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SIR WILFRID LAURIER HAS PASSED AWAY

Was Stricken With Paralysis Sunday and Although He Recovered Consciousness and No Immediate Danger Was Anticipated Death Followed at 2.30 Monday.

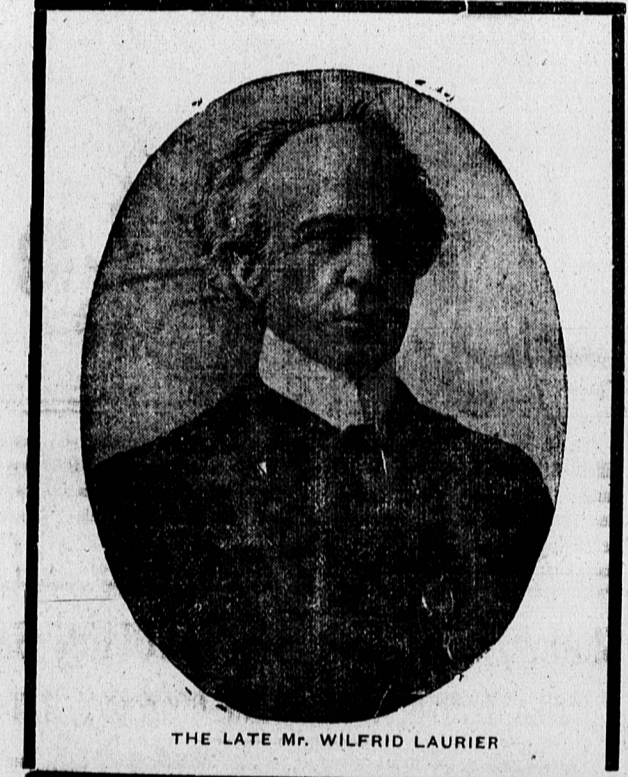
(Special to The Guardian) OTTAWA, Feb. 17.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier died at 2.30 p. m. today.

(Special to The Guardian) OTTAWA, Feb. 17.—A bulletin issued from Sir Wilfrid Laurier's House at eleven this morning stated that the Liberal Chief Minister had only two hours to live and his condition is extremely critical.

(Special to The Guardian) OTTAWA, Feb. 17.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier suffered a sudden attack of illness at noon yesterday and will be obliged to take a prolonged rest. The leader of the opposition, in the House of Commons, has enjoyed extraordinarily good health throughout the past

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Sir Wilfrid Laurier was born on November 20, 1841, at St. Lin, in the county of L'Assomption, Province of Quebec. His father, Charles Laurier, a man of some local importance, but of limited means, was a land surveyor by profession and Sir Wilfrid was his only son from his marriage with Marcelle Martineau. Young Laurier received his early education at the mixed parish school of St. Lin and later took a course at the college of L'Assomption. At home as well as in school he used the French language exclusively and not until he had nearly reached his eighteenth year and was preparing himself for a profes-



THE LATE MR. WILFRID LAURIER

year and has been looking forward to the opening of the session of Parliament on Thursday next. Dr. R. Chevril, who is attending Sir Wilfrid, stated at 11.10 last night that his patient though ill was in no immediate danger. Sir Wilfrid has had an attack of paralysis, Dr. Chevril said. He is now quite conscious although still slightly affected. His heart is fairly strong and his condition hopeful. I do not think there is at present any cause for grave anxiety but at Sir Wilfrid's age such an attack must necessarily give rise to concern."

LAST RITES

(Special to The Guardian) OTTAWA, Feb. 17.—In the course of the night the last rites of the church were administered to Sir Wilfrid Laurier by Father Lejeune of the Sacred Heart and thereafter the aged statesman lingered between consciousness and unconsciousness. At eight today his physicians had practically given up hope of his recovery. Dr. Valin declared that he had been stricken by a hemorrhage of the brain caused by overstrain and intimated that the end was not far off. His Excellency the Governor General visited Sir Wilfrid Laurier's home this morning but did not go to the bed chamber. At noon Sir Thomas White acting Premier, also paid a brief visit. At 12.49 Sir Wilfrid was unconscious and his pulse and heart action were markedly weaker. The physicians held out no hope whatever for his recovery. Life was fast ebbing from the frail body, and the once strong brain had no longer cognizance of any earthly thing. He was seventy-eight years of age but lately his health had seemed somewhat improved although he had had to conserve his strength and not allow unusual demands to be made upon it.

