

THE END OF SESSION

Victoria, Dec. 20.—Fighting to the last ditch over highly contentious legislation, the British Columbia Legislature wound up its labors of the year late Saturday night, when his honor the Lieutenant-Governor, came in and assented to the seventy odd enactments of the session, and formally prorogued the assembly with the customary thanks.

Friday's warm battle over the Pacific Great Eastern Bill led to a modification of the measure on Saturday afternoon, when Premier Oliver put in an amendment claimed to make clear-cut a proposition against the Government or the directors of the Pacific Great Eastern, disposing of the 16,000,000 acres to be granted to the railway company. R. H. Pooley made an amendment to strike the word grant out of the bill altogether, and make the tract in question merely a reserve. This he claimed would beyond a doubt make it impossible for the land to be alienated without the consent of the legislature, but Premier Oliver said that the amendment would make the whole act of no use to him, and threatened to resign if it passed. The amendment was defeated in committee on unrecorded vote of about the same proportions as the division on the second reading. Charles Woodward, Liberal, again voted against the Government.

The most sensational episode of the debate was Joshua Hinchcliffe's declaration that information reaching him from sources outside the House, when compared with the correspondence members of the Government and certain Portland people who during the past year, tried to negotiate a purchase of the Pacific Great Eastern, led him to believe that there was collusion somewhere, and that the Government was planning to cut a big melon with some of its followers. He produced from the correspondence a letter in which one, S. F. Wilson, of Portland, forwarded a draft bill for the transferring of 15,000,000 acres of land to his nominee, tax free, and including all timber, mineral and oil rights.

"I find a striking resemblance between the proposal and this bill," declared Mr. Hinchcliffe.

The government scoffed at the suggestion. Premier Oliver said that the negotiations with Wilson had terminated some months ago, when the latter withdrew his offer. Attorney-general Manson described Mr. Hinchcliffe's remarks as a "stink bomb," while Hon. J. D. McLean urged the member to come out with a clear-cut statement of what his story was. I decline to be swayed by any idle gossip, he declared.

Premier Oliver protested that the correspondence in question had been shown to Mr. Pooley for his own information, on condition that it was not to be published, and accused Mr. Hinchcliffe of a dishonorable breach of faith in disclosing names.

One feature of Mr. Hinchcliffe's accusation was that in a confidential communication from Mr. Manson to the Premier, the former said he had had his brother-in-law report on Mr. Wilson's status, and the report was highly favorable.

"The member ought to be ashamed of himself," remarked Mr. Manson. Is that the basis for all this mysterious whispering?"

Another warm passage of the last day pertained to the Minimum Wage act. A whole raft of amendments introduced by C. F. Davie, Conservative, were added to the bill, making it applicable to all industries, instead of merely the lumber industry, as Major Burde's bill, after his conference with Attorney-General Manson provided.

The Davie amendments carried by two to one, but in the last minute before proroguing, Hon. Wm. Sloan sought to have the bill sent back to committee to consider an amendment to make it apply to only the coal mining and lumbering industry. He was overwhelmingly defeated.

The supply bill was completed at the Saturday morning sitting. Mr. Pooley moved to reduce Attorney-General Manson's salary from \$7,500 to \$10, as a protest against his handling of the administration of justice in the Janet Smith case, and Hon. Wm. Sloan countered with a resolution to increase the attorney-general's pay to \$8,500, because he has more work to do than any other minister. When the Pooley amendment was defeated, Mr. Sloan withdrew his after Mr. Manson had declined to accept the increase.

H. D. Twigg's resolution to make the liquor commissioner responsible to the Legislature instead of to the attorney-general was ruled out on a point of order, although Mr. Twigg maintained that his own exactly similar point of order against the Minimum wage act had been thrown out earlier in the day.

"It seems to make a difference whose resolution it is," he remarked. Mr. Pooley's resolution for a royal commission on taxation and Mrs.

Smith's resolution to force the government's hand on bond guarantees for a steel industry both died on the order paper.

Wayne, Dec. 21.—Rose Deer and Jewell mines are working with a good number of men. The Ideal is starting this afternoon and there are a few men at the Commercial. The Excelsior is expected to run to-morrow. Very little picketing. The police have made no arrest. No further trouble is expected. The operators believe their firm stand has killed the I. W. W. menace in this district.

OBSCENE LITERATURE

"Pictures from Paris," whose purpose is obvious in their titles; magazines which are openly or furtively obscene, and that sort of literature which is published secretly, and sold on the sly, are some of the grave dangers to which the youth of the country is constantly and carelessly exposed. The situation, we are told, is probably worse to-day than it has ever been because of new publications constantly appearing on the market and the easier distribution, and the traffic in obscenity is said to be practically without hindrance. In some cities attempts to sell improper literature to children on their way to school are reported. Jersey City recently took a decisive step in barring a dozen magazines from a news-stand, after arresting and indicting the proprietor. The proprietor was permitted to go free on his promise to discontinue the sale and distribution of the magazines found objectionable.

