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THE LORDS' GREAT ISSUE NOT A TARIFF REFORM

Election Manifestos So Far Issued Make Abuse of Upper House the Principal Theme.

GREAT DEMONSTRATION IN FAVOR OF BUDGET

LONDON, Dec. 5.—If, as has been stated, the Conservative leaders planned to force tariff reform to the issue in the election campaign, and, so far as possible, thrust the question of the lords' veto into the background, their plan has already miscarried. The campaign is being waged with a bitterness not seen in British politics in many years, but it is exclusively upon the question of the lords' veto that the election manifestos issued up to the present by the Liberal, Radical, Labor and Socialist parties have been directed. The attack upon the lords' veto, as have all the speeches from the government side. More significant still is the fact that the whole religious body of the country, nonconformist and Catholic, appears to be against the lords' pretensions. The Archbishop of Canterbury's abstention from voting in the division in the House of Lords, and the Archbishop of York's frank denunciation of Lord Lansdowne's resolution undoubtedly had a great effect.

Following on the manifesto issued by the National Council of Free Churches, which declared that the action of the House of Lords was "unjust, unchristian, unparliamentary, and unrepresentative," supported by nonconformists in the Church Times, the most influential and widely circulated church paper, together with the Christian World, and the other organs of the Methodist, Baptist and Catholic sections, declare for the commons in the struggle against the lords' veto.

Whereas the Tariff Reform, in the meantime neither Mr. Balfour nor any other Conservative leader has advanced any defined scheme for tariff reform or any other definite indication of how the Conservatives propose to find the money to reduce the rejected budget proposals, The Conservative Morning Post, an editorial, warns the party that the coming contest will be a critical and severe one, and that if the tariff cause is to triumph, its adherents must display tactical ability, as well as courage and vigor. It will be the height of folly, says the Post, to allow the ground selected by the Liberals, but Liberals must remember that tariff reform is the only possible alternative to the rejected budget.

The Post's warning is timely for the Unionist speakers, and newspapers are actively engaged in showing abuse upon their opponents' tactics.

Tax Collections.

An official notice has been issued that death duties may be paid either on the budget or pro-budget scale, subject to rectification when the new parliament has settled the matter. It is reported that a number of persons are preparing to protest against the deductions of the income tax from the duties, which is being done, according to The Liberal Daily News, through the customhouse, thus refusing to pay duties on tea, tobacco and spirits.

USING VIOLENT LANGUAGE

Members of Parliament Talk of Strangling and Drowning Peers.

LONDON, Dec. 5.—(Ass'd Press).—The whole of Great Britain is immersed in the political campaign. The country is divided into two great camps, composed of those who support the lords' action in refusing to consent to the budget and those who contend that the House of Commons must have absolute control of the finances of the nation. There were, of course, many other issues, such as tariff reform versus free trade, but these are being pushed into the background by the conflict between the two houses.

While the local organizations are busy selecting candidates, the leaders of the great parties are carrying on a general campaign. The Radicals, who had long foreseen the fate of their franchise bill, are not allowing the grass to grow under their feet.

In London Saturday afternoon, one of their organizations, the National Democratic League, held a protest against the action of the lords, one of the most notable demonstrations ever seen in the metropolis. Fully 20,000 persons, mostly the laboring and artisan classes, gathered in Trafalgar Square, and cheered the Radical speakers, who condemned in unmeasured terms the members of the upper chamber.

Suffragists Interfere.

The early divergent note here, as elsewhere, came from the suffragists, who after a term of comparative quiet again started to indulge in attempts to break up the Radical meetings. The Trafalgar Square crowd, however, was too great for their efforts to have any effect. They were more successful at Southampton, where by climbing to a roof and shouting thru the skylight they succeeded in interrupting Winston Spencer Churchill's meeting, and at Leith, where, aided by roughs, they created a diversion by attempting to storm a meeting, which Sir Edward Grey, the foreign secretary, was addressing.

Followed by the Leith police, who charged the crowd with batons, the women got their revenge by hurling bricks thru the windows of the public buildings. Secretary Grey, whose speech was not interrupted to any extent, spoke strongly for the reformation of the upper chamber.

Churchill's Argument.

