

POOR DOCUMENT

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The Semi-Weekly Telegraph.

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VOL. XLI.

ST. JOHN, N. B. SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1903.

NO. 63.

WINDING LEDGES BILL IS PROBABLY KILLED. MEASURE REFERRED TO SPECIAL COMMITTEE THURSDAY.

Budget Debate Resumed—Hon. Mr. Emmerson Asks What Efforts Are Being Made to Induce Immigration to Maritime Provinces.

Ottawa, April 22—(Special)—The bill of Mr. Costigan regarding the Winding Ledges dam was introduced in about a minute's time at the private bill committee today. It was the first order. Mr. Costigan appeared before the committee and said that the parties in favor of the scheme and those opposed to it were agreed that the bill should be referred to a special committee.

Hon. Mr. McKeown, who was present with Mayor White and the other delegates, opposed to the bill, agreed to this, and de L. A. Ross, the member for Fredericton, who had referred the bill to a special committee appointed by the chairman. This was carried, and closed the proceedings as far as this bill was concerned.

The committee to which the bill has been referred has been elected as follows:

Hon. D. C. Fraser, Hon. D. N. MacKinnon, A. Gibson, F. D. Monk and Edward Rochevane, three Liberals and two Conservatives.

Hon. Mr. McKeown, Mayor White, and a few others who had been here, left for trial early this afternoon.

Hon. P. O. Davis (Sackatowewan), followed Mr. Clancy on the budget debate. He said that one of the best ways in spending part of the surplus was in building up a war port, and the way was to buy ships and public

goods, and the money to be used for

the country. He said that the days

now, and what the government should do was to guarantee bonds and take a first mortgage on the road.

If necessary a clause could be inserted giving the government the right to purchase.

Fu Doctor Sproule followed on the Conservative side.

In reply to Mr. Scott (West Assiniboia), in the house today, Hon. Mr. Ritchie said that there were 1,200 miles of railway in the Northwest constructed by the aid of land grants, 1,325 miles by aid of money grants, and 57 miles without aid. In Man-

BRITISH GRAIN DUTIES ABOLISHED.

Income Tax Rate Reduced Four Pence—Sir Wm. Harcourt Denounces Government's Extravagance, and Says Canada Ought to Contribute to Navy.

London, April 22.—The budget, which was introduced today, shows an expenditure for 1903-4 of £15,770,000. Mr. Ritchie expects an available surplus of £54,690,000.

Mr. Ritchie's proposals include the abolition of duties on grain, and four pence is taken off income tax.

Sir William Harcourt said that he thought it was extremely unfair that the well-to-do classes should be relieved to such an extent while the wage earner was taxed more than the rich. The sum of \$10,000,000 of indirect taxation.

The grain tax, he said, was an excellent one, and the minister of finance had that in view. The minister vehemently complained of the excessive expenditure of Africa, while he claimed that the money paid for the war in the colonies, he further asserted, ought to contribute toward the support of the navy. No sober-minded man can justify the enormous expenditure of the government.

ENGLISH DOCK LABORERS COMING TO MONTREAL TO TAKE STRIKERS' PLACES.

Rev. Mr. Barr After London Newspaper for Libel—German Sugar-makers Say Canadian Surtax Will Hurt Them.

Montreal, April 23—(Special)—A special London cable says: "An unimportant weekly article in the 'Critical Review' published in England, attacks Rev. Mr. Barr, an ardent socialist. Rev. Mr. Barr, a man of immigration fame, an 'Out of Work' Parson, and a Religious Tont," and generally condemning his scheme. It is understood that Mr. Barr intends to enter an action for libel. This will mean that all the Canadian immigration officials are called as witnesses."

English dock laborers left Liverpool yesterday for Montreal, under engagement with stevedores there, in view of the dock strike.

The officials of Austria are growing nervous over the increasing emigration from Austria to the Canadian Colonies. Last year 48,000 Americans emigrated, and a large proportion went to the dominion.

The social economic committee of the Austrian Reichstag presented a report to the government, urging that Austria acquire by treaty territories to which emigrants can be diverted and still be kept by Austria.

