

PLANS PARCEL POST SYSTEM FOR CANADA

Postmaster General Expects to Introduce Legislation

DETAILS ARE NOT YET WORKED OUT

Another Boon which Borden Government Will Give to the Canadian People—Will Probably Adopt Zone Qualification.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Jan. 15.—The announcement of Hon. L. P. Pelletier that he expected to introduce legislation providing for the establishment of a parcel post system in Canada was the outstanding feature of a sitting of the Commons devoted mainly to the hearing of questions and the passing of motions for the production of papers.

The Postmaster General was not prepared to inform the House the details of the plan to be followed, but he intimated that it would not be possible to adopt a flat rate for the carriage of parcels as had been done in the case of ordinary mails. The question was raised by the motion of Hon. Rudolph Lemieux "That in the opinion of the House, the establishment of a cheap parcel post system would be to the advantage of the consumers of Canada."

"How cheap?" asked Mr. Pelletier, when the resolution was read.

Mr. Lemieux was willing to leave the decision of that point to the generosity of the Postmaster General, but asserted that the maximum size of packages fixed at five pounds. The international postal union fixed the rate at 12 cents a pound and the limit of shipments at 11 pounds. The cost of sending a parcel from London, England, to Vancouver was a similar parcel from Ottawa to Vancouver.

Mr. Lemieux admitted that the country merchants might object to the establishment of a parcel post system, but asserted that the chief objection came from the express companies.

The post office department, he said, should pay the railways more for the transportation of the mails. He knew that the inauguration of a parcel post service would cost money but he declared that the post office was a surplus making department. It had a surplus and the parcel post would bring cash into its coffers.

Important Suggestions.

Messrs. Martin (Regina), Clarke (Red Deer) and Nesbitt (North Oxford) all spoke in support of Mr. Lemieux's motion and J. E. Armstrong (E. Lambton) expressed his dissent at hearing the Liberal members speaking in favor of a policy which he had advocated for a number of years. He made two important suggestions, firstly, that the parcel post system might originate on the rural mail and stage routes, and secondly, that the maximum weight for parcels carried by the post office department might be increased.

Hon. Mr. Pelletier remarked at the opening of his speech that Mr. Lemieux seemed to be making a motion in asking the government to do things which as postmaster general he himself had left undone. (Applause and laughter.) The former minister intimated that the parcel post system should be established to compete with the express companies. The government could not inaugurate such a system merely for the purpose of entering into a rate war, nor could it adopt a policy which would result in a heavy financial loss. At the same time other countries were engaging in the transportation of small freight. The United States was the last nation to act, and Canada should do something of the same kind. "If we are carrying the parcels of others," he said, "it is too bad to carry our own."

Hon. H. R. Emmerson asked whether by the postal convention Canada was compelled to carry packages posted in the United States under the new parcel post regulations.

The minister was not prepared to admit that the Dominion was compelled to carry parcels posted in the United States under the new rates. The post office department was now transporting such parcels but it felt that notices should have been given of the new rates and a new system should have been made. He said that the country merchants were much afraid of the consequences of the establishment of a parcel post and that he had received a resolution from the Royal Merchants' Association protesting against what they supposed was the policy of the government. He concluded with the announcement of his intention to introduce the legislation.

Montreal Harbor Board. Hon. Mr. Lemieux sought to make some party capital in his address in

IRISH HOME RULE NOW ON LAST STAGE IN CONVOYS

Two Remarkable Speeches Features of Yesterday's Session

BALFOUR MOVES TO REJECT BILL

Tells Asquith Government that if Blood be Spilled as Result of Strife in Ireland they Bear Responsibility.

London, Jan. 15.—The Home Rule Bill started on its final stage in the House of Commons today and the occasion was marked by two speeches seldom exceeded in the House, by the Prime Minister, Herbert H. Asquith, and Arthur J. Balfour, the former leader of the opposition, who have equals as parliamentarians. Other speakers representing all parties, followed, and the debate finally was adjourned until tomorrow when division will be taken. The bitterness aroused in the past was largely absent in the discussion today but with the harder hitters on the program for tomorrow, this may not be continued.

When the orders of the day were called and Mr. Balfour at the request of the opposition leader, Andrew Bonar Law, moved the adjournment of the measure, the house was crowded to its capacity and every seat in the galleries was occupied by interested listeners. Mr. Balfour, who has been absent from parliament for some weeks, while not so fluent as the Prime Minister, delivered one of those well-remembered speeches for which he is noted which rouses his supporters to the height of enthusiasm and commands the respect of his opponents.

