

LIBERAL LOSSES WILL TELL WHICH WAY THE WIND BLOWS IN THE BRITISH ELECTIONS

Joseph T. Clark, in Special Cable to The Advertiser, Says Saturday's Returns Will Be Some Indication.

DAVID LLOYD-GEORGE IS THE ISSUE

In This Campaign—Unionists Say He Is Going Too Far When He Refers to the Eldest Sons as the First of the Litter—Two Big Meetings.

Bradford, England, Jan. 14.—No two meetings could be more of a different character than Balfour's at York and Asquith's here.

It was like the difference between a five o'clock tea and a football match.

At one, all was decorous, each guest being comfortably seated or not admitted.

At the other place, the people were packed to the ceiling, turbulent democracy singing battle hymns and cheering the premier at every excuse.

This does not denote much except that each party appeals in its own way to its own.

"For generations," said a Liberal candidate, "we have had the best meetings, but not always the most votes."

Asquith delivered one of his best speeches of the campaign, but at no time generated such heat as Lloyd-George creates.

Marshalling his arguments with care, this lawyer particularly enjoyed the discussion of constitutional questions and the defence of free trade.

He reproached his opponents with being men who admired every country's system but their own.

THE UNIONIST POSITION.

This seems to be the difficulty. The Unionists say they are trying to convince the nation, which is not displeased with itself, that a foreign navy may conquer it, and that a foreign trade policy is superior to so exclusively a British thing as free trade.

After hearing the leading speakers on both sides, I would say that Canadians have no reason to feel ashamed of the platform ability of their public men.

Laurier ranks with the greatest of them, and there is no impassioned oratory unless in Hyde Park.

TOMORROW WILL TELL.

The extent of the Liberal losses tomorrow will give some indication of the general result.

Unionists everywhere, while admitting the enthusiasm Lloyd-George creates, say he goes to lengths with which the British public is too set in its ways to approve, when he refers to the eldest sons of the peers as the first of the litter, and men do not even breed spaniels that way.

Polling will tell whether the people think Lloyd-George goes too far, for he is the real issue in this election.

JOSEPH T. CLARK.

[Associated Press Dispatch.]

London, Jan. 14.—There is nothing in favor of the Unionists in the tally at the end of the first day of the elections for members of the third Parliament of King Edward's reign.

Joseph Chamberlain, for Birmingham West, the high priest of tariff reform, was the first man entitled by this voting to append the letters "M. P." to his name, though, because of falling health, he never will be able to take his seat in the House.

The other two successful ones were John Walter Hills for Durham city, and Hon. Walter Guinness for Bury St. Edmunds.

The nominations for Oxford University, where Lord Hugh Cecil and Sir William R. Anson will be returned without opposition, have been postponed until tomorrow.

CLINGING TO STRAWS.

The Unionists are inclined to regard the fact that Chamberlain was the first member chosen for the new House of Commons as a good omen, but no significant deductions are to be made from today's results, as all the seats were from Unionist strongholds, in which the Radicals decided not to fritter away their strength in contests.

The first real test of strength will come tomorrow, when a dozen London constituencies, and such industrial centres as Manchester, Birmingham, Bolton and Wolverhampton, will vote.

The result of tomorrow's balloting should afford a fairly clear index to the feelings of the nation. Should Lancashire, heretofore regarded as an impregnable free trade fortress, give a notable measure of support to tariff reform, the candidates of the present party of protection will be entitled to regard victory as within their grasp.

UNIONISTS CLAIM GAINS.

The Unionist agents actually claim that they will gain fourteen seats in Lancashire, but the Liberals scout the idea of their opponents being able to make any inroads on the square, which has stood always for free trade.

London, which at the last election gave itself over to Liberalism, is admitted to be much more evenly divided in the present instance.

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A \$500 BLAZE IN SEE HOUSE LAST NIGHT

Firemen Had a Long Run to Residence of Judge R. M. Meredith.

The See House, on Ridout street south, owned by Mr. Justice R. M. Meredith, was damaged to the extent of \$500 by fire shortly after 10 o'clock last night.

The blaze originated under the kitchen through defective furnace piping. The caretaker had been in the house early in the evening, and attended to the fire. At 10 o'clock he was returning to fix the furnace for the night, when he noticed the flames. He turned in an alarm, and the brigade responded as promptly as possible. The storm made the roads very bad, and the

horses floundered through the drifts in getting to the fire.

A Thousand Feet of Hose.