sional education, did he begin the study of English. In his last year of L'Assomption College young Laurier took his board at a Scotch family where he laid the foundation for his subsequent mastery of the English tongue. After he had completed his college course, young Laurier went to Montreal, where he entered McGill University in 1860 and also studied law in the office of the late Hon. Rodolphe Laflamme, Q. C., who later became his colleague, as minister of Justice in the McKenzie Cabinet. Sir Wilfrid graduated from McGill University in 1864 with the degree of B. C. L., and was admitted to the bar in the same year. He formed a partnership with Mederic Lanctot, who became somewhat noted as journalist and public speaker at the time of the Confederation agitation. For nearly three years Sir Wilfrid continued to practice his profession. But, when Eric Dracien died in 1867, Laurier left Montreal and took charge of Le Devoir, the Liberal paper formerly edited by M. Daron. The journalistic career did not appeal to Laurier, however, and after a short time he resigned his position as editor and returned to his law practice settling down at St. Charles Bay, which later became Arthabaska. In a short time he became a man of prominence in that locality and gained an enviable reputation as a able lawyer, brilliant orator and clever politician and took an active interest in all local and provincial matters. He also joined the Arthabaska Millinery Company and served as its manager until 1878. By his professional ability, his unassailable integrity and unusual oratorical power he became known throughout the district and won so many friends that at the Provincial election of 1871 M. Laurier was el-

May Abandon Conference With Russian Factions

(Special to The Guardian) LONDON, Feb. 17.—The invitation of the Peace Conference to the various Russian factions to meet at Prinkipo may be withdrawn as none of the parties have complied with the condition that they cease fighting each other. This and other questions were discussed before President Wilson left Paris.

(Special to The Guardian) PARIS, Feb. 17.—Attention of the Delegates to the peace conference will be focussed on Russia today, the Supreme Council having decided that as the time allowed for acceptance of the invitation to the conference has expired something else must be done. Winston Spencer Churchill, of Great Britain, has proposed that the invitation be renewed and that some of the conditions that made the first invitation unacceptable to most of the different Russian actors be omitted. If the Supreme Council accepts this proposition, as seems possible, it probably will not insist that the conference be held at Prinkipo Island. It is possible that instead of a general meeting of the representatives of Russian factions direct negotiations may be initiated or commissions will be appointed to get into touch with the opposing faction there.

ected to the Quebec Legislative Assembly by the united counties of Drummond and Arthabaska receiving a majority of more than 1,000 votes. He made his debut in the House shortly after the opening of the session and the finished grace of his oratory produced a sensation. On the day after his maiden speech in the Assembly his fame had spread to all parts of the Province. The logical result of his brilliant career in the Provincial Assembly was that at the following Parliamentary election he was elected to the House of Commons. His debut in the House of Commons was even more sensational than that in the Provincial Assembly. It was during the famous debate on the proposed expulsion of Louis Riel, the rebel of the Northwest, that Sir Wilfrid entered the lists as the champion of the Opposition. He had never delivered an address in the English language. During his career in the Provincial Assembly and on all other occasions when his oratory was called upon he had used his own, the French tongue of which he had a remarkable command. His friends of the opposition, knowing this and fearing that a faltering or imperfectly delivered speech would deal the death blow to their forlorn cause, tried to dissuade Sir Wilfrid from attempting his maiden speech in English at that critical moment, but he was determined to undertake the difficult task.

It was at the dead of night, when Sir Wilfrid began his maiden speech, and the House was tired and sleepy. But after the first few sentences, spoken in perfect English, with scarcely a trace of French accent, the members began to give attention to the speaker. Soon they were fully aroused and listened with profound admiration to the flood of the most brilliant eloquence the speaker poured forth, disclosing not only a rare mastery of the English language but thorough knowledge of the subject under discussion and an irresistible power of logic.

"The effect was magical," said Louis Frechette, the poet Laureate of the French race in Canada, in describing the scene. "I can almost imagine that I still hear the thunders of applause that shook the galleries. Then, at the close of a graphic passage of his speech, in which he had made the long, sad column of our fellow-countrymen emigrating to the United States (he slowly past before) the eyes of his hearers, the orator glared at the Government of the day in a scathing allusion to the celebrated salute of the doomed gladiators of ancient Rome: Ave, Caesar, moritum salutamus. This speech created a tremendous sensation and the whole country began to realize that in M. Laurier a new force had arisen, that would have to be taken in consideration in the future. His position as leader was assured and a position in the Cabinet was generally admitted to be due to him. Upon the retirement of M. Cauchon, to become Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, Sir Wilfrid was