"I interviewed Colonel James,

Times war correspondent in South Africa, today. Although only 34 years of age, he has fought in seven campaigns,

and is a joint author of the Times of the South African war. He stated that the Canadian soldiers did splendid service

at the front, and continued: "Our his-

tory gladly gives them their due. I saw several Canadian commands, and consider their chief characteristic was their many British regiments and their numerous cheerfulness. It put heart into many British regiments."

He said that he considered the Canadians to be the best of all the colonial troops."

"A society composed of Canadians in London was formed today. Sir Gilbert Parker, M. P.; Doctor Crozier, Messrs. MacMicken and Roy V. Somerville of the Toronto Globe London staff, and others are among the German sugar makers and growers.

There are 150 deaf mutes in Canada, and they are doing well.

The reports from succession duties

amounted to \$16,933 and there was charged for settling these the sum of \$160.

The federal council, to double the duty on Canadian imports without consulting the nickelage."

(Continued on page 7, fourth column.)

PETTY CRITICISM BY THE OPPOSITION

Mr. Flemming Makes a Small Man's Speech and is Smartly Brought to Book by Mr. Copp in a Strong and Dignified Defence of the Government.

Frederiction, April 23—The speaker took the chair at 3 o'clock. Mr. Copp, from the committee of standing rules, reported adversely on Mr. Osman's notice of motion to suspend rules 76 and 79, relating to the introduction of bills relating to the marshalling of the imperial parliament.

Mr. Wilfrid Laurier (Montreal) said my information to the house as to the abolition of corn duties in the imperial parliament.

Mr. Clarke (Toronto) asked Mr. Wilfrid Laurier if he had any information to the house as to the abolition of corn duties in the imperial parliament.

Mr. Wilfrid Laurier—The government received no information on the subject.

In reply to Mr. Emmerson, Mr. Flemming said that the government, not importers, nor had it arranged to import or deliver dried, hard pine or southern pine, so called, railway ties for the government railway.

Hon. H. R. Emmerson, of Westmorland, had brought up the lack of dominion effort to secure immigrants to settle in the maritime provinces. He asks the following questions:

Are any efforts being made by the immigration officers of the dominion in Great Britain and Ireland to secure immigrants to New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, or Prince Edward Island?

Have any efforts been made to induce immigrants who have recently reached our maritime ports, to settle in either of the said provinces?

Are any efforts have been made, or are being made, to secure such immigrants for the maritime provinces, or either of them? What measures are exercised, and what methods adopted?

Are any pamphlets descriptive of such provinces, or either of them being circulated, and to what extent?

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is published every Wednesday and Saturday at \$1.00 a year, in advance, by The Telegraph Publishing Company, St. John, a company incorporated by act of the Legislature of New Brunswick.

C. J. MILLIGAN, Manager.

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Advertisements of Wants. For Sales, etc., 5 cents for insertion of six lines or less.

Notice of Births, Marriages and Deaths 25 cents for each insertion.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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Correspondence should be addressed to the Editor of The Telegraph, St. John.

All correspondence should, without exception, be paid for in advance.

AUTHORIZED AGENTS.

The following agents are authorized to handle and collect for The Semi-Weekly Telegraph, N. B.:

Wm. Somerville,

W. A. Ferri.

Subscribers are asked to pay their subscriptions to the agents when they call.

Semi-Weekly Telegraph

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 25, 1903.

THE PROVINCIAL BUDGET.

The confident note in Premier Tweedie's budget speech is justified by the condition of the province, and his assertion that we are awakening from a long sleep and realizing the immensity and vast worth of the provincial resources is happily true. As to the finances, it is as Hon. Mr. Tweedie said—there is little that is new to record, since practically all the information in the figures he presented was already known to the country. He estimates that on October 31st next there will be a surplus of more than \$12,000, which will be regarded as an excellent showing in view of the great expenditure which has been necessary in the public interest.

