

The Civil Service Under Criticism in the House of Commons

CLAIM SERVICE IS TOO COSTLY

Members of Three Commons Parties Are Agreed on This.

CUT OF 40 PER CENT.

Could Be Made, According to Mr. Martell, the Liberal Member for Hants.

Ottawa, March 7.—The House of Commons opened yesterday afternoon with a discussion of the public works estimates. When the vote for civil government administration amounting to \$614,655 for salaries and \$75,000 for contingencies in the department of public works came before the House, Hon. H. H. Stevens, Conservative, Vancouver, criticized the extent to which the supernormal allowances have increased in various departments. A huge amount, he said, was being paid to retired civil servants. Many retirements had been brought about but full strength was maintained. He thought the government should realize where we are drifting. He suggested that when there were vacancies in public works and other departments they should be left empty as long as possible. This was controllable expenditure. Mr. Stevens thought that in some cases help could be drafted from another department.

L. H. Martell, Liberal, Hants, asked if this was possible. Nothing to Prevent. Mr. Stevens replied that he knew of nothing to prevent drafting. He criticized the point system whereby certain department heads were encouraged to build up as large a personnel as possible. Of course he admitted there were other civil servants working overtime and not saying a word. There are some of the finest Canadians in the civil service, Mr. Stevens said, but it was time the many harnesses should be disposed of.

Mr. Martell thought that if he and Mr. Stevens could get together they could cut the service by forty per cent. and still have a better civil service.

Mr. Stevens again suggested that help should be drafted from other departments.

Hon. Charles Stewart, minister of the interior, said that what Mr. Stevens advocated was being done every day.

Mr. Stevens retorted that there was an "example of gross extravagance" in the interior department, where one of the most valuable civil servants had been forced to retire in the prime of life. Mr. Stevens promised to give the man's name when the interior estimates came up.

Overmanned Says Forke. Robert Forke, Progressive leader, said there was a feeling in the country that the civil service staff was overmanned. The service cost too much.

"We hear talk of economy, yet the service is constantly increasing. Where are we going to?" He thought the sum was large owing to circumstances and that the parties should get together and try to find a solution.

Hon. Dr. King, while admitting certain departments had increased, pointed out that the demands for the performance of more duties were increasing. For instance if the minister of customs wanted more efficient service as had been suggested, he would have to have an increase.

Mr. Martell did not think one minister should be criticized alone, as regards the increase in service. He thought the proper thing was for some member to give notice of motion and have a field day to discuss the whole thing. Mr. Martell also said that no judge or civil servant who had retired should be allowed to draw other money from the government.

"What about deputy ministers?" enquired H. C. Hocken, Conservative, W. Toronto. "In the same class and in the same boat," Mr. Martell replied. "No man should be allowed to sponge on his fellow citizens."

Mr. Hocken also suggested that all parties should get together in the matter. The estimates under consideration were adopted in the evening.

MANITOBA GASOLINE TAX IN OPERATION

Winnipeg, March 7.—From today automobile owners and other users of gasoline in Manitoba pay three cents a gallon provincial tax. A five-dollar reduction of automobile license fees also became effective today.

Edinburgh Bishop Urges Ban on Birth Restriction

Edinburgh, March 7.—Speaking on birth restriction at a meeting of the Edinburgh diocese of the Episcopal church, Bishop Walpole said "that it is quite clear to my mind that Great Britain should follow America and France and prohibit the use of contraceptives in order that our place among the nations may be preserved."

