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### COL. BELCHER ON CANADIAN NAVY

St. Catharines Ont. March 9 (Special) In course of his presidential address to Black Chapter, which convened here yesterday, prior to the grand Orange Lodge of Ontario West today, Lieut. Col. Belcher referring to navy question said: "Let us pay our fare or get off the car. We are a great people, and on every hand are evidences of great national wealth. Money can be found when wanted for other schemes. We would like the premier to be bold enough and to be brave enough to strike out like a true statesman, boldly in the path of duty."

In another part of his address, the speaker said, "Sir Wilfrid, is trifling with a serious national situation. He boldly declares that he is not an Imperialist and says, 'Imperialists are short-sighted wrongly led and pharisees.'"

I hold that the position which the premier takes is not straight or dependable. For a man high in authority to give currency to the idea that

"I hold that the position which the good kind King Edward is not seigneur and not our sovereign and that we are in any sense a sovereign nation—is foolish, rash and dangerous and tends to breed among our divided population impressions which make for separation and independence, so-called. The best that can be said is that expression is unfortunate and what might reasonably be said is that it fringes very closely on disloyalty."

### LOCAL OPTION FIGHT ON IN ST. JOHN

St. John, March 9.—The Moral and Social Reform Council last evening presented petitions to Mayor Bullock asking for a local option vote in Stanley and Sydney Wards. In presenting the petitions Mr. L. P. D. Tilley explained that it was merely a formal arrangement requested by law. The petitions were signed by more than one-quarter of the electors of each ward. In the case of Stanley Ward there were 104 names attached out of a required vote of 255, and for Queens Ward 168 out of 603 signed the document. It is believed by the temperance advocates that local option will carry in both wards.

### BIG PACKING PLANT

Edmonton Alta March 9.—(Special) Half million dollar packing plant is to be erected here during forthcoming season by P. Burns & Company Western snow slide.

## NEWS OF SPORT

### WEST WILL STICK TO HORSE RACES

That the West has already taken its place in the racing world of Canada has been the view often expressed by the Eastern press of the Dominion. The Toronto Globe in a recent issue has the following to say:—

"The Winnipeg exhibition directorate shows no lack of condition in the prospects of the turf in Canada. Optimism is a characteristic of the North-West, and there is evidently no apprehension in the Prairie Province—the Winnipeg show is the biggest thing west of Toronto—that legislation detrimental to racing will be adopted by Parliament. Both harness horses and the gallopers are well provided for this year's programme and so far forward does the committee having this department in charge look that futurity stakes to be run in 1913 are also opened for breeders. Racing, carrying with it the liberty to back opinions if one wants to, is a tremendous attraction there, and attracts the best of horses, and many visitors from as far west and north as the railroad runs. So thoroughly is this recognized by the association that they sent Dr. A. W. Bell, their general manager and secretary, to Ottawa a few weeks ago to register their opposition to Mr. Miller's bill. In connection with the announcement of this year's speed programme, Dr. Bell writes: 'If we could not allow betting it would certainly make a considerable difference in our financial report.' This does not mean that the loss of the amount of the revenue from privileges would make any material difference to the association. But if the people who have been in the habit of attending were deprived of what they consider a reasonable liberty the patronage of the exhibition would be seriously reduced, especially as attraction on the track would then be of second-rate horses."

The Winnipeg programme is an instance of the prompt appreciation by the West of popular demands. It would be an eye-opener for the lagard spirit that too greatly dominates the Eastern exhibitions if their directors could but make the journey west and see for themselves. We are not nearly so wise in the East as we think, and our assumption of superior and final knowledge is only a bar to our rational progress. However, if we are content to mark time, or to slip backwards, it is well for Canada that there is a great West, where they don't practise humbug on their fellow-citizens or themselves. Here in Ontario we maintain a childish pretence of disapproval of races at fairs by calling them "speed contests."

