

WHAT THE BUDGET IS.

Lloyd George's Explanation of What It Will Do.

Old Age Pensions For 700,000 Poor People.

Help For Unemployed and Insurance—Blow at Extortion.

London, Dec. 16.—Mr. Lloyd George has written useful and valuable matter in the shape of a preface to the volume, "The People's Budget," which has just been published in shilling form. The Chancellor of the Exchequer says:

This book consists of extracts from my House of Commons speeches explaining and defending the provisions of the budget I introduced on April 29, 1909. The financial proposals I then submitted were under discussion in all on seventy-two Parliamentary days, including several all-night sittings. They finally passed the House of Commons on November 4 by a majority which stands recorded at 230 of the elected representatives of the people.

I am only anxious that my fellow-countrymen, in pronouncing an opinion upon this budget, should know what it really is, and not what it is represented to be by its opponents. I have read the wildest accounts of its proposals given to public audiences by men who ought to know better. These distortions of the budget are generally presented to partisan gatherings, where there is no one to check or correct false interpretations. Let the people but know what the budget really contains, and what it really means for them and their children, and I do not doubt their ultimate verdict. It is common ground between the parties that the State urgently needs six additional millions of money this year. No opponent of the budget has taken upon himself to challenge the objects on which that money is to be expended.

FALSE PRETENCES EXPOSED.

The Tory party, having won ten years of power on the strength of a promise to confer the boon of old age pensions upon the poor, and having used the position thus won to vote millions a year practically to keep up the rents of their land-owning friends and to give away to the brewers a freehold which belonged to the community, then basely abandoned their pledges. When the present Government, which made no promise on the subject at the last election, undertook to redeem undertakings given by their opponents, what was the attitude of the Tory party? That attitude may be judged from a few passages from Lord Lansdowne's speech on the subject when our old age pensions bill which I piloted through the Commons came before the House of Lords:

"As I understand this bill it is a measure which can have no other effect than that of completely undermining the present poor law system."

HOW THE TORIES TREATED OLD AGE PENSIONS.

I should have thought that a very desirable thing, certainly both the majority and the minority reports of the poor law commission, issued a few months after this declaration in the House of Lords, were very emphatic as to the need for undermining the present poor law system. His lordship went on to ask:

"What is going to happen? Just at the time when it might fairly be said that the old taint of pauperism which lingered so long in many parts of the country was finally and entirely disappearing, you bring in this new measure, which, call it what you will, is a vast measure of thinly disguised outdoor relief."

I agree with my noble friend Lord Avebury in believing that its effects on the country will be profoundly demoralising."

Lord Lansdowne concluded his melancholy forebodings by declaring:

"I have come to the conclusion that the wiser course is to throw upon his Majesty's Government the sole and entire responsibility for a measure which we regard with great apprehension, and which we fear may have far-reaching and disastrous effects upon the future of this country."

It was thus that Lord Lansdowne talked of the measure, the promise of which gave him ten years of office.

LANSDOWNE'S WARNINGS DISREGARDED.

Well, the Liberal Government readily take the entire responsibility for old age pensions. The Government also readily and rightly disregard Lord Lansdowne's warnings. Humanity demands that something shall be done. The poor have a credible horror of the workhouse. It is the goal as the goal of poverty. The workhouse may be better than hunger, but it is a humiliating end for men whose honest toil won for them through lift at least freedom, though not plenty. The Government pension scheme saves the poor from the bitter alternative of starvation or the starving off of want by eating bread sodden in shame.

The budget has to raise over £8,000,000 to preserve nearly 700,000 old people from that cruel dilemma. It provides another million or two for the emancipation of the poor who are still in the grip of the poor law. There are at least 500,000 of these aged toilers who stand at the gates wistfully awaiting the turn of the key with nothing between them now and their redemption but the greed of the Lords. The Lords prefer to wreck the constitution rather than give their consent to a measure which saves, though lightly, the pleasures of the few in order to spare the sorrows of the myriad.

MORE SUCCOR FOR THE STRANDED WORKER.

