

THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1913.

SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.00 A YEAR.

TO THE UNITED STATES \$1.50

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

AT 81 QUEEN STREET,

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND.

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The Senate and Naval Policy.

In commenting upon the course the Senate may adopt with regard to the Naval Aid Bill the Toronto Mail and Empire gives an instructive review of the situation three years ago when the Laurier Navy Bill was before the Senate and the Liberal majority there brushed aside the objection that the people had not been consulted about it.

In the general election campaign of 1908 no naval policy or thought of naval policy was hinted at by the Laurier Government. Hence in bringing forward his bill Sir Wilfrid proceeded on his own responsibility and without instruction from the electors.

How, then, could the Liberal Senators presume to interfere with the Borden Naval Aid Bill? That measure is in pursuance of a promise expressly, repeatedly, and publicly made by Mr. Borden before the last general elections. It cannot be pretended that his Government have not the people's sanction for doing exactly what is proposed to be done under the authority provided for in this bill.

As will be seen by our report of proceedings in the Federal House of Commons, the Naval Aid Bill passed its third reading on Thursday night last. The Opposition had, in every possible way, obstructed the bill and delayed its passage from stage to stage; yet the final division was taken in most undramatic

fashion. The proceedings were quite common place, little different from the ordinary routine. The four amendments offered by the Opposition were voted down, one after another, in short order, and the third reading passed amid the cheers of the Government supporters. The consistency of the Opposition manifested itself in numerous ways during the long drawn-out debate on the bill, and in no way more palpably than in their having twice voted for the expenditure of \$35,000,000, yet when the vote for this expenditure was taken they all but one stood up against it.

Premier Matheson returned from Ottawa Thursday night. While at the Federal capital he discussed with the authorities several public matters of the utmost interest to this Province. The Government were then, as they are still, very busy with the business of the session; but, after prorogation, they will have leisure to devote to these concerns. So far as the oyster industry is concerned, it is agreed that all the regulations necessary for its development shall pertain to the Provincial Government. This is to be settled by Orders in Council that will be passed. All the revenue and profits arising from the leasing of the areas come to the Provincial Treasury, instead of one half, as had been stipulated in a previous tentative arrangement.

"Protection in excelsis." This is the language in which Mr. T. M. Healy, the witty Irish member of the Imperial House of Commons, describes a resolution recently introduced in that Legislature. The resolution was brought in by Lloyd George and is for the purpose of empowering the Government to guarantee the interest on a loan of \$15,000,000 to the Government of the Sudan in order to develop the cultivation of cotton in that country.

try; but it is so directly contrary to the "Free Trade" doctrine of the British Government, and the followers of Cobden, that the Unionist press in Great Britain has not failed to proclaim it "another nail in the coffin of free trade." This was the light in which the matter presented itself to Mr. Healy, when in referring to Lloyd George's speech, among other things he said: "I regard his statements on this subject as boldly proclaiming that he is going to enable Lancashire to compete with America by enlarging the markets of this country and enabling cotton to be produced in British Possessions better than any other country, and that I regard as what I may call protection in excelsis." The Unionist press, as already stated, did not fail to make the most of the opportunity afforded by the introduction of this resolution. On the following day the Sheffield Daily Telegraph said: "Protection in excelsis." Thus aptly and exactly did Mr. Timothy Healy, always a candid friend, describe the Government's advocacy of a loan for the development of cotton growing in the Sudan. We, too, are happy to congratulate Mr. Lloyd George on a reversion to that common sense Protection of British and Imperial interests which characterised his Patents Act when he was President of the Board of Trade. The attempt to reconcile this Soudanese loan with Cobdenite principles is the merest moonshine. Public money is being used to foster an infant industry in the Sudan so that it may supply better and cheaper raw material for Lancashire to weave into cotton fabrics. If this is not fostering one's own industries, and giving preferential treatment to an Imperial dependency, then what in Heaven's name is it? The fact of the matter is that Tariff Reform, when considered as a business proposition, apart from its political aspect, is seen to be obviously desirable by all parties. No one, last night, for instance, divided against the Soudanese loan.

