

ST. JOHN MAN WROTE THE PREMIER URGING VENIOT FOR A CABINET POSITION

Sir Robert Borden and Hon. R. W. Wignome Figure in Correspondence That is Recalled by the Premier in Connection With Now Famous "Offer."

PREMIER DECLINES TO GIVE NAME OF AUTHOR AT THE PRESENT TIME

Letter Writer Wanted to Arrange An Interview Between the Premier and Mr. Veniot on a Train Going to Sydney to Have Talk on the Situation.

Ottawa, Ont., May 20—Another chapter in the Veniot incident which has figured prominently in the House of Commons during the past few days was read to the members of the House of Commons this evening. It was in the form of a series of letters between the unnamed resident of St. John, N. B. and Sir Robert Borden, Hon. Arthur Meighen and Hon. R. W. Wignome, minister of customs and inland revenue, in which the writer of the letters, whose name was not made public by prime minister, urged that Hon. P. J. Veniot, minister of public works in the New Brunswick cabinet, be offered a portfolio in the federal cabinet, as his inclusion would give the government strength among the French Canadians in the east. The prime minister, in rising to make his statement, said he had been vaguely aware of letters dealing with such a subject had reached him. It was not until this morning, however, that his secretary had been able to trace the letters which he was about to read to the house.

Wrote From St. John. The correspondence began with a personal letter from the unnamed correspondent to Sir Robert Borden on December 22, 1917, urging that Hon. P. J. Veniot be brought into the federal cabinet. He was, said the writer, a leading Acadian, who controlled Gloucester seat and no doubt would be easy to arrange with Mr. Tupper (the present federal member) to vacate to make an opening. Mr. Veniot is the big man in the "Foster government" said Sir Robert's informant.

On November 23, 1920, a letter came from the St. John man to Mr. Hon. Arthur Meighen setting forth the contents of his previous letter to Sir Robert Borden. "Sir Robert," said this letter, "did not act on the suggestion but he wrote me in favor of it."

Sir Robert Opposed. When reading the letters in the house this evening, the prime minister stated that the letter from Sir Robert Borden had not been in favor of the proposal.

The writer urged Hon. Mr. Meighen to "take Mr. Veniot as representative of the Acadians" This would strengthen the government with the French-speaking people and be a powerful factor in breaking the solid front against it, and change opponents into supporters.

"You need a Tartie" quoted the writer from a newspaper article. "Well, Mr. Veniot is the next thing to a Tartie, a trained parliamentarian, good debater, fluent speaker in both English and French, clever political organizer, stands well with his church authorities and both French and English speaking people, knows the political game and so far has made good as minister of public works for New Brunswick."

Veniot in Ignorance. The writer said he had not spoken to Mr. Veniot in the matter and that he was the faintest idea that I am writing to you or had written to Sir Robert Borden. He believed, however, the matter could be put through. "Of course," the letter continued, "Mr. Veniot would have to have a portfolio in cabinet. To make an opening for him, Mr. Tupper would have to be provided for and Mr. Veniot, for the time being, at least, represent Gloucester."

Justice For Acadians. Giving Acadians representation in the federal cabinet would be only

Crerar Nominal Farmer Leader?

Agrarian Candidate in Yamaska Says None Are His "Blind Followers."

Pierreville, Que., May 20—That Hon. T. A. Crerar is only the nominal leader of the Farmers' Party was the statement today of A. H. Clement, president of United Farmers of the province of Quebec, in addressing a meeting at St. Eloi on behalf of Joe Lambert, the farmer candidate in the three-cornered Yamaska federal election contest. "We are approached with having Mr. Crerar as a leader," he said, in connection with the former having voted for conscription, "but he is only the nominal leader because he knows more than others in the party as to the guidance of a political party. He now directs matters but none of us is his blind follower."

SENATE ADOPTS EMBARGO

Washington, May 20—Another step toward enactment of the Emergency Tariff Bill was taken today with the adoption of the conference report by the Senate without debate. The House is expected to act finally on the measure in the near future. The report was adopted by the conference in 55.98 per cent.

