

Parliament Opened This Afternoon With The Usual Ceremony

What Promises To Be a Fighting Session Begun at Ottawa Today—Three New Members Take Seats in the House—Debate on the Address To Start Monday.

OTTAWA, Jan. 25—With the customary pomp and pageantry, the fifth Session of the seventeenth Parliament of Canada was formally opened this afternoon by His Excellency the Earl of Bessborough, His Excellency, accompanied by members of his staff, left Rideau Hall at 2.30 o'clock, and escorted by a troop of the Princess Louise Dragoon Guards drove to Parliament Hill, where he was received by a guard of honor from the Governor-General's Footguards. A detachment of artillery stationed at Nepeau Point fired the customary salute.

The opening ceremony took place in the Senate Chamber in the presence of Members of both Houses. Sir Lyman P. Duff, the new Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, occupied the woolsack. The galleries were thronged with visitors, standing room was at a premium. The Speech from the Throne, which forecasted important legislation, including the establishment of a Central Bank, was read by His Excellency both in English and French.

In the Commons

At the conclusion of the opening ceremony the Member of the House, led by Speaker George Black, returned to the Commons Chamber. The three new members, J. E. Michaud, Restigouche-Madawaska, N. B.; Aime Boucher, Yamaska, P. Q., and J. A. McMillan, MacKenzie, Sask., all Liberals, were introduced and took their seats. Tributes were paid to Hon. E. B. Ryckman and Mr. Cayley, Members who died during the recess. The debate on the Address will not begin until Monday.

Important Session

The Session gives promise of being one of the most important in recent years. The Liberal opposition, which has been silent for some months, are threatening to assail the Government from every angle. They will contend that the action of Cabinet Ministers during recess was an affront to Parliament. Premier Bennett and his colleagues, however, are ready to combat the criticism of the Opposition. The signs of returning prosperity have greatly cheered the Government following, as they feel that the return of good times will strengthen the Ministry and the country.

FARMERS OF ARKANSAS GRIND OWN WHEAT

St. Joe, Ark., Jan. 25—Farmers in this section who raised wheat are finding a ready sale for their crop right here at home. It has been found that a farmer can save money by grinding the wheat at home.

Most of the farmers are using the rough whole wheat instead of flour, for they say even if they have to buy it at 90 cents or \$1 a bushel they will have a fifty-pound sack of flour at half the cost.

RICE EXPORT BAN LIFTED

Georgetown, British Guiana, Jan. 25—The ban on rice exports from British Guiana, imposed to forestall a shortage following weeks of flood, was lifted today by Government proclamation.

WELFARE ISLAND PRISONERS WERE ENJOYING LIFE

New York, Jan. 25—Commissioner McCormick paid a surprise visit to Welfare Island prison yesterday, and made the discovery that racketeering was going on on a wholesale scale. He had to dodge bottles and razor blades, as he moved about. Mr. McCormick promptly discharged the Warden and deputy-Warden. He discovered that 300 carrier pigeons were kept at the institution and used for conveying dope to the chief racketeers. In a convenient kitchen was found thirty gallons of mash indicating that the prisoners were making their own hooch. The shakeup at Welfare Island is part of Mayor LaGuardia's house-cleaning program.

FOREIGN NEWS AT A GLANCE

SINGAPORE:—British naval leaders assembled in strictest secrecy to determine the empire's policy in the Far East.

TOKIO:—Anti-militarist expressions dominated the opening session of the Japanese Diet after Foreign Minister Hirota had opened with an appeal for international understanding of Japanese's position in East Asia.

BERLIN:—A decree was issued for the establishment of special professional courts in which German journalists henceforth will be subject to discipline.

BERLIN:—President Paul von Hindenburg resumed his accustomed official routine today, returning to the executive desk after having been confined to his room since Friday with a severe cold.

MEXICO, D. F.:—The juvenile congress against war and fascism today adopted a resolution protesting against the visit to Mexico of former President Ramon Grau San Martin, of Cuba, charging him with favoring "Yankee imperialism."

AMOY:—The Collapse of the Fukien province secessionist movement was believed near today with reports Nationalist government forces had captured Changchow.

ISTANBUL:—Earth shocks were reported today to have been felt within the last 24 hours near Ankara, the capital as well as in the region of Istanbul.

PARIS:—The French cabinet was determined to stand by its guns in the armament conflict with Germany today although it had accepted a suggestion made by Joseph Paul-Boncour foreign minister, that negotiations continue.

GOVERNOR HERE ON 31ST

His Honor Lieutenant Governor Hugh H. McLean will arrive here on January 31, next Wednesday, to take up residence at Acadia Grove for the session of the N. B. Legislature. He will be accompanied here by Mrs. Stetson, and her daughter, Miss Jean Stetson.

Premier L. P. D. Tilley arrived here last night from Saint John and is a guest of the Barker House today.

SCANDAL IN FRANCE IS NOW BEING PROBED

Associate of Stavisky Has Been Placed Under Arrest

SOME SMALL BANKS SHAKY

Downfall of the Government Is Still Threatened

Paris, Jan. 25—The French financial scandal following collapse of the Bayonne pawnshop has been fanned anew by police investigation of a group of nine corporations, including a private bank, promoted by George Alexandre, who police said was once associated with George Stavisky.

The arrest of Alexandre, once known as "Alexander the Second", for questioning brought to light, investigators said, that a number of small provincial banks capitalized at several million francs were tottering.

Several other small banks failed recently, two in Paris a week ago. One banker was arrested at Tours, other provincial failures were declared to be "honest" ones.

Financial authorities said a large number of shaky banks recently were strengthened through efforts of the Government and the Bank of France.

