

## THE SITUATION AT OTTAWA REMAINS UNCHANGED

**Efforts of the Tory-Nationalist Combination to Apply the Gag Proved Fruitless---Splendid and Effective Speeches Made by Liberals---Mr. Carvell Led a Night Attack on the Government---Tories Still Refuse Information Asked For**

Ottawa, March 6---Midnight found parliament still struggling in the throes of Monday's sitting and the deadlock precipitated by Hon. Robert Rogers still unchanged. The Liberals have valiantly held the fort for seventy-nine hours, with forty-four hours still to go before midnight, allowing for the brief dinner adjournments each night.

And "The going is easy" Liberals declare that under the system of relay organized by Chief Whip Pardee, the work of attendance on parliament is much easier than under ordinary conditions. On the average, twelve speakers a day suffice when helped out by the obstructive interruptions from the ministerial benches. The speeches might, of course, admit of some condensation and the boring down of quotations but it is remarkable that practically without exception all have been lucid, logical and strictly relevant.

Really, splendid and effective speeches, dealing at all hours of the day and night with new phases of the general problem to the yawning and unengaged members on the government side of the House, have been practically unreported in the press. Even Hansard working under an unprecedented strain has had to be greatly abridged and speeches of an hour's duration are represented with a brief official paragraph or so.

The Liberals have still plenty of unused material to go on, and important speeches still to be delivered by Hon. George P. Graham, Hon. Francis still have plenty of unused material to go on and important speeches are still to be delivered by Hon. George P. Graham, Hon. Frank Oliver, Dr. Michael Clark and Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

On the government side of the house, members are busy studying parliamentary procedure with a view to preparing themselves for the debate on the government's coming attempt at closure. When time hangs heavy on their hands they often resort to interruptions calculated to be either facetious, disconcerting or else to give some show of attempted argument in reply.

The ministers have found the situation particularly trying, and their office work, the receiving of deputations, etc., has been allowed to go by the board. They are still stubbornly refusing to supply the information asked for almost hourly by the Liberal speakers.

### GAG TACTICS FAIL

An attempt to apply the gag in parliament was tonight when John Currie, M.P., took the chair, and after a point had been raised that Winston Churchill's speech could not be quoted a second time, added that the point of order could not be debated.

Dr. Pugsley questioned this. Major Currie, from the chair insisted that he was right.

Dr. Pugsley still questioned it and Speaker Sproule was called in. The question was repeated to him by Acting Chairman Currie and Dr. Sproule read the report to the house. Premier Borden protested against the ruling of the Conservative chairman, Major Currie.

Speaker Sproule asked all who supported Acting Chairman Currie's ruling to stand. Nationalist Savigny was the only man who stood up.

Speaker Sproule then declared the ruling wrong and the Liberal speaker resumed the argument.

Much of the speaking during the night was done by French Canadian members. The dramatic incidents which marked the previous nights sitting were for the most part lacking. A. B. McCoig of West Kent, who followed Hugh Guthrie, spoke for a couple of hours and was followed by James Douglas of Strathcona who maintained that the government's policy would lead to centralization and would be to the detriment of Canada and the empire.

### CARVELL LED NIGHT RELAY

The next speaker was Mr. Michaud of Victoria, N. B., who maintained

that the people should be consulted. The only thing that the government could do, he said, was to vote money and sing patriotic airs. They wanted to give money without blood, brawn or brains.

Mr. Lachance of Quebec centre got into a number of disputes with Albert Sevigny of Dorchester, who contended that the real enemies of the empire in Canada today were to be found on the government benches, while the friends of the empire were those who could build a Canadian navy in time or trouble. Mr. Lachance concluded at 5 a. m., when he was succeeded by Mr. Gauthreau, of Temiscouata, who in turn was succeeded by Joe Demers of St. John's N. B.

The opposition watch during the night was led by Mr. F. B. Carvell, who was supported by Hon. Dr. Beland, the speakers already mentioned and William Kay, J. M. McMillan and others.

The government forces during the night were led by Hon. Frank Cochrane, who was joined at 6 o'clock in the morning by Hon. Robert Rogers and Hon. J. D. Reid. Back of the ministers throughout the night sat a group of twenty to thirty members who determined that they would not be caught napping by any snap division. Mr. Rogers' entrance to the house was signalled by a chorus of "carried," which moved Mr. McMillan of Glengarry to remark "there will be no Manitoba rough house here."

