

The Daily Telegraph

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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1900.

NO. 26.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT REFUSES TO CENSURE ITS LEADERS.

Resolutions Criticising Lord Salisbury and Hon. Joseph Chamberlain Find but Few Supporters--The Reply to the Speech Passed by a Great Majority--Brilliant Speech by Chamberlain.

London, Dec. 10.—In the House of Commons today, after some desultory discussion, Mr. Joseph Walton, Radical, withdrew his amendment offered Friday last, to the address (that more adequate measures should be taken to safeguard the interests of China, that no demand should be made on the Chinese government for the punishment of Chinese officials which could not be equally imposed in the case of a European power and that reparation should be sought in trade facilities, rather than money indemnity), and Mr. G. C. T. Bartley, Conservative, moved an amendment to the address, asking the house to express regret at the fact that Lord Salisbury had recommended several of his own family to offices under the government.

One-fifth of the cabinet members, Mr. Bartley said, are of the same family, some would obey their fathers, and some law and nephew would yield to the same influence. Such conditions precluded an independent inquiry into the army failures in South Africa and were calculated to impair gravely the efficiency of the public service and diminish the chances of reform in national defence. The same work-worm of nepotism had entered the army and navy, and it was the general opinion that many of the disasters in South Africa were traceable to officers who had obtained their commissions by family influence.

When the premier's nephew, Mr. A. J. Balfour, rose to reply, the house was filled with expectation. He said the unhappy accident of birth could not be a bar to public service. There was only one member of Lord Salisbury's family in the present government who was not in the last. Mr. Balfour added, had not shown that the appointments complained of were incapable, while the country at the recent election had shown confidence that the premier would carry out with ability and integrity his thankless, heart-breaking task.

The amendment was lost by a vote of 230 to 128. Mr. D. Lloyd-George, Radical, member for Carmarvon district, brought together a series of accusations against Mr. Chamberlain that had been figuring in the newspapers and moved that no member of the government ought to have a direct or indirect interest in concerns competing for government contracts. He pointed out that the secretary of state for the colonies held 5,000 shares in the Metal Company, contractors to the admiralty, and shares valued at £250,000 in Kynoch's Dynamite Company, contractors to the war office. After enumerating other companies in which the Chamberlain family, he asserted, had interests, Mr. George declared that he was not attacking the private character of the minister, but had raised the matter because "this case might be used as a precedent later to justify corruption."

After various speeches for and against the resolution, Mr. Chamberlain replied: "It is my personal honor that is involved in this question," he said, "and I think it hard, after 25 years of life in the full light of parliament, to have my name brought up in connection with such a charge. These attacks are monstrous and absurd. I took no notice of the charges during the election, although there had been a conspiracy of insinuation. I had been charged with fattening on the profits of war. I had profited by the sale of shares in two. My relations intend to take legal proceedings and the public will see how these abominable charges will be dealt with by the courts. My relations are all business men and have had to make their own fortunes. I come of a family which boasts nothing of distinguished birth or inherited wealth, but has an unbroken record for nearly two centuries of unimpaired commercial integrity. Never during the whole course of my political career have I been asked to use my influence to secure pecuniary gain for myself or my relations."

Proceeding to explain his connection with the tobacco companies, Mr. Chamberlain said he had joined the Colombo Company 23 years ago. Its shares had never been quoted on the stock exchange. The contract to build huts for Boer prisoners in Ceylon was given to the Colombo Company on the responsibility of the local government without any communication with himself. So far as the Birmingham Trust was concerned, he said, he knew nothing whatever of its investments, although he had recently ascertained that there was a trifling investment in the Tubes Limited, since his brother-in-law managed the business of that organization, but the company's already small business with the admiralty had largely decreased. After having made further explanations of a similar kind, Mr. Chamberlain exclaimed amid ministerial cheers: "If it is not hard to have to deal with such rubbish as this? When all is reckoned up perhaps my indirect interest in government contracts is a few pounds or even shillings; and yet the House of Commons is called upon to pass a solemn resolution which will not strike me, but will be a self-denying ordinance for many members who do not anticipate that result."

