

BORDEN WILL LEAD.

Tory [Members Press] Him
to Continue at Their Head

SMALL FRY POLITICIANS WHO
WOULD LIKE RECOGNITION.

Foster's Selection Would Have Bred
Discord.

Montreal, Dec. 5.—Mr. R. L. Borden will continue as leader of the Conservative party.

Mr. Borden, accompanied by Mrs. Borden, arrived here Saturday and were met at the Windsor by the advance guard of the representatives of the party in the House of Commons, largely from Ontario, and who have come to attend the conference which will be held here today.

Heading the delegation of Ontario members is S. Barker, M. P. for Hamilton. "There is only one name for leader suggested in Ontario," said Mr. Barker, "and that is Borden. People recognize his strength and they want him. Ontario is for Borden to a man."

The members already include besides Barker, Kidd of Carleton, Dr. Sproule, Kemp of Toronto, Broder of Dundas, Clemens and R. H. Pope, ex-M. P.

Mr. Borden has been offered seven or eight seats, but it is likely that the offer of Kidd of Carleton will be accepted. It is also understood that the government has offered to do what it can to expedite Borden's easy re-entry into the House of Commons, but the feeling among the members now here is that no favors should be accepted from the government, but that Borden's return should be entirely due to the strength of his party.

Mr. and Mrs. Borden are both feeling very well, their southern trip having been most beneficial.

Before he discussed the situation with his party men, the defeated leader was not inclined to return to the political arena, but it is said now that he has been persuaded to try for an Ontario seat, considered to be safe.

The former Conservative leader is not a rich man, and his political career has lost him a big legal practice in Nova Scotia. This, and the humiliation he feels over his defeat and the Liberal sweep in Nova Scotia, led him to decide that he had enough; but he reconsidered at a caucus, and intimated his willingness to place himself in the hands of the Conservative party.

Today there will be a meeting of final decision, and it is expected that the decision will be for Mr. Kidd, of Carleton, to resign and make way for Mr. Borden. Mr. Kidd was in Montreal today and said that he had offered to retire.

Had Mr. Borden declined to return to service, the leadership question would have been a troublesome one for the party. The names most prominently mentioned were E. F. Clark, Toronto; Hon. Geo. E. Foster and F. D. Monk.

Mr. Barker of Hamilton, and Hon. John Haggart were also considered. On his own hook, W. F. McLean of Toronto, was working the wires, and was here last week seeking the support of the Quebec contingent, through Mr. Monk. The World publisher wants to be leader, but that is all there is to it.

Of those mentioned, it was felt inside the party ranks that the only man big enough intellectually for the leadership was Hon. Geo. E. Foster, but no selection would cause more discord.

E. F. Clark, of Toronto, is clever and popular, but he will not work enough to meet the requirements of party leadership. Then there is Mr. Monk, who is not in favor because of the fuss he raised over the Conservative welcome to Mr. Tarte.

These were the sentiments expressed in the ranks, and there is satisfaction over Mr. Borden's decision, which will remove the difficulties confronting the party were it necessary to choose a leader from the members elected.

MR. RUSSEL'S EXPLANATION.

Proprietor of The Telegraph Writes a Letter
In Answer to His Accusers.

Montreal, Dec. 5.—David Russel has written a letter to the editor of the Gazette, in which he replies at length to the charges made by Events of Ottawa in connection with the Abbey's Effervescent Salt Company and the St. John Telegraph. In this letter Russel defends himself, the Abbey Company and the purchase of the Telegraph by saying there is nothing to hide.

Continuing he says: "As regards the St. John Daily Telegraph, the statement that I acquired this property improperly is absolutely untrue. When I formed the present Telegraph Company I was joined by a number of prominent citizens of St. John, and there were also a number of subscribers from other parts of Canada who subscribed from interested motives, as it was

understood that the Telegraph would become the organ of the Liberal party in New Brunswick. One or two of these subscribers paid their subscriptions in cash; the others gave me their notes, which I discounted at my bank. These notes were not paid by promisors, but by myself, and are now in my possession, and when the policy of the paper was changed by me, I re-purchased from the shareholders all outstanding stock excepting that of two small shareholders in New Brunswick, who each hold \$500, and who declined my offer. Besides these two amounts, there is only \$21,000 of Telegraph stock that had not been paid for by me, and this consists of two subscriptions of \$15,000 and \$6,000 respectively, and these subscribers were notified that their certificates will be issued to them at any time they may wish.