Mr. Churchill was able to conclude his speech, and, undaunted by this experience, held a meeting at Liverpool in the evening, in continuation of his

ELECTION DATES.

LONDON, Dec. 5.—(C. A. P.)—The dates of the chief political events of the next two months are now definitely known. Dissolution is on Jan. 8, the first borough elections Jan. 19, the first county elections Jan. 19, and the elections Jan. 31. The first meeting of the new parliament is on Feb. 14.

NEW EVIDENCE FOUND MAY SAVE STEFOFF

Section Foreman Will Swear to Alibi for Man Under Sentence of Death.

New evidence has been found which it is expected will influence the minister of justice to grant a new trial to Pavlo Steffoff, who is in jail awaiting execution for the murder of Van Simoff, his countryman. The date fixed for the execution is Dec. 23.

William Amos, who for the past three years has been working among the Macedonian residents of the city, and by reason of his "knowledge of the Macedonian language, has been appointed the spiritual adviser of the condemned man, told The World last night that he had located a Canadian Northern section foreman, William Irving, who is prepared to swear that on the morning of the murder of Simoff, the condemned man applied to him for work at the Rosedale section at 7.30 or thereabouts. Simoff did not leave the roundhouse where he worked till 7 o'clock and could not have reached his home till nearly 8 o'clock, so that it would have been impossible for Steffoff to have killed him and got to the Rosedale section of the railway by 8 o'clock.

Mr. Amos firmly believes in the innocence of the condemned man, and will make every effort to secure a new trial for him. With J. M. Godfrey, Steffoff's counsel, he will go to Ottawa to lay the new evidence before the minister of justice, in the event of the application for a stated case, pending at Osgoode Hall, being refused. The new evidence was not laid before the court of appeal, Mr. Godfrey stated last night, because that court does not hear new evidence. Irving was reluctant to come forward, and it was Mr. Amos who sought him out.

AUSTRALIA PAYS FOR POPULATION.

SYDNEY, Aus., Dec. 5.—(C. A. P.)—The legislature has voted £40,000 for assisted passages for emigrants.

WHY MR. WATSON WROTE PETIC INSULT

Admits That It Was to Avenge Miss Violet Asquith's Imagined Insults of the Dead Premier.

NEW YORK, Dec. 5.—Having arrived in New York, Wm. Watson, the English poet, admits for the first time that—as most people suspected—the "heroine" of his recent much-discussed poem "The Woman with the Serpent's Tongue," is an Asquith. The poet himself says that the poem was physically inspired by Mrs. Margot Asquith, wife of the British premier, and mentally by her step-daughter, Miss Violet Asquith. The latter it is

"Who slights the worthiest in the land, sneers at the just, condemns the brave, and blackens goodness in its grave." Poet's Own Story.

Mr. Watson says his narrative was written on June 29 last. It begins: "Last Friday week I happened to meet Mrs. Asquith and her step-daughter, Miss Violet Asquith, at Stafford House. Miss Asquith asked me to come to tea at 10 Downing-street on the following Tuesday. I came. She is, as all her friends know, an extremely clever girl, remarkably well educated, brilliant, and her talk was interesting—surprising in some respects. When I arrived at the house Mrs. Asquith apparently was not there.

"Miss Violet Asquith took me downstairs to a sort of little library of her own, looking on the garden, where I had tea. I suppose we talked for more than an hour; anyhow quite an hour on a variety of subjects.

"While I was there a man crossed the garden. I said: 'Is that one of the secretaries?'

Miss Asquith said: 'Yes, that is Nash. That is the man who used to write C. B.'s speeches for him.' C. B. was the late Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, Mr. Asquith's predecessor as prime minister.

"I suppose I looked rather surprised. She said: 'Yes, and you know he appeared to think if my father became prime minister that the same sort of services would still be expected of him.'

Incident is Related.

"I laughed, of course, and, altho I was much surprised at such a reference to Mr. Asquith's predecessor in the premiership I preserved the politest demeanor possible and said: 'Well, with all respect to Mr. Nash, I suppose even this British public of ours would easily detect the difference between Mr. Asquith and Mr. Nash.'

"She said: 'Yes, no doubt they would, but I would like to tell you this. Shortly after my father became

Continued on Page 7.