His introduction of a general law and particularly laid stress on the case of Ulster, the present condition of the American colonies before the revolution. He charged the government with showing a dangerous want of appreciation of that section. Pointing his finger at the government bench, Mr. Balfour concluded: "If blood be spilled, which God forbid, the real assassins will be those who have never had the courage to face the situation."

Asquith Defends Bill.

Premier Asquith defended the bill from every standpoint. He pleaded with the House to forget the past and give Ireland what the vast majority demanded. He laid stress on the safeguards introduced in the bill to prevent Protestants from being opposed by the majority and repeated the government's offer to insert any other reasonable provisions, if only the opposition could tell what they wanted. The premier recalled that Mr. Balfour made the same gloomy predictions, and he asked when the Liberals gave self-government to South Africa. The Unionists and Liberals continued the debate until after dinner when T. P. O'Connor gave a brilliant speech in behalf of the Nationalists.

The Hon. Thomas C. Agar-Robartes, one of the two Liberals opposing the measure, regretted that the opposition should hold out the olive branch to the Ulsterites and denounced the bill as one of coercion. Unless the Ulster question was solved, he said, the bill was foredoomed to failure. His announcement that he was obliged to vote against the bill was received with opposition cheers.

An Irish View.

William O'Brien, leader of the Independent Nationalists, criticized some of the provisions of the bill, and said that while he could not accept it as a final settlement of the Nationalists' requirements, they regarded it as a sincere and courageous message of peace to Ireland. He suggested that if the former chief secretaries and under secretaries in Ireland and three representatives of Irishmen including John E. Redmond and Sir Edward Carson, who although he opposed the bill, might be got together, they might come to some measure of agreement.

The Laborites' adhesion to Home Rule was declared by James Parker, sitting for Halifax. The Right Honorable Louis Samel, Postmaster General, who had charge of the financial provisions of the bill defended them at length. The Right Hon. James Henry Campbell, serving as leader of the Ulsterites, in the absence of Sir Edward Carson, who although he fought the bill clause by clause, was unable to be present at the final stage on account of his wife's illness, repeated Ulster's objection to the measure and declared that the bill would produce a generation of internecine strife and permanent disaster to the progress of the country. All the parties have issued statements to members requesting attendance for the division tomorrow night when demonstrations are expected.

Continued on page 2.

FREDERICTON LADY IS NOW CONTESS OF ASHBURNHAM

Death of Earl of Ashburnham in Paris Raises Hon. Thomas Ashburnham to Title and Estates—Wife of New Earl Formerly a Telephone Company Operator.

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, Jan. 15.—By the death of his elder brother, Major The Honorable Thomas Ashburnham, of this city, becomes the sixth Earl of Ashburnham, and his wife, a native of Fredericton, and, at one time a popular employe of The New Brunswick Telephone Company, is raised to the dignity of the peerage. News of the death of Bertram, fifth Earl of Ashburnham, reached here today through a cablegram from Lady Mary Holland of Ashburnham Place, England. Earl Bertram, who was in his 73rd year, died at Paris this morning after an illness of bronchitis.

He died without issue Major Ashburnham succeeds to the title and becomes the heir of rich estates in the old country. The younger brother was born in 1855, and served in the Imperial army for seven years. He was an officer of the 7th Hussars, and saw active service during the Egyptian campaign. He was in South Africa at the time of the Jameson Raid, and was also A. D. C. to Lord Aberdeen while the latter was Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

Some twelve years ago he came to New Brunswick, and engaged in farming. When the 28th New Brunswick Dragoons were organized he accepted the position of Major in command of the York County squadron. Some years ago Major Ashburnham was married to Miss Maria Anderson, daughter of the late W. H. Anderson, of Fredericton, and who before her marriage was an operator in the local exchange of the New Brunswick Telephone Company, and one of the most popular young ladies of the capital. It is understood that the Earl and Countess of Ashburnham leave shortly for England and assume their new honors and duties. While their departure will be generally regretted by their many friends here, all will wish them health and happiness in the new sphere to which they have been called.

It is not often that a daughter of New Brunswick is raised to the peerage, and the intelligence conveyed by the cablegram from Lady Holland has caused great interest here. Both the new Earl and the Countess have been prominent figures in the society affairs of the capital, and they will be greatly missed.

