

# KING STATES GOVERNMENT'S POLICY ON DUNCAN REPORT

## Prime Minister Announced Commission's Recommendations Were Accepted Virtually in Their Entirety, Thus Removing Maritime Question From Arena of Sectional Discord and Party Strife.

(Canadian Press) OTTAWA, Mar. 18.—Premier King in the House this afternoon made his announcement on the Duncan report. The Prime Minister's statement took up the various recommendations of the Duncan report in turn and gave the Government's policy thereon. On the report's recommendation of a twenty per cent. reduction in Maritime railway freight rates, the Prime Minister announced that "subject to certain modifications which may appear to be necessary respecting international rates and through import rates by sea, a bill will be introduced giving effect to this recommendation."

Further announcements by the Prime Minister were: Money grants to Provinces:—"The Government is prepared to accept the recommendations of the commission to give immediate consideration to a revision or readjustment of the financial arrangements as between the Dominion and the Maritime Provinces."

Acquisition of St. John Railway and the Kent-Norfolk Railway:—"The Government is of the opinion that the matters referred to are in some particulars incidental to the larger transportation problems of which mention is made in the report and to which the attention of parliament will be invited at the present session."

Mutual trade treaty for forest products and fish:—"Our policy remains one of seeking to advance as opportunity affords, mutual trade agreements in natural products."

Coking Plants:—"The commission's recommendation that immediate practical steps be taken has been accepted and a bill will be introduced at the present session of parliament respecting the establishment of coking plants at convenient centres in Canada under government assistance."

Customs Tariff on Coal:—"The recommendation of the commission that the tariff advisory board be asked to give immediate consideration to the customs tariffs in its relation to coal, anthracite and coke has been met. The matter is now before the tariff board. Owing to the existing uncertainty of conditions surrounding the iron and steel industry in the Maritimes, the government does not feel in a position to make at present any pronouncement with respect to the commission's recommendations of a renewal of the system of granting bounties with respect to steel when Canadian coal is used in its manufacture."

Maritime Harbor Commissions:—"The government is prepared to accept the recommendations of the commission concerning the establishment of harbor commissions for the harbors of Halifax and Saint John and bills with reference thereto will be introduced at the present session."

that the time is opportune for a readjustment of the financial arrangements between the Dominion and the Maritime Provinces. Money Grants: "As evidence of the desire of the government to do just as far as may be possible in relieving any feeling of suspense pending a final revision, we are prepared without prejudice as to the amount to be arrived at as a final solution, to recommend to parliament at the present session the making of special grants to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island of \$875,000; \$600,000 and \$125,000, respectively, these amounts being the equivalent of the sums recommended by the royal commission as immediate lump sum payments."

Deputy Minister of Fisheries:—"Special deputy minister for the fisheries section of the department of marine and fisheries." Reciprocity with the United States:—"Premier King cited the offer to the Fielding budget of 1923 which he said was accepted today and added:—"The appointment of a minister to Washington is a step which it is believed will be helpful as opportunity offers in the negotiation with our neighbors of trade treaties of mutual interest and advantage."

Premier King concluded by stating that in accepting the Duncan Commission's recommendations virtually in their entirety parliament and the country would recognize in the attitude of the government a wish "to remove this great question from the arena of sectional discord and party strife, and a desire to give to our Dominion in the sixtieth anniversary of its founding a renewed expression of the spirit which animated the fathers of confederation."

### Brief Statement of President Wolvin

(Canadian Press) MONTREAL, Mar. 18.—"I have nothing to say at this time," was the only statement Roy M. Wolvin, President of the British Empire Steel Corporation, would make when he arrived in Montreal today following a conference with Hon. James Robb, Minister of Finance, and other government members in Ottawa yesterday in connection with Besco's future plans.

### Captain and Crew Without Provisions For Thirteen Days

(Canadian Press) NEW YORK, Mar. 18.—Seven bedraggled seamen who three days ago did not ever believe to see or expect to set foot on dry land again arrived yesterday at Berberon Point, Bayonne, N. J., on the Gulf Refining Company's tanker Gulf Point.

