

COSTIGAN FLOPS.

Is Now a Follower of Tarte and Laurier.

His Reasons for Severing His Connection With the Old Conservative Party.

Sir Charles Tupper Intimates That When the Facts Are Known They Will Not Redound to Costigan's Credit.

OTTAWA, May 11.—Ascension day is observed as a parliamentary holiday, and the house held no sitting.

Mr. Costigan today formally announced his secession from the liberal conservative party and his adhesion to the ministerial platform and policy.

"I do not think that the men who now pose as representatives of the old conservative party, to which I belonged and still belong, are by any means the representatives of the conservative instinct in Canada in politics. I have left these people, and I have no objection to your saying so."

Sir Charles Tupper, speaking of the matter this evening, said: "I am not at all surprised to see the announcement Mr. Costigan has made that he now belongs to the government party. I think the correspondence read in the house by Dr. Roche discloses fully the humiliating position in which Mr. Costigan placed himself."

OTTAWA, May 11.—The Ontario crop bulletin issued today states that winter wheat will be practically a failure in many districts on account of the bad winter conditions.

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MEMRAMCOOK.

St. Joseph's Students to Fore at McGill—Wm. Gallagher Dying in Montreal—Shoe Factory Projected.

MEMRAMCOOK, May 11.—Mrs. P. McGowan and daughter returned home on Tuesday, after having spent the winter in the Western States.

It was Mrs. Albani Landry and family who left for Long Mead, Mass., and not Mrs. Albani LeBlanc, as my last report read.

In the recent first year anatomy examinations at McGill, Alban J. Doyle of Jacquet River, N. B., and a graduate of St. Joseph's College, secured second places in the list of successful candidates, and Roy H. McGrath of Dorchester, N. B., and a former student of the same institution, passed with honors.

Word was received at St. Joseph's College last evening that Wm. Gallagher, son of P. Gallagher, proprietor of the Hotel Minto, Moncton, was dying at the Novitiate of the Holy Cross order in Montreal.

Mr. Gallagher, who graduated last year, was a brilliant and estimable young man.

NEWCASTLE. The First Dredge—The Yacht Club—An Athletic Club Formed.

NEWCASTLE, North Co., May 10.—The annual meeting of the Miramichi yacht club was held in the office of R. R. Call on Saturday.

The first dredge to enter port this season was the bark Mark Twain, from Belfast, P. E. I., which arrived last night about nine o'clock, and began to discharge her ballast this morning at the firm's ballast wharf.

The house was divided on Mr. Blair's motion to go into committee, when the motion was carried by a majority of 30 to 18.

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PARLIAMENT.

Hon. Mr. Blair Spoke for Four Hours

In Defence of the Drummond Railway Deal and Other Iniquitous Jobs.

Col. Donville's Enquiries Concerning 8th Hussars Answered by the Minister of Militia.

OTTAWA, May 9.—This afternoon Hon. Mr. Blair rose to make his address on the Drummond railway deal.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier proposed that Mr. Blair be allowed to make his address, and that then, if the opposition wanted further information, the subject could be further postponed.

The opposition objected to entering upon the discussion at all before the members were in possession of facts necessary to a full understanding of the matter.

Mr. Blair said that no separate account of the Drummond division had been kept, and he could not furnish information as to the results of its operation.

Speaker Edgar refused to allow Sir Charles to speak again, whereupon Mr. Taylor of South Leeds, Ont., moved the adjournment of the house.

Sir Charles spoke for an hour on this motion, rehearsing the devious course of the ministers regarding this Drummond scheme and in other matters, including the Yukon railway and New Brunswick deals.

Mr. Blair replied with some heat, saying that Sir Charles had degenerated into a common scold, and that he himself was filled with sorrow for the essential to the understanding of the matter were long since in possession of the house.

The discussion was continued by Messrs. McMullin of North Wellington and Spruille of East Grey, and then Mr. Haggart specified the papers that were required and promised, but had not appeared.

Mr. Powell took up Hansard and showed the questions asked, and the returns moved for in regard to this matter, to which no answers were obtained.

Clarke Wallace continued the discussion in the evening, and at nine o'clock the motion to adjourn was declared lost.

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that the only question now for discussion was whether the arrangement was a prudent bargain. Mr. Blair devoted an hour to a review and criticism of the views expressed by opposition members on the cost of constructing the Drummond railway.

