

BUDGET SPEECH—Splendid Showing in Spite of Financial Stringency. TARIFF CHANGES—Reduction on Farm Implements—Duty on Wire Rods

THE "NATIONAL POLICY" STILL THE POLICY OF THE CONSERVATIVE GOVT

Hon. Mr. White Says Sir John A. Macdonald's Policy Will be Continued With Only Those Variations and Readjustments Which Changing Needs of Country May Demand.

NO CHANGE IN WHEAT AND FLOUR DUTIES; LOWER ELEVATOR AND TRANSPORTATION CHARGES

Duties on Reapers, Binders and Mowers Reduced from 17 1/2 per cent to 12 1/2 per cent.—Lowest Possible Unless Industry be Driven Out of Country—Rearrangement of Duties Towards Assisting Iron and Steel Industry

Special to The Standard.
Ottawa, Apr. 6.—The "Free Food" policy of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and the call of the Liberal party generally for free wheat and free agricultural implements have given the question of the tariff an unusually prominent place in the eyes of the country. Hon. W. T. White, minister of finance, set the industrial mind of Canada at rest today by announcing emphatically in the course of his budget speech that the National Policy of Sir John A. Macdonald, which has made Canada what she is today, was still the policy of the Conservative party and the present government and would be continued with only those variations and readjustments which the changing needs and conditions of the country might demand.

Then the minister of finance threw his challenge to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. "Free food," he declared, "means free trade; free agricultural implements means free trade. We are ready to accept the game of battle."
The house was thrilled. Here once more was the old tariff issue upon which the Conservatives have again and again been returned to power and whose policy the Liberals when they have been in power have been afraid to change.
The wheat and flour duties will not be disturbed. The government is convinced that the removal of the barriers would injure the grain grower rather than benefit him. Of greater benefit would be the completion of the C. N. R., the G. T. F., and the Hudson Bay Railway, together with the opening of the Panama route bringing competitive and therefore lower freight rates.

It will be the effort of the government to lower elevator charges, and transportation charges by rail, lake, river and ocean so that in the future so large a percentage of the farmer's profit will not be absorbed by the transportation companies.
Reduction on Agricultural Implements
The duties on reapers, binders and mowers will be reduced from 17 1/2 per cent to 12 1/2 per cent. This 1 1/2 per cent. is the rate in the celebrated reciprocity agreement. This, said Mr. White, was as low a rate as could be made if Canada is to retain the great agricultural implement industries within the dominion, for the cost of production in Canada is greater than in the United States. There are duties of from 20 to 30 per cent on all articles which go to the manufacture of agricultural implements, and if the duties on the finished product were removed they would have to abolish these also, Mr. White pointed out.

The policy of the government regarding the bounty system was made clear. Bounties are justifiable in calling into being new industries, but it is difficult to justify direct and indirect bounties on articles which are already on a firm foundation. This statement had particular reference to the iron and steel industries. To assist these industries, however, there is a rearrangement of duties provided for. For instance rolled iron, steel beams and other rolled shapes not less than 35 pounds per lineal yard has been subject to a duty of 33 British preference, 27 1/2 intermediate, and 33 general, because articles composed of such heavy material are not manufactured to any extent in Canada. The duties on rolled iron weighing less than 35 pounds per lineal yard are \$4.25, \$6 and \$7. It is proposed to give the governor-in-council authority to equalize these duties when it is satisfied that the heavier merchant mill-iron is being manufactured in commercial quantities in Canada.
Wire rods, with the exception of wire of 12 and 13 gauges, which are used for wire fencing on farms, have been on the free list but will now be under a tariff of \$2.25, \$3.50 and \$5.50. There are drawbacks on wire rods, pig iron and bituminous coal, which is to be turned into coke. In all there are 61 items in the tariff schedule affected.
The amendments to the budget which will be proposed by the opposition will call for free iron and free wheat and free agricultural implements. The Conservatives are ready as they always are ready to meet the opposition on the tariff issue.
An interesting item in the new tariff legislation is the absolute prohibition after this year of the importation into Canada of free iron. The purpose of the measure which is used as a decoy for women's hats.
Taking up first the question of the duty upon wheat and flour, Mr. White said that a matter which has engaged during the year the careful attention of the government has been the so-called question of "free wheat" which

PREMIER FLEMMING MAY GO ABROAD FOR HIS HEALTH

Special to The Standard.
Fredericton, April 6.—The Gleaner today says: It is understood that Premier Fleming, who suffered a severe attack of stomach trouble about three years ago, from which he has never fully recovered, will probably ask for two months' leave of absence soon after the prorogation of the legislature. The Premier's health has not been good for the past four or five months, and his physicians have advised a rest and an ocean trip. He will probably go abroad for two months, and while away will doubtless consult specialists. It is altogether likely that Hon. George J. Clarke, attorney-general, will be acting premier during absence of Hon. Mr. Fleming.