### TODAY'S PROGRAM

Those attending the Unique today are promised a big treat in the beautiful hand colored film "The Lace Makers Romance." This feature comes highly recommended by the film exchange and in presenting it to their patrons the Unique management felt sure that it will fulfill the most sanguine expectation. Pathe Weekly number 9 and "Bronco Billy's Ward" featuring Mr. G. M. Anderson are also being shown.

During the early morning hours Mr. Carvell called for additional information which he said had been promised by Premier Borden and which was not forthcoming. What he wanted particularly was information regarding the percentage of the cost of armaments, stores, etc., for Bristol cruisers contained in Mr. Borden's estimates.

Mr. Carvell said that the admiralty memorandum showed sixteen per cent., while the premier and Mr. Hazen made it forty per cent. The people, he said, were entitled to an explanation of the discrepancies.

Dr. Michael Clark of Red Deer, supported the request. He wondered if the government was afraid to give the information. To him it appeared that their case was unsound.

When Mr. Demers was speaking at an early hour this morning, he quoted from the speech made by Hon. Geo. E. Foster in the house in 1909, in which he discouraged the idea of contribution. Deputy Speaker Blondin, who was in the chamber, stopped Mr. Demers and ruled that he could not read a quotation more than once. Immediately there was a protest on the part of E. M. MacDonald, who said it was not fair to the opposition. It would inconvenience them if they were not permitted to quote freely from speeches relating to the question under discussion. They should, for instance, be at liberty to quote as often as they like the speech made by Mr. Blondin himself in which he said that it had been necessary to shoot holes in the Union Jack in order to breathe the air of liberty.

Mr. Blondin did not withdraw his ruling, but Mr. Demers was permitted to quote from Mr. Foster's speech statements which applied to the point he was discussing.

A large part of the forenoon sitting was occupied with a speech by Hon. Chas. Murphy. He thought it was extraordinary that in a constitutional country a great question of this kind should be decided by a test of physical strength in the commons and not by the votes of the people. The

## CIVIC ELECTION LAW

To the Editor of The Mail:

Dear Sir---Inasmuch as there is an attempt being made to fasten the responsibility for the obnoxious legislation regarding the appointment of scrutineers in the civic election upon the Citizen's Committee which promoted the bill last year, the Committee hereby quotes the sections from each of the bills that the electors may be in a position to know the facts.

The bill promoted by the City Council last year contained the following sections bearing upon the appointment of scrutineers:--

1. (1) For the purposes of the election of Mayor and Alderman, the City Council of the City of Fredericton shall fix and determine each year the number of polling places to be held in each of the two electoral sub-divisions of the said City, and shall also appoint a Presiding Officer, Poll Clerk and two Scrutineers and a Constable to conduct the election at each polling place.

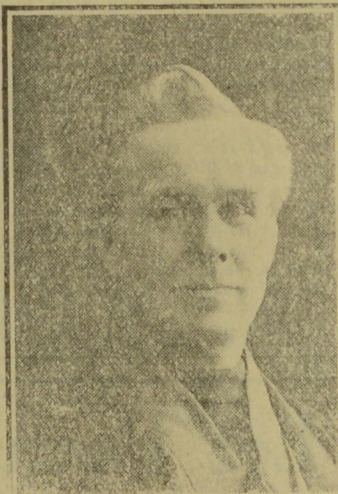
4. The only persons permitted in the room where such vote is being taken, shall be the Presiding Officer, Poll Clerk, the Scrutineers and Constable appointed as aforesaid.

These sections became law and were opposed by the representatives of the Citizen's Committee before the Committee of the Legislature.

The bill promoted by the Citizen's Committee last year contained the following section bearing upon the appointment of scrutineers:--

6. (1) The City Clerk shall at least four clear days before the day of polling, appoint two qualified electors for each polling booth as scrutineers for such booth, who shall attend thereat during the holding of the poll, for the purpose of preventing every way possible any personation or attempt to vote by any voter who is not duly qualified or entitled to vote or who has been bribed or in any way disqualified from voting. In case any candidate is dissatisfied with either of the scrutineers appointed by the City Clerk, he shall notify the City Clerk of his dissatisfaction, and shall thereupon have the right to appoint a qualified elector to represent him as his agent, and such appointment shall be in writing signed by the candidate and addressed to and filed with the City Clerk one clear day preceding the day of the polling. If the City Clerk fail to appoint the agents as aforesaid, any candidate shall have

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COL. BULLARD

A prominent officer in the Salvation Army will arrive here tomorrow morning and will address a meeting in the Citadel at 8 p. m. On Sunday afternoon at 345 he will address a Mass Meeting in St. Paul's Church. On Sunday evening at 8.15 o'clock he will speak in the Methodist Church.

