

BUDGET IS REJECTED BY HOUSE OF LORDS

Lord Lansdowne's Motion to Withhold Assent Until Measure is Submitted to People Carries by Vote of 350 to 75.

London, Dec. 1.—In a manner characteristic of the proceedings in the glided chamber and in direct disregard of the advice of some of its ablest and oldest members, such as Lords Rosebery, Morley, James of Hereford, and Courtney, and the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the House of Lords yesterday created a situation unprecedented in English history for at least 300 years, by refusing formal assent to the budget by a vote of 250 to 75, and referring it to the country itself for judgment, thereby making it illegal to collect taxes and carry on the government.

After six days' debate, notable for the high standard of oratory, as well as for the able and convincing arguments arrayed on both sides for and against the budget, and placing in every possible light all the aspects of the great constitutional questions involved, the House of Lords cleared for division at half-past 11 o'clock.

The scene was impressive, but in no sense exciting, except that the House arrayed of strange faces were seen on the benches, owing to the presence of numbers of peers who only appear in the House in most exceptional cases. None would have supposed that the event, proceeding as it was, destined, not only to prove memorable in the annals of British history, but possibly also involving far-reaching changes in the British constitution.

The vote was of Lord Lansdowne's amendment, that the House was not justified in giving its consent to the bill until it had been submitted to the judgment of the country.

Nearly fifteen minutes were spent in clearing the House, the tellers for division being Lord Waldegrave, Lord Churchill, Lord Denman and Lord Coleridge.

When the vote was announced, just before midnight, as 350 to 75 in favor of the amendment, a few mixed cheers were heard.

An eager and expectant crowd was awaiting the result in the central hall, and when the figures of the vote became known, there was a slight attempt at counter demonstration. The officials, however, speedily cleared the hall, and in a few minutes the lobbies and corridors were empty.

It is worthy of note that Lord St. Aldwyn (Sir Michael Hicks-Beach), who was one of the ablest chancellors of the exchequer on the Conservative side, has ostentatiously absented himself.

Among those peers who came down especially to vote was Lord Wemyss, who is in his 52nd year.

The Archbishop of York's speech was his maiden effort in the House of Lords, and his eloquence, particularly in clearing the budget, made a deep impression. The Archbishop strongly opposed Lord Lansdowne's resolution, declaring that it would be unprecedented.

Lord Curzon was plainly suffering from his recent indisposition, and had to ask the indulgence of the House, but in spite of physical weakness which several times during his 90 minutes' speech threatened to overcome him, he spoke with all his accustomed vigor and art. He maintained that the Lords had an absolute right to reject the finance bill, and agreed that the country was on the eve of a momentous struggle, which might lead to the re-

form of the House of Lords, from which the Lords would not shrink.

Lord Cawdor, former first lord of the admiralty, who wound up the debate for the opposition, maintained that there had been an attempt to evade the Lords' ancient right to reject each tax by placing a tax on one bill.

They were told, continued Lord Cawdor, that the rejection of the bill would cause financial chaos, but Lord Lansdowne's offer of assistance in order to avoid inconvenience had not been cordially received by the government. Therefore, he said, if chaos came, the responsibility would rest upon the ministry.

The people, Lord Cawdor concluded, could get rid of the decision of the upper chamber by an election, but they would get rid of an autocratic single chamber only by revolution.

Lord Crewe, secretary of state for the colonies and lord privy seal, closed the debate with a speech that was frequently interrupted by ministers. He contended, was the negation of all precedent and flouted all usage. All agreed that it was necessary this year to raise a large amount of extra money by taxation, necessitated by the claims of national defence, and the adoption of old-age pensions. The sum total of the long debate, he declared, was that the opposition considered the government's method of raising money illusory, and that that justified revolution.

