an action to attach all the goods and chattels of the former treasurer, which are valued at $25,000, but Ludkofsky could not be located, and on Saturday the writ was set aside on the ground that the courts in Canada had no jurisdiction, both parties being foreigners. The Czar must pay all the costs, and an appeal will be entered against the judgment. In the meantime the goods of Ludofsky are to be detained.

JUST CAMPAIGN LIE SAYS LEADER MACKAY

Toronto, March 30. — "The spring poet is getting busy," smiled the Hon. A. G. MacKay this morning, when shown a dispatch from Chatham which indicated that he had refused to deny a rumor that he was to retire from the opposition leadership.

"It is simply a continuation of a lie," he added. "A resignation rumor was printed in a Chatham paper. I denied it flatly at the meeting in Chatham."

"And deny it yet?"

"Of course I do."

"What do you figure upon as election day?" was asked.

Mr. MacKay laughed. "Perhaps May 28 would be near enough," he ventured.

General opinion at the Parliament Buildings fixes the elections for some day in the last week of May or first of June.

AFTERNOON SESSION LONDON PRESBYTERY

The afternoon meeting of the London Presbytery was held in St. Andrew's Church at 2 o'clock.

The Rev. H. Currie, of Thedford, of the Sarnia Presbytery, was asked to sit and correspond. Mr. Gould resigned his commissionership to the general assembly, and Dr. Munro, the next name on the roll, was appointed. Rev. Dr. Ross and Mr. Gibson, his elder, were appointed on the synod's committee on bills and overtures.

The committee on the rearrangement of the Delaware field, through Rev. W. Moffatt, reported recommending the following plan:

Muncey to be organized into a regular congregation, and Tempo, Muncey and South Delaware to form one charge; and that Delaware Village, Mount Brydges and Cook's Church, Caradoc, be another charge.

In the one case, the minister to reside at Tempo, and in the other case at Delaware Village.

As Tempo had largely increased their subscription, it was felt that the church there could not be closed up as was formerly proposed.

There was a long discussion on the matter. Mr. A. Bannatyne and Mr. W. E. Scott, from Tempo, were favorable to the arrangement. Mr. John McFarlane and A. Thompson, from North Delaware, spoke strongly against the rearrangement.

The Delaware Village people also opposed the plan, Mr. John Stuart, of Muncey, and Mr. John Turnbull, from Delaware Village, voicing their views.

Mr. William Young, from Cook's Church, Caradoc; Mr. James Runnals and D. Forbes, of Mount Brydges, were favorable. At the close of the lengthened discussion, the following motion, moved by Dr. McCrae, seconded by Mr. Currie, was carried:

"That the presbytery express general approval of the report of the committee, and it be referred back, with instructions to visit the congregations interested, to seek to conciliate all parties to the proposed rearrangement; also, if necessary, as an alternative to clause 2, consider the organization of Muncey as a separate mission charge, and report at the May meeting of the presbytery.

The presbytery adjourned at 6:30 o'clock, after a hard day's work.

A PLEASANT SURPRISE

On Monday evening, March 23, Glen Rae, the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Tyler, was agreeably surprised when about fifty of their neighbors assembled to spend another pleasant evening before they leave the section. The early part of the evening was spent in playing progressive pedro. Mr. A. Young and Mrs. Geo. Tyler winning first prizes, and Miss Bertha Young and Mr. Meade Hammond getting the booby prizes. At the close of the game Mr. and Mrs. Tyler were called into the parlor where a neatly-worded address was read to them by Miss Flora Hooper, expressing the high esteem in which Mr. and Mrs. Tyler are held by their many friends in the community; the regret occasioned by their departure and best wishes for their welfare. During the reading of the address, Miss A. Ronald presented Mrs. Tyler with a handsome Morris rocker, and Mr. Alton Stevens presented Mr. Tyler with an upholstered arm chair. The address was signed in behalf of the friends by Miss Flora Hooper, Miss A. Ronald, Mrs. John Hooper and Mr. Alton Stevens.

Mr. Tyler in a few well-chosen words thanked the many friends for their kindness. After luncheon was served a progressive euchre game was enjoyed. Mr. John Hooper and Mr. John Pincombe being the winners. Those who did not play cards enjoyed themselves in a game of "fort." prizes being won by Mr. R. Trowse, Mrs. Hooper and Frank Tyler. Music and dancing were also indulged in, the music being furnished by Mrs. C. Long and Mr. W. Whitehead. In the early hours of the morning the party dispersed, wishing Mr. and Mrs. Tyler happiness and prosperity in their future home. Mr. George Tyler leaves shortly for an extended trip to his home in Lincolnshire, Eng., while Mrs. Tyler and family intend visiting friends in Michigan.

