

ALL IS READY AT THE CAPITAL

Fredericton Presents Animated Scene in Anticipation of Legislature's Opening Today.

Will Robinson Relinquish Leadership of Opposition—Liberals in Sorry Plight.

Fredericton, Feb. 16.—Everybody in the city tonight is on the qui vive for the opening of the Legislature tomorrow. All trails are busy, and especially this evening, brought members of the House and their wives and others in the weather for opening ceremonies and if the conditions are favorable the out-of-doors display will rival that within the legislative chamber for brilliancy.

Late tonight a blustery storm commenced, however, and it may be that it will make it somewhat unpleasant out of doors tomorrow. This evening the hotels and other public places in the city are crowded with politicians and other visitors, and present lively scenes. The government headquarters are at the Barker House, where the members of the executive and most of those who sit on the Speaker's right make their home during the session.

At The Queen. Noticeable was the contrast with the scenes at the Queen Hotel where Hon. C. W. Robinson and his little quota of associates of the opposition make their headquarters. With Hon. H. A. McKeown the real leader of the opposition previous to his translation abroad they are as a ship without a rudder. Who will occupy the seat alongside the formal leader of the opposition, Mr. Robinson, will continue his attempt as leader nobody seems to know. There will probably be a caucus of the members of the opposition tomorrow morning and if there were anybody to succeed him, Mr. Robinson would doubtless thereafter not even be called the leader.

There is some hope, however, Mr. E. S. Carter has been secured to show them how to run things and he will have the St. John Telegraph as a side line.

Lieutenant Colonel Humphrey D'O. C. arrived this evening from St. John and the military display tomorrow in connection with the opening ceremony promises to be almost unparalleled in the history of the province. A notable visitor for the opening of the Legislature is ex-Chief Justice Tuck who arrived this evening from St. John and received a warm welcome from his many friends here. Mr. Bentley the new member from St. John county will probably be introduced at the opening proceeding by his colleague, Mr. Lowell and Mr. Robinson.

The government will be meeting again tomorrow morning preparing the legislative programme for the session and clearing up some matters of routine business.

BUDGET AND VETO BILL TO GO SIDE BY SIDE

London, Feb. 16.—The Nationalists have been summoned to a meeting in Westminster on Monday, when Mr. Balfour will explain the situation and the result of his negotiations with the Government. The outlook is now regarded as more promising for the Government. It is understood that the course of procedure in Parliament will be a formal first reading of the House of Lords veto bill, immediately after the address is voted. Then in the interval, which is always necessary before the second reading is proceeded with, the budget will be re-introduced and the two measures carried along practically side by side, a plan which is expected to satisfy the requirements of the Redemptions.

CONVICT PAROLED ON LENGTH OF INVENTION

Paris, Feb. 16.—Judge Estel-Porten of the district court, was notified by the state pardon board that he should designate a suitable person to be charged in the state penitentiary with the invention of a self-balancing aeroplane. The prison authorities convinced this aeroplane will fly, the inventor consented to any machine which was sent to the penitentiary. The machine was sent to the penitentiary in 1907 on conviction. He was known as an inventor. He had in his possession the model of the machine. The practical necessity financial backing has applied for his invention is very slow promised.

TRIAL REFERENCE DREDGING AND BRANCH LINES

All Three Before Legislators at Ottawa Yesterday—A Fourth Naval Programme—Dr. Chisholm's Scheme.

MORE OF GERMAN TRADE AGREEMENT

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 16.—A fourth naval policy was set forth in the naval debate today.

Its author is Dr. Chisholm of Huron. By it he would give Great Britain seven Dreadnoughts at a cost to Canada of only \$6,000,000. Dr. Chisholm is not satisfied with the policy of the government of the opposition or of Mr. Monk and consequently he felt called upon to present his alternative.

According to Dr. Chisholm the United Kingdom is dependent on Canada for her food supply and in time of war would have to send four Dreadnoughts and a fleet of small vessels to defend the trade route between Canada and Britain. He proposes that Canada should rent this fleet of four Dreadnoughts and lighter vessels from Great Britain.

Four Years. She should rent this fleet for four years the term of the emergency. The rent would be \$1,500,000 or \$6,000,000 in four years. Great Britain should capitalize this \$1,500,000 a year and should borrow \$50,000,000 at 3 per cent. With this sum she could build five Dreadnoughts. Then by opening up the Hudson Bay and St. Lawrence routes, so that they could be used to shorten the trade route that it would take only two Dreadnoughts of the four we had rented from Great Britain to guard that route, so Canada could give back to Great Britain two of the Dreadnoughts and these added to other five Dreadnoughts would give Britain seven Dreadnoughts.