T. P. O'Connor is pleased. New York, Dec. 1.—Commenting on the act taken by the British House of Lords in adopting Lord Lansdowne's amendment to the finance bill, T. P. O'Connor, M. P., one of the Irish Nationalist leaders in the House of Commons, and now in the country, said last night that the rejection of the budget by the British peers pronounced their own doom, and he believed it would precipitate an uprising of the masses in one of the bitterest fights known to English politics for a century.

"I am greatly pleased, and so is everyone who is an enemy of the House of Lords," said Mr. O'Connor. "Every Liberal and still more every Irish Nationalist, has known for several generations that it was impossible to have anything like steady liberal progress so long as the House of Lords retained its power to defeat or postpone every democratic legislation. Ireland has been the special sufferer from the present power of that body, for the House of Lords consisted almost exclusively of the landlords, and the enemies of Ireland and from the days of O'Connell downward, every single reform of the scores we have won, has had to be won in the face of the opposition of the House of Lords. Its hostility to Ireland has been maintained steadily to the end, for now it stands alone in the way of a home rule measure."

"As to the effect in England, I believe the rejection of the budget will lead to an uprising of the masses, the strength of which the Lords has failed to realize. They will realize it before many hours. I believe we are on the eve of the fiercest fight we have seen in British politics for a century; that the fight will go against the Lords; and that before two or three years from now their power of mischief will be so broken as practically to be non-existent."

"This means the final emancipation of the English masses from the grip of feudalism and of Ireland from government of an alien parliament."

On the wagon road two diamond drills are working, boring for coal. One hole was put down on the beach to a depth of 2,000 feet but with no result. The coal dips down in that direction, so now the drills which are working six miles inland will probably reach the vein.

Some promising copper outcroppings have recently been found in the district around the upper lake and there are known to be coal outcroppings in the same district, so that in the near future the district is likely to prove very attractive, both to the investor and to others.

As the party was going in they met the government surveyors who have been working on the location of the boundary of the E. & N. land grant. Sixteen miles of the 60th parallel had been located and the party expect to return early in the spring to finish up the work. This will settle the dispute which has been located, and which is claimed are within the radius of the railway property.

When coming out Mr. Best and party had a very narrow escape. They had just passed over the bridge leading to the lakes, when an immense tree, overturned by the gale, fell across the bridge and smashed it to splinters. Had they passed one minute later there would have been no one left to tell the tale. Fortunately the drilling apparatus has all been taken in or there would have been very serious delays in the boring operations.

BANK CLEARINGS.
Toronto, Dec. 1.—Toronto clearings for November totalled \$14,014,400, compared with \$12,074,422 for the same month last year, an increase of \$1,939,978.



REJECTED
Lord Lansdowne:—"Out, vulgar brat."

FLOODS CLAIM SEVERAL VICTIMS

LOSS OF LIFE REPORTED FROM WASHINGTON

Damage to Property Will Reach Hundreds of Thousands of Dollars.

Bellingham, Wash., Dec. 1.—The restless flood waters that to-day continue to submerge the lowlands of Whatcom and Skagit counties, are known to have collected their toll of human life in the La Conner flats, although just how many have met death is not known owing to the demoralized condition of the telephone and telegraph lines, and the suspension of all rail and wagon traffic.

No lives have yet been lost in Whatcom county so far as can be learned, but the amount of property damage will reach into the tens of thousands of dollars. County Engineer Lindbergh said to-day he could not venture an estimate of the loss at this time.

Horses, cattle and other domestic animals have been drowned in both Whatcom and Skagit counties. The loss sustained by the railroads will mount into hundreds of thousands of dollars.

So far as train service is concerned Bellingham is isolated from the outside world. The railroads of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific are completely paralyzed.

Wholesale destruction along the Nooksack river continues though the floods are receding.

Seven houses have been carried away at Ferndale, the Great Northern swing bridge has been battered off its pier, and the waters have undermined the new \$125,000 school house.

Not one bridge in the county is unaffected and three large ones may have been taken away.

