THE HERALD

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We must ask those Subscribers, who are still in arrears, to be so kind as to remit with as little delay as possible. We need the money to pay our bills, and a ready response to this request would be esteemed a very great favor.

At a Session of the Labor Party conference, held at Newport, Wales, on the 10th., an attempt to secure the official recognition of Socialism was routed. The proposition to alter the title under which the Party's candidates should stand for Parliament, from "Labor" to "Labor and Socialism," was defeated. A resolution was adopted demanding the introduction into Parliament of a suffrage reform bill, providing for the enfranchisement of women and for the payment of members of Parliament.

It is announced from Ottawa that Hon. Mr Brodeur, Minister of Marine, is making such slow headway towards recovery, that very little hope is entertained of his being able to resume his departmental duties for a long time. In view of this condition of affairs, a rumor is current that his retirement from public life may be expected in the near future. In that event it is stated that Mr Dandurand of Montreal is likely to succeed him as Minister of Marine. These statements are going the rounds of the press at any rate.

It is announced from Ottawa that Halifax is to be the headquarters of the Atlantic squadron of the Canadian Navy. Among the equipments of the station are mentioned a naval college to cost $150,000, together with naval barracks and admiralty dockyards. It is said, the vessels constituting the Atlantic squadron will have 1,549 men and eighty-seven officers, and the total annual expenditure for the maintenance of the Naval College, dockyards, barracks, vessels and men on the Atlantic Coast is estimated at $2,402,000.

Death has of late been busy among the members of the Canadian Senate, and the veterans are rapidly falling before the dread reaper. On Thursday last one of the number dropped out with appalling suddenness. This was Senator Baker, of Sweetsburg, Que. He was seated at a table in the Edinburg Cafe, Montreal, and the waitress had just served him with soup. Without a moment's warning and with a gasp that attracted [illegible] around him, he fell forward on the table, and then to the floor and immediately expired. The deceased Senator was a Conservative, and had been a member of the House of Commons before being called to the Senate. He was an eminent lawyer, a K. C., and a man of eminent ability. By his death, the representatives of the Conservatives in the Senate are reduced to twenty, out of a total membership of eighty-seven.

Hundreds of people thronged Andover N. B., one mile from the boundry line and three miles from Fort Fairfield Maine on Saturday night to see a blazing meteorite which hurtled down from the skies and buried itself with an earth shaking crash in the ground about six o'clock in the evening. The meteorite, which weighed many tons and is 15 or 20 feet in diameter, was so hot that it is impossible to approach nearer than within ten rods of it. The glowing mass resembled burning saltpetre. Many of the people in this section of the State saw its spectacular descent from the southern sky. Some of the spectators believed that it was a portion of Halley's comet falling the earth ahead of time, they said.

SESSIONAL NOTES.

The Legislative Session was opened, with the usual formalties, by his Honour, the Lieut. Governor, yesterday afternoon. The speech published elsewhere, is quite as remarkable for it omits as for what it contains; it has considerable length, if it has not much depth. The amount of legislation which it foreshadows is meagre indeed.

After the retirement of the Lieut. Governor, and before the usual routine proceedings of opening day were taken up, the Leader of the Government presented the writs and returns thereto of the by-elections in the first district, Queen's and the fourth district of Prince. In accordance with these returns, two new members were introduced and sworn in. Mr. Crosby, Liberal was introduced by the Premier and Hon. Mr. Cummiskey. Then came the introduction of Mr. Delaney, the slayer of the political Goliath from Bedeque. He was duly sworn in and was introduced to Mr. Speaker by Mr. Mathieson Leader of the Opposition and Mr James Kennedy, his colleague from the Bedeque district. As the man who, figueratively speaking, carried the head of Captain Joseph Read dangling from his belt, Mr. Delaney was greeted with a hearty round of applause, as he took his seat.

