

WILL OPPOSE THE G. T. P. SCHEME.

Ottawa, Oct. 19.—(Special)—The announcement of the resignation of Hon. A. G. Blair as chairman and a member of the railway commission created a great sensation here today.

Blair's Farewell. As the board was about to adjourn this afternoon, Mr. Blair made the following statement:—

Hon. Mr. Blair—"Before the board adjourns I wish to make an announcement which is of a personal character and which I think may very properly be made by me from my place as chairman of the board. The information I wish to have conveyed to the public is that this is the last session of the commission at which I shall occupy a place, either as chairman or as a member of the board."

"I have felt myself compelled in my own interest to come to this decision with the utmost regret. I find the work of the board very congenial to me, but notwithstanding, I have not found it sufficiently attractive to induce me to forego personal advantages which otherwise are open to me in other employment."

"It will be, I think, considered proper that I should state frankly the reason which has led to secure this course. I accepted a place on the commission with many misgivings. Since I have been a member of the board I have not found that these misgivings have been removed, but I think I may rather say that they have been intensified."

"I may say that at the present moment I have had presented to me for prompt determination the question as to whether I will turn my mind and my energies in another direction which will be very much more profitable to me personally than the position which I now fill. I hope it will not be thought that in doing so I have pursued any other course than that which is proper and legitimate in a man who, if he does not consider his own interests, certainly cannot expect to have them considered by others. I make no complaints, I cast no reflections, I do not wish to intimate that I have any cause whatever to find fault. I am reaching the conclusion at which I have arrived purely for reasons that are personal to myself."

If it were possible for me to have had a little longer period of service at the board, I would have been glad to have continued, because I feel that in a large measure, the railway commission has been a creation of my own. I think I may claim its parentage to some considerable extent at all events, and I feel that during the few months we have had an opportunity of demonstrating the usefulness of this board, it has, I think, tended to satisfy the public that the tribunal is one capable of rendering substantial service."

"I think at the same time it is not too much to claim that, while demonstrating its usefulness to the public, it has also demonstrated its usefulness to those interested that are supposed to be antagonistic to the interests of the general public but which in my opinion are falsely supposed to be so."

"I think that then the railways will not refuse to acknowledge that the board has endeavored to deal with them in a spirit of fairness, and has endeavored to adjudicate the matters that have come up for decision in an equitable and fair manner."

"The present moment is, I think, an opportune time as I could have chosen for withdrawing from the chief commissionership of the board. With the exception of what work has been accumulating during our western trip, we have dealt with almost all the other business which has come before us."

"I cannot resist the conclusion in my own mind that if it had been possible to have held further in suspense the question of my retirement the difficulty of separating myself from the board would have been rather accentuated than diminished, and that I would have found more difficulty in severing my connection with comfort than I would today. I trust that my going will not be attended with any inconvenience to anybody. I feel that this infant child at whose birth I closely attended, has been nursed by this time into some degree of strength and vigor. What little abilities and energies I possess have been applied in that direction."

ing forward. The reverse sustained by General Yamada's column has not yet been reported by General Kuropatkin or General Sakharoff, except in a reference to an unsuccessful Japanese attack near Shakhe. The Associated Press Mukden despatch evidently refers to this affair in reporting that the Japanese left, had been beaten off with terrible slaughter, and its retreat cut off by a Russian army corps. Another Associated Press despatch from Mukden confirms the news of the Russian advance, when telegraphing, late tonight, the correspondent says:—"It is rumored that we are moving ahead."

There is no official confirmation here of the report from Tokio, that a Russian attack on the Japanese right on Oct. 17, had been repulsed. If this report should prove true it may involve serious consequences for the Russians, who crossed the Shakhe while the river was fordable. According to the Associated Press Mukden despatches, the water has since risen much higher in consequence of heavy rains, and therefore it will be well nigh impossible for the Russian army to re-cross the river, owing to the absence of bridges. It would be equally difficult for the same reason to bring up supplies and ammunition, to enable General Kuropatkin to follow up the advance. This may explain the statement in the Associated Press despatch to the Associated Press, that the fighting was slackening the morning of Oct. 18.