In an elegant peroration he declared that the attacks had not injured him, but had given pain to a number of private individuals. These were those who had asserted, had introduced into public life unworthy methods and had made it more difficult for honorable and sensitive men to serve the country. He was loudly cheered as he resumed his seat. His son, Mr. J. Austin Chamberlain, financial secretary to the treasury department, followed with similar denials. Mr. R. B. Haldane, Radical member for Haddingtonshire, and others spoke after which Mr. Lloyd-George's motion, which was offered as an amendment to the address, was rejected by a vote of 230 to 127. Mr. Arthur J. Balfour, the government leader, then moved the closure, which was carried by 253 votes against 103, and the address to the throne was adopted by 255 votes against 23.

Replying to a question on the subject, the under secretary of the office, Lord Cranborne, said the government had been notified that the present disposition of the troops of the allies on the American-Kann frontier was of a purely temporary character. The government, he added, was watching British interests. Lord Cranborne also said the replies of the powers to the invitation to adhere to the Anglo-German agreement would be promptly presented to parliament. Replying to Mr. Timothy, M. Healy, Nationalist, who asked whether the Irish-American and Irish prisoners captured in the fights with the Boers could not be permitted to return to their homes, Mr. J. Powell Williams, financial secretary to the war office in the late administration, now a plain member of the House of Commons, said prisoners of Irish nationality could not be treated differently from others.

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A FRIGID STORY. How the Mercury Gamboled About Zero.

THE WEATHER MAN Says It Is Not Cold But You Only Think So--The Cold Wave Still Wears an Air of Permanency--Why Thermometers Differ.

Zero weather descended upon us early this season and with an unusually high wind which was produced by the high wind. The cold wave was first indicated on Saturday, when a severe temperature set in over the Northwest Territories and Manitoba, following rapidly towards the official registration of Director Hutchinson, of the local observatory, was two degrees below zero.

Yesterday the mercury hovered just above the ether mark most of the day, while the wind gusted most of a 40 mile an hour clip. Last night, at 8 o'clock, two below was again recorded, with a steady wind velocity of 40 miles an hour. The wave appeared with such a suddenness that it was felt with more severity than usual because last night when the temperature registered about zero D. L. Hutchinson, the weather bureau man, refused to admit it was "very cold," the remark he was greeted with by a reporter. "You will find it a difficult matter," he said, "to measure below zero, but it is not very cold." He expressed his view saying that the high wind which produced the rapid evaporation of the moisture from the body, particularly the exposed parts, was chiefly responsible for the stinging peculiarities. The expert implied there would be no sting if there was no wind, as this element did not raise nor lower the temperature.

That's the way with the cold wave, especially at Paardeberg. The following are the minimum and maximum temperatures recorded in other cities yesterday: Winnipeg, 16 below, 6. Port Arthur, 12 below, 8. Pelly Sound, 12 below, 14. Toronto, 10-18. Ottawa, 14 below, 6. Montreal, 12 below, 2 below. Quebec, 10 below, 0 below. Charlottetown, zero. New York, 18 above. Sydney, 14 above. Yarmouth, 12 above. Chatham, zero. Grand Manan, 2 below.

It Would Cut You at Fredericton. Fredericton, Dec. 10.—(Special)—This is the coldest day yet. The thermometer registered eight degrees below zero this morning. A high wind prevailed, making the cold extremely penetrating.

Seven Above at Halifax. Halifax, Dec. 10.—(Special)—The cold wave struck Halifax early this morning, and the weather continued cold all day. The wind blew a gale from the northwest. The thermometer went down to seven above. The wind is going down tonight, and the cold is decreasing slightly.

