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GEN. SIR SAM HUGHES DEMANDS INVESTIGATION

In Response to Kyle's Charges General Hughes Demands Investigation and Sails by First Steamer to Canada. Royal Commission Appointed. War Office Notified. Liberals Dismayed at Sudden Acceptance of Challenge.

(From our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, March 30.—The situation created by the Kyle charges as to fuses contracts has been promptly met by the Government. With a decision and firmness akin to that which marked his course amid the haze of the war contract rumours of last session, Sir Robert Borden rose in his place in Parliament today to announce the immediate appointment by the Government of a Royal Commission. It will consist of Sir William Meredith, Chief Justice of Ontario, and Mr Justice Duff of the Supreme Court of Canada. The inquiry will be conducted by two counsel, one of whom will be named by the Government and the other by the Leader of the Opposition. It will investigate four contracts alleged to have been awarded by the Shell Committee and out of which it has been charged that Col. J. Wesley Allison had divided enormous commissions with his associates.

In detailing the ground for constituting the commission the Prime Minister said it had been suggested that it was through Allison's influence that the Minister of Militia that the Shell Committee had been induced to award the contracts. Consequently the Minister has been notified of the Kyle charges. He has cabled a statement to the effect that he had no improper connection with these or any other contracts and desired an investigation and that he was returning home on the first boat to Canada. A message also has also been sent to the Colonial

Office acquainting them with the details of the case and of the intention of the Government to institute an inquiry even though the necessity of such a course is regretted in wartime.

The Prime Minister's announcement was greeted with enthusiasm by the Government benches and with silence on the part of the Opposition. Liberal disappointment at being deprived of the opportunity to obtain campaign material for which they had looked to a parliamentary committee of investigation to provide, found vent, however, in the statement by Sir Wilfrid Laurier that the proposed inquiry by Royal Commission would never satisfy his followers. Sir Robert's reply was that he was anxious to satisfy the country; to satisfy the Opposition Leader was an impossible task. The inquiry, said the Prime Minister, would be into the fuses contracts made by the Shell Committee and the international Arms and Fuse Company and the cartridge case contract made by the Shell Committee with the Edwards Valve Company. "Upon careful enquiry," he said, "I cannot find that any of the other contracts which it is alleged by the member for Richmond that J. Wesley Allison was made either by the Shell Committee or any department of the Government of Canada. However, as it has been alleged that the Shell Committee made a contract with the Province Chemical Company of St. Louis, that alleged contract will be included."

\$250,000,000 WAR APPROPRIATION

(From our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, March 30.—Sir Robert Borden to-night gave notice of a resolution appropriating \$250,000,000 for the war. The resolution states that it will be used to defray naval and military expenses, promote the continu-

ance of trade and industry, provide for payments made for these purposes during the last two fiscal years in excess of the amounts authorized by the war appropriation Acts of these years. The money is to be raised by loans and the interest to be paid out of the consolidated revenue fund.

DOMINION-WIDE PROHIBITION

(From our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, March 30.—The House today endorsed by a vote of 103 to 15 the resolution introduced by Mr H. H. Stevens calling for Dominion-wide prohibition as amended by Mr R. B. Bennett, to leave prohibition in the hands of the provinces but to enforce their licenses as to the importation of liquor into their respective territories. Of the 15 members who voted against the amended resolution, one, Mr E. M. Macdonald, explained that he did so because he considered the plan en-

bodied therein would be useless and he intended to introduce a temperance sentiment. On the other hand a number of Liberals who had voted against the Bennett amendment voted for the amended resolution, explaining that they did so because they considered it better than no prohibitory measure at all. No Conservatives opposed the amended resolution. Sir Wilfrid Laurier voted in the affirmative without considering any explanation of his course necessary.

Minard's Lillment cures Diphtheria.

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PROCEEDINGS IN THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

Reply to Speech from the Throne Moved and Seconded in Practical Speeches by Messrs Paton and McLellan. Mr. J. H. Bell in Three Hours Oration Invites and Receives a Castigation at Hands of Premier. Mr. Hughes Makes Moderate Speech.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30.

The House resumed today at 10 a. m. Mr. Speaker Martin in the Chair. After Prayers, the address to the Governor was taken up.

Mr. James Paton in moving the address said:

MR. SPEAKER.

