

Twice-a-Week Times

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PERMANENT NAVAL POLICY.

The debate on the Canadian navy bill is at an end, and the government's policy was endorsed by something more than a mere party vote. Several Conservatives deserted their leader and supported the government. There is little doubt that the division in the House of Commons was representative of the sentiment of the country. There is no question as to the sincerity of the people who advocate contributions to the British navy as a more effective means of insuring the protection of Imperial interests than the construction and maintenance of a Canadian navy, but such a policy fails to take account of the most deeply rooted instincts (if that be the proper word) of human nature. As soon as the youth reaches man's estate his natural disposition is to set up in business on his own account—not, indeed, to sever all relations with the paternal household, but to control and manage affairs which are distinctively his own. This is a trait of human nature which cannot be ignored. Any policy that is sure to be productive of friction in the family, it is as fundamental as the principle of individual ownership, which we believe can never be supplanted by Socialism.

Canada has reached the point at which dependence upon the Mother Country for protection is inconsistent with national self-respect. The burden of Imperial defence has become heavier than the taxpayers of the Mother Land can bear. Each of the self-governing portions of the Empire had decided that the time has come for it to assume its proper share of this burden. At a conference held recently in London a programme of Imperial defence was outlined which met with the entire approval of the most competent technical authorities, including the Lords of the Admiralty. The Canadian naval policy is one of the developments of that programme. It is in complete harmony with the policy of land defence which has been gradually unfolding itself in Canada for many years. As a consequence of such development the Imperial army forces have been withdrawn from Canada, beginning with regiments stationed in various parts of the interior, and culminating in the evacuation of the coast defences at Esquimalt and Halifax. The sequence of events has been orderly and logical. We have simply reached another stage in the process of evolution. The Admiralty has followed the example of the War Office and withdrawn its forces entirely from Canada, and we purpose adding naval defence to military defence as a purely domestic matter. Logically there is no more reason why we should subsidize the British government to maintain warships in our waters than we should reimburse it for the cost of maintaining an army within our borders.

The situation is accepted by all parties to the controversy, but there are naturally differences of opinion as to the manner in which this situation shall be met. The advocates of contributions to the British navy argue that Canada is not at the present time competent to construct and maintain a navy of her own, that the art of shipbuilding is not thoroughly understood, that the wealth of the country is not sufficient to warrant such a venture, and that the population is too meagre to insure the success of such an ambitious policy. To which the answer is that the foundations of a complete shipbuilding industry must be begun some time, that the proper time to begin is now, that the nation is rapidly increasing in population and wealth, that our people are in no respect an inferior people, and that what their forefathers have accomplished they can do—possibly some improvements—inasmuch as there is no discounting an acknowledged fact, that the most virile and the most ambitious and the most enterprising of the young men of all the countries of the old world (and of the new too for that matter) are flocking to our shores.

And there is a suspicion amounting to a conviction that if the opposition at Ottawa were free to express its honest opinion, instead of being moved by political considerations, the vote taken in the House of Commons last night would have been practically a unanimous endorsement of the naval policy of the government.

LIBERTY OF THE PRESS VINDICATED.

There was something more involved in the famous libel suit of Foster v. Macdonald, recently decided in Toronto in favor of the defendant, than a mere political feud between two able, determined and prominent men. There was an issue, raised by counsel for the plaintiff, as to whether newspaper

privilege extended to the point of selling upon certain transactions in the private business life of a candidate for Parliament and urging them as reasons for the rejection by the electors of that aspirant. The action was one of the most notable in the legal annals of Canada and was freely and fully commented upon by the newspapers of the East, the deductions drawn therefrom being, of course, colored more or less in accordance with the political leanings of the commentators. The Ottawa Free Press, against which an action of a similar kind is pending, but which will probably not come to trial in view of the result of the suit against the Toronto Globe, comments on the case in the following language:

"Saturday's verdict is, however, a distinct triumph for the cause of good government and at the same time, a perfect vindication of the liberty of the press."

