

THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1909.

SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.00 A YEAR.

To the UNITED STATES \$1.50

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

AT 81 QUEEN STREET.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND.

JAMES MCISAAC,

Editor & Proprietor

As the end of the year is approaching, we must ask our friends to be so kind as to send in their Herald subscriptions. We need the money and trust that subscribers who have not already paid will not delay. What is put off from time to time is liable to be neglected altogether; so please remit now.

Federal Rats Sprinting.

As the date for the opening of the second session of the eleventh parliament of Canada draws near the political situation becomes more complex. The rats are leaving the sinking Liberal ship. Mr. Calvert for some years the chief Liberal whip has sought a safe retreat on the Transcontinental Railway Commission, where for the paltry sum of \$7000 a year he will cheerfully lend his vast knowledge of railway matters to a political body which is supposed to be building the lame leg of the undertaking. That the leg is not only lame but needs to be amputated is the opinion of Sir Charles Rivers Wilson, but that subject has been dwelt upon before in these columns. Suffice to say that it is doubtful if Sir Charles has lost that proverbial "nasty taste" regarding the eastern section of the Laurier monument.

Two more deserters from the rapidly sinking Laurier craft are Mr. R. F. Sutherland, formerly speaker of the House and Mr. A. K. Maclean, the well known member of the "dark lantern brigade" who with E. M. Macdonald of Picton, Fred Pardee of Lambton and Alex Johnston of Cape Breton used their bullying tactics in the committees of the House especially that devoted to Public Accounts, to prevent the truth from coming out when ever that truth cast any reflection upon the tactics of the government. Mr. Sutherland goes to the Bench, Mr. A. K. Maclean has resigned and become Attorney General of Nova Scotia with the premiership of that province in view, Fred Pardee is to get the job of chief government whip, E. M. Macdonald is slated for a cabinet position, so soon as Sir Frederick Borden has the dignity to retire from the treasury benches, while Alex Johnston was relegated to the oblivion of a political "has been" by the votes of the people of South Cape Breton at the last elections. So it will be seen that even the members of the "dark lantern brigade" are seeking for a soft spot on which to fall, and most of them have succeeded in finding it.

The question of naval defence still seems to be a thorn in the flesh of the Liberal party. They are at sixes and sevens about it. Mr. Borden has put the case so clearly before the people of the country that the Liberals are seeking some loophole. In the words of the Conservative Leader, so far as the opposition is concerned the question of Canada's participation in the organization and maintenance of an Imperial Naval defence rests to day exactly where it did when the unanimous resolution of parliament was passed on March 29 last. It is worthy of note that that resolution was so modified at the instance of Mr. Borden that it permitted of a special contribution in the time of emergency. As Mr. Borden sets forth in his latest

statement on the subject, whether such emergency existed then or exists now is within the knowledge of the British government and the Canadian government. Mr. Borden strikes a high note of statesmanship when he declares that Canada should take no action which does not receive the unqualified approval of the British naval experts.

The latest in the naval question is that Hon. L. P. Brodeur junior will have a Victor to take a course of training on the government cruiser Canada. The Canada has one gun and with Mr. Brodeur junior will have a fighting force of two officers. This will undoubtedly be hailed in the province of Quebec as another instance of that province pouring out its life blood in Imperial wars not of their own making.

The British Budget.

In the Imperial House of Commons, on Friday night last, the budget which had been before the House for a long time, and had brought out strenuous debating on both sides, passed its third reading by a vote of 379 to 149. The Irish Nationalists for the most part refrained from voting. A larger attendance has seldom been seen in the House than on this occasion. The peers, and diplomatic galleries were crowded to their utmost capacity. Tense excitement prevailed. The Premier, Chancellor, Lloyd-George and Mr. Balfour, Leader of the Opposition made strong speeches during the evening. The occasion seems to have been regarded by all present as of a historic character. The bill immediately passed to the House of Lords, where it formally passed the first reading on the 5th. It will come up for second reading, in the Lords, on the 22nd inst. It is not unlikely that a debate of unusual length for that chamber will take place on the occasion of this second reading. The greatest possible interest attaches to the matter, and the action of the members of the Upper House is anticipated with no small amount of anxiety by the Government. What the Lords will do is, of course, matter of conjecture. They are not supposed to have any constitutional right to tamper with the money supplies voted by the Commons; but it is not denied that they may make recommendations or perhaps offer some amendments to the bill; but what they shall do no one now can tell. It is stated in the press, that Lord Lansdowne, Leader of the Opposition in the Upper House, may move a resolution setting forth that, in consequence of the several new forms of taxation incorporated in the bill, it should not be passed by the Lords, until it has been endorsed by the electorate. The passing of that resolution would undoubtedly precipitate a general election. That seems to be as far as the public have conjectured on the matter.

