ASQUITH UNABLE TO SETTLE STRIKE

Men Have Been Out Thirteen Days, and Negotiations Are Still Barren of Any Definite Result — Serious Riotings by German Miners Reported.

LONDON, March 13.—(Can. Press.)—The thirteenth day of the coal strike ended without a settlement having been reached. The joint conference of the representatives of the miners and mine owners and members of the cabinet adjourned this evening until to-morrow afternoon, "in order to consider certain proposals by the prime minister," as the announcement put it.

Concerning the nature of the proposals and the results achieved at the conference, which lasted five and a half hours, the government is persisting in its policy of rigid secrecy, but there are indications that some progress in the direction of peace has been made and that the miners have receded from the position they have heretofore maintained that the only basis of a settlement would be the owners' acceptance of the federation's schedule of minimum wages.

Prior to the opening of the conference the National Miners' Federation held a meeting and adopted a resolution which gives the various districts authority to renew negotiations with the mine owners on the question of rates, varying them as they may deem proper, but stipulating that all amended schedules must be endorsed by the national conference, and that the settlement of the strike must be national in its scope.

German Strike Spreads.

BERLIN, March 13.—(Can. Press.)—The coal miners' strike in the great German coal fields of Westphalia continues to spread. There are over 240,000 men now on strike and the situation is becoming worse everywhere. It has taken a most serious turn in several districts and has resulted already in a fatal conflict between the police and the striking miners in district of Herne. The feeling among the men is increasing in intensity owing to the rigid repressive measures of the authorities, and at any moment troops may be called out to quell the disturbances.

It is officially stated here this evening that the provincial authorities have been instructed to call out the troops if the police prove inadequate to deal with the situation.

The mine owners and leaders of the Christian Trade Unions, whose members are rapidly breaking away and joining in the strike which was brought about by the Socialist trades unions, are clamoring for military assistance, but so far the government has not taken this step. It is instead of this sending all possible reinforcements of police to the strike region.

Shot and Killed Striker.

Disturbances have been reported from various districts. The most serious of these occurred at Herne, a mining village five miles from Bochum, where a number of strikers threw stones and fired revolver shots at a detachment of armed police marching along the streets to the mine, where they had been ordered to protect the non-strikers. The police replied to the attack with their revolvers, and one of the strikers was killed.

At Hamborn in the district of Dusseldorf, where fighting occurred between the strikers and the police yesterday, a number being injured, large reinforcements of police have arrived. The strikers repeatedly bombarded the police escorting the non-strikers with bottles and stones thrown from the upper windows of the houses.

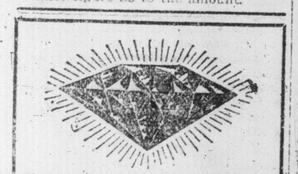
Owners Holding Firm.

The answers of the mine owners to the strikers' demands for more wages and shorter hours are now coming in. They take the same stand as the owners in Westphalia, saying that financial conditions do not permit the granting of the full increase of wages and other demands of the miners, so that strikes are also impending in other districts.

Coal shipments are falling off everywhere.

Promise Miners Increase.

SAARBRUECKEN, Germany, March 13.—(Can. Press.)—The managers of the Prussian state mines in the Saar region in replying to the request of the miners for increases of wages said that the men's pay was now higher than in 1908. They also declared that the miners could expect with confidence a further increase. They, however, gave no definite figure as to the amount.



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HON. MR. WHITE'S BUDGET SHOWS RECORD SURPLUS OF $39,000,000

Continued From Page 1.

in a large measure the capital expenditure necessary in a constructive period. Otherwise the credit of the country might be impaired at the very time Canada needed the money by the large increase of the public dept.

Even Better Times.

For 1912-13 Mr. White expressed the hope of a considerable advance in prosperity. The main estimates totaling $149,789,677 had been brought down and there might be further supplementary estimates. He believed that the end of the next fiscal year it would be found that the revenue was sufficient to meet not only the crurent but part of the capital and special expenditures.

