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MARITIME PREMIERS HELD A CONFERENCE AT CHARLOTTETOWN, WILL DEMAND BETTER TERMS

Charlottetown, P.E.I., July 9—In the same chamber where 70 years ago the Fathers of Confederation built for a new Dominion, the premiers of Canada's three Maritime Provinces joined today in a fresh effort to gain for the Maritimes the rights which they have claimed for years as their due from Confederation.

From the deliberations of the one Liberal and two Conservative premiers evolved the decision to lay before the federal government "definite proposals" for the implementation of recommendations brought down by the Duncan commission in 1926 after its investigation into Maritime claims.

What form these proposals would take was not disclosed definitely in the communique issued this evening after the conference. But it was indicated the premiers would seek, among other things, an upward revision in the federal subsidies granted these provinces for the machinery of government and in respect to debt allowances.

Duncan Report

Increases in these subsidies have been sought for years. In 1926, Sir Andrew Rae Duncan and his associates of the Royal commission, deeming the grants then in effect "inadequate," recommended lump sum increases of \$875,000 for Nova Scotia, \$600,000 for New Brunswick and \$125,000 for Prince Edward Island. These became effective the next year.

In its report the commission found that the terms of readjustment were "obviously a matter of detailed determination and assessment." And it recommended further that the federal government give "immediate consideration to the whole of this subject, with a view to complete revision of the financial arrangements as between them and the Maritime Provinces." The lump increases were to be considered only as interim payments until the investigation had been completed.

Suggest Aug. 1

But the grants are still being made on this temporary basis. The question was considered "at length" by the premiers today and before their conference broke up they decided to telegraph Prime Minister R. B. Bennett suggesting Aug. 1 as a suitable date for discussing the problem with him personally.

Previously, it was stated, the Dominion government had made known its willingness to receive the Maritime premiers in Ottawa at the earliest convenient date. They expected to hear soon from the prime minister as to whether their suggested date was suitable.

Other aspects of Maritime claims discussed by the three premiers today were not disclosed. They met only briefly this morning in the Confederation Chamber after a series of informal week-end discussions. At noon, Premier Angus L. Macdonald of Nova Scotia had to leave for his home province, but Hon. L. P. D. Tilley of New Brunswick continued the conference in the afternoon with Hon. W. J. P. MacMillan of Prince Edward Island.

At Historic Table

The premiers sat down for their formal deliberations today around the same long table in the same old room around which the statesmen of 1864 had gathered to lay down the foundations for the union of the provinces. It was appropriate, they believed, that this should be so. For they were to frame a united policy based on claims arising from that earlier union.

And it was fitting in another respect. Hon. L. P. D. Tilley, New Brunswick's representative at the board today is a direct descendant of one of those statesmen of 1864—a son of the late Sir Samuel Leonard Tilley who represented the same province at that first gathering.

Union of the Maritime Provinces was in the minds of the men who gathered here in 1864. Today, Mr. Tilley told a service club it would have been a "splendid thing" had that union been consummated. "But don't mistake my meaning," he warned his hearers. He did not believe such a union of the seaside provinces now would be any improvement over present conditions; a "bon entente" between the provinces, as existing at present, seemed to him the proper relationship.

relationship.

"In these days of crisis," said the New Brunswick premier, "the people should stand together united in forwarding measures that are best for Canada."

He turned back the clock to September 1, 1864, when the first conference was called to discuss Maritime Union. The larger union with "Canada" was not in the minds of those delegates until the steamer arrived bringing Sir John A. Macdonald, and the other nation builders who "dropped in." His father, Sir Leonard Tilley, with the other Maritime men were planning an association of the three seaside provinces.

"I believe that it would have been a splendid thing had a Maritime union been consummated then, and the three provinces had entered Confederation as one," Premier Tilley said.

Maritime Claims.

"Don't misunderstand me," he hastened to add. "Whilst I believe it would have been better to have had one Maritime government then, I do not think it would be a proper thing to tell us that we should have it, but we are not spending as much on governments in proportion to our population as the other provinces are."

Outlining Maritime claims, which he said "were rights that should be recognized," the premier stated that Ontario had 120,000,000 acres of land added to her territory after that province joined the union, Quebec had 380,000,000 acres additional and Manitoba 114,000,000 acres.

In 1930 he pointed out that the present federal government ceded to Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan their Crown lands, formerly in the hands of the Dominion, and royalties were returned to these provinces.

"The Maritime Provinces cannot have any additional territory but they should have a quid pro quo for the lands and royalties tendered the other provinces," Premier Tilley remarked.

"We are not getting our full share of what is coming to us in lieu of what the others are receiving," he continued. "We of the Maritimes are working together, and shortly expect to be in Ottawa to press our claims as set forth in the Duncan report for consideration."

He spoke of the many things the Maritimes had in common, good farms, rich fishing areas, woodlands, mines.

In New Brunswick, he declared, line fishermen were getting very inadequate returns for their catch. Thirty-six French trawlers and a number of American trawlers were operating along with only two Canadian trawlers. Foreign trawlers were allowed within three miles of the shore but the two Canadian boats were obliged to stay 12 miles outside.

