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FOURTEEN PAGES—TUESDAY MORNING MARCH 29 1910—FOURTEEN PAGES

30TH YEAR.

Senate Reading Room
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CON. PARTY CONV[illegible] NOT TO BE HELD IN JUNE LEADERSHIP IN DOUBT

Members at Ottawa Who Would Rather Have More Aggressiveness of Policy in Their Program.

CROTHERS SPOKEN OF AS IN THE RUNNING

OTTAWA, March 28.—(Special.)—The Dominion Conservative convention called for June 15 and 16 at Ottawa is off, tho the delegates so far appointed by R. L. Borden, the opposition leader, have not all been notified. Whether the convention will take place this year is not at all certain, indeed whether it will ever take place is problematical.

The cause of the postponement of the convention is the extraordinary and complete disruption of the federal party at Ottawa. There are parties within the party, and factional wars. The immediate cause which revealed the internal condition of things was the naval debate, during the course of which Dr. Edwards of Frontenac voiced the hatred of the ultra-Orange element against the French-Canadians. Embittered by aspersions regarding their loyalty to the empire the members from Quebec got together and organized a party by themselves. Today they are linked with Henri Bourassa and look upon him as their leader instead of Mr. Borden.

Party is Sub-Divided.

There are two other great sub-divisions in the Conservative party at Ottawa, those who believe that Mr. Borden is the one man who can lead them out of Egypt and those who are convinced that just so long as Mr. Borden is leader they will remain in bondage with Laurier as the Pharaoh.

Political Canada has been said to be a one man country, and it is remarked that Laurier will be premier still he dies. Every one really cognizant of what is happening at Ottawa knows that the strength of Sir Wilfrid Laurier lies, not in himself or his party, but lies in the weakness of the opposition.

The unfaithfulness of Laurier to his pledges and to the interests of the people of this country are scarcely realized. Why? Because the present opposition is not strong enough to force the attention of the general public. The leadership of the opposition has been miserably weak. Long ago Laurier should have been driven from office as a patron of grafters and thieves of the public purse. The process of disillusioning the people regarding this man is being left to the historian. It should be the duty of the opposition to-day.

A Big Man, But—

That Mr. Borden is a man of integrity and singleness of purpose has never been questioned, and it is admitted by all that he is a great man. In very many respects he is the biggest man in the house of commons, excelling the premier and everybody else in many attributes which combine to make a man greater than his fellows, but he lacks just that one thing which is necessary. He is not a good leader. He is not enough of a fighter. He misses opportunities of trouncing his opponents. He has been unable to control the warring elements in his party, and to-day more than half of the Conservative members have made up their minds to replace him. He would have been replaced long ago were it not that he is so highly respected, indeed beloved by his followers. He is a credit to the public life of Canada, and stands in strong contrast with men high in good places, who have had everything as their object except the good of their fellow citizens.

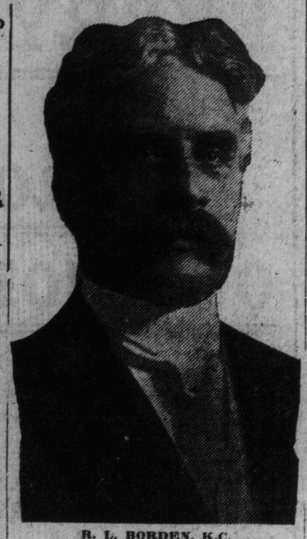
Among Those Mentioned.

The anti-Bordenites have several men in view. One of them is Premier McBride of British Columbia, but it is practically certain that he will not accept any invitation to come to Ottawa. The other is T. W. Crothers of West Elgin, who has been a thorn in the side of Sir Wilfrid Laurier since he came into the house, a man of patent honesty, shrewd, keen and a born fighter. There is no compromise with Crothers. When a thing is wrong it's wrong, and he will fight it to the death. His words bite, his tongue hurts. He hates corruption, and he will expose it with all the vindictiveness of the clean man.