They were Captain John Hall and the crew of the three masted schooner G. J. Cherry, which was wrecked off Cape Hatteras on March 2nd. For thirteen days they clung precariously to the roof of a deckhouse while every other wave swept over them. They were virtually without provisions and for water had only such rainfall as they could catch in an outboard messail.

Eight steamers passed close to them without noticing their distress signals before the Gulf Point rescued them. According to Captain Hall, their only hope lay in the fact that they had seen a rat still aboard the schooner. He said it was a superstition among mariners that when the rats leave a vessel she is doomed.

### Legislature Proceedings

#### Debate on the Draft Address Concluded. House Meets Tuesday at 3 p. m.

The House met at 11.10 a. m. Mr. Hunter presented a petition from Fred A. Melish and others praying for an Act to incorporate the Trustees of the Union Cemetery as it was introduced and received its first reading.

Under the motion re consideration of the Speech from the Throne Premier Stewart stated that Hon. Dr. W. J. P. MacMillan, who had moved the adjournment Thursday evening wished his regrets of his absence be announced as he was unable to attend on account of attention to an important surgical case. He wished it to be known that he had concluded his debate.

# WOMEN FOUGHT FOR ADMISSION TO AUCTION

## Collection of Royal Russian Jewels Brought 80,561 Pounds—Paris Firm Paid 6,100 Pounds for Famous Nuptial Crown of Catherine the Great

LONDON, March 18.—Women fought for admission to Christie's showrooms today to attend an auction of a collection of royal Russian jewels including the famous nuptial crown of Catherine the Great. The gems brought a total of £80,561, or almost \$400,000.

The nuptial crown, as it is described to distinguish it from the great imperial coronation crown, was sold early to a Paris firm for £8,100. It has double rows of fine brilliants set in borders of smaller stones and surmounted by a cross of six large brilliants. Necklaces, tiaras, pendants, bracelets, gold goblets and a jewel-encrusted court sword of Paul I.—all jewels worn by the rulers and nobility of Imperial Russia—bought recently by the royal syndicate were sold in 124 lots to close a partnership account.

The glittering treasures holding so many romantic and tragic associations were taken from a secret underground storeroom where they had been guarded night and day only a few minutes before the sale. So eager was the crowd at the showrooms, mostly women, to see the unprecedented array of diamonds on auction, that the doors of Christie's had to be closed.

The largest stone of the collection, the Polar Star, a fifty-carat diamond which is said to have ranked third among the great Russian gems, brought £11,800, which was the record for a single brilliant.

A pair of diamond bracelets brought £3,400; a diamond brooch with sapphires and pearls, £7,600; a pendant £4,300; a tiara, £4,200; a Jasper snuffbox, £2,600; a pair of diamond buttons, being from 1764, £2,550, and a court sword, £2,700.

Most of the jewels dated from the 18th Century and were made by French and Russian craftsmen during the reigns of the Empresses Elizabeth and Catherine the Second. Many of them were used down to a late date in ceremonial functions of the late Russian Imperial Court, although none of them was the personal property of the family of the late Czar.

### First Air Mail Service Will Be Started This Year

(Special to The Guardian) TORONTO, Ont., Mar. 18.—Canada will undertake its first air mail service this year, experimenting with service between Rimouski and Montreal. And if this proves a success, a service between Toronto and Ottawa will likely be started next year, announced Major General J. H. MacBrien, chief of staff, who is in Toronto, to deliver a lecture at the military institute.

The planes will pick up mail from the steamers stopping at Rimouski and rush it to Montreal. Frequency of service will depend on the arrival of boats. Gen. MacBrien pointed out that in this year's estimates there is an increase of \$2,000,000 for air service chiefly for other than military service. Appropriations for the military are increased over a million which will enable the majority of rural infantry regiments to attend summer camps, he said. City regiments will continue training in armories.

