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PANAMA CANAL TOLLS A LOT OF "HOT AIR"

SUBJECT WAS DEALT WITH BY HON. ARTHUR MEIGHEN IN TORONTO NEWS STATEMENT ABOUT QUEEN'S.

Solicitor-General of Canada Declared That Great Britain's Contention is Embodied in the One Term "a Fair Field and no Favor"—Arguments Set Forth on a Technical Issue

That Great Britain's contention is embodied in the one term, "a fair field and no favor," was the declaration of Hon. Arthur Meighen, solicitor-general of Canada, addressing the members of the Kingston Canadian Club, in the Frontenac hotel, on Thursday night, on "Panama Canal Tolls."

There was a very large turn-out of the members of the club to hear the technical issues on the subject, discussed by the solicitor-general. J. L. Whiting, K.C., president of the club, presided, and introduced the speaker. The club also had a brief address from J. A. Ruddick, Dominion dairy commissioner, on dairying. Mr. Ruddick spoke at a meeting of dairymen of this district in the Board of Trade rooms on Thursday afternoon. Rev. Dr. E. B. Ryckman said grace for the dinner. Mr. Meighen has all the arguments in the case at his finger's end, and set forth his reasons for believing that Great Britain's view should prevail in regard to the questions at issue.

The great canal was referred to as a world utility, which would come under tolls, and which would be operated next year. The United States had built the canal, would control it, and contended that their control gave the country the right to legislate for the tolls. The country claimed sovereign rights. The claim was set forth that the country not only built the canal, but owned the canal zone through which it was built, and for this reason, would exercise sovereign rights. The speaker contended, however, that at the time the treaty was signed, the United States had no sovereign rights. They also contended that "the vessels of all nations," did not include the United States, but there was nothing to show that "the vessels of all nations," should not include the States. This argument was a dangerous one, had a reverse action, and would tend to injure the United States more than any other country.

"The vessels of all nations," had reference to all the nations and nothing else. Another contention of the United States was this: "we are fighting over very little"; that only the coastwise shipping was exempt and therefore there was no competition and no person was injured. This was an argument of doubtful value. However, coastwise might mean one thing in one country, and an entirely different thing in another country. It would mean just what a country had a mind to make it mean, and had no standing in the law.

Great Britain was willing to abide by arbitration and consequently little was to be gained by controversy. Great Britain was prepared to pay her full share on a basis to be decided on for the upkeep and maintenance.

The speaker went into all the arguments in detail, all of which were of a technical nature.

Mr. Ruddick's address was a story of the progress made in the dairying interests, touching on matters he had referred to in his address in the afternoon at the Board of Trade rooms. The speaker referred to the fact that just twenty years ago, he lived in Kingston, and therefore he had qualified as a Kingston old boy. At the close of the addresses, the two speakers, on motion of W. F. Nickle, M.P., seconded by Rev. Dr. Jordan, were tendered a very hearty vote of thanks.

During the evening Louis Marchand rendered a number of fine piano selections.

This event marked the last public function of the Canadian Club during the winter season.

Y.M.C.A. GLEE CLUB CONCERT

On Thursday evening was a very Successful Event

The second concert given by the Y.M.C.A. glee club in the association building, on Thursday evening, under the direction of Prof. Wright, was a great success. The boys' department room, where the concert was held, was well filled. The programme consisted of fourteen numbers. The glee club, organized last fall, is deserving of great credit for the showing it has made since.

On Thursday evening the club was assisted by Mrs. John Evans, soloist at Queen street Methodist church, Miss Ada Rosvear, soloist at Cooke's church, William Eva, of Queen street church choir, and Miss Goldie Bartels. All gave numbers which called for encores. The programme given by the members of the glee club was as follows:

- Chorus, "Battle Hymn," by the Glee Club; solo, "Song of the Sea," Frederick Haffner; male quartette, "Evening Song," by Messrs. F. Haffner, J. Tomkins, J. Saunders and Thompson; chorus, "Yearning," by the Glee Club; male quintette, "Roll on Old Moon," by Messrs. E. Haffner, H. W. Newman, F. J. Wilson, W. Thompson, and Archibald J. Pettigrew; solo, "For All Eternity," by Allan Haffner; male quartette, "Father's Lullaby," by Messrs. A. Haffner, K. Moncrieff, F. Partridge and H. Filson; chorus, "Hark, the Merry Drum," by the Glee Club; duet, "The King's Heroes," by Fred and Allan Haffner; chorus, "Comrades in Arms," by the Glee Club.

The following young men sang: in the chorus: F. Haffner, J. Tomkins, J. Saunders, W. Thompson, H. W. Newman, F. J. Wilson, A. J. Pettigrew, Allan Haffner, K. Moncrieff, F. Partridge, H. Filson, C. N. Meserve, W. Francis, E. Kelly and H. B. Trotter.

A. J. Pettigrew, the president of the club, has worked hard to make the organization a success and his efforts have not been in vain.

An Absolute Denial Given to the Statement That There is "Friction" Over the Leonard Military Training Offer.

