

F. B. CARVELL SCATHINGLY DENOUNCED IN COMMONS

His False Statements Refuted by Hon. Mr. Burrell and Despicable Methods Laid Bare

Continued from page one.

ernment in 1902 with the contract made for the British War Office in 1915 with the Atlantic Hay Company. In the former case the government paid \$17 per ton, the farmers getting \$8; in the present case the government pays \$23, the farmers getting \$13.50. In the former case there was a spread of \$9, in the latter \$9.50; but more has to be paid for pressing hay today, so that the terms are practically the same. Mr. Carvell's methods in this case show an absolute lack of decent criticism or fair play. The present arrangement by the government includes pressing, but when Mr. Carvell had a similar contract in 1902 he put in a bill of \$8,580 for losses on two presses.

A few days ago Mr. Carvell's charges looked serious. One after another is being disposed of, and the result has been to show him before the country in the light of a perverter of fact who stoops even to breaking confidence and dragging imperial business before the public in the hope of striking a political blow at the Canadian government.

Another of his charges was that hundreds of tons of clover hay condemned by the government inspector of Woodstock, N. B. had been shipped to St. John and palmed off on the British War Office. Mr. Burrell exploded this cock-and-bull story. The hay was shipped to St. John all right, but it was not purchased, it was refused. The fact is that not a single complaint in regard to hay has been sent by the war office to Canada. Mr. Burrell is fair. He makes no pretence to infallibility. He says some mistakes may have been made, for it was an enormous business to go into, but to show that he has no fear of a verdict by the public, he makes this proposal to Mr. Carvell: "After the war is over I shall have no hesitation in bringing down every record."

How different from the course pursued by the late government. They did the very opposite—refused an enquiry, and refused to bring down the records. The present government is honest and not afraid to have its dealings made known to the people. Mr. Burrell's explanation as to why a contract was given to the Atlantic Hay Company, for \$23 a ton was because it is more convenient to deal with one firm. It makes inspection and shipping easier and cheaper. The more inspectors employed the more this government would have to pay for inspection, and hay would cost so much the more. That the department has acted in absolute good faith has been shown and in Mr. Burrell's words: "Mr. Carvell's statement of exorbitant profits is beyond the fact. I fail to see what advantage his kind of fighting can bring."

Ottawa, Jan. 27, via leased wire.—"I am going to keep this gentleman straight," Mr. Burrell, proceeding, said he had not been speaking of the cost of pressing hay, but had been quoting the statement of the Atlantic Hay Company that the cost of the four presses and motors and of shipping and setting them up would be nearly \$20,000. "That's not true," ejaculated Mr. Carvell, and was immediately called to order by Speaker Servey. The member for Carleton then explained that he had meant to say the statement of cost was not correct.

Carvell in 1902. To this Mr. Burrell replied that in 1902 Mr. Carvell, who had a contract for hay for the Imperial government from the Department of Agriculture, had put in a claim to cover losses and among the items of his account was one for plant, consisting of only two presses, \$8,580. Continues, the Minister of Agriculture said that in paying \$24 a ton, the department was saving \$1.70 a ton, as compared with prices in Montreal. He then took up Mr. Carvell's allegation that Kennally & Wetmore had bought up "black, rotten hay," which had already been condemned by government inspectors, and had succeeded in selling it to the department at another place. He read a telegram received from the government inspector at Woodstock, N. B., warning the department that a car of hay which had been rejected had been re-shipped to St. John; a message sent from the department to the inspector at St. John notifying him of the circumstances and instructing him to be very careful in dealing with the shipment; a message from Minister Strong of Woodstock, N. B., announcing that Kennally & Wetmore were buying cull hay, which he had already rejected. "I may say," continued the minister, "that that hay was watched, and watched carefully, and that very little, if any, got away. He added

that Kennally & Wetmore had been unable to fill their contract because of the heavy rejections. Mr. Burrell said that the contracts were entered into in good faith by the government, that all the details of each transaction were sent to the War Office, and that, not only did the War Office not complain, but it placed heavier responsibilities on his shoulders. Mr. Burrell said that it was to do business with one firm which had four hay presses already established, that inspection would be simplified, and that at \$23 a ton would be possible to secure a good class of hay, and the same time make it possible for the contractors to give the farmers a fair price. Mr. Burrell said that Mr. Carvell had started a controversy over hay prices in New Brunswick and that he had come, last December, to Sir George Foster, then acting Minister of Agriculture, with a dazzling array of figures and had incidentally mentioned that if the price given to the farmers was increased he would benefit himself to the extent of several hundred dollars. He had said, in effect, "Lift the embargo on hay, pay more to the farmers, or make new contracts and I shall say nothing about it."