Revolver Shots In Crowded Street

Many Injured in Outbreak That Occurs at Cove, Near Kinsale, Ire.

Cork, May 20—While the main thoroughfare at Cove, near Kinsale, was crowded this evening several revolver shots suddenly were fired and a number of bombs thrown, killing civilians, soldiers and sailors were badly injured. The authors are not known.

Iron Ore Found In Northern Ontario

Cobalt, Ont., May 20—A big discovery of iron ore is said to have been made in the township of Tarron and Morel, in the district of Temiskaming, within fourteen miles of the railway at Elk Lake. It is said the ore is of high grade, massive hematite showing in one place over a width of four to five feet, and in which it is reported the iron content is about seventy per cent. In addition to this massive ore there is a series of four dikes or lenses of quartz and Jasper in which the iron content is 55.98 per cent.

World News Today

MANY KILLED IN RIOTS IN CAIRO. Alexandria, Egypt, May 20.—Many policemen and demonstrators were killed or wounded during rioting here Thursday. One British soldier was killed. The trouble was the outcome of a political demonstration.

Cairo reports received Thursday told of serious disorders in which many policemen were injured and a demonstrator was killed. The disturbance was quelled only by the intervention of Egyptian lancers.

McKNIGHT WAS FAVORABLE TO SENATE LOANS

Former New Brunswick Resident in One Case at Least Guaranteed Loan.

MOTION NOT SHOWN BY HOUSE PROBE. No Evidence Money Was Given to Influence Vote on Car Legislation.

PAGE 1—McKNIGHT WAS Boston, Mass., May 20—In the report of their investigators into stock market operations by members of the general court of 1918 and 1919, while measures affecting the stock involved were pending, the legislative committee found that thirty-eight members of the Senate and House of 1918 and 1919, at one time or another during those years, purchased stock in the Elevated or Massachusetts Electric Companies.

After detailing these various purchases, the report continues: "Most of these purchases, with the exception of those financed through the Fidelity Trust Company, appear to have been ordinary cash or margin transactions made by the legislators for speculation or investment."

Cannot Classify Deals. It is apparent that any attempt to classify these cases would be attended with great difficulty, as nearly every case differs from the other.

However, there are some cases which seem to be of a character apart from the rest. Almost all the purchases by certain men were financed largely, if not entirely, by the Fidelity Trust Company. In every instance the loans equalled the entire purchase price paid for the stock and the borrower, although not a customer of the bank, contributed nothing to the financing of the transactions either by way of cash or collateral other than the stock thus purchased.

Approved by McKnight. "Mr. McKnight (Edwin T. McKnight, former president of the Senate and former vice-president of the Fidelity Trust Company), approved of these loans and guaranteed one or more of them. He was interested in the X. Y. Z. account with Mr. Cavanaugh and Senator McLane, as well as in other accounts on the books of it. Mr. Hamlin and Co., in which his name does not appear. What Mr. McKnight's motive was in this extending to members of the legislature is a difficult matter to demonstrate. When called to the stand, he declined to say anything concerning the transactions involving other people, and gave very little information concerning his own transactions.

"There is no evidence that Mr. McKnight at any time exhibited any particular interest in the street railway legislation, which is the subject of this inquiry, nor is there any evidence that the loans were made for the purpose of influencing votes on street railway legislation."

Mr. McKnight is a former resident of King's county, N. B.

Beer Bill Before Nova Scotia House

Hon. R. E. Finn Introduces Measure on His Own Responsibility to Sell Ale and Porter.

Halifax, N. S., May 20—"I introduced this bill as I am willing to take the responsibility for it," declared Hon. Robert E. Finn, in the House of Assembly today, when Hon. R. M. McGregor questioned the propriety of the introduction, during the dying hours of the session, of a bill to permit the sale of ale and porter for personal use in Nova Scotia. A. W. Sperry (Lansburg) wanted to know when Mr. Finn proposed to move second reading of the "beer bill."