This statement appeared in the Toronto News on Thursday. "It is said some friction" has developed in Queen's university. It has been difficult to agree on the exact control which should be exercised by the university over the buildings and equipment for military training which Major Leonard offers. It is understood Major Leonard proposes that the whole new department should be under a board of six members, of which three should represent the university. The other three would be the local officer commanding in the Kingston district, the commandant of the Royal Military College, and Major Leonard himself.

"This does not give university control. Hence, it meets with objection from some of the professors and trustees. It is difficult to see how control by the university can be surrendered, and yet the differences now are so unimportant that under energetic leadership an understanding should be easily effected. All Major Leonard should require is that the department he is to provide and maintain should be subject to regulations laid down by himself and accepted by the university authorities, the whole agreement depending upon the observance of the contract."

"Aside from this difficulty, there is a prospect that Principal Gordon may resign in order to become head of the theological department. Dr. Ross, the present head, is entitled to superannuation, and if Principal Gordon should desire to succeed him on an adequate salary and with the guarantee of a pension, probably action would be taken to secure a new principal for the university proper. With the provision of military training to be provided by Major Leonard, with the gift of \$100,000 from Lord Strathcona, and the certainty of aid from the provincial government, Queen's is about to enter on a new and more active period in its successful and influential career. There are those who think that now is the time for a complete reorganization and for the appointment of a new principal. This movement is not antagonistic to Principal Gordon, but is led by those who are persuaded that a younger and more energetic head should be appointed, but who also feel that Dr. Gordon's services have been such that he should be provided with lighter duties and an absolute certainty of a satisfactory salary or pension for the rest of his days."

"Simply Tommy Rot."

A strong denial is given the above "hot air" story.

"There is absolutely nothing in this story about a re-organization of the staff at Queen's university," said G. Y. Chown, the registrar of Queen's, when seen by a Whig representative on Thursday night. "Such an idea has not even been thought of," he said, "and all this stuff about chances and friction over Mr. Leonard's gift is simply Tommy Rot."

Principal Gordon is ill, and no statement could be secured from him, but leading members of the university senate declared that there was no foundation whatever for the report. The offer of Major Leonard is still under consideration, but the senate is agreed that Queen's must be given control of the military training. A settlement of the matter is shortly expected.

CHARGE AGAINST FARMER.

Of Ill-treating Ward of Children's Aid Society.

On Saturday afternoon Melville Ritchie, of the township of Storrington, will appear before Justice of the Peace George Hunter, charged with ill-treating and assaulting a young lad, a ward of the Children's Aid Society. Rev. A. E. Smart, inspector for the society, laid the information.

On Thursday afternoon, the lad was brought to the city and taken charge of by Mr. Smart. When examined by one of the local doctors it was found that the lad had been badly used up as a result of beating which is alleged, he received from his employer. The doctor who examined the lad will be called to give evidence as to his condition when he was brought to the city.

Weather Notes

The coast disturbance of yesterday morning is passing away to the Atlantic, and another now developing west of the Missouri is likely to move slowly towards the great lakes. The weather remains cold in the maritime provinces, but has turned warmer in Ontario and Quebec and continues warm in the western provinces.

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COMING TO THE GRAND

Two Big Musical Plays Billed for Next Week

"The Red Widow," which comes to the Grand on Thursday, April 23rd is one of those rare gems among musical plays that have a real plot. The story which is consistent if followed closely throughout.

"Cecero Hannibal Butts" is in London with his wife, who is an ardent suffragette. They are supposed to be on their way to Russia, but at the last moment Mrs. Butts receives an invitation to lead a band of suffragettes in a demonstration on the House of Parliament and to help throw a few bricks. It is at this point that "Anna Varvara," known to the Russian secret police as "The Red Widow" overhears Mrs. Butts' declaration that she is going to stay behind.

"The Red Widow," with her good look and wiles, subjects Butts to the dangers of being mixed up in matters that are dangerous for Russia; she persuades him to allow her to cross the frontier, as Mrs. Butts, he, willing to help a lady in distress agrees.

The second act, private parlor in the Hotel Del'Europe in St. Petersburg, and here Butts realizes that he has jumped into a mess of trouble with both feet for trying to help The Red Widow. In this act is sung the song-hit of the show—"I shall never look at a pretty girl again."

The Coming of "Sweethearts." With the prestige of a record-making half-year's success in New York and the recent Chicago engagement where each performance was greeted with ovations, "Sweethearts" will come to this city with an organization of eighty singers, comedians and chorus that the press of these cities has recognized as a generation.

The music of this brilliant new work is by Victor Herbert and it has been thought that in its composition this veteran American composer has produced his master work. He has given waltzes of red blood and sentiment and marches that carry their hearers along with them in spirit. In none of the later popular comic operas is there thought to have been so great a contrast of melodies, ranging from important concerted numbers to lighter tunefulness that have comedy in each bar of music. The merry story taken from an old Flemish fairy tale by Harry B. and Robert B. Smith and Fred de Crossa is written in the tone of the gay opera comique of former days. The announcement is made that "Sweethearts" will be heard with the famous chorus, the great chorus, and also the Victor Herbert opera orchestra at the Grand on Wednesday, April 22nd.

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