# Gov't to Assist Exhibition Com.

(Canadian Press) HALIFAX, N. S., 18.—Following a meeting of the exhibition commission this morning at which Hon. J. A. Walker, minister of natural resources, stated that the government was ready to bear its share of half the \$400,000 necessary, it was unanimously decided to call for tenders for the erection of buildings to house a provincial exhibition at Halifax. It was not thought possible that the work would go forward quickly enough to enable the reestablishment of the fair this year.

# BEAVERBROOK ENTERTAINED

## Declares He Made His Fortune in Canada and Not in London.

LONDON, March 18.—Lord Beaverbrook, who has become a powerful figure in the British newspaper world, was entertained by the Manchester Publicity Club today. The celebration marked the inauguration of the Northern edition of Lord Beaverbrook's London Daily Express, printed simultaneously in London and Manchester.

Lord Beaverbrook said he regretted that he was not establishing a really new newspaper, for such was greatly needed in England. Three evening papers in London were not nearly enough, he thought. The newspaper magnate described the Manchester Guardian as the sweetest and cleanest newspaper in England. In the Daily Express yesterday, Lord Beaverbrook wrote that "if I consulted my own inclinations I would retire from journalism tomorrow and live in ease and comfort on the fortune built up in Canada before I set foot on Fleet Street. Fleet Street has never compensated me a penny in return for the efforts I have made there."

# Londonderry Jail Sold For \$35,000

LONDONDERRY, N. S., March 18.—Some months ago the municipal council decided that the local jail, which had not housed a prisoner for many years, was an expensive luxury. It was decided to sell it to the highest bidder. Victor J. Holland, local cobbler, offered \$35,000 and yesterday found himself in possession of the building, competition being negligible. The jail was built in 1882 and is complete with iron bars and straw mattresses.

# White Bread in Italy Delivered In Hearse

NAPLES, March 18.—Following a clue which led them to an unsigned letter, police this morning trailed a hearse on its solemn way from a hospital, and upon taking a look at the corpse, found themselves with sixty pounds of the finest white bread. As Italy prohibits all but whole-grain bread, the driver was arrested. The baker was found and the police learned the partnership had been operating several months to the profit of the operators and the palatial pleasure of several wealthy families.

# Trouble Between O. B. U. and United Mine Workers

(Canadian Press) INVERNESS, N. S., March 18.—Trouble between the One Big Union and the United Mine Workers of America which has been simmering in the operation of the collieries here by the Eastern Trust Company for several months has reached the boiling point with a notification by the U. M. W., that its members will not work under a new wage scale which went into effect at three o'clock this afternoon pending complete recognition of the union by the company, and an application for a board of conciliation under the Lieuteux Act, by the O. B. U.

The company does not propose to work the mines, owing to lack of order, until Monday morning and in the meantime, it is anticipated, the difficulties may be ironed out. Recently the Eastern Trust Company negotiated a new wage contract with the U. M. W. bringing down the scale to that paid throughout the Island of Cape Breton, but the union now insists that the company institute is a closed shop.

### Canada's Trade

(Canadian Press) STOCKHOLM, Sweden, March 18.—Queen Victoria of Sweden, who is visiting in Rome, is suffering from an attack of influenza. It was made known today. The latest information indicates a slight improvement. King Gustave is at her bedside. The Queen is 64.

# STRIKE ORDER ISSUED IN SHANGHAI

## Communique Declares Strike is Purely Political and Intended to Show Sympathy With the Nationalist Cause.

(Canadian Press) SHANGHAI, March 18.—The general labor union today issued a communique calling a general strike to begin tomorrow at noon and continue until the nationalists (Cantonese) occupy Shanghai.

The communique calls on the workers to maintain order and avoid becoming involved in any mob action and notifies the public that the strike is purely of a political nature and intended to show sympathy with the nationalist cause in the fight against the northerners. Detachments of Shantungese (northern) troops have been ordered along the Shanghai-Nanking railway to attempt to prevent the workers from leaving.

# Wind Storm Takes Toll of Seven Lives

(Canadian Press) LAUREL ROCK, Ark., March 18.—A half dozen small communities in southwest Arkansas today were recovering from the shock of twisting winds which last night left a toll of seven known dead and a score or more injured some critically.