"It is no easy thing for a man in the responsible position of editor of a great political newspaper to condemn, as Dr. Macdonald felt impelled to condemn, the actions of any public man. It would be impossible if the courts of the land did not recognize that freedom of criticism without malice is one of the bases of our constitutional liberties."

"The trial has been a difficult one for both plaintiff and defendant. It involved more than an ordinary political quarrel. On its result depended the issue as to whether private reputation was or was not an asset necessary in the public life of this country and whether a journalist was justified in basing his criticism of a candidate for Parliament upon the public records of the country."

"The verdict makes both these points clear. The jury, chosen altogether apart from political considerations, has ruled that Dr. Macdonald's criticisms were justified by the public records and that he was free to comment upon the conduct of a man who was a candidate for Parliament and whose actions had been so officially condemned as had those of Mr. Foster by the Royal Commission."

"On the other hand, the verdict has its solace for Mr. Foster. It finds that Mr. Foster acted in good faith while acting as manager of the Union Trust Company, but that his actions were open to criticism. The trial also made it clear that whatever may have been thought or said concerning Mr. Foster and his relation to the transactions which were the basis of the suit, he was guilty of no criminal action and that his errors were errors of judgment."

"The significance of the verdict from the view-point of the country at large is the application to our political life of the good Biblical principle that candidates for public office must be above suspicion, and also of the circumstance that no man can afford to oppose the determination of the electorate to maintain the purity of the stream of political life."

"If the politicians of both parties will heed the lesson involved in Saturday night's verdict it will be a good thing for the Dominion of Canada. The jury, who were there as the representatives of the people of Canada, have spoken, and their verdict must be taken as that of the majority of the people."

"Freedom of criticism has been justified. The liberty of the press has been emphasized and it has been laid down as a cardinal principle of our public life that he who would win the support and the confidence of the people must be free from even the suspicion of wrong-doing."

"THE LAND FOR THE PEOPLE"

The McBride government claims that it has taken every possible precaution to preserve the public lands of the province for actual settlers; that if immigrants display a preference for other provinces as a field for their industry and as a consequence the consumers of this province import annually agricultural products of the value of millions of dollars, these things cannot be justly charged up against the land policy of the government. That is as it may be. We do not charge that the document hereto annexed, picked up on the street and handed to the Times, contains an intimation that if published might excite some interest has anything to do with the case. Here is a copy of the instrument referred to:

THIS AGREEMENT, made in duplicate this day of 19 BETWEEN

hereinafter called the party of the first part, and DAVID EDWARD MCKIBBIN and WILLIAM JOHN TAYLOR, of Victoria, B. C., Barristers and Solicitors, hereinafter called the parties of the second part.

WHEREAS the party of the first part intends to stake and purchase from the Government of British Columbia by virtue of the Land Act certain lands situated within the following boundaries, viz.:—
The 52nd and 53rd Parallels North and the 121st and 124th Parallels West respectively, and which will be more particularly described upon the notice to be signed by him the said party of the first part or his agent on his behalf and advertised by him in pursuance of the provisions of the Land Act aforesaid relative to the purchase of Crown Lands. And the description of the said lands within the aforesaid boundaries appearing on said notice shall be deemed to be a good and sufficient description for the purpose of this

agreement, and shall hereinafter be called the "said lands."

WITNESSETH that in consideration of the sum of one dollar and other good and valuable considerations now paid by the parties of the second part to the party of the first part, the receipt whereof by the party of the first part is hereby acknowledged, the party of the first part has made, signed, executed and administrators COVENANTS AND AGREES that will either by self or by an agent properly authorized in that behalf stake the said lands hereinafter recited and will make application for the purchase of the same from the Government of British Columbia and will further do all acts, deeds, matters and things requisite and necessary for the acquiring of a Crown Grant of the said lands under and by virtue of the provisions of the Land Act and Amendments thereto for the time being in force in the Province of British Columbia.

AND the parties of the first part further COVENANTS AND AGREES that upon the receipt by the said Crown Grant or Crown Grants of more than one that will transfer the same to the parties of the second part by a good and valid deed of conveyance and that if required by the parties of the second part so to do free from all encumbrances.

