

The Daily Mail

Published every afternoon (except Sunday) at No. 613 Queen Street, Fredericton, by THE MAIL PRINTING COMPANY.

Telephone No. 67

Fredericton, N. B., December 11, 1912

THE TORY NAVAL POLICY

Premier Borden a few days ago, brought down his temporary expedient to tide over the government's emergency regarding the navy. It calls for a gift of \$35,000,000 of Canadian money to the imperial admiralty for the construction of three of the finest modern warships that science can devise or money buy. These vessels are to be constructed in England and turned over to the British admiralty as fast as built, manned with English officers and crews and added to the equipment of the fleet for such service as the admiralty may think fit, also to be maintained entirely by the royal navy.

In all his lengthy address Mr. Borden proceeded upon the assumption that there was a stringent emergency which demanded an immediate outlay of large sums of money by Canada to help the Mother Country to tide over the situation. But nothing in his speech backed this assumption up. It was carefully planned to show this, and everything that had been said during the past few months by the British prime minister, Right Hon. Mr. Asquith, or the first lord of the admiralty, Right Hon. Winston Churchill, was carefully eliminated, since their utterances on the naval question have been uniformly to show that there is no present danger of war, and that should there be such danger not only was Great Britain in position to preserve the necessary supremacy on home waters, but in case of necessity, to spare enough vessels to send a formidable squadron to the aid of the overseas dominions.

The prime minister gave an elaborate account of his visit to England, which he read from copy furnished in advance to the government press, in which he outlined the negotiations between himself and his colleagues and the British ministers and admiralty officials. As a result of these negotiations he presented a memorandum which had been furnished him by the admiralty, setting forth the position of affairs. But instead of giving copies of this memorandum to the House before the opening of the session he carefully preserved it, so that no one but himself knew what was the nature of the arguments to be brought down, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the other leaders of the Liberal party were deliberately placed at a disadvantage in considering the propositions to be made, all of which was quite contrary to the recognized custom of the British parliament, where naval matters especially are treated on a national rather than a party basis.

The gist of this memorandum was that while, during past years, the British fleet had been steadily increasing in power and efficiency all the other nations had been increasing, so that while the British fleet was unexampled in striking force the combined fleets of other nations bore a much greater relation of power than in previous years when many were content to go without a powerful navy.

As a result it was set forth that it had been found necessary to concentrate the fleet in home waters, in the "decisive theatres" of any possible European war, so that whereas in 1902 there were 160 British vessels on the overseas stations today there were but 76, while it was shown that the overwhelming strength of the navy in home waters was such as to ensure the empire against successful attack, this concentration at home to that extent weakened the forces at the overseas station.

Further the memorandum says "Anything which increases our margin in the newest ships diminishes the strain and augments our security and our chances of being left unmolested."

This is followed by assurances that whatever Canada may decide "at the present juncture" Great Britain will not fail in her duty to the overseas

dominions of the crown. And again, "The aid which Canada could give at the present time is not to be measured only in ships or money. Any action on the part of Canada to increase the power and mobility of the imperial navy, and thus widen the margin of our common safety, would be recognized everywhere as a most significant witness to the united strength of the empire and to the renewed resolve of the overseas dominions to take their part in maintaining its integrity."

Not one word anywhere to indicate any emergency demanding immediate relief by what Mr. Winston Churchill called a "hinging about of millions on an impetuous impulse." Not until the last paragraph is reached and then the suggestion is that the emergency was made by Mr. Borden himself.

"The prime minister of the Dominion of Canada having enquired in what form any immediate aid that Canada might give would be most effective, we have no hesitation in answering after a prolonged consideration of all the circumstances that it is desirable that such aid should include the provision of a certain number of the largest and strongest of ships of war which science can build or money supply."

It is also notable that nowhere is there any evidence that Mr. Borden asked advice regarding a permanent naval policy for Canada. Had he done so it is hardly to be doubted that he would have been advised to create fleet units, as was suggested at the Imperial Conference of 1907, and as Australia was advised to do—and is now doing.