Another mentioned is C. A. Magrath of Alberta. As an allround man he has no superior in the house, and he is respected for his virtues as well as for his attainments. Still another is A. S. Goodeve of British Columbia, who was a member of Premier McBride's cabinet. There is also talk of asking ex-Premier Haultain of the Northwest Territories to come to Ottawa, and this probably finds the most advocates. Of course there are several other good men.

Caucus After Recess.

There will be a caucus of the Conservative party immediately after the members return, and the whole situation threshed out. Some say that out of respect for Mr. Borden they will vote for him if it comes to a vote, but they hope he will not put them in that position.



R. L. BORDEN, K.C.
Leader of the Conservative party, who was banquetted by the Conservative Club of Halifax last night.

BORDEN'S ONLY CLASH WITH QUEBEC

It is as to the Gravity and the Urgency of the Naval Situation, He Tells His Halifax Supporters.

HALIFAX, March 28.—(Special.)—Two hundred representative Conservatives from all parts of the province gathered at the Queen's Hotel to-night to honor their leader, R. L. Borden.

The banquet was the most successful ever held in the city. The dining room was resplendent in the beauty of its walls, the sumptuously spread and beautifully decorated tables, and the happy, enthusiastic company that gathered there. On the walls were portraits of Sir John A. Macdonald, R. L. Borden, M.P., Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., and Sir John Thompson.

In an alcove back of the chair, the members of St. Patrick's Band were seated.

Mr. Borden was in excellent form and was received with great applause.

The Only Difference.

The attitude of Quebec was referred to in Mr. Borden's closing remarks. "The teaching of the Liberal leaders of the Liberal party in that province before 1896 was unhealthy and misleading, but I do not believe that the people of that province were greatly influenced there," he said, and spoke in high praise of French-Canadians as having proved themselves as ready and as valiant to fight in defence of Canada as the English speaking portion of the population.

"The chief, if not the only, difference of opinion between my colleagues from Quebec and myself on this question is in the estimate of the gravity of existing conditions," said Mr. Borden. "I believe that an emergency has arisen which makes it the imperative duty of Canada to proffer immediate and effective aid, to offer it now and so stand shoulder to shoulder with our fellow dominions. The French-speaking Conservatives from Quebec are not satisfied that such emergency exists."

Mr. Borden dwelt at length on the National Transcontinental Railway contract "scandal" and on various phases of the government's naval policy. Of the former he said:

"The audacity of the government has never been more strikingly manifested than in their denial of investigation into the outrages and alarming cost of the National Transcontinental.

"I have said in the house of commons, and I repeat it here to-night, that the government is face to face with this dilemma.

"Either the government's estimated classifications of materials upon which these tenders were let was so absurdly

Continued on Page 2—Col. 3.

GERVAIS FOR CABINET?

Reported to Be Slated for Hon. Mr. Brodeur's Place.

MONTREAL, March 28.—(Special.)—There is a statement going the rounds of the Liberal clubs that the Hon. L. P. Brodeur will not return to public life, and that Henri Gervais, M.P. for St. James, will be his successor in the cabinet after the session.

The announcement has already been made that Hon. Mr. Dandurand was booked for his law partner's vacant portfolio, but later reports give Gervais the lead.

MAY GO TO MONTREAL

Choice of Two Toronto Clergymen for Rector.

MONTREAL, March 28.—(Special.)—The names of Rev. D. S. Owen and Rev. H. M. Little, both of the Anglican Diocese of Toronto, were submitted to the bishop this evening by the congregation of the Church of the Advent, Westmount, for his lordship's choice as rector, replacing Rev. Mr. Doull, who has gone to Victoria, B.C.

ANGLICAN CHURCH SHOWS GREAT GROWTH

Five New Edifices Are to Be Built—Rev. T. W. Powell Announces His Departure for King's College.

Prosperity in the present and a tone of hopefulness for the future are the notes struck, almost without exception in the Anglican vestry meetings which took place last night all over the city.

At St. James' Cathedral the vestry discussed the negotiations which have been pending for the church being taken over from the parish to become the cathedral of the diocese. During the year over $19,000 was collected towards the new parish house, and over $12,000 given to missions.

A special interest attaches to the announcement that the congregation of St. Paul's have subscribed $122,065 towards their new church.

