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TARIFF CHANGES DO NOT AFFECT CANADIAN INDUSTRIES

Mr. Fielding Has Averted a Tariff War With the United States and Made a Good Bargain.

Ottawa, March 30.—Today the Canadian Commons held one of the most important sessions in the history of our parliament. The terms of the commercial peace just concluded between Canada and the United States were declared by Finance Minister Fielding.

That it is a peace which carries honor to both countries was made abundantly clear.

Hon. Mr. Fielding dealt with all phases of the negotiations, and pointed out how grave was the situation which confronted both Canada and the United States. He showed that while Canada had made trifling concessions to obtain peace, they were not given to the United States alone, but to all countries, and that in return Canada got the American minimum tariff rates and North America got commercial peace.

Sir Wilfrid, who spoke late in the evening, declared that Canada emerged from the negotiations free to negotiate for reciprocity with any country in the world, and the first country with which such negotiations would be carried on was the United States.

R. L. Borden and Hon. George E. Foster, as well as F. D. Monk, were absent from the house.

Brief speeches were made by opposition members. The most important was by W. F. McLean, who congratulated the government.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier announced that Canada had agreed to the international waterways treaty. Next Monday the commons will commence morning sittings.

A general statement of the agreement reached is contained in the letters exchanged between Hon. Mr. Fielding on behalf of the Canadian government, and Secretary Knox, on behalf of the United States government.

In his letter to Secretary Knox, under date of March 29, Mr. Fielding says:

"My dear Mr. Secretary:—In the conference which, upon his invitation I had the honor to hold with the President of the United States at Albany a few days ago, and in the further conference in Washington today, it was represented to me that the settlement of our present tariff differences and the paving of the way for negotiations, having in view a broader scheme of reciprocal trade, would be facilitated by Canada making some reduction in its present scale of duties, as applied to the products of the United States.

"While unable to waive any of the contentions which Canada has held throughout our discussion of the subject, I have appreciated the exceptional circumstances and reasons advanced by the president in support of his request.

"A tariff conflict between the two countries would undoubtedly be a matter of the gravest concern for both, involving widespread disturbance of trade, heavy loss to citizens, of both countries, and the creation of much friction at a time when the cultivation of happier relations is most desirable.

"Both parties to the difference should, I realize, be willing to go as far as possible to avoid such a conflict.

"I have observed with satisfaction that your government are not disposed to press some of their earlier contentions respecting our commercial treaties, which, from our point of view, we could not admit.

"This being the case, I feel that our government should go as far as possible to meet the views of the president and to respond to the good spirit in which he has approached the subject.

(Continued on page 3)

KING "BILL" GOAT CAUSES BIG FIRE

Bill Kicked over a Lamp at an Initiation in Trenton, N. J. —Building Burned.

Trenton, N. J., March 31.—"King Bill," a lodge goat, was responsible last night for the destruction by fire of the Ribsam building, one of the handsomest and most modern business structures in the heart of the city. The loss is \$75,000. For an hour the city's business centre was threatened.

The upper stories of the building were occupied in great part by labor and fraternal organizations. One of the lodges was initiating a number of candidates last night, when the goat, which a prospective member was riding, became balky and started on the rampage and came into contact with a lighted tin lamp tipping it over.

The lodge members were too busy trying to capture the goat to continue the initiation to notice that a spark from the lamp had ignited the curtains.

Before the blaze could be extinguished the room was all afire and the members had to fight for their lives. Several had narrow escapes.

The goat was the first to get out of the burning building. The flames spread rapidly and the structure was soon in ruins.

GERMAN INTERFERENCE IN LIBERIA NOT WANTED

Liverpool, March 31.—The German cruiser Sperber has left Cape Palmas under the orders of the Liberian authorities according to the latest advices from Liberia. The German commander's offer to land a detachment to quell the outbreak of the natives is said to have so incensed the Liberians that they ordered the Sperber to leave Liberian waters within 36 hours or take the consequences.

The situation between the natives and Liberian troops is said to be improving.

A ROYAL GERMAN LETTER WRITER

Crown Prince of German writes to Friend who had Married Berlin Shop Girl.