"Would it not be better if there were no beam trawlers and the fishermen were permitted to get a living out of their catch so that the markets of Upper Canada would not be forced down to two cents a pound?" the premier asked.

"In New Brunswick they are getting only 75 cents a hundredweight for haddock in the round. A number had to dump their catch. Something is radically wrong."

FOREIGN NEWS AT A GLANCE

BELGRADE—An endless stream of pilgrims crawled on hands and knees up a mountain near Jace, Bosnia today, seeking cures at the traditionally miraculous Franciscan Church. The church is considered specially efficacious in curing mental ailments, and some pilgrims went in chains, attached to relatives.

AMSTERDAM—Authorities, using tanks and machine guns, restored order after three days of riots by the unemployed. At least four persons were killed and lives of six others were despaired of.

HANKOW—A message from native sources said Rev. Howard Smith of Washington, Pa., American missionary held captive by bandits, had been released.

A CHARMING WEDDING IN CITY THIS AFTERNOON

Miss Gwendolyn Kitchen and J. Robert Herbin Married at Brunswick Street Church—A Well Known and Popular Couple.

A July wedding of more than usual interest took place here this afternoon, when Miss Gwendolyn Kitchen, elder daughter of Alderman G. Willard Kitchen and Mrs. Kitchen, was united in marriage to John Robert Herbin, city, younger son of Mrs. Herbin and the late John Fredericton Herbin, of Wolfville, N. S., the wedding being held at the Brunswick Street Baptist church. Beautiful July weather graced the occasion.

The ceremony, one of the most colorful of the summer season, was performed by Rev. G. W. Guion and a large number attended the service in the church. The church was decorated by friends of the bride with wild and garden flowers and tall ferns. The bride was given in marriage by her father. Her costume consisted of a dress of bluish pink net with tiered ruffled sleeves and trimmed with a wreath of blue silk French flowers at the knee line and a blue sash. She also wore pale pink sandals, a small tricorn hat of pink net with shoulder veil, and carried an old-fashioned shower nosegay of rose and sweet peas. Going away the bride wore a white fitted coat, large white felt hat, white gloves and purse, navy blue shoes and a cape dress of navy blue crepe and taffeta.

As the processional, George A. Tenant, church organist, played the bridal chorus from Lohengrin and Mendelssohn's wedding march as the recessional. During the signing of the register, Herbert F. Belding sang "O Promise Me." The bridesmaids were Miss Molly Burt, cousin, and Miss Nancy Lee Kitchen, sister of the bride. Little Miss Audrey Porter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Harold Porter, was flower girl, and the best man was Fred G. Herbin, of Wolfville, brother of the groom. The ushers were Dow C. Kitchen, brother, and Herbert G. Kitchen, cousin of the bride.

Miss Burt, one of the bridesmaids, wore mauve organdie with mits and a hat of the same material, while Miss Kitchen, second bridesmaid, was dressed in green organdie with mits and a hat of the same material. Both carried small nosegays. The flower girl was dressed in pale blue ruffled organdie and carried a basket of flowers. The bride's mother was gowned in flowered chiffon, blue being the

predominating color, and a Paris model French-blue felt hat. She also wore a corsage of Columbia roses.

The groom's mother, Mrs. J. F. Herbin, wore a dress of black satin with a jacket of black lace and a black hat, also a corsage of American Beauty roses. Mrs. E. A. Coburn, the bride's grandmother wore a dress of black lace, a white hat and gloves, and a corsage of crimson roses.

Following the ceremony at the church a reception was held at the home of the bride's parents, 255 Westmorland street, after which Mr. and Mrs. Herbin left by motor for points in New England.

At the reception Mrs. C. Albert Kitchen and Mrs. Charles B. Clerk, sister of the groom, poured Mrs. W. C. Burt cut the ices; Miss Muriel Burt in marriage to John Robert Herbin, and Miss Joe Burt served at the bride's table; Miss Mary Grannen replenished; those assisting were Mrs. Fred G. Herbin, Miss Betty Walker, Miss Vivian Pugh, Miss Jean Rogers, St. Stephen, and Miss Zevensa Gibbon, Saint John. The reception room decorations were pink and white. The dining room decorations were blue. The bride's table was centred with a three-tier wedding cake and hal silver baskets of blue delphinium and white tapers in silver candelsticks.

The young couple are well known and popular among the younger set of the city and their marriage will be learned with wide interest. The bride is a graduate of the local high school while the groom is a graduate of Acadia University and at present on the writing staff of the Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

LIBERAL CONVENTION

The Liberals of Queens County are meeting in Convention at Gagetown this afternoon to select candidates for the Legislature. Among those from this city who motored to Gagetown last evening to attend were J. B. McNair, Dr. W. C. Crockett and J. B. Dickson.

London, England, July 10—Prayer was invoked by the Thames Conservancy Board today to end England's terrible drought.

"Pray for rain, one third of an inch every third night", Lord Desborough chairman, told the last session of the board, before its summer recess. He hinted the possibility of rationing the Thames flow if the drought continues.

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