

# The Daily Herald.

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NO. 225

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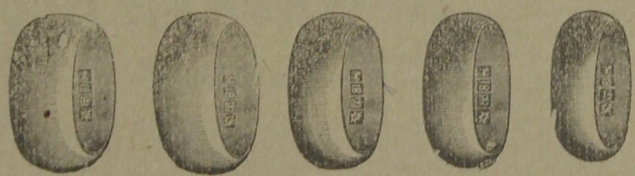
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## THE BRIDGE ENQUIRY. LAURIER'S ELOQUENCE.

Government Engineer Gives Testimony Before the Royal Commission.

ALL REASONABLE PRECAUTIONS WERE TAKEN TO ENSURE SAFETY OF STRUCTURE.

(Special to Herald.)  
OTTAWA, Sept. 27.—"As far as we have been able to find out," said Mr. Henry Holgate, chairman of the Royal Commission investigating the collapse of the Quebec bridge to your correspondent this morning, "there has been the greatest care taken all along the line to investigate the matter, and to insure the permanency of the structure."

"The specifications and plans were prepared by the best engineers on the continent, and a wonderful care and accuracy has been shown throughout. We have found absolutely no trace of any graft in connection with the construction of the bridge. It seems to be really a case of the best engineering brains on the continent and the best engineering methods being on trial."

"In so far as the government's connection with the enterprise is concerned, everything seems to be quite regular, and what should have been done, has been done."

When the Royal Commission met to-day in one of the committee rooms of the House of Commons Mr. R. G. Douglas, bridge engineer of the railway department, was examined, his examination covering his inspection of the plans and specifications for the bridge submitted to the government for approval.

The original plans in 1898 were for the purpose of getting tenders, and he did not make any thorough inspection. In 1903 he reported upon

changes in the specifications recommended by Mr. Cooper, but he did not approve of all the changes. The witness said that he made enquiry as to the loading and unit stress of other large bridges on the continent and elsewhere.

An order was passed on August 15th approving of a further loading of the bridge by extending the length of centre span from 1,600 to 1,800 feet. He would not express an opinion as to the wisdom of this. There was no detailed inspection of the bridge as to stress, etc. The inspection was general.

There was nothing wrong with the plans as far as he knew. He examined them very closely and was not in the least apprehensive that anything was wrong with them. He did not examine every rivet, but made such an examination, as an engineer would do, under such circumstances. His work of engineering ceased with the plans and specifications, and he did not wish to express any opinion as to the government accepting Mr. Cooper's report, instead of having an engineer of their own.

The usual procedure was followed by the department in relation to this bridge as was done in respect to other bridges, with the exception that Mr. Cooper, who was acting for the Quebec Bridge Company, reported to the government. As Mr. Schriber put it, the interest of the government and the bridge company was identical. The commission then adjourned to meet in New York.

## CITY FOUR PER CENTS.

Local Investors Said to be Willing to Take Them up at Ninety.

The recent financial deal made by the city authorities with the Bank of Nova Scotia is still creating quite a lot of talk, and the opinion seems to be general that it was not a good bargain for the city. It is said now that the city will have to make good the amount of accrued interest on the bonds from May 1st last, which will mean a further reduction of about \$2,000 from the selling price. This means that on the whole transaction the city will drop pretty close to \$20,000.

People who purchased city bonds a few months ago at 96 and 98 are sorry now that they did not wait for a drop in the price. One man who bought \$20,000 worth in July at 96 would have been able to drive as good a bargain as did the Bank of Nova Scotia. In justice to the city authorities it is only right to say that they recently offered bonds to local moneyed men at 90, but were unable to induce them to buy. Now after a sale has been made at 85, people are asking why the bonds were not placed on the local market

One man who holds quite a large block of city bonds, is inclined to lay the blame for the whole trouble upon the banks which have agencies doing business in the city. He thinks that instead of showing a disposition to help the city out of a tight place, they have acted in a very grasping manner. He was inclined to think that the trouble would not have occurred had the People's Bank of New Brunswick not been swallowed up by a larger bank. "There is a lesson in this," said he, "that I hope will not be lost on the city council and citizens."