MAY CREATE NEW WEALTH DEPARTMENT

Hon. Dr. Roche Will Place Bill Before Special Committee of Privy Council in Few Days.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Jan. 15.—Hon. Dr. Roche, minister of the interior, has been working on a bill to create a department of health, and has it in such a shape that he will submit it within a few days to a committee of the Privy Council appointed to consider the subject. Hon. Dr. Roche has long been an ardent advocate of a health department and believes that such a department can be of the greatest value to the general public. It has not yet been decided under which ministry to place the department of health, whether to create a new portfolio. One suggestion which has been made is that a minister of public health be created and that the department of immigration be added to it. This would lighten the burden on the minister of the interior, as it is generally admitted that the department of interior is altogether too heavy for one man to properly administer.

While it has not yet been definitely settled as to the scope of the proposed department, among the fields of work which would be allotted to it, Hon. Dr. Roche considers the following: (1) the control of infectious diseases, (2) the control of public works, (3) the control of food, (4) the control of the medical side of Indian affairs, (5) the control of the medical side of immigration, (6) the control of the medical side of the national bacteriological laboratory.

CONGO TRAGEDY IN MOTOR BOAT TRIP

Berlin, Jan. 15.—Lieutenant Gratz, a German officer, who had charge of the African continent in a motor boat, having already traversed it in 1909 in a motor car, has sent the following telegram from Sekanis in the Belgian Congo: "By the first voyage along the entire river course from source to mouth, I have proved the Chambesi, in northern Rhodesia, to be source of the Congo. This definitely establishes that the Congo is the longest river in Africa. We have reached the Katanga by motor boat from both the east and the west coast, thus completing the trip across Africa, which also included an observation trip through the New Kamerun."

URANIUM STILL ON ROCKS.

Special to The Standard. Halifax, Jan. 15.—The steamship Uranium is still hard and fast on the rocks at Chebucto Head. Today's attempt to pull her off having failed, the salvors will now run two anchors out from her quarters and wait for an easterly gale to bounce her off the shore where she hangs by her bow.

TURKEY MUST ACCEPT PROPOSAL OR FIGHT

MONEY TRUST PROVES HARD TO DISCOVER

Pujo Committee Has Failed So Far to Find Illusive Combination—Mr. Rockefeller Will Be Examined.

Washington, Jan. 15.—In a hypothetical question put to George W. Perkins, Samuel Untermyer's counsel for the money trust committee today outlined from the records of the committee, a "concentration of money and credit," and asked whether Mr. Perkins considered it "a menace and peril to the prosperity of the country." The question was generally accepted as Mr. Untermyer's conception of the illusive so-called money trust of which the committee is in search. Mr. Perkins after declaring that the query reminded him of the conundrum "Why is a mouse when it spins?" asserted that he could not say whether at the point outlined in the question, concentration was a peril. In a lengthy dissertation on economics, Mr. Perkins took the position that after concentration had progressed to a certain point it should be subject to government regulation. But he would not answer the hypothetical question categorically.

After today's hearing the committee followed the testimony of Dr. C. W. Richardson, who after examining Mr. Rockefeller, told the committee today that despite his illness the oil magnate could submit to a brief examination without immediate serious results.

No plans were made today for the manner or place of examining Mr. Rockefeller, Thomas W. Lamont and H. P. Davison, of the firm of J. P. Morgan and Company, F. L. Hine, president of the First National Bank of New York, and George F. Baker, Jr., who were on hand to testify today.

The committee, tomorrow, will examine Jacob Schiff, of Kuhn Loeb and Co., of New York. Mr. Untermyer's hypothetical "money trust question" was asked by Mr. Perkins recommended publicity for a cure of financial evils, the incorporation of the New York Stock Exchange under a federal charter, a closer responsibility among bank directors and the according of representation on the directorate to the minority stockholders in corporations.

ARMOUR WILL MANAGE A BASEBALL CLUB

Milwaukee, Wis., Jan. 15.—William Armour, active in the baseball world, has purchased stock in the Milwaukee American association baseball club, from Mrs. Charles S. Heveron, owner, and will have control of the club's management during the coming season. Armour will be made chairman of the board of directors of the club, and was formerly interested in the Toledo, Detroit and Cleveland clubs and last year scouted for the St. Louis Nationals.

ALFRED W. RUTHVEN IS CONVICTED OF FRAUD.