The house is situated a long distance from a hydrant and a 1,000 feet of line had to be laid before water could be obtained. When a stream was turned on the fire was burning merrily in the rear part of the house. A large hole was burned in the kitchen floor and the partitions were destroyed. It was working its way through the ceiling when put out. The brigade had a couple of hours' work. The damage done was about \$500.

The house is not occupied at present, but a fire is kept going all the time on account of the conservatory, which is filled with many rare plants. These were not damaged.

Another Alarm.

The brigade had a run to Watson's tailor shop, in the Baker block, near Bennett's Theatre, early in the evening.

The windstorm blew the smoke from the furnace into the store. Passers-by imagined there was a fire, but the cause of the trouble was soon located.

WILL NEVER FORGET NEIGHBORS MRS. SCOTT IS VERY GRATEFUL

Recalls With Gratitude the Fact That All Spoke Good Words of Her and Assisted in Her Defense—Still Maintains That She Committed No Crime in the Shooting of Her Father-in-Law.

Mrs. Scott, acquitted on the charge of murdering her father-in-law at yesterday's trial, is a somewhat different woman today from the weary woman who faced the jury two days on trial for her life.

Today she is nervous, excitable, and the dry eyes that formerly seemed never to have known a tear were filled when The Advertiser man saw her.

The presence of her brother and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Elliott, and the visit of friends and relatives seemed to open the pent-up tide of her emotions.

Perhaps the full meaning of what had been done, and her escape from an ignominious death, or a long term of imprisonment, had their part in

breaking down the apparent unnatural stolidity of the woman.

Is Devoutly Thankful.

In any event she is devoutly thankful for her release, and that fact is traceable in every movement she makes, and in every utterance. She was seen by a reporter shortly after her relatives had visited her at the Mahon House on King street, and appeared extremely nervous. She could talk but little, and while apparently anxious to tell of the tragedy her relatives were not willing to allow her to do so.

"I am very thankful to be out again," she said. "I expected it from the first, and was keenly disappointed at the disagreement of the jury at the first trial. During my imprisonment

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PERE MARQUETTE IS BLOCKED TRAIN IN DRIFT AT GLANWORTH

L. H. & B. IS ALSO TIED UP Carloads of Live Stock Are in Danger on the P. M. ---Snowplow Worked Part of Night and Today, But It Was Found Impossible to Get the Train Out---The G. T. R. Train Failed to Get South of Denfield---Trains on All Lines Are Running Late---The Street Railway Having Its Troubles.

The worst tie-up since the winter of 1907-8 is taking place on the railroad all through this district as a result of the fierce blizzard that commenced early last evening and has been raging all through the night and today.

The branch lines of every railroad running into London are completely tied up.

The Grand Trunk freight train that left Wingham for London yesterday, and was due in the city last evening, had only reached Denfield at 10 o'clock this morning.

The snow is several feet deep all along the line north of Denfield, and it was impossible to make any headway against it.

CUTTING THROUGH THE DRIFTS.

The crew spent a great part of the night shovelling their way through drifts, and managed to make their way slowly along.

This morning one of the big plows was sent out to clear the tracks to Denfield, and let the freight into London.

PASSENGER TRAIN IN THE SNOW.

A Grand Trunk passenger train which left Tilsonburg this morning is at present completely stuck in a big drift a mile and a half east of Springfield, and will not be able to budge until a snowplow from Brantford forces its way through and releases it.

No. 6, the fast express from Chicago to Niagara Falls, was four hours late up to noon, and all trains coming through the district, and it is impossible to run any behind time.

WORST IN MANY YEARS.

"It is the worst storm in several years," Chief Dispatcher Forrester, of the Grand Trunk, told The Advertiser today. "The snow is heavy and very deep all over the district, and it is impossible to run any behind time."

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THE CITY WILL LIKELY ASSIST TRACTION COMPANY'S CHARTER

It Is Understood that Committee Will Be Sent to Ottawa to Urge the Government to Grant Company's Request—Traction Lines Good Things for London.

The city council will not offer, it is understood, any objection to the request of the Southwestern Traction Company for an extension of their charter.

It will be remembered that last year notice was served on the council that the company would ask for an extension of their charter to permit the building of other lines, and carrying the line from Brantford to this city.

Some opposition was then found to the charter in the council, and the bill was sent to City Solicitor Meredith, with instructions to guard the city's interests.

From what could be discovered there was little or nothing that was prejudicial to the city's rights, and no factious opposition should result.

The charter is of untold benefit to London, as it will bring another line into the city, tapping a very rich and prosperous section.

Will Help the Charter.

It is probable that a committee will be sent to Ottawa asking the House to grant the charter. The aldermen feel that it is incumbent upon them to do everything possible to advance the interests of London, and they are united in encouraging the building of traction lines into the city.