Berlin, March 31.—The papers today publish the series of letters exchanged between Crown Prince Frederick William of Germany and his friend Count Ferdinand von Hochberg which were given publicity in New York at the trial of Noah E. Barnes who is charged with the misappropriation of \$30,000 of the assets of the Cottonwood Creek copper company, of which Von Kochberg induced his friends in Germany to invest \$150,000. The letters concerned principally the displeasure of the head of Hochberg because Ferdinand married Louise Carow, a Berlin shop girl. In one instance the crown prince wrote:

"You are impossible over here and lost for all time," and suggested that the count change his name to Ferdinand Barnes and accepts \$75 a month from his father in consideration therefor. The count replied that if he had violated the traditions of his family he had gone abroad and nothing more could be asked of him. His wife he said, was endowed with the highest gift, the blessing of God, she was the woman of his choice and that he would never change his name because of his marriage. He added that it was a glorious thing to be a man of the people free and independent.

The press accepts the crown prince's letters as genuine and commenting upon them declare they contain nothing embarrassing to the heir of the German throne.

On the contrary they reveal a true and possessed of a sincere and open nature. Generally the letters excite sympathy with the crown prince rather than criticism of him.

ALBERTA AND THE GREAT WATERWAYS BARGAIN

Edmonton, March 31.—(Special)—The sensation caused at yesterday morning's session of the royal commission by Mr. R. B. Bennett's refusal to produce certain papers now in his possession in connection with Alberta and Great Waterways bargain was dwarfed yesterday afternoon in light of the disclosure made by Mr. O. M. Biggar, in which Mr. J. K. Cornwall, M.P., for Peace River, is alleged to have been subject to a "blackmailing proposition." Biggar took the stand and said that Alfred Hawes of Toronto had tried through certain lawyers to get \$250,000 from Mr. Cornwall for some documents in his possession and for a claim he had against the Athabasca Railway. G. B. Henwood, barrister, Edmonton, admitted under pressure that certain papers that might have a bearing on the subject had been sent him by Mr. Davidson, Toronto, for whom he (Henwood), was acting in the matter and who in turn was representing Hawes. Solicitor Minty of the Great Waterways railway company, swore there was nothing to support the blackmailing proposition.

The Royal commission adjourned last evening until April 13 in order to give counsel an opportunity to examine bulky departmental and private files of documents affecting the company's negotiations with government.

SIR ROBERT PERKS TALKS IN MONTREAL

Montreal, March 31.—When interviewed today Sir Robert Perks said he would not discuss the Georgian Bay Canal. He was of the opinion that there would probably be another British election in May, when the question fought would be whether there would be one or two chambers, and he believed the Liberal party would be defeated, as their policy would practically be the espousal of one chamber and this the British people would vote against, as they believed the Lords were for reasonable reformation of their own body.

Speaking of business conditions in England Sir Robert said the commercial and financial condition had not been so favorable during years. He also spoke of the satisfaction which British investors felt in the marvelous development of Canada's industrial strength.

Sir Robert returns to New York on April 11. It is not known if he will visit St. John.

WESTERN COAL MINERS OUT OR MAY GO OUT

Coal Famine Feared in Chicago—Fifty Thousand Men May Quit Work in Kansas Today.

Chicago, March 31.—The most optimistic of the local coal operators today set 30 days as the possible duration of the shut down of the coal mines in Illinois pending an adjustment of the differences between the 75,000 miners and the operators.

That Chicago will feel the effect of the shut down in two weeks was the prediction of coal men. Prices are expected to advance sharply to the small consumer who buys his fuel in carload lots or less and who has no storage facilities.

The severe weather during the winter and the inability of the railroads to move coal to the city fast enough to meet the demands, depleted the stores on hand and the coal dealers have been unable to catch up.

The Illinois operators are ready to concede the advance in wages asked by the miners provided the other details are satisfactorily adjusted.

SITUATION IN KANSAS.

Kansas City, Mo., March 31.—This evening the whistles of the coal mines from the Southwestern interstate will call the men to work but in all probability they will not respond, as they have asked for an increase in wages which the operators say they cannot meet.

The Southwestern coal fields employ 50,000 men producing 13,000,000 tons of coal annually and is composed of the states of Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and Arkansas.

The operators say they are willing to continue the contract with the miners made two years ago but cannot grant the increase asked for by the miners because of competitive

fuel in the shape of fuel oil and gas and also the fact that the coal is being shipped into their territory by the western and eastern non-union fields.

PENNSYLVANIA MINES STRIKE.