NO TRACE YET OF MISSING Nfld. STEAMER

Hope for the Safety of the Southern Cross and Crew Has Been Abandoned.
St. John's, Nfld., April 6.—The sealing steamer Southern Cross with 173 men on board is still missing. The steamer Kyle, sent in search of her, has returned without success. In a heavy gale tonight well out on the Grand Banks with all observation cut off by thick snow. She had been in communication during the day with the United States revenue cutter Seneca, on the ice patrol. Neither had found any trace of the missing vessel. Although the underwriters have said they would post the Southern Cross as lost with all on board if she remained unreported at sundown today, the Kyle was ordered to continue the search for two days more.
Hope for the missing steamer has been practically abandoned. The steamer Kyle, sent in search of her, has returned without success. In a heavy gale tonight well out on the Grand Banks with all observation cut off by thick snow. She had been in communication during the day with the United States revenue cutter Seneca, on the ice patrol. Neither had found any trace of the missing vessel. Although the underwriters have said they would post the Southern Cross as lost with all on board if she remained unreported at sundown today, the Kyle was ordered to continue the search for two days more.

GOVT. WILL WITHDRAW THE FORESHORES BILL

Premier Fleming, After Consulting St. John People, Decides Against Pressing the Matter—Bill to Consolidate Workmen's Compensation Act is Passed.
Fredericton, N. B., April 6.—The legislature will adjourn at midnight, most of the time being taken up with the consideration of the consolidation of the Workmen's Compensation Act. To the bills to amend the registry act, to amend the act establishing the board of public utility commissioners, and the bill relating to the North Shore Railway Co., each with amendments. The bills to provide a further sum of \$25,000 to complete the Normal School Annex, and to make further provision for permanent bridge work of a permanent character were agreed to without amendments.
The bill to consolidate the Workmen's Compensation Act was then taken up.
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Amendment to Home Rule Bill Is Defeated By Reduced Majority

Bill Given Second Reading For Third Time—Redmond Holds Out Olive Branch Again—Bonar Law Says Civil War Certain if Government Forces Measure Through.

London, April 6.—By a majority of eleven an amendment to the rejection of the home rule bill was defeated in the House of Commons tonight, and without division the bill was given for the third time its second reading in the house.
The announcement of the figures evoked loud cheers from the opposition, and the ministerialists, the opposition interpreting them as gratifying proof of a dwindling government majority. But the diminution is accounted for, to some extent, by the abstention from voting of the O'Brienites.
The speeches today were generally much more conciliatory in tone than those which marked the bill's earlier passages. John E. Redmond, the Nationalist leader, who opened the debate, again held out the olive branch to Ulster in a speech of great eloquence, but insisted that it was impossible for him and his colleagues to agree to the permanent exclusion of Ulster and to abandon the principle "Ireland a nation."
Andrew Bonar Law, the opposition leader, though professing in passages of his speech to see hardly any hope of a peaceful settlement and predicting that nothing new in the sealing government persisted in pushing the bill through, declared that he and his colleagues would gladly accept a proposal for the renewal of the negotiations with the government leaders.
Sir Edward Grey's departure from London has no political significance. He is merely taking a holiday, which he arranged for some time ago.
A large gathering of Irishmen, all carrying green flags, assembled tonight outside parliament to celebrate the passage of the bill. They cheered wildly when the result of the vote was announced, and gave ovations to the members of the government and the Nationalist leaders as they left the house.
Mr. Asquith took no part in the vote as he recently resigned his seat to stand re-election on his appointment for secretary of war.

MARTIN WINS IN MONTREAL CIVIC FIGHT

Defeats Major Stephens by 5,000—Only Two of Citizens' Slate Elected to Board of Control.
Montreal, April 7.—Civic elections returns from the whole of the thirty wards of the city, with thirteen polls to hear from today, show that only halfhearted support in yesterday's civic elections was given to the "slate" backed by the Citizens' Association, which helped largely to clean up Montreal after the Judge Cannon graft inquiry some years ago.
Major Stephens was badly beaten by the French voters, his opponent, Mederic Martin, M. P., who was named in Judge Cannon's report, having a majority around five thousand over the ex-chairman of the harbor board.
The figures for board of control follow:
Thomas Cote, 23,514.
E. J. Hebert, 15,899.
Jos. Aney, 25,568.
A. V. Roy, 18,839.
The latter two were endorsed by the Citizens' Association, together with the runner-up, Duncan McDonald, who received 17,215 votes, and who was "knocked out" in his campaign by the Graham papers, who put up the sixth man on the list P. W. St. George, who had 16,544 votes. Supporters of the Citizens' Association, together with Cote and Hebert, with St. George, were practically nominees of the Montreal Tramways Company, which is seeking a renewal of franchise for forty years. In any case, say these supporters of the cracked slate, the net result of the election is the return of a reactionary administration.

