

40TH YEAR. NO. 2009

PRICE TWO CENTS.

## CHECKS MAY BE CASHED AT "SOO"

Outstanding Time of the Men  
To Be Settled.

NO MORE WORK UNTIL SPRING

President of the Sault Board of Trade  
to Call an Indignation Meeting  
of Citizens.

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Sept. 23.—The official announcement this morning that the Sault syndicate would sell the assets of the Consolidated Lake Superior Company at auction on Oct. 1, has aroused some hope here that the reorganization plans may not take as long to effect as expected. The notes for which the mortgages were given as collateral will be sold on that date at 161 Broadway, New York. The terms of the sale are that the securities must be paid for and purchased in one parcel, and Sault & Co. reserve the right to bid in the properties offered for sale.

The sale of the notes would have the effect of wiping off the boards the whole of the company's issued capital stock of one hundred and two millions. To obtain title to the properties it would then be necessary, according to Canadian law, for the purchasers of the notes to foreclose their collateral mortgages, and subsequently put them up at auction. It will take time to do all this—probably six months—and in the interval the works must remain closed, and no set of individuals would have the power to operate them, even if they had ample capital behind them. The outlook for the Soo is therefore for a quiet winter. There is no use living in a foot's paradise. The town's business men must resign themselves to the situation, and be prepared to crawl to their burrows until the spring. By that time there does not seem to be any reason to doubt the situation will have worked out its own solution, and that our industries will have been placed upon a more stable basis than at any time in the past.

### NEW CASHING CHECKS.

Assistant Manager Coyne stated today that he did not know anything more than an outsider as to when the pay sheets would be settled up. Coyne have been engaged in writing out the checks, and will be ready to disburse the cash promptly when it does arrive. The impression is gaining ground that arrangements will be made soon whereby the outstanding time will be cashed. Manager Lyon, of the Imperial Bank, said this afternoon that he had received letters in reference to the matter, and he is sanguine that the situation will be in a position to pay any checks presented at a small discount in a day or two. Mayor Plummer today, closed several pay vouchers at his store, presumably on the strength of information that he had received. This has been the means of allaying the talky feeling somewhat.

Mr. Coyne gave out today that the men would be brought in from the woods in batches of five hundred each, the first contingent to come down tomorrow, when three hundred miners from Michigan should also be here from the Minnie M. The officials do not anticipate any trouble. Employment agents are here in a boom town, anxious to hire all the hands who come in. No man need be out of work for a day, but it is a question if they will agree to go off to other camps without first receiving their back pay. If it is not produced serious trouble will be the result. The men will be in a position to leave their checks with friends or agents, to be presented at the proper time. The Sault syndicate may be likely the exorbitant French-Canadian woodsmen will move from the spot until he receives his money.

### THE EFFECT IS WIDESPREAD.

The closing down of the Soo pulp mills is causing serious trouble to Kansas City papers, who are the proprietors of a paper mill and own a number of newspapers in that state. These people have quarreled with the American pulp combine and have been depending upon our pulp to keep them going. Now that they are unable to secure any further pulp from the combine, they are in a bad way.

### The Ross Rifle.

London, Sept. 23.—The favorable opinion expressed by the rifleman at Bletley regarding the Ross rifle has encouraged the British Government to make an offer to arm some of the British regiments with their Canadian weapon.

### Yale's 203rd Year.

New Haven, Conn., Sept. 23.—Yale University entered upon its 203rd year today. In the law school addresses of welcome were delivered by President Hadley and Dean Henry Wade Rogers.

## BIRMINGHAM TO STAND BY JOSEPH

Chamber of Commerce Favors  
Moderate Duties on Foreign  
Products Conditionally.

London, Sept. 24.—By a majority of 409, the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce supported the proposal to impose moderate duties on products, the exclusive raw material and the manufactures of foreign countries, so long as the colonies granted such a preference as would adequately compensate the mother country. The chamber also approved of the principle of the colonial governments being secured with a picket that the animal was finally driven from the barn. Mr. Hemmingway lived only a few minutes after being rescued.

## SHAMROCK I. SOLD

Cost \$200,000 and Is Bought for \$20,000.

New York, Sept. 24.—The American says: Shamrock I., the trial horse for Shamrock III., has been sold through the agency of H. H. Davies, Sir Thomas Lipton's representative in this country, to Mr. George DePina, who says the price paid was under \$20,000. The purchaser says he has not decided what to do with the boat. Shamrock I. cost Sir Thomas Lipton over \$250,000.