Pittsburg, March 31.—At midnight tonight an approximate forty thousand union coal diggers in district number five, United Mine workers of America will strike. At that time, the 1908-09-10 wage contract expires and as yet the operators of the district have not signed new agreements for the ensuing year.

It is believed however, that the strike in this district will be of short duration. It is said on good authority that a temporary agreement will be reached between district union officials and operators who will allow mine operation to go forward with but little delay pending the settlement of the entire dispute. The differences in the Pittsburg district between miners and operators cover working hours the use of certain permissible explosives and a demanded increase of five cents per ton in run of mine coal.

The hitch in the signing of the agreement which has failed of settlement by two joint conferences comes over the powder question which is two years standing in the district.

The operators and miners, however hope to reach an understanding by Saturday whereby the miners return to work under a temporary scale allowing the five cent run of mine per ton increase but holding in abeyance a settlement of the powder question until later.

DEATH IN SUSSEX FROM WOOD ALCOHOL

(Special to The Mail.)
Sussex, N. B., March 31.—A man whose name is said to be Emery was found sitting dead at the side of his bed in the Royal Hotel here at noon. Wood alcohol is said to have killed him.

He came here from St. John to seek his wife, who left him last Christmas, and who was cook at the Elliott Hotel, St. John.

Inquiry at the Elliott Hotel elicited the fact that no woman named Emery had been employed there. It was stated, however, that a mistake might have been made in the name. A woman named Roode was cook for two months last fall and afterward went to Sussex. Her husband, Jas. Roode, had been working with W. O. Dunham, upholsterer, Germain street until five weeks ago and was reported to have gone to Sussex on Tuesday. He had been boarding at the Elliott Hotel and his personal effects are there still. He was about 65 years old.

KILLED A CONSTABLE SHOT HIMSELF

North Port B.C., March 31.—Dietrich a constable was murdered here by Martin Cloy who then committed suicide. Cloy who was 45 years old had been paying unwelcome attentions to Miss Jettison. Jettison's home was dynamited and Cloy was suspected of the deed. Dietrich went to arrest him and in a fight which ensued, Cloy shot the officer twice, first in the shoulder and then in the body killing him instantly. The murderer then turned the weapon on himself.

AUSTRALIAN LINER LOST ALL HANDS SAVED

Perth West Australia, March 31.—The big British liner Pericles was wrecked six miles south of Cape Leuwin southwest point of Australia today. The passengers and crew took to the small boats and all were landed safely at Cape Leeuwin. Sooner after being abandoned the steamer disappeared beneath the waves.

C. P. R. WAGE SCALE NOT SATISFACTORY

(Special to The Mail.)
Winnipeg, March 31.—So far from increasing the wages of its mechanics the Can. Pacific is said to be considering reducing the rate to that paid by the Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk Pacific. The men say that any levelling "must" be increase not "decrease" and trouble may follow.

GENTLEMEN CONVICTS FILL PENITENTIARY

Pittsburg, March 31.—There are so many "gentlemen convicts" among the 700 prisoners of the western penitentiary that Warden John Francis announced today that the stripes are to be practically abandoned at that institution. The conspicuous prison garb only serves to embitter men, said the warden, and makes it more difficult to reform. Neat suits of blue, with glass buttons on them, are to be substituted generally for the stripes and only the very worst behaved men are to be punished by uniforms of the "zebra" type. At present, however, even a bank president and two former council men at the penitentiary are wearing the humiliating prison clothes.

SHACKLETON WANTS COOK CONTROVERSY ENDED

New York, March 31.—A plea for a complete cessation of the controversy as to whether or not Dr. Cook reached the north pole was made last night by Sir Ernest Shackleton in his address at the dinner of the New York transportation club given in his honor at the Hotel Manhattan.

The British explorer gave the impression that he believed Dr. Cook should be given credit for his work in the north whether or not he reached the goal.

A HEAVY PENALTY FOR RASCALLY SYRIAN

A despatch from Andover states that William J. Ayop, an Assyrian merchant, charged with conspiring with his brother to defraud merchants in St. John, Halifax and elsewhere, was this morning convicted of the charge and sentenced by Judge Carleton to ten months imprisonment, and to pay a fine of \$800. He has already served two months in jail while awaiting trial and this will be deducted from his sentence.

