BLAIR FREES HIMSELF FROM "ROTTEN SCHEME"

Ex-Minister of Railways Declares Grand Trunk Deal to be the Most Indefensible Transaction in the History of Country---Clears His Skirts of Scandal.

OBJECT TO PROVIDE ELECTION FUNDS

Strong Man From New Brunswick in Fighting Mood---Fielding to go to the Railway Department---Ottawa is Shaken by the Political Upheaval.

"It is one of the most indefensible railway transactions which has ever taken place in this country."—Hon. A. G, Blair, ex-Minister of Railways and Canals, in concluding his letter of resignation.

Ottawa, July 16.—"It is one of the most indefensible railway transactions which has ever taken place in this country."

That is the final sentence in Hon. A. G. Blair's letter of resignation as minister, in which he states that he himself is free from a rotten scheme, the only object of which is to provide funds for the next general election.

The galleries of the Commons were packed to suffocation in anticipation of the speeches. Sir Wilfrid Laurier rose, pale and nervous, shortly after 3 o'clock, and read a brief written document that Mr. Blair had objected to the Moncton-Levis line as paralleling the Intercolonial, which the government did not admit, and further objected to the proposed methods of construction. Except on the railway question, Mr. Blair was still in sympathy with his colleagues.

Mr. Blair then took the floor. He commenced by referring to the newspaper statements to to the reasons why he had left the cabinet, and denied that there had been any pique on his part, or that there had been any disagreement with his colleagues on matters of general policy.

Then the ex-Minister of Railways proceeded with his story. He intimated that the break with his colleagues took place primarily on the fourth of July; but for reasons which he had set forth, final action was deferred until the 13th. He clearly showed that the statements in the newspapers, that he ignored any connection with the Grand Trunk Pacific negotiations, were absolutely correct.

Without going into any detailed account of the Grand Trunk Pacific proposals, and the aid which the government proposed, the ex-minister emphasized the utter ignorance of the government themselves as to the nature and possibilities of the country through which the Moncton-Winnipeg line would pass. He called attention to the fact that the proposed line between Moncton and Quebec, paralleling as it does the government line, practically means the ruin of the Intercolonial railway.

He emphasized the absurdity of building the larger portion of the road and then handing it over to the Grand Trunk Pacific, and bonusing the fat portion which they would build. He came out fairly and squarely for one government line stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and, failing that, was prepared to endorse the building of line by the Grand Trunk Pacific from ocean to ocean with liberal aid from the federal treasury, provided that one-third of the net revenue went into the Dominion exchequer. These suggestions passed unheeded. He had not a single supporter in the cabinet. Hence he stepped down and out.

The House was profoundly astonished at the announcement that the Premier wanted Mr. Blair to remain in the cabinet, although he is stoutly opposed to the Grand Trunk Pacific scheme, Sir Wilfrid himself volunteering to put the bill through.

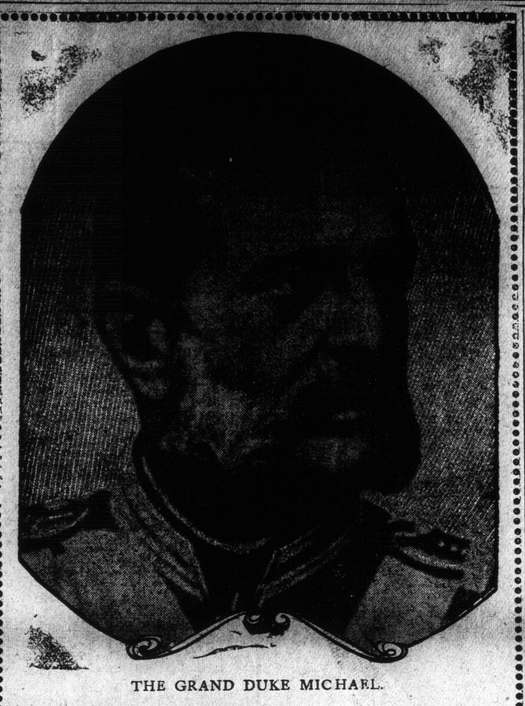
Significant also was Mr. Blair's reference to the cordial relations which had existed between himself and "some of his colleagues."

Hon. Mr. Borden made a rattling speech, in which he called attention to the promise of the government at the beginning of the session to appoint a transportation commission, and then proceed to negotiate with the Grand Trunk Pacific promoters without a commission having been appointed at all. He asked a further explanation from the leader of the House.

Mr. Tarte followed with some interesting remarks. In reply to the attack of the Toronto News, that he had not the confidence of his late colleagues, he said they recommended him for knighthood, but he did not accept.