RY. EMPLOYEES ARE RESTLESS

Engineers' Head Says the Time Is Ripe for a Movement Similar to That of 1902.

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—(Special).—Opposing elements in the nation wide wage dispute between the railroads of the United States and their 1,000,000 employees cautiously centred their efforts yesterday for the supreme trial demands and negotiations which will determine whether the industrial life of the nation is to be paralyzed by a general railroad strike.

From the various sections of the country came messages bearing in the written lines of hope that there will be no strike, but nevertheless indicating that the situation is one of unrest and potentially grave. The Erdman arbitration act, designed especially to cope with railroad disputes, loomed in the foreground as a chief bulwark of optimism.

It is, however, regarded as only a moral force for peace, as it carries no power of injunction or mandatory phrase to enforce the findings under its provisions.

Warren S. Stone, head of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, speaking at Cleveland, O., yesterday, on the railroad situation, said:

"There is a spirit of unrest among the railway employees throughout the United States. The time is ripe for another movement similar to that of 1902. A general strike is not improbable."

With an intensity of expression in inverse ratio to the stand taken by the employees, the railroad heads stated yesterday that they could not afford to increase wages at the present time. They pleaded that the transportation lines as well as the country at large are recovering from a period of hard times. They said the improvement in business conditions should not be disturbed.

Eastern Switchmen May Strike.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 4.—Frank T. Hawley, president of the Switchmen's Union of North America, has authorized the statement that a conference will be held on Monday or Tuesday in Chicago between a board of managers of the railroads and a committee of the Switchmen's Union, representing those employed on all roads west of Buffalo, N.Y., but not including the northwestern, at which time the switchmen will make a demand for the same concessions as those granted the Canadian Government to send aid. But I did not believe then, and I do not believe now, that the switchmen will strike. The demand which will soon be made by some that Canada should contribute to the imperial war in proportion to the benefit of common, which pledged themselves to proceed vigorously with the construction of the Canadian navy and to support England in every emergency, and all that in my opinion is required, is to hold the government of the day bound to carry out that honestly.

What Would Have Happened.

"When I remember that in the general election of 1891 the friends of British institutions, after a desperate struggle, which cost that great and patriotic statesman, Sir John A. Macdonald, his life, only secured a majority of about 25, I have no hesitation in saying that had the principle of a contribution to the imperial navy, according to our population, then been in operation that majority of 25 would have been in favor of continental free trade and the adoption of the tariff of the United States against Britain."

Of Vital Importance.

"I do not forget that all parties in the United States agree in the desire to obtain possession of Canada. Under existing circumstances it is of immense importance to have Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his party committed to the policy which secured the unanimous consent of the house of commons on a question of such vital importance and a great responsibility will rest upon those who disturb that compact."

"I cannot understand the demand for Dreadnoughts in the face of the fact that the admiralty and British Government have determined that it was not the best mode of maintaining the security of the empire and arranged with Canada and Australia (the latter of whom had offered one or two Dreadnoughts) for the construction of local navies to keep open the trade routes in case of war."

"All difficulty as to the question of autonomy is now removed, as it is fully recognized that the great outlying portions of the empire are sister states, and that means are adopted to secure uniformity in the naval forces of the empire, in the design and construction of the ships, and the training of the officers and men. They are also to be interchangeable, and thus secure uniformity in every respect, so as to act as effective units with the British navy."

A Great Responsibility.

"Of course, the government of the day will be held accountable for carrying out the policy thus agreed upon in a thoroughly effective manner, but I cannot avoid thinking that a fearful responsibility will rest upon those who disturb or destroy the compact entered into on this vitally important question. Yours faithfully, "Charles Tupper."

SIR CHAS. TUPPER AND THE NAVAL SCHEME

In a Long Letter to R. L. Borden, Ex-Premier Tells Why He Endorses Government's Plan.

OTTAWA, Dec. 5.—(Special).—The following letter has been addressed by Sir Charles Tupper, who is in England, to R. L. Borden, leader of the opposition, in which he discusses the question of the Canadian navy:

"My dear Mr. Borden.—I have read with much interest the communication to you on naval defence in to-day's issue of the Canadian correspondent of The Times on that paper. I regard that issue as more important than any party issue and am glad to see that you are resolved to maintain the patriotic attitude that the Conservative party assumed last year. "A few years ago, when Canada was struggling to open up for British settlement the great granary of the world, a few enthusiasts here raised the question of a Canadian contribution to the imperial navy. I joined issue with them and was sustained by the press and the public opinion. It was admitted that Canada was not only no burden to the mother country, but without her harbors and coal mines on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts England would require a larger navy."