Since Alexandre's boards of directors included high ranking members of the Legion of Honor, his case must be considered by the Court of Appeal. His affairs were believed to have involved at least 200,000,000 francs (approximately \$16,100,000).

Protests against the Stavisky scandal, which resulted in the suicide of Serge Stavisky, alleged swindler, have shocked France and threatened the downfall of the Government.

Govt. Will Consider Claims of Delegation From Northumberland

The provincial cabinet will hold a special meeting here this evening and will be met by a delegation from Northumberland County who will ask assistance in an acute situation which exists in that county respecting economic conditions.

Premier L. P. D. Tilley and his cabinet arrived here today. The above is expected to be the chief business to be done. The Northumberland delegation which arrived here this afternoon is composed of J. D. Shanahan, warden of Northumberland County; W. H. Teed, secretary treasurer; Mayor R. H. Crocker, Newcastle; Mayor H. S. Murray, Chatham, and George Walker town clerk of Chatham.

The meeting tonight is expected to result in a thorough review of conditions in Northumberland county. Things are said to be in bad shape there and with a view to having some action taken the Northumberland county council at its meeting last week passed a resolution asking that the provincial government appoint a commission of three to investigate the county's economic situation. A copy of a telegram concerning this was mailed to Prime Minister R. B. Bennett and to Premier Tilley and Hon. D. A. Stewart who were in Ottawa attending the Dominion-provincial conference at the time.

COAL OPERATORS HERE

A number of coal operators and mine managers are here today and will interview the provincial government this evening in connection with matters that arose out of the recent labor dispute at Minto mines. The hope is entertained that a satisfactory arrangement will be made. Some 200 miners who went on strike returned to work last week.

Hon. Lewis Smith, Minister of Agriculture, is a guest of the Barker House this afternoon.

U. S. Government Likely to Cancel Mail Subsidies

A Billion Dollars Has Been Paid To Steamship Companies Since the World War—An Enquiry Now Going On Before a Senate Committee Show Crooked Dealing.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 25—Wholesale cancellations of ocean mail and other contracts under which the U. S. Government has paid subsidies of \$1,000,000,000 since the World War to merchant shipping is forecast as result of the inquiry now under way by a special Senate Committee.

If any of the contracts are shown to be contrary to the public interest under a law passed last year, they may be cancelled by the President.

Investigators declare that disclosures already made and still to be brought out will go so far toward indicating "collusion and crooked dealing" on some of the contracts that any private citizen could file suit and have them nullified.

None will say whether criminal proceedings may be instituted either against holders of the contracts or former Government officials but there is a feeling of certainty that the whole U. S. merchant shipping industry is due for a thorough overhauling, at least so far as the Government aid is concerned.

BROKERS' LOANS ARE HELD LIABLE FOR EXCISE TAX

Montreal Jan. 24—Loans by brokers to clients are liable for excise tax, stated Justice Boyer in a judgment this afternoon when he ordered the Government to be listed as an ordinary creditor in the case of McDougall and Cowans, now in bankruptcy. The case was heard in Bankruptcy Court.

Claim was made by the Attorney General of Canada for \$95,749.28, as excise tax on loans made by brokers to clients on margin accounts.

The Government claimed these were actually loans and thus an excise tax could be levied on them under the special War Revenue Act. The question to be decided was whether the brokers really were money lenders or not. The Judge decided that they were, and the law applied. Justice Boyer then ordered the Government rates as an ordinary creditor of the firm of McDougall and Cowans.

A REDUCTION SOUGHT IN THE LIQUOR TARIFF

Ottawa, Jan. 23—An application from the United Kingdom Government for a tariff reduction on whiskey will be heard by the Tariff Board on February 19. The request is made in accordance with the provisions of the Anglo-Canadian trade pact.

At present an allowance is made on importations of spirits down to 15 per cent under proof. The British exporters declare that the normal strength of imported spirits is 25 per cent under proof, and ask for an extension of the allowance to that point.

The Britishers also ask that the excise tax imposed by the United Kingdom on manufactured spirits be not taken into account by the Canadian Government in assessing the value of imported spirits for duty purposes. The present duty, under the British preference, is \$8.00 a gallon, proof strength.

J. A. McLEOD NEW HEAD OF BANK OF N. S.

Halifax, Jan. 24—J. A. McLeod, of Toronto, became president of the Bank of Nova Scotia today in a general advance among the directorate and executive personnel effected at the annual general meeting of the bank's shareholders.

Formerly general manager, Mr. McLeod succeeds S. J. Moore, of Toronto, who was named chairman of the board, a newly created office. The new president is succeeded by H. P. Patterson, of Toronto, the former senior assistant general manager. Hector F. McInnes, of Halifax retains the position of vice-president.

The new general manager has held his previous position for six years. Previously he saw service in practically every one of the bank's important branches.

He is succeeded by H. D. Burns, of Toronto. Two other appointments were made at today's meeting. E. Crockett, chief supervisor of branches, was named an assistant general manager to replace Mr. Burns. In turn, he is replaced by Grant Macintyre, a supervisor.

TURKEY SAVES BOY FROM FANGS OF DEADLY COBRA

Worcester, South Africa, Jan. 24—A turkey saved the life of a little boy here by attacking and pecking to death a deadly yellow cobra which was about to strike at the lad.

The boy's father Johan Peinaar, was awakened from an afternoon nap by his son's screams and saw the cobra rearing up and swaying before the boy.

The turkey, sitting on its nest nearby, rushed to battle and killed the snake before the father could reach his son.

Hon. D. Stewart, minister of public works, is registered at the Barker House today and will attend the meeting of the cabinet tonight.