AND the parties of the second part agree that they will pay the party of the first part all sums of money which may become due and payable to the Government of British Columbia on account of the purchase of the said lands and the issuing of a Crown Grant or Crown Grants therefor, and hereby COVENANT AND AGREE to indemnify and save harmless the party of the first part, heirs, executors and administrators from and on account of any and all such payments.

AND the parties of the second part further agree that the conveyance of the said Crown Grant to them shall be at the expense of the parties of the second part.

AND the parties of the first part hereby COVENANTS AND AGREES that the parties of the second part shall execute in favor of the parties of the second part or their nominee in writing an irrevocable power of attorney for the purpose of obtaining further from the Government of British Columbia the delivery of a Crown Grant or Crown Grants of the said lands and that they will authorize the parties of the second part to hold the said Crown Grant or Crown Grants and sell or transfer the lands therein contained, to be held, conveyed, sold, executed, delivered, acknowledge and perform any contract, agreement, deed, writing or thing that may in the opinion of the parties of the second part be necessary or proper for acquiring and disposing of the said lands.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the said parties hereto have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Witness:
The Premier of this province and his chief political lieutenant, seated at the head of the table, have the public belief that the Oriental booby disturbs their sleep of nights.

We can easily imagine with what unalloyed delight the leaders of the Tammany Hall of this city, which is the centre of the lifeblood of the Tory establishment or machine, behold such adroit tactical manoeuvres. What would the head centre amount to, how long would it exist, if the sinews fed upon its alliance with Victoria's Chinatown were cut? What would become of the bosses, who "toll not neither do they spin," and yet are clothed in fine garments and fare sumptuously every day, if there were no Orientals in Victoria to levy tolls upon vice and divide the maldorador spoils with the accidental panders to the contract?

Does the Premier imagine still that the doing of his loyal followers in this city are not thoroughly understood even if they have not yet been completely exposed, and that his assumed regard for the interests of the "white toilers" is not estimated at its true value?

HUGE EXPENDITURE ON HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS
(Continued from page 1.)

may mention in this connection that during the interview with Mr. Oliver he said he was looking forward to the day when he would come to live permanently in Victoria.

"Did you take up the matter of the experimental farm?"

"Yes," he had several interviews with Hon. Mr. Fisher in regard to the proposed experimental farm on Vancouver Island. Unfortunately, Mr. Fisher, the agricultural department, was absent from Ottawa during our visit, but one thing the minister made plain to us was that he would not ask his colleagues to purchase land at the high prices which had been quoted him for an experimental farm site in close proximity to Victoria. He said that he would like to see the experimental farm close to Victoria, as it was much better to have it in the most central point possible. However, we suggested a site near Colwood, which the minister thought was a good one, and he turned up Mr. Anderson's report on the Colwood farm, and we hope on the latter official's return to Ottawa immediate steps may be taken towards securing this site.

"I also interviewed the deputy minister of trade and commerce, and was successful in having the contract for the weekly mail service for the Pacific Coast Steamship Company renewed for three years."

"I must say in conclusion that we found the resolutions which had been passed by the Liberal Association prior to our departure, dealing with the matters entrusted to our care, of the greatest help to us. The ministers scrutinized them respectfully and carefully, and I am sure that they strengthened our hands very materially."

SERIOUS RIOTING AT PHILADELPHIA

MANY POLICEMEN BEATEN INSENSIBLE

Hand to Hand Fights Between Rioters and Mounted Officers

(Times Leased Wire.)

Philadelphia, Pa., March 10.—Ten thousand men were engaged in rioting in the vicinity of the city hall at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. Police reserves were sent to the scene and orders were given by their officers to begin firing. The rioters and police engaged in hand to hand struggles.

Many policemen were beaten insensible, their clubs and pistols were torn from them and used against their fellow officers.

The riot about the city hall followed a series of disorders that began when the police interfered with a procession of 3,000 laboring men who are out on strike.

The men in the parade, after being driven from the column, gathered in the side streets, reformed and again marched toward the city hall.

The police charged upon them, mounted officers rode them down and again succeeded in breaking up the mass.