Town Inundated.
Burlington, Wash., Dec. 1.—Every house in Burlington with the exception of the Commercial hotel is surrounded by water, and the flood covers the streets from two to ten feet. Throughout the Mount Vernon neighborhood and the La Conner flats the water stands from ten to fifteen feet deep.

Several lives are reported lost in the La Conner flats and scores of heads of cattle, horses, sheep and other domestic animals have been drowned. Communication by rail, wagon road or telephone and telegraph is now cut off south of here, and there is no present indication that the flood is abating.

The Great Northern bridge, one mile south of here, has been destroyed and the town of Island, west of Burlington, is cut off and the property loss is reported to be severe.

Eight miles of railroad track is either destroyed or in an unsafe condition between here and Hamilton. The damage sustained by the railroad, it is estimated, will reach hundreds of thousands of dollars.

In some places in Burlington the flood waves caught the occupants of low lying residences sleeping. Several of these buildings were plunged in water to the eaves, and none knows how all the imperiled ones got out of their homes.

All over the countryside are farmers and ranchers in distress, unable to get away from their water surrounded property.

In this city there is much need of relief and rescue work, and an appeal was sent to Anacortes for boats. From that point a carload of rowboats was dispatched but the washed out track prevented delivery here.

The big steel bridge at Mount Ver-

LIVELY CHASE ON WATERFRONT

DARING ATTEMPT AT ROBBERY IN VANCOUVER

Two Longshoremen Are In Jail on Charge of Theft.

Vancouver, Dec. 1.—A running fight on the waterfront, in which a shot was fired at one fleeing member of a trio of longshoremen whose efforts last night to get away with a large amount of valuable goods stolen from the Weir Line Ocean, ended one of the most daring attempts at robbery on the waterfront in several years.

As a result of the affair, two longshoremen named Charles Alexander and Oscar Erid, are now locked up in the city jail awaiting trial on the charge of theft, and one companion, whose name is unknown to the police, is congratulating himself on his escape.

Owing to the heavy rains in this city Saturday, Sunday and Monday the steamer Oceana was unable to finish discharging her Oriental cargo at No. 3 shed, C.P.R. wharf, and consequently the clear day of yesterday was made the most of. Men were put to work early in the morning and kept at it through the greater part of the night, so that the steamer could leave this morning for Puget Sound ports. No. 3 shed where the freight was being unloaded, was naturally kept open and lighted nearly all night, or until 2 o'clock this morning, when the chase of the would-be thieves took place.

According to the stories told this morning of the affair the three longshoremen had been quietly stealing valuable pieces of freight all night and catching it outside the shed, where they got it after finishing work. The freight consisted of Oriental goods. However, the three constables who do night duty for the C.P.R. along the wharves, observed the men's curious actions, and tumbled to the fact that something was amiss. Consequently they waited quietly until 2 o'clock when the lights in No. 3 shed were extinguished and the longshoremen dismissed, so that the shed could be locked up until morning.

When the longshoremen emerged three of the men walked off together to the place where they had cached their booty, on the outside of the wharf towards the C.P.R. depot. After observing the location of the cache the constables suddenly pounced down upon the men and demanded their surrender. Alexander and Erid submitted with a short struggle, but the third man took to his heels down the tracks with one of the three constables after him.

"Stop or I'll shoot," yelled the constable, but the man kept running. Drawing his gun from his pocket the C. P. R. man took a shot at the fleeing figure, but evidently did not hit him, as the man kept on at full speed, and succeeded in making his escape across the tracks.

Alexander and Erid were turned over to the city police.

FRENCH TREATY.
Passes Second Reading in Dominion House of Commons.

Ottawa, Dec. 1.—After a debate of six hours the House gave the second reading last night to the French treaty by a vote of 107 to 83. Those who voted against it were all Conservatives, including Messrs. Goodeve and Burrell.

It was at Sir Wilfrid Laurier's instigation that the division was taken.

