

THE CANADIAN COLONIST

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DISMISSALS OF CIVIL SERVANTS

Liberal Members of Parliament Offer Objection to Course Followed in This Regard by New Government

MINISTERS RETORT WITH EFFECT

Premier Quotes Rules Laid Down by Statute and Resolution of House—Waterways Commission

OTTAWA, Dec. 6.—That the government intends to apply the rules regarding the dismissal of public officials in a reasonable and moderate way, and not to dismiss persons without convincing evidence of partisanship, was the statement of Premier Borden in the course of a debate which occupied the time of the house this evening.

The matter was brought up by A. K. MacLean, Liberal member for Halifax, on a motion by Mr. Carvell for the production of papers. He professed to have discovered cases of unjust dismissals in Nova Scotia.

Hon. Mr. Pelletier, in the course of the most effective reply, referred to many dismissals by the Liberal government in 1896, and declared that he would take back any man who had been dismissed without evidence.

Mr. MacLean admitted that the Laurier government might have occasionally violated its policy, it might even have violated it without cause, and such action might frequently have brought indignation upon the government. But he pleaded with the government to treat the subject in a generous manner. It should be remembered that there were thousands of office holders whom the Liberals had dismissed in Nova Scotia.

He concluded by saying that postmasters should not be dismissed.

Rules Are Quoted

The prime minister pointed out that the matter had been settled alike for the inside service and for the outside service. For the inside service by statute. Section 43 of the civil service act of 1908 provides that civil servants may vote but must not engage in partisan work in either Dominion or Provincial elections.

For the outside service by a resolution of the house of commons, which admitted the right of outside officials to the untrammelled exercise of their franchise, but forbade their engaging in partisan work of any description at election of representatives to the provincial or dominion legislature.

"My honorable friend (Mr. MacLean) is anxious that inquiry should be made into the case of an official who had in proper case, and so on as I have said, more unwilling to dismiss officials than I am, but where the government or a responsible minister is convinced that an official has been guilty of violating the terms of a statute or a resolution of the house of commons concurred in by both political parties, by which his conduct ought to be guided, I would ask my honorable friend what alternative would the government have in a case of that kind."

"For my part, I hope the day may come, and in no distant future, when the civil service act may be extended to a portion at least of the outside service; and I hope, as fast as it can be reasonably done, to have it apply to the whole of the outside service in this country."

"I would like, honorable gentlemen of the opposition," Mr. Borden added, "to remember this, that if one political party dismisses officials in this way it makes it exceedingly hard for another political party coming into power to take any other line of action."

Mr. Emerson said that the government would apply the statute and resolution only to its opponents.

"That is the way in which it was applied by the late administration," said the premier.

"I am asking the position of the rule now," said Mr. Emerson.

"No doubt," rejoined Mr. Borden, "my hon. friend would desire a different application from that which he carried out himself when he was a member of the government. We shall take all those matters into consideration. I am very glad, indeed, to learn from my hon. friend, that the example of the late government set us is one we ought not to follow."

Sir Wilfrid Laurier made a general attack on the present government. While Mr. Borden was sound in doctrine he was singularly wanting in practice. In 1896 he himself had laid down a rule that officials should not be allowed to take any offensive part in elections. There had been a constant violation since the Conservatives took office of the rule that no man should be dismissed without having an opportunity to defend himself.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier went on to say that his government had also accepted a written statement of a member of parliament, giving the facts and the reasons for asking a person's dismissal.

(Continued on page 2)

NEW COLLIERY

Recently Incorporated Company to Commence Work on Property at Oyster Harbor

NANAIMO, Dec. 6.—P. E. Gibson, of Vancouver, who is interested in the Oyster Harbor Collieries Company, Limited, arrived in this city last evening and said the company intended commencing operations in the near future. This company was incorporated on November 18, and is capitalized at \$3,000,000, the officers being Andrew Laidlaw, of Spokane, president; James D. Farrell, of Seattle, vice-president, and R. A. Laird of Vancouver, secretary and treasurer.