The appointment of the usual committees advanced without interruption, until the motion for a public accounts committee was made by Mr. Palmer. At this stage the monotony of routine was broken for a brief space and the Government were treated to some plain speaking by the Leader of the Opposition. Mr. Mathieson, in view of what had happened for the past few years, quite naturally wanted to know what this committee was expected to do. He considered that it was quite proper that some understanding should exist as to the operations of the committee. He pointed out that, in 1907, the chairman of the public accounts committee had called three meetings and the committee had met for five hours altogether, to investigate the public accounts of a whole year. In 1908 two meetings were held and about three hours, in all, consumed in the committees work. In 1909 Mr. Palmer was chairman, when two meetings only were held and less than two hours time devoted to this important work. All could see that this manner of p[illegible] was simply farcical, and [illegible] accounts were never investigated. This session, Mr. Palmer, the same chairman as last year, moves for a committee. This was the most important committee of the House, and had the most important work entrusted to it. Its chairman occupied practically a judicial position and it was preposterous to have its objects defeated in this way. Mr. Mathieson pointed to the contrast presented by the public accounts committee at Ottawa, where Mr. Warburton of this city was chairman. This committee met from day to day and every possible opportunity was afforded for investigation. Witnesses were there examined on oath; but this was refused here, although permitted in every other Province and British Colony.

Mr. Mathieson's arraignment of the Government in connection with this matter was admirable, and his hot shot seriously punctured their armour. He pointed out to the Premier that if he wished to have a short session he should begin in a business way and he would find the Opposition ready to help in everything reasonable. He hoped the public accounts would be tabled without delay. Judging from the declaration of the Government organ the accounts were ready. The organ had already made this declaration; "We understand the showing this year is remarkably good." The organ could not understand that unless it was informed. The House should have this information at once. Mr. Mathieson said he did not doubt there was a good showing. A "surplus" once before converted Mr. Pineau; but where was that surplus now; wh[illegible] was Mr Pineau? [illegible] leader of the [illegible] a surplus [illegible] surplus by borrowing $46,000 and subtracting therefrom a deficit of $7,000. Surplus $33,000. Wonderful was it not? Mr. Haszard grew very restive at this stage and wanted to know if Mr Mathieson was delivering a lecture. Mr Mathieson retorted that he believed a lecture very necessary for the Premier; if he had not thought so he would not deliver it. The application of the scourge by the Leader of the Opposition was much enjoyed and turned the laugh completely against the Government.

Dominion Parliament.

The two parties in parliament are now lined up on the great question of naval defence. On the one hand is the governments programme as out-lined by Sir Wilfrid Laurier to build four Bristols, one Boadecea, and six small destroyers of the improved river class. The cost of these eleven ships will be a little over $11,000,000, and the total cost of maintenance a year is estimated at $4,253,000.

On the other hand is the proposal of Mr. R. L. Borden calling for the placing at the disposal of the British Admiralty without delay such a sum as may be sufficient to purchase or construct two Dreadnoughts. Mr. Bordens amendment is of such vital import that it may be repeated in full. It is as follows. . . "The proposals of the government do not follow the suggestions and recommendations of the admiralty and insofar as they empower the government to withhold the naval forces of Canada from those of the Empire in time of war are ill-advised and dangerous. That no such proposals can safely be accepted unless they thoroughly ensure unity of organization and of action, without which there can be no effective co-operation in any common scheme of empire defence. That the said proposals while necessitating heavy outlay for construction and maintenance will give no immediate or effective aid to the Empire and no adequate or satisfactory results to Canada. That no permanent policy should be entered up on involving large [illegible] ditures of this [illegible] en submitted to the p[illegible] ceived their approval. Tha[illegible] in the meantime the immediate duty of Canada and the impending necessities of the Empire can best be discharged and met by placing without delay at the disposal of the Imperial authorities as a free and loyal contribution from the people of Canada such an amount as may be sufficient to purchase or construct two battleships, or armored cruisers of the latest Dreadnought type, giving to the Admiralty full discretion to expend the said sum at such time and for such purposes of naval defence as in their judgment may best serve to increase the united strength of the Empire, and thus assure its peace and security."

