

Labor Estimate Reduced in Federal House

SECTIONAL BODY ASK FOR RECOGNIZED STANDING

The claims of the National Catholic Union in government recognition on the same basis as it is accorded to the international unions were placed before the government at Ottawa by a delegation. The delegates, nine in number, were introduced to the prime minister and the cabinet ministers by George Parent, member for Quebec West, and were accompanied by Dr. J. E. Fontaine, member for Hull. They made a number of requests, but the one on which most stress was laid was that of recognition of the union. It was pointed out to Premier King and his ministers that the former minister of labor, Senator G. D. Robertson, had refused this request. The union, it was stated, had a membership approaching fifty thousand. Its influence on labor conditions had been a most beneficial one, and its members saw no reason why it should not be recognized. When the government called conferences on labor matters, the National

G.T.R. EMPLOYEES NOTIFIED OF READJUSTMENT

Notification that a readjustment of working conditions governing the employment of clerks, stationery, roundhousemen and other employees on the Grand Trunk Railway has been received by the general grievance committee from C. G. Bekker, superintendent of the G.T.R. at Toronto. A conference will be called between representatives of the company and the men in the near future to discuss the matter. No indication of the proposed changes has yet been given to them, but it is thought that they will be based on the award of the United States Railway Labor Board, Decision No. 610, rendered effective on United States railroads on January 21 last. The principal changes under this award included the same rate of pay for the night hour after the full day and night hours had been worked, and time and a half for the tenth and successive hours. The employees claim that this is virtually a reversion to the nine-hour day. Statutory holidays will be considered as other ordinary days in making payments to employees assigned to work on such days. Clerks and station employees who have been paid on a monthly, weekly or hourly basis will in future be paid on a daily basis. One day of rest is to be provided as heretofore, but this is not necessarily to be on a Sunday, and if the employee works on Sundays an extra day is to be given. If less than a day's work is given by the employer a pro-rata hourly basis will obtain with a minimum of three hours.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR UNDERGOES EXHAUSTIVE EXAMINATION

A reduction of \$15,000 in the estimates of the department of labor passed the house of commons by consent of the government, after a fight which had lasted all through the afternoon and most of the evening. The original amendment, moved by Hon. H. H. Stevens, Conservative, Vancouver Centre, was to reduce the salaries vote under civil government from \$1,950,040 to \$1,714,640, leaving the contingent vote at \$35,000, which was unchanged from last year. After an afternoon's debate, during which the interior workings of the department of labor were thoroughly dissected, in the course of exchanges, at times somewhat heated, between the minister of labor, Hon. James Murdock, and Conservative members, Mr. Stevens agreed to change his amendment to read that the estimates be reduced by \$15,000. The prime minister agreed to accept this amendment, in order to save time, and during the night sitting the amendment went through without a dissenting vote being recorded. There was some confusion for a moment when the vote was taken. When Hon. Charles Marcell, in the chair, called for a vote the official opposition members with the Progressives shouted "yes" in favor of the amendment to cut the estimate. Some of the government supporters shouted a loud "no," and the chairman said, "In my opinion the nays have it." Instantly some dozen or more opposition members stood up, which meant a standing vote being taken. When the count was made the prime minister, finance minister and a score or more of other Liberals stood up and swelled the total for the amendment to 120. When the nays were asked to stand not a single member got up. The civil list then passed amended. During the afternoon and evening there were many interesting exchanges between occupants of the government and opposition benches. The minister of labor was charged several times with trying to shoulder responsibility onto the civil service commission by saying that the additional money was required because of statutory increases over which he had no control. Mr. Murdock retorted emphatically that he "assumed full responsibility, now and ever." At another stage of the discussion J. L. Brown, Progressive, Lisgar, said parliament had apparently created a machine in the commission which it could not control. T. L. Church, Conservative, N. Toronto, accused the minister of "talking too much" at one time and figured in rather lengthy discussion concerning some of Mr. Murdock's statements, which he ended by saying he did not believe in personalities. Subsequently the house passed the estimates of the labor department as amended and the house passed to militia and defence and marine department and civil list. The latter went through without discussion, to the surprise of almost every one in the house. The civil government votes for agriculture were then taken up and were under discussion when the house rose.

