

The British House of Commons Approves Hereditary Monarchy

Consideration of the King's Civil List Leads to Animated Discussion on Royalty and the System of Government--Mr. Balfour Makes a Spirited Reply to the Attacks of the Socialist Members.

(London Standard)

Mr. Keir Hardie has received a severe rebuke in parliament for his rude statements in regard to members of the Royal Family. It would have been administered today by the Prime Minister, but as Mr. Asquith was away for the time being, attending the wedding of his son, Mr. Lloyd George made an excellent substitute in administering the cane. Attention was called to the Socialist's allegation last Sunday that the House of Commons had "voted £50,000 for putting the house of the Queen-mother in order. £50,000 for one woman's house!" Mr. Lloyd George declared that Mr. Keir Hardie's statement was "grossly inaccurate," and the position of the Queen-Mother which must demand the sympathy of all, "should, at least, protect her from the annoyance of such rash and unfounded allegations." Loud cheers rang. Mr. Keir Hardie, who blanching at the castigation, rose, and at once unreservedly withdrew his statement, and explained that he had misunderstood the provisions in the Civil List. He sat down, but, feeling he had not said enough, he jumped up again, and said: "I should be sorry if any words of mine gave offence to the Royal lady."

The King is prohibited from entering the House of Commons; but the Commons may discuss the King. This members did today when Mr. Lloyd George, in his best manner as Chancellor of the Exchequer, submitted that parliament annually pay for the King's Civil List £470,000; for pensions granted by his late Majesty, £18,000; and £10,000 to the future Princess of Wales, increased to £30,000 if she survives her Royal husband. The Prince of Wales, as Duke of Cornwall, will draw from the Duchy of Cornwall, about £92,000 a year, but for his brothers parliament was asked for £10,000 a year in respect of each on attaining the age of twenty-one years, and a further sum of £15,000 each when they married. For the benefit of daughters of the King the proposal was that on coming of age or on marriage they should receive £6,000 a year. If Queen Mary survives the King her income was to be £70,000 a year. The Queen-Mother receives £70,000 under the Civil List of 1901, and therefore this amount had to receive the sanction of the Commons today.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer reminded the House that the total sum was less than the provision made in the late reign, whilst in regard to the Prince of Wales the Exchequer was relieved to the extent of £20,000, owing to the improvement in the revenue of the Duchy of Cornwall. There had been minor changes in the arrangements with the King. Instead of parliament voting various sums each year for the alteration and repair of the royal palaces, a fixed sum of £270,000 is to be allocated. There had always been uncertainty about payment for State visits as to whether the expense should be borne by the King out of the privy purse or the Exchequer. The new arrangement was that the King bear the cost, on consideration that he should not pay Income-tax, which had been a voluntary payment ever since Queen Victoria offered to pay it in the forties, when said Mr. Lloyd George, with a twinkle in his eye—it was thought the Income-tax was a temporary imposition. The speech in which the Chancellor moved that the House pass the Civil List was quite prim and proper. A gentle undulation of cheers from Liberals and Unionists carried Mr. Lloyd George along.

MR. BARNES' OUTBURST

But there was glum silence on the Labor benches until it was broken by Mr. Barnes, who wanted the revenues of the Duchy of Cornwall, hitherto regarded as the special property of the eldest son of the Sovereign, to be thrown into the public exchequer. Mr. Barnes, speaking in casual style, calculated that the amount parliament was asked to vote was £53,000 more than went to King Edward last year, and he declared that all intelligent persons outside would regard the proposals as an outrage. He objected altogether to this parliament deciding on the payment of money which would have to be borne

by future parliaments. Let payments be made as occasion arose. The Queen-Mother was getting £70,000 a year. Ah! but there were other widows, poor and with no helpers, who would be called upon to contribute. When thinking of widows at the top of the social scale let parliament deal with those who were at the bottom. Mr. Barnes was scornful about the returns of royal expenditure submitted to the House, and he was suspicious about a sum of £8,000 which was unappropriated. "Nothing is unappropriated," he sneered, "for if it does not go one way it will pass into the ever open abyss of the privy purse." He laughed at the salaries of the Royal Household and the expenses of the Royal Household, "honey-combed with abuses covering up a nest of parasites who batted on the nation under the shadow of the Throne." He was sarcastic at the expenses of those who were decorative duds, and mentioned one who got £2,000 a year and whose qualifications, according to the Press, were that he was an excellent golfer, a good shot was well known on the Turf, and has the reputation of being one of the best dressed men in London. "I refuse to give my quota," said Mr. Barnes, "to keep a man playing golf or showing off his fine figure in London swell-dom." He described many of the offices as political jobbery; "those who hold them are the kept men of the government, and they are given fancy names to hide the real nature of the deal." Then by contrast he told stories of poor people in government employ scarcely earning enough to keep them from starvation. As for the income of £92,000 to the Prince of Wales, why it was an insult to intelligence that that amount would be handed over to a boy of sixteen, or that he would be able to spend it if he had it.