And on this Hon. Mr. Borden proposes to parliament that the Liberal policy of building up a distinctively Canadian fleet to make Canada a real maritime nation, able to bear its share in building, managing and handling a navy, should be abandoned, and that \$35,000,000 should be at once donated to Great Britain to build ships which will be distinctively British, save that they will bear Canadian names.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in his brief reply, said: "I am glad to tell the premier that gentlemen on this side, though differing from him in other matters, share absolutely his devotion and loyalty to the British empire." Which statement was cheered by the whole House.

Dealing briefly with the memorandum, Sir Wilfrid pointed out how impossible it was to inject anything into it suggestive of an immediate crisis, and said:

"The people of this country will be glad to know that we have not now to deal with any emergency but with that new condition existing not only in Europe and the British empire but all over the world—the tendency towards excessive armament."

In dignified manner the opposition leader then pointed out that it would be unusual and impossible under the circumstances to discuss the measure on the first reading and intimated that he would be prepared to lay down the Liberal views when the matter is again taken up by the House.

Toronto Globe.—The Liberal policy means more produce for the buyer's money and more money for the seller's produce. It is beginning to dawn on even the Conservative mind that the accomplishing of this by removing wasteful obstructions is no miracle.

Toronto Globe.—The Hon. Robert Rogers pretended to show his contempt for the Opposition by staying out of the House when his conduct in Macdonald was under discussion, but contempt quickly became fear. It is many a day since a Minister of the Crown was accused of deliberately lying to the House of Commons.

The naval debate will be resumed in Parliament tomorrow and will not likely be finished before the Christmas vacation. Sir Wilfrid Laurier will define the attitude of the Liberal party on the great question.

Dr. Carter's speech delivered before the Montreal Canadian Club, has the right ring to it. The doctor made out a strong case for the Maritime Province. He did it by handing out a few hard fisted facts.

There seems to have been a singular dearth of M. P.'s in the delegation of "business men" which assembled at the C. P. R. station to see the Provincial Secretary off to Bermuda.

TORY MINISTERS OFFER
LAME EXPLANATION

(Continued from page one)

would increase the existing British preference on goods coming into Canada from these countries. Mr. Foster stated that at the present time, and for the past fifteen years, they had been receiving a greater preference. There was no intention to remove that, but to give opportunity of securing the twenty per cent., if that were lower. It did not enlarge the preferences already given to any part of the British empire, in fact confining attention to that phase of the question, the preference would be less than it was now.

WANTS BETTER SERVICE.

Dr. Pugsley hoped that the arrangement would lead to the immediate inauguration of a better service between the colonies and Canadian ports. He deemed it unfortunate that it was necessary to go to New York and take steamer from that point. He would like to see the government take up the question of transport direct from Maritime and St. Lawrence ports to the British West Indies.

Mr. Foster believed in the principle enunciated. "It will be done just as soon and as fast as it can be done without doing injury to trade in Canada," he declared.

NAVAL AID BILL TOMORROW.

The bill embodying the arrangement was then given a first reading.

Through the courtesy of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the leniency of Mr. Speaker Spruille, Premier Borden will escape the embarrassment and humiliation of having to reintroduce his naval bill when parliament reverts to consideration of the government proposals on Thursday next. The Speaker made a brief announcement to the House this afternoon. He stated that the premier's measure had not been properly introduced and that in his judgment, it should properly have been preceded by a resolution, as prescribed for the introduction of money bills.

"But," continued Mr. Speaker, "as consent has been obtained, I have decided that the bill shall stand until the resolution is considered, after which the measure may be deemed within the correct procedure when it reaches its second reading. I want to add, however," concluded the Speaker, "that the present arrangement must not in any way be regarded as a precedent."

With consent, Premier Borden then introduced a resolution in accordance with the rules, to which Sir Wilfrid consented, and which was declared carried.

The premier then moved, after conference with the Liberal leader, that the consideration of the naval proposals be given preference over all other business from Thursday next to the Christmas recess.