Mr. Gibson states that the property consists of some 1,500 acres, and comprises the Hendrickson and Page farms and a portion of the Indian reservation, with coal rights under the bay.

The statutory meeting will be held on Dec. 29, and operations will be commenced immediately after. It is estimated that the property contains some 17,000,000 tons of bituminous coal in three seams, namely, the Douglas, Newcastle and Wellington seams.

Fire in Aged Women's Home

TORONTO, Dec. 6.—A fire which broke out in Dunn's lumber yards spread to the Aged Women's Home in Belmont street tonight and the ninety-nine inmates were rescued with difficulty.

There were no fatalities, although 25 of the inmates were helpless and had to be carried from the building. The loss is about \$30,000.

LOS ANGELES MAJORITY

Very Large Majority Polled for Former Mayor Alexander Over Mr. Harriman, Socialist Candidate

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 5.—Socialism, the meteor that flashed ascendancy upon the political scene in Los Angeles in the primaries on October 31, three weeks after the opening of the McNamara trial, plunged into a sea of opposition today, four days after the subject of the dynamite controversy had pleaded guilty.

At the time the brothers were being sentenced 140,000 men and women voters were filing up a majority estimated at from 5,000 to 6,000 for Mayor George J. Alexander, the "good government" and citizens' committee candidate, over Job Harriman, Socialist, and former counsel for the McNamaras, who had pleaded a plurality of 5,000 over the Mayor in the nominating primary little more than a month ago.

Prohibition, represented in the most drastic "dry" ordinance ever presented in this city, or elsewhere, went down in the rural vote with Socialism under the leadership of the fact that approximately 90 per cent. of the 80,000 men registered for their first vote in California, exercised the suffrage.

The reversal of the majority vote, in spite of the pre-election predictions to the contrary, was attributed by leaders of both factions in great part at least to the sensational ending of the McNamara trial on Friday last.

"The people who bring themselves to vote for Alexander stayed at home," was the declaration of S. C. Graham, chairman of the good government organization.

Los Angeles harbors somewhere between 225,000 and 250,000 people. The gross registration was 122,500; the net, after several thousands of names had been thrown out, amounting to more than 187,000. Of these, 140,830, according to unofficial figures, cast their ballots.

The prohibition ordinance was beaten by a vote of 2 to 1. If the vote had been reversed, and its provisions carried into effect at the mandate of the people, not a drop of any kind of liquor could have been sold or given away in homes or other places anywhere in the city. Not a drop of liquor of any sort could have been manufactured, and several breweries would have been put out of business. Only a physician's prescription would have been available to permit the use of any liquid containing any alcohol.

So delicate was the political situation throughout the campaign that no condition or fact would fail to affect the prospects.

A mysterious organization known as the taxpayers' league, which claimed that no saloon keepers or liquor men were members, paid thousands of dollars for advertising space to urge its defeat. Its appeals prevailed. In the face of the returns the men and women who voted for the so-called good government ticket, headed by a man elected as a reformer, refused to make this "city the driest town anywhere in the country."

Hotel Burned

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 5.—The Queen's hotel at Summerside was completely gutted by fire this morning. The large number of guests who were in the house escaped without injury but lost everything.

Chinamen to Be Deported

MONTREAL, Dec. 5.—Judge Let and Lon and Louis Lee, two Chinamen from the United States, \$225 each for gaining entrance to the state without payment of the head tax. They will be deported to China.

HIS ABDICATION COMES TOO LATE

Prince Chun's Hope of Saving Throne for His Son Likely to Be Disappointed—Edict is Strangely Worded

UNPOPULARITY IS ACKNOWLEDGED

Leaders of Republican Movement Decide to Float War Bonds—Coming Assembly at Shanghai

PEKING, Dec. 6.—An edict announcing the abdication of the Regent, Prince Chun, was issued today by the Empress Dowager. It is signed by members of the cabinet, and points out that the administration has been unpopular and that a constitutional government has not been established.

