MAJORITY NOW IS NINETY-SIX

Two Liberal Gains and One For Unionists in Yesterday's Contests — Sixty Elections Yet to be Held

MR. LLOYD GEORGE TALKS ON SITUATION

Messrs. F. E. Smith and Austen Chamberlain Make Significan Remarks on Tariff Reform and Referendum

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The latest election returns announced tonight give the government coalition 353 seats and the Unionists 257. The standing of the parties in the government coalition follows:

Liberals, 240; Laborites, 40; Nationalists, 64; Independent Nationalists, 9.

The government majority is now 96.

Clearly in the new parliament, as in the last, the Nationalists by combining with the Unionists, could overthrow the government, but the Liberals, Laborites and Nationalists are all equally desirous of abolishing the House of Lords' veto and may be expected to work together to attain that object.

Chancellor Confident.

Chancellor Lloyd George, speaking at Eastham, predicted that when the elections were over, the government, apart from the Irish vote, would have a British majority of at least sixty. He said that this election would make a deeper impression on the history of the country than any other election in modern times. The carrying of the veto bill would be only the beginning of the Liberal programme. The constitution would be reformed in such a way that the last vestige of inequality between the two parties would be renewed.

There is increasing evidence of a serious divergence of views among the Unionist leaders over the referendum. F. E. Smith, new member for Liverpool, and the rising hope of the Unionist party, declared tonight that Mr. Balfour's offer to submit tariff reform to a referendum was an offer for this election and this election alone. If the Unionists did not obtain a majority, he agreed with Austen Chamberlain in holding himself at liberty to make a further appeal to the country on the specific issue of tariff reform, and if they obtained a mandate from the country to introduce a tariff reform budget.

Lord Aberdeen's Indiscretion.

Reports of Lord Aberdeen's resignation are premature. He is still Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, but admits that he committed a great indiscretion. Walter Long, ex-Chief Secretary for Ireland, went to the most unusual length in a public speech in Oxfordshire of saying: "The Lord Lieutenant complained that his name was being dragged into politics. I have been conversant with Irish politics for 40 years. I have had the privilege of knowing many Lord Lieutenants, but have never before known a case of a Lord Lieutenant acting as does the present representative of the sovereign, who has so grievously misused his high position, who has descended straight into the political arena and has thrown into the scale on one side the whole of his influence as the King's representative in Ireland. I say, without hesitation, that this action was wholly unjustifiable and grossly improper. The Unionists of Ireland are entitled to say, as they will say, that from this time onward they cannot be expected to regard either with respect or with any degree of confidence the man who at present represents our gracious sovereign in that country."

Tariff Reform.

In his speech at Buxton, Austen Chamberlain said that he had accepted the ground which Mr. Balfour had chosen for the Unionist party to fight on, but personally he would never have suggested a referendum. "I am not afraid of talking tariff reform directly to the people," he continued. "Whenever the Unionist party wins, tariff reform wins. Whenever there is a Unionist government in power, tariff reform, whether it be put to a referendum or not, will be put on the statute books or the Unionist government will go out.

"Mr. Balfour's proposal was purely conditional. Mr. Asquith challenged him to submit tariff reform to a referendum. 'Yes,' replied Mr. Balfour, 'if you will also submit home rule.' Mr. Ashquith, thereupon, ran away and said he never meant it. I beg you and others to make no mistake. If we win out in power by this election, our first work would be to prepare a tariff reform budget, and you would have an opportunity of seeing it and voting on it. If we do not win now, but win later, whenever the Unionist party wins, tariff reform wins. (Cheers.) Whenever there is a Unionist government put in power, tariff reform, whether put to a referendum of not, will be put on the statute book (cheers) or the Unionist government will go out of power. Tariff reform is with us and in our minds it is no temporary expedient. It is a great national remedy for great national evils." Loud cheers.)

