

### CATAclysm MAY BE POSTPONED

#### Nationalists and Laborites Are More Inclined to Give Asquith Government Further Chance

### CABINET PREPARES VETO RESOLUTIONS

#### Mr. Balfour in Speech at Political Luncheon Defines His Party's Attitude on Finance Bill and House of Lords

LONDON, Feb. 22.—Without any actual change in the parliamentary situation, the outlook tonight was more hopeful for the Asquith government. It seems that certain ministers met the new parliament on Monday without having taken any great care either to seek the views of the various groups forming the government majority or to satisfy their susceptibilities. The surprise with which the Nationalists and Laborites learned that they had misapprehended the premier's acquiescence in the government's attitude towards the House of Lords was in a great measure responsible for the acute crisis.

Both the Nationalists and the Labor parties, however, are aware that they have little to gain by the throwing out of the government. Hence the extremists today displayed a more conciliatory spirit. The cabinet held a long council to draft the veto resolutions and debate the general situation. The result of their deliberations was a speech by Winston Spencer Churchill, president of the board of trade, in the House of Commons, announcing the determination of the government to stand or fall by the veto bill.

Any direct negotiation between Laborites and Nationalists to defeat the government is extremely improbable. In fact, the Nationalists have shown that there is a strong feeling against action likely to defeat the ministry. The Nationalists would very unlikely go beyond the refusal to vote for the budget. In the present which would embarrass the government.

Negotiations are now proceeding between the different parties with a view to averting a crisis until the budget is adopted and the program has been made with the veto resolutions. Mr. Balfour's Declaration. In a speech at a political luncheon today Arthur J. Balfour, leader of the Opposition, also helped to clear the atmosphere by intimating that the cabinet did not propose to throw themselves into the arms of the Nationalists in dealing with the impending problem of finance, the solution of which was necessary for carrying on of the administration.

Mr. Balfour declared that the House of Commons would not deal with the veto question until the budget had been passed. He added that the House of Commons would not deal with the veto question until the budget had been passed. He added that the House of Commons would not deal with the veto question until the budget had been passed.

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was filled with the friends of the late actor. The funeral was different from any other that has occurred in this city for some time, for the fact that there were no mourning costumes, and in place of weeping and tears, there were smiles.

#### St. Boniface Citizen Dead.

WINNIPEG, Feb. 22.—J. B. Couture, a prominent citizen of St. Boniface, died, aged 72. He leaves a wife and five sons and a daughter. He was born at L'Arche, Que.

#### Divorce Seekers Discouraged.

BOISE, Idaho, Feb. 22.—The Idaho colony divorce lawyers were thrown into consternation yesterday by the decision of Judge Fremont Wood in the case of Valentine Winters, a Dayton, O. traction magnate against Helen Clegg Winters for divorce. Judge Wood denied the decree on the ground that the plaintiff did not fail to establish residence in Idaho, but came for the purpose of invoking the aid of the courts to secure a decree of divorce.

#### New Chief at Capital.

OTTAWA, Feb. 22.—The board of police commissioners this afternoon at a special meeting accepted the resignation of Major S. DeLarocque as chief of police and appointed Assistant Inspector Alex. M. Ross to the position. It was understood that the board had decided to call for resignation of the chief, but he forestalled any such action. The meeting took place behind closed doors, and afterwards an official statement was handed out whitewashing the ex-chief and expressing appreciation of his work on the force.

#### JEFFRIES BACK IN LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Feb. 21.—So close was the change that his friends scarcely knew him, James J. Jeffries returned home yesterday after his long absence abroad. The pugilist, who had been in Europe for several months, returned in a motor car, and was met by a large number of his friends. He is expected to remain in Los Angeles until April. Then, after his hunting trip, he will visit his training quarters in the vicinity of San Francisco.

#### BOYS ARE SHOT IN PHILADELPHIA

Three Probably Fatally Injured in Clashes Between the Police and Mobs—Militiamen Roughly Handled

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 22.—Three boys were shot and probably fatally injured while several received less serious wounds today in riots which followed the resumption of service by the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Co. cars in the northeastern section. Market street, the principal business thoroughfare in the city, was the scene of disturbances all day. Cars were stoned, and two policemen were roughly handled by a mob of several thousand persons. A dozen arrests were made, and the largest problems involving a matter of principle concerning the House of Lords, there can be neither a compromise nor arrangement.

Upon the resumption of the debate in the House, Geo. N. Barnes, chairman of the parliamentary party, aligned the Laborites with the Nationalists and demanded further assurances that Mr. Asquith would not deal with the veto question until the budget had been passed. Mr. Barnes declared the Labor party was in favor of home rule and the Nationalists were opposed to it. The Nationalists were re-opened this afternoon. Mr. Asquith's speech was the desirability of subordinating everything possible to the question of the Home Rule of Ireland. Mr. Asquith's speech was the desirability of subordinating everything possible to the question of the Home Rule of Ireland.

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### UNION LEADER WOUNDED IN ARREST

#### New Move Made by Philadelphia Police in Street Car Conflict—Other Warrants Said to Have Been Issued

### ASSISTANCE GIVEN BY MILITARY BODIES

#### Cars Partially Wrecked and Members of Crews Roughly Handled by Mobs—Many Strike Breakers Imported

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 21.—Police officials took the initiative tonight in the war between the strikers and the officials of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Co., when they arrested C. O. Pratt, the Spanish-American leader of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railroad Employees, on a warrant charging him with "conspiring to incite to riot." The warrant was issued by Magistrate Beaton, the military organization of the Amalgamated Association, sworn to by Detective Frank O'Connor. It was secured on Pratt as he was leaving an auto, in which he had attended today's mass meeting of the union carmen. He was locked up and held to await a hearing tomorrow morning.