The regent regrets that his penance came too late and feels that if he continued in power his commands would be disregarded.

The edict commands: "He went and proved to resign, at the same time expressing his earnest intention to abstain from politics."

The Empress Dowager, living in the palace, was ignorant of the state of affairs, but now knows that the revolution exists, and fighting continues everywhere.

The edict commands loyalty to the ministers, who "must now realize that the court does not object to the surrender of the power vested in them."

The regent has been granted 5,000 taels yearly.

Comes Too Late
The regent sacrificed himself in a last effort to save the throne for his son, but unless all signs fail, it is too late, Premier Yuan Shi Kai has left Peking.

The rebels are confident tonight that Yuan Shi Kai is their man. They describe him as a master hand.

The edict exhorts all the princes to retire peacefully. This may indicate that (Continued on Page 2)

NO TESTIMONY FOR GRAND JURY

McNamara Brothers Not Likely to Be Witnesses or to Implicate Others in Dynamite Conspiracy

LEGAL PROBLEMS FOR SOLUTION

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 6.—Whether or not John J. McNamara and his brother James B. McNamara, now waiting commitment to San Quentin, will tell enough about other questions to make it worth while to take them before a federal grand jury was a question under consideration by officials here tonight. Up to a late hour the grand jury had not been assured.

The question was raised today as to whether a convicted felon could be allowed to testify before the grand jury and if not, whether the testimony of the McNamaras, if given, might invalidate subsequent indictments. Attorneys connected with the McNamara case said there was no doubt on the subject, and that the McNamaras would not do any good.

Orie McNamara probably will appear before the federal grand jury, whether the McNamaras do or not.

Men fairly close to the McNamaras said that there was small chance that James B. who received a life sentence, rubbed in by a scoring from Judge Walter Bordwell, would talk before the grand jury to an extent that would implicate any one else. The usual course where witnesses refuse to talk is to go ahead with contempt proceedings, but these would hardly do any good because a jail sentence is of small moment to a man already under sentence for life.

"The McNamaras are not going to implicate anyone," said one of their counsel. "They are not going to appear before the grand jury." An official of the state also was inclined to this view.

Commitments to take the men to the penitentiary are ready. They were made up in a hurry yesterday, but were not served, because if they had been the brothers would have to be started north last night. They will be held until the grand jury problem is settled.

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 6.—The steamer Empress of Ireland, aboard of which is Princess Patricia, is not likely to reach Halifax before tomorrow night. A Princess will leave here Friday morning.

King and Queen Reach Delhi

DELHI, India, Dec. 7.—King George and Queen Mary arrived here this morning.

PACKERS ON TRIAL

Case of Chicago, Ill., Indictment on Charge of Violating Sherman Law, at East Nepean Trial

CHICAGO, Dec. 6.—After eight years on devious trails before grand juries and on special appeals, the cases of ten Chicago meat packers, indicted for alleged violation of the anti-trust law, reached trial today. Indications were that the early stages of the trial, at least, would be rapid, for the government's examination of the first panel of jurors was terse.

By agreement each side was entitled to 30 peremptory challenges and by night the government had secured two. No venire man had been questioned by the defense.

All defendants were in court when the cases were called. Personal pleas of not guilty were entered.

In Honor of Cardinals

ROME, Dec. 6.—Monsignor Kennedy, the rector, and the students of the American college, gave a musicale today in honor of Cardinals Farley and O'Connell. The audience included Cardinal Falconio and many prominent prelates, dignitaries of the Papal Court, and members of the American colony.

WHITE PASS CASE AGAIN ADJOURNED

Dawson Board of Trade and Colonel Conrad Ask Further Time for Preparation of Their Answers

OTTAWA, Dec. 6.—The application of the White Pass and Yukon railway to the railway commission for a rehearing of the case in which the board last January rendered a decision ordering the company to reduce its freight rates one-third, was again adjourned this afternoon until Monday, January 23, 1912. The company was prepared to proceed with the hearing, but N. T. Maclean, representing the Dawson city board of trade, asked for an adjournment in order that they might get their case, protesting against the reduction of the present rates, in order. The adjournment was granted.

