

## BORDEN NAVAL BILL WAS DISCUSSED IN COMMITTEE

Plan of Late Liberal Government Was to Have Warships Built in St. John and Montreal--Much Discussion Over Different Sections of the Bill--Dr. Pugsley Questions the Accuracy of Figures Submitted by Premier Borden

Ottawa, Feb. 28--The naval bill was discussed in committee today and a great deal of interesting information was the result. The government supplied an estimate of the cost of two fleet units and E. M. McDonald pointed to a serious discrepancy, amounting to fourteen million dollars, from a previous estimate.

The first clause of the bill declaring the act may be cited as the Canadian Naval Act, was adopted.

Premier Borden moved the House into committee of the whole on the naval bill at the earliest opportunity and Liberals promptly set out in a vigorous quest for information. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, himself, set the ball rolling by renewing his request for the facts concerning cost which the premier said had been supplied to him by the admiralty last month.

### CONSTRUCTION FIGURES.

Premier Borden replied by giving detailed figures as to the alleged cost of building two fleet units in Canada as proposed by the Liberal chief. The figures the premier gave were as follows:

One battleship cruiser, or dreadnought, \$17,785,650, three cruisers, \$8,307,950, six torpedo boat destroyers, \$5,745,000, three submarines, \$1,450,300, total, \$24,288,600.

Total for two fleet units, built in Canada, as proposed by the Liberals \$28,577,200.

These figures, said Mr. Borden, were computed by the experts in the marine department on a basis one-third higher than the cost of building the fleets in England. He quoted the following figures as being supplied him by the admiralty for building the same vessels in England:

One battleship cruiser or dreadnought, \$12,906,887, three cruisers, \$6,009,600, six destroyers, \$4,102,600, three submarines, \$1,776,333.

In addition to this Mr. Borden said the admiralty included in its estimates the sum of \$813,413 for sea stores and fuel as part of the first cost.

### CAMMELL LAIRD CO'S TENDER.

Hon. Dr. Pugsley directed attention to the fact that in May, 1911, the old established firm of Cammell Laird Company had tendered to the former government for actually constructing the vessels at St. John for an amount some \$800,000 less per vessel than Mr. Borden estimated.

Replying, Premier Borden confessed that the admiralty had estimated the cost of construction in Britain, but the Canadian government had estimated the cost of construction in Canada.

Dr. Pugsley said it was important to know on what basis the government made its estimates. It was to be remembered that in the past couple of years, there had been an increase of twenty-five per cent. in the wages paid in British shipyards. In view of this it was probably not correct to arbitrarily increase the estimate of the cost of construction in Canada by thirty-three per cent.

Dr. Pugsley then placed on record the correspondence between the former government and the Cammell Laird Company who put in the tender to build at St. John the vessels which the former government proposed to build. He thought the premier must now be including the cost of building shipyards in Canada.

Mr. Borden said that the construction and equipment of a complete plant capable of supplying engines, armor plate, guns and everything required in Canada would be \$15,000,000.

Mr. McDonald, Picton, asked how Australia had managed. What Australia could do Canada could do.

Mr. Borden maintained that the Australian ships must have been largely constructed in Britain and taken out to Australia in parts.

### WOULD HAVE BEEN BUILT IN ST. JOHN.

Mr. Davidson, Annapolis, wanted to know if the Cammell Laird Com-

pany would have received the contract to proceed with construction at St. John had the Laurier government been returned to power.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier stated that the contract called for the works both at St. John and Montreal. They would have been proceeded with.

Dealing with the government claim that shipyards could not be established in Canada, Dr. Pugsley urged Premier Borden to visit Quincy, Mass., before he repeated the statement and personally inspect the Fore River Company's works there. Twelve years ago the site of their yards was merely an open field and today they were constructing the largest vessels in the world and employing an immense staff of artisans the year round.

Dr. Pugsley gave the House official figures to show that the government was in the minority in the country on this morning's vote passing the second reading of the Borden bill. At the general election the government had secured a popular majority of 44,000 but on the vote of this morning the seats represented by those voting against the measure showed a popular majority of 2,000 over the seats represented by those approving the measure.

Major Currie remarked that was "the most foolish argument I have ever heard," a statement Chairman Blouin ruled he must withdraw, which he did, amid general laughter.

Hon. Mr. Hazen maintained that the cost of building American battleships was \$120 more a ton than in the United Kingdom. The cost in the United States was \$543 a ton and in 1911 the Lion was built in England for \$133 a ton.