The budget also undertakes to raise money for financing far-reaching schemes to provide against the evils that befall a workman and his family when sickness attacks the breadwinner; or when he is temporarily out of a job owing to the fluctuations of trade or fashion. The amount of human misery for which these circumstances are responsible is incalculable. When a workman is stretched on a sick bed he most needs comfort and freedom from anxiety. And who can tell the torture he endures from the knowledge that while he lies there there is no one to win bread for his little household? The friendly societies have achieved wonders. Workmen can never feel too grateful for what these beneficent institutions have accomplished. Something more is needed. The community must lend its powerful aid. The budget has made provision, rich and liberal, for doing so. It will not be by superseding existing agencies

—that would be not merely ingratitude but folly—but rather by using these great organizations already at work that we can alleviate the hard lot of the toiler during the days of his affliction.

DEVELOPING NEGLECTED RESOURCES.

A community which allows hundreds of thousands of its citizens whose labor is essential to its prosperity to endure these terrible evils cannot claim to be fully civilized. A provision against the privations from unemployment which come to honest men and women and children is essential to the building up of our civilization. The budget has made a double provision of that kind. It finds the money for setting up a scheme of insurance which will keep above want the workman and his family until the evil day is passed. It also proposes to set up a fund for developing the neglected resources of our country, and thus furnishing useful and fruitful employment on that soil which is now half cultivated or altogether waste, or, worst of all, abandoned to the pleasures of the rich.

A BLOW AT THE MECHANISM OF EXTORTION.

The greatest provision of all for unemployment, in my judgment, is contained in the land clauses of the budget. Those provisions must have the effect eventually of destroying the selfish and stupid monopoly which now so egregiously mismanages the land. Only the business community in this country, and those who have been associated with it all their lives, can fully appreciate the extent to which the present ownership of land hampers and embarrasses trade and industry. Ask any man with a growing business in town or village in this country, and he will tell you more than all the theorists and agitators in Europe about the mischief done by the unintelligent greed of some of the land-owning classes. It is not merely that extravagant prices are demanded and impossible conditions imposed; but what a business man minds even more is that an atmosphere of uncertainty is created by the powers of incessant interference and inquisition reserved for the landlord and his agents. The budget strikes the first real blow at this mechanism of extortion and petty persecution. No class of the community will have greater reason to feel joy at the triumph of the budget than the men engaged in putting their best quality of mind and morale into the building up of the commercial greatness of our nation.

SPOOK STORY.

Counsel Explains That It Was the Purest Fiction.

Toronto Man Blamed It For Destroying Value of Property.

Toronto, Dec. 16.—The spook story that figured in a trial for damages at the Jury Assizes in Toronto a few months ago was related to the Divisional Court yesterday afternoon, by Mr. W. E. Middleton, K. C., who appears for one of the defendants.

Mr. Middleton explained that the gist of the story was that a door in a house would not shut.

"Ghostly presence," forbids shutting of a door, was the story, as told from a Toronto World, the publishers of which are, with the writer of the story, defendants in the suit.

Counsel explained to the court that the whole story was a pure work of fiction, and as it appeared in a Toronto paper a Toronto locality was given to the house. A paper avenue, about a mile north of Danforth avenue, was selected, but the description of the house given in the story was imagined quite independently of the paper avenue, and by a man who had never been on that part of the street. In fact, it was quite unlike anything to be found in the neighborhood.

It was, however, sufficiently graphic to tempt a young reporter on another paper, possessed of a camera, to hunt for the house the following Sunday. Arrived at the point where he thought it should be located, he selected the house of Mr. Maynard as answering best to the description given. He knocked at the door and after receiving a friendly welcome proposed to take a photograph of the family in front of the house. This attracted neighbors and others, resulting in the damage being trampled on.

Mr. Maynard launched a suit for damages, and while the jury held that no injury had been done to the reputation of his place by the ghost story they awarded him \$100 for damages to his gardens.

The defendants are appealing from the judgment at the trial.

ARE UNDERFERD.

Embargo on Foreign Cattle Attack-ed at Dresden.

Dresden, Dec. 15.—Discussing the increased price of meat in the Second Chamber to-day Herr Kock, a Radical member, said that dear meat meant dear bread and dear everything else in the way of food. He added that German agriculture, which was protected by high tariffs, was unable to supply sufficient beef to feed the population. He demanded, as a result, was underfed. He demanded that the embargo on American and Danish cattle be raised.

Replying, the Premier denied that the cost of beef and sheep on the hoof had increased in price the fact was due to the action of the middlemen and the close combination maintained among the butchers. To admit American meat more freely would be, the Premier thought, to throw away the last trump card held by Germany in its trade relations with the United States. The House took no action in the matter.

NOAH WAS BLACKBALLED.