The country, said Mr. White, was growing rapidly and it was the duty of the government to increase transportation facilities, improve canals and railways, deepen harbors, etc. Generous expenditures for these purposes were provided in the estimates for 1912-13, and he believed they would be approved by the people.

The government was committed to the building of the Hudson Bay Railway, the G. T. P. was pushing on to Prince Rupert, and the C. N. R. was extending its line to Vancuver. Soon the Panama Canal would be completed and it would be necessary to provide for the carriage of grain to the Pacific coast.

Net Debt $340,000,000.

The gross public debt on March 31, 1911, he said, was $474,941,487. D educting from this the assets, the net debt would amount to $340,042,052. The country was now passing thru a time when loans were maturing and provision had to be made to meet them.

A loan of $5,000,000 had recently been floated in London at ninety-eight to meet a short date loan maturing on May 1. The government," said Mr. White, "was well satisfied with the terms secured in view of the conditions in the old country at the present time. Another loan falls due on 1913, and another in 1914, with option of a renewal for five years more."

Adverting to his estimate, $22,500,000 would be expended on the eastern section of the national transcontinental during the current year. Up to the end of the year Canada would have spent on the road $117,822,533, and about $100,000,000 more would require to be expended. Other capital and special expenditures during this period amounted to $134,862,714. The public debt had increased only $77,285,063 between 1904 and March 31, 1912. A reassuring feature about the large expenditures on the G.T.P. was that owing to the prosperity of the country the cost had been, and would continue to, paid from the consolidated revenue.

No Tariff Changes.

"Canada's trade had shown a record of continued growth," said Mr. White. "The total for the ten months of the present fiscal year had been $711,199,802. Since 1900 the volume of trade had almost doubled. While imports had increased 150 per cent., exports had increased only 55 per cent. a condition which he attributed to the increasing demands of the home market. Trade wit hthe old country for the ten months amounted to $211,279,367, as compared with $246,837,630 for the whole of 1910-11. For the nine months ending Dec. 31, 1911, the total trade with the United States was $327,625,742. For the whole of 1910-11 they totalled $387,053,534.

"Going into the question of immigration pretty fully, the finance minister stated that during the first ten months of the present fiscal year 300,705 immigrants had entered Canada.

Trade Ever Growing.

In view of the creation of the tariff commission, with the object of obtaining data, Mr. White announced that there would be no tariff changes at present. There had, of course, been many requests for changes, but he did not think any of the cases were of such a nature that any great harm would be done by a slight delay.

M. MacDonald (Pictou)—"Do I understand that my hon. friend will not propose any resolutions with respect to bounties?"

"My hon. friend understands correctly," replied the finance minister. "It is not my intention to introduce any resolution with regard to the tariff or bounties."

Bountiful Field Crops.

The field crops of Canada, said Mr. White, showed a bountiful yield despite the unusual vicissitudes thru which the western wheat crop had passed and the unusual heat in Ontario. Agriculture, he contended, was flourishing condition; the mines were wonderfully productive, the fisheries had a good catch and good prices; manufactures were prosperous and new industries springing up; railway construction, especially on the west, would provide settlement and open up new markets for trade; increased bank deposits, clearings and circulation bore witness to the great prosperity of the country.

Homeseekers' Paradise.

Canada, he declared, continued to be the land of hope and promise for the homeseeker. Immigration from the United States and Europe during the last year had averaged nearly 1000 a day. Labor conditions were good and extreme poverty hardly known.

"Under the favorable conditions which I have descroed," said Mr. White in concluding his speech, "and with every prospect for their continuance, the future of Canada looks bright indeed. In the enjoyment of peace, plenty and prosperity her energetic, loyal and patriotic people look forward with certain expectations to an ever great and greater future." (Prolonged cheering.)

Reaped Where Others Sowed.

A. K. MacLean (Halifax) declared that the task of the minister of finance in presenting the budget had been comparatively easy. He had been largely distributing the harvest that others planted. Mr. MacLean thought the announing prosperity set forth showed that Canada proonaly had reached a point when there might be some remuneration in taxation.