## THE SHOOTING WAS BAD

Hunter Repeats His Assertion About  
Naval Guns.

London, Sept. 24.—In an interview yesterday on the subject of the demand made upon him through the admiralty by Rear-Admiral Lambton, for an apology, Lieut.-Gen. Sir Archibald Hunter said: "The South African war commission was appointed to elicit facts and opinions. Right or wrong, in my evidence before the commission, I pronounced the opinion, which I believe to be true, that the shooting of the naval guns at Ladysmith was bad. So far as I am concerned, the matter rests there."

## A CLEVER PAIR RUN TO EARTH

Stole More Than \$130,000 and  
Victimized Many U. S. Business Houses.

Chicago, Sept. 24.—More than \$130,000 stolen, business houses in every part of the United States victimized, a bank afflicted, a waiter risen from poverty to affluence, and an ex-convict again placed behind the bars. These are the figures in the meteoric career of at least two men now under arrest in Chicago.

Postoffice inspectors made the captures, Julius M. Nison, known also by a dozen other names, and Arthur J. Herbst, said to have many aliases, are the prisoners. Nison has confessed, but Herbst will not admit that he had any part in the big swindle. Postoffice Inspector A. E. Germer has complaints against the two men from nearly 200 individuals and corporations, who have lost amounts ranging from \$25 to \$3,000. All these have been victimized since June 26, when Nison opened an office in Chicago. In previous operations, under different names, the men are alleged to have secured at least \$130,000 in the last eleven months. This is the mode of procedure, according to the inspectors.

Nison and Herbst would go to a city, open an office, engaging ostensibly in the retailing of merchandise, and then they would secure at least \$100,000 in the way of goods. They would operate under the name of some company well known to the world, and in ordering goods to the value of thousands of dollars would give commercial agency references.

After the articles had been received the bogus company would transfer the consignments to a warehouse, and then they would be disposed of through a "fence," which has baffled the inspectors for months. When suspicion was aroused the men would flee to another city.

One of the boldest moves of the two men is said to have been to establish a bank to give commercial strength to their "enterprises."

Nison for several years was a waiter and in 1900 owned a restaurant in Chicago. He sold this place and toured Europe. Then he returned to Boston and was sentenced there to one year for shoplifting.

## WROTE TO THE WIVES

Novel Method to Influence Toledo  
Councillmen.

Toledo, Ohio, Sept. 24.—Late Monday letters were received by the wives of several councillors which conveyed threats to the lives of the councillors should they fail to support the mayor's veto of the railway franchise. Among other things the letters, which were carbon copies, said:

"The councillors will be liable to ex-communication if they do not support the mayor's veto of the railway franchise. Their lives will be in danger. Mobs know no law and the police force is too small to cope with mobs. It is known that the traction company has purchased votes. What will it help your husband if he gains thousands of dollars and loses his life?"

It is claimed the letters are the work of the traction company to work on public sentiment.

## MAD BULL KILLS A CORINTH MAN

Mr. Peter Hemmingway Knocked  
Down and Trampled to Death  
in His Barn.

St. Thomas, Sept. 24.—Peter Hemmingway of Corinth was killed by a bull yesterday morning. While he was attending to some duties in the barn the animal suddenly turned on him, and, although dehorned, it trampled and bruised him. It was only through the heroic efforts of the hired man with a pitchfork that the animal was finally driven from the barn. Mr. Hemmingway lived only a few minutes after being rescued.

## DOUBT SINCERITY OF PORTE'S REPLY

France Thinks That Turkey  
Is Making a Bluff.

IN ORDER TO IMPRESS POWERS

Bulgaria Refuses to Consider Proposals  
Until Turkey Ceases  
Massacres.

Paris, Sept. 24.—The French foreign office officials doubt the sincerity of the reply to the Bulgarian note, believing it to be a maneuver to impress the powers with the idea that Turkey is doing her utmost to effect a settlement before going to war. A similar impression seems to prevail at Sofia, since Bulgaria, in answering, requires Turkey to cease mobilizing, stop the massacres and withdraw her troops from near the frontier before she will consider the proposals.

Constantinople, Sept. 24.—The battle of Kresna Pass, according to the latest advices received here, is still in progress. The insurgents are successfully holding strong positions and their casualties are light, only a score being killed or wounded, while the Turks, up to the present have lost five officers and 320 men killed or wounded. Part of the British Mediterranean squadron has arrived at Suda Bay, Island of Crete, and is held in readiness in case of developments in the Balkan situation.