Another citizen when asked for his opinion on the matter thought it would have been better for the city to have borrowed money at eight per cent to tide over the difficulty rather than to have sacrificed the bonds. He felt satisfied, however, that the bonds would soon recover and those holding them have no occasion to worry over their investments. With the savings banks, he said, only paying three per cent interest, city bonds yielding four and four and one half per cent and exempt from taxation, are a regular snap.

## A BAD INDIAN.

Shot Bailiff Seriously and will be Cailed to Account.

(Special to Herald.)  
OTTAWA, Ont., Sept. 27.—Sheriff Wright, of Hull, left to-day with a squad of police to arrest an Indian at Otter Lake, 30 miles from Hull, among the Laurentine Mountains. The Indian shot Bailiff Seguin, of Hull, who was sent to arrest him for violating the game laws. Seguin is dangerously injured, but may recover.

## THE STOCK MARKET

(Special to Herald.)  
MONTREAL, Que., Sept. 27.—The Stock Market was generally weak to-day. Dominion Steel hung around 20 and the Huron's bow on the side of the Montreal Power went off to 92. This Mongolian that the ten-inch steel bow was smashed in a dozen pieces.

of Steel, but a full point for Power. Canadian Pacific was off 163 1/2, Detroit 63 1/2, Toronto Railway 96 1/2, N. S. Steel 67, Twin City 94 1/2, Montreal Street Railway, after a break of five points, yesterday, steadied at 184.

## THE DAMAGED STEAMERS

Mongolian and Huron Recently in Collision, Reached Montreal.

(Special to Herald.)  
MONTREAL, Que., Sept. 27.—The damaged liners Huron and the Mongolian reached Montreal to-day. The Huron comes to Montreal to unload her cargo, which is consigned hither. Passengers of the Mongolian were transferred to the Corinthian, which called yesterday for her voyage across the Atlantic, and the vessel returns here to unload and have repairs made. So severe was the concussion of the Huron's bow on the side of the Mongolian that the ten-inch steel bow was smashed in a dozen pieces.

Stirred the Canadian Manufacturers' Banqueters.

Premier Touched on Canada's Status as a Nation, Reciprocity with the Empire, the Japanese and Other Live Questions.

Speaking at the Canadian Manufacturers' Association banquet at Toronto Thursday night, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who was given a rousing reception, said in part:

"It has been my privilege again and again to be invited to your banquets, but it has so happened that of late years circumstances have compelled me to postpone the pleasure of acceptance. This year, however, I made up my mind that, if the Canadian Manufacturers' Association should again invite me to their board no other engagement, nothing in human control, should prevent me from accepting it. Nothing should prevent me taking their food, tasting their wine, and enjoying their company. (Applause.)"

"If I am permitted to speak my own mind I would say that there was a further inducement in the fact that the annual meeting and banquet of the Canadian Manufacturers in this year of 1907 was taking place in the city of Toronto. Gentlemen, I am an admirer of the city of Toronto. I am, indeed, a lover of this city. Perhaps there may be some among you who will be surprised at what I say (laughter), but gentlemen, there should be no cause for surprise. It may be true that someone might think that I should apply, in this regard, the remark of the Irishman, who, when he was urged to remember posterity, answered: 'What has posterity done for me?' and that I should observe, 'What has Toronto done for me?' (Laughter.)"

"But, gentlemen, my sentiment does not spring from such a source at all. It is a fact which is universally recognized that the heart of the mother goes out with strongest emotion to the wayward son. (Laughter.) In this you have the reason for my love of Toronto. I may have wished and endeavored to gather my children even as a hen endeavors to gather her chickens under her wing, but Toronto would not let me do so. (Renewed laughter.)"

## CANADA A NATION.

My conception is the true British conception of individuality of communities. (Applause.) Today Canada is a part of the British empire, boasting of its loyalty to the crown, and has attained the full rank of a nation—a nation without any revolution, a nation without any breaking of old traditions, a nation without an impairment of that loyalty to the British crown, which is ever true to every Canadian here.

"That has been the result of the Colonial Conference, wherein the presence of the prime minister of England, in the presence of all the prime ministers of those self-governing dominions it was asserted and confirmed without a dissenting voice that the relations between the United Kingdom and the dominions beyond the seas were relations of governments and governments. (Clear, hear.) That whilst all knowledge the same alliance to the same sovereign, still all were on a footing of equality, the question at once arose between what were to be the relations between all parts of the empire on questions military, on questions commercial, on questions diplomatic. On questions military there were many who believed that we should have unity of organization. For my part my belief is that upon this question and upon all questions the matter is not imperial unity, but local autonomy. (Applause.)"