From 1896 down to the fiscal year 1911-12 there had been a surplus aggregating nearly $200,000,000. The finance minister of the late government had been able to show surpluses ranging from $1,750,000 to $30,000,000. Had it not been for the application of these sums the public debt would have increased by $200,000,000 instead of only $75,000,000 or $78,000,000.

In 1911 our exports to Great Britain, where we met the competition of the world, was $106,000,000.

Customs "Taxation."

Mr. MacLean estimated the customs "taxation" of the people during the present year at $100,000,000, and he would not be surprised if it reached $120,000,000. And still, he commented, hon. gentlemen opposite seemed to accept the situation with equanimity. The late government had gone down to defeat fighting for a reduction in this taxation.

He warned the finance minister that some of his colleagues were very expensive gentlemen. They might have come in by the front door, like the finance minister, but they came in with requests in their hands.

Sir James Whitney had announced that Ontario would get a federal subsidy for the T. & N. O. Railway. This was what the presence in the cabinet of the minister of railways (Hon. Frank Cochrane) would cost the Dominion. The cost to Canada of the minister of the interoir (Hon. Robert Rogers) was about $2,175,000, and that was what Premier Roblin got for losing him as a colleague. Then he warned the minister of finance against the time when "that young, debonaire statesman, Mr. McBride, leaving his capital by the Pacific and crossing his mountains, comes to Ottawa to levy his tribute."

He thought the minister of finance was inclinedto close his eyes and say in the words of Cardinal Newman's hymn, "I do not wish to see the distant scene; one step enough for me."

Mr. Maclean then launched out into a lengthy dissertation on the beauties of reciprocity, which, he declared, wis still a living issue in this country.

What of Imperial Defence?

W. F. Maclean (South oYrk) declared that while he agreed in all the finance minister had said about the prosperity of Canada, he was disappointed at the absence of any reference in the budget speech to imperial defence and what the attitude of Canada was to be towards imperial defence. This was a question which stood out far above all others.

The finance minister had said that the prosperity of Canada depended on two things, the flow of British money and British immigrants to our shores. If England was the base of supplies for the money needed in this country, said Mr. Maclean, Canada as a mere matter of national insurance should do something to aid in the defence of that base of supplies.

"This country," he declared, "is growing so great we've got to think in billions."

The completion of our railways, steamship lines and ocean terminals would cost many millions. They all had to go to England for money. If we were to be of the empire, if we needed her money, if England's supremacy were threatened we would have to aid in her defence.

Dependent on England.

Where would this country be to-day, asked Mr. Maclean, if anything happened to England? We would be absolutely unable to go ahead. We would be bankrupt. Would it be a great thing for Canada to note $20,000,000 a year for her surplus of $30,000,000 to maintain the British fleet and also a Canadian navy? If disaster came to England it would stop the settlement now going on in the west.

"Things have got to such a pass," he declared, "that people in England are getting to lose confidence in us." We were getting the reputation for sponging.

Canada should establish a great ship building industry on the Atlantic Coast and every ship of her navy should be built in the country.

Need Effective Contribution.

Hon. H. S. Beland: That is beside the money voted for a contribution.

Mr. MacLean: Besides the money in the way of contribution. That contribution ought to have started a year ago; it should start this year, and it should be an effective contribution.

Trouble might come any day, and if England lost her supremacy we might lose our connection with the mother country and be absorbed by the United States or some European power. Canada was connected with England in maintaining her political institutions, the best in the world to-day.

"Advantage is being taken," said Mr. MacLean, "of the fact Canada has failed to do her duty. If the declaration went out that Canada was prepared to do her duty, and thata feature of the budget speech every year in this country was a contribution, to my mind of at least $10,000,000 a year, there would be little talk of war in the old land. The other sister states would be encouraged to do the same thing, and those powers that now think of putting an end to Eneland's supremacy in trade and on the ocean would reconsider their position, and they will be prepared to admit that they could not inerfere with that supremacy."

The people of Ontario were in favor of naval expenditure; so were the people of British Columbia, and the people of the Maritime Provinces.

Quebec Would Do Its Share.

Even the people of the Province of Quebec, he believed, would, when the question was fairly put before them, be in favor of doing their share in maintaining the British navy and doing something in the way of establishing a Canadian navy.