Detroit, Mich.—The Society of Naval Architects rejected Noah for honorary membership, when his name was proposed as the father of the ship designing profession. The reason given was "that Noah was a gamekeeper and not a ship designer primarily."

It all depends on the point of view. It is the same with "Fruit-a-tives." Some people take "Fruit-a-tives" for Constipation and Biliousness. Others use them for Stomach Troubles and Dyspepsia. Still others find "Fruit-a-tives" and excellent tonic and blood purifier. Many more say that "Fruit-a-tives" are the best Kidney Regulator and a certain cure for Neuralgia and Rheumatism. For all these troubles, "Fruit-a-tives" may be said to be infallible.

Everywhere in Canada—in the crowded city—on the lonely prairie—in fishing villages and mining camps—people depend on "Fruit-a-tives" to cure them and keep them well.

"Fruit-a-tives" are sold by all dealers at 50c a box, 4 for \$2.50, or trial size, 25c—or sent postpaid on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa, Ont.

News in Brief

A branch of the Hearts of Oak, an English friendly society, has been formed in Toronto.

Sir George Reid has been appointed High Commissioner for the Australian Commonwealth in London.

The transfer of the Southwestern Traction line to the new company has been completed at London.

The Colonial Development Co., of London, England, is suing Boston and New York firms for \$100,000 over a Cobalt deal.

Burglars entered the jewelry store of A. R. Hotson, Delhi, and carried off a quantity of chains, charms, pins and cheap watches.

The congregation of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Toronto, celebrated the 25th anniversary of Rev. Dr. John Neil, the pastor, on Wednesday.

Thirty-one hunters were killed in the New England States and the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in the hunting season this year.

The London Standard's Auckland correspondent writes that the greatest interest is being taken there in the effort to establish a line of steamships between New Zealand and Canada.

Otto Beit, the South African magnate, has given \$25,000 to supplement the \$250,000 given by his brother, the late Alfred Beit, to the University of London for the benefit of medical research.

Over four hundred thousand barrels of apples have been exported from Nova Scotia so far this year, and there are still well over three hundred and fifty thousand barrels remaining of this year's crop to go forward.

What the participants claim to have been merely a friendly game of poker was rudely broken up in a back room at 128 Bond street, Toronto, last night by Inspector Cuddy, and eleven alleged gamblers were gathered in.

Mr. E. Roy Sayles, business manager of The Brantford Courier, has purchased and in future will conduct The Port Elgin Times, which has been acquired from Mr. J. Ross Munro, who has accepted a position on The Ottawa Free Press.

Wayland and William McDermand, the two fishermen from Gulliver's Cove, N. S., blown off the Nova Scotia coast in Tuesday's gale, are safe. They arrived at Beaver Harbor, N. B., this morning, after a terrible experience in an open dory.

While working at the filtration plant at Toronto Island on Wednesday night Mahoney, of St. Clair avenue, was badly injured. He was working among a number of iron pipes when some of them fell and he was caught under them. Both his legs were fractured.

Judge Price, of Kingston, on Wednesday laid his overcoat, scarf and cane in his chambers and went upstairs to the County Court. At 1 o'clock on his return he found that his quarters had been entered and his valued pin stolen.

A plebiscite asking whether the people of North Toronto are in favor of the Metropolitan Railway in reference to running cars in the town on Sunday will be submitted to the electors of North Toronto at the municipal elections on New Year's Day.

Considerable excitement was caused at Markdale, Ont., when a stray dog ran amok. Several persons were attacked, but only one, a little boy, was scratched. The dog was finally shot and the brain sent away for analysis, as it is feared that the beast had rabies. It had bitten a number of other dogs.

The body of a Frenchman named Marquette was discovered last Saturday week in Touchwood Hills, about twelve miles west of Marcellin, Sask. Decayed had been in to get a load of logs, and when returning had taken a short cut, but by some means the sleigh had been overturned, pinning him underneath the logs.

A shocking accident occurred at Amherst, Halifax, on Wednesday afternoon, whereby the thirteen-year-old daughter of Richard George Barr had her life crushed out by being run over by a loaded freight car. It is supposed she attempted to crawl under one of the cars, when the train started. She was knocked down and two of the trucks passed over her body.