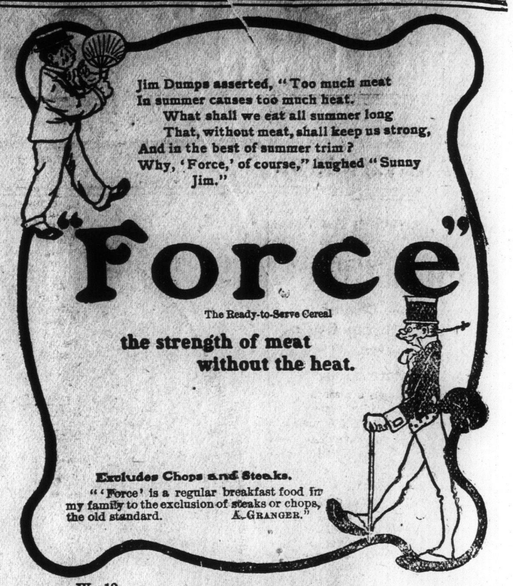
Sir Wilfrid Laurier denied any knowledge of the Toronto News' attack. He would fill the cabinet vacancy in due time, but would not promise to be in any hurry. He insisted that Mr. Blair's course was contrary to the interests of himself, his friends, his province and his country, at a time when Canada wanted a strong transportation policy. The subject then dropped.

It is reported tonight that Mr. Fielding is to go to the railway department. He has been appointed acting minister.



THE GRAND DUKE MICHAEL.

This is the brother of the Czar of Russia, who calls himself the friend of the Hebrews of his brother's domain. He promises to do all in his power to ameliorate their unfortunate condition. At the same time he points out that the Russian government will not brook interference regarding internal policy from any outside power and he warns Americans not to press the matter.



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CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S SOUPS, Pint Glass Jars	50c.
CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S JUGGED HARE, Tin	75c.
CAPT. WHITE'S CURRY PASTE, Jar	50c.
SCHWEITZER'S COCATINA, Tin	35c.
NABOB SAUCE, Bottle	35c.
EGYPTIAN LENTILS, Pound	15c.

DIXI H. ROSS & CO., CASH GROCERS

JEWISH PETITION MAY BE FILED

U. S. Government Deem Interference In Kishineff Affair Quite Unnecessary.

Oyster Bay, July 16.—An important conference was held at Sagamore Hill today between the President and representative Jewish citizens of the Society of B'Nai B'Rith, regarding the petition to the Russian government on the Kishineff outrages. Besides the President, the parties to the conference were Simon S. Wolf, of Washington; Oscar S. Strauss and Leo N. Levi, of New York.

The administration has been embarrassed by the delay of the reports of the B'Nai B'Rith Society in presenting the petition. A draft of the document was handed to President Roosevelt several weeks ago by Mr. Wolf, but it was decided after some consideration to modify the text of the petition before presenting it formally to this government for transmission to Russia. Time was desired, too, to obtain to the petition the signatures of representative religious faiths. As a result, the document was not placed in the hands of the President until today.

The result of the conference at Sagamore Hill has not yet been disclosed, but a strong intimation is given that the petition may not be forwarded to the Russian government. The desire of both the President and Secretary Hay is that the Kishineff incident should be closed as soon as possible, as further delay in its consideration might prove embarrassing to this government in its diplomatic negotiations with Russia.

Inasmuch as the Russian government has indicated by the adoption of severe measures a genuine disposition to punish adequately the perpetrators of the Kishineff murders, and, in addition, those persons who instigated them, it is a problem for the President and Secretary Hay to solve whether representations concerning the incident now are either desirable or necessary.

It is suggested that the whole matter may be resolved into a brief statement through diplomatic channels to the Russian foreign government that such a petition is in the hands of the United States, thus leaving it to Russia to say whether it would or would not receive the document if it were presented. It would close the incident without subjecting relations between the United States and Russia to a strain, and it is regarded that such action would be quite as effective as the actual presentation of the petition.

Members of the Jewish committee, together with Dr. Albert Shaw, editor of the Review of Reviews, and his friend from England, Maurice Sheldon Ames, were the guests of the President at luncheon.

Secretary Root left today for Washington. He said he could not sail for England before the 23rd of August because it was desirable that he should see the general staff in full operation before he left this country.

Poplar Creek Pans out Well

Investigations By Mining Experts Prove Richness of the New District.