Carvell only "Farmer" Who Complained of Price Paid. Mr. Burrell said that after Mr. Carvell's visit to Ottawa Mr. B. F. Smith of the Atlantic Hay Company, had also come to Ottawa and had indicated to Mr. Carvell that he was open to question. Mr. Smith had said he did not expect his company to make excessive profits, and had made several offers on that basis. The member for Carleton then explained that he had expressed willingness to transfer his contracts to any contractor in New Brunswick, the price to be paid, to be determined by arbitration by the department of agriculture. He had offered also to relinquish his contract, and to buy the presses, to cover its expenditure to date, to be fixed by arbitration by the department of agriculture. He had offered also to relinquish his contract, and to buy the presses, to cover its expenditure to date, to be fixed by arbitration by the department of agriculture. He had offered also to relinquish his contract, and to buy the presses, to cover its expenditure to date, to be fixed by arbitration by the department of agriculture.

Mr. Burrell said that he had expected to see Mr. Carvell when he came to Ottawa. When Mr. Carvell did not appear, he intended his statement that the new arrangement which had been made precluded contractors making excessive profits. Mr. Carvell then turned to Mr. Carvell's account, given to the House in the course of his speech on Tuesday night, of the conversation which he alleged had taken place between himself and the minister of agriculture, in which the latter was alleged to have implied him for God's sake to keep the matter out of the House of Commons, as it would look bad if it appeared in the newspapers. "There is a man," said Mr. Burrell, "who asks me to give him the right, if I touch on it, to divulge a private and confidential conversation when he has already not only divulged it but put an interpretation on it which is absolutely false to the facts. What sort of stunt can the member for Carleton make of it? I do not think there is anyone in the House who would have done the same thing but himself."

"If the whole conversation were reproduced it would not hurt me," said Mr. Burrell, and Mr. Carvell knows that. But it seemed to me an extraordinary thing that he should try to tie my hands and rob me of any defence, when he had already stabbed me in the back. As regards his interpretation of our conversation, let me say that I never used the term "for God's sake," never said "I would be 'bad' in the newspapers." I have never done anything yet in this parliament which would be ashamed to have put in any newspaper. I consider this the most deplorable instance which has ever taken place in this House. I wish to say nothing about the private life of the member for Carleton, but if that is his interpretation of what is proper for public life, then I say that no province had the farmer received more than \$6 per ton. As a matter of fact, said Mr. Burrell, he had been informed that prices in New Brunswick

long before that had fluctuated from \$6 to \$10 per ton. Mr. Carvell had told the house that his firm and sub-contractors had made an arrangement with the New Brunswick Hay Company to pay the farmers \$8 for their loose hay, and that was a very euphemistic way of describing the kind of agreement made. He read a contract made by Mr. Carvell's firm with one of its sub-contractors and drawn up by Mr. Carvell himself, which, by the way, was the contract which the member for Carleton was now denouncing because it had a contract with the government. This contract was made by the New Brunswick Hay Company with A. C. Smith & Company, of St. John. The New Brunswick Hay Company agreed to pay Smith, the sub-contractor, \$25 for pressed hay, and required of Smith and other sub-contractors that they would not pay more than \$8.00 to the farmers for loose hay. There was an outbreak of conservative laughter when Mr. Burrell read this clause to the house, and when it had concluded, the minister stated: "The member for Carleton has been castigating me because I did not insist on fixing higher prices for the farmers. Here is a contract in which he puts a hard and fast clause that the farmers shall not be paid more."

Mr. Burrell then read from the contract a clause that: "In case any of the said parties shall, during the continuance of the contract, pay a greater price than \$8, then the company agrees to refuse to purchase or receive hay from the said offending party." Some Conservative members—"A boycott." Mr. Burrell then read a clause in the contract which allowed one sub-contractor, Bohan Brothers, to pay a slightly higher price than \$8 for hay in the district of the County of Kent. "I am informed," said Mr. Burrell, "that Bohan Brothers were dealing in a small section where there was a great deal of hay, and they were all very little, but then appeared to fear that it might pay the farmer too much—had been fixed at 25 cents per ton, to be deducted from the price paid for pressed hay at a greater price than \$8, then the company agrees to refuse to purchase or receive hay from the said offending party." "What sort of a patriot is this who asks the minister of agriculture, that here is a man who has made a contract with his sub-contractors, compelling them not to pay more than \$8, and then says that he will be punished. It is a sordid tale."

Carvell and His Prototype Mr. Pickenoff. The minister went on to state that in the multifarious and complicated conditions which the war brought, the constant pressure of such conditions necessarily led to blunders and mistakes. The British government had not then a young country which had never thought of war. If every energy were bent toward the prosecution of the war to a successful conclusion, the mistakes and blunders would be forgiven; at least they would not be judged until the war was over. But worse than to make mistakes was to have a mild punishment, and to carp, not for constructive, but for destructive purposes. If one were to judge from the time the member for Carleton, in his five-hour speech of the war, as compared with the time he had given for the reckless discussion of scandals or alleged scandals, he would be justified in concluding that he was more concerned with smashing the Canadian government than the German army. Had the member for Carleton ever heard of Mr. Pickenoff? If so, would he refer the man who had stood in his place in parliament and shed crocodile tears over the pain he alleged it caused him to attack the government to a fresh study of that great prototype.