Results of An Evil Hour.

"In an evil hour for the British Empire Cobdenism was allowed to sweep away the protection policy which had made England mistress of the manufactures of the world and placed all her colonies in the position of foreign countries."

Striking Figure.

Tall, attractive in appearance and exquisitely groomed, she presented a striking picture as she delivered her address. Her enunciation was perfect, her well-modulated voice carrying to every part of the auditorium, and it was no idle statement which claimed her as the world's finest woman orator.

Widespread Movement.

The woman's movement, she stated in her address at the Princess Theatre, was not a sectional or even a national movement. It was international, for it existed in every part of the world. Between it and the union movement, there was a strong connecting link. The introduction of machinery had revolutionized industrial life, and it was from that period that the women's suffrage movement dated.

Co-operative Movement.

Every movement, she said, was based on the co-operative idea; even the budget was a co-operative measure, and woman's suffrage was a constructive, not a destructive, demand for improvement. It was the greatest moral and intellectual question which had torn asunder the social fabric of the world since the advent of the industrial revolution.

"We know," she said in conclusion, "that we are only frail instruments, but conscious of the righteousness of our cause, we shall march onward, breast foremost till that cause shall be carried to a crowning victory."

Mrs. Snowden was accompanied on the platform by Mrs. Flora M. D. Denison and Dr. Margaret Gordon.

Mrs. Snowden is a noble example of the woman who uses votes, not because it is a fad, but because women have a right to the opportunity of equal dignity with men. The desire for votes does not arise from the wish to compete with men. It arises from the desire to use the power that education has given women. Without education, votes are of no use, either to men or women. When women are educated, it is only the ignorant who would deprive them of the use of their knowledge."

Western Ont. Travelers.

Davis and Dillon Are Candidates for Presidency.

LONDON, Dec. 5.—(Special).—At the annual meeting of the Western Ontario Commercial Travelers' Association Saturday, President Green reported a membership of 2536, and nearly \$20,000 added to the reserve fund.

WM. GOLDING ASPHYXIATED

Found Dead in His Room—Had Been Intoxicated.

Wm. Golding of 67 East Queen-street was found dead in his room at 6 p.m. yesterday, from asphyxiation.

Golding was said to have been intoxicated when he went to his room Saturday night, and when Harry Schiller, a roomer at the same place, broke in the gas jet was turned on.

Dr. H. E. King was called and pronounced him dead. The body was removed to the morgue.

Elation in Paris.

PARIS, Dec. 5.—The news of the ratification by Canada of the Franco-Canadian treaty of commerce was received with great joy by the British Chamber of Commerce here. It is expected that a considerable development of trade between the two countries will follow this action by Canada.

KING IN DISGUISE WORKS AS A NAVY

Gustave, to Find Out Truth of Labor Troubles, Spends a Day Working as a Stevedore.

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 5.—King Gustave on Saturday inaugurated a new departure in his government's policy as a stevedore, he spent most of the day carrying sacks of coal from a lighter.

In an interview, after it was all over, the king said that this was only the beginning. He intended to mix with all classes of laborers, so that he might ascertain their opinions and wishes. Already, he added, he had obtained many valuable hints from the men with whom he worked.

But Mrs. Philip Snowden Does Not Condemn Actions of the Militants.

"I am not in favor of militant methods," said Mrs. Philip Snowden, when interviewed on the conclusion of her address in the Princess Theatre last night.

"But, please don't misunderstand me," she added, "for I do not wish to convey the idea that I condemn violent methods. We cannot all work in the same way, but personally, I consider it is better for our own sakes to adopt quiet methods, even at the expense of a greater delay in gaining our object."

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THE WET HEN: I was just trying to decide whether I'd better set on the hen eggs or the goose eggs, or on both, when that coarse person threw cold water over the whole business and threatened to put me under the bar!

Continued on Page 7.

SURDAY 10c 25c PIPPING NG PLOT

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