The brunt of the storm centered around Klondyke where five lives were snuffed out and one person was seriously injured in a single household.

# Mount Vesuvius In Eruption

(Canadian Press) NAPLES, March 18.—Mount Vesuvius resumed eruption last night. The crater was hidden from view by columns of flames and dense smoke. The new outbreak which followed several light shocks of earthquakes consists according to the experts of the observatory on the volcano, in the expulsion of hardened lava from the cone. They say there is no danger for the present.

# BURNS FATAL TO FOUR MEN

(Canadian Press) BUFFALO, March 18.—Four of ten men burned in an explosion at the plant of the Automatic Transportation Company here Wednesday, have died and the burns of two others were expected to prove fatal. The remaining four received slight burns when they attempted to rescue their fellow workmen.

# Hobby Show At The "Y"

Rabbits, rabbits and more rabbits that it all one could observe on entering the Y. M. C. A. social room last night. To say the affair was a success would be putting it mild. Over thirty of the "Y" boys turned up with entries.

On the whole there was an excellent display of rabbits which gave the judge, Mr. F. H. Roper, quite a task to perform, and to him considerable credit should be given. His judging coming in for considerable praise from some of the older farmers.

Over two hundred people, both young and old visited the show, and were quite pleased with the showing. While the judging was in progress only the exhibitors were allowed in the room. Following are the prize winners in the respective classes:

### Officers Arrest German Subject

MANILA, P. I., Mar. 18.—Secret service officers today arrested Rudolph Helderbrand, a German subject who arrived from San Francisco aboard the S. S. President Cleveland, charging him with Bolshevik activities. Hilderbrand was dressed as a priest.

# France Not To Send Observer

(Canadian Press) PARIS, March 18.—France is not likely to send even an observer to the three power naval disarmament conference proposed by President Coolidge, it was stated today, since Washington's strong disagreement with the League of Nations disarmament commission was apparent in the note made public yesterday at Geneva.

# SEALERS LOSE MANY PELTS IN BLIZZARD

(Canadian Press) ST. JOHNS, Nfld., March 18.—High hopes for a record sealing season by the Newfoundland fleet were dashed yesterday when an arctic blizzard broke up the ice floes on which the hardy hunters had made their kill.

Reports reaching the city today expressed fear that many thousands of seals would be lost. The start of the annual hunt this year was propitious. Before the date set by law for commencing the slaughter of young seals the fleet of nine steamers located vast herds of the ice floating west from Davis strait.

The problem of "finding the fat" having been solved, the hunters killed 100,000 seals in the first three days of the season. Only one half of the pelts had been brought aboard the ships when the blizzard broke Wednesday night. The rest were gathered in great heaps on the ice pans, awaiting haulage to the steamers.

### Coolies Clash With British Marines

(Canadian Press) BEKING, March 18.—Coolies belonging to the "avenging society" clashed with British marines at Chungking yesterday and seized a British gunboat at Cocketo Island, where cruisers and destroyers have been built and where the Commonwealth's 6,000 ton seaplane carrier is now being constructed. To have built the cruisers in Australia would have involved heavy capital expenditure and much delay, because Australia could provide only 15 per cent of the material.

Australian armor plate, guns, fittings, instruments or many other special items. The saving by construction in England is about \$4,000,000. The cost of hull and machinery for each of the Australian cruisers will be more than \$5,000,000. Gun mountings will cost \$1,750,000 for each ship and armor contracts cost more than \$250,000 each, and this is not the complete cost.

# Tag Day Nets \$17,000

(Special to The Guardian) TORONTO, Ont., Mar. 18.—Shanties decorating the coat lapels of nearly all Toronto citizens yesterday indicated the response of Toronto to the appeal for help by the source of providence. At a late hour last night Miss Florence Bolton, organizer of the tax day, estimated that the total returns were about 17,000.

