

ENDORSE MOTION OF SIR WILFRID

To Release Dominions from Operation of Foreign Treaties.

London, June 16.—The feature of today's session of the Imperial conference was a resolution proposed by Sir Wilfrid Laurier that the government be requested to open negotiations with the several foreign governments having treaties which apply to the overseas dominions, with a view to securing liberty from those treaties for any of the dominions which may so desire to withdraw from the operation of the treaty without impairing the treaty with respect to the rest of the empire.

Sir Wilfrid said the proposal had been before the public for some time and had given rise to various comments, some taking one side of the question and some the other. "There is a fair and reasonable necessity for what I ask," said Sir Wilfrid, "as might be shown by the experience of Australia, who, when they wished to give preferential treatment to British products carried in British ships were prevented from doing so by the most-favored nations clause in certain treaties."

The United Kingdom had a free trade system, while the dominions had fiscal policies based upon the raising of revenue by customs duties, and even among the dominions, no two of their tariffs agreed. Instead of commercial unity there was commercial diversity and it was not difficult to understand that when the United Kingdom desired a treaty which suited its own requirements that treaty might not suit the requirements of the dominions. "The many years, at least the fifteen since I had been in office, the home government when negotiating commercial treaties had followed the policy of not including any of the dominions without their consent. What he suggested was that treaties now be brought into line."

Not for Separation. Premier Fisher (Australia) said that both Sir Wilfrid's resolution and his arguments strongly recommended themselves to the commonwealth point of view. The dominion governments strongly agreed with the difficulty of the task of carrying out the terms of the resolution, but at the same time they strongly wished, without embarrassing the home government, that the treaties by which the dominion governments were bound should be modified in the manner proposed at the earliest possible minute.

Sir Joseph Ward, premier of New Zealand, agreed with the resolution assuming that in carrying it out the home government would renegotiate the old treaties with a view to better arrangements being made as far as the dominion governments were concerned.

General Botha of South Africa also expressed satisfaction with the resolution; Premier Morris of Newfoundland, expressed himself as being entirely in its favor.

Grey Also Approves. Sir Edward Grey, British secretary of State for foreign affairs, stated that the resolution was one which, in his view of the facts, he would accept. For very many years every new commercial treaty which had been negotiated had been arranged on the principle of not including the dominions without their consent, and it followed that a number of old treaties which were not in force had to be renegotiated. He said that option must at times be embarrassing to the dominions. The exigencies of the case might be met, however, by agreeing to open negotiations with the countries concerned in those treaties, asking whether they were prepared to consent to as bringing them up to date in the points wished. If they agreed to this course, but if they did not, the best course of procedure would be to enter upon new treaties without denouncing the old ones by instance. One of the articles in the proposed new treaties would be that when they came into operation they would abrogate the old ones. On behalf of the home government, he was prepared to accept the resolution, and on that understanding the resolution was agreed to with the addition of the word commercial before treaties.

Imperial Co-operation. Another resolution which came before the conference was that moved by Australia, urging that every effort be made to bring about co-operation among the states of the Empire in commercial relations and matters of mutual interest, and that efforts in favor of British manufactured goods and British shipping should be supported by the various governments as far as was possible.

development attained and attainable; the facilities for the production of articles of manufacture; the trade of each part with the others and outside world; the food and raw material requirements of each and the sources thereof available; also to what extent, if any, the trade between each of the different parts of the Empire had been affected by existing legislation in each other, beneficial or otherwise.

Honour's Amendment. Right Hon. Lewis Harcourt, president of the Board of Trade, said the resolution was only another step in the policy which had been the governing note of the conference, namely, by not of Imperial co-operation. In one respect, however, the resolution might be misunderstood. He proposed to add to the work of the commission the duty of finding out also by what methods, consistent with the existing fiscal policy of each part of the Empire, whether its trade with the others might not be improved and extended and to make recommendations as to the policy to be followed by the dominions and the Mother Country. On these lines the commission would serve the most useful purpose and put the whole Empire in a better position for future negotiations.