Mr. Balfour, speaking at Haddington, made no mention of the referendum. It looks as though, except as an electoral counter-challenge to the Home Rulers, it ceases to have any applicability to tariff reform. The Unionists say each day confirms their belief that tariff reform is a winning policy. They believe Lancashire is rapidly coming over, and are more than ever determined to concentrate upon a whole tariff reform programme, let happen what may to doubting leaders or followers. The Radical papers find in these developments evidence of the determination of the most aggressive and dominating Unionists to depose Mr. Balfour from the leadership.

Wednesday's Results

Following are results of Wednesday's elections declared today:

Cambridgeshire, Wisbech—Primrose, Liberal, 5,401; Cecil, Unionist, 4,857. Unchanged.

Sussex, Eastbourne—Morrison, Liberal, 4,820; Gwynne, Unionist, 6,873. Unchanged.

Somerset, North—King, Liberal, 6,299; Beauchamp, Unionist, 5,378. Unchanged.

Edinburghshire, Midlothian—Master of Elibank, Liberal, 8,837; Hope, Unionist, 5,530. Unchanged.

Suffolk, Eye—Pearson, Liberal, 4,927; Borwick, Unionist, 4,157. Unchanged.

Antrim, North—MacAfee, Liberal, 2,974; Smiley, Unionist, 3,557. Unchanged.

Kirkcudbrightshire — McMicking, Liberal, 2,317; McNiel, Unionist, 2,626. Liberal gain.

Gloucester, Stroud—Allen, Liberal, 5,051; Fitch, Unionist. Unchanged.

Wexford, South—French, Nationalist, 3,573; Cummings, Unionist, 1,164. Unchanged.

Kent, Dartford—Rowlands, Liberal, 9,152; Mitchell, Unionist, 8,918. Liberal gain.

Somerset, South—Strachey, Liberal, 4,784; Herbert, Unionist, 4,317. Unchanged.

York, Holderness—Arnold, Liberal, 4,480; Wilson, Unionist, 4,861. Unchanged.

Norfolk, East—Price, Liberal, 5,265; Mayer, Unionist, 3,865. Unchanged.

Warwickshire, Nuneaton—Johnson, Labor, 8,199; Maddocks, Unionist, 7,501. Unchanged.

Cheshire, Hyde—Nielson, Liberal, 5,562; Smith, Unionist, 5,268. Unchanged.

Derbyshire, Chesterfield — Haslam, Labor, 7,303; Bradford, Unionist, 5,055. Unchanged.

Cheshire, Eddisbury—Stanley, Liberal, 5,023; Barnston, Unionist, 5,312. Unchanged.

Isle of Wight—Ralli, Liberal, 6,969; Hall, Unionist, 7,152. Unchanged.

Kerry, South—Boland, Nationalist, 2,395; Cronyn, Independent Nationalist, 451. Unchanged.

Waterford, West—O'Shee, Nationalist, 4,820; M. Healy, Independent Nationalist, 727. Unchanged.

Caithness—Harmsworth, Liberal, 2,718; McLeod, Unionist, 2,681. Unchanged.

Devonshire, Tavistock—Luttrell, Liberal, 6,019; Spear, Unionist, 6,409. Unionist gain.

Tyrone, North—Barry, Liberal, 3,170; Hamilton, Union, 3,023. Unchanged.

Cornwall, St. Ives—Cory, Liberal, 4,253; Williams, Unionist, 3,380. Unchanged.

Notts, Rushcliffe—Jones, Liberal, majority 2,606.

Renfrewshire E.—Greig, Liberal, majority 284.

In Tuesday's returns Brigg, Lincolnshire, was wrongly given as a Unionist gain, whereas the Liberal candidate Gelder was elected by a majority of 863. Forrestier—Walker captured South Monmonthshire by a majority of 2,000.

Bank Robber Kills Himself.

SALINA, Kas., Dec. 15.—Ira Ward, 30 years old, who, it is said, robbed the State Bank of Paradise at Paradise, Kas., securing $2,500, this morning, killed himself when surrounded by a posse of farmers, fourteen miles north of that place, today.

Gift From Mrs. Harriman

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 15.—Announcement was made today by the Yale authorities of a gift of $100,000 to the Yale Forest school by Mrs. Edward H. Harriman, for the establishment of a chair in forest management in memory of her husband, E. H. Harriman.