"Here is an opportunity for the city council to show themselves alive to the possibilities for advancement," said one citizen in discussing the question today. "Instead of placing opposition in the way, the city should seize the opportunity of assisting the project. The bill will come up in the House this session and the city should assist in this undertaking."

Steamer on Lake Erie.

It is announced that the Traction Company has made arrangements for the purchase of a new vessel, the King Edward, to place on the run between Port Stanley and Cleveland, to replace the Lakeside that made the run last season. The steamer is much larger, and is modern.

Other large schemes are in sight, and definite announcement will shortly be made.

A considerable sum of money will be spent in correction of grades and removal of dangerous curves. This work will be commenced in the spring.

DIED AFTER BRIEF ILLNESS

Demise of Mrs. Annie Moore This Morning.

Mrs. Annie Moore, wife of Mr. Edward Moore, died this morning at her home, 426 Waterloo street, after a brief illness. Mrs. Moore was 41 years old, and a daughter of Mr. Ephraim Skelding, of Aylmer. She came to London from St. Thomas about twelve years ago. Besides her husband, she is survived by three sons and two daughters—William, of St. Thomas; Roy and Stanley, of this city; and Misses Hazel and Dorothy, at home. Mr. James Skelding, of St. Thomas, is a brother, and Mrs. Ira Kinsman, of St. Thomas, is a sister. The funeral will be held on Sunday afternoon from the family residence, 426 Waterloo street, to Mount Pleasant Cemetery, and the services will be conducted by Mr. Fligg, of the Latter Day Saints Church.

Mrs. Scott Acquitted of Murder "I Did Nothing Wrong," She Says



MRS. WESLEY SCOTT.

ACTION FOR \$20,000 AGAINST THE G. T. R.

Mr. Walter C. Barnett, Who Lost Both Legs in Accident, Carried to Witness Stand.

CLARK CASE MUST GO ON

Judge Meredith Refuses to Allow a Postponement—Hurlock vs. Ryckman Was Settled Out of Court.

The first case called at the morning session of the assizes today was that of William Clark, charged with criminal assault against Margaret Blackwell on Dec. 17 last.

Mr. Edmund Meredith, for the prisoner, requested an adjournment. The prisoner, he said, was without means, and his brother, who was the only one able to assist in the case, had been ill for part of the time, and hence unable to assist in the defence.

There were also material witnesses who could not be procured at the moment.

"I will not adjourn the case," said his lordship.

"It is a serious charge," urged Mr. Meredith, "and the offence is only said to have been committed a short time ago."

"That is no reason for delaying the case," replied his lordship. "I think you can be ready to go on by Monday. I will have the crown summon the necessary witnesses."

It was finally decided that the case would follow immediately on the conclusion of the Barnett-G. T. R. case.

Action Settled.

The case of Hurlock against Ryckman was called, and it was announced that it had been settled. It is a claim for \$4,000 by the plaintiff for the seduction of his daughter.

The terms of settlement were not given out.

Barnett vs. G. T. R.

The next case called was that of Walter C. Barnett against the Grand Trunk Railway.

The case called for \$20,000 on the part of the plaintiff for the loss of both legs in a collision between a Grand Trunk and Pere Marquette train.

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MR. J. W. JONES OFFICIALLY NAMED

To the Court of Revision by Mayor Beattie.

Mr. J. W. Jones was officially appointed a member of the court of revision by Mayor Beattie at noon today.

At the inaugural meeting of the council it was announced that Mr. Jones would be appointed, provided he would accept. He was informed of Mayor Beattie's intention to name him and consented to accept.

The board now consists of Mr. Jones, Mr. John Forrester, Sheriff Cameron, and Assessment Commissioner Grant.

It is understood that Mr. Jones will be offered the chairmanship.

THE WEATHER

TOMORROW—FAIR AND COLD. FORECASTS.

Today—Strong east to north wind; cold; clearing tonight.

Saturday—Fair and cold.

TEMPERATURES.

Today. Yesterday.

Stations. 8 a.m. Min. Low. High.

London. 25.5 23 27

Dawson City. 28 28 28

Calgary. 36 8 26

Winnipeg. 14 0 26

Port Arthur. 24 10 26

Parry Sound. 24 8 26

Toronto. 26 11 27

Ottawa. 24 10 27

Montreal. 24 10 27

Quebec. 16 14 26

Father Point. 14 2 26

Dawson City. 28 28 28

Vancouver. 27 24 27

Kamloops. 24 21 26

Edmonton. 16 8 26

Battleford. 19 12 26

Moosjau. 22 22 26

Qu'Appelle. 16 16 26

St. John. 11 11 26

Halifax. 6 6 26

Minus (—) means below zero.