The first steps in a movement to secure lower telegraph rates between Montreal and Winnipeg were taken by the Montreal Board of Trade Wednesday afternoon, when it was decided to ask representatives of the Canadian Pacific, Great Northwestern and Canadian Northern Telegraph Companies to confer with representatives of the board with a view to securing lower tolls.

Geo. V. Martin was found guilty of perjury before Judge Huxley at the Peterboro December sessions. The charge arose out of Martin, who was a black-listed man, swearing he was not drunk when arrested for that offence. He will be sentenced at the close of the present sessions, in which four other cases of perjury will be heard. The result of evidence given in a local hotel case.

Gannet Rock, N. S., very nearly added another ship to its list of wrecks on Tuesday night. The Norwegian barque Valborg, Captain Kristaen, which left Philadelphia December 2nd for Annapolis, got caught in yesterday's gale in the Bay of Fundy. The barque was rapidly drifting on Gannet Rock and only a slight change in the wind after dark last night saved her just as her keel was in the surf.

ATTACHE AT WASHINGTON.

Mr. Lewis' Motion Discussed and Withdrawn.

Mr. Bryce is Satisfactory as a Representative.

North Atlantic Company To Regulate Horse-racing.

Ottawa, Dec. 15.—The question of appointing a Canadian attache to the British embassy at Washington was discussed in the House of Commons this afternoon on the initiative of Mr. E. N. Lewis, who moved that a petition in favor of such a step be sent to the Imperial Parliament.

In moving his resolution to send a petition to the Imperial Government praying for the appointment of a Canadian attache to the British embassy at Washington, Mr. Lewis disavowed any separatist tendency. He was simply urging the full operation of the principle enunciated in Kipling lines:

"Daughter am I in my mother's house, but mistress in my own."

The count of Canadian affairs with the United States now had to be carried on through too long and roundabout a medium of communication. There should be some representative of Canada to act in a constant advisory capacity with the British embassy, since practically seven-tenths of the business of the British embassy at Washington was on matters concerning Canada. The British Ambassador, who had never lived in Canada, could naturally know but comparatively little of the conditions and viewpoints here, and Canada should herself be in the best position to conduct her own business with her great trade neighbor.

SIR WILFRID LAURIER.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier agreed that the affairs of the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon race should be conducted in a cordial and harmonious spirit. He was glad to say that the relations between the United States and Great Britain had never been so friendly as at present. "There was nothing said now in the States about twisting the lion's tail or in Britain about Yankee aggressiveness, but the language was respectful and cordial. The Spanish-American war had shown that blood was thicker than water, and it was obvious during that struggle that the while English-speaking race was friendly to the American cause. Our relations with the United States had been of late years, on the whole, very friendly, and recent treaties had removed all possible cause of contention. I am glad to say that the British embassy is giving more attention to the affairs of Canada than ever before."

"At one time I would have been strongly inclined to vote for the resolution now proposed. But in view of the conditions of the past two or three years my views have been much modified. Ambassador Bryce had taken special pains to give attention to Canadian affairs. As soon as he took office he came to Ottawa and tried to familiarize himself with Canadian questions. In conducting negotiations affecting Canada at Washington he had taken no step without consulting us, and if the result of those negotiations there is any fault to be found the blame must be laid on me. I doubt if the appointment of a Canadian attache at Washington would improve affairs very much, though the time may come when it may be necessary. Victory conditions continue I do not think that such a step is necessary. While some good may arise from our having a representative to advise with the British Ambassador at Washington, still his presence might also give rise to complications. So long as our relations with the British embassy at Washington remain what they are, perhaps it is better to discuss it well enough alone, and I would suggest that it would be the part of wisdom to withdraw the resolution."

Mr. Lewis, in complying with Sir Wilfrid's suggestion, said that he quite concurred in the statement that our affairs were being most capably conducted at Washington by Ambassador Bryce, but at the same time he believed that it would be a wise suggestion of having a representative of the Canadian Government always at hand to advise him.

NORTH ATLANTIC TRADING CO. Mr. Monk resurrected the affair of the North Atlantic Trading Company by moving a resolution calling for the production of papers relating to the lawsuit raised by the company against the Government for payment of \$70,000 in respect of damages alleged to have been caused by the cancellation of the contract. He recalled some of the old Opposition charges and assumptions, and dwelt upon the mystery which, he declared, had always surrounded the personnel of the company.