Coronation Contingent.

OTTAWA, Dec. 15.—Canada has been invited by the British authorities to send a military contingent seven hundred strong to represent the Dominion at the ceremonies attending the coronation of King George in June. A force representing all arms of the service will be sent.

Pulpwood Situation.

MONTREAL, Dec. 15.—Local pulp men and newspapers agree with the American Newspaper Association that certain pertinent facts were not embodied in the report of Consul Willich of Quebec to the American government on the pulpwood situation. Differing with the report, they hold that recent restrictions placed on the exportation of pulpwood by the Quebec government will result in a scarcity of material in the United States and a consequent advance in price.

Ninetieth Rifles

WINNIPEG, Dec. 15.—Important changes will shortly be made in officers of the Ninetieth battalion. The new colonel will be O'Grady, the millionaire promoter of this city, who has given five thousand dollars to the regimental funds. S. L. Barrowclough has been appointed leader of the band, and has transferred the City band, one of the finest organizations in Canada, to the regiment. Col. Billman, late head of the regiment, has been appointed drill-master of the new Hundredth regiment recently formed here.

Railway Rate Applications

TORONTO, Dec. 15.—Judgment was reserved by the railway commissioners in the application of cut glass makers and dealers for a reduction from double first to first class rates. Cut glass is now worth 65 to 75 cents a pound. The C. P. R. is willing to give a cut rate to Vancouver of five dollars a hundred. Piano manufacturers must supply data before their application can be considered. They ask for heaters in cars to Vancouver to prevent the instruments from warping. It is cheaper to ship them singly than in car lots to the coast.

BUCKET SHOPS ARE ROUNDED UP

United States Federal Agents Prepare for Extensive Raid on Capital Investment Company

WARRANTS ALREADY HAVE BEEN SERVED

Concern is Charged with Victimizing Public on Gigantic Scale—Profit of 600,000 in One Day

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—Federal agents tonight prepared to swoop down tomorrow on twenty-six branches of the Capital Investment company, scattered through eight Middle Western states. Following the raid on the main offices and four branches of this company in Chicago, and branches at Joliet and Aurora, Illinois, today, this round-up will mark one of the most extensive movements in the government's war against bucket shops.

According to agents of the department of justice, the Capital Investment company controlled 5,000 miles of leased wires to supply branches with news of the New York Stock market, and was doing a business of more than $10,000,000 annually. It is said that on one ten-point break in the market the concern netted $600,000 in a single day. The government alleges that the firm dealt with its customers on a basis of "heads, I win; tails, you lose."

In this connection federal agents say that the company controlled two fast New York wires, which were beating the "ticker" with regular market quotations by from three to five minutes. With this advance information the men in charge of the company's offices would decide whether orders would be filled. The government charges that the concern bought no stocks outright, but took a commission on all orders and played the "longs" against the "shorts."

Among the warrants which have now been served in connection with the case are those for Simon McKie and William R. Holligan, of New York, and William J. Lloyd, district traffic manager of the Western Union Telegraph company in Chicago. It is expected that seventeen more arrests will be made here.

At the federal buildings tonight, it was said that the Capital Investment company case would be taken before a federal grand jury.

HEROIC DEEDS OF PROVINCE'S MINERS

Their Work of Rescue at Bellevue Showed Unparalleled Devotion—Provincial Government's Rescue Stations

The dread disaster of one week ago in the mine of the Western Canada Collieries at Bellevue, Alberta, as a result of which thirty-two lives were snuffed out, is illuminated as so many distressing catastrophies of the coal fields of the world have been at all periods of the past by demonstrations of splendid if modest heroism which proves the world of men not yet steeped in self-interest, but ready to respond instantly and ever at risk of life when duty and humanity call to the supreme test of manhood.

The Bellevue mine is not in British Columbia. It is chiefly operated by Slav, Hungarian and other foreign elements. It is in no way connected with the neighbor mines of the British Columbia Crow's Nest field on the western slope of the mountains by the ties of craft kinship which frequently bind such camps together. Yet when the word came to Fernie to Hosmer and to Michel that a disaster had occurred and that there were men entombed in the devastated mine facing an awful death, there was no hesitancy—no speculation—in the British Columbia camps as to what should be done or when; the neighbor mines of this province suspended operations at the instant.