Mr. MacDonald wanted the source of the minister's information and Mr. Hazen said it had been made up by officers of the naval service in his department.

### DOUBTS ACCURACY OF FIGURES.

Dr. Michael Clark frankly expressed doubt as to the accuracy of the statements submitted by Premier Borden in regard to the construction in Canada. In Britain at the present time, he said, there was less unemployed among skilled artisans than in any other country in the world. The figures showed that the percentage of unemployed was 1.8 per 1,000. He had seen it stated the other day that there were enough unemployed in the City of Calgary to man a warship.

It was to be remembered that the wages paid to shipbuilders on the Tyne were high. As for raw materials Canada has an immense advantage in this respect. Dr. Clark said that much time would be spared if the premier would frankly state that he had come to the conclusion that the shipbuilding industry could not be developed in Canada.

Premier Borden replied that in his speech of Dec. 15 he had stated that the government was ready to encourage shipbuilding in Canada but he did not consider this was the best way to go about it.

The House adjourned shortly before midnight, after passing the preamble of the bill, which contains nothing of a contentious nature. The bill will be proceeded with on Monday.

### NATIVE OF FREDERICTON

From the Catholic Universal of London we clip the following: Exeter--The death took place at Exeter last Friday of Mrs. McGregor, Mother of Father George McGregor C.R.L. of Christchurch Priory, Eltham, Kent. Deceased passed away after a brief illness. The interment took place on Wednesday of this week after a Requiem at the Church of the Sacred Heart.

(Mrs. McGregor was the daughter of the late Mr. B. McCaffrey and a native of Fredericton (as also is her son the priest) and was married in St. Dunstan's Church in June, 1867)

Appellate division refuses to allow subv. injunction proceedings to be carried to Court of Appeals.

## UNIVERSAL TRAINING DISCUSSED AT MILITIA CONFERENCE

A Gallant Colonel From Coburg Wages War on the Press

SENSIBLE TALK FROM A MONTREAL WOMAN

Ottawa, Feb. 28--Universal training was the big subject of discussion in the annual militia conference with Col. Hon. Sam Hughes today. All the military organizations assembled here for their annual convention, were represented, and the subject was dealt with by fully a dozen speakers, most of them strongly in favour of universal training with various modification.

The subject was introduced by Lt. Col. Rathbun, of Deseronto, who said that it was impossible to launch such a scheme in Canada at present, but that education of the public through the press in favor of the system, should begin at once.

Lt. Col. Hall, of Victoria, B. C.; Lt. Col. Kemmis, of Calgary; Lt. Col. Loggie, of Hamilton; Col. Steele of Winnipeg, and others, spoke along similar lines.

Col. Floyd, of Cobourg, attacked the press. Before starting any new movement, he said, it was necessary to get to the newspapers and put up \$30 to buy the editor.

Col. Hughes said that Col. Floyd had never been in politics when he asked of \$30 going far with the newspapers.

Mrs. Cole, wife of Col. Cole, of Montreal, the first woman to address a military conference in Canada, declared that it was useless to talk of universal training. Canada would not stand for it, but the militia should be popularized, especially with the mothers and made much stronger.

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## GREAT PREPARATIONS FOR WILSON'S INAUGURAL ON TUESDAY

Will be the First Democratic President in Sixteen Years

CELEBRATION TO BE SIMPLE BUT IMPRESSIVE

Washington, D.C., March 1--Preparations for the inauguration of Woodrow Wilson and Thomas R. Marshall the first Democratic President and Vice President that the country has had in sixteen years are complete and the various committees make the prophecy that the ceremonies of next Tuesday will be the most brilliant and picturesque of any previous inaugural event. Prediction is made also that when Mr. Wilson and Mr. Marshall ride down Pennsylvania Avenue on the way to the Capitol to take the oath of office the greatest crowd that ever welcomed an incoming President and Vice President will shout itself hoarse.

The inaugural committee has used every means in its power to make the celebration one that will live in the minds of all who witness it for years to come. In point of brilliancy of decoration, in the matter of inaugural parade, in the arrangements for the illumination of the city and a display of fireworks Tuesday night it is believed that the Wilson and Marshall inauguration will surpass all others.

The inaugural ball will be the only customary feature left out of the programme and this will not be missed by the general public. The ball was dispensed with at the special request of the president elect.