The Church of the Epiphany began during the year the erection of a new church. The parishes of Christ Church, Mimico, St. Barnabas, Chester, St. Martin's, St. Jude's and St. Clement's have new edifices in contemplation.

Peculiar interest attached to the meeting of St. Clement's, Eglinton, where the rector, Rev. Canon T. W. Powell, announced his resignation, to take effect in June. He goes east to take a college presidency.

The Church of the Ascension added a vested choir since last year.

Several churches announced reductions in debts, and increases in stipends of the clergy.

St. James' Cathedral.

Exceedingly harmonious and eager for increased activity in the future was the vestry meeting of St. James Cathedral last night. As the fine new church offices, hall and schools will not be ready till about the end of next month, the meeting was held in the old reference library, Adelaide-street East, Rev. H. P. Plumptre, M.A., presiding. Receipts of the year reached $44,910, which includes $19,245 for the new parish house, and $12,330 for missions. The only fund showing a decrease is missions, but this will be made up during the year. The debenture debt on the church and grounds is now reduced to $47,107. There are now only 27,000 square feet of unoccupied ground in St. James' Cemetery, and the question of new burying grounds is under contemplation.

The church wardens in their report referred to the loss the church and city had sustained in Rev. Canon Welch's return to England. The new rector, Rev. H. P. Plumptre was, however, amply sustaining the position and the increasing prosperity of the church testified to his earnest nd successful work. Dr. F. E. M. Grasett was reappointed rector's warden; A. H.Campbell re-elected the people's warden. The synod lay representatives are Hon. J. K. Kerr, K.C., Mr. A. D. Braithwaite and Lt.-Col. H. J. Grasett. The finance and consulting committee consists of H. Brock, C. A. B. Brown, Lt.-Col. C. A. Denison, Lt.-Col. Grasett, J. H. G. Hagarty, R. Inglis, A. Nordheimer, Arthur Peplar, J. G. Ridout, G. P. Scholfield, A. D. Braithwaite, A. G. Strathy, with the rector and church wardens. T. E. Rawson was re-elected parish clerk.

The sidesmen are: C. H. Anderson, A. D. Aldridge, C. A. B. Brown, M. C. Cameron, C. Cambrs, E. M. Carlton, A. C. Crooch, E. M. Cameron, T. A. Chisholm, R. W. Clewlo, F. J. Coombs, Lt.-Col. C. A. Denison, P. V. B. Field, A. W. Grasett, R. Gregory, Wm. Gates, W. G. Gates, F. M. Gray, Lees Gooderham, A. Gooderham, jr., Mayor G. R. Geary, F. W. Hughes, C. H. B. Johnson, L. Jaquiss, H. F. Kirkpatrick, G. G. La Cesurer, A. K. Macdougall, C. A. Moss, F. J. Musgrave, Dr. H. O'Reilly, R. Pelatt, H. G. Phillips, B. Pontifea, J. H. G. Strathy, Alan Sullivan, W. A. Smith, A. C. Snively, Wm. Scott, A. G. Strathy, S. Summerfield, F. W. Seden, Dr. Temple, A. G. Thompson, H. E. H. Vernon, A. E. Whatmough, C. W. Watson, N. Wagstaff, J. Woodhouse and Wm. Whitehead. The Tribune committee are, F. B. Featherstonehaugh, A. H. Lefroy and the rector and church wardens.

The correspondence which had taken place with a committee of the synod relative to the use of St. James' as the diocesan cathedral was read. In this correspondence the authorities of St. James' had offered to make any reasonable arrangement which should be considered to be in the best interests of the diocese for the use of St. James' as heretofore as the diocesan cathedral, especially to avoid the need of raising money at present for building another cathedral church in the city. The correspondence further pointed out that owing to the changing conditions in the parish, the time would probably come, when it would be deemed advisable to abandon the parochial character of St. James, and when it would be available as the cathedral church of the diocese.

On motion of W. G. Gooderham, seconded by Lt.-Cl. Denison, the vestry approved of the position taken by their representatives in the matter and instructed the delegates to the synod to inform the synod of the action of the vestry.