BEAT OFF A FOOTPAD. A Bold Act by Ex-Premier Peters. Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 10.—Hon. Alfred Peters, ex-premier of Prince Edward Island, was driving home late Saturday night, when he saw a man with a revolver in his hand in the act of robbing a citizen. Seeing that Mr. Peters, leaped from the cab and rushed to the highwayman pointed the revolver at him as he approached, but before he could shoot, Mr. Peters gave him a terrific blow on the head with the butt end of the whip. The man was stunned for a moment, but before he could be seized he managed to escape in the darkness. Vancouver has been infested with footpads lately and holdups of prominent citizens have been frequent.

Smallpox in New York. New York, Dec. 10.—Now cases of smallpox have been reported to the board of health since Saturday. One of the cases was that of James Killoran, a street car conductor, who has been travelling back and forth through the city on his car since becoming infested with the disease. The other case reported was that of a three-year-old boy.

Fifteen Years of Quiet Life. Newburg, N. Y., Dec. 10.—Joshua Clark Johnston, an on election night killed Clark Johnston in a barroom brawl, was sent to Sing Sing prison for 15 years this afternoon. Harrison is an ex-convict and was on the Texas in the fight of Santiago.

CHAFFEE AND VON WALTERSE, A Row Over the Removal of Astronomical Instruments.

Berlin, Dec. 10.—The German government has not taken official notice of General Chaffee's letter to Count Von Waldersee complaining of the removal of the astronomical instruments from the wall of Peking, and the return of the letter to the American commander "on account of its tone."

Only a few of the papers print the incident in their news columns. The Vossische Zeitung remarks: "Whatever the cause, General Chaffee had in no case a right to use such rough language in a letter to the commander-in-chief." The Berliner Tageblatt observes: "We must, of course, reserve a definite judgment until reliable German reports have been received. Whoever knows, however, of the generally acknowledged diplomatic tact of Count Von Waldersee, will not doubt that he will not have employed such a brusque procedure without the strongest kind of provocation."

NO TRACE Of the Thieves Who Stole Relics of Nelson. London, Dec. 10.—No trace has been found of the thieves who, on Saturday last, stole several relics of Lord Nelson, including his watch and many of his medals from Greenwich Hospital. The belief in Greenwich is that the deprecators were French, owing to the alleged discovery of a letter in broken English left behind, in which the writer promised to return and carry off a French flag which is among the relics.

The vandals abstracted almost everything portable. Even the gold hits of the swords were prenched from the blades and the gold and jewels were stripped from the sabords. They also broke Nelson's sword of honor.

JOCKEYED GERMANY. The American Secretary Beated the Kaiser. Berlin, Dec. 10.—It is now denying upon the German press and public that Mr. Hay, the American secretary of state, has secured an out-and-out diplomatic victory in obliging the powers, Germany included, to yield to his arguments in the preliminary joint meeting of the Chinese plenipotentiaries. This clearly defined defeat is especially bitter here, because Emperor William had set his heart on imposing the same conditions upon the Chinese and thus emphasizing Germany's power in their eyes.

STRIKE COMPLETE. Telegraphers Say They Have Tied Up the Santa Fe. Chicago, Dec. 10.—Officials of the Santa Fe system claim that the telegraphers' strike on their lines is practically over and point to the fact that almost without exception their passenger trains were on yesterday morning. When asked for an explanation regarding the variation, Director Hutchinson said the only explanation was that glasses which gave such a terrific morning to the Santa Fe, but which with such thermometers as the meteorological service is provided with a hundred of them might be distributed at points above the city and where would not be a variation of over half a degree, if the glasses were exposed so there would be no radiation of heat.

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FOR CHINESE PURPOSES ONLY. German Expeditionary Force Must Dissolve. Berlin, Dec. 10.—The budget committee of the Reichstag has adopted a resolution that the Chinese expeditionary corps must be dissolved after it has finished its duty in China.

Against the Duke. London, Dec. 10.—The appeal court has dismissed the appeal of the Duke of Marlborough and has confirmed the decision of Judge Byrne in the Chancery division of the High Court of Justice in March last, which gave Lillian, Duchess of Marlborough (formerly Mrs. Louis Hamersley of New York, and now Lady William Bessborough) a jointure of £1,500 yearly.