"I am a father of this bill," insisted Mr. Finn, "and I propose to nurture my child as I think best for its physical well being. If my honorable friend, Mr. McGregor, wants to be wet nurse for it, all right, but in that case I am afraid it will be 'good night nurse.'" Mr. McGregor said he would move to have the bill struck from the orders "when it seems opportune."

Justus H. Gray Dies Suddenly

Aged Resident of New Brunswick Coming to City When Seized With Fatal Illness.

Cambridge, N. B., May 20—Justus H. Gray died suddenly here today at the home of his daughter, Mrs. T. C. MacLean, in the 84th year of his age. Mr. Gray arose in the morning apparently in his usual good health and was preparing to go to the city when he was seized with a sudden serious illness. He grew weaker rapidly all day but retained consciousness to the last. He was of Loyalist descent and until recently lived on the old homestead at Springfield, Kings county. He leaves to mourn four daughters, Mrs. W. F. Elwood, Netherhill, Saak; Mrs. S. H. Belyea and Mrs. James J. Gillies, both of St. John, and Mrs. T. C. MacLean, of Cambridge, N. B., besides five grandchildren and one great grandchild.

The funeral will be held on Sunday afternoon from the Second Springfield Baptist church of which he was a member.

TO JOIN DELEGATION.

Sydney, N. S., May 20—Mayor William Fitzgerald has been named by the city council to head Sydney delegation which will join with other maritime envoys in urging the Ottawa Government to restore the Intercolonial Railway to its pre-war status.

BUDGET GETS MAJORITY OF TWENTY VOTES

One Division at 5.30 O'clock Friday Morning Amendment Defeated by 103 to 83.

PREMIER DENIES VENIOT INCIDENT

"No Such Proposition Was Made by Me or by Anyone in My Behalf."

Ottawa, May 20.—The Government was sustained by a majority of twenty in the vote on the Fielding amendment to the budget. The vote which was taken at 5.30 this morning, stood 83 for the amendment and 103 against.

The announcement of the figures was greeted with loud, prolonged cheers by the Government members who gave vent to their feelings by throwing books and papers in the air as they cheered.

ULSTER LIKE WAR ZONE AS VOTING NEARS

Armored Cars and Heavily Armed Police and Soldiers Everywhere.

CROWN IS TAKING NO NEEDLESS RISKS

Week Now Ending One of the Bloodiest in the History of the Island.

Cork, May 20.—Three former soldiers on the way to work today were taken by armed men to a stone quarry and one of them was shot dead. Another was seriously wounded and the third slightly wounded.

CRIME WEEK RECORD.

Dublin, May 20.—An official review of the week issued by the Dublin Castle authorities says the crime statistics were exceptionally large. There were sixty attacks on the Crown forces, while the police suffered fifty-five casualties of which 23 resulted in death. Most of the attacks occurred on the day following the elections for the Southern Irish Parliament, and according to the review were the outcome of a plan long pre-arranged. During the week there was 52 raids on the mails and 12 attacks on police barracks. The number of persons interned now total 3,036.

ULSTER LIKE WAR REGION

Belfast, May 20.—Ulster, on the eve of the elections, the first to be held under the system of proportional representation is like a region at war. Armored cars are here there and everywhere. Lorry loads of police and military with rifles ready for action come and go, and the military is guarding the headquarters of all royalist activities. But up to the present there have been no more than the usual clashes between rival factions which have occurred in Ulster elections for a generation, and nothing beyond this is anticipated by those in the best position to judge.

FORCES ARE READY.

However, the authorities are taking no chances. Forces are being kept ready so they can be rushed to the scene of possible disturbances and, if necessary, prevent faction fights from developing into something more serious.

For election day, May 24, further precautions are being taken, such as the closing of all licensed premises. There will be freedom of movement for motor cars having permits, a privilege which was curtailed during the last election.

NO LIBERAL TO RUN AT MEDICINE HAT

By-Election There Will Be Between Farmer and the Government Candidates.