TORONTO CHURCH PREY TO FLAMES

Toronto, March 30.—St. Joseph's Church, on Leslie street, was almost completely destroyed by fire this morning. Fire started in the organ loft and spread very rapidly, but Father Canning and volunteers saved all vestments, the sacrament, and movables from the altar. The church was built 24 years ago, and was valued at about $40,000. Loss $25,000. Insurance $15,000. Cause unknown.

250,000 MINERS ABOUT TO QUIT

Indianapolis, March 30.—The union miners in most of the coal fields of the country will lay down their picks and shovels tomorrow night. Almost 250,000 of them will stop work in Ohio, Western Pennsylvania, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas, and probably in Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, West Virginia and Kentucky. The mining contracts under which they are now working expire at midnight tomorrow night, and except in Central Pennsylvania and in the Indiana block coal district, no contracts have been made, nor have the miners and operators yet entered into district agreements providing for the operation of the mines after April 1, pending agreement.

There is a possibility in the Indiana bituminous coal district, in Illinois, Michigan and West Virginia, of an agreement. The Indiana, Western Pennsylvania and Illinois miners and operators are in joint sessions at Terre Haute, Pittsburg and Springfield.

Technically, the miners will go out on strike, but in reality they stop work because the operators, except in Indiana and Illinois, show no real intention of meeting and treating with them, though no question of wage or principle is at stake.

Congressman W. B. Wilson is back from Central Pennsylvania, where he scored the first big success in the present situation by getting the Central Pennsylvania operators and miners into an agreement. That district will continue at work.

GOVT. NOT AFRAID OF THE REPORT

Commissions Suggestions To Be Taken Up in Good Time.

FOSTER'S MOTION LOST ON VOTE

Premier Points Out Weawness of Having a Purchasing Commission—Tender System Best.

Ottawa, March 30.—The fight over the civil service commissioners' report commenced in the House today. It was preceded by a little harmless sparring on the part of Mr. Foster, who moved a resolution urging that all supplies for the department should be purchased on the basis of public tenders and contract, and that a purchasing commission should be appointed. Hon. Mr. Fielding moved an amendment qualifying the general principle laid down by the insertion of the words, "as far as practicable." The proposal to establish a purchasing commission was opposed by both Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Finance Minister. Mr. Blain moved an amendment, the principal object of which was to abolish the purchase of supplies through middlemen. Mr. Foster, in opening the discussion, professed to be anxious that the question should be treated on non-party lines, but in the hands of Mr. Blain and other members of the Opposition the debate quickly degenerated into a rehash of the old charges of extravagance and corruption. Shortly before midnight a division was taken on Mr. Blain's amendment, which was lost by 90 to 46. On a second division, Mr. Fielding's amendment was carried by 93 to 43, and then the motion as amended by Mr. Fielding was carried by 99 to 44.

The Premier.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier congratulated Mr. Foster on the manner in which he had presented his resolution, and hoped there would be a frank discussion of what was a very important matter. For his part he wished it were possible for the Government to carry on the business of the country in the same manner absolutely as a businessman carried on his own business. He did not believe it was possible to lay down such a principle and carry it out to its logical conclusion. To the first part of the resolution, that supplies should be purchased on the basis of public tender and contract, no objection could be taken. That was a rule which should guide every Government, and it had been found to be the only method by which the Government could safely do business. But were businessmen in every instance confined to that rule, that they should buy on the basis of public tender and contract? Everybody knew that that was not the rule. Sometimes they invited tenders, sometimes they contracted privately. Sometimes they would select a contractor and pay him a little more, because they believed they would get better value for their money. Therefore it was impossible in a matter of that kind to bind the Government absolutely in the same manner as a businessman. His view was that the principle of public tender and contract should be adopted, leaving a very small latitude for minor expenditures, which should be left to the judgment of the minister. Dealing with the second part of the resolution, proposing the appointment of a purchasing commission, Sir Wilfrid Laurier said he did not know any principle more calculated to do justice to all parties than that of ministerial responsibility. It was the principle which obtained in England, and Mr. Foster now proposed a complete departure from it. Mr. Foster even went so far as to propose that the commission should be appointed for life.

