

FOR VETO BILL

Premier Asquith Has at Least United Party Behind Him in Curtailing Lords' Power.

Unionists Speakers Forecast Repealing of Bill With Change of Government.

London, Feb. 22.—Premier Asquith was the recipient of a tremendous ovation from his supporters in the House of Commons tonight, when the parliament bill, otherwise known as the Veto Bill, a measure designed to curtail the power of the Lords, was passed on its first reading by the government's full majority of 124, the vote being 351 to 227.

The Nationalists first rose in their places cheering wildly and waving their hats. The Liberal members quickly emulated their example. This exhibition of enthusiasm was repeated a few minutes later as the prime minister quietly left the scene of his victory in his initial action against the Lords.

The debate today maintained a good oratorical level, but presented few new points. The dominant note of the Unionist speeches was an invitation to the government to settle the matter by agreement.

Mr. Chamberlain, the Conservative leader, in a slashing attack, accused the government of outraging the convictions of half their fellow-countrymen on a matter which could never be settled except by consent.

The British people, he said, would support the opposition in any resistance, however desperate, they might offer to the bill.

Will Repeal Bill. The Right Honorable George Wyndham also urged the government to accept the invitation to settle the question by agreement.

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BORDEN CLUB SLEIGH DRIVE HUGE SUCCESS

One Hundred Members Enjoy Outing And Hear Stirring Political Speeches—Mr. Doherty On Reciprocity.

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 22.—The House of Commons today crowded into its four hours of work two developments of first importance. There was first the adoption of the bargain agreement, with a very angry and obviously alarmed government side shouting at the opposition that it was weak in the faith of British connection.

Second, in point of time, perhaps first in point of interest, was a speech by Mr. Ames, a masterly examination of the economic aspect of the agreement, with Mr. Monk interposed, and after a speech of some length offered the following amendment:

"That before resuming the discussion of the terms of the agreement concluded between the government of Canada and the president of the United States and with a view to dispel the feeling of unrest created in Canada by comments made in both countries as to the political consequences of the agreement, the House wishes to affirm emphatically its determination to preserve intact the bonds which unite Canada to the British Empire and the full liberty of Canada to control her fiscal policy and internal autonomy."

Mr. Monk opened with a caustic reference to the sedulous care with which the government denies all but the necessary minimum of information to the House. He went on to draw attention to the steady widening of the range of discussion. First the only subject discussed had been the schedules and the effect of these upon the lines of trade affected. Then the discussion widened to a consideration of the general effect upon trade as a whole and upon transportation.

Then it took another phase, that of the ultimate effect of the negotiations. "Would it be annexation? That, and not the schedules, was the subject of discussion in the United States. Mr. 'Champ' Clark—"

Here some laughter came from the Liberal ranks. "I hear laughter," said Mr. Monk. "Hear, hear," came from the Liberal side.

"Heard they regard that speech as a very droll utterance?" asked Mr. Monk. He could not, Mr. Clark might be a humorist, but he occupied the same position in the country as Sir Wilfrid Laurier or Mr. Borden in Canada.

Mr. Borden's resolution, Mr. Monk agreed, was not so important as Mr. Clark's, but though it had been condemned, it had been treated seriously.

After some personal passages Mr. Monk declared that there exists in the United States, even amongst the best people, a disposition to regard Canada as not in a position of freedom. To accentuate the position, he quoted the amendment already quoted.

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IMPERIALIST RESOLUTION MAKES LIBERALS ANGRY

Laurier and Fielding Both Lose their Heads in Heated Debate on Reciprocity—Mr. Ames Makes Valuable Contribution to Discussion—Mr. Monk Affirms Principle of British Connection.

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"I would not be pleased," he said, "if I made a business proposition to a man and he returned to me to discuss the question of annexing me. There is now a feeling of uneasiness in Canada, which I think we would quiet by such a declaration."

Laurier Very Angry. Sir Wilfrid Laurier was brief and very angry. The discussion of the agreement had caused comment on both sides of the line, and some men on the American side had interpreted it as meaning ultimate annexation. Some men in Canada had taken the same position, but not one man on the Liberal side of the House had said any such thing. Apparently there were men on the Opposition side whose views were disturbed. If it were necessary, in order to strengthen the wavering faith of those who sat around Mr. Monk, he would accept the motion. There was no necessity for it, but it was all on his side of the House would vote for it.