Two years after the first instalment of the preference Canada bought 237,661,000 pounds of sugar from foreign countries, and 28,000,000 pounds from British countries. Last year we took only 148,800,000 pounds from foreign sources and 376,831,000 pounds from countries which fly the British flag. The National Policy and the preference have built up an important Canadian industry employing a great number of Canadians, and they have at the same time enhanced the prosperity of other British communities. The increase in the preference to the British West Indies by the Borden Government will augment both developments as well as reduce the price of refined sugar to the Canadian consumer. Surely this is good business for Canada and the Empire. The lesson should be materially strengthened by the cause of tariff reform in Great Britain. Whenever one British country can benefit itself and at the same time divert trade to another British country, surely it should lose no time in doing so.—Toronto News.

Mr. Jonathan Adams, a prominent and highly respected resident farmer of Prince County, whose home is about a mile from O'Leary, was struck by lightning Monday about one o'clock and met instant death. Mr. Adams owned two farms, one at his home near O'Leary, and the other at Mount Royal about two miles from the village. It was at the latter that he was working when his tragic death occurred. An electric storm had come on about one o'clock accompanied by a slight downfall of rain. The storm did not seem particularly severe and Mr. Adams stood in his barn door looking out. Suddenly there was an exceptionally brilliant flash accompanied by a heavy crash. The lightning struck one end of the barn and Mr. Adams was at the same time instantly killed. He was leaning at the time with one hand against the eading of the door. A glove which he had on was split from end to end, but there was not a mark to be found on his body.

Federal Parliament.

Ottawa, May 13th.—Most of today's sitting was devoted to a formal attack by the opposition upon Deputy Speaker Blondin for sticking to the rules when Mr. Carroll, of South Cape Breton attempted to get in a new clause on Saturday morning after the Prime Minister had moved that the Naval Aid Bill be reported.

The outlaught upon the Deputy Speaker was evidently a studied effort to justify and lend an appearance of sincerity to the farcical performance staged by Mr. Pugsley, Mr. Carvell and other Liberal members at the conclusion of the consideration of the bill in committee. At the bottom of it was a complaint that Mr. Borden had prevented Mr. Carroll from presenting a proposed new section.

Seemingly opportunities for the introduction of this amendment were allowed to go in order that a pretext for a disorderly outburst might remain to the opposition after the new closure rule had been applied.

Speaking in the debate Rt. Hon. R. L. Borden pointed out that Mr. Carroll might have offered his proposed section before notice of closure was given, he might have presented it before 2 o'clock in the Friday sitting if his colleagues of the opposition had permitted a vote on a clause of the bill, he might still present it on the third reading. The opposition made its attack upon Mr. Blondin by way of a formal resolution charging him with infringing the rules and violating the constitution by refusing Mr. Carroll permission to offer his proposed new section and by declining to put Mr. Pugsley's motion that the chairman leave the chair.

Apparently the majority in the house occurred in Mr. Borden's view that the deputy speaker was to be congratulated rather than censured for his conduct while presiding over the committee, for the resolution was defeated by 98 votes to 54. Mr. McDonald, Pictou, in introducing his motion, said the chairman Blondin had recognized the Prime Minister and had thus shut out the proposed amendment of Mr. Carroll of South Cape Breton. He also complained that the chairman had ignored the motion of Mr. Pugsley that he should leave the chair. He alleged that it had been understood that Mr. Carroll would be allowed to present his amendment, and charged Mr. Blondin with having broken faith with Mr. Carroll, and Mr. Borden with having taken advantage of a partisan ruling.

Arthur Meighen, Portage La Prairie, was surprised that the guilty parties in Saturday's episode should wish to advert to the questions that rose. There had been no breach of faith. He went on to show that Mr. Pugsley was responsible for the motion of censure against Mr. Blondin, and asked, amid cheers, what grounds Mr. Pugsley had with the record he had to censure anybody. Mr. Pugsley's assertion that a false report had been made to the speaker, Mr. Meighen characterized as "scandalous."

This epithet caused a protest from the opposition and was ruled out of order by the Speaker. Therefore Mr. Meighen substituted the word "shameful." Once more objection was taken to the expression and Mr. Meighen used the word "Outrageous" and apologized for its inefficiency to express the idea. He went on to say that if Mr. Pugsley had spoken to a judge as he had to the Deputy Speaker he would be behind prison walls.

Mr. Pugsley protested that this language was not parliamentary. To this Mr. Meighen retorted that Mr. Pugsley's idea of parliamentary decorum was to stick his fist in the face of the Speaker.

Ottawa, May 14.—The House today was occupied during the afternoon and evening sittings with the consideration of government bills. The Animals' Contagious Diseases Act which increases the indemnification to owners of diseased animals slaughtered under the act, was passed as was also the bill to amend the Grain Act, the chief provision of which is to empower the government to establish and operate interior terminal elevators.