Mr. Blair went into elaborate explanations why in the first Drummond deal he agreed to pay \$64,000 a year rental for the road instead of the purchase for \$1,000,000, as now contemplated.

He said the government could not have known that money could be borrowed at less than three per cent. Asked as to the result of the first year's operation of the Drummond railway, Mr. Blair said that he could not give a separate statement.

He had, however, a comparative statement of receipts and expenditures of the Drummond before the incorporation of the Drummond railway. Mr. Blair denied that the freight had been increased. Mr. Harris had increased some charges, but these excessive charges had been withdrawn, and he believed repayment would be made.

Mr. Blair said that a correct report was made on the eve of the last local election in New Brunswick. Mr. Blair gave the result of his calculations. The deficit in Mr. Blair's first year was \$39,000. For the year ending last July the deficit was \$29,000, including four months' rental of the Grand Trunk and Drummond road. But in that year certain repairs covering two years were made, which increased the deficit. If he had not made this extra expenditure his deficit would have been only \$39,000.

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of the order, that the officer commanding gave his receipt for stores, but is no longer responsible; that the regulation permitting stores to be taken from the custody of the commanding officer is found in the 39th paragraph, part 4, of regulations, 1898; that the allowance for care of the stores last year was paid to Col. Markham.

Replying to another series of questions asked by Mr. Morrison, Hon. Mr. Borden stated that Col. Donville had been granted permanent leave of absence from command of the 8th Hussars; that he did not ask for such leave; that it was given by order of the general officer commanding; that while the order remains in force the command devolves on Col. Markham.

As to the question whether Gen. Gascoigne had reported adversely to Col. Markham succeeding to the command, the minister said: "Such reports are generally treated as confidential."

Dr. Borden stated that in the item quoted from the Star newspaper relating to Col. Donville's leave of absence, the British standard of age for the order the words: "The above is promulgated for the benefit of those whom it may concern." This expression was not issued as part of the district orders.

RAISING AGE OF CONSENT. On the third reading of Mr. Charlton's bill raising the age of consent for girls from sixteen to eighteen years, Sir Charles Hilbert Tupper pointed out that this was legislation of a serious character which ought to have the best attention of the government.

In 1895 the department of justice reported in favor of retaining the British standard of age. If a signature from this system was to be taken the department of justice, as now represented in parliament, ought to be heard from.

The effect of the proposed legislation ought to be more fully understood by the department of justice and by lawyers who had experience in criminal law than by those who were urging for the reform. Mr. McNeill of North Bruce spoke in the same sense.

Solicitor General Fitzpatrick, speaking for the department of justice, said that the bill, standard had been reached as the result of long experience, and no occasion or instance had been cited to show that the proposed legislation was needed. It was important that criminal laws should have the element of stability.

Messrs. Fraser, Bell of P. E. I., Craig and Moore spoke in favor of the bill, and Col. Tisdale against it, after which the vote was taken.

The third reading was carried by a vote of sixty-eight to twenty-nine. Of the ministers Laurier, Fielding and Joly voted for the bill, while Davies, Lobell, Blair and Fitzpatrick voted against it.

THE FISHERIES. Mr. McInerney asked what course the minister of marine and fisheries intended to adopt in regard to the changed lobster regulations recommended by the commissions.

Sir Louis Davies said that so far as the new regulations withdrew any rights from the fishermen they would not be adopted this year. Speaking generally of the effect of the privy council's decision in the matter of federal and provincial jurisdiction over the fisheries, the minister said it was to give the dominion the right to make regulations but the provinces the right to license. These arrangements were carrying out as regards the inland fisheries. The case was different in regard to the fisheries on the sea coast and a decision of the courts would have to be had to determine the respective jurisdiction in regard thereto.

Pending that decision, the dominion was continuing to administer the fisheries in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia for this year by arrangement.

The evening session was devoted to private bills and to Mr. Casey's bill about draining lands crossed by railroads.

NOTES. Prince Kang of China and his two secretaries were in the gallery today, and heard with interest the discussion on Mr. Charlton's bill.

A large deputation of men concerned in the tanning industry waited on the government today and asked for uniform inspection of hides at the chief centres.

It is vaguely guessed that the government will not press its redistribution bill this session, but will be content with bringing down the measure and allowing it to stand over. Your correspondent finds no ground for this report.

BOUESTOWN. The Schoolhouse, an Old Landmark, Destroyed by Fire.

A MODERN MILL.

Equipped for the Manufacture of Shooks and Hardwood Lumber,

To Be Exported to the British Market, is Likely to Be Erected at St. John.