FINED FOR BUYING UNGRADED EGGS

W. J. Findlay, Listowel, Ont., Was Condemned in \$100 and Costs.

Ottawa, March 7.—For buying ungraded eggs, W. J. Findlay, of Listowel, Ont., was this week fined by Magistrate C. A. Reid, of Goodrich, \$100 and costs, or, in default of payment, two months in jail. The Dominion live stock branch here draws attention to the case. It was brought out in evidence that Findlay was convicted in June for a similar offence. The charge was made on a section of the egg regulations under the Live Stock and Live Stock Products act, which provides that persons who receive eggs on consignment or buy eggs for resale, in making payment for same, shall apportion the returns on the basis of at least two of the grades specified in the regulations. This provision constitutes one of the basic principles of the system of egg standardization, because unless returns are made on a graded basis, it is impossible for those who produce and market a high-grade product to obtain returns commensurate with the value of the product marketed, says an official of the live stock branch.

The Pure Butter Company, of Edmonton, was fined \$40 and costs last week for selling eggs which contained a large percentage of under grades.

TARIFF RETALIATION AGAINST AMERICANS

Club Needed to Meet U. S. Protectionists, Says Hon. Mr. Robb.

Ottawa, March 7.—"If the Americans put up a prohibitive tariff against our agricultural products, why shouldn't we put up a tariff against some of their products?" Hon. J. A. Robb, acting minister of finance, asked a delegation from the Canadian Council of Agriculture, which waited on the government yesterday.

"The government needs to have some club to handle these fellows," he continued. Mr. Robb stated that the Californians were putting up a big lobby all through Canada to defeat the trade agreement between Canada and Australia. The reason for the lobby was that the Californians knew that they would have to bring down their prices for raisins when they were called upon to compete with the Australian and South African product."

Irish Divorce Motion Ruled Unconstitutional

Dublin, March 7.—When the Daily Eireann's recent resolution concerning divorce came before the Senate, yesterday, the chairman, Lord Glenny, ruled it out of order. The resolution in question was introduced recently in the Lower House by President William T. Cosgrave and adopted. It declares the bond of marriage indissoluble. Lord Glenny based his ruling on the ground that such a resolution was in conflict with the constitution.

All union and non-union coal miners in West Virginia will be asked to strike on April 1st.

THE TORY WHIP IN A MUDDLE

William Ireland, Trenton, Feared He Might Lose His Seat.

MONEY PAID HIS STORE

By the Government—The Technical Breach Will Be Covered By a Special Bill.

Toronto, March 7.—The Ontario legislature next week will pass legislation to prevent the possibility of one of its members losing his seat by an inadvertent breach of the Legislative Assembly act. The act provides that no member of parliament may accept money from the crown except his seasonal indemnity and other monies properly voted. The public accounts shows that a sum was paid to the grocery store of William Ireland, chief Conservative whip, in Trenton and was charged against the Ontario government. Mr. Ireland noticed this in the public accounts and before the orders of the day in the legislature made the following statement to-day:

"This morning I learned for the first time that in the public accounts there appears an amount of \$24.88 paid to me for provisions, I learned that at a function held at the opening of the moving picture bureau at Trenton some refreshments were served. Apparently somebody produced a small amount of these goods from my store. A cheque was apparently issued by the treasury department and forwarded to me at Trenton. My manager evidently got the cheque and deposited it in the ordinary course of business without my endorsement or knowledge. "I want to state to the House that the whole matter occurred entirely without my knowledge or approval. It is a very trifling transaction, but I realize the seriousness of a breach of the law regarding representation in the legislature, and I hasten to make this explanation. It will be for the legislature to say what action should be taken in the matter."

All Parties Favorable. The premier said that Mr. Ireland had come to him about the matter. The cheque was not endorsed by Mr. Ireland and while it was a technical breach of the act it was unfortunate. He suggested that on Tuesday he bring in a bill which would protect the member against losing his seat. He felt under the circumstances that the House would agree unanimously.

W. E. N. Sinclair, liberal leader, said there would be no opposition from his group. W. E. Raney also gave assurance that the Progressives would support the bill "as nobody would like to see the government lose its whip particularly these days when it was an instrument of great service."