Concerning Col. Bullard the Glace Bay Gazette says:--

"At three o'clock the Colonel lectured in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, which had kindly been placed at the disposal of the Army for the occasion. All available space was occupied by the immense congregation which gathered to hear the distinguished visitor, and seldom has there been a more able and instructive lecturer in Glace Bay than Colonel Bullard."

"The meeting was presided over by John C. Douglas, M.P.P., who in a vote of thanks Rev. Dr. Gillies, Councillor Arthur McDonald moved fitting terms introduced the speaker. ended the same."

discussion, he said, should not stop until all the figures essential to a proper consideration of the question have been furnished by the government.

Mr. Murphy argued that the time was fast approaching when the development of alshires would make war practically impossible.

## Strong Arguments in Favor of Perpetuity of Leases

**Big Delegation of Lumbermen Here Before the Government--H. A. Powell, K. C. Presents Case and is Supported by Senator Edwards of Ottawa and F. M. Anderson of Campbellton--Quebec Has the Best Timber Policy and New Brunswick the Worst Says Senator Edwards--Premier Promises Consideration**

A big delegation of lumbermen and limit-holders waited upon the government in the Assembly Chamber on Thursday evening and made out a strong case in favor of perpetual leases. Mr. H. A. Powell, K.C., spoke first on behalf of the lumbermen and was followed by Mr. F. M. Anderson of Campbellton, and Hon. W. C. Edwards, a wealthy Ottawa River lumberman, who also has interests in this province. The substance of their argument was that the government, in order to place the great lumbering industry on a sound basis should grant perpetual leases of the timber limits belonging to the crown.

While little was said about the proposed increase of the stumpage, the government was told quite plainly that the rate was now higher than that which prevailed in Ontario and Quebec.

Premier Fleming in reply, assured the delegation that the question was being very carefully considered by the government and that they hoped to bring down a policy that would be fair and equitable to all interests.

Hon. Mr. Murray presided and among those present were Hon. W. C. Edwards, Ottawa; James Robinson, Millerton; G. P. Burchill, Nelson; Archibald Fraser, Fredericton; N. E. Jones, St. John; Geo. E. Foster, Chatham; R. L. Young, Taymouth; H. A. Powell, St. John; E. A. McCurdy, Newcastle; W. J. Scott, Fredericton; John O'Brien, Nelson; F. M. Anderson, Campbellton; John E. Sayre, St. John, and W. H. Sinclair, Nelson.

Mr. Hachey presented a memorial from residents of Bathurst, asking that a delegation from that section be heard before any legislation in regard to a renewal of the leases was brought down.

### MR. POWELL.

Mr. H. A. Powell, K.C., was the first speaker on behalf of the limit-holders. He pointed out that the policy adopted in this province by Mr. Blair in 1893 was practically the same as had prevailed in the older provinces of Canada. The leases were for a period of twenty-five years and now only had five more years to run. Lumbermen found it necessary to hypothecate their leases in order to secure money from the banks to carry on their business. Capital is timid at the present time and banks are telling the lumbermen that unless they can secure a renewal of their limits they will be obliged to curtail their credit. He went on to say that plans had been prepared and were now in New York for approval which when carried out would mean the establishment on the St. John River of the largest industry New Brunswick had ever known. In order to support this or any other enterprise having to do with the lumbering industry, it was necessary to give some assurance to investors that there would be no interruption in the leases.

Referring to the stumpage question he claimed that the rate was lower in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia than in New Brunswick. He contended that our lumbermen should be put on exactly the same footing as the lumbermen in the other provinces in regard to leases. It was said that the people of New Brunswick would not stand for leases held in perpetuity. He did not agree with this view and went on to say that when Mr. Blair introduced his policy for twenty-five year leases in 1893 there was a clamor but in three weeks it was as dead as Julius Caesar. Mr. Blair had been able to keep his government in power for seventeen years after adopting that policy. He didn't think there would be any public outcry if the leases were extended today for a further period of ten years.

In closing he made a strong plea to the government to grant fair play to those engaged in the lumbering industry, and in support of his case read some strong resolutions passed at a meeting of lumbermen held in the afternoon.

### MR. ANDERSON

Mr. F. M. Anderson of Campbellton was the next speaker. He told of his thirty years' experience as a lumberman, and went on to say that operations in some sections were carried on under much greater expense than in others. He admitted that lumber was bringing a high price but expenses are greater and the industry is not nearly as profitable as it was years ago.