The men of Fernie, of Hosmer, of New Michel presented themselves en masse as ready volunteers for the peril-fraught work of rescue. The special relief trains were crowded with capable, determined men, who knew the dangers that they hastened to, yet gave no thought to self when others were in danger of dreadful death.

The mine inspectors of the British Columbia government in the Crow's Nest field showed that they were men fit for emergencies—they did not wait for orders or permission, but on their own initiative hurried, soldierlike, to the fighting line, taking with them the great necessity in such a fight with death lurking in the deadly after damp—the modern and scientific mine rescue apparatus which British Columbia's government insists shall be provided for the protection of the coal miner, and which had less than six weeks before been installed in the Crow's Nest field.

The work that these unpretentious heroes of the pit accomplished, the manner in which the Draeger equipment redeemed the claims of its producers and its reputation, the resourcefulness and courage of the British Columbia relief forces and their leaders—all these are matters of knowledge and of record. They do, however, deserve especial emphasis, for nowhere in the annals of such truly heroic endeavor is there recorded a story of more unselfish, heroic endeavor to save life in the face of superhuman elemental obstacles.

Notable Tribute

What greater tribute to the brave men of British Columbia's industrial soldiery could be paid than is to be read between the lines of the brief despatches of Saturday last, which said, in the light of the information then available, happily corrected by later developments which reduced the total fatality to thirty-two and that among the rescuers by nine:: "The dead include thirty-five of the employees of the mine, and ten of the members of the rescue party from Fernie, Hosmer and Frank, who went into the mine at 5 o'clock this morning and were there entombed!" Or who could ask a worthier epitaph than than this: "One of the rescuers, a man named Alderson, gave away his oxygen supply to another whose supply had given out. Then he tried to make his own way to the surafce, but was overcome, and although he was succored he never regained consciousness." Poor Alderson! The men of the Fernie camp will honor his memory long, as will all men who can appreciate the greatness of such heroism. The men who thus gave up his life for another was a well known employee of the C. N. P. Co.—an Englishman with a wife and four little children in the distant homeland, who will mourn for husband and father, yet not without glory in his heroism in facing death without flinching, that others might have life.

Did Yeomen Service

Provincial Inspectors Strachan, of Hosmer, and Evans, of Fernie, it is to be seen by all reports from the disaster centre did yeoman service in the rescue carps; while it is beyond question that the equipment from the provincial government's rescue station at Hosmer, which they hurried to the scene, was of the very greatest practical utility. This equipment, consisting of four 2-hour and two half-hour helmets, together with one pulmotor or resuscitator, and the Hosmer mines equipment of half this capacity had only been installed a few weeks before. The inspectors had but just returned from Seattle, where they had taken the course in first aid and rescue work in connection therewith. The men were only first becoming acquainted with the working of the equipment which means in emergency just the difference to the miner between life and death. And yet thus handicapped, the apparatus proved to the miner what the life preserver is to the shipwrecked and exhausted sailor. Having proven its efficiency, the men of the collieries will always hereafter insist upon it—and with it will adventure confidently to rescue work which heretofore would have meant inevitable and purposeless sacrifice of life. The miners of the Crow's Nest are readily volunteering at all the camps for instruction in the first aid work and training.

Volunteer For Course

Some are indeed making personal pilgrimages at their own expense, to Seattle, to take the special course in life saving that is there obtainable, and in this latter connection a word of appreciation is in order for the spirit of enterprise and humanitarianism that has been displayed by the coal mine operators of the state of Washington, who have equipped and maintain this school at their private expense, and voluntary, regarding such knowledge as the men secure as being in the nature of insurance upon both miner's life and mine property. The school is under the general direction of the officers of the United States Geological Survey, and was established under the direction of Dr. J. C. Roberts, while Mr. Cory is now the practical head. In Washington state no legislation compels the mine owners to instal the Draeger protective equipment or to provide the rescue station and the training school. These are provided voluntarily by the companies and at their private expense. In British Columbia the government provides the rescue stations at the public cost, and only asks the companies to supplement its efforts in the interest of their own mines and their own employees by providing essential supplementary equipment in the mines.

