

SOME INTERESTING NOTES FROM THE FEDERAL CAPITAL, GOVERNMENT'S MAJORITY 26

Premier R. B. Bennett faces the session, now commencing, with a majority of 26 votes, only a slight reduction from the original majority. This figure, of course, excludes the two vacancies—South Oxford and Toronto East—which are unlikely to be filled until later in the year and possibly not until the next election. These by-elections, however, would not alter the position to any extent. The Toronto seat is considered just as safe for the Government as the Oxford seat is for the Liberals.

King Drops 40 Pounds
Mr. Bennett, after a gruelling year spent in attending conferences abroad and at home, and in striving with the innumerable problems of administration, will face a rejuvenated opponent in the person of Rt. Hon. W.L.M. King. The Opposition leader appears in public so seldom that his entry into the Commons may be one of the surprises of the year. Mr King has been dieting, or exercising, or both. And as a result he has banished some 40 pounds of excess weight. He looks ten years younger, to say the least, and is in tip-top fighting trim.

Market for Lumber
Canadian lumbermen are jubilant at the prospects of capturing the lion's share of the 200,000,000 feet of lumber which Britain will no longer purchase from Russia. The British Govern-

ment has reduced the Russian trade to this amount, leaving the prize to be competed for between Canada and the Baltic countries. Canadian lumbermen do not fear competition, provided it takes place above the cost-of-production level.

Effect of French Quotas
While the Government has joined with Great Britain in protesting at Paris against the French quota changes, the effect of the new policy upon Canada is still vague. For one thing, our salmon exports are based upon a separate treaty and are not subject to the new policy. But other quotas which we possess in the French market are not based upon special treaties and it is feared that these may be in jeopardy. Hence the protest. Earlier reports indicated that the new policy would not affect quotas except where the exports under them exceeded ten per cent of the French import market. This qualification would leave Canada unscathed. But these reports have not been confirmed and it is doubtful if the new policy is qualified at all.

Protest Sent to Spain
Another protest has been forwarded to Madrid, calling the attention of the Spanish government to a breach of the most-favored nation clause in our treaty with that country. The trade affected is in automobiles. Spain has

recently given France a 35 per cent drawback on the export of French automobiles. Britain made a protest similar to that of Canada a short time ago—and won the point. Ottawa hopes to do likewise.

A Minister's Problems
Anyone familiar with political biography will appreciate the trials and tribulations of the cabinet minister who speaks out on the public platform. I would appear that Mr. Gladstone did little else than write to colleagues—Mr. Chamberlain in particular—spanking them firmly but skillfully for platform indiscretions. Hon. Harry Stevens, Minister of Trade and Commerce, who made a startling attack on sweatshops and "distress" buying in Toronto last week seems to have experienced the usual fate in this regard. In an address at Ottawa the other night, Mr. Stevens, to quote the report, "spoke of the difficult position of a cabinet minister in saying nothing to offend his colleagues, being aware at all times of the wishes and desires of 20 other ministers to reflect them accurately."

"And yet," the report quotes him, "the public complains of ministers not being sufficiently frank in not conveying to them enough of what is going on. In 23 years of public life I have never hesitated to raise my voice to mold and give a lead to public opinion, and yet I have found it a pretty friendless task. When a minister tries to say something, one frequently finds conscience pricked by suggestions one makes about certain evils that are abroad, and then the full weight of their power is thrown in the scales against one, and usually behind the scenes."

DUMFRIES, N. B.

Jan. 15—The weather for the past few days has been somewhat milder and the farmers are taking advantage of it in getting their work caught up. Benjamin Goodine was calling on friends in Upper Dumfries on Saturday last.

The Misses Amy Scott, Vera Kelly, Pearl Meagher, Shirley Scott and Mrs. Vivian Lyons spent an evening recently at the home of Allan Rae.

The Messrs Harry Kelly and John Rae were calling on friends in Southampton on Sunday last.

