

# THE DEBATE ON THE BUDGET WAS BRIEF BUT BREEZY---FOSTER OFFERS SOME CRITICISM.

## Announcement That the Route of the Grand Trunk Pacific Through New Brunswick Will Soon be Decided---Mr. Fisher Introduces Cold Storage Scheme---Bill Compelling Masters and Mates Getting Canadian Certificates, to be British Subjects Read a Second Time---Considerable Discussion on the Matter.

OTTAWA, Nov. 30.—The budget debate flickered throughout the afternoon and went on suddenly at six o'clock tonight. It had been expected that such an important and far reaching instrument as a new tariff would furnish the opposition with material for many speeches.

The debate was expected to last until the holidays. Many supporters of the government were prepared with speeches which are destined to expire still born.

Only two members of the opposition have criticised the budget and tariff. Hon. Geo. E. Foster and Mr. Cockshutt of Brantford.

Mr. Foster, who replied to Mr. Fielding's budget statement on Thursday, said that before the liberals came into power they claimed the taxation was abnormally high and should be reduced. They had gained power and increased the taxation enormously. In 1872 taxation averaged \$5.45 per head, and last year it averaged \$10 per head. The expenditure per head was \$3.14 in 1886, and in 1906 was \$14 per head. Mr. Foster said he had not been able to master the contents of the tariff. He noticed that Sir Richard's pledge to abolish duties had not been carried out. "If I had anything to say about this tariff, at this time," said Mr. Foster, "it would be that it is a kind of scraggy, choppy concern. There seems to have been the belief that some changes should be made in form if not in substance, that it was immaterial whether there was progress or not, whether something was accomplished or not. It is like taking good, solid beef and instead of serving it as a joint, English fashion, to chop it and mix it with condiments and serve it up as an entirely new dish."

The criticism of the items of the tariff, he said, will have to come when we get into committee of the whole, but so far as this new tariff as a whole is concerned it seems to me that it has no decided trend. These honorable gentlemen made a protective tariff in 1872 which is now re-established in 1906. While many changes have been made in detail there is no change in the trend of the tariff either more toward protection or clearly in the direction of the opposite principle. I would rather have something which indicated a route to be travelled than a circle, uselessness of going round in a circle, establishing nothing as a trade policy without an outlook upon the future.

At the opening of the afternoon sitting Hon. Rudolph Lemieux read a telegram from Sir Wilfrid Laurier, president of the C. P. R., asking his help in relieving a coal famine at Bladworth, Saskatchewan, and other western places.

In reply Sir Thomas Shaughnessy stated that the C. P. R. had foreseen the famine throughout the winter, and to the constance of the Lethbridge strike throughout the summer. It had stored coal and was now drawing on its own supply. Coal would reach Bladworth Tuesday. The western superintendent did not think there was occasion for further suffering.

Mr. Lemieux said the Lethbridge strike was now practically ended. Mr. Miller, East Grey, replying to Mr. Foster's speech of last night, said no tariff would please everyone.

Radical members of the opposition said they had been fighting in the face of prosperity. Manufacturers who clamored for protection were never so prosperous. Most of the American goods that come in arrive owing to the tariff of protection. Mr. Foster's complaint about overtaxation was an annual one. The tariff Mr. Fielding had brought down in 1897 had worked well. He predicted the tariff of 1906 would be as beneficial for the country.

Mr. Cockshutt of Brantford followed. A tariff should be scientifically prepared, and he did not think the new one was.

Its complexity would embarrass importers. It was three tariffs and a drawback. It was like a fence. In 1872 by Sir Leonard Tilley was the best Canada ever had. He wanted adequate protection—that is protection which would give Canadian manufacturers the home markets. The government had failed to close preferential arrangements with Australia, and was therefore open to criticism. The sugar provisions in the tariff would result in higher duties in refined sugar than ever before.

He criticised the reduction of duties on agricultural implements. Speaking for five hundred millions capital and five hundred thousand Canadian workmen, he denounced the new tariff for not giving enough protection.

Mr. Cockshutt finished at 6 o'clock. Hon. Logan, of Cumberland, one of the Liberal whips, said that as there seemed to be a disposition to close the debate instead of during the budget debate he would give notice of a resolution declaring that to obtain the British preference, goods had to arrive by way of a Canadian sea port. He proposed to speak on the resolution.

Mr. Fielding's resolution was then adopted and the budget debate was closed.