Importance of the Finds Have Not At All Been Exaggerated.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kaslo, July 16.—Dr. Hacking, of Granite Falls, Minn., who is in the Kootenays in the interests of Eastern capitalists, returned here from the scene of the recent gold fields, at Poplar Creek, last night. He says:

"The importance of the finds made have not been exaggerated any, and I am confident that the district will astonish the world as wealth producers. I do not care to say much about our enterprises until we have made some smelter tests of ore from the mines that have been opened up some depth. In a day or two we will be able to give you more particulars that will, we believe, be more than satisfactory to those interested. It speaks volumes that in three days from Kaslo we were able to so comfortably inspect so many properties and to secure so much territory."

John Mackenzie and Capt. G. H. Jones, of Spokane, also returned last night, and are very enthusiastic. They brought down some samples of ore that are wonderfully rich, from the properties of the Lardeau Valley Mining Company, Ltd., in which they are largely interested, being respectively secretary and president of the company.

Mr. Mackenzie stated that in a mining experience of many years he had never seen anything to equal the phenomenal showings exposed along Poplar, Tenderfoot and Lynch creeks. "That the ore holds out with depth has been conclusively proved by workings on our own properties and on neighboring properties, which give great vertical depths of 400 feet and upwards. Most of these workings are on Tenderfoot creek. Not much work beyond the building of callups has been done on Copper creek.

"A townsite is being planned at the mouth of Poplar, an ideal location having been taken up. Accommodations for transients are very limited as yet, and any one going in must be prepared to rough it."

Capt. Jones said: "I am more than pleased, and can assure you that you cannot speak too highly of the wealth of the new field. There are a great number of people in there now, but it is nothing to what it will be when it becomes known what riches are going to be uncovered by the persistent and energetic seeker for mineral wealth. Prospectors will appreciate the accessibility of the district."

R. G. Lang, of Rossland, says: "In a mining and prospecting experience of over 30 years, I have never seen anything to equal the showings exposed on Copper, Meadow, Tenderfoot, Lynch, and Freshet creeks, running into Lardo river from the south. I believe that the indications already warrant the belief that a second Klondike will be uncovered in the near future. Almost every claim can show ore with free gold that is either taken out of the rock or that can be panned when the ore is crushed. I was shown specimens as large as a man's fist that were almost pure gold. I am going back prepared to stay for some months. I have already found good ground that I am very sanguine about. Where is it? Well, I would rather not say now, but you will hear about it. How do you like the looks of that? (Showing a chunk of ore as large as a hen's egg, with gold particles all through it.) There is plenty more where that came from—that's where I do not think that the foot of man ever trod before. I have a partner and do not want any, though it is not very pleasant to be in the hills alone.

"A Swede, named Peterson, came into a camp where I stopped, on the run one afternoon with nothing on but an undershirt and his shoes, and with his side badly scratched by a bear that disputed the right-of-way. He was not badly hurt, and after getting over his fright, borrowed a pair of overalls and started back after his pack without even any assistance. Another prospector insisted on going with him armed with a rifle. I did not wait to hear what success they had in getting the bear. Laborers of all kinds are becoming very scarce as a result of the gold fever. Team after team of horses are idle, with lots of work to do, for want of drivers."

KISHINEFF REFUGEES.

Berlin, July 16.—Twentynine Kishineff refugees have arrived in Berlin en route for the United States.

STUDY IRON INDUSTRY.

Berlin, July 16.—Herr Macco, a member of the Prussian Diet, accompanied by two mining engineers, has gone to the United States to study the iron industry.

INDEMNITY PAID.

Caracas, July 16.—The Venezuelan government yesterday paid to the representative of the allied powers the last installment of the indemnity as stipulated by the protocol.

WASHINGTON STATUE TO GRACE ST. PAUL'S

Pilgrim's Club Propose to Honor the Father of His Country.

London, July 15.—At a meeting of the executive committee of the Pilgrims club tonight a committee was appointed to give effort to the recent suggestion to erect a statue to George Washington in London it was decided that a subscription should be confined entirely to British subjects. Archdeacon Sinclair, in submitting the plan to the secretary, said: "English men have at last fully recognized the great qualities of Washington. I feel assured that nothing will be more popular in this country than such a tribute to that great man of English birth who has done so much for the world's history, not only for the young nation across the sea, but for Great Britain as well." Archdeacon Sinclair announced that he was authorized to offer a place for the statue in St. Paul's Cathedral.

CONTRACT LABOR.

Jamestown, N. Y., July 16.—In the United States District court here today Wm. Kerry of Toronto was fined $100 for importing contract labor into the United States.

George Judson of Buffalo got eight months in jail and $1,000 fine for smuggling Chinese.

