

CANDID CRITIC OF CANADIAN PRESS

Sir Edward Tennant Deprecates Lack of British News in Dominion Newspapers—His New Title

A hint of new and important undertakings in the development of the Island as a result of the visit of the representative party of British capitalists who left Victoria yesterday was the most important feature of an interview which Sir Edward Tennant, Bart., the distinguished financier, gave a Colonist representative just prior to his departure. He and his friends have been spending the week-end at the Empress Hotel, after making a tour of the Island as far as Union Bay. They left yesterday for Seattle, and will proceed to Tacoma today, before returning to Vancouver en route to England.

Before returning for a flying visit to Seattle, Sir Edward Tennant, expressed himself delighted with the natural beauty and immense opportunities of Victoria. He was further convinced that those who had been here in their optimistic belief in the speedy development of the Island and of the city on rational lines. Invited to express his opinions of the lines on which the Island's development is proceeding, Sir Edward smilingly deprecated criticism of what they had only in a more or less cursory manner observed. "We came here as learners," said Sir Edward. "We are like the small boys who 'should be seen and not heard.' Besides what information or advice I felt able to give I gave you during my stay in Vancouver, I fear very little of the kind that I can add now. Our trip had, I think, been the most enjoyable and instructive days upon this wonderful Island, and have been a good deal in a short time—thanks to the courtesy and hospitality with which we have been everywhere received. The 'colliers' at Comox and around the Malms occupied a good deal of our time, and I am sure the old Dunsmuir colliers (in which some of the party are interested) seems eminently satisfactory. I personally am no authority on mining, but have been much impressed by what I have seen of the colliers, though they are, of course, not so good as

"What have been the most interesting features of your tour on the island, Mr. Edward?"

"I was much interested in our visit of inspection to the mines at Cumberland, and also in a visit we made to a large lumber camp about four miles

"We came straight through the province to Vancouver. Beyond a visit to few Westminster, we did not go any where else on the mainland. We saw large lumber mill there, and also inspected the electric and water power works of Vancouver."

Views on Canadian Press

"What has struck you most on your recent visit to Canada?"

"I have been most struck with the attitude of the Canadian service in the Canadian press. These same utterances of regular supply of any British or Imperial news. The garbled rubbish that appears in many of the papers—I am not speaking of the Daily Mail, but of the papers that come from other countries—Canadian papers—is perfectly astounding. One has to wade through hundreds of miscellaneous and quite trifling Canadian matter, to discover two or three lines of English news. When the English news is so scanty, it is reported as to be unrecognizable. It seems to me to be a really vital

ed in Canada is a reasonable
press, well-informed in English
matters and thoroughly in touch with
home and Imperial activities. It is
most important that we should keep
the Canadian press in sympathy with
British sentiment and ideals.

The interviewer explained the diffi-
culty of obtaining any reliable Eng-
lish news from the very high rates
demanded for transmission, and how, in
consequence, the only source of infor-
mation was one or other of the
American press agencies, and that,
therefore, practically all British news
arrived via New York.

"That accounts for a great deal" re-

turned Sir Edward significantly. "But you cannot the Colonist and the other leading Canadian newspapers combine to establish some organisation which will be the only body capable of supplying direct information to the British Government on British and Imperial news in Canada, and that a British news agency is urgent necessity in Canada. The reorganization of the Canadian Press is fraught with danger of the loss of British sympathies and influence."

However, friendly we may be with the United States, Sir Edward Tennant considers that for the news service to be controlled by New York is a serious menace to Canada's solidarity and independent nationality. He believes that the Canadian Press Agency is necessary to avert the dependency to avert the American take-over of many of Canadian news-

both in the nature of its "news" and in the absurdly sensational manner of presentation which in the absence of matters of real moment, elevated insignificant and too often unvarying matters of every day life to "scare" head-lines of prime importance.

Mr. Edward is one of Canada's firmest admirers, and is anxious to see this country secure in its independence of thought and its loyalty to British Empire.

Lord Glenconner

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**VESSELS OF WAR
ON GREAT LAKES**

Mr. Borden Raises Question of
Cruiser Taking Part in Chi-
cago Naval Manoeuvres
This Summer

OTTAWA, METRO, 27.—International objects were dealt with in the House today, previous to getting into committee of supply. The minister of marine introduced a bill to amend the shipping act so as to conform to the British act, and also a bill to amend the act respecting pilots, which would increase the pilotage on pilotage requirements, as will result in the employment of none but authorized pilots in navigation of the St. Lawrence.

Mr. Borden brought to the government's attention a report that five naval manoeuvres were planned for Chicago this summer, and that in addition to mining vessels, a cruiser from the Mexican navy would participate. Mr. Borden wanted to know if the government had said anything to the United States government in regard to the participation of such a craft, and if the confirmation of 1897 did not disallow it. Sir Clifford Laurier replied that he did not know whether the manoeuvres contemplated

Mr. Foster invited the attention of the government to a recent case of indignity offered to a Canadian lady by United States immigration officials and

secured a promise from the leader of the government that representations could be made at once to the government at Washington.

Private bills being taken up, Mr. Boulding announced that objection having been taken to the name "La Banque Canada" it had been agreed to change to the "La Banque Internationale du Canada." The bill as thus amended was then third reading.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—Advises

have been received here from the navy departments are that the boats will be ordered for this summer will be limited to the lake, because that no other boats will be expected to participate.

CANNERS' DIVIDEND

Two Per Cent. Declared on Common Stock of British Columbia Packers' Association

VICTORIA, March 25.—The British Columbia Packers' Association today declared an initial dividend on the common stock of two per cent. For a number of years it had been in arrears for dividends on the preferred stock, but in 1910, wiped out all arrears, and is now paying a current dividend.

Previously preferred stock, has been usually amortized out of the earnings of the company. The amount outstanding was \$835,000, but has been reduced to \$215,400 had been redeemed, leaving outstanding \$419,600.

Ontario Official Defaults
TORONTO, March 28.—Worthington G. Halsey, for three years accountant in department of agriculture, disappeared on February 25, and his books being investigated. A shortage of

thousand dollars have already been loaned. Lindsey was 28 years old unmarried.

F. O. Savings Banks

WASHINGTON, March 23.—Postmaster-General Hitchcock designated five additional post offices today as postal savings depositories in as

states and territories, mostly at post office centres, where there are many salaried employees. It is Mr. Hitchcock's intention to confine the offices as nearly as possible to industrial centres really engaged in such banking facilities, particularly giving consideration to geographical location, postal receipts, foreign trade, order business and general activity of postmasters. Among the new offices designated are: Blaine, Ark.; Chico, Cal.; Kalispell, Mont.; Tonopah, Nev.; Astoria, Ore.; Bingham Canyon, Utah; Hoquiam, Wash. and Rock