### THE RUSSIAN NOTE.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 24.—The Russian Government has issued an official note reiterating that the attitude of the powers in regard to the Austro-Russian reform scheme for Macedonia is unchanged and that, consequently, neither Turkey nor Bulgaria can expect support from any quarter in the event of open or secret resistance to that scheme.

The Government, after pointing out that the suggested reforms were at the outset attended with good results, continues: "These, however, did not satisfy the Macedonian committees which have sprung from the Slav religiousists against Turkish oppression, these committees exerted themselves to raise a general insurrection by cruel and bloody means, and the introduction of the projected reforms. Unhappily, in spite of the precautions of the Sofia Government, the Macedonian Christians have been cruelly in Bulgaria itself, finding support among those who mistakenly reckoned that the outbreak thus caused would compel Russia to alter her programme."

This fatal conception, against which Russia gave incessant warnings, has brought upon the Christians in the Turkish vilayets grievous oppression which will only end when the incursion of insurgents from Bulgaria and the revolutionary activity of the committee cease. Not until then can the immediate application of the reforms needed by the population and by which they have been suffering from the atrocities, be insisted upon, the most energetic endeavors having failed to bridle the fanaticism of the Mussulmans.

### TROUBLE ON THE LAKES

Steel Corporation at Odds With  
Lake Sailors.

Cleveland, Sept. 24.—Developments in the trouble which threatens to bring the commerce of the great lakes to a stop, give no indication of an early settlement. The men on the United States steel corporation fleet left their boats on the plea that they were sick. Captain Moore, of the "Masters" and Floits' Association says there will be opposition to any assistance being offered that corporation by independent vessel owners. The independent vesselmen state that if they cannot vote on the plea that they were sick, they will tie up their own craft. Captain Moore, of the association, made the statement last night that the present trouble arose from the violation of a verbal agreement made by the Lake Carriers' Association, March 23 last, that no more than 100,000 tons of steel would be shipped by the association would be employed by its members.

### HER LOVE-LETTERS READ

And Young Woman Faints in the  
Court.

Dublin, Ind., Sept. 24.—Miss Blanche Culver, of Jersey City, N. J., who is suing Ezra Kendall, a wealthy farmer of Rush county, near here, for breach of promise, asking \$10,000 damages, fainted away when a bundle of tender love-letters alleged to have been written to her by Kendall were produced. Some of the romantic passages in the letters follow:

"In about ten days we will have on—maybe that will be an inducement for you to come out and see me."

"Nature makes but one face like yours."

"I have been three days writing this letter."

"Your name, Blanche, is the sweetest in the vocabulary of women's names."

"A moment with you is rapturous joy, am thinking of you always."

Kendall is nearly 50 years of age and has been married before.

## PARKS GETS REVENGE

He Deposits President of Local Union  
No. 2.

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 24.—Business Agent Sam Parks announced last night that Robert E. Neidig, president of local union No. 2, International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, of New York, the only officer of that union who supported the policy of President Buchanan, has been deposed as president, and that his expulsion from the union is under consideration.

## CHILD CAME TO LIFE

Falls into Trance in Courtroom But  
Later Revives.

Pittsburg, Sept. 24.—While Mr. and Mrs. Joseph New York were seated in the criminal court room last Thursday their 14-month-old child seemingly died while they were waiting to be called in an assault and battery case. Everyone pronounced the child dead, and the mother took the body home with her. Sunday the couple were again in court, and the judge began sympathizing with the mother. He was astonished to learn that the baby had recovered life on returning home, and the mother would not take any more chances by bringing the child into court.

## DEATH, DISEASE IN WEST INDIES

Appalling Condition of Things at  
St. Kitts—British Govern-  
ment Is Blamed.

St. Thomas, Danish West Indies, Sept. 24.—The Gazette of the British Island of St. Christopher (St. Kitts) says an appalling condition of poverty exists in St. Kitts and Nevis. The estates have been compelled to lessen their expenses owing to the long drought, and able bodied men and women are hardly earning enough to supply their daily wants.

The Times of St. Vincent blames the Government for the misery prevailing since the volcanic eruption in that island, adding that starvation and disease are killing many persons and that a large number are half naked and homeless. Laborers of both sexes sleep in sheds and tattered tents by crowded paths, and the prevalence of disease and immorality and a disgrace to the colony.

## NOT A "SILK STOCKING"

Millionaire Never Paid Over 20 Cents  
For His Socks.