News of the encounters spread like wild fire to the Kensington and other outlying portions of the city. The crowd increased rapidly and soon were driving the police before them.

Flying squadrons of mounted police came upon the rioters at this time and saved the lives of many of the patrolmen, who were fighting against overwhelming odds.

The crowds about the city hall set up a dense fire of stones and bricks. There was a rush for the doors and for a time it looked as though the police would be swept aside and the building entered by the rioters. The police drew their revolvers and began firing.

After a scattering volley of shots rang over their heads, the rioters retreated to a distance.

The rioting began when the crowd became unruly on their march toward the city hall. At half a dozen points the police formed cordons across the streets and attempted to stop the marchers.

Aided by other police in automobiles, the patrolmen succeeded in breaking up the columns.

Repeatedly they charged the crowd and beat down men and women with their clubs. Scores were injured in the melee, and dozens of arrests were made.

The effect of the strike on securities of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company was shown to-day, when the stock was already low, declined \$2 a share.

Awaiting Developments.
Newcastle, Pa., March 10.—The officers of the State Administration of Labor to-day ordered the Philadelphia unions how on strike to make a final effort to secure arbitration of the differences between the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company and its striking platform men.

It was announced that if their efforts for peace fail, all organized labor throughout Pennsylvania will be called out on strike in fifteen days.

GRAND LODGE HAS ELECTED OFFICERS

A. O. U. W. Discussed Question of Allowing Women to Join

(From Thursday's Daily.)

The Grand Lodge of the A. O. U. W. convened at 9 a. m. this morning. After reading the minutes, the election of officers for the ensuing term was held, resulting in the following: Bro. S. M. Evelyn, G. M. W.; Bro. Thos. Cashmore, G. F.; Bro. W. H. Anderson, G. O.; Bro. J. T. McMillan, grand secretary; Bro. Wm. McMillan, grand treasurer; Bro. W. A. De Wolf Smith, grand medical examiner; Bro. George Adams, grand trustee.

The question of admission of ladies to full membership in the order was discussed at considerable length, including a counter proposition to make their admission optional with each subordinate lodge, but in the end both propositions were defeated.

It was agreed to continue the publication of the "A. O. U. W. Record" for the present year.

An invitation from Delta lodge for the Grand Lodge to hold its next meeting at Ladners was unanimously accepted.

ONTARIO FARMERS MAROONED BY FLOOD

Number of Buildings Swept Away—It is Feared Chatham Will Suffer

Chatham, Ont., March 9.—The jam ice in the Thames river is now packed for miles and water is flooding districts for miles back. No glycerine was used last night to remove the jam, but it was unsuccessful. Farmers are marooned in their homes, and small buildings are being swept away. The situation is growing worse hourly, and it is claimed now that Chatham is doomed.

GOLDWIN SMITH'S CONDITION.

Toronto, March 9.—Dr. Goldwin Smith continues to improve, and is making steady progress toward recovery.

SEWERAGE SYSTEM FOR CUMBERLAND

Plans and Estimates Now Being Prepared by Engineer

Cumberland, March 7.—At the city council meeting a communication was received from Mr. Manson M.P.P., stating that the government was preparing plans and cost of the entire sewerage system. The plans will be ready in a few days.

Returning Officer McKinnon announced the election of James Brown by acclamation as alderman for North Ward.

Eldorado moved that the amendment to the liquor license by-law calling for all bars to be at the front of the premises be rescinded. There being no second to the motion the bill was dropped for the present.

Mr. Willard on behalf of the Merchants' Association, asked for the use of the council chamber for the meeting of that body once or twice a month. The request was granted, the finance committee to fix the rent.

MISSING HEIR IS FOUND AT MOYIE

Fortune Estimated at Over a Million Dollars Awaits Logging Camp Employee

Moyie, March 8.—From a "funkie" in a logging camp to the heir to an estate the value of which is estimated at no less than \$1,500,000. Such is the lot of a man named Moyie, who has been employed in the logging camp of the East Kootenay Lumber Company, near Aldridge, one mile west of Moyie.