In this way the Conservative party nailed its flag to the main mast. There is nothing hazy about Mr Bordens proposal. It is definite and concrete and the enthusiasm was so great among his followers when it was announced, that like one man they rose f[illegible] their seats and made the chamber of the House of Commons ring with "God Save The King."

Mr. Bordens suggestion that no permanent policy such as the government proposed involving large future expenditures should be entered upon without first submitting it to the people for approval was also voiced in an amendment offered by F. D. Monk who has been held up by the leading government organs of the country as a big rift in the Conservative lute, and a sign that great divisions shook that old party which made Canada in its years of office what she is to day. Here is Mr Monks amendment: "This House, while declaring its unalterable devotion to the British crown is of opinion that the bill now submitted for its consideration changes the relations of Canada with the empire, and ought in consequence to be submitted to the Canadian people in order to obtain at once the nations opinion by means of a plebiscite." When the bill was first introduced on January 12 last Mr Clarence Jameson the member for Digby also made the same suggestion.

One of the most striking instances of Sir Wilfrid Lauriers disregard of Imperial ties and his striving for independence [illegible] as been [illegible] ated in this naval debate [illegible] still going on and is likely to last for some days yet. He declares in spite of the solemn warnings of such statesmen as Sir Edward Grey, Lord Rosebery, Premier Asquith, Mr. Balfour, Lord Charles Beresford and other eminent men, that there is no emergency and that Britain merely suffered from a scare. His chief lieutenant from the province of Quebec Hon Rodolphe Lemieux declared that the German war scare only existed in the imagination of party politicians in the old land. Even the premier hides himself behind the delusion that "we are not to be carried away or stempeded from the deliberate course we have laid down by any hasty feverish action" But the premier either does not or will not recognize that when such eminent British statesmen of both political parties issue grave warnings they should be received with some degree of attention and not put down to the "vaporings of politicians." Then he has indeed lost his grip of statecraft and will by his present policy of a puny navy which will taken 20 years to build and will be obsolete when it is ready, make Canada a laughing stock in the eyes of the empire. Mr. Borden illustrated this fact admirably when he drew a picture of the Australian fleet unit, headed by an armored cruiser and little New Zealand with her powerful Dreadnought coming to the relief of the "Laurier fleet" if ever an Imperial naval war did arise. This is a graphic picture which should appeal to all thinking Canadians.

But the end is not yet. The premier as was well pointed out by Mr Martin Burrell has in the past preferred to assist the Empire with phrases and rhetoric instead of deeds. This naval plan of a local fleet of puny vessels is another evidence. What did he say on March 29 last "I would stump the country and endeavor to impress upon my fellow countrymen, especially my com patriots from Quebec my conviction that the salvation of England is the salvation of our own country." When it came time to show his true loyalty the Premier of Canada proposes to build a small fleet of unarmored cruisers and torpedo destroyers which in a battle of Dreadnoughts would be blown to pieces almost before they appeared on the horizon. Surely the people of Canada will demand something more substantial. The proposed scheme is ludicrous.

Five speeches were delivered in the naval defence debate on the 8th. Three were by Conservatives, Mr. Middlebro, Mr. Burrell and Dr. Sproule, and two by Liberals, Mr Fewke and Dr. [illegible] (Red Deer). In reality [illegible] in manoeuvering for position. Sir Frederick Borden was anxious to follow Mr. Foster. Mr. Foster was determined to follow the minister and the juniors were put forward while the seniors waited for each other. In the end Sir Frederick Borden moved the adjournment of the debate so that Thursday saw his account of the imperial defence conference and Mr. Foster's comments thereon.

Mr. Middlebro advocated the policy put forward by Mr Borden because it was by the strength of the central force of the empire we are guaranteed peace. He recalled the definition the of imperial Press Conference and condensed it into "what we have will hold." He recalled the glories of the British empire, dwelling upon the enormous cost of the navy which protects all its parts, and upon the fact that Canada pays nothing for her naval protection.

An invincible, imperial navy is an insurance policy for the whole empire, he declared. It is a guarantee to each part of the empire of peace, prosperity and integrity.