Syracuse, Sept. 24.—"Twenty cents is the most I ever paid for socks, and that is enough. They say that Judge Fred W. Thompson is a silk stocking, but I don't believe it. I don't think he ever paid over 20 cents for his stockings either."

This statement was made by John Dunfee, the millionaire Democratic state committeeman. Mr. Dunfee, although a millionaire, now, saw the need of wearing any kind of stockings, and he has never lost his sympathy with the common people.

Judge Thompson is seeking the Democratic nomination for mayor this fall, and it has been urged against him that he is a "silk stocking." This Mr. Dunfee denies.

## A Controversy Settled.

St. Paul, Sept. 23.—The controversy between the engineers and firemen and the Great Northern road has been amicably settled. The terms of agreement were made public but each side made some concessions.

## A Chance for Minto.

London, Sept. 24.—The Westminster Gazette, referring to Lord Minto's having Rieu Hall to himself, says: "Lord Minto will be left ample time to steep his head in the fiscal problem in which a Canadian group of the nation may be useful when he returns to the British House of Lords."

## WEATHER BULLETIN

London, Thursday, Sept. 24.  
Sun rises, 5:24 a.m. Moon rises, 5:51 a.m.  
Sun sets, 6:14 p.m. Moon sets, 5:25 p.m.

## Tomorrow—Fair and Cool.

Toronto, Sept. 23—5 p.m.  
The disturbance mentioned last night has moved quickly eastward to Quebec, and a cool wave is following in its wake. The weather has been fair and moderately warm today in the Northwest Territories, but is likely to be showery again.

Temperatures between 70° and 80° were recorded in many parts of Ontario and Quebec.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 32-41; Victoria, 50-62; Kamloops, 48-64; Calgary, 34-72; Winnipeg, 28-62; Port Arthur, 38-58; Pelly, 30-44; Toronto, 62-80; Ottawa, 52-78; Montreal, 52-76; Quebec, 44-75; Halifax, 48-70.

## FORECASTS.

Thursday, Sept. 24—5 a.m.  
Today—Fresh, northwesterly winds; partly cloudy and much cooler.

Friday—Local frosts in the early morning; fair and cool, with moderate, variable winds.

Temperatures. 8 a.m. Min. Weather.  
Calgary.....36 36 Cloudy  
Winnipeg.....42 42 Fair  
Pelly Sound.....42 38 Fair  
Toronto.....46 42 Fair  
Ottawa.....44 41 Fair  
Montreal.....46 46 Cloudy  
Quebec.....44 41 Fair  
Pelly Point.....48 42 Cloudy

## WEATHER NOTES.

The disturbance which was north of the great lakes yesterday is now centered near Pelly Point. Scattered showers occurred last night in Ontario and Quebec, and there has been a pronounced change to cooler weather. In the Northwest Territories and Manitoba the outlook is rather unsettled, but the tendency is likely to be toward higher temperatures.

Local temperatures: Wednesday—High, 68, 75.5; lowest, 51.

## ACID THROWING AT OWEN SOUND

Sensational Story Told by  
Mrs. Boyce in Court.

AT TRIAL OF MRS. W. M. ROY

The Story of the Desperate Struggle  
In the Fisherman's Hut—Prisoner  
Collapses.

Owen Sound, Sept. 23.—This morning Mrs. William Roy was committed to stand her trial at the December sessions on the charge of throwing carbolic acid in the face of Emma Boyce, with intent to maim or disfigure her. The only witness heard was Emma Boyce, who gave evidence on Monday last against William Roy, with whom she had been jointly charged with conspiracy. The story told under oath today by Mrs. Boyce was that on Aug. 12, she was at the house of Mr. Pickering, a fisherman, who resides at the north end of Bay street. She noticed a woman come over the bank at the railway track and pass around the house. She passed the window twice and then the witness heard her come into the woodshed. After waiting nearly a minute for her to knock she went to the door and opened it. The woman was the prisoner, Mrs. Roy, the witness said. She had a club in her hand, with which she struck the witness on the head. She then pushed her over and got on top of her. Putting her right arm around her neck, she, with the other hand, produced a bottle of carbolic acid from her waist. She tried to pour this down the Boyce woman's throat. Some of the acid got on her lips. As she struggled to free herself the woman dashed the acid into her face and eyes. Mrs. Roy then jumped up and seized a large butcher knife which was lying on the table, but put it down again and made a hurried search for the carbolic acid bottle, which had been knocked out of her hand behind the door. She did not find it, and made her escape down the railroad track, leaving her victim covered with blood and badly burned and half-blinded with the acid. Emma Boyce ran over to the office of the Canadian Ventilating and Heating Company for help. During the assault the only words spoken were when Emma Boyce said: "What does this mean?" Her assailant replied, "You know."