MR. BALFOUR ON MONARCHY

Thereupon Mr. Balfour pushing aside the Labor Leader's remarks as intended merely to produce prejudice said the root of Mr. Barnes' objection was that royalty cost too much. "It is immoral," shouted Mr. Jowett. "Let us recognize frankly," said Mr. Balfour, "what we have to choose between. Suppose we could get on without a monarch. The Empire would cease. You could not have at the head of an Empire constituted as ours is a president elected every four years, a creature who was the choice and the representative of a party, changing many times in the life-time of every one of us and representing an abstraction of the Constitution and not the personal head of the Empire. You will never work this Empire on that principle. The hereditary claim is one which mankind has found the best system of headship." So he laid it down that if we are to have monarchy we must do it properly; he denied that there was extravagance. "Of course you might do it inadequately and without dignity, which would have the merit of being cheaper and therefore I presume more moral," he added, with a look in the direction of Mr. Jowett.

That the revenues of the Duchy of Cornwall belonged to Parliament and not to the King's eldest son was argued with some vigor by Sir Charles Dilke. It was a fiction that they were private property. This was stoutly resisted by Sir C. A. Cripps, who spoke as Attorney-General to the Prince of Wales. The point was combated. Protests were made against the Cornwall property being put in another category from Crown lands and removed from the control of Parliament. "Bd!" said Mr. J. A. Pease. "The Government would not be justified in taking over the revenues of the duchies, Cornwall and Lancaster without giving the Sovereign some quid pro quo. Mr. Barnes then came forward with a motion that the King's Civil List be reduced from £470,000 to £385,000. But he only carried twenty-six men into the lobby with him against 206. Next Mr. Barnes tried to knock out the provision that the future Princess of Wales should receive £10,000 a year and £30,000 if she survived the Prince but this was rejected by 218 to 21.

SOCIALIST ATTACK

Mr. Barnes having done so badly Mr. Keir Hardie made an endeavor He moved to knock out the provision for the children of the King when they reached 21 years. In his rough gruff away the Socialist proclaimed: "We pay too much already for royalty. In no other department of State is a man's income increased in proportion to the size of his family. By this proposal you are providing an income in order that the sons and daughters of the King when they come of age may lead lives of luxury, ease and idleness." Instant was the objection to this. First came cries of "Order, order" then cries of "Divide" Mr. Keir Hardie waited till the indignation calmed. Then he said: "I repeat that the proposal is to provide incomes for members of the Royal family without asking any service in exchange. Nobody will deny that, and it means exactly the same as the other." Mr. Lloyd George jumped up and with warmth declared that luxury ease and idleness was the last charge which could be brought against our Royal family. The House cheered. Mr. A. Chamberlain asked members not to forget that the provision was part of a settlement; "strike part out and you reduce the amount you give to the King and then you will have to provide other money without knowing whether the necessity of making provision for the royal children would arise or not."

A wailling broke from Mr. Byles. He did not want the country to think that only the Labor party regarded the list as too generous. Mr. Byles' inevitable views were well known. "I don't believe the nation gains by the splendor of court," said Mr. Byles, rubbing his knuckles. It being pointed out by Mr. W. H. Dickinson that it was unwise to allow the Princes and Princess to have so much money with nobody to control them. Mr. Lloyd George undertook to alter the arrangement in so far as to provide trustees. Then the division on Mr. Keir Hardie's motion. He feared no better than Mr. Barnes for his motion was rejected by 207 votes to 20. Next the resolution of the Chancellor of the Exchequer that the sums mentioned at the beginning of this article should be granted. The Socialists made their last weak display. Nine-teen of them voted against it, but they were swamped by 197 votes on the other side. The nation had provided His Majesty with means to maintain his high office and cheers sounded from both Liberal and Conservative benches.