WEATHER NOTES.

Elsewhere in Canada the weather is fine, and for the most part decidedly cold.

Jury Out Two Hours and First Ballot Stood Ten for Acquittal and Two Against—Latter Were Converted After a Long Discussion.

A PURSE PRESENTED TO THE WOMAN

As She Left the Prisoners' Box—Counsel for the Defense Made an Appeal to the Sympathies of the Jury—Judge Rebukes the Applauding Crowd.

Mrs. Martha Scott, who for four months has been in jail awaiting trial on the charge of murdering her father-in-law, Harvey Scott, on Sept. 13 last, stepped from the prisoner's box shortly after six o'clock last night once more a free woman.

When the words were spoken that once and for all opened the barriers that had been thrust around her for months past, Mrs. Scott hardly seemed to understand their meaning.

It was only when Constable Robert Northgreaves opened the box and held out his hand that she seemed to realize that once again it was her privilege to go and come as she pleased.

A smile slowly overspread her face, which had remained set and expressionless throughout the whole course of the trial, and she stepped out into a bevy of waiting friends, who were anxious to be the first to take her by the hand, while over the courtroom there swept a sound of applause that was instantly stilled at a word from the judge.

PRESENTED WITH A PURSE.

The court immediately adjourned when the judgment in the case was pronounced.

At once the friends who crowded the court room gathered around her, among them Mr. John Macfarlane, who put a purse in the freed woman's hand, saying that it had been gathered for her at the Thorndale Fair.

Mrs. Scott took it with a simple "thank you" and a smile. She showed no sign of excitement of any sort, but the quick smile on her face, spoke volumes as to the relief she felt.

"Yes, it is good to be free again," she said to The Advertiser. "I knew I would be acquitted, because I don't think that I did anything wrong. I want to thank the many friends who have stood by me in these days. I hardly know what to say tonight. Just tell them I am thankful."

Many FRIENDS.

And, indeed, Mrs. Scott has had many friends, who have stood by her loyally ever since the hour of the tragedy, and it was by a public subscription that the funds for her defence were raised.

Her sister was the first to reach her side. Tears were streaming down the sister's face as she stooped to kiss the woman who was once more free. Little Clara Scott was close to her side, and never left her for a moment, and her two brothers also stood beside her with joy written large on their faces.

JURY OUT TWO HOURS.

The jury in the case retired to their room at 4:15. From that time on there was no other case presented to the court. Though the court room was uncomfortably crowded, the jury moved from their places, but as the minutes dragged on the low hum of conversation grew louder, and as the first hour passed, the second hour was rapidly slipping away, all manner of speculations as to the cause of delay were rife.

Even the staunch supporters of the accused woman began to grow nervous and fear the worst, and it was commonly suggested about the court room that there had been another disagreement.

When spoken to Mr. Scott said that he did not know just whether the jury would return to the old place. It was possible that they would remain in the city over the winter, but as yet their plans were all undecided.

VERDICT NOT A SURPRISE.

The verdict of the jury did not come altogether as a surprise, though a prevailing idea was that there would again be a disagreement.

There was little danger of this, however, according to the story of one of the jurymen.

When they entered the room, they were given an opportunity to speak, and expressed his opinion of the matter.

Then the first vote was taken. It stood ten for acquittal and two for manslaughter.

The two who stood out for the latter verdict thought that the fact that Mrs. Scott had gone into the prisoner's box, in the act of assaulting her, proved that she did it with deliberate intent to kill, but the prevailing opinion was that she had gone for the need of a doctor, and that with it in her possession she could frighten the man off.

TWO AGAINST ACQUITTAL.

After a little had been said, the argument was again taken up with the two outstanding jurymen as the centre of the discussion.

It was pointed out that the majority were for acquittal, and on this argument one of the outstanding men was changed, and two more votes were taken, the count in each case standing eleven for acquittal and one for manslaughter.

Finally it was represented to the man that was the only dissent against bringing in a manslaughter verdict. The Advertiser was told by a jurymen.

"There are eleven men in favor of acquittal," he said. "You can count on the twelfth."

And the final ballot, which was taken at five minutes past six, showed an unanimous vote for acquittal.

"Was there anything considered that was not introduced in the evidence?" one jurymen was asked.

"Well, yes," he replied. "There was some talk of the old man's treatment of the woman, that was not brought in the evidence, but I wouldn't say that it had anything directly to do with the verdict we brought in."

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