K. K. Homuth, Labor member, assured the government that Labor would support the bill.

Warning About Betting. The prime minister also took occasion to state he had learned someone was making visits to the parliament buildings and from the civil service soliciting bets on horse races. He wanted it understood among civil servants that the government proposed to put a man to watch these things and to see who the hand-book man was. If caught, he would be made to suffer as far as the law could make him, and any civil servant caught making bets through him would be immediately dismissed.

Thirteen private bills were introduced in the legislature. Hon. W. F. Nickle got a second reading for bills making minor changes in the Ontario Companies Act and the Surrogate Court Act. The House adjourned till Tuesday.

Died After Hike on Skis. Ottawa, March 7.—At the end of a long hike on skis, Mrs. Georges Bloudeau, of Hull, Que., dropped dead while approaching the Chaudiere Golf Club, near Hull Thursday night. Heart failure was the cause of death.

The body of a fully developed child was found in the Hamilton dump at the end of Terra Cotta avenue. It was in a box and had been brought there by one of the wagons.

JAPAN WILL CHECK COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES

Tokio, March 7.—A peace preservation act, also known as an anti-Bolshevik law, providing for imprisonment of nearly every form of communist activity, was passed by the house last night, while a heavy police guard surrounded parliament. The law is designed to check communist propaganda.

Dr. Skelton May Succeed Sir Joseph Pope This Month

Ottawa, March 7.—Professor O. D. Skelton, formerly of Queen's University, Kingston, will, it is expected, be appointed under-secretary for external affairs at the end of the present month in succession to Sir Joseph Pope who is retiring. Prof. Skelton is at present commissioner of the department.

CHICAGO IS ALLOWED TO DIVERT WATER

But It Must Be Not More Than 8,500 Cubic Feet a Second.

Washington, D.C., March 7.—Fins as far as the United States is concerned was yesterday written to the sanitary district of Chicago, the states other than Illinois bordering the great lakes, and the Canadian lake interests. Secretary of War Weeks issued his decision with respect to the withdrawal of water by Chicago from Lake Michigan, ruling that the diversion for the present should be limited to 8,500 cubic feet per second and that it should be reduced to 4,167 feet by 1935. The Secretary granted a permit for an average of 8,500 feet, until Dec. 31st, 1929, but this is conditional on various undertakings by the sanitary district, and may be revoked.

Mrs. N. B. Falkner Dead. Belleville, March 7.—The death occurred here to-day of Amy Elizabeth Morgan Falkner, daughter of the late Hon. Edmund Murney and widow of the late Nathaniel Baldwin Falkner, one of the city's best known residents. She had been ill for a number of years. The family had large property interests here in Murney Ward, named for the family, as are a number of streets. Miss Mary Baldwin Falkner, a daughter, lives here in the family residence, Murney Hill.

For brutal treatment of a year-old baby, Mrs. Elva Manson and her son, George Stover, of London, were remanded a week for sentence.

TWO MISSING OSWEGO MEN LANDED AT THE MAIN DUCKS

Provincial Police Receive Evidence That Harry Sheldon and David Tugwell Took a Cargo Into Their Motor Boat on the Night of 15th of August Last.

The provincial police constables, who have been working on the case of the disappearance of Harry Sheldon, aged 24 years, Oswego, N.Y., and David Tugwell, aged 42 years, also of Oswego, and formerly of Wolfe Island, who left Oswego on the morning of Aug. 15th last and have not been heard from since, are satisfied that the motor boat and the two men landed at the Main Ducks the same evening.

Although the police are not in a position to state that the two men have been drowned, never-the-less they are of that opinion. For some time there have been rumors to the effect that the twenty-six-foot motor boat in which the two men left Oswego had been seen at the Main Ducks. The provincial police, who have been active on the case for some time, have found out from at least seven or eight people that they saw a motor boat answering that description land at the Main Ducks about eight o'clock in the evening of August 15th. These men informed the police that the motor boat, which was fairly well loaded at the time, met another boat at this point and its cargo was transferred considerably with ease. When the motor boat left about three o'clock on Sunday morning, August 16th, the sea was running fairly high and the sides of the motor boat were close to the water.