The rush of visitors into the capital began in earnest today. The most of those already on hand are the experienced ones, who desire to get comfortably settled before the

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## MARYSVILLE TOWN ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR JUST ENDED

Small Balance Unexpended--Upwards of \$900 Spent in Markey Case, Important Item of Contingent Account

Matysville, March 1--Following is a true statement of the Town receipts and disbursements for the year just ended, including the assessment. A very interesting item is that found in the contingent accounts where over a thousand dollars were paid out in lawyers' fees, \$945 being legal expenses in the Markey case which went against the town and was appealed the town losing the second time. The Markey case is quite famous. It was interference to a dog tax amounting to one dollar which Mr. Phillip Markey refused to pay for. He was arrested, being under doctor's care at the time. He sued the town for false imprisonment. Mr. J. D. Phinney handled the case for him and won out and the town as stated before paid over nine hundred dollars.

### TOWN ASSESSMENT FOR 1912.

For County Purposes ..... \$2,005.65  
Sidewalks ..... 400.00  
\*Roads and Streets ..... 700.00  
Maintenance of Poor ..... 550.00  
Maintenance of Police ..... 580.00  
Board of Health ..... 30.00  
Sewerage ..... 85.00  
Contingencies ..... 1,150.00

\$5,500.00  
\*Roads \$600, Moosehoorn Brook Bridge \$100.

### RECEIPTS

Balance of 1911 ..... \$996.21  
Taxes collected from 1911 and previous years ..... 567.68  
Taxes collected for 1912 ..... 4,625.68  
Dog Taxes ..... 86.00  
Licenses ..... 81.00  
Fines ..... 120.80  
From Poor Etc ..... 7.00  
Sale of Old Sidewalk ..... 3.50  
Executions ..... 2.60

\$6,490.16

### DISBURSEMENTS

Police ..... \$ 590.00  
Contingent ..... 1,347.30  
Poor ..... 238.18  
Roads and Streets ..... 583.77  
Sidewalks ..... 588.77  
Sewerage ..... 207.80  
Board of Health ..... 8.75  
County ..... 2,509.64

\$6,384.21

Balance ..... \$105.95

### CONTINGENT ACCOUNT

By Amount of Assessment ..... \$1,150.00  
To Balance ..... \$1,983.54  
Legal expenses Markey vs. Town:  
J. W. McCready ..... \$157.60  
O. S. Crockett ..... 165.00  
J. D. Phinney ..... 622.40

\$954.00

Judgment and costs McConaghy vs. Town ..... \$40.00  
Premium on Treas. Bond ..... 20.00  
R. A. Cropley, printing etc. .... 14.00  
McMurray Book & Stationery Co., supplies ..... 15.90  
Sundry payments for Janitor fees, incidental expenses ..... 53.25

\$143.15

### SALARIES

Cameron Daily Auditor ..... \$10.00  
C. A. Smith, Assessor ..... 30.26  
D. B. Pickard ..... 30.35  
C. N. Goodspeed ..... 30.25  
A. D. Macpherson, Town Clerk ..... 50.00  
John Finnamore, Commissioner Treas. .... 99.96  
G. R. Sloat, Commission ..... 8.43

\$259.15

\$3,380.84  
Dr. Balance ..... \$2,180.84

## SCHEME TO LEASE OYSTER BEDS HAS OPPOSITION

People of Kent County Not Anxious to Share in the Blessings and Col. Sheridan Has an Amendment Adopted--The Company to Pay a Royalty of Twenty-Five Cents a Barrel on the Output

The House met on Friday at three o'clock.

Mr. Munro presented the report of the Municipalities Committee.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer presented the report of the Law Committee.

Hon. Mr. McLeod submitted a statement of the bonded debt of these City and County of St. John and the annual report of the Hotel Dieu, Tracadie.

Dr. Price presented a petition in favor of a bill to authorize the City Council of the Parish of Moncton.

Hon. Mr. McLeod presented the petition of the County of York in favor of a bill to authorize the appointment of a stipendiary or police magistrate and the erection of a lock-up in the Parish of McAdam.

Mr. Stewart (Gloucester) presented a petition in favor of a bill to amend the Towns Incorporation Act in so far as it related to the Town of Bathurst.