I have sometimes thought when reading over the speeches delivered in this Assembly Room that both sides of the house occupied too much time in the discussion of affairs that happened almost before some of us were born. I hope this session will be a business one. We should not be opposed to fair discussion of questions that have to do with the present or future welfare of the Province, time is too precious to waste over ancient history that cannot now be of any advantage to our people. We have taken upon ourselves to serve well those who have elected us to this responsible position. Let us conscientiously give the questions that come before us free expression of our ideas and our best judgment as to what we think will be of the greatest benefit to our island home. The claims of the different localities, City or Country should have the closest attention of all Hon. members who are interested in the welfare of the whole Island. We must be a little broad in our views. There is nothing great or good gained without co-operation. With this understanding and determination let us work solely for this one thing, to make this a session that will be productive of much good to our Province.

IMPROVEMENTS.

Many improvements throughout the Island have been accomplished during the past few years. We have better roads, better schools, new Agricultural Halls, a great number of new steel bridges, a Sanatorium at Falconwood and the magnificent building, the gift of the Hon Charles Dalton. Never in our history has so much been done for our farming population, the great benefits they have received are almost too numerous to mention. Notwithstanding the great progress that has been made, our agricultural production has not yet come up to the British Standard. The advantages, however, that have been derived from the classes established by the Government have done a great deal towards that end.

Greater efforts should be made towards destroying the growth of weeds along our public highways. I understand there is a law regarding this matter and all good farmers should endeavor to see that the law is enforced. The thing seems to be the most prevalent, probably owing to the greater number of our population being Scotch they think it sacrilege to cut it down.

TOURIST TRADE.

This is another matter that deserves greater attention than it has received. A very large revenue might be derived from this source. Providence has done for us all that could be desired, our scenery and climate in summer cannot be surpassed. We have not, of course, rugged mountains and glens, but there is something fascinating about our landscape scenery that makes this province a little paradise. One of the strongest objections to American tourists coming here in the past was the many changes they had to make along the route. Now, with the introduction of the Car Ferry our American friends will be able to step on board their car at Boston and need not leave it until they reach the Island. There is great wealth in the tourist business for our farmers and others, if only handled properly. Suggestions might be taken from Switzerland, the West of Scotland and other places where they have been successful in building up an enormous tourist trade.

STEAM COMMUNICATION THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE YEAR. has at last almost been accomplished. The good steamer Car Ferry, Prince Edward Island, commanded by Captain John Murchison has, up until a few days ago, for the first time in our history kept up continuous winter trips between the Island and the Mainland. I might be allowed to suggest that a vote of this house be sent to Premier Borden expressing the gratitude of our Province for thus fulfilling his promise and carrying out a most important part of the terms of Confederation.

CONFERENCE

The recently organized Conference composed of gentlemen representing the different interests of the Province, will be the means of working out many problems more effectively than could be done by any political party. If both sides of this House would co-operate with those gentlemen it would add greatly to the advantage of the Island's prosperity. The duty of the Conference first of all will, no doubt, be to study the condition of the whole province with reference to health, technical education, Agriculture, fisheries, transportation, emigration, special industries and new industries.

I have already said that our roads have been greatly improved under the present system. Road making, however is a subject that might well be discussed to great advantage. All over Canada in cities and throughout the country districts, the building of Roads is now being very much brought before the public and although we have made great headway during the past few years there is still room for improvement. We should in this Assembly make a united effort to adopt the best methods for making good roads at the least expense to our people.

OUR FISHERIES

In the waters that surround our Island we have something better and more reliable than the richest gold fields, I refer to our fisheries. It is our opportunity to prepare for a greater development of this industry, here again is where the Car Ferry is going to be the means of bringing more wealth to this Province. Express fish trains such as they have in other countries will no doubt be introduced on our railways and the demand for our fresh fish in the large cities will be so great that the cash returns for same will more than exceed our utmost expectations. It is pleasing to note in His Honor's address that this Assembly will be asked to consider means of securing their greater development along this line.

OYSTER MUD

Among other benefits enjoyed by many of our farmers and which will be taken greater advantage of in the future is the introduction by the Government of an oyster mud machine, the small price fixed \$36.00 per ton at "Midwell" will enable those who live inland to procure a fertilizer that cannot be equalled by any.

SUB-SOIL DRAINAGE.

The address on Sub-Soil Drainage by Prof. Reek at the Conference held recently must convince all who listened to him that it is a subject worthy of introduction by the Government. So also is the development of some of our clay fields. The samples of bricks and tile drains shown by Prof. Reek were equal to those produced in the best clay fields in the world.