# River Open Early

(Canadian Press) PRESCOTT, Ont., March 18.—For the first time in thirty years the St. Lawrence river is open this early. The main channel is now open practically all the way to Lake Ontario according to reports from points along the river. Last year the ice did not break up until nearly the last of April.

### JUST BECAUSE A GIRL SHOWS A LOTTA BACK-BONE DOESN'T MEAN SHE HAS A LOTTA NERVE



TORONTO, March 18.—Maritime winds shifting to westerly, and clearing. Toronto rain 46-58 Montreal cloudy 48-54 Quebec cloudy 30-28 Charlottetown cloudy 34-23 Halifax cloudy 38-24 St. John cloudy 42-28 Boston rain 52-38 New York cloudy 68-52 High tide this morning at 11:54 and tonight at midnight. Sun sets this evening at 6:11 and rises tomorrow morning at 6:02. Last quarter moon Saturday March 18th 7:11 a. m. Summerside tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.

# CRUISER AUSTRALIA LAUNCHED ON CLYDE

## Built Up to Limit Allowed by Washington Treaty She Replaces Battle Cruiser Australia Scuttled Under its Terms.

LONDON, Mar. 18.—H. M. A. S. Australia, first of Australia's two modern cruisers embodying the latest designs of post-war cruiser construction, took the water today from the John Brown Works on the Clyde. Her sister ship, the Canberra, will be launched from the same yards later.

The Australia and Canberra are the most efficient and powerful of their class under the Washington Treaty, which limits auxiliary surface combatant craft to 10,000 tons displacement and armament of 8 inch guns. They are a distinct improvement on the Kent or County Class, of which five cruisers are now being completed for the Royal Navy.

Their displacement, without fuel, is 10,000 tons. Advantage has been taken of the fact that the Washington Treaty does not stipulate that the 10,000 tons displacement shall include fuel. As provided by the treaty 8 inch guns are their heaviest armament, but these are of a new model, claimed to be as hard hitting as some of the heavier battleship ordnance of pre-war days. The Australia will carry eight of these, twin-mounted in four batteries on the upper centre line, two turrets forward and two aft. In addition she will carry a number of 4 inch anti-aircraft guns. The designers, while limited to an extent of 8 inch guns in size, are free to adopt as many weapons as they like, providing of course that the displacement limit is not passed.

The Australia will have a speed of 34 knots an hour, and her broadside fire will be nearly twice the intensity of the old pre-war County Class, with their more numerous 6 inch guns.

Expenses is the reason why the Australian and Canberra are being constructed on the Clyde instead of at Australia's own dockyard at Cockatoo Island, where cruisers and destroyers have been built and where the Commonwealth's 6,000 ton seaplane carrier is now being constructed. To have built the cruisers in Australia would have involved heavy capital expenditure and much delay, because Australia could provide only 15 per cent of the material.

Australian armor plate, guns, fittings, instruments or many other special items. The saving by construction in England is about \$4,000,000. The cost of hull and machinery for each of the Australian cruisers will be more than \$5,000,000. Gun mountings will cost \$1,750,000 for each ship and armor contracts cost more than \$250,000 each, and this is not the complete cost.

The reasons adduced by Prime Minister Stanley M. Bruce for construction of the vessels in Britain are interesting. He said, "After carefully examining whether the placing of the order in Australia would constitute a step towards establishing a new Australian industry, and stimulate existing industries, the Government concluded that these objects would not be achieved. The future of the industry must depend upon a steady demand and apart from international obligations, Australia could not afford to embark upon a naval programme which would keep the yards continuously employed. The principal objection, however, lay in the fact that the Government is the only source from which the yards could expect orders, and the attitude of labor towards defence in general and naval defence in particular made it extremely unlikely that the industry would receive even that measure of support which circumstances permitted and safety demanded."