Not So Sanguine. St. Petersburg, Oct. 19.—1.45 p.m.—The flush of enthusiasm over the capture of Lone Tree Hill and Shakhe, the repulse of the attacks of the Japanese left, and the hard drubbing given Gen. Yamada, with the capture of fourteen additional guns, has given way this morning to a calmer and more sober appraisal of these partial successes. There is no official confirmation of the report that Gen. Kuropatkin had resumed a genuine offensive but that rather a general Japanese offensive had exhausted itself and that the positions of the armies is now a sort of deadlock, with the country rendered so sodden by the heavy rain as to compel a temporary suspension of general operations. A complete veil hides the movements east, but both Kuropatkin and Sakharoff's reports say there were no collisions on that portion of the battle ground Monday or Tuesday.

Mukden, Oct. 19.—5 a. m.—Yesterday passed off quietly. No firing was heard last night. The Japanese appear to be slowly falling back. A glare seen above their encampments may indicate that they are burning their stores prior to withdrawal. So soon as the roads are drier, resumption of the battle is probable, as the Russians are everywhere in close touch with the Japanese.

What's the use of arguing with a woman? "True, but think of the pleasure it gives the woman."

Resignation of Hon. A. G. Blair Has Caused a Profound Sensation—The Sole Topic of Conversation in Political Circles Today—Hon. Mr. Emerson Talks—The News in Moncton, Sydney, Montreal and Elsewhere.

mination to withdraw from the commission. As a fellow member of the board, he could not but recognize Mr. Blair's great ability and wide experience, untiring industry and unflinching courtesy. He had always had the greatest personal kindness at Mr. Blair's hands from the day he entered the commission and deeply regretted the chairman's decision."

Hon. M. E. Bernier remarked that Mr. Blair had on all occasions shown courtesy towards his fellow commissioners, and he would have liked if the board could have continued for several years as originally constituted. Mr. Blair was the father of the railway act, and without wishing to reflect on his fellow colleague, Dr. Mills, the retiring chairman was best qualified by his experience and legal knowledge for the work of the board."

Ottawa, Oct. 19.—(Special)—Seen this morning, Mr. Blair says that he will not be drawn into any controversy over what appears in the newspapers. He has made his statement and he thinks it is sufficient for the present. He is going to act on the board although he will not hear any more cases. He is going to assist in preparing judgments in the cases that have been heard, that is, in all cases where the evidence is complete. This applies to the western cases.

The resignation of Mr. Blair is the one subject which monopolizes all other here.

Hon. Mr. Emerson Talks. Moncton, N. B., Oct. 19.—(Special).—Even the resignation of Messrs Blair and Tarte from the Laurier cabinet has not created such a sensation in political circles here as the resignation of Mr. Blair from the railway commission. Nothing else is being talked of on the streets. Everybody is

guessing what it means. Groups of liberals and conservatives are seen on all parts of the streets in knots discussing the sensation. Liberals wear an anxious expression, while conservatives are jubilant over the announcement. The news was heard last night by the party workers but the general public knew nothing of the matter till this morning.

Hon. Wm. Ross, of Halifax, who was an aspirant for the liberal nomination for the North-Riding of Cape Breton, which includes Victoria County also, and who was not chosen by the convention held recently at Baddeck, arrived in the county last night to take the platform in the interest of MacKenzie, the liberal nominee.

Jas. F. Robertson. In an interview today, James F. Robertson said to the Times:—"I feel that it is a great satisfaction to myself, and it must be a great satisfaction to many other men in New Brunswick and the maritime provinces who have worked with the Hon. A. G. Blair for the development of the east in the great question of transportation, that he has taken this very decided stand. It also strengthens my own convictions that this great question of the question of cheap transportation for the farmers of the west is the one on which the general public should vote independent of old party lines."

In Fredericton. Fredericton, Oct. 19.—(Special).—The announcement of Mr. Blair's resignation from the railway commission created a great sensation here, and little else is talked of in political circles. The conservatives are hopeful that Mr. Blair will support Borden and are much elated over the prospects. The liberals on the other hand, while expressing surprise at Mr. Blair's action, are inclined to

the view, that it will have no marked effect on the result of the election. Senator Thompson, a close personal friend of Blair, says the news of his resignation was a complete surprise to him.