SENATE QUERIES ON NATIONAL PROSPERITY AND INDUSTRIAL PEACE

Having disposed of routine business on their order paper, yesterday the senate decided yesterday to adjourn until the afternoon of Wednesday, April 28. By that time it is possible that interim supply bill, which has not yet passed the commons, will be ready for consideration by the upper house. Several interesting questions were answered during the sitting, and several notices of motion were given. Senator R. S. White, of Inkerman, was informed by Senator Macdougall that the government was aware that there had been a strike in the printing trades in Canada for the past six months. "The government is aware," the government leader said, "that the striking employees object to the question of hours. The government is aware that certain employers have also refused to submit the dispute to arbitration. To an inquiry whether or not the government was aware that the printer's union had been induced to leave their employment by bribes, threats and violence, Senator Macdougall replied "the government has no information on the subject." Asked if the government proposed to offer protection to employers against such conditions, the government leader replied, "The government has received no representations from employers on that subject." To a sixth question, Senator Macdougall responded, "no situation in which there is friction between employers and workers is satisfactory to Canadian industry."

GENERAL STRIKE OUTLOOK OF THE WESTERN MINERS

When the whistles blew at the Union coal mines of Alberta and Eastern British Columbia they signalled the commencement of possibly the most bitter struggle between the operators and men ever known in the mining history of Western Canada. Five thousand members of District No. 128, United Mine Workers of America, laid down their tools and the mines are idle except for the pumps and others who remained on duty at the pits. An arrangement between the Western Canada Coal Operators' Association and the miners' officials to this effect was reached yesterday afternoon. How long the strike may continue is an unknown quantity, much will depend upon the board of conciliation appointed by the Dominion Government. At present both sides of the controversy have taken the most determined stand and the miners have refused to accept the revised scale of wages offered by the operators. Hon. W. E. Knowles, K.C., of Moose Jaw, was agreed upon as chairman of the conciliation board and is expected to arrive today to commence deliberations. H. Ostlund, K.C., representing the miners, G. D. Drinnan, the operators.

COAL OWNERS WANT STRIKE

Washington, April 27—Coal owners are counting a strike in the house that they may establish the anti-union shop, declared Matthew Wolf, A.E. of L. vice-president, on his return to A.P. of L. headquarters following a month spent in various sections of the country. "I have talked with hundreds of people, those who are not members of unions as well as those who are, and I find an unusual degree of unionizing situation," said the unionist. "It is generally understood that the mine owners have two aims in driving the miners out of the mines at this time. These are: First, to crush the union and thus open the way for wage reductions and complete employer autocracy. Second, to profit on coal now above ground and to maintain, if not raise, prices of coal next fall. Watch for rising coal prices, as the strike goes on. There is no reason to believe that the mine owners have not an eye on to the chance to sky rocket prices, not because there is any need or reason to do so, but because there will be an excuse to do so."

RENE WAGREEMENT

New York, April 27—Embroidery Workers' Union No. 6 has renewed its agreement with employers, although the latter made the union temporary to lengthen hours and reduce wages. The union is affiliated with the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. The agreement provides for a 44-hour week, with a 4-hour rest period between shifts. The union also secured a clause in the agreement providing for a 10-day trial period for the new conditions. If the union is not satisfied with the results, it may call a strike after the trial period expires.

LAZ MAKES CONDEMNED

Trenton, N.J., April 27—A bill of investigation of the coal situation and a disregard for the welfare of wage earners is the record of the recently adjourned state legislature, says the executive board of the state federation of labor. The law makers are condemned for repealing the full-bill bill "thereby endangering the safety of the traveling public and railroad employees." For defeating a bill which would regulate night work by women and for increasing the number of state co-ops.

SAYS PEOPLE ARE IGNORED

Trenton, N.J., April 27—Senator Parry, of Essex, has discovered that the New Jersey legislature gives the railroads better service than it does the people. The law makers are condemned for repealing the full-bill bill "thereby endangering the safety of the traveling public and railroad employees." For defeating a bill which would regulate night work by women and for increasing the number of state co-ops.