Mr. MacLean declared his determined opposition to a referendum on the naval question. "What is wanted on such a question," he said, "is intelligent leadership, by the leading of the country, and leadership in its parliament. It is a question of British responsible government, which must be settled in parliament."

"An imperial conscience is gradually coming to the people of the British Empire. It has in it not only the idea of patriotism, but the idea of humanity and brotherhood. I am in favor of the big ship and the big policeman to maintain the peace of the world."

It would not do to put off contribution. War might come any day. A Canadian could not hold his head in England to-day and say he was justified in leaving himself of all the privileges the empire gave him. Men in England who were getting $1 a day were helping their richer neighbors to pay for the defence of the Canadian people.

Mr Verville (Maisonneuve) moved the adjournment of the debate, which will be concluded on Thursday.

Postponed Morning Sessions.

Morning sessions, which were to have begun Thursday, were, at the request of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, postponed till Monday next, and the premier also amended his resolution so as to cut out the proposed Saturday sessions. In answer to a question by Sir Wilfrid, the premier stated that supplementary estimates for the coming year would be brought down at an early date.

In answer to the question of Burnham (Peterboro) as to whether the government had considered the advisability of introducing vote by ballot during divisions in the house or otherwise, instead of open voting, as at present, the premier said: "The answer to this question is, no."

ONTARIO RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The annual business meeting of the Ontario Rifle Association will be held at the lecture room at the Armories, Toronto, on Tuesday, March 19th, 1912, at 11 o'clock a.m., for the purpose of receiving the financial statement and annual report of the council, the election of officers and council for the ensuing year, and for the consideration of such other business as may be presented.

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DEVIOUS MEANS TO GET BANK CHARTER

Evidence at Opening of Government Investigation Into Farmers' Bank Gave Sidelights on Travers' Negotiations at Ottawa—Prominent Politicians Examined.

OTTAWA, March 13.—(Can. Press.)—Evidence in regard to the amairs of the Farmers' Bank, taken before Sir William Meredith at the investigation this morning, hinged around the issuance of a certificate to the bank by the late government, which started it on its disastrous career.

The means used by the directors of the bank to obtain this certificate by represented borrowed money to be paid-up capital, was clearly shown.

Messrs. John Thompson, K.C., and Frank Hodgins, K.C., are counsel for the public; J. E. Weldon and W. C. Mikel for the depositors, and William Laidlaw of Toronto for certain shareholders.

In the afternoon an interesting conversation between Travers and Norman Guthrie, an Ottawa solicitor, was revealed, and W. S. Calvert told how he had introduced Travers to Hon. W. S. Fielding, and some later transactions with the bank were concluded. Sir Richard Cartwright and Hon. L. P. Brodeur testified, and the enquiry was adjourned until to-morrow.

Made Travers Settle.

Norman Guthrie was the first witness called in the afternoon. He testified that C. H. Smith, formerly secretary of the board of provisional directors of the Farmers' Bank, but dismissed by General Manager Travers, had been retained by him to recover certain sums alleged to be due him by the bank, intending, were he not given satisfaction, to oppose the granting of the bank's certificate. Settlement between Travers and Smith was finally effected, the former giving the latter a three months' note for the amount involved.

The witness testified to Travers having come to his office later, in what he described as an excellent humor, and handing him a cheque for his costs for $110. On Mr. Guthrie telling him that $100 had been the amount stipulated, Travers had told him the extra $10 would cover the use of the witness' office for dictating letters or for any other future business which might be transacted between them.

Didn't Advise Travers.

He had told Mr. Guthrie he had just been thru a strenuous examination by Mr. Fielding, the finance minister, and showed him a letter received from the latter, asking him to put in writing what had passed between them in conversation. Mr. Guthrie denied that he had ever given Mr. Travers any legal advice as to his reply to the minister, contrary to statements made by Travers in court, who testified that the extra $10 had been for legal advice from Mr. Guthrie.

W. S. Calvert, the next witness, testified to having introduced Mr. Travers to the finance minister previous to his obtaining a certificate for the Farmers' Bank. He denied any knowledge that his name had been on the roll of provisional directors of the bank as outlined in a prospectus issued.