After referring to Sir Wilfrid Laurier's record with regard to loyalty quoting from his independence speeches of 1891 and 1892 and from his resistance to defence proposals in the Colonial Conference, Mr. Middlebro assailed the premier's resolution to keep the power to refuse aid to Great Britain in time of war.

Suppose Great Britain took the same stand towards Canada? If Canada persists in that attitude and if she gets into difficulties she will not deserve help.

Mr. Middlebro then discussed the attitude of Australia, proving by citations from the official record that the Australian government has agreed that on the outbreak of war the sea going Australian ships are to pass automatically under the control of the admiralty. It is provided with regard to coast defence ships, and with regard to them alone, the consent of the Commonwealth government must be obtained before the admiralty can send them away from the Commonwealth coast.

Contrasted with this attitude of Australia is Sir Wilfrid Laurier's, he would not agree to a voluntary gift, he would not agree to trust Great Britain for one hour with the question that Canada should help her, he reserved the right to say whether Canada would help until after war had actually begun. Why, Mr. Middlebro said, that attitude was less loyal, less patriotic than in the case of an ordinary ally. In this connection he read the Anglo-Japanese treaty to show how each power must automatically help the other if it is assailed.

Dealing with the question of emergency, Mr Middlebro put Mr Lemieux into an awkward position. The postmaster general has described the emergency as the mere figment of the Unionist party press for election purposes. Mr. Middlebro read a long series of speeches by Lord Rosebery, Sir Edward Grey, Mr McKenna, Mr Lyttleton and Lord Roberts, all given before election and all describing the presence of an emergency. What had Mr Lemieux meant?

Mr. Burrell in opening referred to the attack made by Sir Wilfrid Laurier upon the Conservatives. "We had a right," he said, "to expect that in opening this debate the Premier of Canada would speak in a manner worthy of the subject. It was disappointing to find that instead of starting out on that high plane, he at once launched out in a manner so partisan and small that upon him must rest the responsibility of injecting into this discussion the party virus of its form. Nothing m[illegible] nothing more re[illegible] from the spirit of statesmanship c[illegible] connected. W[illegible] this [illegible] mean? Why did the leader of the Government shout that we were Pharisees of Imperialism, why does the postmaster general follow suit and declaim against the superloyalist and parade mock heroic about crimes commited i[illegible] the name of loyalty? We are [illegible] with these methods, their [illegible] cannot be hidden by [illegible] of rhetoric in the peroration of ministerial speeches. These tactics were adopted deliberately as a means of closing up their own ranks. N[illegible] once or twice, but [illegible] times [illegible] the same thing [illegible]. The lack of unanimity [illegible] among our followers w[illegible] our weaknesses were exposed to public administration my right h[illegible] and is astute enough to see that a wholesale change of Conservatives [illegible] the great Liberal party is the best salving story to whip his own followers into line.

'Above conflicting cries." Mr. Burrell continued. "In spite of divergent opinions, one fact stands out strongly. Canada has evidently felt and openly acknowledged the [illegible] importance to Canada of British naval supremacy and the great need of a broad Imperial [illegible]. Time was, and not so long ago, when he who raised his voice towards Canada's duty in this [illegible] by the Dominion to Imperial naval defence, was as one crying in the wilderness.

"It is now clear that in the hearts of the people, crowded with other present duties, this sense of responsibility, this high sentiment, did exist and in that moment when the note of danger, of trouble was sounded across the seas a responsive [illegible] from the Atlantic to the Pacific, which expressed in unmistakable language the strength of popular convictions."

Mr Burrell referred at some length to this aspect of the case, and went on to say:

"There are some people, my right hon. friend the Prime Minister, has expressed such an opinion, who believe that Britain's great colonies are destined to drop like ripe fruit from the tree, a process of separation. I like better to take the simile of a family, the clan, to believe that when manhood is reached, the son, while managing his personal affairs, is still [illegible] the family and the clan, and inspired by deep fealty springing from the ties of love and blood, will unhesitatingly in the face of a common danger, take [illegible] side of his [illegible] in arms."

