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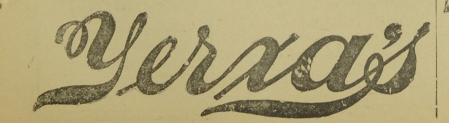
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W. Land

Hon. Mr. Fielding Contends That the Consolidated Revenue Act is Being Set at Defiance — Calls Attention to the Gravity of a Clause in Bill—Sir Thos. White Defends the Measure— Grand Trunk May Soon be Acquired.

n the very near future will be the of an exceedingly large railway sysargest system of its kind in the world, tem embracing some 20,000 miles or with more than 20,000 miles of lines more and including the Intercolonial, stretching from the Atlantic to the National Transcontinental the Canad-Pacific. This was the contention of the ian Northern, the G. T. P. and the G. Hon. W. S. Fielding whose powerful T. R. With all these there would be protest, late tonight against the pro- in Canada two great railway systems olidated Revenue act was the out- systems. standing feature of another all-day "Provided you have competent di-Railways. The veteran parliamentar- "and presuming you have officials of ian called attention to the gravity and the same standing and integrity of the significance of a clause in the bill pro-officials of the C. P. railway, and, pro riding that the expenses of the peo- viding that you have a thorough audit ole's railways shall be paid out of the and annual report. I think you have evenues and that the deficits shall be surrounded the undertaking with all made good out of unappropriated rev-reasonable safeguards. It would be immues in the consolidated revenue fund practicable to have the National rail-If this clause was allowed to pass. ways run as a department of the govhe agreed parliament would have no ernment with everything audited by ay whatever in the expenditures of the auditor-general." the National railways and no esti- Hon. Mr. Fielding was not satisfied mates would be submitted to the house with this explanation. "The finance Parliament would strain at the expen- minister tells us this thing should not diture of a few thousand dollars by be undertaken by parliament because the post office department, the cus- it is so big. That is the very reason toms department and other depart- why parliament should tackle it. That ments of the government and would is the very reason why we should adswallow without a moments scrutiny here to the practise of the past. We expenditures of millions of dollars by do not allow the post office department he National railways.

"We will be told proceeded Mr. rielding "that it would be most convenient for the ministers if they did his department. not have to bother about appropriatons; indeed the truth is that parliament is inconvient for the ministers at over" for consideration later on. all times. In spite of that I submit that nstead of setting at defiance the Con solidated Revenue act the government should bring this clause into harmony with it. For fifty years we have been making estimates of the cost of operating the intercolonial railway and it would be just as easy to make estimates of the cost of operating 20,000 miles of railway as 2,000 miles; the principle is the same. There is nothing in the argument that we cannot make an estimate and this department of the government should comply with the terms of the Consolidated Revenue Bonar Law, Duke of Rothesay, Earl of act as other departments are obliged Chatham and Hampton Court.

Acting Premier's Reply

Sir Thomas White said he always placed great weight upon any observation of Mr. Fielding with regard to financial operation but this matter was not a question of inconvenience so much as a question of practical imposlibility. He maintained that this railvay company of which the govern nent was the virtual owner was not a same sense that the post office and customs and other departments were. The government railways were being operated as a corporation and their affairs must be conducted as corporations conducted their business. Sin Thomas thought the government rail ways should be run as a company paying its expenses out of its reven ues, subject to a thorough system of audit. He admitted the need for strict est kind of check on receipts and ex penditures to prevent abuse of power and control of money. Under the proposed plan of operation the govern ment railways would carry on subject to audit as the Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk railways do.

The acting prime minister indicated that progress is being made in the negotiations for the acquisition of the old Grand Trunk railway by the government when he said, "We have to look forward to the problem, which will be

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satisfied.

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Ottawa, April 24-Parliament should created by the acquisition of the G ontrol every penny of expenditure by T. P. and the G. T. R., Then the govhe Canadian National Railways which ernment will find itself in possession posed setting at defiance of the Con- - the C. P. and the Canadian National

fight in the commons over the bill to rectors in whom the people have the ncorporate the Canadian National utmost confidence." added Sir Thomas

to disregard the Consolidated Revenue act. The minister of customs does not control one penny of the revenue of

Mr. Fielding won his point for the time being and the clause was "laid

undergraduate soldiers for the noble part they have taken in the Great War Primary Chapter Reports

The Primary Chapter reports of the following chapters were then called for and read, Royal Arms, Windsor Resolutions Discussed

Resolutions concerning the follow ing were discussed:

1. The introduction of Mrs. Par sons' Manual regarding the order of meeting.

2. Credential Committee at the Na-

3. Sending representatives to the quarterly and annual meting of the Provincial Chapter.

Councillors

Those appointed as Councillors were

Mrs. R. FitzRandolph, Mrs. W. J Scott, Mrs. W. C. Crocket, Mrs. B. C. Foster. Mrs. G. W. Hodge, Mrs. E. A. Smith, Miss E. Stopford, Mrs. A. J. Gregory, Mrs. Freeman Lake, Miss Jean Hodge, Mrs. D. L. McLaren, Mrs Hugh Mackay, Miss Louise Sterling, Mrs. A. B. Pipes, Mrs. G. C. Van Wart, Mrs. L. P. D. Tilley, Mrs. Fenton. Miss Jarvis, Miss Dorothy Jones, Mrs. Courtlandt Robinson, Miss Gertrude Lawson, Mrs. Dugal, Mrs. M. G. Teed, Miss Edith Miller and Mrs. Vroom.

Following the announcement con cerning the appointment of Councillors the meeting adjourned for supper. During this period Miss Ella L. Thorne occupied the chair and several excellent selections were rendered by the nandolin orchestra for the benefit of ose who remained.

Officers Elected

After luncheon the ballots were ounted and it was found that the folowing officers had been elected. Honorary President, Mrs. Wm. Pug-

President, Mrs. R. FitzRandolph. 1st Vice President, Mrs. W.C. Crock

2nd Vice President, Mrs. G. K. Mc Leod.

Secretary. Mrs. W. J. Scott. Assistant Secretary, Miss Ellie Stop

Educational Secretary, Mrs. B. C

Echo Secretary, Mrs. A. J. Greg Organizing Secretary, Mrs. E. A

Treasurer, Miss Jean Hodge. Standard Bearer, Miss Louise Ster-



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IN A SWEETLY ROMANTIC STORY

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"THE IRON TEST"

Mon. ELSIE FERGUSON in "UNDER THE GREENWOOD TREE."

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