

ROBINSON SORRY SHOWING

Opposition Leader's Criticism of Budget a Keen Disappointment to Supporters in House.

His Effort a Political Harangue From Beginning To End—His Bluff Called.

Fredericton, N. B., March 7.—The House today heard the criticism of the budget offered by Hon. C. W. Robinson, opposition leader, and it was a weak effort in which Mr. Robinson was always up against his old trouble of inability to convince his audience of his sincerity.

Compared with the criticisms of budgets offered in former years by provincial secretary Flemming when he occupied the position of financial critic, it suffered from every angle. It was not a dignified criticism, but was little more than a political speech filled with extravagant statements, not substantiated by facts and figures and caused little comfort even to the few of the opposition leader's followers who paid him the compliment of attending to hear his speech.

The Absentees.

Mr. Robinson, the first lieutenant, was in his seat and Mr. Bentley of St. John, the new member, was present to get some pointers, and the members for Gloucester and Mr. Legere of Westmorland were also present, but Mr. Lablache, Mr. Sweetie, Mr. Tison, and Mr. G. H. Perley, who were expected to be present, did not show up, probably to emphasize the fact of their being dissatisfied with being passed by in Mr. Robinson's selection of a first lieutenant.

Mr. Robinson blamed the government for about everything that has happened or has not happened since the 3rd of March 1908, but he did not seem to mean it, and when he started to state something that was meant to be convincing, his bluff was called, and Mr. Robinson was not able to produce facts to substantiate his insinuations.

Mr. Robinson sought to draw a herring across the trail on one of these occasions, when Hon. Robert Maxwell pointed out one of his inaccuracies, and the leader of the opposition made an insinuation concerning Mr. Maxwell's connection with the St. John Public Library. Premier Hanford asked him to give the House something more than innuendo and to make a definite statement.

Mr. Robinson thought it was about time for recess and suggested that Mr. Pinder who was acting as Speaker, should leave the chair.

The Evening Session.

When the House resumed this evening Mr. Robinson embarked again on his joy ride and was not far along before he made an extravagant statement that some bridges had been built or repaired by day's work when put up by tender could have been done for much less cost.

"Name the bridges," called Chief Commissioner Morley, across the floor of the House, but the best Mr. Robinson could do was to say he did not have the information with him, but would give it some day.

The new audit act which is working so well towards safeguarding the finances and best interests of the province, is causing Mr. Robinson a lot of worry and he spent some time endeavoring to belittle its good results. He even blamed the audit act for errors in bookkeeping which he claimed existed.

When not busy making excuses for the administration Mr. Robinson occupied the time of the House in reading two or three long statements of figures prepared by the political correspondent of the St. John Telegraph. One list was merely a copy of what appeared in the *Advertiser's* organ some days ago, and it is doubtful whether the Opposition leader was altogether sure of its accuracy.

A Disappointment.

Altogether Mr. Robinson's criticism of the budget was a disappointment to the House and particularly to his friends and supporters.

M'GURDY FLIES TWENTY MILES IN AERODROME

New Record Yesterday For Graham Bell's Flying Machine At Baddeck—Will Make Official Test Today.

Hallifax, March 7.—Important aerial experimental flights continue under the direction of Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, at his Baddeck laboratory. Several flights were successfully made today by Aerodrome Baddeck No. 2. In the first three flights it carried P. W. Baldwin and J. A. D. McCurdy for a distance of from half a mile to a mile. These were test flights to ascertain the behavior of the machine when loaded with two men. The control, balance and carrying capacity were satisfactory.

After this Mr. McCurdy made a flight by himself, lasting for about sixteen minutes, which was followed by another record for the Baddeck machine. The distance covered was well over twenty miles and the time over half an hour. The flight was discontinued at the will of the aviator, who with Mr. Baldwin was satisfied with the result.

That the Canadian Government is showing its interest in the experiments here is evidenced by the fact that Major Hensell, R. C. E., naval attaché here, will arrive at Baddeck tomorrow to observe a flight officially for the government.

NO OPPOSITION FOR C. H. THOMAS

Elected Mayor Of Fredericton By Acclamation—John A. Bowes Takes Charge Of New Paper.

Fredericton, N. B., March 7.—This was nomination day for the civic elections which take place next Monday. C. H. Thomas was elected mayor by acclamation, there being no opposition offered for his candidature. There will be a competition in every ward for aldermen. Those nominated in each ward follows: Wellington—Ald. Hooper, Ald. Ryan, Moses Mitchell and R. T. Baird. St. Anne's—Ald. Kitchen, Ald. Ed. Moore, A. H. Vanward and J. J. Weddall. Carleton—Ald. Burchill, Peter Farrell, Joseph Walker and H. E. Harrison. Queens—Ald. Jewett, Daniel Elliott, W. J. Osborn and D. J. Shea. Kings—Ald. Calder, C. W. Whelpley, G. Clark and G. F. Wilkes.