Mr. Borden followed. He explicitly asserted that he had not been notified by Mr. Monk of his intention to move the resolution and then dealt directly with the annexation question. The agreement would lead to the commercial union for which Sir Wilfrid Laurier had fought in 1891 and which Edward Blake had declared would lead to annexation. Mr. Borden then read the report of Champ Clark's speech from the congressional record, showing that the annexation portion had been perfectly serious, and that the speech had called the Democrats to support the measure.

After a speech by W. F. McLean, Mr. Fielding made a very angry speech. Early in this speech he dropped hints of an election. "We are," he said, "withal—how many months of an election, I don't know how many years or months we may be from an election, but it cannot be very long before we have an appeal to the people of Canada—and we went on to predict victory for the Liberals."

The Conservatives cheered defiantly and the Liberals broke into counter cheers. Then Mr. Fielding attacked Mr. Monk. He did not want the amendment necessary. "The man who flouts his loyalty and devotion to British institutions. The Liberals have no need of making any such declaration. If there was need for the motion it was because the Conservatives by their own acts had talked annexation in the country for the last month. Therefore, the Liberals would vote for the motion, because it was only right that the Conservatives, the only party whose loyalty was in doubt, should have an opportunity of declaring to the world that they were devoted to British institutions."

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PARTIZANSHIP IN THE MILITIA

MEMBERS OF COMMISSION NOT IMPRESSED

Representative Of Standard Finds Cedar Rapids Commissioners Have No Great Preference For Plan.

Continuing the series of articles on commission government in Cedar Rapids, by The Standard's special representative, Mr. H. V. Mackinnon, we are introduced today to a meeting of the commissioners. The meetings, as Mr. Mackinnon says, are "delightfully informal" and much business is transacted without unnecessary delay. One of the points in commission government which is not open to criticism is the plan of holding frequent meetings. Embodied into St. John's present system this change will go far to remedy the delay which now sometimes takes place in settlement of important questions. The proposal to reduce the number of the council to nine members, on which a plebiscite will be taken, includes this important feature among other reforms. The system of keeping expenditures within the limits, which was adopted in this city some years ago with excellent results, is also being carried out in Cedar Rapids with advantage.

The practice of permitting members of a commission to exercise both equal and divided authority over all civic employes has been criticized by experts on civic government and Mr. Mackinnon points out that it is admitted in Cedar Rapids this is liable to lead to serious confusion. The division of the legislative and executive functions, one of the great advantages of the present system in St. John, makes this confusion impossible. The heads of departments are held solely responsible and the risk of using the patronage to influence votes is eliminated.

It is to be noted that civic government in Cedar Rapids is progressive and successful because the city has elected good men. The commissioners have no great preference for a commission and claim that any small body of capable men could do as well in the present system as the present system. This is in keeping with the opinion frequently expressed by The Standard in advocating reforms in its monthly columns. The adoption of commission rule, which while it has its good points, has many obvious and insurmountable disadvantages.

Mr. Mackinnon's letter follows:— Meeting of Commissioners. Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Feb. 15.—It was my privilege on Monday to attend a meeting of the commissioners. These regular sessions are held from 10 a. m. until noon on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and are open to the public. With such frequent sessions it may be supposed that the accumulation of business is not very great. This is true, but since the sessions are supposed to continue for two hours any citizens who may have business to transact with the commissioners are entitled to be heard during these hours. A delegation appeared on Monday, unannounced and with no previous appointment, and got through its business in good time.

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Senator Ross Bares Glaring Case in Appointment of Inexperienced Man to Command.

Only Objection to Promotion of Second Officer that He was Tory. Expenditure Condemned

Ottawa, Feb. 22.—In the Senate today Senator Loughheed moved for papers relating to the appointment of Martin Dickie to the command of the 78th regiment. He said this regiment was created by dividing the 78th regiment of Colchester, Hants and Pictou Counties. The command of this regiment should have gone to Major Barnhill, second in command in the 78th.

It was stated that Mr. Dickie had no military knowledge, and a member of the Senate ever his signature had declared the minister of militia stated that Major Barnhill had not been given the command because he was a Conservative. Senator Loughheed declared that parliamentarianism had shown in some appointments but not in the case of appointments to the defence force of Canada. It would lead to demoralization and destroy the effectiveness of the force.