Hon. Dr. Landry introduced a bill to establish agricultural schools in New Brunswick. He explained that the bill met the desire of the Minister of Agriculture in assuring that the subsidies granted the various provinces for agriculture, should be used as largely as possible for agricultural education. He read the first paragraph of the bill which would afford Hon. Members an idea of what it was proposed to undertake at the Agricultural Schools. It was the intention to give instruction in the theory and practice of agriculture, horticulture, forestry, the characteristics, care and management of farm animals, butter and cheese making, domestic science and other matters relating to farming interests.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer introduced bills respecting the executive council and the clerk of the executive council.

Dr. Price presented a petition in favor of the bill to amend the act relating to the levying of rates in the City of Moncton.

The House went into committee with Mr. Stewart (Gloucester) in the chair and considered the bill to amend the Lancaster Sewerage Act.

Progress was reported.

The House went into committee with Mr. White (Victoria) in the chair and agreed to the bill relating to the estate of Lewis P. Fisher, late of the Town of Woodstock; also the bill to confirm in Elizabeth Conacher the title of certain real estate in the Town of Woodstock with amendments.

### THE OYSTER FISHERIES.

The House went into committee with Mr. Young in the chair and considered the bill respecting the oyster fisheries of the province.

Mr. Sheridan said that the oyster question in Kent County was a great one. The fishermen were up in arms against any leasing of the oyster bays and while this bill did not give any power to lease the live beds he desired to move an amendment that the surveys of the beds or bottoms of the bays, rivers and harbors of the province should not apply to the County of Kent. There were between three and four hundred men in Kent County who worked more or less at oyster fishing and who seemed to be afraid of the leasing of live beds.

Hon. Mr. Flemming said that he could quite well understand that his hon. friend from Kent had referred to the feeling of uneasiness in that county on account of the fact that a very large portion of the live oyster beds of the province were located in the waters adjacent to and in the County of Kent. It was not the intention of the government to deal at present with the live oyster beds but to secure authority to carry on surveys. He had but one objection to the suggestion of his hon. friend and that was it did not seem to him good legislation to pass a bill applying to the province and then except one portion. He had the greatest amount of sympathy with the man who had practically grown up on the water and thus secured his means of livelihood and he desired to make it as clear as it possibly could be that there was no intention on the part

of the government to deal with anything but barren areas. If hon. members had no objection he was prepared to accept this amendment to the bill. However, there was one feature that might cause a difficulty to arise and that was that the two areas, one in the County of Kent and the other in the County of Northumberland, that had been leased by the federal government in the past, had under an agreement between the minister of marine and fisheries and this government been handed over to the province.

Mr. Stewart (Northumberland) said that he believed it would be a great misfortune to accept the amendment as proposed. There was no doubt whatever that the policy of leasing the barren ground would be most beneficial. Anyone who had visited the American coast and had seen the enormous industry that had been built up there and who would see the possibilities of accomplishing something along similar lines in New Brunswick, would welcome the policy of leasing the barren bottoms. In Northumberland county there were many men interested in the oyster industry and when the first mention was made of leasing the oyster beds, the fishermen were alarmed. He had taken occasion to drive down the Miramichi River and to explain to the fishermen that the beds would not be put up by auction and he had received but one letter against the policy and that was one opposing the

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## PUBLICITY GRANT OF \$2,500 TO BE ASKED

Board of Trade Executive Met Last Night--To Support Application Re McPherson Foundry

The executive of the Board of Trade met last night and considered some matters of importance. It was decided that the Board should ask the City Council for a grant of \$2,500 for the purpose of continuing the publicity campaign inaugurated last year. The grant for 1912 was \$2,000. In asking for the increased grant the Board of Trade will give the City Council information concerning the plan laid out for the year's publicity work.

A committee is also to be appointed to interview the merchants of the city and solicit subscriptions for the publicity campaign.

The executive also decided to support the application of Messrs. Willis MacPherson and Orlando Kitchen for permission to establish in King Street a foundry, machine-shop and garage, the building to be erected by them to be of modern fire-proof construction.

## ENORMOUS LIST OF MURDER CASES

Birmingham, Ala., March 1--The complaint that a murder is of more frequent occurrence in Birmingham and its immediate vicinity than in any other community of equal size in the entire country is substantiated by the decision of the judges of the Jefferson County court to devote the entire month beginning today to murder trials. At the present time there are sixty murder cases pending, and a month will be sufficient time to dispose of only the more important ones. The large majority of persons facing capital the bulk of the population in the mining district.

12 industrial declined .24, 20 active railroads declined .41