Telephone Extension. Ellsworth, Me., Dec. 10.—The New England Telephone & Telegraph Company has purchased the franchise and line of the Deer Isle Telephone Company, and takes possession January 1. The Deer Isle Company is a local corporation and maintains a line in the towns of Deer Isle and Stonington, on Deer Isle Island. The New England Company will lay a cable across Eggemoggin reach, two miles, to connect Deer Isle with their system.

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AGAINST ABSINTH. Chamber of Deputies Resolves to Investigate

THE NATIONAL DRINK Of the French People--It is Accused of Producing Cases of Drivelling Insanity and May Become a National Malady.

Paris, Dec. 10.—In the Chamber of Deputies today, M. Marie Edouard Vaillant, Socialist, one of the deputies for the department of the Seine, moved a resolution, calling upon the government to prohibit the manufacture and sale of all alcoholic liquors pronounced "dangerous" by the academy of medicine. The resolution was aimed at absinth, the consumption of which has nearly doubled in France since 1884, and now stands at 10,000,000 litres annually. M. Vaillant and others denounced the spread of absinth drinking and laid stress upon its ravages among the population. "The increase of absinth consumption," said the mover of the resolution, "marches arm in arm with the increase of cases of drivelling insanity, which will end by becoming a national malady."

The chamber adopted the resolution unanimously. Col. Picquet, who was so prominently identified with the Dreyfus case, has addressed a memorial to the Chamber protesting against the amnesty bill, which he says will include him among "the forgers and utterers of forgeries, which will profit by amnesty."

TROUBLES OF A HUSBAND. Says Wife's Suit for Divorce a Surprise. Ottawa, Dec. 10.—(Special)—When seen at his residence, 229 Theodore street, regarding the action for divorce brought by his wife, Charles A. Gough stated that the notice came as a surprise. It was a year ago that Mrs. Gough left her home and he did not dream of her taking the action she had. He is identified. He said he felt quite confident that his friends appreciated and realized his unfortunate position, a position gained through no fault of his.

LIVE STOCK BREEDERS From the Maritime Provinces Bound West. Toronto, Dec. 10.—(Special)—A party of 25 prominent breeders and farmers from the maritime provinces passed through the city today on the way to the Midwinter Livestock Fair at Guelph. Among the party were Secretary Wood, of the Halifax Industrial Exhibition, Secretary Smallwood, of Charlottetown, Secretary Association, and Charles Hill, of Truro. "We are coming west to get ideas for our own eastern fairs," said Mr. Hill, "and to take some live stock back with us." The party will be in Guelph all week.

PREACHER AGAIN FREE. Rev. D. E. Stuart Discharged a Second Time. Wilkesbarre, Pa., Dec. 10.—Rev. D. E. Stuart, minister of Wesleyan, in this county, who was discharged by Judge Woodward last week on habeas corpus proceedings following the death of his wife under suspicious circumstances, and immediately re-arrested on complaint of his wife's father, was today again discharged from custody.

CHIEF OF POLICE RESIGNS. Lt. Col. Hughes of Montreal Asks to be Relieved. Montreal, Dec. 10.—Lieut. Col. Hughes, superintendent of the Montreal police force, today sent in his resignation to the city council. The resignation is to take effect at the end of the year. Action upon the resignation was deferred.

\$20,000 FOR OTTER. The Toronto World Says That Amount Will Be Asked for Him. Toronto, Dec. 10.—(Special)—The World says it has been informed the Dominion government would be asked to recommend to parliament a vote of twenty thousand dollars to be given to Col. Otter in recognition of his services in South Africa.

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THE CANADIANS SAIL FROM LIVERPOOL TUESDAY MORNING

Given a Hearty Send Off in London and Liverpool--News From Africa--Knox and DeWet Fighting.