INTERNATIONAL PAPER COMPANY FACES STRIKE

600 Men Out At Corinth, New York, Because Back Tender Was Discharged—Situation Grave.

Glen's Falls, N. Y., March 7.—The International Paper Company is threatened with another general strike. At Corinth, N. Y., 600 men are already out because a back-tender was discharged and it was learned today that the pulp, sulphite workers had previously matured plans for a general strike to take effect March 23. In this connection it is noted that the men at Corinth were ordered out by James H. Main, president of the Pulp Sulphite Workers, in the absence of J. L. Carey, president of the Paper Makers Union, who is now in New York, conferring with the printing trades council on what action should be taken looking toward a demand that the union label be affixed to all paper. He is expected at Corinth tomorrow. The pulp sulphite workers will demand a ten per cent increase in wages and no Sunday work. When the International Paper Company made a five per cent cut in wages, after the panic of 1907, the sulphite workers accepted the cut, but the paper makers union struck. They fought it out alone and lost. It is thought possible that Carey, on reaching Corinth, may order the paper makers back to work, thus leaving the sulphite workers to fight it out alone again.

ANOTHER TRAIN STALLED BY AVALANCHE

Another Disaster Is Narrowly Averted, Near Field Where Snow Slide Occurs—Train Stalled Between Two Points.

St. Stephen, N. B., March 7.—Developments today in the failure of the Canadian Bankers Association to open a branch of the Bank of New Brunswick on the premises by Mr. R. B. Kesson, general manager of the latter bank and also curator of the Canadian Bankers Association, return home of Mr. Julius T. Whitlock, cashier of the St. Stephen bank and Lt. Col. J. D. Chipman, vice-president, but nothing has occurred to throw further light on the extent of the liabilities of the bank or the cause of suspension.

Alarm Allayed.

The close of the most sensational day in the history of the town found the situation at least not worse than it was in the morning. The alarm that was felt by holders of the notes of the defunct bank was quickly allayed by the action of the Bank of Nova Scotia and Bank of British North America in accepting all presented at their full face value and by the close of the day the belief had grown that depositors will regain a large percentage if not the whole of their deposits.

REPUBLICANS WIN IN MAINE ELECTIONS

Will Control Government Of Eight Of Maine Cities Contested—Vote Below Normal On Account Of Weather.

Portland, Me., March 7.—In the municipal elections in eleven Maine cities today, the Republicans elected seven mayors and will control the city government in eight cities. The Democrats gained mayors in Waterville and South Portland, losing control of the city government in the latter. Seven mayors were re-elected and one failed. Former Mayor A. C. Hagerthy, of Ellsworth, who served four terms, 1903-6, was unopposed at the polls in the Hancock County city to-day. Mayor Frank A. Morey of Lewiston, a Democrat, was given his fourth consecutive election. Waterville is the only instance of a complete over-turn in political complexion. South Portland elected a Democratic mayor to replace a Republican, but gave the Republicans control of both branches of the city government with an apparent loss of one alderman to be determined later by re-count. Bangor, which retained control of both branches of the city government with an apparent loss of one alderman to be determined later by re-count. Bangor, accompanied by lightning, and thunder, during the early afternoon, kept the vote below normal in most instances.

MRS. GLOVER LOSING GROUND IN WILL CASE

Widow Of Murdered Laundryman Fails To Follow Up Advantage Secured Earlier In Proceedings.

Cambridge, Mass., Mar. 7.—Some of the advantage which Mrs. Lillian M. Glover gained last Friday, over the brother-in-law, who is seeking to set aside the will of her murdered husband, was lost today, when she admitted that the records showed that she owned only a single share in the laundry company which her husband conducted. Mrs. Glover declared on Friday that she held a bill of sale of the laundry, which constitutes the principal incentive for breaking the will. It was Mrs. Glover's sixty day on the witness stand and again she was questioned regarding her knowledge of the murder. She said that when she was first told of the shooting, she understood that a Mrs. Hills did it. She remembered that her husband had had a quarrel with Mrs. Hills. She did not learn that Hattie Leblanc had been accused until the police came to the house. The hearing will be continued tomorrow.

RESBITT IS DISQUALIFIED FOR ACTING

Majority's Choice For People's Counsel In Lumsden Inquiry Has Already Given Out An Opinion.