In Philadelphia it is reported that attempts are made to sell improper periodicals to school boys and girls, in some instances at the very doors of the schools, and the ire of the educators and clergy of that city has been thoroughly aroused. According to Dr. Broome, superintendent of Schools in Philadelphia, as he is quoted in The Bulletin of that city, these publications form "one of the most serious menaces to our youth to-day." He goes on:

"There is no traffic more insidious or harder to deal with on one hand or more damaging to the character of youth on the other hand than these publications. These periodicals are so candid and frank in vulgarity, both in text and illustrations, that there is no effort to conceal the purpose for which they are published.

"The schools, public, private, and parochial, are constantly exercising the utmost care to counteract these vicious influences. But they can not accomplish results without cooperation from every citizen who believes in clean-mindedness.

"Whether the conduct in this respect is worse than twenty-five years ago, I am not prepared to say. The same amount of foul-mindedness does more harm to-day, however, and reaches more young minds because of the greater facilities for publication."

Chicago is confronted by a similar situation. We read in the Chicago Tribune. Representatives of two hundred women's clubs, parent-teachers' associations, and other civic organizations, met recently under the auspices of the Chicago Women's Aid and planned to take up with the Federal Government and with the express companies plans to prevent shipments of printed obscenity into Chicago. When the Rev. Philip Yarrow, director of the Illinois Vigilance Association, displayed some of the pictures on public sale and read extracts from some of the so-called witty magazines, the women at the meeting were amazed, we read. "They were both amazed and indignant when Mr. Yarrow told them that a vast quantity of such matter is being sold every week by many of the little book and pencil and candy stores in the neighborhoods of the public schools." This exposure brings from the Dubuque Daily American Tribune (Catholic) a warning to "all parents to be on the alert in regard to improper news-stand material which may bring harm to their children. If it were a dangerous contagious disease threatening in the neighborhood, how quickly would we demand the enforcement of quarantine regulations if there seemed to be neglect or lack of haste in the matter."

In a like serious vein Mgr. Michael J. Lavelle, rector of St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, cautions us against many books and plays now before the public. "Many people not at all inclined to pessimism," he writes in The Cathedral Bulletin, "are worried about the bad books, salacious magazines and disgusting shows that are being presented to our people." They believe, he goes on, that this salacity is "the source of the crimes that seem so rampant, and of the waywardness we find in our maturing youth, both boys and girls. Nothing but strong, well-organized public opinion and constant good example can stem these evils and their consequences."

CANADIANS LOOK EASY

The late Mr. J. Rufus Wallingford, deviser of many ingenious easy-money schemes, had nothing on various gentry from across the line who for the last year or two have been engaged in promoting Ku Klux Klans in Canada. Stimulated doubtless by the financial success of the Ku Klux Klan of the British Empire, they have now brought forth, this time in British Columbia, the "Canadian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan."

Evidently the Canadian field looks attractive to these American promoters, and we don't know why it shouldn't. With an initiation fee of \$10 a head as the possibility of levying various special assessments before the individual Klansman gets fed up and quits, there is a good deal of easy money to be made. It has been stated in the Legislature of British Columbia that of each \$10 enrollment fee taken in, the Field Kleagle (whatever that may be) receives \$4 and the King Kleagle \$2, and that in this way some Kleagles make as much as \$75,000 a year. The average for all the Kleagles is said to be but \$5,000 a year, but even this sum makes a nice addition to the ordinary income.

We admire the enterprise of these American gentlemen, but regret to see so much good Canadian money go out of the country. If our Canadian boys hanker to dress up in nightshirts and hold secret meetings, by all means let them do so, so long as their nonsense harms nobody, but why pay foreigners \$10 per head for permission?

The "Imperial Klazik" of the Canadian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan according to a press despatch, is Major Luther I. Powell, of Portland, Oregon, and his assistants are Dr. K. K. Allen, Clarence Turner and Theodore Turner, also of Portland, G. W. McKibben, of Bellingham, Wash., and Charles B. Sempley, of Washington. In view of their citizenship the main purpose of the organization, as cited by them, that of "promoting British ideals and British patriotism," is rather striking. Powell, the head of the gang, was admitted to the country on a 30-day permit after being refused entry by the Immigration Department.

The new Klan has other aims, of course, one of which is "to affirm our faith in the Bible of the Pilgrim Fathers." Alongside this declaration in their manifesto is the picture of a bellicose gentleman, apparently attired in his sleeping garb, astride a prancing steed and waving aloft a fiery cross. The fact that the Bible of the Pilgrim Fathers was the King James version, in common use to-day, does not matter. It is clearly U.S. flapdoodle. Another aim is "to make Canada so intensely Canadian that no room will be left for un-Canadian ideals, whether religious or political." This is good, coming from citizens of the United States who possibly have never set foot in Canada until the present, as is their determination to "promote love and loyalty to the Empire as a whole."

