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Regional Freight Rates On Autos Among Proposals

Tariff Board Hears Suggestion on Uniform Price For Cars.

Establishment of a uniform price for automobiles throughout the Dominion by equalizing the freight charges was proposed by R. T. Graham, counsel for the three Prairie Provinces, and C. H. O'Halloran, counsel for British Columbia at a hearing of the tariff board in Ottawa last week.

This arrangement would not help the Maritimes, for these provinces now pay the average freight rate. However, there appeared no likelihood of the plan being adopted because Ontario prices would be raised and Ontario seems to have strength enough to make the other provinces conform to her will and no one is to get any advantage over Ontario.

Mr. Graham said that because of the great distances in Canada and the fact that the manufacturing industry was concentrated in Ontario, people in the far east and the far west had to bear a heavy share in the extra cost of maintaining the industry in Canada and got little or no benefit from the employment it provided.

There was no governmental authority which could force price standardization, Mr. Graham said. If it were effected it would have to come from industry itself. In equalizing freight charges the selling prices of cars in Western Canada and the Maritime Provinces would be reduced and those in Ontario and Quebec increased. It was possible, allowance would have to be made for variations in demand owing to good and bad crop years in Western Canada.

Commissioner Charles Hebert asked if it would not be more practicable to divide Canada into three regions, Western, Central and Eastern, and equalize freight

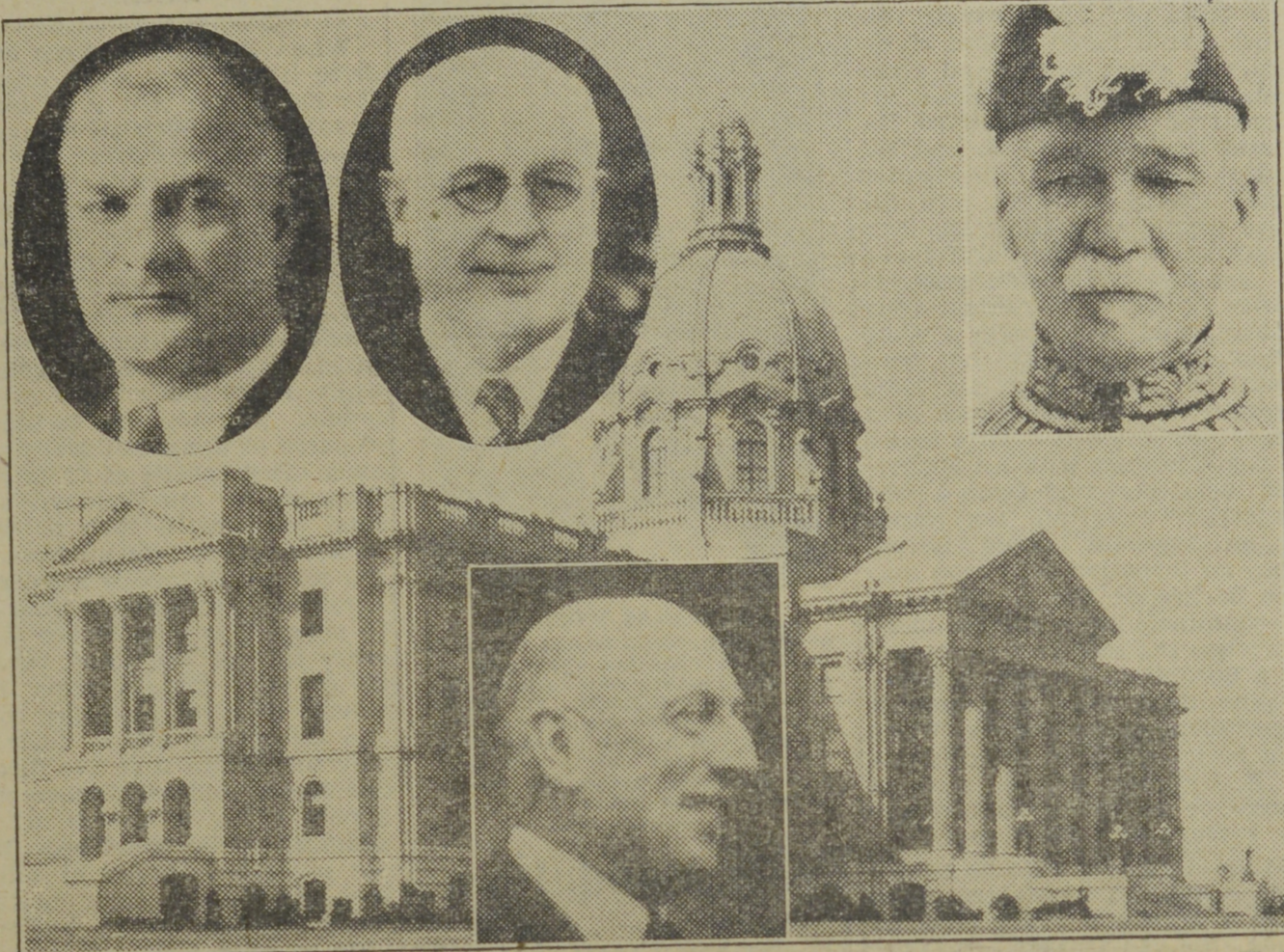
(Continued on Page 26, Col. 4)

"King of France"



If history had taken another course, this man—LOUIS CHARLES JEAN PHILIPPE OF BOURBON—might be reigning in France today. Though descended from the kings of France, he is living a bourgeois life in the tiny township of Sannois, near Paris. He is blind.

