

WAS BRITAIN METHODISTS DISCUSS THE RATHER SLACK APPROVE THE CANADA CHURCH UNION

Earl of Selbourne Criticizes British Government For Failure To Guard Empire's Interests In Reciprocity Pact.

London, May 18.—The government was sharply criticized by the Earl of Selbourne in the House of Lords this evening for what he termed "their extraordinary supineness" in failing to safeguard the interests of the kingdom in the American-Canadian reciprocity agreement.

It was the first time in the history of the Empire that one part had obtained better terms from a foreign country than had the United Kingdom, and the step between receiving and giving better terms was short one.

Baron Lucas, parliamentary under-secretary to the war office, declared that the Earl of Selbourne greatly overestimated the damage to the trade of the United Kingdom and the duties that might arise as a result of the reciprocity agreement.

The United Kingdom, the baron said, could never offer Canada the same advantages as could the United States, Canada and the United States were complementary to one another in a degree to which Canada and Great Britain never could be.

Mr. Bradford asked if the Presbyterian church had anything to say in regard to the proposed basis of union of the Congregational, Presbyterian and Methodist churches.

BANNER FOR CHILDREN IN NEWCASTLE SCHOOL

It Was The Gift Of Children In Newcastle On Tyne—Presented Yesterday At Public Meeting.

Newcastle, May 18.—The presentation of a banner from scholars of Newcastle on Tyne proved quite an elaborate ceremony at the Opera House here this afternoon. Several hundred children united in the singing of patriotic songs while eloquent addresses were made.

MICHIGAN VILLAGE WIPED OUT BY FIRE

Kalamazoo, Mich., May 18.—Fire early today practically destroyed the business section of the village of Scotts, located on the Grand Trunk railroad, 12 miles south east of Kalamazoo. The loss is estimated at between \$75,000 and \$100,000.

FIRE IN KANSAS CITY

Kansas City, Mo., May 18.—Fire today in Kansas City stock yards destroyed sheep pens, covering a block, burned one thousand sheep and destroyed two mile barns. Several thousand miles were saved. The damage is \$20,000.

RECIPROcity AND CASH



BALLASTING THE ROAD FOR LAURIER TO GO TO THE COUNTRY ON.—From the Toronto News.

(Toronto News.) Mr. Pugsley is more than ever persuaded that reciprocity will sweep the country. In the St. John Daily Telegraph appear these head lines: "Reciprocity Meeting a Grand Success—Half a Million Dollars More for St. John Harbor."

REPORTS THAT TELEPHONE COMPANY HAD GOOD YEAR

Westmorland And Kings Counties Principal Localities Affected By Burning Forests—Serious Fires At Moncton

Sussex, May 18.—Two bad fires have been devastating the timber lands near here. One started near Springdale and swept through the woods as far as Goshen, but it is now believed to be under control.

HALIFAX ADOPTS THE METER SYSTEM

Water Supply On Higher Levels Will All Be Metered As Result Of Change In Council's Policy.

Halifax, May 18.—Two thousand water meters purchased more than three years ago and since then stored in the cellar of the city hall, will be brought to light as a result of the action of the city council tonight. The meters are in full control and after a last desperate stand of the captain of the old anti-meterite brigade, Ald. Hobson, they voted to proceed with the installation of the meters.

TO CHASE LOAN SHARKS OUT OF NEW YORK

New York, N. Y., May 18.—A campaign to rid New York of lenders of money at exorbitant rates was opened this afternoon by executives of 65 leading manufacturing, industrial, mercantile and philanthropic institutions and corporations, answering a call for a conference on The Loan Shark.

MASONS ON STRIKE IN KINGSTON, ONT.

Kingston, Ont., May 18.—A strike of masons, their helpers and stone cutters is causing great drawbacks in the building trades. There is no settlement yet. The Bank of Commerce is erecting a new building but cannot employ local contractors to tender on the work.

THE VALLEY RAILWAY THE SENATE

Bill Authorizing Dominion Government To Lease The Line Stands For Third Reading—Railway Matters In House.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Ont., May 18.—In committee in the senate upon the bill authorizing the government to lease the St. John Valley Railway Sir George Ross gave notice of an amendment which he would move on the third reading to make it clear that the road shall be leased from a company and not from the province of New Brunswick.

Senator Casgrain favored the passage of the bill for the purpose of seeing if the province would fulfill its proposal to have a company construct this line. He did not think that the line would be constructed as it would parallel the C. P. R. the whole distance from Grand Falls to St. John, and he did not think the company could be found to construct a line in the face of such competition.