St. Peter's.

St. Peter's Church, Carlton-street, has had a record year of progress. The receipts from all sources amount to $8398.63, and there is a substantial balance on hand, with all expenses paid. The mortgage debt has, during the year, been also substantially decreased. The new committees elected are: Advisory board, J. H. Mason.

Continued on Page 7—Col. 3.

GETTING HIS WORK DONE FOR HIM

MR. TAFT: Well, that lets me out.

FOUGHT FIRES WITH COATS, BROOMS, DIRT AND PLOWS

Flames Stopped Just in Time to Save Hunt Club Stables—Fine Residence of A. E. Ames Narrowly Escaped Destruction—Five Miles Fire-Swept.

Two of the worst gras and bush fires that has ever been known in East Toronto, occurred yesterday, when fire broke out in the 100 acre oak bush on the property of A. E. Ames at about 12 o'clock, and later on the J. E. Davis property on the Kingston-road, both of which burnt several miles of grass before the fire was extinguished.

The latter started about 2 o'clock in the bush on the north side of the Kingston-road, a little over two miles from the Village of East Toronto. Within ten minutes the local hose reel, and apparatus under command of Lieutenant Charles Gordon arrived, but by that time the fire had covered a mile of ground, and crossed the road into the property of William East.

By this time the reels from Kew Beach station arrived, but as there were no hydrants within over a mile, the men were greatly hampered. The fire quickly spread until it had covered over a mile of ground on the East property, while the blaze was fully a half mile wide. Mr. East's barn was destroyed, but most of the rigs were saved by the men. As the flames approached two frame houses and a dwelling, the firemen were joined by a number of farmrers, who formed themselves into a bucket brigade, and taking the water fro a a nearby cistern, were able to save the structures, but not before the flames had approached within a few yards.

Hunt Club Endangered.

A few minutes later the wind changed its direction and the flames were forced into the property of the Toronto Hunt Club. Here it burnt over a quarter of a mile before it could be stopped. During this the firemen and other fighters were unable to use water and they were forced to take their coats and brush and try to stamp the flames out as they aproached. This would have been ineffectual, however, and the stables of the Toronto Hunt Club would probably have been destroyed if one of the neighboring farmers had not got a horse and plow and plowed six furrows three-quarters of a mile in length in front of the fire. Behind these the fighters stood, and as the flames jumped over the furrows, they were stamped out by coats and brooms, and the fire was stopped just as it reached the stables of the Hunt Club, after raging steadily for over two and a half hours.

Its origin is unknown, but it is suspected that the fire was started by a couple of tramps, who were seen on the Davis property on Sunday last. All together the flames covered over three miles of ground in length and tree-quarters of a mile in width. So far no estimate can be placed as to the damage, but it is expected it will exceed over $2500, including the building and fences destroyed.

The Second Fire.

Another large bush fire broke out in the oak bush on the A. E. Ames' property at 12.30 o'clock. The East Toronto brigade was summoned by telephone, while both Kew Beach and Bolton-avenue stations were also called. In this case, also, there was no hydrants near and the men were forced to fight the flames with their coats and brooms. They were greatly assisted, however, by a couple of hundred neighbors, who also turned out. The men formed a square around the fire, which was about a mile lond and

Continued on Page 7—Col. 1.

Yesterday's Fires

Yesterday will probably be one of the record days of the year for the number of calls made on the fire department. In a little more than five hours there were fourteen fires, of which all but one were attended by the city reels. Of these ten were either bush, grass or brush, which became ignited, but it was only in the two East Toronto fires where the danger was at any time serious.

12.10 p.m.—Field of grass and fence on Frank Turner estate property, Davenport and Christie-streets, damage $25.

12.11—Grass in the Wakefield Brick Yards, West Toronto. No damage.

12.16—Grass and fence, southwest corner of Dufferin and Bloor-streets, in vacant lot. No damage.

12.30—Grass and bush on A. E. Ames' property in East Toronto. Damage not estimated.

1.14—Roughcast house at 147 Jersey-street, owned and occupied by William Davis. Caused by spark from chimney. Damage to contents $10, and to building $25.