Ottawa, Dec. 10.—(Special)—Further reports were received today at the militia department from South Africa. Lt. Col. Evans, commanding the 2nd battalion Canadian Mounted Rifles, sends a report for the week ending October 31. He states that Private Weber was killed, and not wounded as at first reported, in a night attack at Nootgedacht, October 23. On October 23, Lt. Davidson took over the last troop of "D" squadron replacing Lt. Bili, transferred to Nootgedacht. Col. Evans states that he purchased £15 3s. worth of tobacco cigarettes and candy for the men, with funds received from the Canadian ladies and the London Red Cross Fund. Executive strength of the battalion was 229.

Lt. Col. Drury's report is dated at Pretoria. After referring to points where the battery is located, he says Lt. Murray refused a lieutenantancy in R. F. A. Col. Drury says that he wrote information to headquarters concerning the time of the expiry of the men, which was on the 27th December, but had got no official reply. Lord Kitchener says that he would arrange for a transport about Dec. 1st.

Col. Otter's report deals with the departure of the balance of the detachment, which sailed from Cape Town to Southampton on the way home to Canada by the transport Havenden Castle. Before sailing the contingent was thanked by the mayor of the city and the military secretary to Sir Alfred Milner for its services to the colony. Col. Otter was senior officer in command of the troops on board. He says the voyage to England was a pleasant one and without incident. The Canadian officers embarked were Col. Otter, Lt. Col. Buchan, Sergt. Major Fiat, Capt. Bursall, Capt. Macdonald, Chaplain Almond, Lieut. Lawless, Mason, Swift, Lafferty, Temple, Carpenter, Caldwell and Cosby. The Middlesex regiment was attached.

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ROYAL CANADIANS LEAVING ENGLAND HIGH IN FAVOR. Toronto, Dec. 10.—(Special)—The Toronto Telegram's special cable from London, Dec. 10, says: Owing to the early hour of departure, the crowd that assembled this morning to witness the departure of the Canadian soldiers for South Africa, was small, but most enthusiastic. Lord Strathcona was amongst those present. No speeches were made, the few minutes before the train left being spent by the men in bidding farewell to the friends they had met while in the city. All the officers and men expressed their sincere and deep interest in the work they had done in South Africa.

Lord and Lady Aberdeen visited the men at Kent's garden barracks yesterday, speaking to and shaking hands with each member of the contingent. Lieut. Col. Bishan dined with the Duke and Duchess of Teck. The duke is very enthusiastic about the Canadians.

GERMANY HAD NO CHIP ON ITS SHOULDER. Berlin, Dec. 10.—The imperial chancellor, Count Von Buelow, replying in the Reichstag to a question on the subject of Mr. Kruger's failure to be received by Emperor William, said the government did all in its power to ward off war and left the two republics in no doubt as to the state of affairs in Europe and as to German neutrality. When, in 1890, the question of arbitration seemed not altogether excluded, the government recommended it to the republics. When, in 1890, the question of arbitration seemed not altogether excluded, the government recommended it to the republics. When, in 1890, the question of arbitration seemed not altogether excluded, the government recommended it to the republics.

Police Prevent Her Holding a Bear Meeting in Liverpool. Liverpool, Dec. 10.—The pro-Boer meeting called for this evening at which Miss Maud Gonne was to preside, was prohibited by the police. Despite the warning, however, she endeavored to address an open air meeting in the Irish quarter of the city, but the police interfered and dispersed the gathering.

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PARLIAMENT IS TO MEET ON FEBRUARY SIXTH.

Ottawa, Dec. 10.—(Special)—At the meeting of the cabinet today it was decided to summon parliament for election of speaker and despatch of business on Wednesday, February 6. It is not expected that the session will be a long one. There are good reasons for this. In the first place it is not likely that there will be any government legislation to provoke undue discussion. In the second place, some of those who talked for mere talk's sake, and who were responsible for prolonging the sessions, have been defeated. The opposition, too, are inadequately in

demoralized condition and would gain more by hurrying through the work of the session than delaying it. However, a party in which men like Whip Taylor figure is not likely to exercise very good judgment and one is therefore never safe in predicting the exact length of a session. Premier Laurier meets parliament with a straight party majority of over 50 and this includes a majority from all the provinces except Ontario. By the time the by-elections are over that province, too, will be on the right side.

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