CIGAR MAKERS UNITING

New York, April 27—Cigar makers in this city have started an extensive organizing campaign. The movement was launched at a mass meeting addressed by President Gompers, International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, and other trade union leaders.

CLOAK STRIKE ENDS

New York, April 27—The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union reports that the Montreal cloak strike has ended. The struggle was on for several months. With the exception of a few small shops the firms came to an understanding with the union and the workers returned to their shops under old labor standards.

PRESSMEN TAKE GAINS

Pressmen's Home, Tenn., April 27—A large and interesting list of recent wage gains are recorded in American Pressman, official magazine of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union.

CAR MEN HOLD LINES

Toronto, Ontario, April 27—Motor men and conductors employed by the Toronto transportation commission have renewed last year's agreement.

NOVA SCOTIA MINE SITUATION

Robert Baxter, president of the United Mine Workers of America, District 28, sent a telegram to James Murdock, minister of labor, asking him to investigate further the mining situation in Nova Scotia. A commission appointed to investigate mining conditions in Nova Scotia if the miners would resume the "striking on the job" policy recently advocated by J. B. MacLachlan, District 28 secretary.

EXPORT INCREASES

Major Kelley has asked the parliamentary secretary to the Overseas Trade Department whether the information at his disposal shows that the business in Europe and South America which was diverted to the United States coal exporters during the second, were only 1,000 tons in the last. To South America exports increased from 270,000 tons in the last quarter to 800,000 tons in the last, while American exports fell from 320,000 tons to 170,000 tons. The latest price ruling at Genoa for Cardiff coal of first quality was 200 to 205 lire per ton in wagon and for second quality coal 195 to 200 lire per ton. American steam coal was \$20 to \$25 per ton in wagon. At the current rate of exchange 100 lire are worth 12s. 4d. The present price of Welsh steam coal at Buenos Aires is from 32s. 6d. to 42s. 6d. per ton.

CHECKING REACTION

Piscataway, N.J., April 27—Patriotic veterans of the World War are checking around the trade union movement in its opposition to the state constitution. The latest price ruling at Genoa for Cardiff coal of first quality was 200 to 205 lire per ton in wagon and for second quality coal 195 to 200 lire per ton. American steam coal was \$20 to \$25 per ton in wagon. At the current rate of exchange 100 lire are worth 12s. 4d. The present price of Welsh steam coal at Buenos Aires is from 32s. 6d. to 42s. 6d. per ton.

WORLD CHANGES

World revolution, but no bloody revolution, was advocated by Dr. L. C. Jacks, Principal of Manchester College, Oxford, and editor of "The Hibbert Journal," in an address, entitled "Seeing Things Out of Proportion," given to the Fellows of the University of London Club. The revolution he wants to see is a revolution of thought. "If we could show to an intelligent inhabitant of another planet," he said, "the warring nations in all their hideousness, with their paltry checks for food with slums, with their philippic sermons, which are really sanctimonious because of their barbarity with dominant political interests, he would regard them as utterly senseless."

DOUBTFUL YET

The decision of the committee on privileges of the House of Lords, which recently allowed Viscountess Rhonda to take a seat in that body, requires satisfaction by the House of Lords itself before it becomes effective. The matter was brought forward by the Upper House, which Lord Chancellor H. B. Higgins moved that the decision be referred back for consideration. He said that there were many serious legal points to be considered. "He did not desire to commit himself either way, but said that there was a formidable case to be argued on the other side. His motion was carried."

Items of Interest from Overseas

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press



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HOW DENMARK PROVIDES FOR ITS UNEMPLOYED

Taught and shown the way by Trade Unionism. England, France, Germany and all the other world powers of the first and second class have recognized the necessity of caring for every citizen who has outlived the age of useful service and productive usefulness; they have decreed and made provision that their declining years will not be haunted by "old age and want, that ill-matched pair." Every one who has rendered service to society is provided for when he reaches a certain age, irrespective of the position he held or the amount of service he rendered.

The man out of work has always been the care of the trade union. To provide for the unemployed and to assure its members at least that they would not starve, has been its primal and principal endeavor. In this it has been successful wherever trade unionism flourishes, and has not only care for and fed those directly afflicted, but during periods of industrial depression has extended a helping hand to the great masses not entitled to its protection. So laudable and wise have its efforts been in this direction that one country at least has given it recognition by assuming a system of unemployed insurance and making it a function of government.