Mrs. Thomas Evans who has been spending a few days with Mrs. Chas. Fraser returned home on Monday last. Miss Vera Kelly had tea with Mrs. Walter Rae on Friday evening.

Miss Ethel Scott is spending a few days with Mrs. Fred Betts of Prince William.

Mrs. William Embleton spent Saturday in Fredericton.

The Misses Pearl Meagher and Shirley Scott called on Mrs. Walter Rae on Sunday afternoon.

The Messrs. Norman Embleton and Earle Carlin were visitors to Fredericton on Saturday.

Miss Amy Scott spent a few days with Mrs. W. E. Scott.

EYE WITNESSES FOUND

Milwaukee, Jan. 27—The police yesterday interviewed two women who claimed to have been eye witnesses to the kidnapping of E. G. Bremer. They claim that he put up a game struggle. Bloodstains were found in the interior of the car.

Here and There

The first event in the celebration of the Centennial of the City of Toronto, to be held this year, took place at the Royal York Hotel in the closing week of 1933 when Mayor Stewart handed out loaves of "Centennial" bread to a large crowd of interested recipients.

Emile St. Goddard and Leonard Seppala, heroes of many hotly fought Dog Derbies, will fight it out again in the Quebec Dog Derby of February 23-25 next to be held in Quebec City. Many other teams have already registered and special training events for the big show are being held.

A tip for the encouragement of the younger ski generation is given by the Canadian Pacific Railway in the company's inauguration of a special school age ski excursion at low rates to the Laurentians just outside Montreal. The special was heavily patronized by the youngsters.

Statistics recently issued by the Bureau of Railway News and Statistics show that the safest way to travel is by railroad. In a year's operation of Canadian and United States railroads only one passenger was killed out of a total of 469,048,529 persons carried a total of 16,941,246,109 miles.

The old belief that women cannot wear high heels without injury to posture and health was described as "bunk" by J. S. Brower, shoe expert of Milwaukee, delegate to the National Shoe Retailers Association convention recently held at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto.

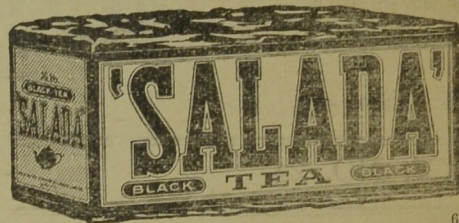
A Canadian inter-collegiate ski meet, unique development in Eastern Canada as far as ski-ing is concerned, will be held at the Seigniory Club, Montebello, end of January. Toronto University, Ottawa University, McGill and St. Patrick's College in Ottawa are among the collegiate teams to be represented.

Snow shovels and twenty below in many places in Canada are replaced by mashies and 55 above at Victoria B.C., these days where the sixth annual midwinter golf tournament swings into action at the Royal Colwood Course February 19-24. Enquiries and early entries from ardent golfers indicate that again this year the tournament will be a big success.

Silver Fox Breeders' Association convention was the first of three big gatherings held at the Chateau Frontenac Quebec City this year. It was simultaneous with that of the Canadian Fruit and Vegetable Jobbers' Association and was followed shortly after by the convention of the Canadian Association of Tourists and Publicity Bureaus.

Gratification at the way in which the public is using the new rail "shuttle service" between Moose Jaw and Regina was expressed by H. R. Mathewson, general passenger agent, Canadian Pacific Railway, Winnipeg when interviewed recently at Regina. He had had ample opportunity to view the running of the new "seven-a-day" train service between the two cities and was very pleased with the results being obtained.

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SPUD MARKET IS IMPROVING

Hartland, Carleton Co., Jan. 26—Today's potato market was firm and active, with good wire inquiry and demand from Ontario and Quebec taking all available carlots offering at the top market price. Stocks stored along tracks are getting low and with ship-

pers depending on supplies coming in from the country they are firm in their ideas of prices. Haulings today were moderate and prices firm, at \$1.10 a barrel for Green Mountains, Canada Grade One, some few lots bringing five cents more.

After a long exploration a single instance was found where a horse was once named Dobbin.

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