The First Report.

There is soldierly brevity and action indicated in the first official report received at the Department of Mines here from Inspector Strachan, who acted when duty called, and then reported as opportunity offered. His wire said: "Received call for rescue apparatus from Bellevue Friday, 11 o'clock. Arrived there 1.30 Saturday morning. Rescue party did good work under adverse conditions. F. Anderson, one of the Hosmer rescue party, lost his life through after-damp." He said not a word as to his own part in the battle, but Government Agent J. S. T. Alexander at Fernie reported, "Strachan and Evans safe, though both greatly shaken; Anderson of the Hosmer rescue party dead." Alderson it is learned held a manager's certificate and was serving as a fire-boss at Hosmer awaiting opportunity for promotion. Almost the first messages which Inspectors Strachan and Evans received upon emerging from their battle with death for lives were from the Premier and Minister of Mines, Hon. Richard McBride, expressing his deep sympathy with the stricken community, conveying his gratification at their own safe return, and commending their prompt action in going to the scene of disaster with the Government apparatus, and deeply regretting the death of brave Alderson, of Hosmer. Messages of similar tenor were sent by Deputy Minister Tolmie and Chief Inspector F. H. Shepherd to the Kootenay inspectors.

An assistant license inspector is to be appointed at Vancouver.

FARMERS AGREE ON REQUESTS

Will Today Ask Government to Lower Dominion Tariff in Several Directions — Reciprocity With States

OPERATION OF HUDSON BAY ROAD

New Banking Bill Introduced by Premier—Mr. Barnard Proposes to Exclude Japanese from Fisheries

OTTAWA, Dec. 15.—Reciprocity with the United States and free trade with Great Britain were the demands which the farmers' convention agreed to put up to the Canadian government tomorrow. The decision was reached today after a four hours' meeting from which all but delegates were excluded. There were other resolutions calling for the operation of the Hudson Bay Ry. by the government and government ownership of terminal elevators, but the tariff resolution is regarded as the important result of the conference. It will be presented to the prime minister tomorrow. The resolution ask the following:

1. Reciprocal free trade between the United States and Canada in all horticultural, agricultural and animal products, spraying material, fertilizers, fuel, oils, cement, fish and lumber.

2. Reciprocal free trade between the two countries in all agricultural implements, machinery, vehicles and parts thereof.

3. An immediate lowering of the duties on all British imports to one half the rates charged under the general tariff, whatever these may be. That any trade advantages given the United States be extended to Great Britain.

4. Such reduction of the remaining preferential tariff as will insure the establishment of complete free trade between the Dominion and the Mother Country within ten years.

Banking Law

Sir Wilfrid Laurier introduced, in the House today the bank bill, which comes into operation on July 1. There are, as the Premier set forth, one or two changes of a radical nature. The first is a provision for an audit for shareholders. At any general meeting the shareholders may appoint an auditor of their own to have the affairs of the bank specially audited, and at any time thereafter shareholders representing five per cent of the capital of the bank can ask for the appointment of special auditors, who shall have power to inspect books and compel information to be furnished with their report, to be included in the annual statement presented to the shareholders. This provision is from the English law.

Another feature of importance is that annual statements must be signed not only by the president but also by all the directors. Annual statements, reports, accounts and documents must be issued upon authority and under signatures of proper officials, and upon them civil and criminal liability rests. They must acquaint themselves by actual information of the truth of what they sign. These officials, under the new act, cannot plead, as formerly, that they signed in good faith.

In regard to the organization of new banks, it is provided that in order to remind shareholders or intending subscribers that they are subject to double liability, all documents issued in connection with the formation of a bank must have printed on them the section of the act which imposes double liability. If the promoters of a bank fail to organize it, then, the money paid has to be returned to the subscribers without any deduction for promotion fees or any other expenses except what is allowed by the subscribers themselves.