Geo. S. Bills of Buffalo got six months in jail and a fine of $250 for the same offence.

PARALYSIS AND LOCOMOTOR ATAXIA

The Certain Result of Neglected Nervous Troubles—Prevention and Cure in Dr. Chase's Nerve Food.

Sleeplessness, indigestion, headache and neuralgic pains, twitching of the nerves, weak or irregular heart action, inability to concentrate the mind, discouragement and despondency are among the symptoms which warn you of approaching prostration and paralysis. By forming new, rich blood and creating new nerve force Dr. Chase's Nerve Food prevents and cures the terrible nervous diseases which lead to so much suffering and helplessness. Being composed of nature's most powerful nerve restoratives, it is certain to do you good. Fifty cents a box at all dealers.

Elections to Be Held in October

The Formal Proclamation Fixes Date For Last Day of Month.

A List of the Returning Officers Which Have Been Appointed.

Nominations in the provincial general elections will be held on October 15, and polling will take place two weeks later, October 31. A formal proclamation to that effect appears in the official Gazette, issued yesterday. The dates have been thus fixed in order to permit of sufficient time for appeals to be taken from the court of revision with respect to names on the voters' lists. Returning officers for the election have been appointed as follows:

Victoria City—Hinkson Siddall.
Saanich—Frederick Turgoose.
Esquimalt—William Fisher.
Cowichan—William Forrest.
Islands—Henry Caldwell.
Newcastle—Paul Harry Marshall.
Nanaimo City — William Kirkwood.
Leighton.
Alberni—Andrew L. Smith.
Comox—Frank Anley.
Delta—John W. Berry.
Chilliweck—Justinian Pelly.
Dewdney—John A. Catherwood.
Richmond—Thomas Kidd.
New Westminster City—George Cunningham, sr.
Vancouver City—Robert B. Ellis.
Atlin—John Wilson.
Skeena—William B. Skillen.
Cariboo—John Bowron.
Lillooet—Frederick Soues.
Yale—John McRae.
Kamloops—E. T. W. Pearse.
Okanagan—Leonard Norris.
Similkameen—Charles A. R. Lambly.
Greenwood—George Cunningham.
Grand Forks—H. C. Kernan.
Revelstoke—George Thomas Newman.
Slocan—Robert George Henderson.
Ymir—Robert M. Perdue.
Nelson City—Robert A. Renwick.
Rossland City—Richard Wallace Armstrong.
Kaslo—William Henry Walby.
Columbia—J. W. Devlin.
Cranbrook—John Hutchison.
Fernie—John S. T. Alexander.

ON NOVEL TRIP.

Young Quebec Frenchman Starts Around World Without Money.

Winnipeg, July 16.—D. H. Lafrenaye, a young Frenchman, is here on a trip round the world on a wager of $20,000. He is to travel without a cent excepting what he earns en route. He started from St. Barnabe, Que., June 8, arrived in Montreal June 11, worked there ten days, visited Ottawa, Port Arthur, Fort William, and arrived here yesterday.

DEFAULTER SUICIDES.

Manager of New Haven Insurance Co. Kills Himself Through Disgrace.

New York, July 16.—Word was received here today of the suicide by shooting of George B. Osborne, of this city, at the Hotel Rockingham.

Portsmouth, N. H., July 16.—Mr. Osborne was the manager of the claims department of the Commercial Assurance & Palatine Insurance Company, by which concern he had been employed for 16 years. He left on a vacation at the request of the general manager, who desired an expert examination of the books of Osborne's department. This examination showed Osborne to be a defaulter and he must have known his defalcation had been discovered. He leaves a wife and daughter, now visiting in England, and a son here.

TO BREAK UP A COLD.

all you require is a glass of hot water, a little sugar, and thirty drops of Polson's Nervoline. Take it real hot, and in the morning you will wake up without a cold. When depressed or tired, try Nervoline; it will tone you up better than stimulants. Nervoline wards off all sickness and keeps people well. Large bottles 25 cents.

Men's and Boys' Bathing Trunks at 5c., 10c., 15c. and 25c.; Combination Bathing Suits at 50c., 75c. and $1.00 per suit. B. Williams & Co.

WILL KEEP ARMY IN SOUTH AFRICA

Britain Takes This Step to Prepare For Eventualities In India.

London, July 16.—During the discussion of the army estimates in the House of Commons today, Secretary Brodrick said it was decided to keep a force of 25,000 men permanently in South Africa, whence reinforcements could be easily despatched to India in the event of an attack on the frontier. Mr. Brodrick added that the preparations for such a contingency was a timely step and estimated that the extra cost of keeping this emergency force in South Africa would be $7,500,000 yearly.