Further Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta should each build a railway to the Hudson Bay. The Dominion has already undertaken to build a railway to the Hudson Bay, so that by 1912 we would have six railways to Hudson Bay, and these would give seven Dreadnoughts to Great Britain for four years.

Mr. A. M. Beauparlant of St. Hyacinthe was the first speaker, strongly supporting the government plan. If Canada did not pay for her own defence in this way, she would have to pay in some other way. When the United States went to the help of Cuba she paid herself by taking Porto Rico. France repaid herself by helping Italy by taking Savoy and Engadine and had taken Egypt in return for her aid to Turkey. Mr. Beauparlant said if the United States had to defend Canada, say, against Japan she would have to get her pay in some manner.

By Patronage. Mr. F. T. Condon of the Yukon the chief speaker of the day declared that the Liberal members were influenced by patronage in supporting the government policy. He argued at length against the panic over British naval supremacy.

It was sufficient said he that Great Britain should rule the British Empire. It was not necessary that she should dominate the world.

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Aerial Exhibition on Now at Boston. Boston, Feb. 16.—Most of the world renowned types of aeroplanes with hundreds of models of other flying machines inflated balloons and the accessories of the aeronaut were displayed tonight at the opening of the first exclusive exhibition of aerial craft ever held in America, at Mechanics' building. The exhibition will continue for a week.

Schooner Derelict Found off Gloucester. Gloucester, Mass., Feb. 16.—Although the quarter boat containing the name of the two-masted schooner which, floating derelict, bottom up, was discovered in the waters in which the schooner grounded while being towed to Gloucester today, it was not until tonight that it was reasonably certain that the ill-fated craft was the schooner grounded while being towed to Gloucester, Feb. 11. Whatever craft it is, her crew of probably half a dozen men have undoubtedly found a watery grave.

MUNICIPALITIES UNION HAS WARM PRAISE FOR GOVERNMENT'S ROAD ACT

Delegates to Convention at Campbellton Unanimous in Their Support of Provincial Administration's Highway Legislation—Hon. John Morrissey Discusses Application of Act.

Fourth Annual Convention of New Brunswick Municipalities Has Auspicious Opening—Secretary McCready Moves for a Provincial Bacteriological Laboratory—Proceedings in Detail.

Special to The Standard. Campbellton, Feb. 16.—The fourth annual convention of the New Brunswick Municipalities opened here this morning. Every part of the province was represented and Hon. John Morrissey, chief commissioner of public works, represented the provincial government.

After the enrollment of delegates, Mayor Murray of Campbellton, tendered a hearty welcome to the members of the Union, to which suitable replies were made by Mayor Reilly of Moncton and Councillor Flewelling of Kings county. President Chestnut then delivered his address which dealt with several important matters. The address was referred to the executive for examination and report.

Secretary McCready's report was also read and referred to the executive. The financial statement showed a balance on hand of \$253,329. Mr. Warden McNally and Councillor Tirmos of York and Councillor Siddle of Westmorland stated that the matter of working with their respective localities and the money would be expended through the highway board.

More Satisfaction. Dr. Stirling of York County and Ald. Crandall also expressed themselves as being well satisfied with the Highway Act. Councillor Flewelling of Kings county, President Chestnut then delivered his address which dealt with several important matters. The address was referred to the executive for examination and report.

The Highway Act. At the afternoon session the first speaker was the Hon. John Morrissey, Chief Commissioner of Public Works. He expressed his satisfaction at being present and admitted the progress made by the town of Campbellton, which was admirably done in the enterprise of its citizens. The speaker then dealt with the highway act. He said the Hazard Government had handed over to the municipalities the authority for the expending of all monies for roads. The Government had made an earnest effort to administer the act fairly and impartially last year they had given the municipalities very little money for the reason that the taxes of 1908 and 1909 were available.

He had just one theory for the making of good roads and that was good drainage. There was not a road in the province, in fact they were no better now than they were 20 years ago. The department had given all its energy to the repairing of bridges, which were found to be in a very bad condition and when this was completed the roads would be attended to. He was strongly in favor of appointing a practical man as engineer and putting him to work in constructing a road from the St. Croix to the Restigouche, in fact they were no better now than they were 20 years ago.

It was the only way to get good roads. It would take some time and money to do it, but it would pay in the end. Public Health Act. Mr. Morrissey then spoke of the public health act. It was a matter which was being considered by the government. It had been said that the chairman of local boards of health were charging exorbitant prices but he had to say that if good men did the work they would have to be paid well. He had understood that the doctors were to make suggestions for needed improvements in the act and he hoped this would be done.

The speaker next referred to the assessment law. He said that assessors sometimes took advantage of their office to suit political opponents and he hoped this would be a grievance. Altogether too much power was placed in their hands in this regard. As a result in many cases, there was an inequitable assessment, and the assessment lowered in order to cheat business men of the city.