Medicine Hat, Alta., May 20.—At the Liberal convention held today, the decision was unanimously reached that no candidate be nominated to contest the federal by-election in this constituency on June 27. A resolution was passed expressing loyalty to Liberal principles and to Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King. The contest has now narrowed down to that between the government and the Farmers' candidate.

GUILTY OF SERIOUS CRIME

Moncton, N. B., May 20—In the police court today Ralph O'Brien, a young man about 19 years old, pleaded guilty to a charge of attempting to rape two seven-year-old girls on Thursday afternoon. He was remanded by the magistrate for sentence.

COMMONS TAKES HOLIDAY

Ottawa, May 20.—The House of Commons will not sit on May 24. This announcement was made this afternoon by the premier in reply to Hon. W. S. Fielding.

MOTHERLAND GIVES CHAIR TO SPEAKERS

Commons Crowded for Brilliant Address by Representative from London.

EMPIRE TIES ARE STRENGTHENED AGAIN

Speeches by House Leaders at Acceptance of the Imperial Gift.

Ottawa, May 20.—Hon. J. W. Lowther, former speaker of the British House, this afternoon presented to the House of Commons the new speaker's chair, which is the gift of the United Kingdom branch of the Empire Parliamentary Association. The scene was one rarely paralleled. Every gallery was packed. The new chair was screened with the flags of Great Britain and Canada, and, as Mr. Lowther rose to unveil it, he received a tremendous ovation.

Message from "Mother" Speaker Rhodes introduced Mr. Lowther, and the whole House listened with intense interest to the message from the "Mother of Parliaments," which preceded the unveiling of the chair. Mr. Lowther said he came to Canada as the ambassador of the Empire Parliamentary Association and presented as his credentials the fact that he has been president of the association since its inception, and joint president with the speaker of the House of Lords.

The Empire Parliamentary Association was formed ten years ago for the purpose of bringing into association and contact members of the different parliaments within the empire.

Recalls Great Men. "We are always delighted to receive any member of the Dominion Parliaments, who comes to the metropolis," Mr. Lowther said, "we believe by an exchange of ideas that the interest of the empire may be served. Although I am no longer president of the association, I have been so closely connected with it, and my severance is so recent, that the association invited me to undertake this pleasurable duty. I am here, therefore, at their request as the bearer of their greetings and good wishes."

Mr. Lowther remarked that the chair recalled the names of eminent statesmen who had sat before its original in the British House: Peel, Palmerston, Lord John Russell, Disraeli, Gladstone, Asquith, Balfour and Lloyd George.

Acknowledges Principles. "This chair," continued Mr. Lowther, "is something more than a gift to the Canadian people in parliament, more than an expression of friendship and good-will from members of both houses of the parliament of United Kingdom to the House of Commons of Canada. It acknowledges in its presentation by us, and its acceptance by you, the great principle that the British people, whether in United Kingdom or in the Dominions, accept parliamentary government and parliamentary institutions as the best known method by which a free people can govern themselves and by which their aspirations and ambitions can best be realized or removed."

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NEW DIRECTORS OF GRAND TRUNK

Temporary Board With Sir Joseph Flavelle as Head is Nominated.

Ottawa, May 20.—The government has nominated and called to London the names of the following gentlemen to be appointed directors of the Grand Trunk Railway, in accordance with the bill recently passed by parliament, viz.:—Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart., Toronto; Howard G. Kelley, Montreal; A. J. Mitchell, Toronto; E. L. Newcombe, K.C., Ottawa; J. N. Dupuis, Montreal. It is understood that the appointment of this board will be temporary, preparatory to the bringing into force of the Canadian National Railway's Act, which provides for the united management of all government railways. When this is done, a permanent board will be appointed to manage the consolidated system. It is expected that the act will be brought into force shortly.

TODAY

IMPERIAL—"Ailsa Burton."

OPERA HOUSE—Libby and Stewart—Dance Experts—and four other good vaudeville features.

QUEEN SQUARE—"Gustav Koehn."

STAR—Ruth of the Rockies, Grub Pollard and other comedians.

EMPIRE—"Bride 12."