In seconding the motion Senator William Ross said it was he who had written the statement to which Senator Loughheed had referred. He had been criticised for taking this statement. However he thought that it had been his duty to call attention to the matter.

In The Barbershop. He had written the minister of militia several times recommending the appointment of Major Barnhill, and meeting the minister of militia in the Senate barbershop one day Sir Frederick said to you know that your Major Barnhill is a Tory.

"The minister of militia may make any explanation he pleases, but he cannot say that the qualification for this appointment is that he is a 'Liberal,'" declared Senator Ross. He also stated that when the 78th regiment went to Aldershot to drill last summer Mr. Dickie had not accompanied it.

Sir Richard Cartwright intimated that in the Conservative days a Liberal stood little chance of promotion or appointment in the militia. Even today he thought that most of the higher militia commands were held by Conservatives. In fact the minister of militia had been severely criticized on this account and it had been declared that for a place in the militia no Liberal need apply.

According to a memorandum supplied him, Sir Richard said it appeared that to reorganize the 78th regiment it had been decided to disband it. This was done and the re-organization carried out. The 78th regiment was created for the district which had Truro as a centre. Every officer in the 78th regiment petitioned for the appointment of Mr. Dickie to command the regiment. He was prominent resident of the town of Truro.

Military Expenditure. Senator Cloran said militia expenditure had increased from a million and a half almost seven millions since the present government took office. The naval and militia estimates now amounted to twenty-two and a half millions or a fifth of the total estimates. It was time a halt was called. Canada was spending too much on brass buttons and gold braid which was bringing forward in Canada a set of snobs who sneered at civilians at such functions as the reception of His Excellency, the Governor General.

Senator Cloran hoped the Liberal government would continue in power and declared that he would do more for Canada and the Empire than had any one else. Sir MacKenzie Bowell declared that in his youth the Liberals of his neighborhood declined to join the militia and laughed at the officers who wore uniforms. However when the Fenian trouble occurred the Liberals came forward and joined.

The motion for papers was adopted. On moving adoption of the committee report on the Robertson divorce case, Senator Kirchoffer sketched the history of divorce in Canada. It appeared that the first court had been established in Nova Scotia in 1759. Parliament had been attacked for liberality in granting divorces, but statistics showed that the divorce courts of the provinces which were little criticized had granted divorces far more freely than had parliament.

In ten years prior to 1906, provincial courts of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and British Columbia granted 145 divorces and during the same time parliament on the recommendation of the divorce committee of the Senate had granted only 53 divorces.

GERMAN POPULATION. Berlin, Feb. 22.—The official census concluded in December last shows the population of Germany to be 54,596,881. The figures in 1905 were 50,641,278. The population of Prussia, the chief state of the German empire is 40,157,573.

STILES CASE OFF

WILL THURSDAY NEXT

Albert County Debtor Remanded To Jail After Hearing Which Lasts Several Hours—Paid Stepmother's Note.

Albert, N. B., Feb. 22.—The examination of Job Stiles was continued this morning before A. W. Bray, clerk of the peace, in the court house. The defendant was on the stand under cross-examination all the morning and up to one o'clock, the evidence was along the same line as that given yesterday.

The defendant would not swear positively that the \$300 which he gave his wife for delivery to his step-mother was actually paid over before the date of the assignment. Mr. Stiles swore that the note for which this amount was a payment was not delivered to him at the time of payment nor has he yet received it. The statement of his habitude given by him to the sheriff on the day of his arrest, February 2nd, contained an item of \$300 as payable to Mrs. Mary Stiles, his stepmother which he admitted was the same item that he now alleges was paid by part of the money received from Peter J. McLellan for the cattle which were not taken possession of or removed from the premises by McLellan until Friday morning, which was only three clear days prior to the assignment.

Miss E. Dixon attended the proceedings today, it is understood, to watch the turn of events in the interests of Peter J. McLellan.

Adjournment was made till Thursday of next week at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. Stiles in the meantime is remanded to custody.

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BLIND TROOPER MULLOY TO WED RICH HEIRESS

Canadian Who Lost Sight In South Africa To Marry Daughter Of Seattle Millionaire—Never Saw Her.