### HOCKEY PLAYER FINED

Three dollars and costs or thirty days in the County jail was the Magistrate Russell of Dartmouth, N. S. imposed on J. Warner, goal tender for the Mount Amelias Hockey team in the police court last week charged with assaulting A. C. Pettipas, the goal judge in the game between Amelias and St. Peter's. There was quite a number in Court to hear the case which was very short. After the charge had been read, Warner pleaded guilty. Plaintiff then gave evidence showing that the assault was unprovoked. Warner did not dispute the evidence given. The Magistrate said as Warner pleaded guilty to the charge he would be very lenient with him and would impose only a small fine.

The League officials have quite a difficult task now in securing a goal judge. At the match Friday, the captains of the respective teams were nearly five minutes before they were able to get any one to act. Those who did consent to act in that capacity armed themselves with some sort of a weapon in case excitement again overwhelmed any player. At one of the games, a goal judge had a large flat shovel by his side in case any player should dispute his decision.

### KEELER WITH TORONTO OR GIANTS

Willie Keeler, the veteran outfielder released by New York Americans says that he will either play with Toronto or New York Giants this season. He will make his decision this week. Said Keeler to a New York interviewer on Saturday:—"This is my birthday, and I will settle my age question right here. I am 38 years old, and when I say I feel fine it's not the old, old story. Take it from me as I have said before, when yours truly is fit for the old man's home I will make the decision myself. It is very true that many players may beat me there a step or two, but I think there is another year or two left. The change may do me good. I will know by next Saturday what I will do and you can say for me that I either will be with McGraw or Joe Kelley."

Baltimore offered Keeler \$500 a month to play there this season.

### CANADA'S FIRST ENTRY FOR FAMOUS DERBY

Winnipeg, March 9.—When the multitudinous crowds gather on the hills of Epsom to witness the race for the Derby of 1911, there may be many there who will cheer for a Canadian victory. In the list of entries for the race appears a colt by Kelston, owned by R. M. Dale, of Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan.

In the historical association connected with the blue ribbon of the turf, Canada—in so far as is known to the writer—never played a part. It is the wish of kings and emperors to win the blue ribbon of the turf; sportsmen of all the countries of the world have such an ambition at heart; some of them have succeeded but the greater number—a far greater number, many of whom have spent their entire fortunes with success in view—have failed.

Mr. Dale will, as stated, be the first resident of Canada to try luck for the prize and from one end of the Dominion to the other he will have the well wishes of his fellow colonials. Though men of millions have failed it may not be so with the man from the west. Win or lose, however, the entry will be a great advertisement for Qu'Appelle and the Dominion.

The owner of the colt has decided to send him to England shortly, where he will be trained for the event, but he is not saying a good deal about him at present, preferring to see how he matures with age.

In reply to a letter seeking information, Mr. Dale writes the sporting editor as follows:

Sir,—Yours of February 26th for which please accept my thanks, but I do not care to advertise the fact of my Derby entry, as I prefer to wait until the colt has shown himself worthy of notice. When he has, I shall be pleased to give you any information you may require. May be able to give you report of him this autumn, as he is going to England soon. I hope the reports will be favorable. R. M. DALE.

S. Qu'Appelle, Sask., March 2.

The owner of the Derby entry is a keen follower of racing in Canada. He has two horses entered in the Winnipeg Centennial and follows racing for the pure love of sport.

### THE EARL GREY TROPHY

The Stanley Cup is not the only big trophy to go to Montreal from Ottawa this winter.

The Earl Grey Trophy was brought to Montreal a week ago by the fouring Club, Misses Mudge and Cheval-figure skaters of the Earl Grey Skating Club and Messrs. Hall and McDougall.

The trophy is a handsome bronze statuette mounted on an ebony base, the whole thing standing something more than two feet in height.

The trophy at present is reposing in the home of the President of the Earl Grey Skating Club, Mrs. Henry Joseph, Sherbrooke street.