It is reported from Halifax that an extension of the labor contract, for a further period of two years, between the P. W. A. and the Dominion Coal Company, has been signed at Glace Bay by General Manager Duggan of the Company, Stephen McNeil and Grand Secretary Moffat, for the men. The contract has been renewed, just as it stands, the same terms and conditions as were contained in the award of the Conciliation Board of 1908. It is generally considered that this will bring about the final collapse of the strike of the U. M. W. A. that has existed for some months. It is to be hoped this will prove true.

The Liberal newspapers are striving hard at the present time to create the impression that Mr. Borden, Leader of the Opposition has alienated the sympathy of some of the leading Conservatives in the country by his attitude on the question of naval defence. They tell us with sensational head lines that Premier Roblin and Hon. Robert Rogers of Manitoba are ready to jump at Borden's throat on this question. Against these vaporings may be placed the statements of Mr. George Bradbury, Conservative member for Selkirk, Manitoba, who recently reached Ottawa to attend the Parliamentary session. He speaks enthusiastically of the Conservative party. "Mr. Borden has no more loyal supporters in Canada," he says, than "The Premier Roblin and Hon. Robert Rogers, and the whole of the Conservative West is of the same opinion." He considers that Mr. Foster's lecturing tour has advanced his party's interests in the Prairie Provinces very considerably.

Canada's Finances.

The public accounts of the Dominion, for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1909 were published on the 2nd inst. They show total disbursements amounting to \$122,441,524, divided as follows: Consolidated fund—expenditure \$84,064,232. Capital expenditure \$42,593,166. Railway subsidies \$1,785,887. Other charges including bounties \$4,998,237. The receipts were \$85,093,404 so that there was a bookkeeping surplus on current account of \$1,029,171, and a deficiency on disbursements of \$45,969,419. The net debt of the Dominion at the close of the fiscal year was \$323,930,279, or an increase of \$45,969,419 over the figures of March 31, 1908. The principal items accounting for this increase are: National Transcontinental Railway \$24,892,315. Other railways, Canals, and Public Works \$15,659,997. Railway subsidies \$1,785,887. Bounties \$2,467,306. A considerable portion of the introductory report is taken up with details of the loans which the government found itself obliged to contract during the year. The list is as follows: 33-4 per cent loan of 1908, maturing 1912, 5,000,000 pounds. 3-1-2 per cent loan, of maturing 1930-50, 5,000,000 pounds. 3-3-4 per cent loan, maturing 1919-9, 6,000,000 pounds. 3-1-2 per cent loan, maturing 1930-50, 6,500,000 pounds.

In all since 1903 there have been placed on the London market new issues amounting to \$1,331,298 pounds. In addition certain obligations have been assumed which bring the total up to \$4,492,851 pounds. During the same period loans amounting to \$4,169,790 pounds have matured, leaving a net increase in the debt of 10,323,060 pounds. During the fiscal year one loan of \$21,900,000 matured, over \$9,000,000 of it being defrayed by new issues. A number of miscellaneous transactions are noted. The guarantee of G. T. P. bonds now amounts to \$5,200,000 pounds; of this sum 2,000,000 pounds were issued in October, 1909. The Montreal Commission obtained in the course of the year an advance of \$1,030,000 while the Quebec Harbor Commissioners are paid an advance of \$87,254. In September, 1908, capitalized subsidies amounting to the sum of \$2,394,000 were paid over to the Province of Quebec, this was the outcome of an old agreement and interest had been paid on the sum for some years. In December, 1908 the Government took over the Quebec Bridge and Railway Company, thereby incurring a liability of \$6,424,781 which becomes an addition to the debt of Canada.

Minard's Liniment cures Dandruff.

McBride's Prospects.

Advices of the 7th from Victoria, B. C., contain the following regarding the prospects of Premier McBride in the general Provincial elections now pending: The provincial campaign is going ahead rapidly. The Conservatives claim that they have 27 safe seats. Premier McBride missed an inaugural meeting at Kamloops owing to the death of his son, and his place was taken by Hon. W. J. Bowser, attorney general and Mr. Taylor, minister of public works. The premier ended his series of meetings at Revelstoke Wednesday, and with Mr. Bowser is addressing one, two and in one case three meetings throughout the province. He has accepted nominations in both Victoria city and Yale, his opponents being two Liberal leaders, John Oliver and Stewart Henderson. Hon. Price Ellison, provincial lands minister, is taking charge of the campaign in Okanagan and Similkamen districts. The Liberals will probably allow eight constituencies to go by default and in others join with socialists, local option and so called independents. The socialists expect four seats, while the labor party has but one candidate in the field, W. Dods, of New Westminster. J. Pearson Shaw will oppose H. W. Vasey, Liberal, in Kamloops. The premier is offering the people a definite railway policy secured by contract, while the Liberals have enunciated an intangible programme which in effect means that they will support the construction of railways already subsidized by the Dominion Government, and will, if returned to power, be prepared to give further subsidies to those railways. Numerous proposed branch lines in this province have been subsidized for years by Federal authorities, but there are no indications of construction work being commenced. While the election will primarily be fought out on the question of rival railway policies, considerable attention will also be paid during the campaign to Asiatic exclusion. In a House with a membership of 42, Premier McBride's last legislature had a majority of sixteen. Throughout the province the Conservatives are splendidly organized. The premier has announced his intention of visiting all principal centres during the campaign.