There appears to be an excellent prospect for the early establishment in St. John of an important new industry. It is understood that a company is now being organized to go into the manufacture of box shooks, boxes, hardwood flooring, furniture stock and other products for the British market.

The Sun pointed out a few days ago that the demand for box shooks is far beyond the capacity of those mills in this province which have gone into the business, and that the market in England and Scotland is practically unlimited.

We have seen maple, elm, ash and other lumber from Ontario, and from Michigan, going by steamer from St. John every winter to the British market. The company now being organized will take a hand in this business, and being on the seaboard can get better prices than the western shiner.

A Liverpool firm offers to take yearly enough boxes to equal 1,700 standard of spruce deals; another in Glasgow offer to take from 400,000 to 600,000 cases per year, a second one from 100,000 to 150,000. A Quebec firm sent shooks to the value of \$145,000 to England last year. A Bangor firm is now seeking a steamer to carry 1,000,000 shooks to Europe. Half a dozen cargoes by sailing vessel went from there last year.

Within a week or so two schooners have cleared at St. John for Eastport with boards to be manufactured there into shooks and re-shipped to Europe. Such boards, if the product of Maine logs, pay no duty at Eastport. If from provincial logs they pay the duty, but when re-exported the duty is paid under the Dingley tariff, 30 per cent. rebate.

Speaking now of hardwood, a Liverpool firm has offered to take from 80 to 100 cars of rock elm and ash per year. A market for hardwoods as well as for shooks and boxes is offered in Liverpool, London, Glasgow and Manchester. A London firm has been asking for mining checks of birch, maple, ash or beech. The sizes required are 6x4, 6x5, 6x6, 7x7, 8x2—feet long. They need not be perfectly square and can be waxy or knotty.

Another enquiry is for crate wood, 3x2-2 inches of rough spruce. Ash and elm and black birch would be manufactured by the St. John company into chair seats and furniture stock; white birch and beech into flooring; maple into rolls, flooring, sheathing and furniture stock.

Spruce flooring could also be turned out and compete successfully with Baltic whitewood in the London market.

The demand for whisky cases, soap boxes, pickle cases, cloth boards, staves, and many other products of such a mill as is proposed is simply enormous.

The capital of the proposed company is \$25,000, and the mill is to be modern in every respect, and fully equipped for the various classes of work required. It is pointed out by those interested in the enterprise that our mills are now yielding up their markets to the British. The box-making could be done here, the goods shipped direct, and the yard men's profit held here. As to this hardwood business, it would utilize wood that is not saleable now in this market, and the supply around Grand Lake and in the upper St. John region of elm, maple, ash, beech and birch, is very large.

The proposed mill would employ 75 to 100 men. There would have to be ample piling grounds and an automatic dry kiln in connection. The position on the seaboard would give it an exceptional advantage. A direct steamer service to London would find in it an important freight contributor, and each would help the other.

RICHIBUCTO.

Death of Mrs. A. B. Carson of Kingston.

RICHIBUCTO, May 11.—Mrs. Carson, wife of A. B. Carson of Kingston, died today. The deceased has been an intense sufferer from an internal sarcoma for several months. She leaves a husband and one daughter, Mrs. Edwin B. Todd, of St. Stephen and Mrs. I. B. Oakes of Wolville, N. S., are sisters of deceased, and Allan Smith of the Merchants bank of Halifax at Kingston is a brother. The funeral takes place on Sunday afternoon.

ANNAPOLIS NEWS.

ANNAPOLIS, N. S., May 11.—Sch. Pearlina, with cargo of fertilizer from Boston, and sch. Chas. F. Washington, with salt, butter and eggs from Port George, arrived yesterday.

R. W. Hardwick is getting the timber on the ground to straighten up and repair the Chesley building, now owned by the trustees of the Anderson estate in Halifax. The building is one of the best constructed wooden buildings in town, and when refitted and repaired will make a desirable property for both store and dwelling.

The property known as the Union block restaurant, belonging to the Boehmer estate, was sold at auction yesterday afternoon, and was bid in by W. M. deBolis for \$1,000.

D. S. Nobles, C. E., made a preliminary survey last week for the proposed route of the Granville and Victoria Beach railway.

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HONORED.

of L. D. from McGill.

ay 7.—Rudyard Kipling to accept the decoration of the Order of St. John.

Magazine remarks: It is dying out. It is drunk. You've got to nowadays or drop out.