Hon. Andrew Fisher, premier of Australia, thought the resolution dealt with a very practical way of dealing with a rather difficult set of questions. He saw no reason why the proposed addendum should not be accepted. If such a commission was to be of any service it must be free to look into every matter likely to afford useful information in connection with production, manufacture and distribution and not dogmatize as to the right method in which the different countries should conduct their own affairs. Incidentally, he mentioned that the Commonwealth would greatly prize a visit from responsible ministers from the United Kingdom, but whether that was possible or not, it was necessary that the commission should be of such character as to include men of the highest standing, otherwise the members would not be received, although with indifference.

Other Premiers Approve. Premier Ward of New Zealand thought the proposal met the position in a very practical way. The commission would, of course, visit all the dominions. What was required was an inquiry extended throughout the Empire, and in this manner the commission would be essential if the dominions, but no commission ought to be empowered to suggest to the different dominions what their fiscal policy should be. Premier Botha agreed to the resolution, while Premier Morris also concurred.

Premier Asquith thought the resolution was very much indebted to Sir Wilfrid Laurier for making this very practical suggestion. He would prepare the way and possible make the way plain for effective action at the next conference. If not before, the proposed commission would be an advisory body, with references as wide as words could make them, on all matters connected with trade, commerce, production and intercourse between the different parts of the empire, but it would not be a commission to state a policy to any part of the Empire. In matters of policy the United Kingdom and the several dominions must remain each a master in its own house. Every self-governing state in the empire must pursue such fiscal policy as it may see fit, the majority of its citizens was for the time best suited to the requirements and conditions of their own country. The commission would visit the different parts of the empire and the home government would spare no pains to secure the most possible as their representatives.

Dominion Will Aid. Premier Fisher thereat affirmed that the Commonwealth would be ready to contribute their share of the expenses as the burden ought not to fall entirely upon the United Kingdom. Premier Ward also agreed that it was as much for the benefit of the dominions as the United Kingdom, while Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that doubtless all the Dominion interests would contribute. Premier Asquith said the home government was grateful for the suggestion and would take it in note of it in the resolution which was thereupon amended agreed to.

Premier Ward later moved a resolution that it was desirable that Great Britain should be connected with Canada and through the best mail service available and urged that a mail service be established on the Pacific between Vancouver, P.H. Auckland and Sydney by first class steamers of not less than ten thousand tons and capable of developing sixteen knots an hour. Also in addition that a fast service between Canada and Great Britain, the financial support for both purposes be contributed by Great Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand in equal proportions. He said the existing service across the Pacific had been extended another five years, therefore, in considering the present proposal New Zealand had to recognize their obligations in connection with the existing service but no doubt arrangements could be made that the service be accelerated and run into a faster extended Atlantic service. If such be instituted he hoped the service would be supported by the British government, Canada and Australia.

Trade Goes to U. S. Premier Morris, of Newfoundland, who had given notice of a resolution to urge that for the purpose of establishing a line of fast steamers, British, Canadian and Newfoundland contribute an annual subsidy based on and in proportion to their wealth, population and trade interests, said that in 20 several Alberta industries have been forced to import coal from Pennsylvania to keep their plants in operation. Several local cement companies have some five thousand tons of coal en route from the eastern states that they may keep their plants in operation.

TARIFF MEASURE WILL BE RUSHED

United States Senate Finance Committee to Push It Along.

Washington, June 16.—The determination of the senate finance committee to push through the Canadian reciprocity bill with all possible speed and the confidence of the senate leaders that there is a clear majority in favor of the bill without amendment, was made plain today, when Senator Penrose of the committee forced the bill into its second reading before the senate and announced its probable early passage.

Consideration of the measure today was brief, as not one was prepared to speak at length upon it. Before the senate assembled, Senator Penrose had given out a formal statement claiming, in effect, in favor of the passage of the bill, and more than that many against the measure, which affects the importation of wood pulp and paper.