No Ordinary Utterance. (Montreal Gazette.) Mr. Blair's speech in opposition to the government's national transcontinental railway project was no ordinary utterance. In order to make it he gave up most influential portfolio in the administration. No one who listened to it could have any conviction but that his heart was in what he said and that his protest was the outcome of a feeling that the course the government had been persuaded to enter on, was dangerous and even menacing to the country.

It can be believed, that the same feeling still actuated him and that having emancipated himself by his latest resignation, he will again give the public his reasons for condemning the most ill-considered, one-sided and costly project ever submitted to parliament, by ministers pretending to be in good faith, and setting up a claim to sanity of judgment.

In Montreal. Montreal, Oct. 19.—Hon. A. G. Blair's resignation is expected to have a marked effect in the present political campaign. Nothing else was discussed in the hotels and clubs last night and it was the consensus of opinion that the decision of the ex-minister of railways will make the Grand Trunk Pacific the great issue of the campaign.

It has been admitted in Grand Trunk circles that Mr. Hays has been having great difficulty financing the Grand Trunk Pacific scheme owing to the strong opposition of the Canadian people, and the prospect of Mr. Blair making a campaign against the project has created consternation among the followers of Mr. Hays, who has been forced to make a hurried visit to England owing to his difficulties.

It is believed Hon. Mr. Blair will open a law office in Montreal after the elections; but before closing his political career he will, in a few days, take the stump and proclaim from the public platform his strong objections to the Grand Trunk Pacific scheme. Indeed he intimates as much in his letter of resignation to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in which he speaks of re-affirming his views, which have given opponents of the G. T. Pacific their most powerful arguments ever since Mr. Blair left the liberal cabinet.

There is wild excitement here over the news of Mr. Blair's resignation.

Associates Regret. Mr. Loud, freight traffic manager of the Grand Trunk Railway, who was present, regretted exceedingly to hear Mr. Blair's announcement, and wished him a long life in the position to which he proposed transferring his energies. Mr. Loud paid the chairman the compliment of saying that the railways always felt certain of justice in coming before the railway commission of Canada. He thanked Mr. Blair for himself and on behalf of others appearing before the commission for his universal courtesy.

Mr. McInnes, freight traffic manager of the C. P. R., joined with Mr. Loud in an expression of regret at Mr. Blair's withdrawal from the board.

Mr. Miller, freight manager of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, and J. N. Thorne, vice-president of the same body, expressed their satisfaction at the conduct of Mr. Blair on the board.

Hon. Mr. Mills said he had heard with the most surprise and the greatest regret only a few minutes before the opening of the commission, that the resignation of Mr. Blair had taken place.

ing forward. The reverse sustained by General Yamada's column has not yet been reported by General Kuropatkin or General Sakharoff, except in a reference to an unsuccessful Japanese attack near Shakhe. The Associated Press Mukden despatch evidently refers to this affair in reporting that the Japanese left, had been beaten off with terrible slaughter, and its retreat cut off by a Russian army corps. Another Associated Press despatch from Mukden confirms the news of the Russian advance, when telegraphing, late tonight, the correspondent says:—"It is rumored that we are moving ahead."

There is no official confirmation here of the report from Tokio, that a Russian attack on the Japanese right on Oct. 17, had been repulsed. If this report should prove true it may involve serious consequences for the Russians, who crossed the Shakhe while the river was fordable. According to the Associated Press Mukden despatches, the water has since risen much higher in consequence of heavy rains, and therefore it will be well nigh impossible for the Russian army to re-cross the river, owing to the absence of bridges. It would be equally difficult for the same reason to bring up supplies and ammunition, to enable General Kuropatkin to follow up the advance. This may explain the statement in the Associated Press despatch to the Associated Press, that the fighting was slackening the morning of Oct. 18.