Mr. Foster pointed out that while that was his own view, it was not expressed in the resolution.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said he was interpreting the resolution in the light of Mr. Foster's observations. Such a commission would not be responsible to any party, and if there was a principle more true than another it was that all men in authority should be subjected to some responsibility. It was a principle of the constitution, and he did not think it would be advisable to depart from it. The first part of the resolution he was disposed to accept, but he invited Mr. Foster to reconsider the proposal to appoint a commission.

Hon. W. S. Fielding.

Hon. Mr. Fielding, while commending the purpose of the resolution, emphasized the point made by Sir Wilfrid, that individuals as a rule did not resort to tender and contract in their business affairs, nor, to the best of his belief, did great corporations. For example, he did not remember seeing the C. P. R. advertise for tenders, and, according to his knowledge, it was not their practice to purchase by tender and contract. The national transcontinental commission had been mentioned by the leader of the Opposition as a precedent for Mr. Foster's proposition. He had overlooked the fact that that commission could not spend one dollar without the authority of the Government, so that the principle of the responsibility of the latter was maintained. The purchasing commission, as proposed by Mr. Foster, would have absolute power to pay whatever price it pleased, and there would be no remedy in Parliament. If the prices of goods were excessive and a minister was called upon to explain, he would simply say he was no longer responsible for that; it pertained to the purchasing commission. Mr. Fielding did not think that the rigid rule should be laid down that tender and contract should be adopted. There might be occasions when in the public interests it would be better not to follow that rule. In closing, he moved an amendment, which he thought would meet the object without allowing any room for the evasion of ministerial responsibility. His amendment made the resolution read as follows: "That all the supplies purchased for the use of the various departments of the Government should be purchased on the basis of public tender and contract, so far as practicable, especially when large quantities of goods are required, with regard primarily to quality and price, and that all such purchases should be made under the authority and direction of the minister responsible to Parliament."

One for Blain.

Mr. Blain, who followed, did not want the minister's amendment to the resolution. During the course of his address he alleged that a political friend in Montreal had received orders without a tender to supply some books for the marine and fisheries department.

Hon. Mr. Brodeur—The gentleman, who is one of the best-known booksellers in Montreal, is a Conservative.

Mr. Blain was embarrassed. He had been differently informed.

Hon. Mr. Brodeur asked Mr. Bergeron, one of Mr. Blain's colleagues, if his (Mr. Brodeur's) statement was not correct.

Mr. Bergeron was plainly much more embarrassed than Mr. Blain had been. First he misunderstood, and persisted in believing that Mr. Brodeur was referring to a gentleman in Sorel. When he could no longer claim a misunderstanding, he admitted that he knew the Montreal gentleman, but did not know his politics. This lack of knowledge on the part of so excellent a politician as Mr. Bergeron provoked a smile even on his own side.

He moved an amendment to the effect that all supplies should be procured on the basis of public tender and contract, except in cases of unforeseen emergency and necessity, and that the present system of purchasing from middlemen at excessive prices should be immediately discontinued.

A Melancholy Fact.

Dr. Roche (Halifax) said it was a melancholy fact that Mr. Foster was once minister of marine, and there was no record that he carried out any reform. It was only when he ceased to have the opportunity to carry out reforms that Mr. Foster became a reformer. He was not aware that Mr. Foster's administration of the marine department was distinguished by a system of purchase by tender and contract. Neither did he think that the administration was creditable to him, for on the advent of Sir Charles Tupper as his successor one of the things upon which he was congratulated was that he corrected the disorders and abuses which, if Mr. Foster had not created, he had perpetuated. It seemed very odd to Dr. Roche that after enjoying eighteen years of patronage the Conservatives should be so eager to deprive their opponents of that privilege. Dr. Roche contended that the appointment of a purchasing board, such as Mr. Foster advocated, would lead to the worst possible forms of corruption, because its members would be responsible to no one for anything they did. He also asked how such a board would be appointed. Was the Government to select political foes or its friends? How could they be controlled or checked, once appointed and given the power Mr. Foster would clothe them with? The member for North Toronto had said that they could be reported to the auditor-general, but the doctor failed to see what good that would do, as all the official mentioned could do would be to talk to the members of the board. In closing he argued that the present system was the best in the interests of the public.

Borden Nettled.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier moved the adjournment of the House, and the members were preparing to disperse when Mr. Borden, nettled apparently by the substantial Government majority, rose and in indignant tones demanded to know what course the Government proposed to follow in regard to what he described as the serious and very grave charges against them in the civil service commission's report. He characterized the action of the Government in whipping up absent members tonight as silly and undignified. He did not think the House should adjourn until the Prime Minister had given some idea of his policy in regard to the thorough and absolute demoralization of the public service, which, he declared, had been brought about.