Generally speaking the expenditures are virtually the same as last year. There is an increase for agriculture which will be regarded as justified by the immense growth of the butter and cheese industry to which the Premier made telling reference and which is due very largely to the government's intelligent and progressive policy in regard to that important subject. An extra and unforeseen expenditure this year was that for the investigation of the Fredericton Institution for the Deaf and Dumb. The result of that inquiry showed that the government was wise in appointing a royal commission and that there was ample evidence to sustain the newspaper's grave charges against officials of the school. There is an increase, too, in the estimated expenditure for education, but it is slight when in the increasing work of that department is considered.

The Premier took up the increase in the bonded indebtedness of the province and explained clearly how and why it was incurred. He challenged the opposition to successfully condemn any of the bond issues and reminded them that they had concurred in the expenditures. St. John will share the Premier's wish that the government could afford to assist this city in providing additional wharf accommodation, and will endorse his view as to the necessity for progress in that direction.

And throughout the province there will be hearty appreciation of his words regarding the policy, which he described as most imprudent and even ruinous, under which 1,000,000 of our finest forest land was presented to a railroad corporation.

The Premier has reason to speak confidently of our future. All our industries are flourishing, as he pointed out, and the oil fields in Westmorland and Albert counties, and the coal fields in Queens and Kent, are now about to be opened up to such good purpose that New Brunswick most soon feel a great impetus. The new companies just incorporated or now seeking incorporation, one of which has a capital of \$5,000,000, are proof of the tardy and welcome awakening to which he referred.

The opposition, it is evident, will not be able to extract much comfort from it. Indeed it shows how very little excuse there is for the little Hazen party in the country today. Mr. Hazen and his followers must talk, of course, but really the fact is that there is little for them to say unless they follow the dream tactics of the recent campaign and scold the government in which the people expressed such marked confidence.

THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY.

Premier Tweedie made several important announcements during the closing portion of his budget speech Wednesday. The government will increase the stamp rate and the charges will not be the same throughout the province. The amount of the increase has not yet been settled. As the Premier pointed out, the stampage was reduced to \$1.00 per 1,000 in 1890, when the industry was depressed. The government now feels that the condition of the market and the prosperity of the operators warrant an increase which will materially increase the public revenue. It is proposed, also, to reduce the expenses for game preservation by some thousands of dollars, without lessening the protection. This will be done by having the lumber scalers put on salary. They will act as game, fish and fire wardens in addition to sealing lumber, and the present plan of paying them five cents per thousand for lumber sealed will be abolished.

A very important decision is that of the

A STRIKE AND ITS CAUSE.

Mr. Robert Barbour, the painter, has a strike on his hands. He has in his employ an apprentice who is more than twenty-one years old. He employs union men. These men told him the rules of their union prohibited the employment of any apprentice who was old enough to vote, and demanded that the young man be discharged. Mr. Barbour refused, saying their complaint was not well-grounded. The men went out.

They were satisfied with the wages. They had steady work. They simply desired to force Mr. Barbour to observe not only the principal rules, but all the rules of their organization. He maintained that while they were attempting to interfere with his rights as an employer of labor. Now he thinks he can get along by hiring non-union men and the strikers find something elsewhere for work.

This appears to be a strike without good cause and the Telegraph cannot see how the cause of organized labor will be advanced by it. Unions are not formed for the purpose of dictating unjust terms to employers. They are not intended to keep union men idle or to prevent the carrying on of important work simply because the letter of a by-law has been violated.

Whenever any union strikes to prevent tyranny its members have the public sympathy, for the feeling is that the working-man has a right to organize against oppression. But so has the employer. And if a union suspends work for a trifling cause and stops important operations when no vital principle is involved, the public will not countenance the proceeding. If

as The Telegraph is informed by both Mr. Barbour and some of the strikers, the sole cause of the trouble was the refusal to discharge an apprentice over 21 at the union's bidding, it appears that the strike, small as it is, establishes a pernicious precedent and is not calculated to do the union cause a bit of good. Organized labor is now a power in this community. The men who direct its policy will serve the unions and the community best if they aim to preserve the harmonious relations now existing so generally between men and employers. There is every reason to believe that the unions will receive fair treatment. Their members, we feel, hold as we do that organized labor should not seek trouble, but try to avoid it. To strike when there in good cause to strike is a different matter.