Boat Likely Sunk. It is feared that after leaving the

NOVA SCOTIA MINE STRIKE

14,000 Miners Went Out At Eleven O'Clock Friday Night.

UNABLE TO INTERFERE

Hon. James Murdock, Minister of Labor, Announces in the House of Commons.

Sydney, N.S., March 7.—Following the failure of negotiations that commenced last December looking toward a new contract between the British Empire Steel Corporation and its miners in Nova Scotia and passed through many stages, including the appointment of a conciliation board, a hundred per cent cessation of work in practically every coal mine in Nova Scotia commenced at 11 o'clock last night, involving some 14,000 men.

With the exception of one or two small collieries on the mainland, privately owned, not a single ton of coal will be mined in any of the great mines that constitute the most important single industry in the province.

Cannot Interfere Says Murdock. Ottawa, March 7.—The federal government cannot interfere in Cape Breton, where the situation is being handled by the Nova Scotia government.

This statement was made by Hon. James Murdock, minister of labor, in parliament yesterday, when W. C. Good, Progressive member for Brant, read another appeal from Sydney miners, for assistance from the government.

Simon's Interim President. Berlin, March 7.—The majority parties in the Reichstag have agreed to frame a measure appointing Dr. Walter Simon, president ad interim of the German republic. Dr. Simon is a former foreign minister and now president of the supreme court of Leipzig.

Curzon's Condition. No Cause for Alarm But Operation May Be Necessary. London, March 7.—The condition of Marquis Curzon, of Kedleston, Lord President of the Council, and leader of the House of Lords, who collapsed Thursday night at Cambridge, was described by a bulletin issued at his London residence last night as "not calling for alarm." The bulletin stated, however, that the Marquis "had a severe hemorrhage" Thursday, and if this recurred, "an operation may be necessary."

DRASTIC WHEAT BREAK.

Winnipeg Pit Was in a Frenzy of Liquidation. Winnipeg, March 7.—In a steady downward movement, wheat prices on the local exchange yesterday suffered the most drastic break in many months. As a climax to the bearish sentiment prevailing right from the opening, the May future was forced down to the lowest point of the day shortly before the close at \$1.90 1/2, a decline of 1 1/2 cents over yesterday's finish.

The pit was in a frenzy with liquidation pouring in from all quarters.

Prices on the coarse grains markets experienced sharp recessions, with rye and flax particularly affected by the bearish wave.

EGG MARKET GLUTTED.

Sharp Drop in Price Announced at Sherbrooke. Sherbrooke, March 7.—A sharp drop in the price of eggs was recorded at the public market here to-day. Eggs were selling last week at from forty to fifty cents a dozen, but to-day were being offered at from thirty to forty cents, with large quantities in evidence. In fact, there was such a large quantity of eggs on hand that indications were that many of the farmers would have to take quite a portion of their egg supplies back home with them.

Petition Against Union. Toronto, March 7.—Presbyterians opposed to Church Union have until Wednesday next to present their petition for a bill regarding the division of Presbyterian Church property in the province before the committee on standing orders of the Ontario Legislature. After that date it will be too late for the present session.

Statue of Prince in Gold. London, March 7.—The interest in South Africa over the forthcoming visit of the Prince of Wales, says a despatch to the Daily Express, is evidenced in a letter received by a firm of jewellers in Birmingham asking their price for building a statue of the Prince in gold. The despatch does not indicate the size of the proposed statue.

STRONGER BEER ON APRIL FOOLS' DAY?

Toronto, March 7.—April 1st, 1925, will likely be remembered as the day when Premier Ferguson gave to the citizens of Ontario five per cent beer, judging from Provincial Treasurer Price's budget. He estimates a revenue of \$2,300,000 for seven months and as October 31st is the end of the fiscal year that would make April 1st as the beginning of the seven months.