New Orleans, La., Jan. 15.—Alfred W. Ruthven, of Keokuk, Iowa, said to be the inventor of a safety appliance for the prevention of railway accidents, was today convicted in the United States District Court of using the mail to defraud James Rufus Foster sentenced Ruthven to three years in the Atlanta penitentiary and to pay a fine of \$1,000. Ruthven was recently committed for trial in Montreal on similar charges.

ALFRED W. RUTHVEN IS CONVICTED OF FRAUD.

New Orleans, La., Jan. 15.—Alfred W. Ruthven, of Keokuk, Iowa, said to be the inventor of a safety appliance for the prevention of railway accidents, was today convicted in the United States District Court of using the mail to defraud James Rufus Foster sentenced Ruthven to three years in the Atlanta penitentiary and to pay a fine of \$1,000. Ruthven was recently committed for trial in Montreal on similar charges.

DUCHESS NOW ON ROAD TO RECOVERY.

Montreal, Jan. 15.—The Duchess of Connaught has so far progressed towards recovery that it has been decided not to issue bulletins after today.

The announcement made at the Royal Victoria Hospital at 1:30 o'clock follows: "Her Royal Highness passed a very good night. The Duchess' cough is much less troublesome and the abdominal symptoms have almost subsided. No consultations have been necessary since Sunday, but it will be some time before the Duchess can be moved from the hospital. No further bulletins will be issued." (Sgd.) E.S. WORTHINGTON, M.D.

Balkan Nations Strong In Determination To Reopen War

STERN FIRMNESS IS ATTITUDE OF ALLIES

Are but Waiting the Effect of Powers Note on Porte to Commence Hostilities—Ambassadors Attempting to Prevent Conflict.

London, Jan. 15.—The Balkan kingdoms have not weakened in their determination to reopen the war unless Turkey accepts their terms quickly. In deference to the powers they may withhold the execution of their resolve a few days longer than seemed likely yesterday. They wish the world to know that their policy is unchanged. As allies they inaugurated the doctrine of "the Balkans for the Balkan people," at a time when it appeared almost presumptuous folly to the great nations of Europe and they declare now that they propose to maintain the right, which their united armies won, to be considered a great independent nation and manage their own diplomacy according to the views of their national interests.

They assert that their diplomatic course is a straightforward and frank one, and while willing to concede a brief period of delay for Turkey's answer, it is not with a view of resuming negotiations on any modified basis.

When on December 23 they presented their terms, the Turks, in their characteristic way thought that the Allies were bluffing, and in turn presented on December 28 counter proposals, which failed to take into account the war and re-established the situation as it was previous to the conflict. The counter proposals the Allies rejected as "unacceptable and undiscussable." Since then the Balkan States have not changed their terms.

The allies have adopted an attitude of stern firmness in order to convince Turkey that no alternative is possible for the conclusion of peace, but the acceptance of their original conditions, but in so doing they have no intention to hurt the susceptibilities of the powers or alienate their sympathies. They give this as a reason for their decision to wait patiently the result of the note of the powers to Constantinople which may take any of three following forms:

First: Turkey refusing flatly to follow the advice of Europe.

Second: Turkey giving an inconclusive answer with the object of further postponing a decision.

Third: Turkey asking for a continuation of the peace negotiations here on a new proposal which might provide for the preservation of Adrianople but the dismantling of its fortifications and a pledge under the guarantee of the powers not to attempt any work in the future on the fortifications of the town.

Should Turkey refuse to follow the advice of the powers or give an evasive answer, the allies will carry out their plan already announced, and ask for the convocation of the conference at which they will officially break off the negotiations. This will be followed by the denunciation of the armistice.

If Turkey offers a new proposal, the Bulgarian delegation, having precise instructions, will insist on its claim for Adrianople, but will refer the matter to Sofia for consideration.

Ambassadors Take Offence. At meeting today the Ambassadors discussed the situation without apparently coming to any further conclusion. At first several of the ambassadors seemed to be disposed to take offense at what they termed "the insubordination of the allies," in taking simultaneous action with the powers and intimidating Turkey with another ultimatum, which these ambassadors remarked would only have the effect of neutralizing the action of Europe.

Sir Edward Grey, the British Foreign Secretary, and the other ambassadors, succeeded in calming their colleagues by demonstrating that the intention of the Allies had been misrepresented. They themselves had given a full explanation that they did not intend to hamper the action of the powers, but to put themselves in readiness to take the matter in their own hands if the efforts of Europe proved fruitless. This incident over, the ambassadors discussed the questions of the Albanian frontiers, the Ottoman public debt, but in a general manner and without any attempt to approach a solution.

Continued on page 2.