Was Chief Liberal Whip.

"You were chief Liberal whip at the time you introduced Mr. Travers?" asked Mr. Hodgins.

"I was."

"Isn't it unusual for a whip to interest himself in affairs of this kind?"

"No; it is not."

"Did you have any business dealings with Travers?"

"No, not at that time. In 1909 I went to him to borrow $3000 on my demand note for a business transaction I was going into. I did nothing to do with the Farmers' Bank or its charter."

Examined Sir Richard.

The enquiry then adjourned to the railway committee room of the senate, where Sir Richard Cartwright and Hon. L. P. Brodeur were examined.

Sir Richard, who was a member of the treasury board when the Farmers' Bank got its certificate, testified that it was the custom of the board to depend upon the recommendation of the finance department in such instances.

Hon. L. P. Brodeur did not remember hearing the matter discussed at a previous meeting and scarcely recollected the issuance of a certificate to the Farmers' Bank at all.

When the Bank Was Launched.

The enquiry opened in the county court house at 11 o'clock and evidence in regard to the organization of the bank, the granting of its certificate by the treasury board, and the conduct of its business, in so far as it came under the survey of the finance department, formed the feature.

Messrs. Frank Hodgins, K.C., and John Thompson, K.C., are representing the government, Messrs. W. C. Mikel of Belleville and I. E. Weldon, the depositors, and Mr. Wm. Laidlaw, K.C., of Toronto, the shareholders.

Conferred With Fielding.

David Henderson, M.P. for Halton, said that many of his constituents were interested in the bank. He had had a conference with Hon. Mr. Fielding as to the bank's discontinuing of notes, endorsed by the provisional directors. In 1908 Mr. Fielding had seemed surprised and said he would hold back the certificate as long as he could. After the certificate had been issued, witness had had another conversation with the finance minister, who said that W. R. Travers, manager of the bank, had denied the discounting. Two years later witness had spoken to the minister as to rumors of peculiar operations of the bank.

He found that Mr. Fielding knew these facts and was told: "Well, Mr. Henedrson, you don't need to worry about this. You did your best to warn the government."

Major Beattie, M.P. for London, was asked if he had ever agreed to act as a director of the Farmers' Bank if elected, as set forth in a prospectus. Witness said he had not, nor had he stock in the bank.

Hon. Mr. Fisher Testifies.

Hon Sydney Fisher, ex-minister of agriculture, thought he had been a member of the treasury board about the time the bank got its certificate, but had not been present when it was authorized. The minutes showed that Messrs. Fielding, Cartwright and Brodeur had been present. The treasury board had the power to issue bank certificates without reference to the cabinet council.

T. C. Boville, deputy minister of finance, testified that the treasury board in 1906 consisted of Messrs. Fielding, Cartwright Paterson, Fisher and Brodeur, five in all, though the organization of the board is fixed by statute at six members. He had been secretary since his appointment as deputy minister on November 1, 1906.

Failed to See Affidavit.

Mr. Boville was examined at length as regards correspondence in regard to the bank which had passed thru his hands. A writ of summons, accompanied by an affidavit by Mr. William Laidlaw in regard to the discounting of its notes by the bank, had been sent to the finance department, but Mr. Boville did not remember seeing the affidavit.

Clouston Gives Warning.

The department, he said, had made enquiries, but had dropped the matter.

The witness was examined in detail as to the granting of the bank's certificate. All dealings had been with Travers. Once the certificate had been issued no effort had been made to recall it, tho on the following morning a letter had been received from Sir Edward Clouston to the effect that the bank's deposit with the government, supposed to be paid up capital, had been irregularly obtained and requesting that no certificate be granted without an investigation.

A letter was sent in reply stating the matter had had the careful attention of the department, in view of reports of litigation, in regard to the bank which had appeared in the newspapers.

"Do you argue there is any power vested in the treasury board to recall a certificate once issued?" asked Sir William Meredith at this point.

"I do, if it could be shown the certificate had been fraudulently obtained," replied Mr. Hodgins.