AN ACT AMENDING THE RAILWAY ACT

To Meet Conditions in Crow's Nest Rate Appeal Planned This Session.

Ottawa, March 7.—An act amending the Railway Act and designed to meet the conditions created by the judgment of the Supreme Court in the Crow's Nest rate appeal, will be brought down by the minister of railways very soon after the legislation regarding ocean rates is referred to committee. The bill is not likely to be long or involved. Its fundamental provision will be to confer upon the railway commission full authority to wipe out discriminations regardless of the provisions of special acts. Nevertheless, it is anticipated that in conferring this power certain principles will be laid down. These doubtless will take into consideration the rights enjoyed or claimed by different parts of the country—the prairie west, British Columbia and the maritime provinces. It is not yet determined what form the governing factors will take.

MAY SUE UNIVERSITY.

Student Says He Was Barred From Lectures. Edmonton, March 7.—Because he refused to bow to the dictates of the Students' Union of the University of Alberta in submitting to the initiation programme prescribed by that body, Dwight H. Rice, of this city, declared today that he had been debarred from attending lectures. He stated that his appeal to the university authorities has proved abortive, and now he hints at taking legal action against "student tyranny." Rice ignored the demands on the grounds that they disregarded all rules of sport, requiring him to make a clown of himself for the amusement of the sophomores and to the disgust of the public.

W. H. COVERDALE

profession, the glorious one of engineering, has made a real success of life. He has indeed brought honor to his Alma Mater. He has risen to the top of his calling. His name is connected with countless societies of learning and corporations throughout the United States.

Mr. Coverdale gave a most inspiring and appropriate address. To the student group who are shortly to go out into the fields of Life's endeavor he stressed the value and necessity of hard work. "In these days," said Mr. Coverdale, "everyone is willing as regards work. Some are willing to work—and the others are willing to let them." Concentration, determination, will-power, these things, the speaker maintained, lead to greatness. He cited several noteworthy examples—that of Westinghouse, the great man of the electrical world in particular.

Mr. Coverdale was emphatic in saying that enthusiasm was absolutely necessary in any work engaged in. "Choose a vocation," he said, "about which you will be as enthused at seventy-three as you are at twenty-three!" The rector struck an important note when he said that success should not be measured in terms material. Worldly goods are nothing compared to friendship, realization of honest work done, an appreciation of art, poetry and religion. "These things alone are great."

The thunderous applause accorded Mr. Coverdale at the conclusion of his address spoke eloquently the appreciation of Queen's students. The campaign for funds for the Students' Union was launched by the convener, J. Alex. Edmison. This is the form chosen for the war memorial to the fallen dead of Queen's. During the next six days every student in the university will be canvassed. The sum of \$25,000 is the objective—the same to be paid within two years after the students graduate. If this sum is secured, and there is every likelihood that it will be, the war memorial fund will stand at over \$50,000—a sum warranting immediate steps to secure a union. The main slogan is: "Varsity has its Heart Home! McGill has its Students' Union! Why should Queen's take second place?"

With the hope of mitigating the bare meanness in Brant county, two detachments of marksmen from the Burford district on Wednesday organized a drive with the result that only eight hares in all were bagged.

GOOD ADVICE TO STUDENTS

Given By the Rector, W. H. Coverdale, of New York.

CAMPAIGN IS LAUNCHED

For the Students Union—The Object Is to Raise \$25,000 From the Students.

Friday afternoon, Queen's students filled Grant Hall to capacity to hear the address of the lord rector, Mr. W. H. Coverdale of New York, and also to hear presented the case of the proposed Students' Union.

Principal W. L. Grant of Upper Canada College, who gave official welcome to Mr. Coverdale, received a splendid reception. Chairman Jack McKelvey introduced him as "the famous son of a famous father." Principal Grant said it gave him great pleasure to again meet Mr. Coverdale—they had not seen each other for forty years. "During this time," Principal Grant continued, "Mr. Coverdale, in his chosen



W. H. COVERDALE