The many friends of Mrs. Roy are standing loyally by her, and a number of offers were made to go her bail. A pathetic incident occurred when Emma Boyce swore that Mrs. Roy was the woman who committed the crime. The prisoner completely collapsed, and had to be removed to one of the ante-rooms, where her hysterical sobs were pitiful to hear. Emma Boyce, the witness, was affected by the scene and burst into tears also. Mrs. Roy will be able to present a strong defense. Emma Boyce's positive statement this morning seems strange in face of the fact that she is said to have told a dozen people that she did not know and never before saw the woman who committed the crime.

## CANADA'S GREAT FUTURE

British Trade Delegates Greatly Im-  
pressed With This Country.

Montreal, Sept. 24.—A private meeting of the British delegates to the Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire was held here yesterday, the object being to discuss how the interests of Canadian industries could best be promoted in Great Britain, and what they considered, as a result of their observations in this country, to be the best outlet for English money. There is a strong feeling manifested by the delegates that more English investment should be diverted to Canada than has been the case, and that less should find its way into United States channels. The general feeling is that a great future is in store for Canada, and that it is on the eve of a season of even greater prosperity than prevails at present.

What is wanted immediately is money, and the delegates generally have made up their minds to influence its investment here. The delegates would not state the result of the meeting. Mr. Kenneth I. Murray pointed out that they were simply delegates, and as such could not pledge themselves to any course of action until they had seen their own Chambers of Commerce. However, he had hopes so much as touches the brass part he will get a shock that will knock him over. One hardware man says that with any long steel instrument he can strike sparks from the metal ceiling. In another office a lamp has been hanging over an iron bar for a long time, and the installation became worn through. The other day when the light was turned on the bar and all the metal fixtures became charged with a current sufficient to knock a man down if he touched any of them.

On Saturday night a "short, stout, shopkeeper carried a lamp to the stair walk, and happening to touch the brass, the first thing he knew he was on his back on the concrete walk, and the next he was on his head in the ditch. Though a churchman, his remarks were nearly as strong as any current. His hand across the palm was burned black.

Things have been going on like this for some weeks with no improvement. The electric plant is owned by the town, and the mayor is being appealed to to get in touch with the situation and secure the services of an expert before someone will require the services of a coroner.

## THE ALASKAN BOUNDARY

S'r Robert Finlay Has Concluded His  
Argument.

London, Sept. 23.—Attorney-General Finlay concluded his argument in behalf of Canada at this morning's session of the Alaskan boundary commission. He received the thanks of Chief Justice Alvestone and the congratulations of Messrs. Root and Lodge on his "lucid explanation of so technical and comprehensive a subject."

The Attorney-General made it clear that Canada wants above everything access to the sea, and American counsel states that every effort will be made by them to convince the tribunal that the treaty contemplated a barrier between the Dominion and the ocean, and that the question of territory is not important, provided the shores and inlets remain in the possession of the United States.

The Attorney-General concluded as follows: "I am deeply sensible of the importance of the case, that the eyes of the people of Canada are fixed upon this tribunal, and I know, too, that many interests may be deeply affected by the decision of the commissioners. I trust that Canadian interests will not suffer from any imperfection in my presentation of the case, and I commit the question into the hands of the tribunal, with full confidence in the wisdom of their judgment."

## THE TORIES WON AT ROCHESTER

Sir Henry Johnston, Liberal,  
Defeated by Chas. Tuff At-  
ter Hot Fight.

London, Sept. 24.—A bye-election was held at Rochester yesterday to replace Viscount Cranborne, who resigned his seat in the Commons on his elevation to the peerage as a consequence of the death of his father, Marquis of Salisbury. The contest, which was keenly fought on the fiscal question, resulted in the Conservatives retaining the seat, and electing Charles Tuff over Sir Henry Johnston, Liberal. Tuff opposes the tax on food, it is said, although supporting Balfour's retaliatory measures.

## VERY SUDDEN DEATH

Young Chicago Lady Succumbs to  
Heart Failure.

Burlington, Ont., Sept. 24.—Mrs. Lottie Scott, of Chicago, Ill., who had been visiting relatives here for the past month, died suddenly this morning. She had just arisen and was in her room dressing when she suddenly fell and expired within a few minutes from heart failure. She was 30 years old.