It is rumored that warrants have been issued for other labor leaders as a result of a conference held late today between District Attorney Rotan, Director of Public Safety Clay and Magistrate Beaton. The police force was augmented to-day by swearing in for riot duty an independent military organization of about 200 members, who are not affiliated with the national guard, but were sworn in during the Spanish-American war. Under the agreement on which they hold their army from the police, they are obliged to perform duty only in their regular uniforms, armed with rifle and bayonet.

Pratt was also being held to-night by the commanders of the three regiments in the Philadelphia national guard. The mayor is expected to call upon these state troops early tomorrow at a public assembly. Government Stuart and Adjutant General Thomas J. Stewart are in the city tonight, and if necessary a call will be made for the militia at any time, but this is not contemplated at present.

The regular force of 3,500 police and 3,000 specials was also enlarged to-day by the swearing in of 500 city militia. The militia are being organized tomorrow and assist the worst out police, who have been on constant duty on every street car.

Five carloads of strike breakers reached late tonight and were loaded on trolley cars at the Pennsylvania station. The cars were guarded by police and taken to car barns in that section. A large squad of mounted police escorted the cars and prevented a threatened riot. The cars were loaded with men, many of whom were armed with loaded muskets. They were detailed in the Kensington mill district, in the northeastern section which is a hotbed of union sympathizers. In their first skirmish they were badly beaten by a mob, which were drawn by the police. The men and snatched the muskets from the hands of the militiamen.

Members of the Fenwick, according to Mayor Reburn, acted as though they were on a picnic, allowing girls in the mill district to wear their caps and cut the brass buttons off their clothing. At this point a group of rioters captured one of the Fenwick and carried him to a hundred feet from his post, where they stripped him of his coat, hat, cartridge belt and gun and threw him into a sewer.

The probably fatally injured boys are John Hughes, 18 years old, shot in the neck; John Walker, 20, aged 15 years; W. D. Collins, 20 years old; shot in the groin. All were taken to hospital. The former received his injuries in the afternoon, when a mob attacked a car at Germantown avenue, below Westmorland street. The others were shot during a similar attack in the same section of the city.

Labor leaders declared this afternoon that there will be no general strike at this time. The order for a general strike, however, has been sent to all trades unions in the city, to be acted upon when it is thought necessary.

### SMALL INTEREST IN NAVAL DEBATE

#### Speeches of Ordinary Members Fail to Attract Attention of Public—Premier Still Absent Because of Illness

### QUEBEC LIBERAL SUPPORTS MEASURE

#### Ralph Smith of Nanaimo Offers Criticism of Opposition Course—Dr. Schaffner Combats Independence Idea

OTTAWA, Feb. 22.—The naval debate still wages its weary way. Next Thursday will see the first division, according to a statement made by F. F. Pardee tonight. Now that the rank and file is placing itself on record public interest in the affair has dwindled to the vanishing point, a fact which is demonstrated by the public gallery of the House of Commons. The continued absence of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, due to illness, has played its part. No one of the opposition members of the House of Commons has taken the floor since the speech of Mr. Borden, the originator of the Canadian navy scheme, is far from being satisfactory, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier is left in possession of the field.

L. A. Rivet, of Hochelaga, came out strongly for the Canadian naval program as outlined by the premier, and took a truly French-Canadian line at the proposals of Mr. Bourassa. Mr. Rivet declared that he would have declared himself a year ago, should he have had the opportunity. He has declared himself a year ago, should he have had the opportunity. He has declared himself a year ago, should he have had the opportunity.

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### CONSERVATIVES IN 'BULKY VALLEY' Association Strong and Active—Annual Meeting Held at Which Officers Were Elected

#### ALDERMERE, Feb. 2.—The annual meeting of the Bulky Valley Conservative Association was held at Aldermere, in the county of York, on the 21st inst. The meeting was held in the evening, and was attended by some thirty members. The association is a strong and active one, and has a membership of about 200 members. The association is a strong and active one, and has a membership of about 200 members.

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### Cold Weather Suggestions

Bovril Cordial, 16-oz. bottle ..... \$1.25  
Johnston's Fluid Beef, 16-oz. bottle ..... 90c  
Burnham's Clam Bouillon, per bottle ..... 60c  
Armour's Extract Beef, per bottle ..... 50c  
Armour's Malted Clams, per bottle ..... 40c  
Soup Squares, condensed, each ..... 5c

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### RIGHT STRINGS WILL BEGIN

#### Estimates to Be Brought Down Tomorrow and the Budget Speech to Be Given on Thursday

### COMPANIES' ACT AMENDMENT BILL

#### Its Consideration in Committee Occupies Legislature—Seeks Amendment to Liquor Bills Prohibition of "Bridge"

Disappointment was the portion of the few score ladies and gentlemen who comforted themselves in the seats in the spectators' gallery of parliament Wednesday, attracted by the hope of hearing Hon. Mr. Bowerer dictate the features of his first budget—and possibly also the premier's address to the legislature. The budget speech must probably Thursday, and the Railway bill on Friday if possible. Night sittings began tomorrow according to a formal notice by the first minister, and this will mean more rapid progress with the bill than of yore, which latterly has proven an ever-present remedy against insomnia.

Although disappointed in hearing neither the budget speech nor yet the premier's address, the members of the House of Commons were not without their consolation. The budget speech was not without its consolation. The budget speech was not without its consolation.

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