In Restigouche, he said, the snow fall was heavier than in other sections of the province, consequently the expense of getting out the lumber is greater. The popular belief that lumbermen are making barrels of money is a fallacy. There are only two lumbermen in the province today who finance their own business. He was strongly in favor of perpetual leases.

### SENATOR EDWARDS

Hon. Mr. Edwards, who was next called upon, thanked the members of the legislature for assembling to listen to the lumbermen. He did not think there was any class in the community who labored so hard and got so little for their labor as the lumbermen. In his own province very few lumbermen had achieved success. He would say as a practical lumberman that the province of Quebec has the best regulations for governing the lumber industry. He did not wish to be offensive, but he could not help saying in New Brunswick the regulations were the worst. They are not in the interests of the lumbermen and they are not in the interests of the province. Under a short tenure of the leases the government is practically offering a premium for the depletion of its resources. Under a long tenure, if the lumberman has any sense at all, he is given a premium for the conserva-

tion of the natural resources. There is not as much timber in Canada as many people suppose. He did not believe in ten years, considering the enormous development of Canada that Quebec will be a lumber exporting province.

On the other hand he thought that if our lumber resources were properly conserved we would be able to supply the pulp and paper trade of the world for years to come. He believed it would be a good thing for New Brunswick to have a number of pulp and paper mills. A limited tenure of lease is a mistake, and perpetuity is the only sound principle. If you are to encourage the establishment of pulp mills you must be prepared to grant perpetual leases. Every lumberman on the Ottawa River is a borrower and if his limits were taken away from them they would have nothing. As a bank director he could assure the Premier that ordinary mercantile pursuits did not require the assistance from banks that the lumber industry required. He knew of a number of mercantile concerns who got along without borrowing a dollar from the banks.

Hon. Mr. Edwards said he knew of one or two pulp and paper industries which were desirous of establishing plants in this province, but were afraid to do so because of the condition. He told of the evolution from lumbering to pulp and paper manufacture that was going on in other provinces and thought the same condition of affairs would soon prevail here. He wanted the government to deal with the question in a broad minded and fair manner.

Mr. Powell's statement that the New Brunswick lumbermen pay a higher rate of stumpage than those of Quebec and Ontario he said was absolutely correct. He went on to

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## CIVIC AFFAIRS DISCUSSED AT LARGELY ATTENDED MEETING

**His Lordship Bishop Richardson and Rev. Dr. Smith the Speakers--An Independent Police Commission for the City Advocated--Lax Enforcement of the Scott Act Complained of--The Election Law**

A large and representative gathering met last night in the Opera House to hear two of Fredericton's most foremost citizens discuss some phases of civic affairs. The large audience, among whom were quite a number of ladies, shows there is a keen interest in the question around which most of the speaking centred, namely, the control of the police, whether the present system should remain or whether the idea of an independent commission should prevail. Chancellor C. C. Jones of the University of New Brunswick, occupied the chair and with him on the platform were a number of men who stood for the principle of an independent commission.

Rev. Bishop Richardson was the first speaker. He made his position clear at the outset that he stood in a position absolutely independent. He did not represent any set of men or any party, but was to speak on the general subject of Law Enforcement.

"The real responsibility for the enforcement of all law," said His Lordship, "rests with the people. It is easy to be an arm-chair critic, but the ultimate responsibility rests with those who are professors of the franchise. If there are weaknesses in our civic life I have no quarrel with the men who administer the city's affairs but with the system to which the men have become slaves."

### PRESENT SYSTEM WEAK AND VICIOUS.

"The system which relegates the control of the police to a committee of the common council is hopelessly weak and inherently vicious. The life of Fredericton compares favorably with other cities, yet there are glaring evils in our midst and the problem is how to meet them. We meet evil with law, but law will not enforce itself. For its enforcement we can employ policemen, but that is not enough. To whom shall they be responsible? Take the experience of the past year. Could such a state of affairs as we have witnessed have taken place if the present system were good? I have heard it explained that the ex-chief had no power or authority. If that is so, then the system is responsible for the state of affairs which unfortunately prevailed. I ask you as men of sane judgment, are you satisfied with the way the liquor law is enforced? What guarantee have we that the old conditions will not re-assert themselves and rise hydra-headed in their old form. The only salvation is a new system. I do not guarantee that the changed system will be a panacea for all evil but I do look for vast improvement."

### MAJESTY OF LAW.

"The want of system is not our only weakness. There is a weakness (Continued on page 5)