THE "TIE" DIVISION.

As royalty was under review, the House made a further inspection of the Regency Bill by which Queen Mary is appointed Regent should the Prince of Wales become King before he is 18 years of age. Some stern Protestants wanted the Regent to make the same declaration as did the Sovereign at his accession—but their desire came to nothing. Scots complained that in committee the clause was struck out whereby the Regent was prohibited from giving the Royal Assent to a Bill altering the Act of Queen Anne which was passed to secure the Protestant religion and Presbyterian government in Scotland. "It does not very much better," was the attitude of Mr. Churchill on behalf of the Government: "let the House re-instate the prohibition or leave it out just as it likes." But he favored adherence to the decision of the committee. Mr. Balfour and others took an opposite view. Scotch pressure became so strong that Mr. Churchill at last got up and announced that the House would have perfect freedom in giving its opinion for the Government whips would not be put on in the division for really the Government had no fixed views. "Then" said Mr. A. C. Morten "as the Government have no settled convictions, we may be allowed to decide in a straightforward manner." The House was getting restless as it always does on a Friday evening when business is prolonged far beyond the usual hour of rising. Eager to get away for the week end, there was clamor for a division to be pronounced. Still sev-

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Human Bones Said to Have Been Found After Burning of Barns.

Cornwall, Aug. 9.—About ten o'clock on Saturday night, John Mattice's fine barns near Moulinette, six miles west of here, were burned to the ground, along with the season's hay crop, a manure spreader, corn binder, grain binder and other machinery. The cause of the fire is unknown, but it is thought that it may have been caused by tramps sleeping in the hay, and it is rumored that bones, thought to be those of a human being, were found in the ashes on Sunday. Mr. Mattice's loss will be heavy. The barn was partly covered by insurance but the crop and machinery are a total loss.

Roland McD. Hesse, father of Cory Hesse, of Woodstock, the famous lacrosse goalkeeper, died suddenly at his home here. He had been ailing for some time and returned home the other day from a visit to his sons in Woodstock. He was around town till the day before his death. He passed away sitting in his chair. He was 67 years of age. Two sons and two daughters survive him.

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It's hard for the criminal to escape these days. Detective work, aided by science and international arrangements, hound out the person who has committed a crime. The newspapers give publicity to the deeds done, descriptions of the people wanted, and generally inform the public what has been going on. But now comes the latest aid to the long arm of the law the wireless. Perhaps it is the greatest criminal trap of them all.

There is no search warrant comprehensive enough to find any one that makes money out of a strike.

eral Scots insisted on speaking "for not more than a minute" and talking much longer. When the division was taken a curious thing happened; 61 votes were cast in favor of re-inserting the prohibition; 61 were cast in favor of keeping it out. There were roars of laughter when the tie was announced. The Speaker had to give his casting vote. He gave aye, and then declared the ayes 62, the noes 61. Thus possible injustice to Scotland was averted. Scotland stood where it did before Mr. Churchill thought it well to tamper with the Act of Union. The Regent shall not give Royal Assent to any measure affecting the Church of Scotland. Members instantly gave the Regency Bill a third and final reading and scampered away for their week end respite.

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No. 301—Express for Loggieville, Chatham, Campbellton, Quebec, Montreal, etc., 18.30.
No. 327—Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 18.40.
No. 329—Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 22.00.

ARRIVALS

No. 306—Suburban from Marysville 7.45.
No. 302—Express from Loggieville, Chatham Junction 11.25.
No. 308—Suburban from Marysville 13.30.
No. 304—Mixed from Loggieville and Chatham Junction, 16.00.
No. 310—Suburban from Marysville 19.15.
No. 316—Suburban from Marysville 21.55.

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9.45 a.m.—Express for St. John and points east.
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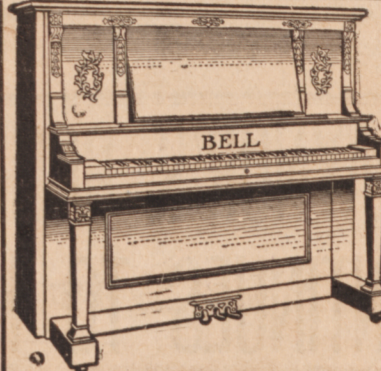
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