SAFET FIRST SLOGANS

There once was an onery guy, Who oft made the safety man guy As he worked he would swear That no goggles he'd wear, Now he's wearing a patch on his eye.

"Gee, old man, that's a peach of a stenographer you've got there. But why two of 'em; don't you find it a frightful expense?" "Well, yes; but there's really work to be done at times, so I have the other one to attend to it."

Eliza Root was cross-examining a young woman in court one day. "How old are you?" he asked. The young woman hesitated. "Don't hesitate," said Mr. Root. "The longer you hesitate the older you are." - Detroit Free Press.



Will Morning Never Come

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The Captives of the Kaid

By B. MARCHANT

Synopsis of Previous Chapter. Thirteen-year-old Lalla was the granddaughter of Squire Trevor of Oakhurst Manor. One day while sitting in the picture gallery she came across a picture turned face to the wall. She was told that it was the picture of the Squire's eldest son who had been drowned by his father and had never been heard of since.

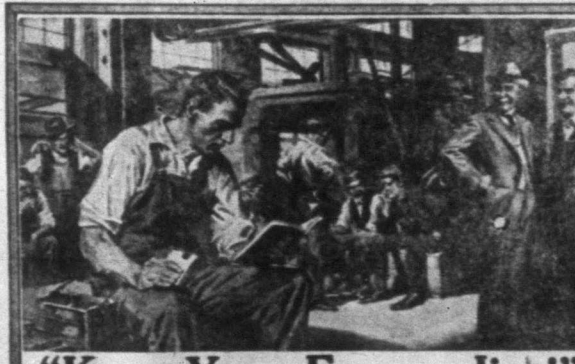
It had been an anxious and exciting night, and it had been no small relief to those on board the "City of Bristol," when, just before the dawn, there came the welcome sight of a bright upspringing blaze on shore, in token that the work was done and the boat ready to return.

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As he had been the last to leave the shore when the deliverance was effected, coming off in the boat with Timbuctoo, Davidson, Ighil, and Boom, which worthy animal, despite its severe flesh wounds, had played an inconsiderable part in the exciting events of the previous night.

Ighil accompanied the party, because his life would not have been worth many hours' purchase had he remained in his den after the part he had taken in the rescue of the white strangers, cast away on that inhospitable shore.

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"Keep Your Eye on Jim!"

"It's not alone what a man does during working hours, but outside of working hours—that determines his future. There are plenty of men who do a good job while they're at it, but who work with one eye on the clock and one ear cocked for the whistle. They long for that loaf at noon and that evening hour in the bowling alley. They are good workers and they'll always be just that—ten years from now they are likely to be right where they are today."

"Every important man in this plant was out in the plant office no state. The factory superintendent in the drafting room. The chief designer came from the bottom in the drafting room. The traffic manager was dead."

consciousness, the young man had denied this, he having been unaware even that the pistol had gone off. There was no doctor on board to attend to him; so Mrs. Trevor and the stewardesses had volunteered to do their best until part was reached. That was why Lalla was left so long to her own devices on deck, and she was still thrumming softly on her mandoline, jumping down from her tub and coming to examine into the details of his toilet, gazing at the suit of white duck with an air of solemn approval, and lifting the worn brown bands of Timbuctoo had been acting as barber and valet to the poor dietician.

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STORYETTES

Donald MacTavish lay a-dying. He had been all day about it, and his wife, who had watched with patient expectancy since early morn, began to feel the call of her neglected household duties. "Awful! Don," she said, as she moved the light to the table by his bed, "I miss going along taking' yer departure afore I come back. But if ye should, ye'll get'ed to blow out the candle afore ye die, will ye?"

"The fact that his supposedly adopted big brother was returning home from college that day had been carefully concealed from ten-year-old Tommy until he came back from school. "Tommy," said his mother, after her younger son had gone up stairs to wash his face and the elder had been concealed in the pantry, "I have a big surprise for you. I know what it is," replied Tommy eagerly. "Brother's back." "Why, how did you guess that?" "Because my bank won't rattle any more."

