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BAKER'S CHOCOLATE—Same low prices, 16c. and 20c. a cake.

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Our fresh ground coffee can't be beaten. Try a pound—

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BRANCH STORE - WOODSTOCK

WESTERN MEMBERS SPEAK IN THE BUDGET DEBATE

Hon. Mr. Crerar Tells Why He Resigned from the Government—Found His Views at Variance With Those of His Colleagues on the Government's Fiscal Policy—Hon. Mr. Crerar Says That the Tariff is Not Now an Issue.

Ottawa, June 11—Members of the commons who anticipated a livening up of the budget debate because Hon. T. A. Crerar and Hon. J. A. Calder were billed to speak were not disappointed today.

The ex-minister and the minister were both heard from and both held the attention of the house so closely that practically no one left the chamber during the two speeches.

Mr. Crerar told the house why he felt impelled to leave the government while the minister of immigration and colonization explained why he supported the budget proposals of the finance minister.

Mr. Crerar explained that he had dropped out of the government because he found himself in sharp opposition to his colleagues on the fiscal policy and the only honorable course to pursue was to tender his resignation.

Mr. Calder, on the other hand, maintained that a full demobilization is complete the tariff is not an issue.

Wants Relief at Once

Mr. Crerar objected to the budget because of its protectionist tendencies, while Mr. Calder maintained that he would have been satisfied had no tariff changes been announced this session. He agreed with Sir Thomas White's proposal to have a tariff revision a little later on, whereas Mr. Crerar was of the opinion that relief should be given now, as a means of helping production and reducing the cost of living.

The ex-minister of agriculture suggested various means of raising revenue, including a tax on unimproved values of land, which he said would yield from seventy-five to eighty million dollars per annum.

The fiscal policy of the Dominion should be modified in the light of the great events the country was passing through.

Crerar Will be Missed

Mr. Calder told the house that he had endeavored to persuade Mr. Crerar to remain in the cabinet because he could not be replaced and his retirement would be a loss to the country. He emphasized the point that the retirement of other unionists from the cabinet would precipitate a political crisis and asserted that despite the pleadings and even threats of many of his friends he proposed to follow his own counsel. He intimated his belief that when the principles underlying the revision of the tariff become a matter of consideration by the cabinet the time may have arrived for the retirement of other ministers from the government.

In closing he expressed the fear that a dangerous situation would be created if no effort is made to remove the cleavage between the east and the west.

Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux

Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, who followed Mr. Cockshutt, thought it amusing that Mr. Calder, who in 1917 had said "that union government under Borden was impossible, now said 'we must not play politics.'" Despite what the minister had said there was no fear of a general election, he said, because no Conservative government had ever gone to the country three years in advance.

Inquiry Ordered

The government has ordered an inquiry into the Winnipeg disturbance Announcement to this effect was made by Sir Robert Borden, in the house this afternoon in reply to Mr. MacKenzie.

"So far as the serious occurrence to which my honored friend alludes said Sir Robert, 'the government has re-

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LETTUCE.

quested that an investigation should be made as quickly as possible into the circumstances in order that we may have reliable information as to the injuries which are said to have been sustained by some of the returned soldiers and especially by one very distinguished soldier who won the Victoria Cross. The latest information that we have as to the conditions in Winnipeg today is that they are quite disturbed, but the arrangements which have been made for coping with anything that may arise are believed to be entirely adequate."

Only One Course

Hon. T. A. Crerar resumed the debate on the budget. The house was well filled and there was a good attendance of the general public in the galleries. He began by saying that in view of his resignation from the government, it was but proper that he should refer briefly to the circumstances of his joining the government and the circumstances of his withdrawal. In 1917, it was quite clear that a serious situation faced the Canadian people. There has been in western Canada a strong desire that some form of national government should be formed in order that Canada's contribution towards winning the war should be most effective. The prime minister invited him to join the government and being representative of a certain body of opinion, he accepted the invitation from a sense of duty. Under similar circumstances he would take the same step again.

Mr. Crerar said that when he had joined the government he had made it clear he had not surrendered the principles to which he adhered. There was one outstanding issue, however, and everything else for the time being submerged under that issue. Now the war was over. The armistice was signed seven months, and we were to witness a peace that would be lasting in character. That being the case and when it came to a consideration of what the fiscal policy of Canada should be, he found himself in sharp opposition to the government. There was only one honorable course to pursue and that was to tender his resignation.

In reviewing the policy which led him to take this action he said one fact that stood out as a beacon light was that the national debt of Canada would be \$1,950,000,000 and that Canada would require to raise annually \$300,000,000. They found that even that sum would scarcely suffice for the requirements. After mentioning other necessities he said:

"We have shall I say, as the result of mistaken policies in the past to raise \$10,000,000 to meet the deficit in our national railways."

Canada said Mr. Crerar was an expensive country to govern. Her immense distances enhanced expenditures. Assuming that \$300,000,000 would have to be raised and the question arose as to how this was to be done. On this point he took issue with the present proposals of the finance minister. The question of how taxes were to be raised had always been a vital one in every country. Under the present budget, it was proposed to raise the revenue mainly by customs and excise duties. Last year an additional \$45,000,000 tax had been placed on the people of Canada by way of customs revenues.

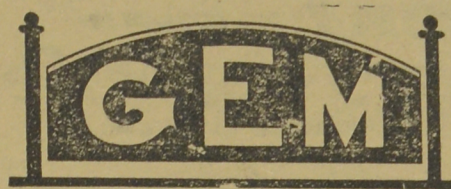
Inconsistent He Says

Mr. Crerar said the present one in his opinion was a protectionist budget. He asked why the seven and a half per cent war tax had been taken off certain articles and left on others. The action of the government in this respect was inconsistent. As far as the reduction in freight rates went, Mr. Crerar declared that this was an effort on the part of the government to satisfy the farmers of the west, without removing protection from the Canadian manufacturers, at the expense of the maritime province farmers. Why was the government discriminating in favor of the western farmer at the expense of those in the east?"

It was a poor policy, Mr. Crerar went to mix up freight rates with tariff.

What was the influence of protection on the national policy? Canada was a country of great natural wealth in agriculture, minerals, fisheries and timber. The problem was how these resources could be most soundly and wisely developed.

If the tariff was materially reduced (Continued on page 4)



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