

## MR. BLAIR HEARD

## In Defence of the Government's Action.

## UNITING KING'S AND ALBERT FOR FEDERAL PURPOSES.

## Ex-Minister Brushes Aside Mr. Fowler's Objections.

Ottawa, Sept. 19.—The minister of justice introduced his bill yesterday to give increased representation of two in the senate for the Northwest Territories. After the city of Toronto and the province of Manitoba had been disposed of in regard to redistribution in the house Nova Scotia was again reached.

Nova Scotia was reverted to in order that Mr. Borden might voice his objection to the rearrangement of which Victoria is attached to the northern part of Cape Breton county. He would have preferred to see Cape Breton left as it was and Victoria added to Richmond.

Cape Breton had abundant population itself to entitle it to two members.

Mr. Matheson, of Richmond, scouted the idea of joining Victoria to his district. The whole of the Bras d'Or lakes lay between them.

Mr. Johnson, of Cape Breton, regretted the addition of Victoria to Cape Breton. He would rather have seen matters as they were. There was no political advantage to his party in the change, but under the circumstances there was nothing else to be done.

Hon. Mr. Fielding rejoiced that the differences between the two parties as regards the changes of representation in Nova Scotia were so small. Both were agreed that Pictou must lose one member. The addition of Victoria in Cape Breton seemed to be the only fair change that could be made in Cape Breton island. There was a community of interest after all between Victoria and Cape Breton. They were adjacent to one another and business interests brought them constantly together. Richmond, on the other hand, was too far away to be combined with Victoria. That proposition had been fully considered and dropped as impracticable. His own party had nothing to gain by the new arrangement.

Mr. Borden quite conceded there was no politics in it. It was a choice of two evils. But what struck him as unfair was that Victoria and Cape Breton counties should have only two members for 70,000 population, while Richmond, alongside, had a member for 14,515 souls.

Mr. Fielding reminded the opposition leader that Halifax had only two members for 74,000 souls. Anomalies of this kind existed, and it was impossible to avoid them.

Doctor Kendall, of Cape Breton, acknowledged that the rearrangement was not very satisfactory to him personally. Still that was not a matter of much public importance. Three suggestions were made as to how the reduction of one member on Cape Breton Island should be achieved. The bill undoubtedly chose the best solution of the difficulty.

Mr. Fielding hoped that the next census would show such a growth of population as would secure an increase of representation in parliament.

Nova Scotia then passed. Mr. Fowler strongly objected to the feature of the bill which proposes a union of Kings and Albert. The united counties would have a population of 34,000, and now got only one member under the rearrangement, whereas St. John city and county got two members for a population of 40,000. Restigouche was to continue its individuality as an electoral district with a population of 38,000. The fair thing to have done would be to add St. John county with its 19,000 population, to Albert county alongside, leaving St. John city with one member. Kings and Albert together would make a district forty miles long. The government proposition was an iniquitous gerrymander.

Hon. Mr. Blair replied. He found Mr. Fowler's language unnecessarily strong. That gentleman could adduce no evidence in support of his charge of gerrymandering. He was prepared to take his share of responsibility for the course adopted in this matter, but to his mind the arrangement was the most equitable and just that could be devised, and would give better satisfaction to those concerned than any other suggestion that could be put forward.

In considering the rearrangement of seats, which the census showing rendered necessary, it was desirable as in the past, to adhere to county boundaries. There were two possible means of solving the

situation. They could combine Restigouche and Gloucester, in the north, or Albert and Kings in the south.

Restigouche had a population of 10,586 and Gloucester of 27,935, making the population of 38,522. Albert and Kings would have a combined population of 6,000 less. There were many reasons why it was undesirable to combine St. John and Albert. The proposal would not be to the taste of either county. There was no demand for this thing alone.

Mr. Fowler interrupted that this plan was favored by the local member for Albert.

Mr. Blair—Yes, but there was no public support behind him. The proposal was not practicable. The counties of Albert and St. John are not in reality contiguous to one another. The settled parts of the two counties do not come in touch with one another, and besides there is no line of communication between them.

He was not prepared to say that the present arrangement in St. John was ideal. But why disturb conditions that have existed so long and given general satisfaction. The city and county of St. John together have a population of 52,000, so that a representation of two members is not excessive. The people interested are pleased with affairs as they are. There was no complaint against existing conditions. Better leave things as they are; leave well enough alone till evidence is forthcoming that a grievance exists.

Finally, said Mr. Blair, it is wholly impracticable to connect St. John county and Albert. The only wise course to adopt was the one the bill proposed.