REMARKABLE EXPANSION IN VICTORIA'S COMMERCIAL BANK CLEARINGS FOR NOVEMBER ESTABLISH A RECORD—MORE THAN DOUBLED IN FIVE YEARS—INCREASE IS STEADY.

When the bank clearings for November were made up by the officials of the Victoria clearing house Tuesday afternoon it was seen that all previous records had been surpassed, and that the prosperity of the capital continues to increase at a steady rate.

For November the clearings total \$7,200,486, as compared with \$5,049,844 for the same month last year. But even this increase of \$2,150,641 in a year is eclipsed by the rate of increase over October. In that month the clearings amounted to \$6,878,887, showing an increase last month of \$236,618, a rate of annual increase of close on four million dollars.

In five years the clearings have much more than doubled. For past November the totals have been: 1905, \$3,283,037; 1906, \$4,024,506; 1907, \$5,051,519; 1908, \$5,049,844; 1909, \$7,200,486.

For the eleven months of the present year the clearings aggregated \$62,596,301, as compared with \$50,407,335 for the corresponding months of last year. The returns by months for the two years were as follows:

Month	1909	1908
January	\$4,235,476	\$4,591,066
February	4,321,397	4,271,712
March	4,940,269	4,290,782
April	5,529,870	4,634,079
May	5,407,696	4,066,369
June	6,452,155	4,590,912
July	6,051,953	4,940,911
August	5,718,680	4,259,231
September	5,864,552	4,310,210
October	6,878,887	5,065,639
November	7,200,485	5,049,844
Totals	\$62,596,301	\$50,407,335

RESUME TRAIN SERVICE SOON

BIG REPAIR GANGS WORKING ON E. & N.

Line Open Between Ladysmith and Wellington—Slide at Waugh Creek.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

H. E. Beasley, superintendent of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo railway, said this morning that good progress was being made in the work of repairing the damage done along the line by the recent severe floods. The company had now trains running between Ladysmith and Wellington, thus allowing the coal trade to be handled, and it was hoped that conditions at Waugh Creek, near Goldstream, would permit of trains running by Friday morning. At Waugh Creek there have been heavy landslides and the work has been impeded by other slides occurring just when some progress was being made in clearing the track. A large gang of men is at work under J. Goodfellow, at Shawngnan Lake the water shows signs of receding and it is hoped that the tracks will be clear at this point by Friday also.

After being stalled at Shawngnan Lake since Saturday in consequence of the cancellation of the train service, M. A. Wyde and a number of other Victorians reached home last night, having walked the whole distance. They bring a tale of destruction due to the floods which will bear very heavy on the railway company; and despite the heroic efforts which are being made to repair the damage, there would appear to be small prospect of resuming the train service for several days yet.

At Waugh Creek, near Goldstream, there is a very serious landslide. The track is covered for a distance of 400 feet to a depth of four feet, and the earth is reported to be still coming down. J. Goodfellow, traffic superintendent of the railway, is at this point giving his personal supervision to the efforts to clear the tracks, and has every available man on the job, but despite the fact that the company is paying fifty cents an hour they find it impossible to get all the men they need. They are hydraulicking the earth away which has come down, and are clearing the track, but as small slides are constantly recurring there is no guarantee when the road bed will be cleared.

The section of the government wagon road which was constructed by John Haggerty, has in many places been swept out of existence, landslides covering it up in some sections and in others the water undermining it and allowing it to fall out of position. As the government has already taken over this road from the contractor the loss to the provincial treasury will be considerable.

At the 13-Mile Post there is also a small washout, and another one at the 24-Mile Post; and all along the line between here and Shawngnan the track in numerous places is either covered with slides or else undermined by the flooded streams which are now raging torrents.