Ottawa, Feb. 22.—A marriage of much interest to Canadians generally will be consummated in the Methodist church at Waddington, N. Y., on Friday, March 3, when Trooper L. W. R. Mulloy, the blind hero of the South African campaign, will wed the daughter of a Seattle millionaire, and herself the possessor of half a million in her own right.

Mulloy will be in the novel position of having never seen his bride, as the romance which culminated in the present engagement only began some years after he received the terrible injuries in the war, which resulted in his complete loss of sight, he having met her in London, England about six years ago.

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BIG SAILING SHIP MANY DAYS OVERDUE

The Aryan Left Philadelphia 194 Days Ago For San Diego And Rounded Cape Horn In December.

San Diego, Cal., Feb. 22.—One hundred and ninety-four days out from Philadelphia, the big American sailing ship Aryan, Capt. Kimmette, is daily expected in San Diego. The Aryan sailed from St. Lucia near Magellan Strait, Dec. 22, and since that time has not been reported.

She already is overdue and while it is said no fears are felt for her safety, the ocean to the southward is beset with ice. The Aryan is a full rigged ship of 1,839 tons net capacity and carries a crew of 30 men.

CALIFORNIA OPPOSES JAPANESE TREATY

Sacramento, Cal., Feb. 22.—A resolution was introduced in the state senate today calling upon President Taft to withdraw the new Japanese treaty appealing to the United States senate to refuse its assent, and instructing the California delegation to oppose ratification.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 22.—The new Japanese treaty which was sent to the senate yesterday for the purpose of superseding that of 1894 in relation to trade and commerce, was ordered favorably reported today from the committee on foreign relations.

C. O. F. CELEBRATION. London, Ont., Feb. 22.—Arrangements have been completed for a celebration to be held in this city in June of the Canadian Order of Foresters. The celebration will last three days and 2,000 Foresters are expected.

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WOOD ALCOHOL CAUSES DEATH OF FIVE PERSONS

Drank By Mistake As Beverage At Family Re-union In Monticello, N. Y.—Used Very Freely.

Monticello, N. Y., Feb. 22.—Four persons are dead and one is dying today, as the result of drinking wood alcohol by mistake yesterday, at Horton, N. Y. The dead are James Kelly, 56; Thomas Kelly, 38; Mrs. Thomas Kelly, 34; and Thomas Harvey, 40. Mrs. Thomas Harvey is dying.

The beverage was purchased at Parkville on Monday. It was learned, and partaken of freely by all of the party of five at a family reunion.

TOWN WIPED OUT. Donaldsonville, La., Feb. 22.—Fire swept through the business section of this city today, destroying nearly every building on one side of the main street, and carried by the wind, attacked residences in outlying sections. The fire was brought under control at 3:30 p. m. The loss is estimated at \$750,000.

C. A. S. C. OFFICERS. Ottawa, Feb. 22.—At the annual meeting of the Canadian Army Service Corps Association, officers were today elected as follows: Hon. president, Sir Frederick Borden; Hon. vice president, General McDonald; president, Lt.-Col. Biggar; vice-president, Col. Stewart; secretary-treasurer, Captain Dean; executive committee, the above officers, Lt.-Col. Langton and Captain Pell.

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ISAAC M'MICHAELS

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 22.—Isaac M'Michaels, aged 71 years, vice-president and general manager of the Great Northwestern Telegraph Company, of Canada, died in a hospital here today.

Mr. M'Michaels came here from Toronto February 6, to undergo an operation which was thought to have been successful, but the patient suffered a relapse today. The body will be taken to Toronto.

Mr. M'Michaels was connected with the Western Union Telegraph Company for a number of years, latterly as manager of a division at Minneapolis, Minn.

IMPERIAL TROOPS FOR JAMAICA?

Kingston, Jam., Feb. 22.—During the debate in the Legislature today on the question of organization of a local defence force, one of the chief military officers intimated the probability that the Jamaica garrison would be considerably strengthened by Imperial troops in event of the Panama Canal being fortified.

PRINCELY GIFT. Montreal, Feb. 22.—Rodolphe Forget today made a gift of \$100,000, the building fund of Notre Dame Hospital. This brings the total of his gifts to that institution up to a total of \$250,000.

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