## CLERGUE SEES PREMIER

But Refuses To Divulge Nature of  
the Meeting.

Toronto, Sept. 24.—Mr. F. H. Clergue spent yesterday here, and was closeted at the King Edward with the solicitor of the company, Mr. H. E. Hamilton, and with several local capitalists, although he spent some time with the Premier and the Attorney-General, they had little to say of their doings, the only important announcement being that Mr. Clergue, that he was asking no aid from the Government.

Premier Ross, Col. Gibson and Mr. Bowman are still in the city. Mr. Ross saying that it would not be fair to Mr. Clergue and his friends to divulge anything of what had occurred.

Mr. Clergue was asked as to the purpose of his visit, but said they were merely paying their respects to the Premier, and were not spent before him their plans for reorganizing the company.

"Are you seeking any aid from the Province?"

"No, we are not. That report was all wrong," he replied, but refused to say anything further, and would not even say who his companions were.

## ELECTRIC WORKS PLAYING PRANKS

Everything Metal in Newmarket  
Appears To Be Charged With  
the Fluid.

Newmarket, Ont., Sept. 24.—This town is electrified. Something has gone wrong at the electric light plant, and a great number of the incandescent lamps are so charged that if a person so much as touches the brass part he will get a shock that will knock him over. One hardware man says that with any long steel instrument he can strike sparks from the metal ceiling.

In another office a lamp has been hanging over an iron bar for a long time, and the installation became worn through. The other day when the light was turned on the bar and all the metal fixtures became charged with a current sufficient to knock a man down if he touched any of them.

On Saturday night a "short, stout, shopkeeper carried a lamp to the stair walk, and happening to touch the brass, the first thing he knew he was on his back on the concrete walk, and the next he was on his head in the ditch. Though a churchman, his remarks were nearly as strong as any current. His hand across the palm was burned black.

Things have been going on like this for some weeks with no improvement. The electric plant is owned by the town, and the mayor is being appealed to to get in touch with the situation and secure the services of an expert before someone will require the services of a coroner.

## KING EDWARD AND THE NEW CABINET

His Majesty Displays Unusual  
Interest in Its Make-Up.

IS USING THE VETO PRIVILEGE

In Order to Get the Right Men for  
the Situation—Mr. Balfour at  
Balmoral.

London, Sept. 23.—The political crisis has taken on a phase which lends to the present situation an historical and constitutional importance of almost unprecedented interest. The King has interfered in the exercise of his prerogative to an extent never dreamed of in the Victorian age.

Premier Balfour's continued presence at Balmoral has given rise to much surmise and comment, but the Associated Press is able to state definitely that it is due to the King's determination not to assent to the formation of a new cabinet until thoroughly satisfied that its personnel and combination is such as to insure the efficient carrying on of the affairs of the empire pending the resumption of Parliament.

For years previous cabinets were formed or ministerial vacancies filled with the mere formal presentation to the sovereign of the names of the new ministers. King Edward has done away with this tradition. He has spent the last few days in constant discussion with Mr. Balfour as to the advisability from the point of view of suggested appointments of ministers, and those nominated for office have been summoned to Balmoral to join in these conferences, all have been subjected to a degree of interrogation such as has surprised even those who knew King Edward intimately as Prince of Wales. To such an extent is King Edward holding his power of veto in reserve, that now he is almost regarded by the inner circles as more the cabinet-maker than Mr. Balfour himself.

Though with his usual tact, the King has refrained from expressing any political views or infringing the initiative belonging to the ministers, this has not prevented him from expressing his genuine desire, amounting almost to a command, that steps be taken to remedy the scandals in the army administration revealed by the report of the South African war commission, and insisting that the new cabinet shall be one adept at dealing with that question. The King is said to have expressed the opinion that Lord Lansdowne's record as war secretary was not to the badness of the system in vogue than to any defect in Lord Lansdowne's own judgment. King Edward has not shared the keen public indignation against Lord Lansdowne aroused by the report of the South African commission, and at Balmoral he has been a study of the circumstances, is understood to have consented to his lordship continuing as foreign minister. This decision has not prevented his majesty from frankly telling the ministers that he wanted something done to improve the army administration, and that he was not going to let the question of having some general, notably Lord Kitchener, as head of the war office, pass without his approval. The King for the time being, has transformed Balmoral into the political center of the empire, from which, at Balmoral, the war office, the cabinet, and the various departments of state, several surprises may emanate.