1.30—Dump in Harbord-street at ravine. No damage.

1.31—Dump at foot of Heath-street at Rosedale ravine. No damage.

2.10—Camp No. 1, C.N.R., near East Toronto. Damage not yet estimated. Owned by Latham Bros. Caused by spark from chimney.

2.44—Four bales of cotton on lorrie at Simcoe freight sheds, owned by the Chas. Simpson Knitting Co. Origin not known. Damage about $150.

2.49—Dump in Rosedale Ravine drive. No damage.

2.50—Grass and bush on William East property, East Toronto. Damage thought to be about $2500.

3.00—Grass and bush in High Park. Damage not estimated.

3.01—Grass and bush on vacant property in Clare-avenue. No damage.

5.34—Chimney on three-storey roughcast house at 133 Spadina-avenue, owned by J. W. Smith and occupied by John Whitehead.

MINERS REJECT OFFER OF A WAGE INCREASE

CINCINNATI, O., March 28.—Unanimous rejection by the miners of Ohio, Indiana and western Pennsylvania late to-day of an offer from the operators of an increase of five cents a ton put the situation nearer to a possible strike than it had been since the beginning of the joint conference.

CANADA FELL DOWN

In Not Getting Reciprocal Concessions From United States.

LONDON, March 28.—(C.A.P.)—The Chronicle chides tariff reformers for declaring that the Canada-U. S. tariff settlement shows the advantages of a tariff, and says it is a piece of absurdity. The incident "only shows that tariff wars can sometimes, by good policy, be averted between protectionist countries."

The Standard regrets that technically the United States might renew the protests every time Canada fixes a new treaty or extends the preference to Britain, and thinks Canada has admitted the soundness of such a plea by not obtaining reciprocal concessions.

DARING SAFECRACKERS GET FORTUNE IN STAMPS

Loot Valued at $85,000 Taken From the Richmond, Va., Postoffice —Watchman Undisturbed.

RICHMOND, Va., March 28.—Combining the skill of experts with the simplest of methods, thieves last night or early to-day robbed the vault in the office of the cashier at the Richmond postoffice of stamps estimated to be worth about $85,000, and incidentally carried off $160 in cash belonging to the payroll fund.

The robbers could hardly have chosen a more public place in which to operate. They were within less than 15 feet of one of the main thorofares of the city, which is brightly lighted at all hours of the night, while the room in which the robbery was accomplished presumably was lighted. Large windows open on the street referred to.

To conceal their operations in part, the robbers shifted one of the two bookcases obliquely across the front of the safe. In this way the man operating the drill worked without being seen. The drill appears to have been of crow pattern and about a third of an inch in diameter. It was first applied to the outer door of the vault, which apparently was pierced with ease, and the interior mechanism of the barrier was pried away.

The same operation was then performed upon the inner door and the swag was within the grasp of the looters. No dynamite was used.

Box after box of stamps was removed from the vault. One man could not possibly have carried all away, nor could have a dozen men.

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURE

Highest for Month of March Since Observatory Was Established.

The temperature in Toronto yesterday, 75.2 degrees, is the highest temperature recorded in the month of March since the observatory was established in 1840.

The highest marked temperature in previous years was 70.3 on March 19, 1842.

The warmest months of March were 1842, with a mean temperature of 36.5; 1859, with mean temperature of 36.3; 1878, with mean temperature of 37.1; 1898, with mean temperature of 36.3; 1902, with mean temprature of 36.8; 1903, with mean temperature of 39.9.

To the present date the mean temperature of this month is 36.9. Hence it is doubtful whether the month will be able to show as high an average temeprature as March, 1903.

BUDS ARE BURSTING.

Spring has sprung very visibly out Todmorden way. The elders are in bloom a month earlier than they were in 1908, and 1908 was an early spring. The maples are not only in bud, but they are in blossom. There were thousands of bees out sucking the nectar from the blossoms yesterday.