F. H. Chrysler, K. C. of this city, appeared for the company, and through General Manager Dickson introduced a great deal of evidence as to the poor state of the company's finances and outlook for the future.

The case of Colonel J. H. Conrad, of Whitehorse, who charged that the company charged excessive freight rates on ore and machinery from Carcross, was also adjourned until January 22nd. The adjournment was asked for by J. P. Grace and T. P. Gault, counsel for Colonel Conrad. The board informed them that it would be the last, as the case had been adjourned altogether too many times already.

CANAL COMPLETION

National Rivers and Harbors Congress Discusses Big Bitch and Its Probable Effect on Transportation

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—Early completion of the Panama canal and its probable effect on transportation in the United States, featured the addresses of nearly every speaker at the Eighth Annual Session of the National Rivers and Harbors congress here today.

Secretary of War Stimson welcomed the delegates and spoke on the relation of the canal to foreign trade.

Representative Ramsdell of Louisiana, president of the organization, in his annual report says he has received the promise of the Democratic leaders that the house would take up a deeper waterways bill early in the session.

Representative Sparkman of Florida, said that by 1922 the government would have expended more than a billion dollars for waterway purposes. He determined that the unsystematic granting of waterpower sites had done much to curtail the work of channel improvement in rivers.

Joseph N. Seal, of Portland, Ore., spoke on the probable effect of the Panama canal on the lumber trade.

Speakers on the programme for tomorrow, include Secretary of the Interior Fisher, Senator Jones of Washington, General Kirby, chief army engineer, and August Belmont, of New York.

Master Trust in Missouri

CHICAGO, Dec. 6.—Counsel for the International Harvester company received a telegram late today from Jefferson City, Mo., announcing that the supreme court of Missouri had issued a writ of error on the Ouster case in order that it might be carried up to the United States supreme court. General Counsel Edgar A. Bancroft, of the company, said the case would go up immediately.

CANADA BELLE OF THE BALL

Earl Grey Offers Very Complimentary Remarks About Dominion in Speech to London Canadian Club

"LIKE HER WHEAT, NUMBER ONE HARD"

Should Set Good Example to Her Powerful Neighbor—Speaks in Defence of Ambassador Bryce

LONDON, Dec. 5.—The Canadian club had Earl Grey as its chief guest this evening, Lord Strathcona presiding.

Earl Grey responded to the toast of the Dominion of Canada, and humorously remarked that for seven years he had to balance himself like a tight-rope walker, with plaudits and generalities. Canada was the belle of the ball, and plenty of evidence showed that she was now receiving all the bouquets.

After seven years' residence he had returned, and he recognized that Canada was like her wheat, number one hard.

Speaking of Canada's relations with the United States, Earl Grey eulogized the Canadian club of the Dominion, declaring that the directors were only too glad to let the clubs be the pulp for good American preachers. He was vain enough to hold that the United States obtained equally as much advantage from the juxtaposition, and Canada, he hoped, would more and more every year set an example of high living which might have good results on her powerful neighbor.

Earl Grey offered a special defense of Ambassador Bryce against recent attacks in connection with reciprocity, and described Mr. Bryce as "the unpaid ambassador of the Canadian people."

"Canada," said Earl Grey, "would soon demand a special defense of her British ambassador failed to represent her views."

INSURANCE BILL PASSES HOUSE

Third Reading of Chancellor David Lloyd George's Measure is Carried on Vote of 234 to 21

UNIONISTS ABSTAIN FROM VOTING

LONDON, Dec. 6.—Chancellor David Lloyd George's national insurance bill passed its third reading in the house of commons tonight by a vote of 234 to 21.

The Unionists for the most part abstained from voting, because an exception was made in the bill moved by them, while approving the objects of the bill, they considered it had not been adequately discussed in the house.

The bill passed its first reading in the House of Lords today.