MR. BORDEN—"LITTLE CANADIAN."

At a time when it is generally acknowledged that the Conservatives are weak in leadership, the speech of Mr. Borden in criticism of the budget was most unfortunate for himself and his party. In

the first place, his address furnished proof that his capacity for leadership is by no means great. In the second, he made the serious blunder of speaking from the little Carlton, Victoria and Macdonald. The former portions of these counties are clear—and that means in large measure the progress of the province—depends to an important extent upon the development of the 1,000,000 acres now owned by one corporation and perhaps about to fall into the hands of speculators.

Already the need of some of this land is felt by the people. That need will grow. The question asked by this newspaper, after it had placed the facts before the public, was whether the province should buy the land for say \$1.00 an acre before May 1 or run the chance that by not doing so this vast domain may be alienated from the people for all time. We asked the people, and the government, to weigh the proposal to purchase at some such price as has been named, against the facts that the land is surely increasing in value, and that later on there may be no chance for the province to buy it.

It was pointed out, too, that one of our correspondents advanced the theory that the men who now hold an option on the property, which option expires on May 1 unless the purchase price be then forthcoming, may be acting in concert with the capitalists behind the Fort Kent Dam scheme, which, if successful, will, as our correspondent suggested, convert the Upper St. John into a mill-pond for the benefit of Maine.

The Telegraph, having thus directed public attention to the matter invited a discussion of the question. In response to that invitation, several letters have been received, two of which appear on another page of this issue. The first is from J. Fletcher Tweeddale, M. P. P., whose judgment in a matter of this kind is well calculated to challenge respectful consideration. Mr. Tweeddale's points out that if the lands are worth fifty cents an acre now, and as they will continue to increase in value, the wisdom of their purchase now by the government is self-evident.

The revenue collected by the Conservatives aided a limited number of private individuals, that gathered by the Liberals swells the fund in the public treasury. In his concluding sentences, Sir Richard Cartwright had not done his best. He had repeated in the House the story he began to tell in Nova Scotia and in Ontario during the early winter, that the increase in Canada's trade was really not remarkable. He had quoted the aggregate increase in the trade of other countries, but he had fought shy of percentages. But Sir Richard showed at once that, while Canada's trade between 1890 and 1901 increased by 96 per cent., that of the United States increased by only 48 per cent., and that of Great Britain by only 24 per cent. And he pointed out that, while much of the revenue collected by the Conservatives

was for the extension of these elements, and unless the government takes the property over, the settlements may be retarded and more of our young men may be forced to go to other provinces. Mr. Tweeddale believes that the sentiment of the people would uphold the government should it decide to make the purchase. That it is a large transaction is true, but he points out good value is there for the investment and in buying the great area the government would be receiving as far as is possible the error

made by the government which diverted the party from the ownership of all the people. Such is Mr. Tweeddale's position. What do you think about it?

Another correspondent whose name we withhold and who signs his communication "1927," asks if the province can afford to go into debt to the extent of \$2,500,000, and answers that question by asking this other: Can the province afford not to acquire this fine block of timber land under the conditions which now govern the purchase? He says it is the duty of the government to make the purchase, from the standpoint of public policy, and that, moreover, the investment is a promising one as a speculation since an immediate revenue may be reaped from the timber cut. For years to come, he estimates, the land would cut 2,000 feet to the acre, which at \$1.00 per 1,000 would mean an immense return yearly. He says that settlement along the borders of these lands in some instances is being retarded, that timber land is increasing in value all the time, that some of the immigrants coming to Canada should be induced to remain in New Brunswick, and that, if the government does not now acquire the property, the people twenty years hence will call that government anything but blessed.