Not So Sanguine. St. Petersburg, Oct. 19.—1.45 p.m.—The flush of enthusiasm over the capture of Lone Tree Hill and Shakhe, the repulse of the attacks of the Japanese left, and the hard drubbing given Gen. Yamada, with the capture of fourteen additional guns, has given way this morning to a calmer and more sober appraisal of these partial successes. There is no official confirmation of the report that Gen. Kuropatkin had resumed a genuine offensive but that rather a general Japanese offensive had exhausted itself and that the positions of the armies is now a sort of deadlock, with the country rendered so sodden by the heavy rain as to compel a temporary suspension of general operations. A complete veil hides the movements east, but both Kuropatkin and Sakharoff's reports say there were no collisions on that portion of the battle ground Monday or Tuesday.

Mukden, Oct. 19.—5 a. m.—Yesterday passed off quietly. No firing was heard last night. The Japanese appear to be slowly falling back. A glare seen above their encampments may indicate that they are burning their stores prior to withdrawal. So soon as the roads are drier, resumption of the battle is probable, as the Russians are everywhere in close touch with the Japanese.

What's the use of arguing with a woman? "True, but think of the pleasure it gives the woman."

WEDDINGS. Broderick-Brennan. Dr. W. P. Broderick and Miss Clara Jean Brennan, daughter of W. H. Brennan, of Water street, were married at 3 o'clock this afternoon, at the cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, by Rev. Fr. A. W. Meahan. I. J. D. Laundry, presided at the organ.

The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Annibel Brennan, and Dr. T. M. Lunney, supported the groom. The bride wore a gown of white brocade satin with long veil and a wreath of orange blossoms and lily of the valley, and carried an amethyst rosary and a shower bouquet of white roses and lily of the valley. She wore a diamond pin the gift of the groom.

The bridesmaid wore turquoise blue crepe silk, a large picture hat of blue velvet with blue ostrich plume, and carried a bouquet of pink roses. Miss Josephine Sullivan, and Roxina McIntyre were flower girls, and were attired in white accordeon pleated silk with white beaver felt hats, and carried baskets of carnations.

The ushers were Harry H. Brennan and George P. Allan. Beautiful presents were also received from the choir of St. Peter's church of which the groom is organist and from the cathedral choir with which the bride has been closely connected.

Fitzpatrick-Whelan. The wedding of Miss Elizabeth Whelan, daughter of Walter Whelan, pressman in Oak Hall, and Wm. Fitzpatrick, takes place this afternoon at 5 o'clock, in the church of St. John the Baptist, Broad street. Rev. Father Chapman will perform the ceremony. The bride will wear a travelling suit of blue ladies' cloth with white picture hat and will be attended by Miss Annie Daly, while Edgar Murphy will support the groom.

LATE SHIPPING NOTES. Halifax, Oct. 19.—The Furness liner London City, arrived from St. John this morning, to load for London and Havre. Steamer Florence left here today for London, taking 11,000 barrels apples.

"Do you still think of going to the front, sire?" asked the trustee adviser. "Frequently," answered the czar, "and always with a shudder." (Washington Star)

CANADA'S TRADE FOR SEPTEMBER. Slight Decline in Exports Compared With the Same Month Last Year. Ottawa, Ont., Oct. 19.—(Special).—The trade figures of the Dominion, for the month of September, show that Canada is holding its own in business better than most nations. There is a slight decline in the foreign trade of the country, compared with September of the year previous. However, September, 1904, stands as the best ninth month for commerce next to September 1903. The exports are about \$1,000,000 behind those of September, last year, while the imports show a small increase. The decline is entirely in products of the forest and is due to the condition of the European lumber market.

The total imports for the month were \$24,158,377, and the total exports \$21,702,884. For the month, the products of the mine increased \$179,249; the fisheries by \$155,804, the manufactures by \$6,638. There was a decline, in addition to the forest, of \$278,000 in animals and their products, and of \$157,000 in agriculture. This is due to the delay in moving wheat.

REPORT DISCREDITED. London, Oct. 19.—At the offices here, of the Cunard S. S. Company, a rumor that the steamer Slavonia had sunk in the storm off the Spanish coast, is entirely discredited. The Slavonia, it was pointed out, passed Gibraltar, Oct. 11 and the officials cannot see how she could be anywhere in the neighborhood of the Spanish coast. The vessel is due at New York, Oct. 22.