"The attitude of every man in this House has [illegible] towards the government proposals must naturally be affected and his course in regard thereto [illegible] determined first by his views as to the imminence or nonimminence of immediate danger to British naval supremacy and second by his views on the general question of empire and Canada's part and in the aim of whether indeed [illegible] to shape her policy [illegible] a permanent f[illegible] or assume a position of independence.

Mr. Burrell [illegible] that the German peril [illegible] quoting largely from the utterances of Liberals [illegible] England.

Mr. Clark and Mr [illegible] and Sir Frederick B[illegible] the adjournment [illegible] and the house [illegible] 10.35 p.m.

On the 10th [illegible] delivered in the crowded house. One by Sir F[illegible] Borden on the part of the G[illegible] and a reply from Mr. F[illegible] for the Opposition side. B[illegible] spoke four hours and F[illegible] hours. Mr. Foster opened [illegible] compliments to the [illegible] Sir Wilfrid Laurier [illegible] ing the second reading. I seemed to me the bitterness of [illegible] who had not based [illegible] on deep and abiding conviction but who trod the shifty ways of compromise and consequently instead of drawing upon the founts of strong and deep feeling and sentiment had to seek the flimsy consolations of rhetoric."

The prime minister, [illegible] tinued, knew q[illegible] standing in a [illegible] proposing a p[illegible] new to the [illegible] ject of imperial [illegible] and less thoughtful [illegible] expected him [illegible] in a statesmanlike [illegible] his subject, [illegible] policy, explain[illegible] give solid and [illegible] "Did he do [illegible]? device that the [illegible] could have recei[illegible] able friend did [illegible]

Mr. Foster [illegible] frid Laurier's ten[illegible] was not united [illegible] unity and diver[illegible] Foster said, "I [illegible] and diff rence [illegible] integrity and [illegible] than unifo[illegible] servility and [illegible]

"There are w[illegible] can be brought [illegible]

"This afternoon [illegible] Borden was mak[illegible] speech and when [illegible] tipicity of vac[illegible] of the House, [illegible] two inferences. E[illegible] lack of heart in [illegible] of the supporter[illegible] friend or else [illegible] agreement [illegible] and policiss," [illegible] to give a casual [illegible] mier's ways of [illegible] the composing room, [illegible] screw and by the [illegible]

Discussing the [illegible] he took up the [illegible] he had followed [illegible] miralty. "It is [illegible] opposed to the [illegible] said. "Wha[illegible] you in this mem[illegible]

"What would [illegible] stratezical point [illegible] give money con[illegible] tributions and pa[illegible] our control; we [illegible] minions may no[illegible] in some cases [illegible]

What is the n[illegible] alty? That if [illegible] to go upon the [illegible] navy for itself [illegible] the fleet unit and [illegible] certain vessels, [illegible] seis. Did you [illegible] made the proposi[illegible] te ted the good [illegible] proved it no[illegible] thought work[illegible] scheme.

A few years a[illegible] vessels from every part of the ocean and massed them [illegible] and Britain's h[illegible] But they had [illegible] the far off seas [illegible] be prepared for [illegible] fic ocean has been [illegible] last ten years. O[illegible] Britain's fleet is [illegible] weak and is fo[illegible] stronger. Brit[illegible] Australia and N[illegible] fondly hoped with [illegible] proposition. S[illegible] tralia and New Z[illegible] government and [illegible] 52 vessels, and pla[illegible] Dreadnought leader [illegible] ocean. If you [illegible] an absolute favor[illegible]

"You will [illegible] tected seas a [illegible] amply able to h[illegible] all comers until [illegible] great emergence [illegible] from other quar[illegible] conflict."

"You refuse i[illegible]" M[illegible] continued.

"If your eye [illegible] fence of the Br[illegible] E[illegible] premacy you say [illegible] for the peace and [illegible] mence of this country and its interests which was a position which you could have taken, and in asking which the people of Canada would have stood by you to a man.

Then when you refused the Admiralty said, the least you can do is to take the unit. Did you do? No. You flatly refused them. We cannot do any such thing. Then you went to them in private or individual conference and you

(Continued on third page.)

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