Frederick Niven's "A Tale That Is Told" has a note for library ladies who want "the very latest." Two for half a dozen novels, all of which were announced unpronounceable with the stereotyped, "I'm sorry, there is not a copy in at present." At last the youth who attended to these triflingly pleasant back with a volume they had asked for. "Oh," said one. "We won't have it, since it is in. It can't be any good. We want books that every one is reading." The other agreed: "If it's in, we don't want it."

"Well," cried Mrs. Henpeck, "our son is engaged to be married. We will write to the dear lad and congratulate him." Mr. H. agreed; he dared not do otherwise. "My darling boy," read the son the next day, "what glorious news! Your father and I rejoice in your happiness. It

has long been our greatest wish that you should marry. A good woman is heaven's precious gift to man. "She brings out all the best in him, and helps him to suppress all that is evil." Then there was a postscript in a different handwriting: "Your mother has gone for a stamp. Keep this, you young noodle."

Abraham Lincoln Jones, colored, was in indignant controversy with Washington Scott, also colored. The dice had been turning up in favor of the chocolate-tinted Washington, and a faint suspicion of fraud began to dawn upon Jones. "Look here, you scoundrel," he blurted out, "dem things got to tuh diff'nt or day's goin' to be a big fuss 'oun' head!" "Fuss! Man, fuss! What kin of fuss ya' kallate sthin! Know who I am! Down in Louisville dey call me Wood Alcohol, I'm so tough. "Wood Alcohol! Dat aint no name for yo'!" rejoined Abraham. "Why, down Nashville, when I come dey'd call yo' Sweet Oidah."

The ceremony was over, both had "willed" and the happy couple were receiving the clergyman's blessing. First he said a few cheering words to the bride, then he turned to the bridegroom to give him a few words of advice. "Now, my son," he said, "you have come to the end of all your troubles." A few months passed and the man met the clergyman again. Overcoming his feelings, the man managed to gulp out: "I thought you told me at my wedding I had come to the end of all my troubles." The clergyman smiled. "My friend," he beamed, "I did not tell you which end."

A young but exceptionally brilliant professor in a Western college was dismissed from the faculty because of his inordinate betting. The president, interested in his career, secured him a position in an Eastern college. To the president there he wrote: "The young man has a promising future."

and anything you can do to cure him of betting will be of benefit to society." The professor went East, and was cordially received. Conversation had proceeded but a few minutes when he said to the president, "I'll bet you seventy-five dollars you have a wart between your shoulder blades." The president hesitated. "Young man," he said, "I never bet; but just to teach you a lesson I will take you up." He thereupon proved to the young man's satisfaction that he was in error, and the bet was lost. "I fear the case is hopeless. The very day he left here he bet me one hundred dollars that he could make you take off your shirt."

Old Mrs. Practical—"My dear, it's about time for you to choose a mate. Young Miss Nautical-Mate both me! I have my eye on a captain. Judge."

According to Dr. C. E. Moldenke, the Egyptologist, the alphabet was not invented by the Phoenicians, who merely "lifted" twenty-two letters from the Egyptians and then spread them as their own, through Greece and Italy.

A cowman from Medicine Bow stepped into a cigar store in Chicago and asked for a match. "Matches," replied the clerk, "are for sale, not to give away." "How much are they?" "One cent a box." The cowman bought a box and handed it back, saying, "I have a match." Here," he said, "put that back on your shelf, and when a gentleman asks you for a light give him one."

A vicar of a scattered rural parish had a remarkable knowledge of the Yanga. So keen was his hobby, that he sometimes neglected his pastoral work to search for specimens. One day he stopped to see a bedridden old lady, who immediately reminded him how long it was since he had made his last call. "If I had been a toadstool," she declared, "you'd have been to see long ago."

Simpson had been invited to the wedding of his friend, Tom. Arriving at the home, Simpson was formally introduced to the bride—whom he never met. After the ceremony, Simpson drew his friend aside. "Tom," he whispered, "what in the world is the matter with you? Why, that woman is twice as old as you! Her hair and her teeth are false, and she's as ugly as a toad." "You needn't Simpson; she's also deaf."