Senator Choquette declared the bill an infamous proposition as it proposed to have the government lease from the province, the chief ports of the country must be supported and developed. But notwithstanding the extraordinary position into which the government at Ottawa has manoeuvred it, self under the direction of Mr. Taft, it is certain that the people of St. John will not sink millions of their own money and millions of federal money in harbor improvements and at the same time vote to hand the natural traffic of St. John over to Boston and other American cities.

Dr. Daniel Asks a Question. In the House this morning Dr. Daniel drew from the government the statement that it permits vessels wholly or partly propelled by steam to take pulpwood from Dalhousie to Portland, Maine, without paying pilotage dues.

The afternoon was spent on Mr. Graham's bill to amend the railway act, most of the time being occupied with a discussion of the clause relating to cattle guards and the damages to be paid for cattle killed by railways. Ultimately Mr. Graham dropped the clause, leaving the law as it is.

Oliver Enquiry Off Until July. Committee To Investigate Charges Against Hon. Frank Oliver Held Brief Session Yesterday And Adjourned.

TO REDUCE RATES ON CABLEGRAMS

London, May 18.—In the course of a statement in the House of Commons today, concerning the post office appropriations postmaster general Herbert L. Samuel announced that he arranged to obtain some control over cablegram companies, giving the government power to protest against excessive rates and in cases of dispute to refer the matter to an impartial tribunal. The cable companies had agreed, the postmaster general said, to reduce by 50 per cent, the rates on telegrams written in plain language, which are liable to a delay not exceeding 24 hours.

MADERO SENDS A SYMPATHETIC NOTE TO DIAZ

President Of Mexico Expected To Be Out Of Office By Monday—General Elections And Peace At Once.

Juarez, Mex., May 18.—Peace in Mexico will be signed by Saturday, according to the almost unanimous opinion of Provisional President Madero's advisers today. Developments in the negotiations today progressed to a point justifying the confident prediction that the end of the interminable strife was at last plainly in sight and that the signing of the peace pact will be followed Monday by the moral resignation from the presidency of President Diaz.

Senator Thompson said the government would lease from a company which would construct the road under provincial guarantee of bonds of \$25,000 per mile.

Senator Ross questioned the advisability of having the intercolonial undertake the expense of equipping the line with rolling stock.

Senator Ellis said he hoped that his proposal which had been agreed to by the House of Commons would not be changed. The minister of railways had stated that the expense would be comparatively small as the intercolonial had old rolling stock which it could put up of the line. He said that at one time he had opposed the construction of this road as he did not feel that the province should assume the burden involved in granting the proposed aid. However, the desire for railroad facilities was keen and men's minds were a little warmed in favor of such proposals as this.

Much Sympathy For Diaz. Mexico City, May 18.—While satisfaction is evident in all circles at the capital over the approaching retirement of President Diaz, there is at the same time much sympathy for the empire builder. Now that he has yielded to popular demand, public concern is for the health of the old warrior, and there was none today who did not appear to wish him continued years in which to enjoy a well earned rest.

Twelve Day Battle. Culiacan, State of Sinaloa via Mex., May 18.—News has just reached here of a twelve day battle which left the town of Corsala, in the mountains southeast of Culiacan, in ruins. A force of rebels, said to have numbered 1,400, assaulted the town, which had a population of 7,000 and was garrisoned by 200 soldiers. The fighting continued without intermission during the entire period.

Oliver Enquiry Off Until July. Committee To Investigate Charges Against Hon. Frank Oliver Held Brief Session Yesterday And Adjourned.

Ottawa, May 18.—The parliamentary committee investigating the charges against Hon. Frank Oliver, held a sitting today and adjourned until parliament resumes in July. R. G. Young, former commissioner of swamplands was under examination.

A MASS MEETING TO DISCUSS NE TEMERE

Protestant Organizations In Toronto To Unite In Huge Meeting To Be Held In Massey Hall.

Toronto, May 18.—A meeting to arrange for a mass meeting of Protestant organizations in Massey hall to discuss the Ne Temere decree will be held at the First Avenue church, tomorrow evening to arrange the details.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY ELECTS ITS OFFICERS

Several Important Matters Dealt With At Concluding Session Yesterday Afternoon.

CANADIAN ARTILLERY TEAM TO VISIT ENGLAND

They Will Compete Against The Royal Artillery Team In August—Arrangements Made For Training.

Ottawa, May 18.—The Canadian Artillery team is going to England to compete against the Royal Artillery team of the British Army. The team will train at Petawawa, and the team for the coast events at Halifax. The training will commence about the middle of July, and the team will sail for England about the beginning of August, returning about the first of September. The team will consist of 25 officers and 100 men.