OTTAWA, Dec. 1.—Among the matters which will engage the attention of the Parliament this session is one affecting the militia. It involves the very grave matter of the effectiveness of weapon with which the Government has decided to arm the volunteer forces, and the North West Mounted Police—the Ross rifle. Ever since the first of these rifles were placed in the hands of the militia and of Canada's ablest marksmen, some of whom are retired militiamen and officers' complaints have been made about the rifle. Those

who believe that the rifle is all right argue that every new arm has to pass through an initial stage of criticism and point to the fact that it successfully stood the tests made by a board of military experts.

On the other hand, there are a number of outstanding objections which will have to be overcome before the rifle will be regarded as the equal of the Lee-Enfield. Many complaints have been collected by the militia, as to the utility of the weapon. The arm was made but little use of by the Blesley team last summer as the Canadian marksmen found they could make better scores with the Lee-Enfield. At the Dominion Rifle Meet, on the Rockcliffe ranges many complaints were heard. But the hardest blow came when it became known that the arms which had been supplied the Mounted Police had been called in owing to certain defects which will have to be remedied before they will be suitable for that service.

It is understood that the main defect with the Ross rifle is that owing to defective tempering a number of minor bolts in the mechanism expand and cause a jamming after repeated firing. The result is that the empty cartridges cannot be ejected from the cylinder with freedom and another defect is that the breech-bolts expand and the rifle is jammed heavily to the ground. It is admitted that the first issue of these rifles, known as Mark I, have the above-mentioned and perhaps other defects, but that they will be all rectified in later issues. The friends of the rifle point out that it is proving to be a fine thing to have the arm manufactured in Canada, and that every opportunity should be given the company to demonstrate that they can turn out as good an arm.

In the House on Wednesday, Mr. Geo. Taylor put the following questions to Sir Frederick Borden, Minister of Militia:

1. How many rifles have been bought by the Government from the Ross Rifle Company, of Quebec?
2. What is the price of rifle No. 1 and No. 2, respectively?
3. How many rifles have been ordered by the Government to the Ross Rifle Company for rifles No. 1 and No. 2, respectively?
4. Is it true that after a few days of practice at Blesley the Canadians had to change their Ross rifles for the Lee-Enfield?
5. Is it true that the Mounted Police had to abandon the Ross rifle and take the Lee-Enfield?

Sir Frederick replied as follows:

1. The rifles have been delivered and paid for.
2. \$25; the same price for both.
3. Mark I, \$282,500. Mark II, \$250,000.
4. Both the Lee-Enfield and Ross rifles were issued to the Blesley team, the latter not having been previously issued to the militia and very few members of the team had had an opportunity of practicing with it. Most of the rifles were shot with the Lee-Enfield rifle.
5. It is not true.

Col. Worthington, of Sherbrooke, has given notice of a motion calling for a debate on the matter. He has taken place in reference to the rifle. When this motion is reached the whole matter will be thrashed out on the floor of the House.

OTTAWA, Dec. 2.—The budget debate concluded in such an unexpectedly short time, parliament is left with but little business in hand, and an adjournment will probably be made at an early date for the holidays. It was thought by the government that the budget debate would probably be continued for three weeks. Instead the opposition made only two speeches by way of criticism and the debate was finished in two days.

The opposition's plan to talk scandal has been launched until progress is made with committee work. That means little can be done until after the holidays. While the estimates are down the auditor general has not been asked to furnish a report as yet. Therefore there can not be much progress made in getting through estimates. There are a few bills, such as that to give effect to the revised statutes and to the Japanese treaty, but they are not controversial and will not take up much time.

It is probable the members will be allowed to go home for the holidays about December 14, so they can talk over with their constituents the provisions of the new tariff. They will return loaded with the news of the country and prepared to discuss in committee the tariff, which it is plain they now know nothing about, or at least so little they are not willing to talk about it.

The only thing that will hold the members at the capital will be the early arrival of the insurance commission.

If that comes down this week, the government may think it wise to make use of it for a discussion upon the shortcomings of the chief financial critic of the opposition, George E. Foster, and his associates, Messrs. Fowler, Bennett and Laforgue.

OTTAWA, Dec. 3.—This was a private members' day in the house and a holiday in the senate. The volume of law making was therefore inconsiderable. A good many questions were answered and there was a little talk about the toll roads in the province of Quebec.

Postmaster General Lemieux, who in the general election was returned for the constituencies of Gaspé and Nicolet, announced his intention of sitting

for the constituency of Gaspé. It is understood Charles Devlin will be the government candidate for Nicolet.

George Foster wanted to know if anything more had been heard about Mr. Hyman.

Sir Wilfrid replied that the latest information he had received regarding Mr. Hyman was that he was in the south and in poor health. Sir Wilfrid said he had sent a friend to see Mr. Hyman, but so far had received no word from him.