WORLD WIDE WAR.

When we look upon the Island Coat of Arms, the little trees sheltering under the mighty Oak, we must lift our hearts in gratitude and thank a kind Providence that the British Navy still rules the waves and that we are sheltered by the Mother Country. The great test for the daughters of the Empire has come. Have we as a province, have we as individuals been as loyal as we should be, have we done our share in this great conflict? Some have done well, others have not. \$329,424 has been subscribed for patriotic purposes, a goodly sum, one can deny that, but what is that compared to the great sacrifice made by our soldier boys, by fathers and mothers who have parted with their dearly beloved sons. Then think of 429,444 who have been wounded, of the sympathetic tender hearted nurse who after the battle of the Marne her gentle hands nursed, not only British and Belgium soldiers but according to the written testimony of the American Ambassador, shared her good ministrations with the wounded and sick Germans, and all because she helped some fugitives to escape, she suffered the penalty of death, murdered by a German Officer. She was a brave woman—almost her last words were "I have seen death so often that it is not strange, or painful to me. I am glad to die for my country."

NURSES HAVE GONE.

have performed their work nobly and well, they also, like Miss Cavell would be ready if the nation called them to the danger zone to say "I am glad to die for the land of the Maple Leaf."

RECRUITING.

The recruits that have gone overseas from the Island are those who are now training, are men we feel proud of. It is to be regretted, however, that throughout the Dominion a large percentage of men have been rejected owing to some defectiveness. If the figures as stated in some of the papers be correct I hope our Island Boys are not included. If they are, the sooner medical inspection is introduced in our Schools the better, and physical training made compulsory.

The war is going to make many changes, extravagance and want of thoroughness are two evils of the past that will be checked to a certain extent, and one of the principal lessons that will be learned by our young men will be "What is worth doing is worth doing well." Take our own recruits, the discipline that they go through is so marked that within a few weeks from the time they line up they are entirely different men. Go watch them at drill in the Armories or the Agricultural Hall, every command given by the Drill Sergeant is obeyed. There are certain hours to retire and to arise, when the bugle sounds at 9.30 p. m. the young man knows it is about time to say "Good Night" to his friends as he must be inside the Barracks at 10 o'clock. If he is late he is punished. This will so impress the youth that punctuality and obedience will become part and parcel of himself.

THE WAR CLOUD.

Through this dark war cloud there are glimmers of sunshine, nobler and grander deeds performed than were ever dreamed of during the time of peace. Today patriotism is a genuine article, a thing of the present. In years past we sang "Rule Britannia" and other patriotic songs but not until lately did we know what patriotism really meant. Who among us would have thought of 600,000 soldiers being raised in Canada to fight for their King and Country, and that 3,000 of our own Island young men would leave the farm the office, bench or store to fight for the Empire. This is true patriotism. The War has not only brought us to realize what true patriotism is, it has bound the Empire with a brotherly kindness such as has never been known in the history of the world. From all the daughters of the Motherland, from the remotest places on the face of the globe, have come offerings and precious gifts all showing the noble expression and love for their homes and the liberty they have enjoyed under the British Flag.

HIS HONOR LIEUT. GOV. MACDONALD commends the attention of this Assembly to the making of suitable provision for soldiers returning from the war. The strongest recommendation that can be put forth for this worthy cause is reading to you the figures taken from the Island Roll of Honor: 77 wounded, 3 prisoners, 3 missing, 1 died from wounds, 1 killed in action, 1 died in Military Service, a total of 121 of our best young men who offered up their lives for the protection of every home in this prosperous Island. Those that return unfit for their usual vocation may be recompensed in no other way. Shall we as a Province rise to the occasion? Yes we shall.

ADDRESS SECONDED.

Mr. R. J. McLellan in rising to second the address said: Mr. Speaker: I rise with diffidence to second the address to His Honour in reply to the Speech from the Throne. I say with diffidence, for I fully realize how I fail to measure up to the high standards I have at all times associated with the picked men sent to this Chamber to legislate for the welfare of our Island Province. I come from the farm; have spent my whole life on it and now feel more keenly than ever, that my friends have strangely overrated my deserts, when I find myself here associated with experienced legislators—men, enjoying the confidence of their respective districts, who have given in the past of their best talents to advance the interest of the province and are here again ready and willing "to do their bit" for the attainment of still fuller results. I shall strive to do my part.