BROUGHT MUCH GOLD. Seattle, Wn., Oct. 19.—The steamer Garonne has arrived from Nome with 529 passengers and \$300,000 in gold. The entire trip south was exceptionally stormy.

THE WEATHER. Forecasts—Moderate variable winds, fair, Thursday south and south winds, fair with about the same temperature. Synopsis—The West India storm is still centred near the Florida coast with no indications of any rapid movement northward, as the weather along the coast is fair from Georgia to New England. To Banks, moderate variable winds. To American ports, easterly winds.

Local Weather Report at Noon. Oct. 19th. Highest temperature during past 24 hours 56. Lowest temperature during past 24 hours 43. Temperature at noon 49. Humidity at noon 78. Barometer reading at noon 30.02. Sea level and 32 deg. fah 30.20 ins. Wind at noon. Direction S. Velocity 6 miles per hour. Cloudy. D. L. HUTCHINSON, Director.

Point Lepreau, Oct. 19.—9 a. m.—Wind south, light, cloudy, Therm 59.

A WORLD-WIDE UNION OF LONGSHOREMEN. This is the Scheme to be Considered at the Convention of the American Federation of Labor Soon to be Held in San Francisco.

New York, Oct. 19.—The Sun says: The New York representatives of the American Federation of Labor, were notified yesterday by cable that W. Abrahams and J. Wignall, fraternal delegates from the British Union Congress, to the next convention of the American Federation of Labor, has sailed for this city.

Wignall is the representative of the International Longshoremen's Union, of Great Britain. While he is here, preliminary arrangements will be made for an amalgamation of the English and American Longshoremen, in an international union with about 150,000 members. Herman Robinson, general organizer of the American Federation of Labor, said last evening:—"For some years a movement has been in progress for the formation of this international union. Within the last year or two, many members of the English Union have been coming here and joining the American body. We feel that the time has come for the amalgamation and in all probability a mass meeting will be called, when Mr. Wignall has been here to discuss the question and take preliminary steps toward the amalgamation."

Pending amalgamation the name of the International Longshoremen's Union has been changed to the International Marine and Transport Workers' Association. The union also now takes in all workers at the docks as does the English organization.

For some time preparations have been going on in England for the amalgamation of two bodies. Final arrangements are to be made at the convention of the American Federation of Labor in San Francisco on Nov. 24. There was an attempt to unite long-shore orders on both sides of the Atlantic several years ago. E. McHugh was sent over the English Union to form locals here. The attempt was a failure, because it was proposed, instead of amalgamating to organize the longshoremen in this country as an annex of the English body. The new movement is regarded as the first step in a world union of dock workers long talked of in England.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY. Halifax, N. S., Oct. 18.—(Special).—The government steamer Minto left here today for Gaspe, P. Q. While here she was fitted with new spars for wireless telegraphy testing, and took on board some Marconi apparatus. She will take on board at Gaspe a government inspector, to inspect the working of the stations on the gulf coast towards Newfoundland.

RETURN TO MONTREAL. Halifax, Oct. 11.—(Special).—F. B. Wade, K. C., and the other railway commissioners arrived here, early this morning from Moncton and left today by Maritime express for Montreal.

BEAUTAUGH IMPROVING. Fredericton, Oct. 19.—(Special).—Paul Beataugh, who was a victim of the stabbing affray, at Kingsclear a few days ago, continues to improve

THE BURGLAR WAS FOILED. Chatham, Oct. 19.—(Special).—An unsuccessful attempt to enter J. Peinbrook's dry goods store was made last night. Entrance to the cellar was gained through a window, but the double hardwood door at the head of the basement stairs prevented access to the store.

HAS LEFT THE STAGE. New York, Oct. 19.—Maurice C. Pike, 67 years old, once widely known as an actor, is dead on Hart's Island, where he was serving a sentence of six months for vagrancy. His first role was played in a Bowery Theatre fifty years ago. Three months ago the old man was found sleeping in the hallway, and was sentenced to six months imprisonment. His last appearance on the stage occurred one year ago. Friends missed him along Broadway and a few days ago began a search which ended with the morgue.