"The only direction in which it would appear that Australian industry might be stimulated was in the rolling of steel plates, which today are not produced, but the plates for a cruiser taking three years to build could be rolled in six weeks, and an expensive plant would be left idle for a long period. It is unsound to suggest that naval construction would stimulate commercial shipbuilding because the work is entirely different.

with and destroyed Admiral Craddock's squadron off Coronel, Nov. 1, 1914, himself to be destroyed on Dec. 7, by Vice-Admiral Sturdee's squadron off the Falkland Islands. Such was the strategic value of the battle-cruiser Australia, which never had the luck to be in a general engagement. She was sunk in accordance with the Washington Treaty, which limited the number of ships of the line, namely battleships and battle-cruisers. The old Australia had a displacement of 18,800 tons, her main armament consisting of eight 12-inch guns, being built on the Clyde in 1913. The new cruisers of course cannot take their place in the line of battle through lack of gun-power and defensive armor.

The two new submarines in Australia's naval programs were launched last year. The Oxley, named after one of the early surveyors-general of New South Wales who was also a noted explorer, and the Otway, named after Cape Otway, Victoria, and Captain Albany Otway, R. N., who named the Cape, both works in Britain.

With completion of the two cruisers and the two submarines, and the scrapping of the old cruisers, the Royal Australian Navy will consist of the following: Cruisers: Australia, 10,000 tons, (1927) Flagship, Canberra, 10,000 tons, (1927). Light Cruisers: Adelaide, 5,600 tons (1922); Brisbane, 5,400 tons, (1916). Seaplane Carrier: 6,000 tons (1927). Fleet Leader: Anzac, 1,670 tons (1917).

Destroyers: Stalwart, Success, Swordsman, Tasmanian, Tattoo—1,075 tons. Huon, Parramatta, Swan, Torrens, Warrego, Yarra—700 tons. Submarines: Oxley, Otway (1927). Sloops: Mallow, Marguerite, Geranium, 1,250 tons; Cerberus, gunboat; Platypus; destroyer depot ship; armed patrol vessels.

Commander George F. Hyde, R. N., is Commander of the active Australian Fleet. He is an Australian who began his sea career in the Merchant Service and joined the Royal Naval Reserve as a cadet in 1896. As a Lieutenant he served voluntarily for more than five years with the fleet, and in 1905 was transferred to the Royal Navy. Lent for duty under the Commonwealth Government in 1911, he has been in the Royal Australian Navy ever since.

### Radio Conference

(Special to The Guardian) WASHINGTON, Mar. 18.—A conference between the new United States radio control commission and Canadian government officials is probable before the commission opens its hearings on March 29th. Canada asks to be heard by the commission before the United States broadcasting stations are allotted wave lengths and hours of operation.

It is understood that the commission intends to invite representations from Canada previous to the opening of public hearings. A delegation from Ottawa headed by a Johnson, Deputy Minister of Marine and Fisheries, conferred with Hon. Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, some weeks ago.

# Premier's Statement

OTTAWA, Ont., Mar. 18.—Proceedings of last night and this afternoon were productive of unusual interest. Naturally the statement of the Prime Minister in so far as it can be ascertained was regarded by those most interested as fairly satisfactory. What is left in reserve must be determined by the results of investigation and in this respect it has been aptly described as characteristically "Kingsesque."

# Announcements, Coming Events, Meetings, Etc

- \*\*Summersville horse races July 6th. 4420-3-17-31
- \*\*Auction sale at Dan K. MacDonald Glen Valley of stock crop, etc. See handbills. 4464-3-19-41
- \*\*Inquire Re Chronic Diseases 112 Prince Street, Dr. Cliff, M. D., D. D. most done, don't delay. "Suaiver in Mayo, forster in Barton." 4435-3-18-3008
- \*\*Notice, St. James Church will be open on Sunday, March 20th. Mass at the usual hour 10 o'clock. 4477
- \*\*We request payment of all past due accounts, either by note or cash, before March 31st, or we will take steps to collect. MacKie and Co. 4401-3-17-31
- \*\*A meeting of The Guernsey Breeders will be held in the Agricultural Hall, Charlottetown on Tuesday, March 22nd at 2 o'clock sharp. Matters relating to purchase of breeding stock. The taking of orders for same, will be considered. While a Boy and Girls Hooper Club will be organized. 4469-3-18-21

### Condensed Specials

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