BRANTFORD PICTURES.

A Sunday World staff photographer visited Brantford recently, and the first instalment of pictures from that thriving city will appear in next Sunday's World.

These show hook and ladder truck and No. 1 and hose wagon attached to headquarters, making a dash down Dalhousie-street in fast time. Another picture shows the extension ladder raised and scaled by the headquarters' staff. There is another picture of Fire Chief D. J. Lewis responding to a call.

Other Brantford pictures will appear in subsequent issues.

ELIJAH

Dr. Torrington laid down his baton last night after nearly 40 years' work in Toronto as the pioneer conductor of choral music in the city. The performance was of Mendelssohn's "Elijah," and the oratorio was on the whole finely rendered. The chorus was decidedly better than in "The Messiah," and sang with more confidence, with more dramatic force and with more graduation of tone. "Hear us Baal" was given with lyrical facility and epic breadth. In spite of some flaws in "Thanks be to God" and "The Waters Gather," this glorious chorus had an adequate and satisfactory rendering. "Be Not Afraid" was given with excellent effect and "After the Still Voice" aroused applause. The final choruses were massive and dignified. "Hear Watching Over Israel" was sweet to hear.

The double quartet, "For He Shall Give Them," was a very charming bit of concerted singing, with much purity of tone, by Miss Olive Casey, Mrs. D. Hancock, Mrs. B. R. Perry, Mrs. G. H. Forbes, Messrs. George F. Taylor, R. D. Little, H. Hoskin, and J. Dickinson. The quartet of soloists were heard in exquisite balance in "O Come Every One That Thirsteth" and in "Cast Thy Burden," which was beautifully sung.

Miss Eileen Millett, who is one of the finest exponents of oratorio before the public, sang even more beautifully than in "The Messiah." The scene between the prophet and the widow gave her a splendid opportunity and she sang with great clarity and expressive intensity. In "Hear Ye Israel" and "Be Not Afraid" the touching and lovely sweetness and vocal purity of her singing were displayed. Miss Rosalin Whirlin sang "Woe Unto Them" with fine power and gained much applause for her rendering of "O Rest in the Lord."

Frederick Martin sang the "Elijah" solos with distinction. The dramatic climax in "Is Not His Word Like a Fire" secured a warm appreciation and in "It Is Enough," sung with most pathetic force, the applause which followed was not satisfied with a first nor a second acknowledgment. The tenor, Evan Williams, had a similar greeting after his solo, "Then Shall the Righteous," but his friends persisted until an encore was accorded.

The orchestra found some difficulty with the conductor's beat, but played steadily and well thruout, and undoubtedly contributed to the general excellence of the performance. The audience was rather thinner than on the previous evening, but highly appreciative and Dr. Torrington retires with the consciousness to which Stevenson gave expression when he declared: "I know what joy is, for I have done good work."

A.E.S.S.

WRECK THRU OVER WORK?

Denial Given Story That Boal Was on Duty for Twenty-four Hours.

OTTAWA, March 13.—(Can. Press.)—The inquest on the death of the victims of the Canadian Pacific Railway train wreck on the Pontiac branch, near Hull, on March 8, opened to-night at Hull. An adjournment was taken until Monday next, as the jurors require some points cleared up. They want a legal opinion as to the right of the C.P.R. to back their trains to Ottawa from Hull, and an investigation into the hours which Harvey Boal worked the day before the wreck. One juror stated the missing telegraph operator was on duty 24 hours preceding the morning of the wreck.

The night operator at Hull said Boal was in good health and spirits, and denied that the missing man had worked his turn for him on the night previous, as a juror alleged.

ORANGEMEN RESENT BEING CALLED WING OF CONSERVATIVE PARTY

Continued From Page 1.

tiser will undoubtedly cause a closing up of the ranks and a re-election of these men unless they voluntarily retire.

Burning Issues To-day.

Worshipful Brother Harry Lovelock of Toronto read his annual address to the lodge, referring to the bilingual question and the home rule problem, but intimated that the legislation committee report that will be presented by Bro. Wm. Banks at to-morrow's session will deal fully with both questions.