Grave fears are entertained for the safety of the big trestle over Arbutus canyon. This structure is nearly two hundred feet in height, and it is reported that already one "bent" has been misplaced by the rushing torrent of water. Just this side of the big bridge is a tunnel, and to find foundation for the end of the big bridge a great deal of brattice work was used on the face of the bluff. This has been dislodged and the cost of repairing the same will be very extensive. Should the big trestle go, however, the loss will mount into some thousands of dollars at that point alone.

At Shawngnan the lakes are higher than ever before recorded. The water is over the bridge connecting the Strathcona hotel with the small island near the property, and at Koenig's the water is up over the lawn. All the houses along the banks of the lakes have been flooded. In Mr. Wyde's house he found it necessary to raise the bed up a couple of feet, and he was enabled to retire on Sunday night by stepping from his boat right into his bed.

On Sunday night there was a crowd of forty people assembled at Shawngnan anxious to go to Victoria. Thirty came down yesterday, having walked

the entire distance, and the balance remain.

From all points on the lower Island comes similar tales of unprecedented rainfall and flooded districts. Four inches of rain is said to have fallen during twenty-four hours at Jordan River. Conditions in this district were aggravated owing to the fact that before the heavy rainfall there was a severe snow storm.

IKEDA MINE HAS BEEN SOLD

PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY C. P. R. INTERESTS

Smelting Plant Will Probably Be Erected on Moresby Island.

Vancouver, Dec. 1.—Confirmation of the report published of the sale of the well known Ikeda mine on Moresby Island, is now at hand. The purchaser is the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Company, of Trail, in which C.P.R. interests predominate. It is understood that the price approximates \$200,000. A. W. Davis, of Trail, has returned after a trip of inspection which he made of the property in company with Mr. Ikeda. The negotiations lasted a long time, and the Granby Company, of Grand Forks, was also negotiating for the purchase. It is understood that a smelting plant will be erected near the mine.

The property is the largest mine worked in this province by Japanese capital. It was discovered some four or five years ago by some fishermen of Japanese nationality and 47 claims were staked. All these showed great wealth, but only one has been worked to any extent. This, which is known as the Lilly claim, has produced values running from \$1 to \$12.50 in gold, up to 186 ounces in silver, and from 14 per cent. to 17.25 per cent. copper per ton. The mine was floated by a syndicate with headquarters in Yokohama and was capitalized at \$75,000. The cost of shipment and treatment averaged \$1 per ton.

PARLIAMENT TO BE PROROGUED

FINAL SITTING OF COMMONS FRIDAY

Premier Asquith Will Move Resolution Censuring the Lords.

London, Dec. 1.—Premier Asquith announced in the House of Commons this afternoon that he would move a resolution to-morrow that the action of the House of Lords in refusing to pass the budget constituted a breach of the constitution and a usurpation of the rights of the House of Commons.

The premier's schedule for to-day includes a conference with King Edward for the consideration of the speech from the throne proroguing parliament. Prorogation is announced for Friday.

THE INTERURBAN DISASTER.
Inquest Will Be Resumed at Vancouver on Thursday.

Vancouver, Dec. 1.—The inquest held on the accident on the B. C. Electric railway near Cedar Cottage was again adjourned Monday afternoon and will not be held until Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock. This third adjournment was due to the absence of Jurymen MacNab, who was forced to be present at an action of the Supreme court, where he will be detained until Wednesday at least.

W. E. O. STATE

ASPIRANT

He Advocates Water Quality Improvement

Some time ago made the candidate for this city's elections. At the candidature Mr. O. has prepared to state questions before the voters in a letter as follows: If I can be elected to the office of Mayor of Victoria, I have been what my civic invariably and invariably ans gards water a except to do the of Victoria in may arise.

The quality want of a sufficient water question and immediate water in large not reason water quality has been any quality—especially after year, K slip opportunity acquire a considerable amount of submitted to neighbors, at settler should be comfortable we will expense will a penalty. I don't mind so long as sufficient quality I am quite sure that the water supply will be sufficient for the needs of the city. I am quite sure that the water supply will be sufficient for the needs of the city.

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