Even tho everything looks well now we may have a lot of frost yet. It would have been far better in the long run if spring had come a month later. In Todmorden the grass is greening fast. Animals have been at large on the highways, eating grass for the past three days. Insects are also remarkably numerous for this early in the year.

OVER 300 PERISH IN HUNGARIAN HOLOCAUST

Improvised Barn - Ballroom Takes Fire, and Women's Dresses Ignite — Many Trampled to Death in Panic.

MATE-SZALKA, Hungary, March 28.—More than three hundred persons were burned or trampled to death and one hundred others were seriously injured in a disaster in the Village of Oekoerlite last night.

A public ball was announced to be held at the hotel of the village where the coach house had been fitted up as a ball room.

It was a great, barn-like structure, decorated with tinder-dry June branches left from a previous entertainment, to which were added for the occasion other decorations and Chinese lanterns.

The festivity attracted pleasure-seekers from the whole surrounding country and the building was so packed just before the ball began that the single door which afforded entrance and exit was nailed up to keep out scores who clamored outside.

Dresses Catch Fire.

While the dancing was in full swing, a pine branch caught fire and fell to the floor. It blazed furiously, and almost instantly the dresses of several of the women burst into flames, which spread with astonishing rapidity.

A dreadful panic ensued, the revelers losing their heads completely. Many of them, their garments ablaze, rushed towards the barred exit, where a surging mass was jammed together.

Women and men fell and were trampled under foot. Those in front vainly endeavored to tear open the door, but were crushed into helplessness by the pressure of the crowd behind, the roaring crackling flames mingling with the shrieks of the throng.

So the roof crashed in, the blazing wreckage falling upon the helpless victims, so that many of those who had hitherto escaped the flames were struck down by beams or buried under the debris.

Heaps of Corpses.

When the door finally was broken open some few escaped, but most of these collapsed before they got far.

Inside the building were heaps of charred corpses, and screams and groans still were audible from the smoking piles.

A detachment of troops was immediately ordered to the scene to clear the wreckage and help bury the dead.

The official estimate, as given to-night, states that 290 persons perished, but it is believed that the total death roll will prove much larger than this, as many persons have not been accounted for.

SCIENTIST CONTRACTS RABIES

Accidentally Becomes Infected While Conducting Experiments.

OTTAWA, March 28.—(Special.)—While engaged in conducting an inoculation test, Dr. A. B. Wickware, a member of the staff of the Dominion Biological Laboratory, Experimental Farm, accidentally injected poisonous rabies germs, and is believed to have contracted the disease.

After communicating with Provincial Health Officer Dr. C. A. Hodgetts, Toronto, Dr. Wickware immediately left for New York for treatment at the Pasteur Institute.

EXPECT 12,000 NEW ARRIVALS.

MONTREAL, March 28.—The rush of new settlers to the west has begun and the railway companies state that 12,000 immigrants are expected at St. John and Halifax during the present week.

ST. LAWRENCE ICE GOING.

MONTREAL, March 28.—(Special.)—It is expected that by to-morrow the ice will move out of the River St. Lawrence, as the Ricelieu is now free.

A RETROSPECT.

March 29, 1849—Punjab annexed to British dominions.

March 29, 1867—Act of Confederation of Canada passed.

March 29, 1828—Lount and Mathews were condemned to death for participation in rebellion.

March 29, 1843—Charles Theophilus Metcalfe, in Kingston, was sworn in as governor of Canada.

March 29, 1848—The Niagara River nearly ran dry, the water being held back by an ice jam at Lake Erie.

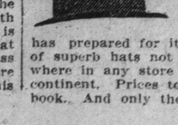
March 29, 1848—Responsible government was now assured in Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

March 29, 1873—The Ontario Legislature passed an act which declared that the lieutenant-governor, under the great seal of the province can lawfully select Queen's counsel for the Ontario bar.

March 29, 1873—The northwest police was organized.

March 29, 1885—Indians murdered Farm-Instructor Payne.

DID YOU GET IT?



Have you that new spring Derby or Alpine hat? The Dineen Company has been waiting for your order and has prepared for it with a collection of superb hats not to be found elsewhere in any store on the American continent. Prices to suit any pocketbook. And only the best of hats.