

# SIR EDWARD CARSON IS IN A DIFFICULT POSITION

London, April 14—Great Britain forgot all about Ireland over the Easter holidays. The country is prosperous and the people travelled in unheard of numbers.

Sir Edward Carson was the only factor to be watched, and he kept quiet until yesterday. His speech to the Ulster volunteers is closely scanned for some sign that he is preparing Ulster to expect a settlement. Generally the tone of his speech is considered belligerent, but there are passages which may be gone back to later, such as:

"Always recollect that we are not out for war, but for peace."

"Believe me, the spirit of self-sacrifice will go far to win more victories for you than the best artillery or best cavalry."

It is significant also, in view of the possibility that the Territorial Army Act may be extended to Ireland after the home rule settlement that he posed as the representative of the King when presenting the colors to the volunteers at Antrim Castle, saying:

"Recollect above all things, that you ought to be willing to render your service to the King."

While awaiting the next stage of the Home Rule Bill all eyes will be turned upon Sir Edward Carson, whose position is one of great difficulty. Assuming that he expects a settlement, he must get the most favorable terms, keep up the tension of feeling among his followers but to get them to accept any settlement he must prepare them to receive the idea.

His proceedings are being watched with strong curiosity by the English members, but with anxiety by the Irish members who hope to see him spared any deep humiliation. The Irish members are desirous that self-government be started with his help, rather than his antagonism. His great difficulty is that Ulster is opposed both to Home Rule and to exclusion from Ireland.

It must not be thought, however, that the rest of Ireland is disposed to leave the whole affair to Sir Edward Carson. Generations of political training have been given Irish people a keen sense of the situation and impressed them with the practical value of abstention from agitation. At the same time their feelings are just as passionate for Home Rule as ever.

"The talk of the exclusion of Ulster" writes Mr. Darrell Figgis, an Englishman to the Times, "has made the Irish National Volunteer move-

ment irresistibly popular. I was at that time in several western counties, and although I had never doubted the fierceness of the desire for Home Rule, I was surprised at the tokens of this feeling which were then displayed. Every hint of opposition to the Irish National Volunteers disappeared.

Some writers believe that the test hope for a settlement lies in a conference of the Irish soil. Whatever their differences they are not so great as the contention which prevails in the class war in England today.

I had some confirmation of this view during a brief visit to the west of Ireland yesterday. I learned that two thousand men were drilling in one city, each company under an experienced army man.

I found also that the class question was rapidly disappearing because the land issue had been settled. The aristocrat who formerly was satisfied with living in a fine house and collecting his rents, is now looking over the world for a place to apply his talents and invest his money with Canada the favorite.

At the same time, none of this landed class may show his sympathy with Home Rule because that cause is associated with the loss of the ascendancy that this aristocracy has enjoyed since the time of Cromwell.

The existing situation has broken up the Dublin social season. Lord Aberdeen's parties have suffered something very like a boycott and on this account have been suspended. Most of the great ladies have also abandoned their parties because political opponents will not dance together, any more than they will play golf together.

Whoever can discover a means of making the old ruling class feel that they can go on helping the government of Ireland on terms consistent with their pride has the best chance of solving the problems of the hour. It must come soon, because other problems are crowding to the front.



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## SIR WM. WHYTE, EX. C.P.R. OFFICIAL, DEAD

Montreal, April 14—Word reached C.P.R. headquarters this afternoon of the death of Sir William Whyte, for years vice-president and director of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The death of one of the pioneers of the C.P.R. and one of the best known men in Canada came as a shock to his friends, as messages received up to a few hours previously were to the effect that Sir William's health was improving and that he would return to his home in Winnipeg quite restored in health. A special car has been sent to California to bring the body back. Lady Whyte will accompany it.

## ANNUAL PASSES FOR M.P.P.'S OVER C. P. R.

The following replies to questions were submitted to the legislature last evening:

Hon. Dr. Landry, in answer to Mr. Dugal's inquiry, said:

Q. 1—Do officials of the government who travel on railway passes charge up their fare in their expense account?

Answer—No.

Q. 2—Has the government any system of voucher for the officials when travelling, such as is in use by officials of the Dominion government?

Answer—Officials are required to present vouchers for travelling expenses which are audited in the usual usual way.

Q. 3—Are the officials required to make any declaration in connection with their expense accounts or are they paid as submitted?

Answer—As a rule affidavits are submitted covering all traveling expenses of officials.