MR. ALESWORTH CONSENTS. Hon. Mr. Alesworth, speaking for the Government, offered no objection to the production of the papers. The motion might, but he assumed that Mr. Monk's object in speaking to the motion was to raise the old question as to who composed the company. He (Mr. Alesworth) did not know the names of the shareholders, and did not think it was of the slightest interest to discuss it. There was nothing in the pleadings to indicate that the Government had made a mistake or had settled with the wrong syndicate. "I am of the opinion," concluded Mr. Alesworth, "that this action which has been brought will not succeed."

Mr. Barker thought it was of great importance to the country to know who composed the company and whether the officials of the company had been in collusion with the officials of the Government.

Mr. Borden took exception to the view of the Minister of Justice that the North Atlantic Trading Company had been treated as an ordinary company.

Hon. Mr. Oliver declared that the Opposition were under a misapprehension as to the nature of the action raised. The Government had paid

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every dollar claimed by the company for work done, and held receipts for these payments. The Government had paid no sum as damages, and he believed that the Department of Justice was sound in its advice that the Government would not have to pay a cent of damages to the company.

TO REGULATE HORSE-RACING.

Capt. T. Wallace introduced a bill to regulate horse-racing. The bill was intended, he explained, to strike at race meetings which are conducted only for gambling purposes. It purports to limit the duration of a race meeting to fifteen consecutive days, or to thirty days in the year, where there is more than one meeting under the same auspices.

Mr. E. N. Lewis moved a resolution affirming that it would be in the public interest and would facilitate business for answers to all questions put by members to be submitted in writing without being read.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier thought it was in the public interest that some questions should be answered orally, and that members appreciated Wednesday evening recess too much to give it up.

Mr. Borden and Hon. Mr. Fielding both objected to the proposal to do away with the Wednesday evening recess.

The resolution was withdrawn, on the understanding that the suggestions be considered by the select committee appointed to revise the rules of the House.

THE FRENCH TARIFF

Shuts Out American Agricultural Machinery.

Paris, Dec. 15.—During the consideration of the tariff bill in the Chamber of Deputies to-day a black eye was given to the importation of American agricultural machines by the adoption of an amendment fixing the maximum rate on machines of over 400 kilograms (881.6 lbs.) weight at 15 francs (approximately \$2.53) per hundred weight, and the minimum rate of 12 francs. On machines under 400 kilograms weight the maximum is 23 and the minimum 15 francs. The present rates are maximum 15 and minimum 9 francs, irrespective of weight.

The annual value of Britain's agricultural produce in years of prosperity is over \$100,000,000,000.

Dropsy— Given up by Doctor

"I had dropsy, and was told by my family physician that there was no chance for me. My family also gave me up. My limbs and body were swollen one-third larger than natural, water collected around my heart and I had to be propped up in bed to keep from smothering. I took Dr. Miles' Heart Remedy until I was entirely cured. This was in 1902, and I am now able to do any kind of work on my farm. My cure was certainly marvelous."

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NEW PLAN.

Temperance Societies in Montreal Lay Charges.

Montreal, Dec. 15.—The Dominion Alliance and other temperance societies have decided upon an entirely new move to effect a reduction in the number of licenses. Instead of coming forward with petitions signed by the voters to have the license refused, they are going to make specific charges and direct accusations. To-day no less than twelve summonses were served on nine saloon keepers and three grocers, requesting them to appear in court next week to answer to the charge of having sold liquor to minors.

The license law declares that anyone who breaks the law three times within one year and is convicted three times for any infraction of the law, loses his license at the third conviction. The commissioners have no option in the matter, the law is made in such a way that proof of the three convictions warrants the immediate withdrawal of the license certificate.

A. O. Boehmer, the Berlin merchant who was arrested at his home some months ago and brought to Toronto to face a charge of conspiring to defraud several Toronto business firms, appeared before Judge Winchester in the criminal sessions there yesterday and pleaded guilty. He was remanded for sentence until Saturday, when, it is understood, he will be allowed to go on a remanded sentence.

Many who want to clean up the world are more anxious to hang out their neighbor's wash than to do their own.

See Christmas presents in razors at Gerrie's drug store, 32 James street north. Largest and most complete stock in city. In safety razors, the Gillette, Auto-Strip, Witec, Boker's, Gem Junior, Enders, Ever Ready, Shavwell and others. In regular razors, the Carbo-Magnetic, Barbed King, King Shaver, Champion King Cutter, Diamond Edge, Johnson, Griffin and many others.

For Dad and the Boys.