Two of their avowed aims seem rather at variance. One of these is to promote "brotherhood, justice and fraternity among all mankind," and other "to strenuously oppose the efforts of certain groups who teach the dangerous doctrines of social equality of all races." The last is in accordance with the Ku Klux Klan's well known hatred and persecution of Jews, Roman Catholics and negroes. Presumably, for the last named, they would bring us the lynch law. If there were any doubt as to where the organizers came from, it would be settled by the terms of their manifesto, which gives every indication of its Yankee origin by its Yankee twaddle. The Ku Klux Klan affirms that it "believes the world can be made a better place for all mankind." Perhaps, but it won't be done by members of a secret society parading in nightshirts.—Saturday Night.

A prize of \$1,000 weekly, offered by a Chicago publication for a deed of bravery, comes to Canada for the first time. J. B. Partridge, fireman on the Canadian Pacific Railway, on the run between Calgary, Alta., and Field, B.C., is to receive the reward for saving the lives of five men who were in danger from a huge rock and mud slide on the Field Hill, August 21 last.

Travelling in a five-passenger 1926 improved model Ford touring car from Halifax to Vancouver, J. L. S. Scrymgeour and E. Flickinger are performing a feat unique in the annals of motor travel in this country. From Franz, near Sault Ste. Marie, they travelled on the tracks of the Algoma Railroad to Fort William, having been granted the use of the lines by the Canadian Pacific Railway. The whole run of about 4,500 miles took nearly eight weeks, and a series of still and moving pictures were taken en route to commemorate the adventure.

GAME ADMINISTRATION

At the time the Provincial Government did away with the policy of carrying out game conservation, through the aid of game wardens especially appointed for the task, it was realized by sportsmen that a retrograde step had been taken. Now the Government proposes to go one step further and do away with the Game Conservation Board, hereafter leaving the whole administration of the game laws in the hands of the Provincial Police. It is hardly to be wondered at that the organized sportsmen in the Province are up in arms against the new policy. What the meaning of that policy is does not appear on the surface, but it may be assumed to be designed to strengthen the grip of the Provincial Police, a purpose which has consistently marked the policies of the present Attorney-General.

It was bad enough when the appointment of game wardens as such were, in effect, cancelled, for it meant that the purposes of game conservation were left sometimes in the hands of those who knew little or nothing about the work. Even now, however, there is some sort of check exercised by the existence of a Game Conservation Board. With the abolition of that body the check will be gone and the administration of the game laws will, in reality be centred, in the hands of one individual who will exercise all authority in the premises. The abolition of the Game Conservation Board and the centering of all power in the hands of the Provincial Police should not be permitted without a determined and persevering resistance. What is proposed has, seemingly, been put forward without any consultation with the sporting interests affected. Those interests are naturally alarmed. They foresee the implications of such a policy. The public at large, warned in so many particulars, will be with them in their demand that no such autocratic authority in the hands of legislation as will still further centre one individual should be passed by the Legislature.

"Lots of girls have their fun, as well as the boys," says a prominent woman. We haven't met anybody lately who was having any success in stopping them.

Here and There

British Columbia's whaling industry produces about 400 tons of whale bone meal and 900 tons of meat and blood for fertilizing purposes annually. This is exported mostly to the United States.

According to G. F. Tomsett, superintendent of the Saskatchewan Branch of the Employment Service of Canada, about 43,000 harvest hands were brought into Saskatchewan and distributed over the province to harvest and thresh the 1925 crop.

J. Stapleton, of Regina, ordered two springer spaniel puppies from a dog agent in Liverpool on October 9th. Thirty days later they were delivered to him after a voyage and journey totalling 4,500 miles, the shipment going at the rate of 150 miles a day. This constitutes a record for speed.

Constituting a record for Canada and probably for the world, 3,447,624 bushels of all grains were marketed on the lines of the Canadian Pacific Railway in Western Canada on November 19. The nearest approach to this figure was the 3,408,000 bushels marketed on October 18, 1915, in the year of one of the greatest crops the Dominion has ever harvested.

Reports received at Canadian Pacific Railway headquarters this week show that four more accidents occurred in cases where motorists drove their cars into trains already in the process of crossing levels. This brings the total of accidents of this kind up to thirty for the year. In all four cases the automobiles were damaged while the motorists escaped with minor injuries.

Eighty-seven black foxes, valued at about \$100,000, shipped in 44 crates, arrived at Montreal last week from Buffalo. Twenty-five of the animals were prize-winners at the Black Fox Exhibition which concluded last week, and were on consignment to the Borestone Mountain Fox Ranch at Onawa, Maine.



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1/4 cup butter, 1 cup sugar, 2 eggs, 1/2 cup water, 1 1/2 cups Carnation Milk, 1 1/2 cups flour, 3 teaspoons baking powder, 2 squares chocolate. Cream butter and sugar. Add yolks of eggs, water and 1/2 cup Carnation Milk alternately with sifted flour and baking powder. Add melted chocolate, beat well, fold in beaten whites of eggs. This makes two layers.

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