HON. MARTIN BURRELL

Minister of Agriculture Addresses Big Gathering of Fruit Growers of Quebec Province

ST. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, Que., Dec. 6.—The address by Hon. Martin Burrell, minister of agriculture, featured the gathering of the members of the Pomological and Fruit Growers' association of the province of Quebec tonight.

The minister of agriculture addressed the gathering as a practical pomologist who had spent many years in the fruit industry. He advised the fruit growers of Quebec to establish a system of co-operation, as had fruit growers of the west, and stated that by this method alone they could achieve the greatest success.

Severely Burned

STRASBURG, Sask., Dec. 6.—James Schafer of Lockwood is suffering from terrible injuries received from fire. He was visiting a friend on the prairie last evening, and while putting his team up for the night, his lantern exploded, and his clothes catching fire. Not being able to put the fire out, he pushed to the well, some distance from the barn, and when nearing it he fell, striking his head against a stone and becoming unconscious. His clothes continued to burn. His friend, alarmed at the fire, hurried out, and seeing the fire, found Schafer slowly burning to death.

MANITOBA CROPS

Government Report Shows That Average and Total Yields of Grain Were Unusually High

WINNIPEG, Dec. 6.—The Manitoba government's crop bulletin issued today gives the grain yield of the province as a hundred and sixty million bushels.

While some of the wheat was slightly off color, the report says, on the whole the quality and quantity was good.

The average wheat yield was 13 bushels, and the total sixty-one million. Oats show a much larger increase in yield, the average being 45 bushels to the acre, and the total seventy-four million. Barley averaged 31 bushels with a total of thirty million.

The average yields are the highest in every class for five years, and show that the Manitoba farmers have had the most prosperous year of the past decade.

Controller Bay Injunction

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—The decision of the house committee on expenditures in the interior department to drop the Controller Bay injunction against an executive session today. It is understood a formal demand will be made on Chairman Graham by resolution to re-open these hearings, and to call Miss M. F. Abbott, who claimed to have found the famous "Dick to Dick" letter, and government officers and employes who may give testimony regarding the Alaskan situation.

H. B. RAILWAY IS HIS TOPIC

Ambassador Bryce Sidetracks Political Questions—Propounded by Men of Press—Has Queries of His Own

OTTAWA, Dec. 6.—Ambassador Bryce wants to know if the Hudson Bay railroad is to be built. That seems to be about the only thing in which he is interested. The impression of a party of pressmen who met him at the dead Hall tonight is worth anything, and he was an attractive thing to contemplate, and he was much interested to learn that there were some people in Western Canada who expected that a good deal of Alberta wheat would find its way to England via that route.

In a general way it may be said that Mr. Bryce is here because he is here and he is going away on Thursday with Premier Borden to New York to speak at the Canadian club dinner in that city on Friday.

SMALLPOX IN QUEBEC

Disease Reaches Nearly Epidemic State Because of Negligence of Municipal Authorities.

QUEBEC, Dec. 6.—Smallpox exists in nearly an epidemic state in Quebec, especially in the laboring districts.

In spite of the efforts made by the sanitary authorities to keep the matter secret, it is stated that there are nearly a hundred cases in Saint Malo.

By-laws were passed last spring to establish compulsory vaccination, and very heavy penalties were to be imposed, but this bylaw was never firmly applied, and today half the population is not vaccinated.

Dramatic Suicide

VANCOUVER, Dec. 6.—After writing his mother in Bristol, England, that he was about to commit suicide, Gerald Newport fired two bullets into his head in Stanley park this morning. Four men heard the shots, but did not reach the man before he sank dead on a bench. Nothing is known of him.

Three Die in Fire

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 6.—Three persons were burned to death or suffocated tonight in a fire that destroyed the fashionable Marie apartment house. Those who lost their lives were Samuel Balfour, his wife and their six-year-old daughter. The bodies were found on the fourth floor where they had rooms.