As both these correspondents say, if anything is to be done it must be done at once. Shall these lands be allowed to slip from the hands of the people forever when there is now a chance to regain them? How do you think the New Brunswickers a generation hence will regard the matter if the government does not take them over? Think about the matter. The Telegraph will welcome a further discussion of this question by correspondents who write for or against the purchase of the property by the government. The sole object now is to get the facts before the people before it is too late.

PETTY POLITICS.

The opening note of the provincial opposition's attack on the budget is far from promising. It is evident from Mr. Flemming's rambling remarks Thursday that the country is to be wearied by more petty politics. The fact that the country passed upon many of the ancient faults he raised, and returned the government to power by an overwhelming majority, seems to have escaped the attention of the members from Carleton. Yet it is a fact the importance of which is not inconsiderable. The cost of organizing a political party is a burden which is a drain on the public purse. The men who direct its policy will serve the unions and the community best if they aim to preserve the harmonious relations now existing so generally between men and employers. There is every reason to believe that the unions will receive fair treatment. Their members, we feel, hold as we do that organized labor should not seek trouble, but try to avoid it. To strike when there in good cause to strike is a different matter.

THINK IT OVER.

In this week's issue The Telegraph prints a map showing the boundaries of the New Brunswick Land Company's holdings and making it plain that the vast tract embraced includes most important portions of the counties of York, Carleton, Victoria and Macdonald. The former portions of these counties are clear—and that means in large measure the progress of the province—depends to an important extent upon the development of the 1,000,000 acres now owned by one corporation and perhaps about to fall into the hands of speculators.

Striking the wrong note at the start, Mr. Borden's remarks were discordant and his tone was unfortunate throughout. The people of Canada are not to be told that policies make or mar the country no matter what other forces are at work. The tariff does not govern the seasons and make rain and sunshine to order. But Canada knows—and this year better than ever—that a wise administration lightens the load in a time of depression and accelerates the country's progress when the times are good.

This country has got its stride now. We know it would prosper today in spite of the policy of the Tories. But we know, too, that such a policy would retard its progress. Mr. Borden devoted his not too great talent to an address of belittling and detraction. This would have been noticeably weak had he not been confronted by a very unassuming Liberal accomplishment. The Conservative leader was talking against the facts and the evidence—a hard case for any lawyer—and his effort was that of a mediocre lawyer, rather than that of a statesman who dared attempt to improve upon the policy he set out to assail.

Even his tariff resolution was immediately answered by the plain statement of fact that the manufacturers based their argument for a general increase mainly upon conditions they might arise in the future rather than upon those actually prevailing. Mr. Borden's reputation suffered severely before Sir Richard Cartwright had not done his best. He had fought shy of percentages. But Sir Richard was at his best, and that is saying much. Mr. Borden had repeated in the House the story he began to tell in Nova Scotia and in Ontario during the early winter, that the increase in Canada's trade was really not remarkable. He had quoted the aggregate increase in the trade of other countries, but he had fought shy of percentages. But Sir Richard showed at once that, while Canada's trade between 1890 and 1901 increased by 96 per cent., that of the United States increased by only 48 per cent., and that of Great Britain by only 24 per cent. And he pointed out that, while much of the revenue collected by the Conservatives

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If the opposition cannot do better than this it will try the public patience intolerably. The Hazen party is apparently hopeless.

A TRIUMPH FOR JUSTICE.

"All Adams," "Policy King," chief of the syndicate which carried on the meanness, most widespread and most harmful form of gambling in New York city, has been sent to prison for at least one year and fined \$1,000. The penalty does not fit the crime; it is not heavy enough. But that is the fault of the law makers. The man from Carleton made a small effort. He hunted for mean motives and finding none implied their existence just the same.

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The government is determined to encourage dairying and agriculture, judging by the budget.

"Economic insanity" is the Halifax Chronicle's description of Mr. Borden's tariff policy. As long as it confined to the hordes of smaller men who holds the option, to which reference is made above, will show fair minded persons how far astray the Sun is in imputing unworthy motives to this newspaper.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The Winding Ledges Dam bill has gone to a special committee and is in a fair way to be killed.

The long and short of Mr. Flemming's speech is that he's against the government and sorry for the province.

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