Ottawa, Ont., March 7.—Another session has developed in connection with the committee investigating the Lumsden charges. The bomb shell will be exploded tomorrow morning when the committee meets and it is said that Mr. Wallace Nesbitt, K. C., who was appointed by the government majority at its meeting on Saturday to prosecute inquiry is disqualified for undertaking these duties by reason of having given a written opinion at the time of the Hodgins inquiry two years ago, which opinion was strongly against the contention as to classification put forward by the majority and therefore in favor of the contractors. It is understood that Mr. E. M. MacDonald had the assurance of Mr. Nesbitt several days ago that he would act as counsel if appointed by the committee and on that understanding his name was submitted and his appointment confirmed by Messrs. Crozier, Clark, MacDonald and Wilson.

Causes Stir.

The news that Mr. Nesbitt is disqualified has caused a great stir now in the proceedings which have been replete with sensational episodes since the committee first met.

At tomorrow's meeting the three majority members, Messrs. Barker, Crozier and Lennox, will not appear and in view of the facts which have leaked out today the four Liberal members must either solemnly rescind the motion appointing Mr. Nesbitt as counsel or decide under the circumstances that no counsel is necessary and continue the inquiry of their own bias. The one thing which is puzzling numbers on both sides is the fact that Mr. Nesbitt's name was put before the committee and accepted notwithstanding the stand Mr. Nesbitt took in the Hodgins case and his freely expressed opinion favorable to the Government, in that case celebre and as Mr. Lumsden's charges of overclassification are identical the same as those preferred by Major Hodgins. Mr. Nesbitt is disqualified from taking the part of public prosecutor on behalf of his committee. The events of tomorrow are eagerly anticipated and the clamor into which the Government has wandered through its desire to prevent the whole truth from coming out is getting more treacherous at every step taken.

JUDGMENT BROUGHT DOWN IN GROCERS CASE

Chief Justice Finds Defendants Not Guilty In Famous Action—No Violation Of The Law.

Toronto, Ont., March 7.—Chief Justice Patterson has given judgment in the celebrated grocers combine case, finding the defendants Henry C. Breckett, George E. Bristol, John Davidson, Thomas E. Scott, W. G. Craig, Joseph B. Eby, Thomas Kincaid, the Dominion Wholesale Grocers' Guild, and the Ontario Wholesale Grocers' Guild, not guilty of the charge. The chief justice says in part: "The defendants have not, nor have any of them intended to violate the law, nor have they, nor have any of them intended maliciously to injure any persons, firms or corporations, nor to companies by restraint of trade unconnected with their own business returns. They have been actuated by a bonafide desire to protect their own interests."

Due from other banks	39,560
Balances due from other banks elsewhere than in Canada	26,582
Railway and other bonds	23,482
Current loans in Canada	11,835
Overdue debts	28,940
Real estate other than bank premises	4,068
Bank premises	20,000
Other assets	2,003
Total assets	\$312,271
Loans to directors	29,954
Liabilities:	
Capital	\$200,000
Reserve	55,000
Notes in circulation	149,935
Balance due Government	12,854
Deposits on demand	103,137
Deposits on notice	283,023
Balance due other banks	989
Liabilities not included	60
Total liabilities	\$549,830
The bank paid an annual dividend of 6 per cent	

IMPERLS FATE OF THE EMPIRE

EARLY OPENING OF ST. LAWRENCE IS PREDICTED

Clear Water Below Three Rivers And Ice Moving At Montreal—One Month Earlier Than Usual.

Montreal, Mar. 7.—With the St. Lawrence clear between Quebec and Three Rivers and a distinct movement of ice between Victoria bridge and Tarte river, indications point to the earliest opening of navigation in the history of Montreal.

Persons using the Longueueuil road across the ice do so from today forward at their own risk as a sign has been placed at the entrance to the road at the authority of the Longueueuil council marking the crossing as dangerous. Open water extends from Victoria pier almost to the Tarte pier. It is very seldom that the St. Marys current freezes, but this year the rapid stream has extended its scope and leads far out in the river. Near Longueueuil ice bridge a slight movement was noticeable this morning, and was recorded on the indicators of the harbor commissioners by a foot rise of the water. For the past month there has been a barely perceptible rise in the water which was especially marked during the past week. At one o'clock this morning word came from a point above the Tarte pier that the ice was piling up and threatening the bridge. The water at the same time jumped from 25 feet 7 inches to 26 feet 3/4 inches opposite the harbor gorge.

PHILANDER JR. WEDS SHOP GIRL

Son Of Secretary Of State Married In Vermont—En Route To Washington To Receive Parental Blessing.

Providence, R. I., March 7.—Wearing a broad wedding band of gold and with a large diamond engagement ring sparkling upon her left hand, Miss May Boler, 21 years old, a former shop girl of this city, tonight coyly claimed Philander C. Knox, Jr., the 29-year-old son of the secretary of state, as her husband.