This year is the first season in which the Earl Grey Trophy has been put into competition. It is open to any team of four figure skaters, composed of two ladies and two gentlemen, and to be competed for annually.

### HERE AND THERE

A trial race of fifteen or seventeen miles will be held by the Irish-Canadians at an early date and the first three men to finish will be sent to the Boston Marathon. Corkery, Buxton and McCormick look like the winning trio.

Paul Acoose has discarded moccasins and is now running in regulation running shoes. His feet have healed completely since the Canadian Derby and New York races and he takes light work every day but Sunday at Riverdale Rink.

Dan Sheridan will be sent to Boston in charge of Tom Eck three weeks in advance of the date of the Boston Marathon, which is April 19th. Sheridan will be sent by his friends of the Mercury Athletic Club of this city. The club will meet at the Grand Central Hotel on Thursday night to discuss the arrangements.

Fred Mitchell has reported to the Highlanders at Athens, Ga. He was a hold-out for about ten minutes. Did he get what he wanted? Mitchell was playing in St. John about ten or twelve years ago and is well known to local fans.

"Mooney" Gibson has signed a two years' contract with the Pirate world's champions and left Pittsburg on Tuesday for the south at the head of a large training camp squad.

Alf. Shrubbs has refused to run against Acoose and Friday's race in Toronto has been called off.

### ST. JOHN RIVER COMMISSIONERS

### Maine Newspaper Man Writes Entertainingly of Members of International Tribunal.

(Sam E. Connor in Lewiston Journal.)

Calais, Me., March 5.—A great deal of the work done by the so-called VanBuren commission is of a decidedly informal nature. It is a sort of natural for people to associate a vast amount of dignity with an international group of this character and to expect that they will conduct their deliberations with the greatest formality.

Such is not the case with these gentlemen.

There are no lordships nor highnesses about it. They don't say Mr. Chairman, when addressing the man at the head of the table, nor do they refer to him as "Your Honor," indeed, such an address might be resented by the aforementioned man at the head of the table. He isn't entitled to the distinction, he tells me.

"No honorable for me," said he the first time he saw the "Hon." stuck before his name in an American newspaper. "I'm plain A. P. Barnhill, K. C., that's all."

His fellow members respect his feelings in that respect and when they speak to him, simply say: "Mr. Barnhill."

Usually the morning sessions of the commission begin at 9.30 o'clock, though frequently it is 10 before work is started. The session lasts until about 12.30, when a recess is taken until 2.30, when the gentlemen of the board get together again and remain at their labors till about 5.

Mr. Keegan, of the American commission, is an early riser. He shakes the sheets close around 6 o'clock in the morning. After breakfast he takes a long walk. Usually he lands at the place of meeting much in advance of the hour set for the morning session. After a look around to make sure that none of his colleagues are present, he continues his walk.

Generally Mr. Barnhill is the first member of the board to appear upon the scene for a permanent stay. Here in Calais he was usually accompanied by Mr. Fellows. They could come down together from the Murchie House, which Mr. Fellows positively states is the best tavern he ever stopped at. They would arrive about 20 minutes before the hour for the meeting.

Soon after they came, in would walk Messrs. Keefe and Gregory, accompanied by the faithful Simmons, whose duty it was, by means of uncanny books, stems and circles, to record the sayings of those who might present themselves for hearing. After that it wouldn't be long before in would walk Mr. Jones.

And then would come Clay. 'Pipes' we called him, who played opposite to Mr. Simmons, and the American newspaper men.

Good mornings were general and then came the enquiry as to the results of the various games of bridge of the previous night, for all the members are inveterate players of that game. The game at the Windsor usually consisted of Messrs. Keefe Gregory, Jones and Simmons, while on this side were bridge parties at Mr. Murchie's.

Just about the time for the hearing to begin, in would hurry Mr. Murchie or Mr. Keegan. In a way, they appeared to take turns at being last.