At the following Parliamentary election Laurier, strange to say, was defeated in the district which he had represented by an inoffensive village radecman, who beat him by a majority of 21 votes. This was one of the freakish repulses of the MacKenzie government, but it did not keep Laurier out of Parliament. He was returned as representative of Quebec East, and his popularity did not suffer. How great his popularity was may be measured by the fact that when Edward Blake relinquished the Liberal leadership in 1887, Sir Wilfrid was chosen his successor. After nine years of opposition and political struggle Sir Wilfrid at last won the day, when, at the general elections in June, 1896, the Liberals went into power with a majority of thirty and he was sworn in as President of the Privy Council on July 9. Four days later he had completed his cabinet. As Premier, Laurier showed the same ability and efficiency which had distinguished him in his previous career in the opposition. He took up and settled the Manitoba School Question, induced Parliament in 1897 to accept his plan for a new financial policy and involving preferential tariff relations with Great Britain, and in many ways brought about closer relations between the contending racial and religious elements of the Dominion. In June 1897 Sir Wilfrid went to England by invitation of the government to take part in the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, as the official representative of Canada. He made an excellent impression and was showered with honors. He was made a member of the Imperial Privy Council, appointed Knight of the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, the universities of Oxford and Cambridge confer-

red to the Quebec Legislative Assembly by the united counties of Drummond and Arthabaska receiving a majority of more than 1,000 votes. He made his debut in the House shortly after the opening of the session and the finished grace of his oratory produced a sensation. On the day after his maiden speech in the Assembly his fame had spread to all parts of the Province. The logical result of his brilliant career in the Provincial Assembly was that at the following Parliamentary election he was elected to the House of Commons. His debut in the House of Commons was even more sensational than that in the Provincial Assembly. It was during the famous debate on the proposed expulsion of Louis Riel, the rebel of the Northwest, that Sir Wilfrid entered the lists as the champion of the Opposition. He had never delivered an address in the English language. During his career in the Provincial Assembly and on all other occasions when his oratory was called upon he had used his own, the French tongue of which he had a remarkable command. His friends of the opposition, knowing this and fearing that a faltering or imperfectly delivered speech would deal the death blow to their forlorn cause, tried to dissuade Sir Wilfrid from attempting his maiden speech in English at that critical moment, but he was determined to undertake the difficult task. It was at the dead of night, when Sir Wilfrid began his maiden speech, and the House was tired and sleepy. But after the first few sentences, spoken in perfect English, with scarcely a trace of French accent, the members began to give attention to the speaker. Soon they were fully aroused and listened with profound admiration to the flood of the most brilliant eloquence the speaker poured forth, disclosing not only a rare mastery of the English language but thorough knowledge of the subject under discussion and an irresistible power of logic. "The effect was magical," said Louis Frechette, the poet Laureate of the French race in Canada, in describing the scene. "I can almost imagine that I still hear the thunders of applause that shook the galleries. Then, at the close of a graphic passage of his speech, in which he had made the long, sad column of our fellow-countrymen emigrating to the United States (he slowly past before) the eyes of his hearers, the orator glared at the Government of the day in a scathing allusion to the celebrated salute of the doomed gladiators of ancient Rome: Ave, Caesar, moritum salutamus. This speech created a tremendous sensation and the whole country began to realize that in M. Laurier a new force had arisen, that would have to be taken in consideration in the future. His position as leader was assured and a position in the Cabinet was generally admitted to be due to him. Upon the retirement of M. Cauchon, to become Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, Sir Wilfrid was

COMING TONIGHT

Thirty P. E. I. Overseas Men Due This Evening.

The following Island soldiers arrived in Halifax on Sunday and according to a telegram received by Corporal P. A. Hughes, of the Returned Soldiers Commission, should arrive here tonight:

- R. G. Acorn, 37 Orlebar St., City. W. Matheson, Glen William William D. Beaton, Brookfield C. A. Bell, 54 Cumberland St., City G. D. Brown, Pleasant Valley A. G. Bruce, 170 Sidney St., City W. W. Carmody, 10 Park St., City J. K. Devine, Hunter River G. Doherty, New Haven, Lot. 31 A. Dolron, Wheatley River H. H. Howard, Crapaud R. J. Jenkins, Albany Plains. C. K. Martin, Glen Martin F. Muttart, Summerside M. McCallum, Brackley Beach J. D. McDonald, Hunter River J. R. McKenzie, French River R. McKinnon, Fairview J. J. McLeod, Bradalbane F. McPhee, New Haven H. Rafuse, Georgetown J.H. Richards, Summerside J. A. Shaw, DeSable H. H. Smith, 16 Valley St., City W. W. Stewart, Belle River J. W. Taylor, Pownal H. R. Vessey, 45 Brighton Ave., City L. W. Wood, Kensington Corporal Hughes also received a telegram yesterday from St. John as follows:

Airship Ready To Cross Atlantic

LONDON, Feb. 17.—According to a Glasgow correspondent the British airship which is to attempt the Atlantic flight is now practically complete and is awaiting favorable weather conditions for its departure. The ship was built by an important armament firm near Glasgow and would have been completed before this but for the interruption caused by the recent strike.

Financial Statement Of St. Dunstan's Cathedral

The annual financial statement of St. Dunstan's Cathedral building fund was read in the Cathedral on Sunday morning by His Lordship Bishop O'Leary. The following is an abstract

Table with columns: RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES, and SUMMARY - CATHEDRAL DEBT. Includes items like private subscriptions, Sunday collections, office expenses, etc.