Big Merger Planned Among Fish Interests

Montreal Syndicate Headed by National Securities Company, To Take Over Fishing Industry of Nova Scotia—Hope To Make Business of National Importance.

Montreal, Feb. 16.—Following close upon the announcement that a number of the large Nova Scotia firms handling dried fish had decided to form a merger, the announcement is now made that the plan will be carried through. It is planned to take over the Whitman syndicate headed by the National Securities Company, of Montreal. The business there requires is capital and organization," commented Mr. A. H. Brittain, confirming the reported merger of the fish companies.

Large Company. He said a large company was being formed to operate the fresh and smoked fish business along the Atlantic coast. This company would mean the merging of about four of the present companies. "The proposed company should be a great benefit to the fishermen of the coast, as their supplies of fish will be paid for in cash, giving them money to live upon. With a well organized company and lots of capital to operate with it will enable the fresh fish from the Atlantic coast to be delivered to the consuming public in Canada at lower prices. Extensive improvements are to be made, with ample cold storage facilities to enable the fishermen to secure bait at points on the coast. The Dominion government has been endeavoring to foster this business and the proposed company will be of great assistance in the matter. The company will not be a trust, as there will be plenty of active competition."

At the office of the National Securities Company in the Board of Trade building this morning it was said that the authorized capital of the new company would be one million dollars, and that it would aim to make the fresh fish business of Nova Scotia of national importance. The Bank of Montreal, which controls the Atlantic Fish Co., is said to be behind the scheme. The financial organization of the merger is being looked after by the National Securities Company and Mr. A. H. Brittain, the representative of the Atlantic Fish Company in Montreal, is attending to the business end of the scheme, having been the original promoter. The result of the formation of the company will be the doing away with a lot of the fluctuations in the price of fish. It will also do away with the price-cutting among the firms at present controlling the business and it is said it will also result in moderate prices being paid at all seasons. The organization is as yet in its early stages, but has gone far enough to make it certain that the plan will be carried through.

NEW OFFICE FOR MR. OAKE

Now To Succeed To Management of New Brunswick Railway—W. T. Whitehead To Retire in July.

Fredericton, Feb. 16.—Hon. Chas. E. Oake, of Bangor, Me., who is here, stated tonight to the correspondent of The Standard that he had decided to accept a position with the New Brunswick Railway Company which owns 1,600,000 acres of timber lands in this province.

The retirement of Mr. W. T. Whitehead who has held the position of manager of the company's lands for some years has been expected for some time and although it has not been so officially stated will take place about next July when Mr. Oake will become the new manager. Hon. Mr. Oake has been connected with the lumber business in New England since 1876 graduated from the University of Maine in mechanical and civil engineering. After following the engineering as a profession for a few years Mr. Oake went into the lumber business and from 1892 to 1901 was forest commissioner and land agent of Maine. During recent years he has been prominently connected with the International Paper Co. of New York and at present is the vice-president and general manager of the Miramichi Lumber Company which has 600,000 acres of timber lands in this province of which 200,000 acres are sold right having been purchased from the William Richards Company some years ago. He is also the president of the American Realty which controls about 600,000 acres of timber land in the state of Maine and which in one year from his own land and other lands handled 200,000,000 feet of lumber.

Mr. Oake said this evening that for five or six years he would continue to be connected with these companies and after that would devote his entire time to the business of the N. B. Railway Co. in July.

SYDNEY STEELMAKER PRESENTED WITH MEDAL

Sydney, N. S., Feb. 16.—This evening at the City Hall, his worship, Mayor Richardson, on behalf of the Royal Humane Society of London, presented Henry Hodder, a native of Newfoundland, with the Society's medal in recognition of a particularly brave attempt made by Hodder to save the life of a comrade, James Costello, who was asphyxiated last fall while working at the blast furnaces of the Dominion Iron & Steel Co. Among those present were:—President Plummer, General Manager Butler, C. S. Cameron, other officials of the Steel Company and prominent business men of the city.

NINE ARE INJURED IN TRAIN WRECK

Special to The Standard. Montreal, Feb. 16.—The Central Vermont local train from Montreal to Waterloo, Que., met with an accident near West-Field tonight and as a result nine of the passengers were injured, though fortunately there were no lives lost.

Conservative Elected in Fielding's Constituency Effecting Remarkable Turnover.

W. L. Hall the Successful Candidate Was Pitted Against the Strength of Two Governments.

Special to The Standard. Halifax, Feb. 16.—For the first time in 30 years a Conservative was elected today in Queens County in the election, to fill the vacancy in the Provincial Legislature created by the translation of Hon. E. M. Farrell, from the Speakership of the local House to a seat in the Senate at Ottawa.