Usually Mr. Keefe was smoking a big black cigar, one of those "regalia millionaires," made famous during the legislature of Maine for 1905, by a smoke incident in the House of Representatives. Mr. Gregory varied his smoking. Sometimes it was a cigar and then again it was a cigarette. Mr. Keegan did not smoke, but Mr. Jones always got out his briar pipe and puffed away contentedly at that.

There was chatting for a time and then counsel for which every side is presenting evidence, called a witness, the stenographers got a firm grip on their pens and pencils and the work was on.

Rules of the court do not apply. In the course of a direct examination considerable cross examination, as counsel for the other side conduct a those who have followed the hearings here last week must have seen.

Witnesses are not required to stand. A comfortable chair is provided, but counsel stands. Exceptions there are none. Sometimes there is a question as to whether a certain line of investigation should be put into the records. This is participated in, by the members of the board, as well as the counsel, and the upshot is a general agreement without a ruling.

Sometimes one member or another of the commission will take a hand in the examination and question a witness for a long period. As an example Chairman Barnhill for a full quarter of an hour plied Prof. Boardman with questions relative to the meaning of certain terms incidental to dam building and in reference to the surveys which the witness had made at Chamberlain lake and vicinity.

It is not infrequent that a joke will be made by the counsel, witness or commission. This always calls forth a general laugh, so that the proceedings never get tiresome.

At best, the work is slow. The mat-

ter which the commission is to adjust is important. It cannot be hurried. Time must be taken in order that no statement of value to them in making up their final verdict shall be omitted and that each side shall have all the opportunity desired properly to present its case. It is informal, to be sure, but it is doing the work for which the commission was appointed, doing it thoroughly and that is what the people of both Maine and New Brunswick desire.

### THE LUMSDEN CHARGES

### Tories Have Abandoned Hope of Winning the Next Election.

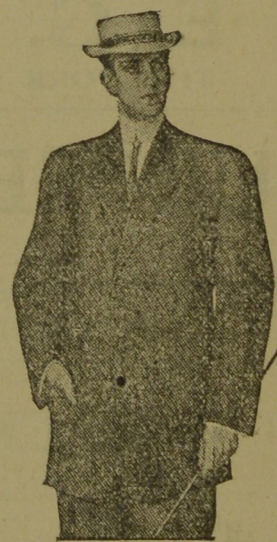
(Montreal Herald.)

It is not altogether surprising that the rank and file of Conservatives have about lost hope of winning in the Dominion. How could it be otherwise in face of such an exhibition as that given by the representatives of the party on the Lumsden investigation committee? It is inevitable that the methods of the present opposition will be compared with those of earlier oppositions, and the comparison is disastrous. When Huntington and Blake were attacking Sir John Macdonald, and when Sir John, like the sensible man he was, declined to relinquish the advantages of power, did Huntington and Blake stop fighting? Not they. That way of beating your opponents was reserved for Mr. Barker, Mr. Lennox and Mr. Crothers in this present year of grace. When Lister and Somerville and Davies and Edgar were after Langevin and Caron and McGreevy, did they go into parliament and protest that unless they were allowed to do thus and so they would retire from the proceedings? Not they. They fought the enemy in the House and then they fought him in the committee, and the more he used his power against them, the harder they fought. That is how they won. And yet here are three men named by the opposition leader, two of them lawyers and a third a man of large experience in investigations, and the best idea of fighting they have is that they should quit the field when the majority decline to give them their own way. The Listers and Mulocks and Edgars did not throw up the sponge because lawyers were not hired to take their orders. They did the work themselves. Mr. Lennox and Mr. Crothers choose otherwise. The blame is theirs if they are judged accordingly.

### SETTLERS FOR THE WEST

(Special to The Mail.)

Toronto, March 9.—Three trains with 34 crowded coaches, containing homesteaders, left Toronto for the west yesterday morning and another train with settlers and effects left tonight. The four trains carried upwards of 2,000 people.



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