It will thus be seen that I personally am owner by actual purchase of the large majority of the stock of the company, and when I changed the policy of the paper and requested the government to withdraw its patronage, I was dealing in an absolutely legitimate manner with the business proposition, in which my own interests were those chiefly involved. It is my intention to request the Liberal leaders to appoint an auditor to investigate and confirm the statements I have made here, and it will probably be somewhat of a surprise to the premier and others that a number of men were enjoying the credit of assisting in the establishment of the St. John Telegraph, when as a matter of fact they never contributed one dollar. All vouchers and papers in this connection are at the disposal of the proper parties for examination, and as soon as their report has been drawn up, I shall exact full retractions not only from those journals that have published these extraordinary and foundationless statements but also from no less than four members of the Laurier administration who made themselves parties to the dissemination of this scandalous libel."

MR. BLAIR AT HALIFAX.

Talked About the Weather and the War
but Declined Personal Subjects.

Halifax Chronicle Saturday:—Hon. A. G. Blair, ex-chairman of the Railway Commission will make a statement to the public. That much he told a Chronicle reporter last night.

Just when the ex-minister will take the public into his confidence he did not intimate, and maintaining the reticence, which has baffled all interviewers since his dramatic resignation of the chairmanship of the Railway Commission on the eve of the Dominion elections, Mr. Blair gave no hint as to the nature of the statement that he proposed to make.

The ex-minister and Mrs. Blair, are visiting their daughter Mrs. C. Walter Clarke, of South street this city. Mr. Blair was seen by a Chronicle reporter last evening, but declined to be interviewed. He said that his visit to this city had no special significance. The members of his family were widely scattered and he was merely paying a visit to his daughter.

Mr. Blair, however, told The Chronicle representative that it was his intention to make a statement, but at the present time he was not prepared to make it public.

"There is one matter," said Mr. Blair, on which I intend to make a statement, but it is not yet ready, and therefore I do not care to say anything until some future time."

Mr. Blair, while most courteous, preferred rather to talk about the Russo-Japanese war and the weather, than to say anything as to his future plans. Mr. Blair will leave for Ottawa direct this morning.

BOGUS BALLOT BOX SCANDAL.

Further Sensational Testimony Offered
on Saturday.

Bellefleur, Dec. 5.—The bogus ballot boxes case was continued Saturday. Copies of some unimportant telegrams, of which Organizer Vance was either the receiver or the sender, were put in evidence.

W. J. Franklin, returning officer for Frontenac, gave sensational evidence. He swore that the ballot boxes he gave Hawkey, the deputy returning officer at No. 2 Clarendon street, was not the box Hawkey returned. That which he gave was a galvanized iron box, while the returned box was of tin. Avery, M. P. for Frontenac, testified to having protested in vain to Franklin against the appointment of Hawkey as deputy returning officer.

Phil Lott testified that his brother, who acted as his own scrutineer in Lott's poll, had during the day passed a note across the table to him asking him to mark the ballots so they could learn how certain voters marked ballots. He also asked him in another case not to administer the whole oath to the voter.

Then unimportant witnesses were examined and the court adjourned until next Friday, when it is expected the case will be finished.

A secret is something a woman gets another woman to help her keep.

SUCCESSFUL GUIDES.

The Messrs. Ogilvie Have Had a Great
Season on the Tobique.

Mr. Alex. and David Ogilvie, the well known big game hunters of South Tilley, Victoria county, are in the city today, guests at the Barker. The Messrs. Ogilvie's sporting camps are on the Gulgac, a branch of the Tobique, which is regarded as one of the very best game districts of the province. During the season just closed they handled twenty-five sportsmen, mostly wealthy Wall street men, and all expect two of them succeeded in getting game. The largest moose taken at their camps this season was shot by Harry Phillips of Edmundston. It had an antler spread of 66 inches and 32 points. A New York man shot one with a 63 inch antler spread, and two others were taken with antlers spreading 60 inches. The Messrs. Ogilvie, who are brothers of Mrs. Matthew Tennant, will remain here for several days.

The friends of Mr. R. C. Colwell, B. A. who has been in delicate health for some time, will be pleased to know that he is rapidly regaining his strength.

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Our stock of Dried Fruits and Fancy Christmas Goods for the season's trade is now complete, and we present to the public a large assortment of Holiday Groceries, including

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Swell Perfumes.

This elegant holiday stock of Swell Perfumes that we are now offering is the best selected and choicest we have ever had. The finest and most popular odors of the best manufacturers of the world are included in this Perfume showing of ours. The Gift Cases in which these Perfumes are contained are exceptionally dainty and beautiful.

For an attractive and delightful inspiring holiday remembrance it is hard to think of anything nicer than one of these perfume "gems."

Many different odors and styles of cases to select from.

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Come in and see our fine display of

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Whether you wish to purchase or not. Our line of

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