It will be remembered that a quantity of goods belonging to the accused were seized by Deputy Sheriff Winter at Canterbury last fall, and are in his custody at the county jail. They will now likely be sold and the proceeds turned over to the parties who were defrauded.

DROWNED IN ALASKA

Portland, Oregon, March 31.—Word is received here that John Currie, first assistant keeper of the Eleco Rock station in Southeastern Alaska, and second assistant keeper John Slander of the same station, were drowned March 26 while attempting to go ashore in a small boat.

Keeper Adamson has been alone on the rock for the last seven days.

HIS MIND WAS A BLANK.

The St. John Standard is authority for the statement that Mr. Horton B. Hetherington, formerly a well known Tory politician of Queens Co., is now superintendent of a "hobo" Y M C A at LeCrosse, Wisconsin. He claims that his mind has been a blank since he left Queens County about ten years ago, and his friends had lost all trace of his whereabouts. The explanation given by Mr. Hetherington is that his temporary loss of memory was due to a blow given him by a political enemy. In explanation of this it might state that the last political blow Mr. Hetherington received was when he sought to down Mr. L. P. Ferris in a bye-election in Queens and was buried out of sight. He was not afterwards heard from as a politician.

The fool wonders; the wise man knows.

FIGHT TO GAIN CONTROL OF NOVA SCOTIA STEEL

New Glasgow, March 30.—The management of the N. S. Steel & Coal Company, headed by President Harris, won in the fight for control today that was brought on by Rudolphe Forget, of Montreal. The slate of fifteen directors proposed by the management are all elected. Eight of the management's men were also on the ticket proposed by the syndicate, but Mr. Harris, who was not on the syndicate's slate, is 2,413 ahead of Forget.

The vote polled was very heavy, some 93 per cent of the total of 70,000 shares being represented.

MONTREAL SATISFIED WITH TARIFF AGREEMENT

Montreal, March 31 (special)—General feeling exists here that Canada has come out of tariff ordeal all right although some say it is a victory for the Ottawa lumbermen who had most to fear from a tariff war.

DORANDO AND LONGBOAT MATCHED

Pittsburg, March 31.—Dorando and Longboat are matched to race twenty miles at Exposition Hall tonight. The Italian who excelled in a marathon and the Indian, whose best distance is 15 miles, are considered at pretty even terms on the compromise of a 20 mile race and both declare themselves in fittest condition for tonight's grind.

PROF. LOWELL TALKS ABOUT MARS

London, March 31.—Professor Percival Lowell, director of the Lowell Observatory at Flagstaff, addressed the meeting of the British Astronomical Society last night in defence of his assertion in regard to the planet Mars. Prof. Lowell has said that in his opinion the Martians, with intelligent organisms are not in any way similar to human beings. He has also declared that Mars is dying from lack of water.

TWENTY TWO ARE DEAD IN GERMAN TRAIN WRECK

Mulheim an Rhein, Germany, March 31.—It appears today that upwards of 200 persons received more or less serious injuries when the steamer express ran down and wrecked a military train yesterday. There was one death during the night, making the total dead 22 and six others are said to be dying. The victims were soldiers. Two signal men have been arrested and are charged with having given both trains the right of way at the same moment.

BLACK HAND OPERATORS FIRE NEW YORK TENEMENT

New York, March 31.—Explosion of a bomb in the basement of an East 39th street tenement today shook the structure to its foundations, shattered every pane of glass in it and created such a panic throughout the entire block that police reserves were called out and were more than an hour in calming the excited tenants and persuading them to go back to their homes.

Traces of a burned time fuse found apparently indicated a carefully prepared plot that the police attribute to "black hand" operators. There have been several explosions in the vicinity recently and the neighborhood is in a constant state of terror. There are no clues to the perpetrators of these outrages, none of which, fortunately, has resulted in loss of life or serious injury.

VALUABLE PRIZES.

Mr. D. H. Crowley is displaying in his down town window a number of prizes donated by the publishers of the Saturday Evening Post to boys who sell that publication. The winners are: Percy Logan, rain cape, boxing gloves, punching bag and bank watch; Willie McKenzie, rubber boots, rain cape, watch and set of tools; George Crowley, rain cape, bank and purse; John Crowley, rain cape, set of tools; George Gray, bank, rain cape; Walter Adams, watch; William McGahey, watch; Martin Butler, watch; Albert Bridges, watch; Willie Pendleton, watch.