Committees Named.

The committees that prepare the work for to-morrow's reunion were named, and are as follows: Credentials, J. J. Hunter, Kincardine; chairman correspondence, A. W. Wright, Toronto; finance, James Mayor, Toronto; supervisor and expulsions, Paul Gallagher, Centre Simcoe; petitions and appeals, Marshall Thompson, Essex; returns, W. J. Douglass, North Toronto, and a special committee headed by the G. M. of B. A., Col. J. H. Scott of Kincardine to deal with the report of the executive.

There is a well-defined rumor that the present Grandmaster, Harry Lovelock, will retire, and in that case Fred Dane will succeed him, his place being taken by Dr. J. J. Williams of Woodstock.

Contest for Treasurership.

There will be keen competition for the vacant treasurership, formerly occupied by the late John Hewitt of Toronto, whose daughter, Miss L. Hewitt, under the supervision of the grand master and secretary, prepared the annual report. The names mentional are W. Cooke, Meaford, the present assistant secretary, and James Mayor of Toronto. Joseph Thompson is also being urged to run. The Hon. Sam Hughes, minister of militia, wired that he could not come, but the Hon. Dr. Pyne will attend. Col. J. H. Scott, Kincardine, the grand master of British America, together with J. Parkhill, P.G.M., of Midland, are here.

Grand Master's Address.

In his retiring address as grand master, Harry Lovelock, said: "One school, one flag and one language—this is what the Dominion wants to make it the brightest gem in the British Empire."

"As your grand master, I feel that I voice the sentiments of this grand lodge when I say that our brethren in the old land have our undying sympathy in their efforts to prevent the passage of a home rule bill for Ireland, and that our hopes and our prayers are being exercised on their behalf, and if need be our personal and financial assistance."

Pogress in Year.

William M. Fitzgerald of Toronto reported that 15 primary lodges, three new district lodges and one county lodge had been established during the year.

HOME CIRCLE OFFICERS

Vigorous Campaign of Organization Will Soon Start.

The election of officers was the main business at the session of the Home Circles convention yesterday, altho a number of reports from the different committees were also heard. About the most important of these was that of the management committee, recommending a renewed and vigorous organization campaign in the way of local, county and district conventions, deputies and so forth. The list of supreme officers elected for the coming year is as follows: Leader, D. Dalton, Delhi; vice-leader, Dr. T. S. Boyle, Trinity College, Toronto; secretary, J. M. Foster, Toronto; treasurer, W. H. Weston, Toronto; chaplain, Rev. W. H. Ebersole, Kingsville; marshal, W. H. Scott, Winnipeg; warden, Dr. F. C. Bartlett, St. Thomas; guard, C. F. Merrifield, Port Hope; sentinel, Mrs. H. A. Kerr, Hamilton; medical examiner, Dr. T. A. Hobbs, Guelph; trustees, R. N. Sommerville, Toronto; trustees, Dr. Clouse of Toronto, F. J. Sabine of Toronto, R. R. Mowbray of Kinsale, finance committee, C. H. Denton of Tillsonburg, J. S. Scarff of Woodstock, R. R. Mowbray of Woodstock; committee on laws, Mrs. M. A. Anderson of Toronto, Thos. Paradine of Hamilton, C. D. Shipley of Northport, N.S.

A report of a sub-committee of the management committee was read, recommending a renewed and vigorous organization campaign in the way of local, county or district conventions, deputies, etc.

A number of proposed amendments to the constitution were bowled out as being contrary to the declaration of incorporation.

The remaining proposed constitutional amendments were all rejected. None of them were of vital importance.

STRIKERS TO MEET

Mass Meeting Will Be Called to Discuss the Situation.

The Eaton dispute committee appointed by the District Labor Council reported last night that no reply had been received from the T. Eaton Company regarding the committee's request for a conference regarding the recent strike of the garment workers.

The committee appointed to collect funds for those affected in the strike, stated that within the space of two days the sum of $300 had been collected, and that a guarantee of $300 per week indefinitely had been promised by the local merchants.