Lloyd came to Canada from Ireland some two years ago, shortly after the death of his father, having quarrelled with an uncle with whom he had resided since his father's demise. He had some money and purchased a ranch at or near Medicine Hat. After improving the property he found himself without funds and, therefore, decided to put a man on the ranch to manage the place on shares, and to leave himself for Cranbrook. This he did, and for a short time worked in that town. He was then sent by the East Kootenay Lumber Company to their camp here, at which he has since been employed as a dishwasher.

Recently a detective, who had been sent from Ireland to search western Canada for Lloyd, arrived in Moyie. Shortly after his arrival he located Lloyd and informed him of the death of his grandfather, which took place recently in Ireland, and of the legacy which had been bequeathed to him.

Lloyd is 24 years of age and has a college education which was given to him by his father. A short time ago he told his friends here of this fact and of his intention to go to Nelson to look after the business of his father.

He is now on his way back to Moyie, where he will be met by a detective, who is claiming to the estate.

Simon Leiser is very enthusiastic Reception at Ottawa Was of the Most Cordial Kind

(From Thursday's Daily.)

President Leiser, who wears an expansive smile of satisfaction over the happy outcome of the endeavors of himself and Mr. Klingham, when seen this morning promised a most gratifying report at this afternoon's meeting. "We got practically every concession of importance which we asked for," he said, "and in my opinion the sending of the deputation was a master stroke on the part of the House."

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The bill was voted down. The establishment of a general eight-hour day was the subject of the bill, to which the member suggested that it be laid over for a year. The House would then be in possession of the report of the commission which had inquired into this question in Nova Scotia. According to a dispatch in the House today or two ago the report of the commission was decidedly against general legislation for an eight-hour day. The bill was defeated.

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PROROGATION OF LEGISLATURE

CLOSING CEREMONY TOOK PLACE THIS AFTERNOON

At Morning Session Many Labor Bills Were Thrown Out

Legislative Press Gallery.

At half past three this afternoon the first session of the twelfth parliament of British Columbia, after giving the royal assent to a large number of bills.

This morning's sitting was much in the nature of a battle. Bill after bill was called for second reading, only to be killed. The Socialist leader had seven labor bills on the paper and the government whip had one, all sharing the same fate.

The first bill proposed the extension of the eight-hour-day now in force in smelters to all employees who are brought in contact with smoke, fumes, dust or heat arising from smelting or refining operations.

The premier opposed the bill as likely to drive out capital and lead to the closing down of smelters.

On a division the second reading was lost by 26 against 11 for. In addition to Messrs. Hawthorthwaite, Williams and Jardine the following eight Conservative members voted for the bill, all from mining or smelting centres: Messrs. Parnis, Schofield (Ym), Braden (Rossland), Caven (Cranbrook), Wright (Nelson), Miller (Grand Forks), Callanan (Cariboo) and Shafford (Similkameen).

A bill to amend the Inspection of Metalliferous Mines Act was designed to include "glory-holes" and all openings from which ore or mineral is taken in the term "underground workings."

To this the premier replied that it was a matter for arrangement, and expressed the opinion that the less interference there was between employer and employee the better it would be all round.

The bill was lost without division. Next came a workmen's compensation act, to which the premier took exception as being out of order, and that it proposed to deal with revenues of the crown. At the same time he promised that during recess the government would give the views of the member for Nanaimo the importance they deserved.

The speaker did not hold with the premier's point of order, inasmuch as the paying out of funds lodged in court was no interference with crown revenue. However, on other grounds he found the bill out of order.

Health of Camps.
Mr. Hawthorthwaite had yet another bill to present for second reading, which proposed that every January, May, and September health officers should make an inspection of logging, railway, mill and mining camps to examine their sanitary condition and water-supply. He asked for the premier's support for this, as it would not drive out capital or shut down any industries.

Hon. Dr. Young stated that the recommendation of the Horevich Act was under consideration, and would be preceded by full investigation. The proposal of the member for Nanaimo would be embodied in the bill. First-aid knowledge and methods would also be provided for.

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