Creamer Children Found.

Our readers may remember the mysterious disappearance of the Creamer children from their home at Peacock Settlement N.B. about three years and a half ago. Two children a boy named Ralph, aged four years, and a girl named Olive aged six, on Sunday May 13th, 1906, strayed away from their home, and for a long time it was supposed that they were lost in the woods. They left the house and followed a young man going into the woods after cows. The children were turned back, and it was supposed that they had afterwards kept on to the woods, becoming lost. When the children were missed their parents were frantic and search was made in every direction, but no tidings of them was found at all, despite the fact that large searching parties for weeks scoured the woods in an effort to find the missing tots. At the time of the mysterious disappearance there were many theories concerning the possible whereabouts of the children. The search was finally given up, and hope of ever recovering the two youngsters had been given up. Now young comes that the mystery surrounding their disappearance seems about to be cleared up. Mr. F. E. MacDonald, superintendent of the Boys Industrial Home, at Croucheville, N.B. has received word from a friend in Boston, that the children are alive and are at present in Boston, with relatives. The communication states that Creamer children were taken aboard a vessel at Sackville, where the N. B. and P. E. Island railway ends after serving the country in which the children lived and disappeared. They were received, it is said, by a captain who was a friend of their father, and were taken direct to New York.

Northcliffe Favors Caution

Lord Northcliffe speaking before the Canadian Club at Ottawa Saturday uttered a word of warning regarding the proposed Canadian navy. He pointed out that the Japanese were the only nation that had made a success of building a new navy. Their plan was to send men into all countries to examine methods and types of

ships and the information acquired was put into practice, but it had taken fifty years to build that navy. He advised Canada to go slowly, otherwise they were liable to make many mistakes. As to sailors for ships he said that from his observation those of the Maritime Provinces were equal to any in the world and the raw material as good as could be found anywhere. Touching upon immigration, he criticized the general class of immigrants now coming to this country and the United States. He said they were not the class of men who had built up this country, they were not hardy pioneers. They had left the Mother Land not because they objected to certain conditions, but because they were not strong enough to make a living in their own country.

Deadly Tuberculosis.

That approximately 25 per cent of the deaths of persons whose occupations expose them to municipal or street dust and to general organic dust, are due to tuberculosis, is the startling fact disclosed in a bulletin prepared at the Bureau of Labor Washington, by Frederick L. Hoffman. Though the statistics studied by Mr. Hoffman indicate that municipal and general organic dusts are less serious in their effect, than metallic or mineral dust, the consequences to health and life, he says, are sufficiently serious to demand most careful attention to the whole problem of dust prevention and removal. According to insurance mortality experience, 25 per cent of deaths in occupations with exposure to municipal dust were due to consumption, and in occupations exposed to general organic dust the proportion was 28 per cent. As compared with these proportions, 14.8 per cent of deaths of males, 13 years of age and over in the registration in the United States were from consumption.

Shocking Accident.

A terrible accident happened a young man named Noel, from Shippigan, Gloucester county, N. B. in Beringer and Chapuis, shingle mill Saturday morning. The large circular cutting off saw went to pieces and the flying parts struck Noel, cutting off one arm and shattering the other so badly that it was found necessary to remove the injured member. The muscle of one leg was torn badly from the knee to the hip and the nose was split. The injured man was taken into a house and Drs. Ferguson and Donette dressed the wounds. At night Noel felt no pain and was bright and conscious. He has been married but a few months.

Thought to be Lost.

Washington Hull, a Brooklyn architect, and two other men whose names are unknown, put out from Lawrence beach, Long Island, last Wednesday in the sloop yacht Commodore for a sail to New York harbor, to place the vessel in winter quarters and since then the party has been missing. Mrs. Hull fears that her husband and the other two men have been lost at sea. He was a member of a Columbia University crew which defeated a crew from England several years ago, she said, and was a good swimmer.

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Ducks per pair.....	0.85 to 1.00
Eggs, per doz.....	0.28 to 0.30
Fowls.....	1.25 to 1.50
Chickens per pair.....	0.75 to 1.00
Flour (per cwt.).....	0.00 to 0.04
Hides (per lb.).....	0.10 to 0.11
Hay, per 100 lbs.....	0.50 to 0.55
Mutton, per lb (carcase).....	0.06 to 0.08
Oatsmeal (per cwt.).....	0.40 to 0.42
Potatoes.....	0.20 to 0.25
Pork.....	0.09 to 0.10
Sheep pelts.....	0.55 to 0.60
Turkeys (per lb.).....	0.11 to 0.12
Turnips.....	0.18 to 0.19
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