Hon. W. S. Fielding replied that the House had occasionally stayed to a later hour than that reached (12:05), and could, if necessary, do so again. He found the discussion and votes of the night so disagreeable. For himself he could not realize that there had been anything that should have created so great a disturbance in the mind of the honorable gentleman. The question as to when the report would be ready was a matter for the King's printer. The motion carried, and the order of the House was that the report be printed forthwith, and he had no doubt that it would be complied with by the King's printer. When the report was brought down and distributed they would have a chance to discuss it in the proper order.

Foster Abusive.

Hon. Geo. E. Foster held that it was not a matter as to what the King's printer was going to do, but as to whether the ministers were going to do their duty or not. What was the Minister of Marine and Fisheries going to do, for instance? He stood as an accused person before the whole country; he was held up to the scorn and contempt of this country. (Liberal cries of "Oh! Oh!") The minister had lost no time in attacking a commission which he and his Government had appointed. He and the Prime Minister had made promises as to an investigation to be held at once, but nothing further had been heard. Mr. Foster charged that two years ago Mr. Brodeur had made a strong defense of his department by holding up the body of his colleague, just dead, and saying that the Opposition was attacking the dead. Now he was claiming that all the trouble was due to those who had preceded him.

Rebuked by The Premier.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier thought it as well that members of the House should try to be calm and not be carried off their feet by excitement or temper. It did not add to the dignity of the House or to good feeling or to the proper conduct of business to have such words used as "scorn," "contempt," and "silly." On a previous occasion he had expressed the view that there was enough in the report of the commission to warrant further action. What action should be taken, whether by royal commission or in some other way, he was not then prepared to say; neither was Hon. Geo. E. Foster, who had expressed similar views as to the necessity of some action. That was only three days ago. Every honorable gentleman knew that there yere many matters to engage the attention of the ministers. They had to divide their time between the House and their departments. Saturdays, as all knew, were devoted to council meetings. Was it extraordinary that after three days the Government was not prepared to say what action should be taken? That action must and would be taken they all agreed, but it was unreasonable of the leader of the Opposition to demand at 12:30 in the morning that the Government immediately say what action it is prepared to take. Sir Wilfrid was not yet prepared to say what course would be followed, but he reiterated "action must and will be taken." The report of the commission would be printed and distributed as speedily as possible. More than that, he would say that he was not afraid of the report. (Prolonged Liberal cheers.) The Government had appointed a commission of men of independent character, because it had desired to probe the whole question of the civil service and its conditions. When the report had been printed and distributed, the Opposition would find the Government ready to face it and to give all the explanations required. (Renewed cheers.)

HON. ADAM BECK OFFERED A SEAT

Member for London Can Have One of the Toronto Ridings.

The Toronto News (Ind.) says:

The rumor that the Hon. J. J. Foy, the attorney-general, will be a candidate for North Toronto, as a running mate of Mr. W. K. McNaught, is not regarded very seriously by the men in Queen's Park. The Toronto members, however, decline to discuss any matter relative to the Toronto constituencies until the redistribution clause dealing with the city has been approved.

This much, however, seems practically certain. Hon. Adam Beck has been informally offered one of the Toronto ridings, and has declined. If the convention gives him the candidature he will again be a candidate in London.

Julia Marlowe.

Theatergoers of London are taking a keen interest in the voting contest inaugurated by Manager McLeish, of the Grand Opera House, to decide what play the famous Julia Marlowe shall appear in in London.

Thus far, the voting has been greatly in favor of Shakespeare's "As You Like It," in which Miss Marlowe appears as Rosamond. This sparkling comedy has not been seen in London since Ben Greet and his company produced it on the lawn of the Western University three or four years ago.

Miss Marlowe is booked to appear at the Grand on Monday night next, but the voting contest closes Thursday at noon, when the result will be announced.

The following is the vote to date:

"As You Like It"	180
"Gloria"	87
"When Knighthood Was in Flower"	49
"Romeo and Juliet"	27

STEAMERS ARRIVED.

March 30.	Reported at.	Form.
Graziole	New York	Genoa
Canopic	Boston	Naples
Furnessia	Moville	New York
Montcalm	Liverpool	St. John
Tunisian	Liverpool	St. John
Vaderland	Dover	New York
Kron Prinz Wilhelm	Cherbourg	New York
Florida	Genoa	New York
Koenigin Luise	Genoa	New York
Romanic	Genoa	Boston
Slavonia	Trieste	New York
Empress of Ireland	Halifax	Liverpool
Caledonia	New York	Glasgow

HOME RULE TALK IN THE COMMONS

British Govt. For Local Control By Irish, and John Redmond Approves.