MGR. BRUGHESI HAS AUDIENCE WITH THE POPE

Had Lengthy Conversation with His Holiness—Pope Sends Apostolic Benediction to Faithful in Canada.
London, April 7.—His Holiness the Pope on Sunday received His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi of Montreal in a private farewell audience. His Holiness engaged the archbishop for a considerable time in cordial conversation, authorizing His Grace to impart the apostolic benediction to the faithful in Canada.
2.—Is the government aware that the said L. A. Dugal while such mayor sold to said town of Edmundston a large quantity of goods and merchandise used in said work?
3.—Is the government aware that some of these goods were sold in the name of said L. A. Dugal as vendor, some of them in the name of one Dupre, clerk of said L. A. Dugal and some in the name of a man named Gagnon?
4.—Is the government aware that the said L. A. Dugal is now a member of this house and leader of His Majesty's loyal opposition?
5.—What does the government intend to do about it?
There was an outburst of laughter and applause from the government benches when Mr. Carter commenced the reading of his enquiry. Of course the government has nothing to do with what Mr. Dugal may have done, no matter to what extent he may have violated the recognised principles of independence of representatives of the people while mayor of Edmundston, but it has equally as much to do with the subject regarding which Mr. Carter enquired as it has to do with many matters regarding which Mr. Dugal and his colleagues have been asking "what does the government intend to do about it?"

THE NEWFOUNDLAND BUILT AT QUEBEC IN 1872

Constructed on the Banks of the St. Charles River and First Used as a Colliery.
Quebec, April 6.—The sealing steamer Newfoundland, the crew of which met with such disaster on the ice fields, was built at Quebec on the banks of the river St. Charles in 1872, and was first utilized by the Allan's as a colliery, being sold after several years to Mr. J. A. Farquhar of Windsor, N. S.

CANADA'S FINANCES IN A HEALTHY CONDITION

SCHEME HELD UP FOR MORE INFORMATION

Woodstock Town Council Withholds Assent to Maine and N. B. Company's Application Until Names of Subsidiary Company are Known.

Special to The Standard.
Woodstock, N.B., April 6.—The town council tonight decided not to allow the Maine and New Brunswick Power Company to enter the town and erect poles and string wires for lighting and power purposes, until such time as the council gets information as to the names of the members of the subsidiary company, who will retail the power of the Maine and New Brunswick Company, when upon the receipt of such information the town will further consider the matter.
The people have been greatly interested in this matter, some contending that the Maine company would interfere with the local company, while many were of the opinion that inasmuch as the Gould company would spend \$80,000 in the enterprise, and would be in a position to furnish power and light to the smaller towns from Annotook Falls south to Woodstock, it would be most unfair to refuse the company entrance into the town.

THE TABLES WERE TURNED ON MR. DUGAL

Opposition Leader in Provincial Legislature Given Dose of His Own Medicine by Mr. Carter.
Special to The Standard.
Fredericton, April 6.—Opposition Leader Dugal got a dose of his own medicine, so to speak, this evening with some interest added. In one of his enquiries he endeavored to make it appear that Mr. Carter of Victoria was guilty of a breach of the independence of parliament act and the member for Victoria came back with the following notice of enquiry regarding Mr. Dugal:
1.—Is the government aware that L. A. Dugal was mayor of Edmundston in the County of Madawaska, a town incorporated under the towns incorporation act of New Brunswick at the time of the installation of the water and fire protection and the lighting system of said town?
2.—Is the government aware that the said L. A. Dugal while such mayor sold to said town of Edmundston a large quantity of goods and merchandise used in said work?
3.—Is the government aware that some of these goods were sold in the name of said L. A. Dugal as vendor, some of them in the name of one Dupre, clerk of said L. A. Dugal and some in the name of a man named Gagnon?
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THE FEDERAL GOVT TO BUILD THE BRIDGES?

Fredericton Paper Says Understood an Agreement Has Been Reached to that Effect—Nothing Official Yet.
Special to The Standard.
Fredericton, April 6.—The St. John Valley Railway legislation is scheduled for some time tomorrow probably in the afternoon after routine business had been concluded. Hon. J. A. Murray and Mr. Tilley of St. John who spent last week in Ottawa reviewing the federal authorities arriving here this evening. The Gleaner this evening publishes an announcement that an arrangement has been completed whereby the federal government agrees to provide for the entire expense of building the big bridges over the St. John and Kennebecasis rivers. If there ever was any doubt as to the Valley Railway entering St. John by the east side route as originally planned this settles it.

THE ALSATIAN MADE FAST TIME

London, April 7.—The Allan liner Alsatian made a remarkable good record on her homeward voyage last week. Leaving Halifax at seven p. m. on Saturday, March 28, she arrived at eight p. m. on Friday, April 3, thus securing the delivery of the mails in London the next morning. Allowing for the difference in time, the passage was accomplished in five days and twenty hours.

STR. SEAL FROM HALIFAX FAST IN THE ICE

Jammed in Pack in Gulf of St. Lawrence 500 Miles from Entry Island—Has 6,000 Sealskins.
Halifax, N. S., April 6.—The Halifax steamer Seal is jammed in the ice in the Gulf of St. Lawrence five hundred miles from Entry Island, according to a wireless message received by her owners tonight. The message said that the steamer with 6,000 seal skins on board had been held fast for a week and that there was no immediate prospect of her release.
The owners of the Seal suggested that this intimation of the ice conditions in the waters about Newfoundland might warrant some slight hope that the missing steamer Southern Cross, however, had left the Gulf of St. Lawrence and was off the southern coast of Newfoundland when last sighted.