WHY HE OPPOSES POWER SCHEME

Commissioner Bouillon Takes the Ground That the Construction of the Plant Would be Impracticable at the Present Time. "My opinion of the proposal to develop power at Grand Rapids," said Commissioner Bouillon yesterday, in response to a question from the Bulletin, "was expressed in the report which I submitted to the commissioners several days ago. While we have not available the figures which would enable us to compare the cost of power development at this point with that in our present or a similar plant, I have no hesitation in saying that we can generate power here at a cost which is absolutely worthless to the city of Edmonton as every engineer who has been over the ground has reported. I am sure that the fact of its distance apart from the city of Edmonton is no need for this amount of power as I understand that the present load is around 7,000 horse power. The great argument that is made is that the bulkiness of the power can be disposed of to other corporations along the route. Possibly so, but there are seventy-five miles of rapids on this river and a company can develop power at ten different places on these rapids, and what is there to prevent them from developing and entering into direct competition with the city? I would here like to quote a passage in the Bulletin of the 26th January, 1911, regarding the hydro-electric commission of Ontario: "Brantford, Ont., the Cataract Power Co., like the London Electric Co., is starting upon a rate war with the hydro-electric commission of Ontario. It is pledged under certain conditions, to give Brantford a ten per cent. less rate than that charged by the hydro-electric company, and then again to show the expense of transmission quoted from the same issue."

REVENUE SHOWS A BIG INCREASE

Ottawa, June 16.—The finance statement for the Dominion for the fiscal year which closed on March 31 shows a total revenue of \$117,780,409 compared with \$101,503,710 for 1910. The total expenditure on consolidated fund was \$87,773,948 as compared with \$79,411,747 the previous year, while the capital expenditure was \$33,662,222 as against \$34,258,211 in 1910. The chief sources of revenue were customs \$72,965,394, excise \$16,869,897, post office \$10,818,834. The chief expenditure was \$30,852,863 on railways including the National Transcontinental Railway. At the close of the year the total debt was \$340,641,852 as against \$336,773,305 in 1910.

GENERAL OTTER IS INSPECTING CAMP

Expresses Himself as Well Satisfied With the Progress the Troops are Making—All Officers and Men and 730 Horses in Camp. Calgary, June 16.—Brigadier General W. D. Otter, inspector general of the Canadian militia, arrived in the city last night and is spending today and tomorrow in the military camp. General Otter will not make any official inspection of the full force, but in looking over the work of the troops as they go through their regular drills on the open grounds allowed to each corps and regiment. General Otter thus far expresses himself as well satisfied with the progress the troops are making.

"CAPITAL CITIES" TRAIN WRECKED

Crashes Into Caboose of a Freight Train at Eli, Manitoba. Eli, Man., June 16.—The "Capital Cities" express of the Canadian Northern crashed into the siding at the station this afternoon and Engineer O'Connor of the passenger train was injured in leaping from the caboose. There were two employees of the dining car department slightly bruised, while that for domestic help remains much the same as last year for horse men, the wages run from \$25 to \$33 per year, or \$23.95 to \$33.40 per month and for servant girls from \$12.50 to \$18.70 per month. As was the case last year the need seems to be for more experienced farm help while in every district except adjoining foreign settlements where the Battleford district where the large areas of free government land recently thrown open have drawn many homesteaders.

COAL STRIKE GROWS SERIOUS.

Calgary Cement Plants Out of Fuel May Have to Close Down. Calgary, June 20.—It is hoped that the various labor unions here will use their influence to put an end to the strike, for the conditions are daily becoming more serious here. Several of the cement plants are practically out of fuel and will have to shut down unless a truce is called in the next few days. Already in some of the Alberta industries have been forced to import coal from Pennsylvania to keep their plants in operation. Several local cement companies have some five thousand tons of coal en route from the eastern states that they may keep their plants in operation.

BUILDING CANADIAN NORTHERN TOWARDS ATHABASCA LANDING

Teams and Wheelers at the camp of Malcolm McCrimmon on the new Canadian Northern Railway line, north of Clyde. Another prominent engineer in the city has addressed the following letter to the Bulletin regarding the Grand Rapids power scheme, that I should advise against the voting of \$100,000 for the development of the power by the city of Edmonton as every engineer who has been over the ground has reported. I am sure that the fact of its distance apart from the city of Edmonton is no need for this amount of power as I understand that the present load is around 7,000 horse power. The great argument that is made is that the bulkiness of the power can be disposed of to other corporations along the route. Possibly so, but there are seventy-five miles of rapids on this river and a company can develop power at ten different places on these rapids, and what is there to prevent them from developing and entering into direct competition with the city? I would here like to quote a passage in the Bulletin of the 26th January, 1911, regarding the hydro-electric commission of Ontario: "Brantford, Ont., the Cataract Power Co., like the London Electric Co., is starting upon a rate war with the hydro-electric commission of Ontario. It is pledged under certain conditions, to give Brantford a ten per cent. less rate than that charged by the hydro-electric company, and then again to show the expense of transmission quoted from the same issue."