"We claim that we should have our own military organization. Oh, there is no doubt whatever that when England was in danger some few years ago, at the time of the Transvaal war, the Canadian people were ready to give their treasure and blood for the help of the motherland. 'But to my mind it is a very different thing for the Canadian people to come forward at a moment of emergency, and the Canadian people so giving to be part of the organization of England, as a part of the community of Europe. What is the condition of Europe to-day? The condition of Europe to-day? The ed peace, almost as intolerable as war itself. We live on a continent where we have no standing armies, and we are satisfied either on the one side of the land or the other to depend upon a citizen militia. In times of need the blood and treasure of every Canadian would be at the command of the King, but in time of peace I claim that we should follow our own instincts, follow our own ideas, and not be drawn into the

vortex of European militarism. (Applause.)  
PREFERS UNIVERSAL FREE TRADE.

"If I had my own way in this matter I am afraid I would have different organization of the British empire. I would have universal free trade in the British empire. But against it there are two chief objections. Canada does not want it. Australia does not want it. Great Britain does not want it, and, therefore, we cannot possibly trouble about it. Great Britain will not limit her free trade, even within the boundaries of the British empire. Canada will not have it because she is not prepared for free trade, even in the British empire, but what Canada is prepared to consider is reciprocity with the British empire. This is the thing we are ready for in this country, but this is the thing that they are not ready for in the motherland. On my part, while we don't want to be interfered with in our domestic and fiscal policy by the people of Great Britain, so we will not attempt to dictate to the people of Great Britain. (Cheers.) Let us have freedom of all, whatever may be the difficulties of the position, and at least maintain the policy which has been so successful in the last ten years."

## CANADIAN INTERESTS SACRIFICED.

"We take the record of the diplomats of Great Britain, in so far as Canada is concerned, and the record is a record of a repetition of the sacrifice of Canadian interests. (Cheers.) We have suffered on the Atlantic, we have suffered on the great lakes, we have suffered wherever there has been a question discussed between British diplomats and foreign diplomats, and we have come at last to the opinion on this point that in our relations with foreign countries it would be better to attend to our business ourselves. It has long and long been the desire, if I mistake not, if the Canadian people that we should be entrusted with the negotiation of our own treaties, especially in regard to commerce. Well, this long looked for reform has come to be a live reality. (Cheers.)"

"As I said to you a moment ago, without revolution, without any breaking of the old traditions, without the impairment of our allegiance, the time has come when Canadian interests are entrusted to Canadians, and just within the last week a treaty has been concluded with France, a treaty which appeals to Canada alone and which has been negotiated by Canadians alone. (Cheers.) True, it has been done with the whole assent of the British crown, and with the assent of the foreign office. The foreign office interposed no objections at all, but, on the contrary, the foreign office told us: 'This is a matter which chiefly concerns yourselves; take the matter in your own hands. The treaty has been completed. It is not for me to say what it is, but I think that I can say that it will be found reasonably satisfactory to the producers of Canada, for the farmers of Canada, and for the manufacturers of Canada also. (Cheers.)"

## THE JAPANESE TREATY

"Sir, we have also another treaty which was negotiated some years ago by British diplomats, negotiated with the full assent and request of the Canadian government, I mean the treaty with Japan."

"But some difficulty has arisen on the shores of British Columbia because there has been greater influx than before of Japanese immigrants. What are we going to do under such circumstances? A section of the people in Winnipeg have called upon the British government to annul the treaty. Well, the treaty has been in operation only two years. We are just commencing to reap the benefit, and to denounce it would be simply panic, (cheers), and for my part I am not disposed, whether in this or any action, to act in a panic. (Clear, hear.) I want to look about to inquire, to reflect, before I make up my mind, and it behooves the Canadian Government under such circumstances, under the difficulty which has arisen to contemplate, to inquire, to reflect, and to see the best course to follow in the interests of the Canadian people. To at once, without inquiry, denounce the treaty would, in my humble judgment, not be playing the part of responsible men. (Cheers.) It shall be the duty of the Canadian government under such circumstances to re-

(Continued on fifth page.)