The speaker stated he had received no further communication from Mr. Hyman in regard to the resignation of his seat.

Mr. Foster wanted to know what was going to be done about errors which were said to exist in the new tariff.

Hon. Mr. Fielding replied that so far no errors had been called to the attention of the government. It would be assumed to be correct until errors were pointed out.

Hon. Mr. Lemieux read a telegram from Deputy Minister of Labor MacKenzie King announcing that the Lethbridge strike was over. There will be no coal famine in the west, added Mr. Lemieux.

Mr. Gauvreau asked if the government knew the Canadian Express Company monopolized express business along the Intercolonial and placed agents only at certain stations, thereby depriving important centres of trade.

The prime minister replied that a contract between the Intercolonial and the Canadian Express Company had existed for years and was still in force. The department had not been advised of any discrimination against any particular place. A strike of the agents has been on for some time, and has no doubt been a source of irritation. The strike is now ended.

On the expiration of the contract between the Intercolonial and the Canadian Express Company no doubt steps will be taken to prevent a recurrence of the trouble.

Colonel Worthington was told by Sir Frederick Borden that the Canadian government had received four guns and seven hundred rifles as trophies of the Boer war. It had been announced that they would be distributed as souvenirs among museums and military organizations throughout Canada. A distribution would take place this week. Seven rifles would go to New Brunswick district, No. 8; six for Nova Scotia, district nine, and ten for Prince Edward Island, district ten.

R. L. Borden was told that there was spent on lighthouses and coast service \$2,425,747 from 1882 to 1896 inclusive, for 1902 to 1906 inclusive there had been expended on the same service \$3,151,263.

In these years goods to the amount of \$425,500 had been purchased as fog signals. Tenders were called in 1905-6. Only \$16,000 was purchased before that time.

In reply to Armand Lavergne, Sir Wilfrid stated that there has been a considerable improvement in the location of the national transcontinental from Quebec to Montreal. There have been revised location surveys for a considerable portion of the distance.

The reports of the engineers have been completed. Mr. Crockett of York, N. B., asked a similar question and was furnished with the same answer. He was told in addition that the construction commission have not recommended a choice of the two routes between Grand Falls and Moncton.

The chief engineer of district "A" had reported in favor of the back route as the shortest and cheapest. The preliminary survey had shown that the route was not feasible. However it was considered advisable before finally deciding the route to have first location surveys made over the two routes.

These have been completed, and the calculations are now being worked out. The plans and estimates are expected to be ready within a short time.

In reply to Dr. Daniel M. Paterson said that grain had been exported 200,000 bushels from Canada to countries other than the United States, 21,577,888 bushels, of a value of \$1,519,572, and via United States ports and in transit to other countries, 19,905,453 bushels, valued at \$1,551,919, making total of 41,073,341, valued at \$3,171,491.

Hon. Mr. Aylesworth was asked if at Wilton on Oct. 27, after the by-election in Quebec county, he had used the following words in a speech:

"Only yesterday in the county of Quebec the fires of sectarian hatred have been lighted, on the ground that Sir Wilfrid Laurier was too British for his political opponents there. And just as Quebec, who wish his downfall, are today having the victory they say they have won on the Plains of Quebec, those in Ontario who are exulting in the victory over Sir Wilfrid Laurier, are, if they know it, digging the very grave of British institutions in Canada."

He replied that he had.

Asked what grounds he based his opinion upon, Mr. Aylesworth replied: "On the course of public affairs in this country."

OTTAWA, Dec. 3.—There is a good deal of discontent among the Conservative members at the action of the leader, R. L. Borden, and Conservative whip, George Taylor, in closing the budget debate with only two speeches, one by George E. Foster and one by Mr. Cockshutt of Brantford. A number of other Conservative members had speeches prepared and wanted to deliver them. The action of their leaders deprived them of the opportunity. They say Mr. Borden and Mr. Taylor had no right to close the debate without the authority of the caucus, and the understanding was that the budget and tariff would be criticised for three weeks at least.

OTTAWA, Dec. 4.—The commons today concluded its sitting at 6 o'clock, while the senate did not begin its session until after dinner. In the latter house, though the sitting was short, there was a good deal of important business transacted. Mr. Fisher introduced his cold storage resolution and explained its provisions.

He had been approached by several parties with schemes for government aid to cold storage. At least two of them had proposed government guarantee of their bonds. One had proposed a chain of cold storage depots throughout Canada. While the intention of the promoters of this scheme was doubtless the best it might lead to a monopoly of the transportation of perishable agricultural products.