London, March 30.—The House of Commons tonight, after a lengthy debate on the question of home rule for Ireland, adopted by a vote of 313 to 157 a resolution moved by John E. Redmond, the Nationalist leader, that "In the opinion of this House a solution of this question can only be attained by giving the Irish people legislature and executive control of all purely Irish affairs," after it had been amended by adding the words, "All subject to the supreme authority of the Imperial Parliament."

It was known beforehand that the debate could have but an academic interest, because the Government already had pledged that there would be no deal in the matter of home rule until it had been given a mandate at the general election. But the debate was made notable through the strong declaration of Chancellor Asquith, which was all the weightier because made at the moment Mr. Asquith was actually assuming the premiership.

Balfour Vs. Asquith.

Mr. Balfour, in a brief speech, had accused his opponents of speaking with two meanings, a Radical meaning and a Nationalist meaning. He asked now it was conceivably possible to carry out great Irish reforms with British money, except by a British Parliament, and ironically challenged Mr. Asquith to clear up this ambiguity.

Amid ironically Unionist laughter, Mr. Asquith rose and said that never in his life had he felt less embarrassed. For over twenty years he, himself, and his colleagues, had steadily and consistently advocated self-government for Ireland's purely local affairs. He held that opinion now as strongly as ever. He could not, however, support Mr. Redmond's motion in its present form, because he found in it no explicit recognition of imperial supremacy, and, further, because no Parliament would be justified in embarking in such a task unless the matter first had been submitted to the electorate. It would be a gross and inexcusable violation of their promises to do so in the lifetime of the present Parliament. As far as the present Parliament was concerned, he said, they had expressed their powers in regard to the problem of Irish Government in the Irish Council's bill last year.

Healy and Redmond.

Timothy Healy closed the debate, declaring that Mr. Asquith was mistaken if he supposed he would commend himself to the Irish nation by his speech. Earl Percy, on behalf of the Unionists, moved an amendment declaring the House to be unalterably opposed to the creation of an Irish Parliament with a responsible executive, but the amendment was rejected.

Mr. Redmond said that the only argument remaining against home rule was an argument of fear. It is said, he declared, that Ireland is disloyal; so was Canada in 1837, and so was Gen. Botha until the Transvaal was given self-government. Mr. Redmond, in conclusion, asked the House to give Ireland what had been given the Frenchmen of Quebec and the Dutchmen of the Transvaal, and thus close the blackest chapter in the history of the Empire.

Chief Secretary for Ireland Birrell came out squarely in support of home rule, and declared there was not a man in the House of Commons but who knew that sooner or later there would be a very substantial modification in the relations between Great Britain and Ireland.

The Imperial Parliament, he said, had no time to attend to the needs of Ireland. There were scores of vital measures requiring immediate and constant attention unless they were going to allow "something like hell" to prevail in Ireland. If the Nationalists should bring their proposals clearly before the people at the next general election, Mr. Birrell said he believed the English electorate would rally to their help in solving the problem.

REV. J. JOHNSON IS MODERATOR

(Continued From Page One.)

would not believe that they would not change even if one came to them from the dead.

This particular rich man did not appear to be addicted to many of the vices which marked the rich of his age. The only thing for which he was remarkable was his dress and his dinners. It was from this life of ease and indifference to his fellow-men that he was taken.

Dives, the rich man, is only a type of many men who are in the world today and who are just as indifferent to the sufferings and needs of their fellow-men as he was.

Now and Then.

After all our advance in civilization and our boasted improvements, no radical changes have taken place in man since Christ spoke these words nearly two thousand years ago.

The same types of men to whom he spoke, accusing them of inordinate love of pleasure and an inordinate love of power, exist today.

The vast wave of crime throughout the country is due to the spirit of toleration induced by the democracy and indifference of the age in which we live.

A depraved democracy is in this respect more dangerous than a depraved monarchy.

At the conclusion of the sermon the election for the new moderator took place, after which the retiring moderator made a farewell speech, in which he thanked the clergy for the kind manner in which they had assisted him in his duties, and welcomed the incoming moderator.

The New Moderator.

Rev. John Johnston spoke briefly, thanking the members for electing him, and the meeting adjourned until this morning, at 10 o'clock.

Rev. Dr. Ross announced that the ladies of St. Andrew's would give a supper to the members this evening.

The hearty thanks of those present were tendered the ladies for their kindness.