POWER SCHEME IMPRACTICABLE

Another Engineer and a Ratepayer Oppose Proposed Expenditure.

Another prominent engineer in the city has addressed the following letter to the Bulletin regarding the Grand Rapids power scheme, that I should advise against the voting of \$100,000 for the development of the power by the city of Edmonton as every engineer who has been over the ground has reported. I am sure that the fact of its distance apart from the city of Edmonton is no need for this amount of power as I understand that the present load is around 7,000 horse power. The great argument that is made is that the bulkiness of the power can be disposed of to other corporations along the route. Possibly so, but there are seventy-five miles of rapids on this river and a company can develop power at ten different places on these rapids, and what is there to prevent them from developing and entering into direct competition with the city? I would here like to quote a passage in the Bulletin of the 26th January, 1911, regarding the hydro-electric commission of Ontario: "Brantford, Ont., the Cataract Power Co., like the London Electric Co., is starting upon a rate war with the hydro-electric commission of Ontario. It is pledged under certain conditions, to give Brantford a ten per cent. less rate than that charged by the hydro-electric company, and then again to show the expense of transmission quoted from the same issue."

SWIFT CURRENT SCENE OF DISASTROUS FIRE

Great Northern Hardware Company and International Lumber Company's Buildings Completely Destroyed—Bridges Completely Destroyed—Bridges Completely Destroyed—Bridges Completely Destroyed. Swift Current, June 16.—Fire started in the Great Northern Co. Ltd. hardware store at 2:15 this afternoon and demolished the buildings and contents the only thing saved being a few boxes of tools. The fire started in the back of the store and with so many combustibles it spread rapidly in a few minutes at a time. The bullets exploded in one continuous roar with several large shells being set off and fortunately the large gasoline tanks were buried deep enough in the ground that they did not go up. The loss to the Great Northern will be about \$100,000 with this amount of insurance. The Swift Current Hardware Company's store across the street was also completely destroyed after hard work was extinguished with little damage.

PROVINCIAL JAIL NOW READY AT LETHBRIDGE

New Prison Has 100 Cells and is a Modernly Equipped Building—De Rivers is Warden and Sergeant Peters, R.N.W.M.P., Deputy Warden—Cabinet Ministers Away. Construction of the provincial jail at Lethbridge has been completed by the Department of Public Works and the opening of the building will probably take place early in July. There will be 100 cells in the new jail which will provide accommodation for short term prisoners and relieve the overcrowding in the jails at Calgary and Fort Saskatchewan.

215 HOMESEEKERS ON THE WAY HERE

Second Excursion From Toronto En Route to Alberta.

Two hundred and fifteen homeseekers bound for various points in Alberta left Toronto by a special C. P. R. excursion on Tuesday of this week, according to a telegram received from C. R. McCutcheon, publicity agent of the provincial government, by Publicity Commissioner C. S. Hotchkiss. This excursion is the second of the season from the Ontario capital. The first was run on May 26th, and brought 250 persons to Alberta. So successful have the excursions proved that several others will be run from Toronto during the summer as well as a number of others from Montreal. Saturday for Clareholm to superintend the work of erecting buildings and other operations of the government. Mr. Ross has been appointed bursar. Arrangements for the opening will probably be made by the Hon. A. J. McLean on his return from the East.

GREAT INCREASE IN ACREAGE UNDER CROP

Areas Sown to Both Wheat and Oats in Saskatchewan Have Tripled—Increase in Rate of Wages to Farm Help. Regina, Sask., June 12.—The estimates of the provincial department of agriculture shows a marked increase in the acreage under wheat and oats this year. The wheat acreage this year is 5,338,235, an increase of 316,461, or twenty per cent. over that of 1910. The acreage under oats is placed at 2,221,423, or more than ten per cent. over the acreage of the previous year. The acreage under both crops has more than tripled in the past five years. The largest increase has been taken place in the south central district within the bounds of which lies the large pre-emption area south and west of Moose Jaw. The wheat central, which includes the Goose Lake country that country tributary to the western Saskatchewan portion of the main line of the C. P. R. The northwestern which includes the fertile Garro river valley and the northwestern, within the limits of which is located the Battleford district where the large areas of free government land recently thrown open have drawn many homesteaders.