A motion was passed at the meeting to the effect that a mass meeting would be called to co-operate with every organization interested in the dispute; also that the secretary of the Dominion Trades Congress be asked to issue a circular outlining the facts of the Eaton dispute to all affiliated bodies. On a third motion, it was decided to appoint a permanent secretary.

WOMEN'S COUNCIL

The executive of the local council of women held their monthly meeting at 52 St. Alban street yesterday, when an excellent report of the national executive held at Ottawa was read. Miss Gertrude Barnum of Cleveland addressed the womeno n protocol arbitration. Miss Constance Boulton presided.

DRY GOODS MEN SHOULD FIX PRICES

Retiring President of Merchants Says They Should Work Together More Harmoniously in Order to Regulate Details of Business — New Officers Were Elected.

At the annual meeting of the wholesale drygoods section of the Toronto Board of Trade yesterday the following were elected: Chairman, J. C. Douglas; vice-chairman, A. M. Ivey; secretary-treasurer, F. G. Morley; executive, J. D. Allan, Charles Marriott, Henry Brock, D. McCall, F. C. Daniel, R. A. Nisbett, J. C. Green, J. Lorthway, J. D. Ivey, A. T. Reid, C. B. Lowndes, A. F. Hodger, J. Muldrew, W. R. Smallpiece, John Macdonald, J. P. Watson, J. W. Woods.

The chairman's address covered several matters of the utmost importance to the general public. He regretted that there was not more working policy amongst the different branches of the drygoods trade. The hardware trade, the grocery trade and others worked "harmoniously and profitably" together, advancing or reducing prices as the market rose and fell. It was not so with the drygoods trade, said the speaker. No matter how high the prices went both the wholesaler and retailer offered their goods at the old figures.

This could only have one result, a great disappointment at the end of the year.

"Justice surely demands that when prices are reduced to meet a falling market they should be advanced on a rising one in order that the merchant may have an opportunity of securing a fair average," continued Mr. Smallpiece.

"We believe that it would be of great advantage to the drygoods trade to carefully study the methods of the hardware and grocery sections in respect to fluctuations with the vitw of framing a workable policy on similar lines.

During the past year some jobbing houses have agreed among themselves not to sell below fixed prices, based on a legitimate profit certain marked or branded lines well known thruout the trade."

"We rejoice that the trade policy of the country has evidently been settled for some years, and we believe that the appointment of a tariff commission is a step in the right direction, as such a board keeping constantly in touch with all conditions and absorbing the views of both manufacturers and consumers should be in a position to make fairer judicial recommendations than any individual official of any government."

SHOULD GUARD AGAINST VICE

Rev. Dr. Eby Says Parents Should Not Leave Children to the Mercy of the World.

Dr. C. S. Eby addressed the Toronto Vigilance Committee at a largely-attended meeting in Brown's Hall, College and Ossington, last night, and referred to a number of the vices that should be eliminated from Toronto, either by educative methods or enforcement of different laws. He said one great advantage give nto reformers was the fact that the people did not take the same objection to hearing about vices in regard to the sexes as in former years. Only good could come from people understanding, and parents should be thoroly prepared to hear what science had found out regarding questions that seriously affected the home and civilization generally.

"Children ought to be guarded from their birth against vice," he said. "The parents should teach them, and not leave them to the mercy of the world. A child not taught by his parents, learns on the street to his injury, which probably means opening the way for an immoral life."

There was general discussion relative to the public dance hall evil and the deteriorating influence of burlesque shows. Mr. St. Clair submitted a report to the meeting regarding a visit he made to a local burlesque theatre. He said the performance was startling and degenerating in the extreme. Shows of this type were strongly condemned. The report was placed in the hands of Rev. Dr. Shearer for further action.

Chased Seers From Kingston.

KINGSTON, March 13.—(Special.)—A number of Bulgarian men and women telling fortunes in a house on Sydenham-street, and reaping a big harvest, were ordered out of the city by Mayor Hoag. They are some of the same gang which operated in Belleville and were chased out.

The board of trade is appealing to council to abolish market tolls to build up the market, which has been falling off. Farmers ask that the tolls be abolished now that the county has struck off all road tolls.

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