W. L. Hall is the victorious candidate. He has a majority of 250 over his Liberal opponent, A. W. Hendry, the leading business man of the county. Mr. Farrell's majority at the last general election was over 300. The result of today's contest has produced a tremendous sensation in Nova Scotia as this is the first by-election in which a Conservative has captured a seat in the provincial legislature since 1878.

Liberals Dumbfounded. As the present Liberal Government must appeal to the people before the end of 1911, the present turnover in the county represented by Hon. W. S. Fielding, Minister of Finance at Ottawa, has caused consternation in Liberal ranks all over Nova Scotia. "Congratulations to Mr. Hall, who is a talented barrister of Liverpool, are pouring in from Conservatives from all parts. The result is the sole topic of discussion and the early downfall of the Murray Government is being held open continuously since 1882 is freely predicted."

MORALS AND THE PONIES

Witnesses Tell Of The Evils Of Race Track Gambling Before Committee at Ottawa—Troubles Of A Butcher.

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 16.—Several witnesses were examined by the anti-gambling committee today. The first was Mr. Sleeman, chief of police in Brantford and formerly senior detective of the Toronto force. He was examined by Mr. W. E. Raney. "It would be a blessing to the community," he said "if the American bookmakers were kept out of Canada. Mr. Raney—I understand that the majority of bookmakers are Americans. Witness—A great many I believe. From a moral and law abiding point of view Mr. Sleeman was of opinion that it would be a blessing to the community if race track gambling were done away with.

There could be good clean sport and good horse racing, without betting with the bookmakers. F. W. Lyons, a sergeant at the Central prison, Toronto, put in certain statements by prisoners describing playing the races as the cause of their downfall. It developed that Mr. Raney had dictated these statements after questioning the prisoners in the prison library. Counsel for the racing associations objected to these statements being allowed on the record and the committee reserved its decision on the point.

A Toronto butcher whose name was suppressed was next called. He said he had been betting on the race tracks for ten years and when he was frequenting the race course he had no trouble at all about the butcher business. His first experience with betting on horses was at the Dufferin race track, and during his experience he had made thousands of bets. He had spent a thousand dollars a year on racing and gambling and some days lost as much as \$150. He quit January last. He said he had in his pocket a list of fifty people who he knew had been ruined through race track gambling. He mentioned two cases of suicide which he said had been brought about through betting at the Woodbine, Hamilton and Windsor. One of these men came into a fortune of \$50,000 but squandered it on races. Witness knew of another man who went very nearly "bug house" through betting his money on betting.

This witness had sworn off betting for a year except on one thing, that was the fight. Questioned as to the Hamilton races he said that if it were not for Toronto people the Hamilton meeting would not last two days. "Then Toronto people go to Hamilton to gamble?" "No one would ever go to Hamilton except to gamble."

Crushing Defeat.

With all returns in W. L. Hall has a majority of 228 in every section of the county the Liberals have met a crushing defeat. The victory of Mr. Hall can be largely attributed to five causes. First, the noble and untiring work of the Queens County Temperance Alliance. Second, the thorough organization of the Liberal and Conservative party. Third, the popularity of the elected candidate. Fourth, the splendid platform addresses given by the various organizers throughout the length and breadth of the county and of Rev. H. R. Grant, the secretary of the Nova Scotia Temperance Alliance. Fifth, the unfair and despicable canvassing of the imported speakers, notably, E. H. Armstrong, M.L.A., of Yarmouth. It will be remembered that the Morning Chronicle on Monday last had a report of a meeting addressed by Rev. Mr. Grant and Mr. Armstrong in Brooklyn on Saturday evening. Brooklyn today spoke through the ballot with the result that a Liberal majority of 58 in 1906 and 48 in 1908 was today reduced to a Liberal majority of only 2. Last evening a joint meeting was held in Caledonia, addressed by Rev. H. R. Grant and Rev. C. F. Cooper, M.L.A., Caledonia. In 1908 gave a Liberal majority of 12, today it gave Mr. Hall the magnificent majority of one hundred and ten. C. W. Harton, Beers, an inspector for Queens county, Dr. H. B. Ford, Milton, Harry MacKay, Liverpool, Thomas Annas and Captain Willard Godfrey of Brantford and many other prominent Liberals throughout the county were staunch supporters of Mr. Hall and did noble work in their various districts. There is great rejoicing throughout the county over this magnificent victory for prohibition and good government. Mr. Hall addressed a large audience in the committee rooms this evening. He thanked his Conservative followers and the independent Liberals who had so enthusiastically supported him. His victory was not only a victory for the Liberal Conservatives in the county of Queens but it was above all a victory for provincial prohibition. He had pledged himself to support prohibition and he would be true to that pledge. J. J. Margeson of Bridgewater made a brief address congratulating the county on its splendid victory.