Hon. H. R. Emmerson said the proposal in the bill was the best he could see for the province. Any other proposal would involve the division of St. John county.

The redistribution bill was all passed last night with the exception of three constituencies in Ontario—Waterloo, Grey and Hastings.

The national transcontinental railway bill will be taken up on Monday and the re-distribution bill will stand until it has been passed.

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Ladies' Favorite. Is the only safe, reliable regulator on which woman can depend "in the hour and time of need." Prepared in two degrees of strength. No. 1 and No. 2. No. 1—For ordinary cases is by far the best dollar medicine known.

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No. 1 and 2 are sold in Fredericton by all Druggists.

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23,

24,

25,

Good for return until Oct. 12, 1903

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Sept 18—d61

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## CANADIAN M.P.'S

## And Their Attitude Towards Chamberlain's Policy.

## THREE HAVE DECLARED FOR THE EX-COLONIAL SECRETARY.

## Some are on the Fence, Others for Ireland.

(Special to the Daily Herald.)

Montreal, Sept. 19.—A Star cable from London says: Three Canadian born members of parliament have declared themselves for Chamberlain's preference campaign for which he is now preparing with tremendous energy.

They are Mr. Bonar Law, Col. J. Wilm-burn Laurie, and Sir Gilbert Parker.

Mr. Mackenzie Brown is classed among the wobblers. Mr. McNamara is an anti-Chamberlainist. Mr. Chas. Devlin and Mr. Blake will follow Mr. Redmond in adhering to whichever side gives Ireland the best terms for their votes.

## CONSERVATIVES SUPPORT

The Transcontinental Railway Project—The West Wants It.

(Special to the Daily Herald.)

Toronto, Sept. 19.—The Conservatives of the West are unanimous in favor of a new trans-continental line, and will necessarily support the government if the opposition make this proposal an issue in the next election.

This is the opinion of Mr. W. G. Tretheway of Montreal, who is at present in the city on his return from a tour of the west.

## DESPERATE BATTLE.

(Special to Daily Herald.)

Sofia, Sept. 19.—A desperate battle is now in progress around the mountain villages of Lerman and Presbanco.

Two bands of insurgents, numbering 700 men, are defending 3,000 villagers against the Turks mountain battery of 2,700 men. The refugees are barely escaping with their lives, and some of them have crossed the frontier during past two days.

## PROBABLE MINISTER.

(Special to Daily Herald.)

London, Sept. 19.—It is reported that the Earl of Salisbury, Lord Chancellor, will resign owing to ill health, and that Attorney General Finlay, who is conducting the Canadian case in the Alaskan tribunal, will succeed him.

## A FINE MARKET.

Country Produce Brought Very Satisfactory Prices.

There was a genuine fall market this morning, and the display of farm produce was one of the largest and best seen here for many months. The country roads are now in good condition and the number of teams on hand, many coming from distant parts of the county, was very large. Chickens were quite plentiful this morning and brought all the way from 35 to 60 cents per pair, according to quality. Lamb was also plentiful and sold for seven and eight cents. It was a great day for vegetables—potatoes, corn, turnips, carrots, parsnips, cucumbers, squash and beets being displayed in nearly every wagon. The choicest varieties of potatoes sold for \$1 per barrel, and some which did not look quite so good, went for 80 cents.

The first venison of the season was brought in from the country. There were three carcasses, which were disposed of at eight and nine cents per pound.

The scarcity of apples this morning in the market, occasioned much comment. There were only a few barrels, chiefly Yellow Transparents and New Brunns wickers, and they brought \$1.25 and \$1 respectively. The late fall and winter apples are not yet ready for market, and the early varieties are about exhausted.

## Tennant, Davies &amp; Clarke

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Largest Live Stock and Agricultural Show ever held in the Province. Be sure and see

Gorman's Celebrated Diving Horses

AND THE Famous Alabama Troubadours

W. S. HOOPER, Secretary.

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Our head Milliner, who has been away purchasing our Fall stock, has arrived home with a larger and better stock of Millinery than was ever exhibited before. Cheapest Millinery establishment in the city. When attending the Exhibition give us a call and examine our stock.

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Ladies' Skirts and Coats,

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## Public Notice.

When attending the Exhibition you will find at the entrance a large Dining Tent, where the public can get

## Meals

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## Lunches

AT ALL HOURS.

Ice Cream,

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Hot Tea and Coffee

Served at a Refreshment Counter at any hour day or night. This Mammoth Dining Tent is a branch of

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