Mr. Fisher said any government aid to cold storage was a question of the nature of a monopoly applied to the marketing of their products, and the chances were they would not approve of this. Mr. Fisher said he had not seen his way to recommending a monopoly of the cold storage business.

He had fallen back on the plan which had been applied to steamships some time ago. To induce exportation of goods, cooled apart from the cold storage, cooled apart from the cold storage, cooled apart from the cold storage.

The government would, on the completion of a cold warehouse, give the company ten per cent. of the cost, and within the next three or five years, the time had not been given, give an additional twenty per cent. to the company, making the total government aid thirty per cent. The minister of agriculture had to approve of the location of the depot and the amount which would be spent in its erection. The minister would control the rates which would be charged for storage in the warehouse.

Mr. Armstrong wanted to know how many cold storage plants the hundred thousand dollars would build.

Mr. Fisher replied that they would not, but there would be no government assistance given to a cold storage depot which would enter into competition with a depot already established. The resolution was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Fielding the house went into committee on ways and means on the resolution on which the new tariff bill is to be based.

The opposition manifested an interest in the clause which gave a list of the British colonies which are entitled to preferential treatment and to the authority taken by the government to extend the preference to other portions of the British Empire from time to time. Mr. Foster pointed out that there was a great difference in the treatment which the various portions of the Empire accorded to Canada in tariff matters.

He wanted to know how a colony would be able to receive preferential treatment from Canada.

Hon. Mr. Fielding said there was no provision for a colony qualifying to automatically receive the benefits of the preference. Under the act the matter was largely left to the discretion of the government in granting or refusing it.

When the clause providing for the intermediate tariff was reached, Mr. Borden and Mr. Foster wanted to know about it. When and to what country the tariff was applied, and extending its favorable provisions.

Hon. Mr. Fielding replied that he knew there were several countries open to negotiations for better relations with Canada. However, the government had no particular countries in mind when the intermediate tariff was brought down and there was no country which it could be said was immediately willing to take advantage of the intermediate tariff.

The greatest difficulty in the way of the application of the provisions of the intermediate tariff to any country were the favored nation treaties which Great Britain had made with a large number of countries. Under these treaties any portion of the British Empire which gave one country a tariff was bound to give all the other treaty countries the same benefit.

Mr. Borden—Then you cannot make an arrangement with one of these treaty countries until you get rid of these treaties.

Mr. Fielding said that if Great Britain was to denounce all these treaties with other countries it would have to arrange with its treaty relations. He would be asking too much. Canada therefore did not propose to ask Great Britain to denounce all of these treaties as had been done in the case of Germany and Belgium. Those treaties applied not merely to Canada and if another country but to all the other colonies. The treaty countries were Argentina, Austria-Hungary, Bolivia, Colombia, Korea, Denmark, France, Liberia, Madagascar, Morocco, Spain, Sweden, Russia, Venezuela, and Japan.

Canada had made the treaties with France and Japan or had been consulted about them.

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## JURY FINDS GILLETTE GUILTY OF MURDERING SWEETHEART

### Condemned Man Heard Verdict With Great Composure—Wrote Line to His Father Before He Left the Court Room—Not Sentenced Yet.

HERKIMER, N. Y., Dec. 4.—Chester Gillette was tonight found guilty of murdering his sweetheart, Grace Brown.

Sentence will be pronounced on Thursday morning, to which time court adjourned after the jury had reported.

Former Senator Mills, Gillette's counsel, announced that when court reconvened at ten o'clock Thursday morning, that he would move to have the verdict set aside.

The jury, which had deliberated for five hours, sent word at 11 o'clock that a verdict had been reached. A moment later they filed into the court room and at 11:15 o'clock an officer who had been sent for Gillette, returned with the prisoner.

Pale and a trifle nervous apparently, Gillette faced the jury and when Marshall Hatch, the foreman, declared that a verdict of guilty in the first degree had been found, the youthful prisoner gave not a sign of emotion. A few moments later, when his counsel had announced his purpose of making a formal motion to have the verdict set aside, and the judge was dismissing the jurors, Gillette bent over a nearby table, and, picking up a pencil, wrote something upon a sheet of paper. He then folded the paper carefully and placed it in his pocket. Immediately afterwards he was taken from the court room back to his cell in the jail.

It was learned that the jury had some difficulty in reaching an agreement and six ballots were taken before the twelve men agreed. Up to that time the jury stood elevated for conviction and one for acquittal.

The case was given to the jury at 5:50 o'clock tonight, after Judge Devendorf had occupied an hour and fifteen minutes in his charge. He dealt with the points of law involved, and instructed the jurors to consider the evidence from a legal standpoint, and not be influenced by sentiment.

The day's session until the judge's charge had been taken up