Mr. Burrell was sure the country was sick of inter-calculation by members of this kind; it was sick of the bigger issues of the war. Mr. Devlin, Emmanuel Devlin, after commenting on the admission which he said had been made by the minister of agriculture, said that he had been informed that prices in New Brunswick

The minister of agriculture then proceeded with what had led up to his conversation with Mr. Carvell. He had received a letter from the member for Carleton intimating that he would bring the matter of hay purchases before the House. The minister had considered that as the government was operating, in a very large way, for the War Office in the purchase of hay, oats, etc., in Canada, to discuss such purchases openly at the time would not be in the interest of the war office. The prime minister and the minister of trade and commerce, with whom he had discussed the matter, had agreed with him, and had suggested that he should take the question up with Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

The Price of His Silence. "I have never been regarded, perhaps, as a hot party man," said the minister, "I may say that I would rather get out of public life for ever, if I could keep what regard I may have earned from my friends on both sides of the house, than remain in it at the price of descending into the mire into which the honorable member for Carleton descended. As I have already stated, his rendition of our conversation was absolutely untrue, and let me remind the house that it was trembling and in fear of exposure, as the member for Carleton had intimated, then all I had to do was to give the high prices which my honorable friend wanted on behalf of his friends, and all fear of that exposure would have been dissipated. That is what Mr. Carvell himself had told me."

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WILSON IN A FIGHTING MOOD

Admits There is Need for Preparedness and Wants Trained Army of Half Million.

New York, Jan. 27.—President Wilson tonight opened his appeal to the country for national defense. He gave warning that plans for the re-adjustment of the army must be formulated and carried out without delay, and solemnly declared he could not predict that the outlook for the United States would be as bright tomorrow as it is today. Speaking at banquets of the Railway Business Association and the Motion Picture Board of Trade, he sounded the keynote of addresses he will deliver during the next ten days in the Middle West.

Mr. Wilson was in a fighting mood throughout his addresses. In a speech delivered early in the day he declared that he had accepted an invitation to fight tonight he told the railroad men he was an advocate of peace, and had struggled to keep the United States at peace, but that he considered the liberty and honor of the nation even more important than peace. The President admitted that in a message to the last congress he had said the need for preparedness was not pressing. He declared that he had learned something in the meantime.

Mr. Wilson spoke of the men of peace who were clouding the high character of the war, and declared that he was provincial, and that the United States could no longer cut itself from the rest of the world. "If we are drawn into the maelstrom which now surges in Europe," the President declared, "we shall not be permitted to do the high things we would prefer."

The President defended the continental army plan, drawn up by Secretary of War Garrison, and said that he did not care about the details of any plan, as long as 500,000 trained men were provided as reserves under the federal government. He added that the United States will not turn in the direction of militarism. Outlining why the United States should prepare, Mr. Wilson said we must protect our rights as a nation, and the rights of our citizens in America and outside of it, as the consensus of civilized peoples had defined them; must ensure the unembarrassed realignment of our political development within our own borders, and must protect the peace and political autonomy of the Americans.

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LABOR WILL NOT ASK REPEAL OF MILITARY BILL

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BRITISH SHALL FIGHT OF CIVILIZATION KING

His Majesty's Speech at Proclamation for Such an Occasion—United Efforts of His Subjects

London, Jan. 27.—Parliament was prorogued in the proclamation King George said: "We shall not lay down our arms until we have won the future of civilization." The speech of the king probably was the such an occasion but his references to the war important. "For eighteen months my navy and army concert with brave and steadfast allies, in defiance and the public law of Europe against unprovoked aggression," he said. "I am sustained by the determination of my subjects to carry our flag to a final decisive victory upon us by those who hold in light esteem the covenants which we regard as sacred, we shall until we have vindicated the cause which carries civilization."

"I rely with confidence upon the loyal and subjects, which have never failed me, and I pray give us His blessing." The king thanked the House of Commons for the address which it has provided for the heavy. The speech was read by Baron Buckmaster of High Chancery. The Royal assent and other formalities, giving statutory force to the military service bill, the trading with the enemy bill and the bill prolonging the life of parliament were concluded in the House of Lords today, and parliament was prorogued until February 15. At the re-assembling next month, after an unusually short recess, the House of Commons, owing to the necessity for financing the war, will be engaged almost exclusively for some weeks in financial business. A new war credit of £100,000,000, the sum authorized by the House of Commons, will be raised by the issue of new war bonds, and the House of Commons will be engaged almost exclusively for some weeks in financial business. A new war credit of £100,000,000, the sum authorized by the House of Commons, will be raised by the issue of new war bonds, and the House of Commons will be engaged almost exclusively for some weeks in financial business.

Forest City, Burned at San Juan, Never Made a Voyage Without Disaster. The burning oil, after a three-hour fight, the steamer and Isaca, towed the black and steamer John E. Berwind gumped water into the flames in the schooner's hold. The burning oil, after a three-hour fight, the steamer and Isaca, towed the black and steamer John E. Berwind gumped water into the flames in the schooner's hold. The burning oil, after a three-hour fight, the steamer and Isaca, towed the black and steamer John E. Berwind gumped water into the flames in the schooner's hold.

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