FREE EXPRESS DELIVERY

Question Affecting Every City, Town and Village in Canada to Come Before Commission Shortly. Ottawa, June 19.—The whole question of express delivery within certain limits in every city, town and village in Canada will be reopened at a future date when railway commission decides to hear applications of the express companies for the establishment of reasonable collection and delivery zones. These applications would have been considered and settled before last June, date set for the boards abolition of delivery limits, had not the express companies delayed filing their applications.

TAFI SILVER WEDDING.

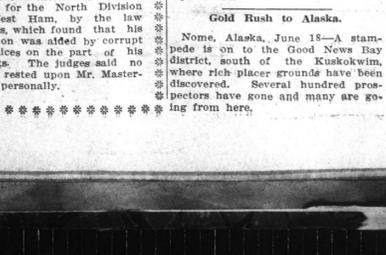
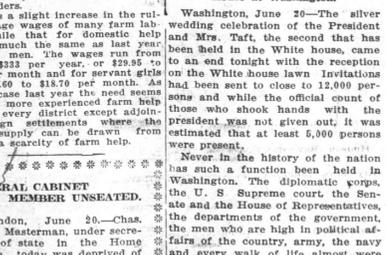
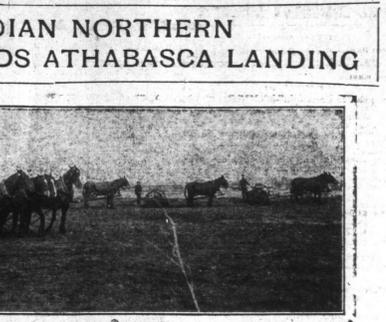
Great Function Held in the White House at Washington. Washington, June 20.—The silver wedding celebration of the President and Mrs. Taft, the second that has been held in the White house, came to an end tonight with the reception on the White house lawn. Invitations had been sent to close to 12,000 persons and while the official count of those who shook hands with the president was not given out, it was estimated that at least 5,000 persons were present.

LIBERAL CABINET MEMBER UNSEATED.

London, June 20.—Chas. P. G. Masterman, under secretary of state in the Home Office, today was deprived of his seat in the House of Commons for the North Division of West Ham, by the law courts, which found that practices on the part of his agents. The judge said no fault rested upon Mr. Masterman personally.

Gold Rush to Alaska.

Nome, Alaska, June 18.—A stampede is on to the Good News Bay district, south of the Kuskokwim, where rich placer grounds have been discovered. Several hundred prospectors have gone and many are going from here.



shops should be... the performances of... southern villages, rely... sense of Mr. Whyte... where they belong...

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er epidemic is abate... best reason possible... of his lieutenant... which have checked... should be rigorously... is extinct—and then... it from coming to...

NG DOWN. —According to the... latest speeches, Mr... forcing the govern... the country on the... he is merely prepar... which he assumes... ment will order... to a much milder... the electors before... the electors that... ment will leave no... force the Govern... the electors before... the new policy. It... be responsible for... ions, for if Mr. Dor... ends are ready to vote... ment and let their... form part of their... against the govern... e time comes, then... at all about an elec... little or no hurry... election, and there is... spect of one being held... of the Government... more. In fact, unless... assist with all their... in their election, when... is going to be... Sir Wilfrid, however... to find a suitable... a dissolution. Mr... Borden begins to see... an awkward position... a dissolution on the... the election will... on that, and on the... fight it with Mr. Haul... Prairie Conservatives... and with Mr. Bourassa... city in Quebec? It is... part to pose as the... of a precipitated... to invite the assist... are agreed upon op... Government however... disagree among... that is in the assist... attitude of militant hos... being adopted by some... tested lieutenant...

able that when an... to be negotiated with... a franchise from... Resolution is the man... present the city? In... of things at all. It... is a rare tripartite to... here not mentioned that... is a better qualified... his colleagues on the... council, of than all... her, would he be select... critics are obliged to... compliments are not... If the council really... the commissioner sys... the way would seem... about for a man who... as well as they seem... Bouillon can handle... then let them alone.

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