The bill also enables older banks, whose shares were fixed at $50, to change them to shares of $100 by resolution of the shareholders.

Another new provision of the bill is that "products of the forest" which may be ordered as security to banks are to include sawlogs and railway ties as 'timber,' and deals, boards, etc., as 'lumber.'" This definition was rendered necessary by a recent decision of the courts. The bill also gives power to the receiver of an insolvent bank to borrow money under certain restrictions.

There is no provision in the bill for bank inspection.

Mr. Barnard introduced a bill designed to put the Japanese fishermen on the coast out of business. The bill would enact that no licenses can be issued to fishermen who are not up to the physical standard required for the naval militia. He said that of 4,000 licenses issued by the government 85 per cent. are held by Japanese, whom he described as small, undersized men who under his bill could not qualify for licenses, with the result that their places would be taken by white men. The bill was read a first time.

Vancouver Highland Regiment.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 15.—Recruiting for the 72nd regiment, Highlanders, in Vancouver was commenced on Friday evening.

Centenary Celebration.

TORONTO, Dec. 15.—The centenary celebration association, of which Colonel James Mason is chairman, and Mr. R. S. Naville, secretary, has called a meeting for Friday afternoon in the City Hall for the purpose of organizing for the proposed establishment of a national monument to commemorate the successful defence of Canada against the American invasion in 1812-1814 and to begin preparations for a historical pageant, probably in 1914. King George is to be invited to attend the celebration.

WANTS RECIPROCITY

Governor-Elect Foss, of Massachusetts, Urges Trade Arrangements With Canada and Mexico

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Canadian reciprocity as a first step towards tariff conditions worthy of the Democratic party was demanded here tonight by Governor-Elect Eugene N. Foss, of Massachusetts at a banquet given in honor of six Democratic governors-elect, by the National Democratic club.

"Canadian reciprocity is only the first step toward free trade on this continent," said Mr. Foss. "Free trade on this continent would give this country an impetus for the next hundred years and would establish us permanently as the greatest commercial nation in the world. Reciprocal conditions with Canada and Mexico should next extend to every country in South America.

"I am a protectionist. The protection which I believe in carries with it a large measure of reciprocity. In fact, I believe that protection without reciprocity is indefensible."

Fielder Jones Says No

PORTLAND, Dec. 15.—Fielder Jones, when shown the New York dispatch stating that he might become manager of the St. Louis American League team, said: "Nothing to it. Oregon is plenty good enough for me for a while yet."

The Daughters of the Empire at Vancouver propose erecting a public drinking fountain to perpetuate the memory of Edward the Peacemaker.

The Haney gang, responsible for the hold-up at Ducks eighteen months ago and the murder of Constable Decker, are now reported to have been sighted by R. N. W. M. P. patrols in Alberta, from whom they fled back to this province.

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COX'S GELATINE, per pkt. ..... 10¢
ROBERTSON'S MIXED CREAM CANDY, 2 lbs. for 25¢
COWAN'S MAPLE BUDS OR CHOCOLATE GINGER, per box ..... 25¢
IMPERIAL MARASCHINO AND CHOCOLATE CREMES, per box, 75c and ..... 40¢
SHELLED ALMONDS OR WALNUTS, per pound ... 40¢
NEW SMYRNA TABLE FIGS, per pound, 20c and .. 15¢
NEW MIXED NUTS, per pound ..... 20¢
CAPE COD CRANBERRIES, per pound ..... 15¢
FRENCH CRYSTALIZED FRUIT, per pound ..... 60¢
C. & B. CRYSTALIZED CHERRIES, per pound ..... 60¢
TABLE RAISINS, per pound, 35c, 25c and ..... 15¢
JAP ORANGES, per box ..... 60¢
ONTARIO FRESH TESTED EGGS, 3 dozen for $1.00
ALLEN'S ONTARIO CIDER, per gallon ..... 75¢
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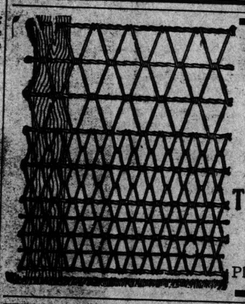

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