CONDENSED SPECIALS

DAIRMEN'S SANITARY BUTTER paper, printed. "Fresh Dairy Butter"—35c per 100. Per post 40c Guardian Coe. 3694-130MEL.

LOST-REWARD OF \$5 WILL BE

paid to the person returning lost mounted sweat pad lost Sunday between Charlottetown and Pownal. Leo Frank, Victoria Hotel. 11

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Italian Financier Proposes World Lottery

(Special to The Guardian) ROME, Feb. 17.—Ex-minister Luigi Luzzatti, a noted financier, has found the proposal made by Umberto Spillman, Inspector at the Ministry of the Treasury, worthy of being brought to President Wilson's notice as the financial problem is that which harasses most sorely all the countries of the world both belligerent and neutral. Spillman urgently exhorts Wilson to make himself the promoter of a colossal world lottery. He calculates that out of 1,700,000,000 people in the world only 3,000,000 would be able to participate in the lottery. Each person should contribute by buying ten tickets costing \$20 each, the amount to be paid in monthly instalments.

SIR ROBERT BORDEN MAKES IMPRESSION

(Special to The Guardian) PARIS, Feb. 17.—Lieut. Col. Sir Marks Hicks who came here with the British Delegates to the peace conference is dead following an attack of influenza. Premier Borden's speech here Saturday night in which he criticized the delay in consummating peace terms made an undoubted impression here. Stephen Pichon today said there were many reasons why the treaty could not be signed at once. Many issues, he said, were being carefully studied, among them is the disposition of many of the fragments into which the former Austrian Empire has been divided, and another is the treatment to be accorded Bulgaria. The French people, he said, want peace, but they realize at the same time the danger of precipitate and unsatisfactory solutions. He agreed with Premier Borden that there should be no unnecessary delays but did not share his opinion that time had been wasted. At the conference M. Pichon said that there was no obstacle to recognition being extended the new German Government, but he added the Germans must be made to realize they have been beaten.

S.S. METAGAMA ARRIVES AT ST. JOHN

(Special to The Guardian) ST. JOHN, N.B. Feb. 17.—The S.S. Metagama docked at Sandport this morning shortly after ten o'clock with 1611 passengers on board among them Brigadier General C. A. Smart, for several years officer commanding troops at Shorncliffe, England. Lieut. Col. Percy Byng Hall Victoria, cousin of Sir Julian Byng, Honorary Colonel S.E. Chown, D. D. General supt of the Methodist church in Canada. Miss F.J. Flavell, daughter of Sir Jos. and Lady Flavell Toronto. There were not many returning soldiers on board, most of the passenger list being made up of returning dependents. There were only two passengers for P.E.I. Q.M.S. Harold Pickard, Canadian postal corps wife and child for Charlottetown and Private John L. Riley, 55th Battalion, Summerside who brings a young English bride with him. Nineteen sick cases were removed to the Hospital here after the vessel docked. "Elsie," wife of a private Herring, Walker-Ville, N.S. Sunday while in sight of land. She was 26 years of age. Joyce, two fourteen months old, died the same day. Her parents live at Medicine Hat. A child was born this morning on board just before the vessel entered port. Editors representing the leading papers from Montreal to Vancouver arrived here shortly after two o'clock and were taken for an inspection tour through the Immigration building and the arriving sheds. This evening they will be guests of the board of trade at dinner in the Union Club.

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POSSIBLE TROUBLE IN RENEWING ARMISTICE

Erzeberger Asks for Delay and is Flatly Told by General Foch That if Armistice Not Signed as Demanded The Troops Would Receive Orders.

(Special to The Guardian) COPENHAGEN, Feb. 17.—Replying to a request by Matthias Erzeberger, head of the German Armistice Commission, for delay in the signing of the Armistice there until Monday noon, Marshal Foch declared that the armistice expired at 5 o'clock Monday morning, and that the last hour for signing would be 6 o'clock Sunday afternoon in order to be able to issue the necessary orders to the troops. It would be obliged to leave Treves and the Armistice would no longer be in force. Answering Erzeberger's counter demands Marshal Foch said that the new Armistice terms has been fixed by the heads of the associated governments and that he was unable to alter them.

Soldiers Want to Know Says Sir Robert Borden

(Special to The Guardian) PARIS, Feb. 17.—In the course of his address to Canadian soldiers on leave at the Y. M. C. A., Sir Robert Borden said that "more than three months have elapsed since the armistice was declared and let us not flatter ourselves that our soldiers believe no time has been wasted. They are amazed at the extremely deliberate methods employed upon which time has been spent. They want to know, and before God they have a right to know and know without one moment's unnecessary delay, whether there is to be further fighting and if so for what cause, for what purpose."

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