ALBERTA LEGISLATURE OPENS FEBRUARY 6th



When the Alberta Provincial Legislature opens on February 6th, the founder of Social Credit and adviser to the Alberta Government, MAJOR C. H. DOUGLAS, is not expected to be present. The British economist is expected to take over his new duties when the House closes. Above is a picture of the Parliament

Buildings at Edmonton, while inset, left, are: W. R. HOWSON, leader of the Liberal Opposition, and PREMIER ABERHARDT, leader of the Social Credit Government. At the right is His Honor W. L. WALSH, Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta, while below is Major C. H. Douglas, Social Credit advocate.

No Strong-Arm Methods Should Be Used To Amend B.N.A. Act

No Amendments Have Yet Been Passed, Affecting Provincial Powers, Against the Wish of Any Province at All Concerned.

The question of changing the British North America Act is dealt with by the Montreal Star in an editorial headed "No Sand-Bag Needed." The editorial is reproduced here:

Surely no one imagines that there will be any strong-arm methods employed to force amendments to the British North America Act.

All this talk about whether there are precedents for asking and getting amendments without the consent of the Provinces or even by mere request of the Cabinet, without securing the support of Parliament, are or should be wholly beside the question. No amendments have yet been passed, affecting the Provincial

powers, against the wish of any Province at all concerned.

If we are interested in precedents, that is the precedent that should be observed, viz.—NO AMENDMENT THAT CHANGES THE STATUS OF ANY PROVINCE AGAINST THE WILL OF THAT PROVINCE. The case in which "Dick" McBride objected that the subsidy granted his Province was insufficient did not affect Provincial powers. It had no more relation to amendments of this class than the chronic demands of many of the Provinces for "better terms" have had. It ranked rather with intra-constitutional raids on the Dominion Treasury than with propositions

(Continued on Page 21, Col. 3)

Employment Down Again As Winter Comes To Canada

Curtailment in Construction and Transportation Is Held Responsible.

The first fall since April in employment registered in official returns was witnessed in November. The former rise was, however, extended beyond the usual period, for in only one other of the past eight years was there an increase recorded after September, while that in October last was of greater proportions than its predecessor. The subsequent decline was due to a marked curtailment in construction and in transportation operations, although less employment was also reported in manufacturing at certain points. This information is taken from the monthly bulletin of the Canadian Bank of Commerce.

The official returns of employment in Canada are among the most complete national records available, and while they do not cover all avenues of work throughout the country—farm labor, institutional workers and employes in the smallest factories, mills and stores are not included—they are sufficiently comprehensive to afford a broad view of the situation. It may therefore be of interest to note briefly the general progress in 1935.

Owing to the irregularity which characterized business in the early part of the year, improvement in employment was not witnessed as soon as in 1934, but once the upturn came (in April) it was greater and more regular than that of the preceding year. With this advance, employment reached the highest point since 1931, with nearly a million people at work as compared with about 700,000 a

(Continued on Page 24, Col. 5)

Dominion Shows A Trade Balance Increase In 1935

Sales to British Empire Grow \$35,000,000 and Show Profit.

Ottawa.—An improvement in the favorable visible trade balance of over \$40,000,000, an increase in the total volume of business of nearly \$125,000,000, a growth of about \$35,000,000 in sales to the British Empire, an expansion of nearly \$45,000,000 in exports to foreign countries, and a continued heavy decline in business with the continent of Europe, are features of Canada's external trade for the 12 months ending November, as compared with the previous year.

Another interesting fact is that while the increase in volume of business was greater with foreign countries than with the British Empire, it was with Empire countries that Canada's trade produced the remarkable expansion in favorable balance. Canada's trading with Empire countries was, in other words, more profitable than her dealings with foreign countries, this being accounted for largely by the inability to get into the markets of Europe because of political disturbances.

Canada's exports to the world for the year ended last November were \$733,608,762, the largest total in a lengthy period, and an increase over the preceding 12 months of \$83,500,000, while this country's purchases from the world amounted to \$550,850,000, an increase of over \$41,000,000.

Sales to the British Empire totalled nearly \$370,000,000, an increase of about \$35,000,000, and imports from the Empire were \$174,000,000, an increase of only \$18,000,000. Exports to the United Kingdom alone were \$297,000,000, a growth of over \$26,000,000, and purchases from Britain amounted to nearly \$117,000,000, an increase of less than \$2,500,000. To Aus-

(Continued on Page 21, Col. 5)

Senate Speaker



HON. WALTER E. FOSTER, former Premier of New Brunswick, who has been appointed Speaker of the Senate. He entered the government of Premier King as the Secretary of State in 1925, but was defeated in the general election of that year. He was summoned to the Senate in 1928. He resides in Saint John, N. B.

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