Q. 4—How long since the Canadian Pacific Railway has issued annual passes to members of this House in lieu of trip passes?

Answer—Annual passes have been issued by the Canadian Pacific Railway to members of the House for about four or five years.

Q. 5—Does the government approve of the custom in this province of paying the members of this legislature ten cents a mile, each way from their homes to the legislature and return, when each representative's railway passage does not cost him a cent?

Answer—The statute "respecting indemnity to members of the legislative Assembly" Chapter 5 of the Consolidated Statutes, 1903, Section 4, requires that each member of the legislature shall be allowed mileage to defray his travelling expenses to and from the sessions of the legislature. The acceptance of a railway pass is a matter for the consideration and determination of each individual member.

## OFFICIALS AND ELECTIONS.

Hon. Mr. Clarke, in answer to Mr. Dugal's inquiry, said:

Q. 1—Is there any regulation in any of the departments of the government which requires the officials shall not take an active part in provincial or other elections?

Answer—There is no regulation, but it has been intimated, from time to time to officials, that they should take no active part in provincial or other elections.

Q. 2—Has the attention of the government or any member of it been directed either verbally or in writing to the fact that H. M. Blair, secretary of the public works department, took an active part in the recent by-election in the County of York?

Answer—Neither the government nor any member of it has received any formal intimation concerning the subject matter of this enquiry.

Q. 3—If so, did the government reprimand Mr. Blair or take any action?

Answer—Answered by No. 2.

## GREAT ANGLER DEAD IN F. M. HALFORD

London, March 28—The death of Frederick M. Halford has robbed the community of anglers of what was probably its most prominent figure. Even in remote parts of the world where the sport of fishing is pursued if at all in the most primitive way men knew that there was a mysterious art called dry fly fishing and that its prophet was a man named Halford.

There is now in all departments of angling a disposition manifest toward scientific investigation and analysis, and this is due to the impulse and incentive given by the man who first as "Detached Badger" of the Field showed that it was possible to systematize and to bring into a kind of order the very inexact science of fishing entomology.

Mr. Halford's work in this direction was progressive, and though some anglers may have looked askance at his later manifestation they have really cause "to be very grateful to him for he was making for simplicity through accuracy."

At first he found it necessary to make the list of flies one hundred strong, such was the chaos of patterns and the variety of angling taste; but after years of work and experiment he was able to show that the chalk stream fisherman was fully equipped with but thirty-three patterns, some of these—such as the six May flies—being only required in certain places and at certain times. Practically the equipment for general purposes was reduced to twenty-seven patterns, a considerable saving of worry and doubt, and these twenty-seven patterns were the most exact imitations of the natural flies on which chalk stream trout chiefly feed that had ever been devised. No trouble was too great, no investigation or experiment too arduous for Mr. Halford, provided that he could get the result at which he aimed.

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## POLITICAL CRISIS

(Continued from page two.)

circumstances which have not arisen.

... In these matters ... the will and judgment and authority of parliament shall prevail."

"It was a quiet declaration, but in a tense House it roused excitement and enthusiasm. Unionist criticism, however, was not ineffective in detail. Col. Seely's resignation ought to have been accepted; the naval measures at least went beyond what was necessary to protect the depots and amounted to a provocation; much was still obscure both as to the terms of General Paget's speech and the instructions he received. Mr. Balfour and Mr. Austen Chamberlain were powerful, while Mr. Bonar Law sank to his lowest intellectual level. The debate turned wholly on the past and with everything still uncertain as to the attitude of the army in the new situation, the government, which seemed doomed in the afternoon, rallied its normal majority at midnight."

The temper of the Liberal rank-and-file is indicated by the declaration of The Nation that "meanwhile, if the government quails before the revolt of the army, or feels itself powerless to deal with it, the party does not. A wave of passionate feeling, expressed in an unflinching resolve to put the army in its place and to restore the threatened authority of parliament, has swept through the country Liberals, Radicals and Labor men feel, in John Bright's words, that the people who struck down the lion need not fear the world and that the issue of whether the parliament or the army shall rule throws aside every other interest, consideration and topic for thought and action. If the government will lead, well and good. If not, other champions will rise. For the moment, the only fact of consequence is that there is gathering a great host of democracy, which is going to see this thing through. In our view, a treaty should at once be struck with Labor, giving it a hundred seats and this united army power to sweep the country and vindicate the rights of the citizen."

The hooks which compose his great dry fly series are among the few classics of fishing literature because they are packed from cover to cover with sound advice, trustworthy information and sterling sense.

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