CHAMPION OF ENGLAND.

Oxford Man's Splendid Feat in Rowing Contests Yesterday.

London, July 16.—F. S. Kelley, of Balliol college, Oxford, winner of the diamond sculls at Henley last week, today won the Wingfield sculls and the amateur sculling championship of England over the Putney to Morelake course, defeating the former champion.

EXPRESS DETAINED.

Slight Accident on C. P. R. Interferes With the Regular Schedule.

Winnipeg, July 16.—The East-bound C. P. R. express was detained last night by the derailing of two cars loaded with fish, and the mail and express car at the east switch of Woonga siding, two stations this side of Ignace. Two tramps who were stealing a ride on the platform of the cars were killed outright ,bnt none of the passengers or train crew were in any way injured.

WRECKED STEAMER MONTEREY

St. John's, Nfld., July 16.—A tug which returned today from the wrecked steamer Monterey near St. Pierre, brought the captain of the steamer, Lloyd's agent and the only passenger who was aboard. The tug reports the ship in a critical condition. Her hold is full of water and it is likely that she cannot be refloated. The cattle are being landed and there is hope also of saving part of the cargo. The wrecking tug Petrel is bound for the scene from Port au Banques and will reach the wreck tonight.

Backache is almost immediately relieved by wearing one of Carter's Smart Weed and Belladonna Backache Plasters. Try one and be free from pain. Price 25 cents

30 dozen Stiff Hats at 50c. each, all good shapes. B. Williams & Co.

WANT A KANAKA FOR GOVERNOR

The Hawaiian Politicians Have Hatchets Out For Sanford B. Dole.

Honolulu, July 15 (by Pacific Cable).—Although the term of Sanford B. Dole as Governor of the Territory of Hawaii does not expire until next June, campaigning has already begun in relation to his successor. Reports have been circulated that Dole will not be named to succeed himself, and a large number of candidates is expected to appear next year.

Dole's friends, however, assert that his administration meets with the approval of President Roosevelt, and they confidently look for his reappointment. None of the men who would be eager to assume Dole's gubernatorial functions has yet been sufficiently bold to come into the open, but it is rumored that several are quietly interesting Washington influences in their behalf.

Native Hawaiians are particularly active, it is said, and there is already discussion among them if the advisability of petitioning President Roosevelt to appoint one of their race as the official head of the islands.

A FATAL FIRE.

Four Persons Burned to Death in a Sanitarium Fire.

Bonner's Springs, Kas., July 16.—Four persons lost their lives in a fire early this morning, which destroyed Bonner's Springs sanitarium at Bonner's Springs, Kansas, 17 miles west of Kansas City. There was 30 inmates in the building. The loss is $20,000.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE.

Berlin, July 16.—American and Mexican international exchange commissions met the representatives of the German government for their first conference at the Reichsts Bank building this morning. The conference lasted an hour and was then adjourned until Saturday. It is not believed here that the commission's word will lead to the calling of an international conference.

W. B. UNDERHILL DEAD.

Dominion Homestead Inspector Passes Away in Manitoba.

Winnipeg, July 16.—W. B. Underhill, Dominion homestead inspector, died last night at his residence at Melitex, following a stroke of paralysis. Deceased was a leading Baptist and a prominent Liberal of the district.

Lever's Y-Z (Wise Head) Disinfectant Soap Powder dusted in the bath softens the water at the same time that it disinfects.

WHITNEY GO-CARTS ARE THE BEST

The Leaders for 40 Years

Have anti-friction wheel fasteners, no nuts to fall off. Wheels can be taken off instantly for oiling. Whitney patent foot brake, quickly adjusted by slight pressure of the foot on lever.

All are fitted with rubber tire wheels and enameled gears. Extra parts if required, supplied from our stock at once. Illustrated sheet showing 28 latest styles with prices and full descriptions from $4.50 to $28.00, mailed free on request.

Reclining Go-Cart, No. E 9, price $14.00 Complete with cushions, parasol top, rubber tire wheels, foot brake and enameled gears, either oak, green or maroon.

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Complete Furnishers,

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The subscription price of the Semi-Weekly 'Colonist" has been reduced to $1 per year to all countries in the Postal Union.

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We have a full line of the following goods at the right prices; give us a call if in need of anything in our line.

Builders' Hardware, Mechanics' Tools, Iron and Steel, Pipe and Fittings, Brass Goods for Steam and Water, Garden Hose, Belting, Agricultural Implements and Vehicles.

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