LOS ANGELES ELECTION

Returns Show Substantial Majority for Mayor Alexander Over Socialist Candidate

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 6.—Complete returns from 315 out of 317 precincts in yesterday's municipal election, give George Alexander, incumbent and candidate of the Good Government League for mayor, 23,378, and Job Harriman, 22,922.

The two missing precincts are in Wallington. They had a registration of over 1600.

The entire Good Government ticket was elected.

FINE BUILDING FOR AUSTRALIA

Commonwealth Buys Site on the Strand, London, and Will Erect Official Structure to Cost £364,000

PROVIDE OFFICES FOR ALL STATES

Sir George Reid Protests at Idea of Dominion's Withholding Military Aid from Mother Country

LONDON, Dec. 6.—Australia has acquired a freshhold of a magnificent site on the Strand and intends to erect at a cost of £364,000 a great building, which will include an inscription hall and offices for all the Australian states. The net cost to the Commonwealth will be for the building alone, which will cost £250,000.

New Zealand has been told by Australia that she will be welcome if she cares to come under the same roof.

Meanwhile the Morning Post is urging the importance of grouping the London offices of all overseas dominions in one building, thereby making an imperial centre in the Empire's capital.

Sir George Reid, the Australian high commissioner, speaking before the Empire League, said he had heard an arrangement mentioned whereby in times of war the people could quietly look on. Such news was not only absurd but impossible. The Australian and Canadian governments, if they wanted to stand out when the mother country was threatened, could not keep the people back.

At the same gathering, Postmaster General Samuel regarding the reduction of cable rates said the arrangement would do no good, and a monopoly. He said that whatever views on the economic state of the world were, he was sure all rejoiced in the motive so powerfully working in the minds of Canadians indicating a desire to maintain the unity of the British Empire.

SEVEN DEAD

Many Workmen Caught in Wreckage of Three-Storey Concrete Building in Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 6.—Under the glare of searchlights, police and firemen tonight charged for the bodies of persons caught in the wreckage of a three-storey concrete building which collapsed tonight, causing the death of seven workmen and injuring 21. Three bodies were recovered tonight. It is believed that the concrete had not set properly owing to cold weather.

The dead: Fred Asher, Henry Barnes, M. F. Hadley, W. E. McConnell, David Ross, John Straughar and James B. Verdun.

The building collapsed at the noon hour, when most of the workmen had gone home. Most of those caught in the debris were sitting about the building eating their lunch.

In one instance a priest gave absolution to a man thought to be dying, who a few minutes later was resuscitated.

Forfeited Stays in Northwest

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 6.—The meeting of the Pacific Coast Baseball league was held tonight and will be continued tomorrow. Questions of forfeiture of the make of balls to be used were discussed, but no decision was reached. The principal subject decided was that the McCredies may continue to have a Northwest League in Portland for the season of 1912. There was no opposition to this plan. Formal action awarding the pennant for the season of 1911 to Portland also was taken. The game in Portland, Al. Baum was elected president for the term of five years.

English Seming Improving

SCRANTON, Pa., Dec. 4.—Hugh Jennings, manager of the Detroit American League baseball club, who was injured on Friday night when he was thrown from a motor car, showed further improvement today.

Prattic Mayors

WINNIPEG, Dec. 4.—Today's elections: Oxbow, Mayor Willie, Stettler, Mayor Bentley; Broadview, Mayor Macdonald; Lanigan, Mayor J. T. Campbell; Siskiw Head, Mayor Davidson; Modoc-min, Dr. Tanner; Qu'Appelle, Mayor Caswell; Medicine Hat, Nelson Spencer; High River, Wallace.

Cocaine Evil in Montreal

MONTREAL, Dec. 4.—To such an extent has the cocaine traffic developed in this city, and so numerous are the cases coming before the courts daily that the matter was given very serious consideration at the meeting of the city council today, several aldermen going so far as to tender their support to the motion requesting the government to absolutely prohibit the importation of the drug into the province. It was pointed out that cocaine was at times a medical necessity, and the motion was withdrawn for the time at least, until some suitable modification can be obtained.