Mr. Perley, acting Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced that additional elevator capacity of 12,000,000 bushels was being furnished at the head of the Great Lakes, also that a terminal elevator would be established on the Pacific Coast before the opening of the

Panama Canal, and another at the terminal of the Hudson Bay Railway.

The bill to amend the Railway Act was also put through the final stages. It increases the salary of the chairman of the Board of Railway Commissioners, and obliges a railway company to compensate its employees for their loss sustained through being obliged to change their residence on account of the removal or the abandonment of a railway terminal.

The Volunteer Bounties' Act was advanced to the third reading. It extends to October 1st the time within which South African Veterans, or their substitutes, may locate land grants in the Northwest.

There were nearly three hundred unlocated grants outstanding while 50 veterans have surrendered their claims to the interior department. These surrenders may be revoked and the veterans permitted to locate. Acting Minister Crothers intimated that this would be positively the last extension.

Hon. Mr. Pelletier's resolution providing for the new wireless telegraph contract was reported and the House adjourned. Hon. Robert Rogers somewhat startled the House by expressing the hope that prorogation could be reached by Victoria Day.

Ottawa, May 15.—The Naval Aid Bill has passed the House of Commons. At half past eleven to eight the most memorable parliamentary struggle since confederation came to a tame finish as could well be imagined. Following the long, bitter, and often riotous, opposition to the government's naval proposal the final action of the opposition presented an extraordinary anti climax.

Four amendments were presented on the third reading and rejected. These amendments were by Mr. German, that the money be spent under appropriation made annually by parliament, defeated by a vote of 85 to 46. By Mr. Lemieux, that all work be performed under the provisions of the Naval Service Act of 1910, defeated on a vote of 94 to 49. By Mr. Carroll, that material be purchased in Canada, defeated on a vote of 102 to 53. By Mr. Carvell defeated by 95 to 54.

By Sir Wilfrid Laurier: "That this bill be not now read a third time but on this day six months, defeated on a vote of 100 to 66. On this division five French Conservatives members, Messrs. Achin (Labelle), Bonlay (Rimouski), Beaure (Maskinonge), Barrett (Bathurst), and Gullbault (Joliette), voted with the opposition. On Hugh H. McLean, of Queens-Sunbury, N. B., voted with the government.

The final division took place a eleven-thirty and was witnessed by crowded galleries. The same five French Conservatives voted against the bill and Col. McLean voted for it. Premier Borden was loudly cheered on rising to vote. The French-Conservatives who supported the bill were greeted with cheers from the opposition, while Col. McLean voted against biparty was vigorously applauded by the ministerial members. The announcement of the vote brought more Conservative cheers which were repeated when a few minutes later the house adjourned. The Conservative members left the chamber singing "Rule Britannia," some one on the other side from habit shouted "shame."

One of the most notable features of the debate leading up to the passage of the bill occurred in connection with the Laurier motion for the six months' hoist. The charge had been repeatedly made that the government policy was dictated by the Nationalists, yet when Sir Wilfrid Laurier sat down, the man who got up to second his amendment was Gullbault of Joliette, a so-called Nationalist.

When the third reading of the bill was moved, Mr. German, Welling, presented the first of the proposed amendments of the opposition. It was the same as one which was voted down at the close of the debate in committee, and it declared that the appropriation for the construction of battleships should be voted annually and expended under the supervision of parliament, and not the Government-in-Council. It was voted down by 85 to 46, a government majority of 39. Mr. Lemieux then moved that the bill be amended by the insertion of the following words: "That all works under this act shall be executed under the provisions of the Naval Service Act." The proposal of Mr. Lemieux was voted down, nays 94, yeas 49.

Then came Mr. Carvel Carleton, with an amendment providing "that all the work executed under this act be by contract awarded under public tenders."

The Prime Minister once again traversed his subject. There was no difference of opinion between the parties as to the manner in which contracts should be awarded and there was no attempt to depart from the recognized practice. At the same time the government hoped to utilize the experience and expert knowledge of the British Admiralty and adopt the same safeguards as were employed in the case of vessels for the Imperial Navy. One or more of the ships might be constructed in a royal dock yard and not by a private firm.