"We were married in Burlington, Vt., Sunday evening at 7 o'clock, by a minister," she confessed to a reporter after having maintained silence for four hours under a volley of inquiries. The first revelation today of the romance proved rather disconcerting to young Knox. News of his efforts to obtain a marriage license on Saturday and Sunday in several places on the Canadian border, preceded him. Upon his return, early today, he refused to tell Principal French of the Morris Heights School, where he was a pupil, whether he had been married. Thereupon he was sentenced to imprisonment in his room at the school. Persisting in his refusal, several hours later, he was dismissed from the institution, and left without taking any of his belongings. He left for Washington this evening.

MUTILATED BODY IS FOUND AT BORDER

Richford, Vt., March 7.—The frightfully mutilated body of Albert Mersey, a young farmer, was today found scattered along the tracks of the Canadian Pacific R. R. on both sides of the international boundary, about one mile north of here. The severance of the head, the two legs and one arm are not such as to preclude the possibility of the body having been mangled by a swiftly passing train.

Mr. O. S. Crocket, M. P. In Vigorous Utterance at Ottawa Declares Naval Bill to Be Revolutionary

His Position Clearly Set Forth—Dr. McAllister Regales Commons With Novel Ideas.

Ottawa, March 7.—The first speaker today in the naval debate was Mr. Lachance of Quebec Centre. He took up Mr. Turcotte's position, that the future of Canada is independence. Accordingly he supported the government's proposal to construct a Canadian navy and opposed the proposal to strengthen the British navy by a gift of Dreadnoughts and he also refused to support a plebiscite.

Mr. G. H. Perley took directly the opposite ground. Canada should stay in the Empire, it was in her interests to do so. In the Empire she could best develop her security, happiness and peace. Great Britain, he recalled, had given all races and creeds in her colonies full liberty in language, religion and laws. French Canadian as well as those of British connection recognized this and were loyal to British connection. He supported Mr. Borden's amendment.

Mr. O. S. Crocket declared his position to be that of uncompromising opposition to the measure before the house. It was the most revolutionary bill ever submitted to parliament so far as the relations between Canada and the rest of the Empire were concerned.

It was a direct blow at British connection, clause 4, which, nominally, and only nominally vests the commander in chief in His Majesty the King, but contains nothing which even remotely acknowledges that Canada belongs to the Empire. There is not a line in it which acknowledges British connection. The whole measure sedulously avoided mention of that, it went through the Commons and then says that the governor in command is an independent country. Clause 4 was necessarily in the bill because the British North America Act by reserving the command in chief to the King, made it necessary to insert such a provision, but it was nullified by subsequent clauses.

Command Withdrawn.

Mr. Crocket then went over the rest of the bill, showing how the other provisions, and especially clause 18, withdrew the real command from the sovereign. The bill says the navy is to be under the command of the King and then says that the governor in council may place the King's own force at the King's disposal, or may withhold it from him. Again, section 17, Mr. Crocket contended, would authorize the Canadian government, were it to dare to do so, to send the Canadian navy to help any power whatever, France, Germany, or the United States. These were powers which should be committed to no government. These clauses divested His Majesty the King of his command of his navy, and so were unconstitutional. If the British members were not duped by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his supporters with their wearisome cry of "autonomy," they would do well to refuse the royal assent until these two clauses were expunged.

Separationists Slogan.

Mr. Crocket then recalled Sir Wilfrid Laurier's repeated avowals of his belief in independence. The Liberals shouted "autonomy" when the shores of Great Britain and the continuance of the British Empire were threatened and when Canadian autonomy was not threatened. The Liberals meant by autonomy independence and separation, that separation which the premier had declared to be the goal of his aspirations.

Mr. Crocket refused to support Mr. Monk's amendment, as it was an amendment to Mr. Borden's resolution and its passage would cut out that which is the duty of Canada, the prompt and immediate contribution of two Dreadnoughts.

Dr. H. C. McAllister of Kings and Albert resented the criticism on Sir Wilfrid Laurier's loyalty cast by Mr. Doherty and Mr. Cowan, the King had sent a telegram to the premier congratulating him upon his loyalty and he preferred to believe that the King in preference to two disgruntled politicians.

Dr. McAllister then talked on the constitutional aspect of the case. The consent of the British Parliament, he said, is necessary before Great Britain can declare war, and the same principle applies to Canada. Col. Sam Hughes asked him if the Canadian Parliament could declare war.

"Certainly," said he. "No," said Col. Hughes. "Yes," said Dr. McAllister. Col. Hughes retired from the contest with affirmations with an ejaculation that he had learned something he had never known before.

Water Powers.

A discussion on the protection of water powers occupied almost the entire session.

ST. JOHN'S NEWS

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