(Continued on page two.)

INCESSANT FIGHTING ON ALL BATTLEFRONTS

Fierce Battle Between British and German Forces on Western Front, German Attack Repulsed. Austrians and Italians Fight Fiercely for Trenches. Battle Now Raging on Greek Frontier. Three Enemy Aeroplanes Brought Down.

(Special to the Guardian.)

LONDON, March 30.—Fighting is still going on between British and German along the British end of the French line, particularly near St. Etloi, where German bomb throwers succeeded in reaching a portion of the British crater held by the British. Near Boosloghe the British put down an attempted attack by the Germans. Strong forces of Austrians and Italians are aligned against each other in the Gorizia sector of the Austro-Italian front. On the heights of the Selz spirited fighting is taking place for possession of trenches. Elsewhere along the front artillery duels continue.

Berlin says the big offensive of the Russians in the region of Postavy has ceased and that the Russians also have given up the attacks around Lake Naroch. Artillery duels, however, are going around Jacobstadt and to north of Widsy.

Great Britain has put into effect an Order-in-Council under which neither vessel nor cargo is immune from capture for breach of blockade on the sea ground that the vessel at the moment is on her way to a non-blocked port.

(Special to the Guardian.)

PARIS, March 30.—The following official statement respecting military operations along the Greek frontier during the month of March was issued to-night:—

"On the 27th important contingents of British cavalry installed themselves close to our advanced detachments. On the 28th Saloniki was bombarded by an aeroplane squadron, twenty Greek civilians were killed and twenty five wounded. Our aeroplanes sent out in pursuit brought down three enemy machines. A party of French cavalry on the same day came into contact with a hostile troop at Conzelli, in Greek territory, between Giogeli and Dorian. The Germans were put to flight. Along the whole frontier German artillery shows considerable activity.

(Special to the Guardian.)

PETROGRAD, March 30.—Via London.—The following official communication was issued to-day: In Riga region German artillery fired salvoes at the Ikaskull bridgehead. In the Jacobstadt sector the enemy having violated the Greek territory, between Giogeli and Dorian. The Germans were put to flight. On the 13th certain activity of German patrols was observed and French forces proceeded toward the frontier to south of Giv-

gell. On the 16th an enemy detachment installed itself in the Greek village of Kakukovo but was driven out the following day by our advanced posts. On the 19th a Zeppelin threw a few bombs on Karaburun roadstead, where a number of ships were riding at anchor. No damage was done. On the 20th our artillery shelled enemy encampments near the frontier. On the 24th the stations at Mrazni and Gjevelli. The same day a French aerial squadron composed of twenty three aeroplanes dropped a number of shells on enemy cantonments at Veleveo, west of Lake Dorian. In the course of the operation one of our pilots was hit by a projectile and fell into the lake. Another was forced to land, but managed to reach our lines after having set fire to his aeroplane.

On March 25, a fight between a Fokker and a French aeroplane terminated similarly, the French aviator being forced to land and setting fire to his machine. As an offset an Albatross was brought down by one of our pilots. The same day one of our aerial squadrons dropped shells on enemy encampments at Potporitsa.

Two P.E. Islanders In Casualty List

In the last casualty list issued at Ottawa there are two Prince Edward Islanders mentioned: James F. Hogan, Hope River, Seventh Battalion, wounded; and H. Barsto, Hallburton, Fifth Battalion, wounded.

THE WEATHER, TEMPERATURE, TIDE, MOON, ETC.

(Special to the Guardian.)

TORONTO, March 31.—Maritime: Light to moderate winds, fair and mild.

THE WEATHER.—Yesterday, was fair and very mild.

The highest temperature recorded yesterday was 41 degrees above zero. At nine o'clock yesterday morning it registered 31 above; at nine last night 35 above. The coldest of the previous night was 30 above.

The tide will be high this morning at 9:09 and tomorrow at 9:49; it will be high tonight at 9:04 and tomorrow at 3:05.

The sun sets this evening at 6:25 and tomorrow at 6:29; it rises tomorrow morning at 5:59 and Sunday at 5:37.

The moon sets this afternoon at 4:06.

The last quarter of the moon was on Sunday, March 24th, at 12:12 p.m. There will be a new moon on Sunday, April 22nd, at 12:21 p.m.

The length of today will be twelve hours and forty minutes.

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