The Spice of Life

"Give me a new novel which will go well with a sea-green tea-gown and ash-blond hair."—Berlin Lustige Blätter.

Husband (at a dance)—Jolly attractive little thing that—that? Wife—Yes. I'm very much afraid she's got a past in front of her.—Punch.

"A Virginia man never saw an anniversary birthday." "That's one reason he's ninety-eight!"—Schenectady Gazette.

Teacher—Now, Rollo, use the word "ruthless" in a sentence. Rollo—Every team in the American League except the Yankees is Ruthless.—Notre Dame Juggler.

Rough—So your cawldgie cawmie isn't making a hit? Raw—None. None of the faculty is even talking of kicking it out.—Washington and Jefferson Wag Jag.

Pedestrian (to traffic cop)—Officer, what is the quickest way to the hospital? Cop—Well, you cross here and you'll be there in fifteen minutes.—Amsterdam De Notrekraker.

What qualities must a man have to be a successful financier? He must be able to make other people's money pay him for the privilege of working overtime.—New York Sun.

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CHAPTER 4—MONEY BREEDS MONEY.

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LABOR ESTIMATES

7200 Not Laying Wage. Mr. Murdoch observed that he would go no further than to express the opinion that a man could not support a family on \$720 a year.

Minister's Responsibility. Mr. Hon. Arthur Meighen agreed with the minister as to his responsibility in the matter of salaries. It was true that the Civil Service Commission laid down a scale of salaries, but the minister in charge of the department was responsible for asking the house to vote for the money.

Could Cut Salaries. Mr. Meighen rejoined that if the minister cared to take the responsibility and parliament approved he could cut 20 per cent. from all the salaries in his department.

No government ever... Mr. Murdoch observed that he would go no further than to express the opinion that a man could not support a family on \$720 a year.

Alleges Ignorance. Mr. Meighen replied that the minister of labor could take the responsibility of recommending a salary decrease in his department if he wanted to.

A Serious Eviction. T. W. Bird Progressive, Nelson, thought it was a serious thing when a minister of the crown could take refuge behind the Civil Service Act.

Mr. Murdoch continued to read, and again Mr. Church broke in with: "If the deputy speaker will look up the rules of the house in the green book he will see that minister must identify the items in the estimates under discussion. What item can we discuss that will make that letter relevant?"

Why not give it to Hansard with out reading? suggested a voice from the Progressive benches.

Not Much Assistance. Reading that letter will help the labor difficulties of this country a lot, declared Mr. Church, who added that Mr. Murdoch was wasting the time of the house.

Mr. Murdoch's Church Talk. The minister of labor should stay in his office instead of travelling around the country. If he would do this it would be more in the best interests of Canada.

A Point of Order. A. R. McMaster, Liberal, Brome, rose to a point of order and declared that when estimates were under discussion, statements must be confined to the position of the late government.

Regrets Lack of Policy. Mr. Church declared that he was very much disappointed to see the minister, after some months in his department, come along without a definite policy for dealing with the unemployment situation.

Are Not in Vote. Mr. Murdoch explained that the thirty employees referred to by him were temporary employees with whom the vote had nothing to do.

Reindeers Imported Into North Canada. The value of the reindeer to the native inhabitants of Labrador and Northern Canada generally has led to efforts again being made to build up herds of these animals in the regions referred to.

Mr. Murdoch's Church Talk. The minister of labor should stay in his office instead of travelling around the country. If he would do this it would be more in the best interests of Canada.

J. L. Brown, Progressive, Lacombe, observed that "a little less pugnacity" on the part of the minister of labor would help the house to reach an understanding of the questions. Much reference was being made to increased grants by the Civil Service Commission.

Reindeers Imported Into North Canada. The value of the reindeer to the native inhabitants of Labrador and Northern Canada generally has led to efforts again being made to build up herds of these animals in the regions referred to.

Mr. Murdoch's Church Talk. The minister of labor should stay in his office instead of travelling around the country. If he would do this it would be more in the best interests of Canada.

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Mr. Murdoch repeated his question and demanded an answer. "We haven't got a department at all now," insisted Mr. Church, the house again roared with laughter.

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