Starting with Sir Wilfrid's eagerly anticipated statement of the Liberal policy, the naval question will hold the centre of the stage in the Commons until adjournment for the Christmas recess on Thursday, the 19th inst.

Electric Restorer for Men

Phosphonal restores every nerve in the body to its proper tension; restores vim and vitality. Premature decay and all sexual weakness averted at once. Phosphonal will make you a new man. Price \$3 a box, or two for \$5. Mailed to any address. The Scobell Drug Co., St. Catharines, Ont.

Sold in Fredericton by A. J. RYAN

SUGGESTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

FROM :

A Large and Varied Stock

AT :

John J. Weddall & Son's

STANDARD PATTERNS

Fancy Work of all kinds

always on hand also a com-

plete stock of Embroidered

Silks, etc., to work with :: ::

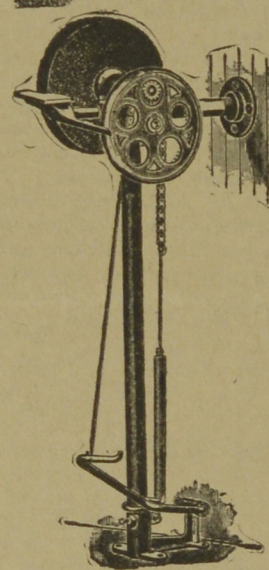
REYNIER GLOVES

REYNIER KID GLOVES
LACE COLLAR AND CUFF SET
LACE COLLAR
ROBESPIERRE COLLARS
SILK MUFFLERS, etc.
DOWN PUFF
LADIES' UMBRELLA
GENTS' UMBRELLA
LINEN SET
LINEN EMB. TOWLS, etc.
DRESS LENGTH, wool
WAIST LENGTH, wool
DRESS LENGTH, silk
WAIST LENGTH, silk
SET OF FURS
SWEATER
WOOL WRAP
LADIES' COAT
LADIES' SKIRT
LADIES' SILK WAIST
LADIES' SILK SKIRT
LADIES' KIMONA, etc.
FANCY TABLE COVER
FANCY DOYLIES
FANCY PILLOW TOP
PURSES
HANDBAGS, etc., etc.

John J. Weddall & Sons

GRINDERS

FOOT POWER & HAND POWER



Useful for Sharpening all kinds of Carpenter's, Blacksmith's and Machinist's Tools, we have them indifferent sizes, some for use in the Kitchen and others for use in the Workshop.

Just the thing to Sharpen Skates with
A very useful Tool for the Farmer
Come in and let us Demonstrate them to you.

Prices Ranging From \$4.00 to \$6.50

R. CHESTNUT & SON

WHOLESALE The Hardware People

RETAIL

A Safe Guide

Wherever you see our name you can assure yourself that it stands for purity and reliability. Now that winter is approaching the best preparation you can make is to take a bottle of HUNT & MACDONALD'S COD LIVER OIL EMULSION. It wards off coughs and colds.

35 and 75 cents a bottle.

HUNT & MACDONALD
DRUGGISTS PHONE 65.

Our Special Hockey Boot
FOR LADIES.

Tan or Black Calfskin, Fleece Lined,
Laced down to toe, Solid in Every Way.

: Price \$2.75 :

FOR SALE BY

H S. CAMPBELL SHOEMAN

CALABASH

BRIAR PIPES

PIPES: : :

Gold and Silver mounted.

See them in My Down Town Window.

George Y Dibblee

The Rexall Store

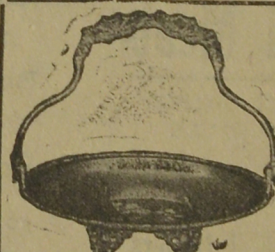
Druggist Opp.
City Hall.

BARGAINS
IN
DINNER SETS

HOWARD
ROGERS

SEE OUR
COAL AND
WOOD
HEATERS

SEE
OUR
XMAS
GIFTS



BUY
EARLY

Headquarters
FOR
SILVERWARE

King St.
Fredericton

Headquarters
FOR
FURNITURE