A third division was then taken and Mr. Carvel's motion defeated by 95 votes to 54. Then Mr. Carroll (S. Cape Breton) offered the proposed new clause which was the pretext for Saturday morning's disorderly scene. It read: "Whenever practicable in the construction of the ships provided for by this act the constructors, or builders shall be bound to accept steel and other material produced in Canada."

Right Hon. R. L. Borden, replying showed that no firm would assume the cost of establishing industries in Canada capable of turning out plates, angles, armor, and engines for three battleships. Hon. Martin Burrell, Mr. Lanctot (La Prairie), and Mr. D. D. MacKinnon (North Cape Breton) followed and the Carroll amendment was thus voted down, nays 102, yeas 58.

The Prime Minister said that Sir Wilfrid still harped a little on an appeal to the people, although in 1910 he had, on two or three occasions, voted against an appeal to the people upon his permanent policy. Now that the grant of immediate aid, given in a light of a memorandum prepared by the Admiralty, was under discussion the leader of the opposition changed his tune. Indeed the opposition had already twice voted for an expenditure of 35,000,000.

Mr. Borden said that the leader of the opposition seemed to desire that the government who do not have the hands until a decision be built in Canada and that no part of the money to be voted should be expended outside of Canada. "Are you to stay our hands as he stayed his hands, for if so years?" asked Mr. Borden. "Are you to stay our hands until we can build the hull, provide the armor plate, make the guns and construct the wireless engine required on these vessels?"

The Prime Minister had asked the ground that when Canada decided to share in the permanent defense of the Empire, then as defense was connected with foreign policy, Canada should have some voice in the councils which determined the questions of peace and war. "While this was being worked out, Mr. Borden said, much could be done. Dry docks could be constructed under Admiralty supervision, which would be an advantage to Canada's commercial shipping and a help to the Admiralty in time of war.

The government intended to proceed with the construction of drydocks on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. Naval bases could also be established on the Atlantic and Pacific which the fortification of the harbors and ports at which they might be constructed by shore batteries and by torpedo boats as to which the advice and assistance of the Admiralty would be sought. Canada would establish repair plants capable of turning out auxiliary cruisers and which could be extended for turning out much larger vessels. "The time has come when Canada in a spirit of self-interest ought not to quibble on this matter, but ought to come forward and do something immediately and effectively, and that is what we propose by the measure which we have put before parliament." (Applause.)

Ottawa, May 16.—The house spent today in the consideration of important government bills. Early in the day the bill establishing a parcel post system and the bill of the Minister of Justice to amend the criminal code were introduced. The latter measure provides the law for the punishment of white slavers and regulates the sale of firearms and other deadly weapons. The leader of the opposition on the orders of the day took occasion to deny having as the recorder of his six months' amendments of the naval bill, Mr. Gullbault of Joliette, a so-called Nationalist. The fact is that Mr. Gullbault had said "I second the motion of the leader of the opposition" but the speaker in pulling the amendment had taken the usual course of naming the draftsman of the mover. Sir Wilfrid insisted today that Mr. Orham was the recorder.

The Market Prices.

Table listing market prices for various commodities such as Butter, Eggs, Poultry, etc.

AMERICAN LADY CORSETS

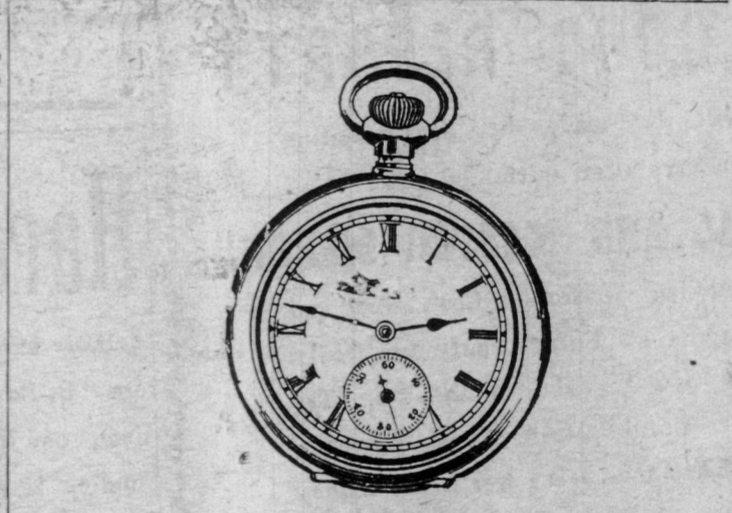


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