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## FINANCE MINISTER'S BUDGET SPEECH.

### No Change in the Protective Tariff.

#### SOME OF THE ALLEGED REASONS.

Oil Duties not Reduced as Some Persons Anticipated.

[SPECIAL TO THE EXAMINER.]

OTTAWA, May 3.—The Budget statement for the this year was not awaited with interest as no one expected any disclosures or tariff changes of importance.

After reviewing the finances of the year which closed last June, the Finance Minister took up the record of the current year ending June, 1896. The revenue for the ten months of the year now expired is \$37,232,000, or \$5,077,000, more than last year. Allowing for a proportionate increase of revenue in the last two months of the year and allowing that the current outlay for the year would be \$42,026,000, there would be a surplus of \$4,408,000. (Long continued government cheers.)

In addition to this current expenditure there has been a capital expenditure of \$7,163,000 and \$1,580,000 more would be required before the end of June, making a total capital expenditure \$8,663,000.

Notwithstanding the surplus, there would be a net addition of \$1,700,000, to the debt, after allowing for increased sinking fund assets. (Continued opposition laughter.)

Speaking on the Yukon finances, Mr. Fielding explained that last year that district cost about \$700,000 and yielded to the revenue about double that much.

During the ten months of this year the Yukon cost \$1,146,000 and had yielded \$795,000.

But the Finance Minister expects there will be no deficit by the time the year is out, for the revenues of last winter's operations will then be collected.

Mr. Fielding said that he had no tariff changes to propose—not even in the oil duty. As to the oil he, however, proposed to abolish all restrictions on the manner of importation except those necessary for safety.

Dealers would be allowed to import in tank vessels, tank cars, barrels or tin cans. Inspection fees would be abolished.

"We do not propose to change or reduce the tariff" said Mr. Fielding. "I admit that it is not perfect, but there are reasons why it should not be disturbed." The first reason was that tariff stability was necessary to keep business steady; second, it is only nine months ago that the full trade preference to British goods had come into force, and therefore the tariff conditions were comparatively new; third, it was not advisable to make tariff changes while negotiations with the United States were in progress.

Speaking of these negotiations, Mr. Fielding said that Canadians were not as anxious for reciprocity as they were two years ago. Free trade relations would always be desirable, but Canadians were never so well able as now to do without them.

The negotiations would be resumed. If they failed Canada will go on in her present course.

In conclusion the Finance Minister uttered a note of warning. It was a time of great prosperity; but the pendulum might soon swing the other way. Not every year was a Finance Minister able to make such a showing as he had made. We could not always have good crops and good prices. If the people would take a word of advice they would not clap on too much sail, so that when a check came they would be able to maintain Canada's position as the greatest colony of the greatest empire in the world.

## THE FILIPINOS PLEAD FOR RUSSIA'S TROUBLES AT HOME

### Dr. Schurman as a Diplomat—Unconditional Surrender Demanded.

MANILA, May 1.—During the conference of the Filipino emissaries with Major-Gen. Otis on the 28th the Filipinos told Gen. Otis that they had been conquered, but said that they had no power to surrender without the authority of the Filipino Congress. At the second conference, which took place yesterday morning in which Admiral Dewey and Chairman Schurman, of the American Philippines Commission, participated, the request of the Filipinos for a cessation of hostilities pending the convening of Congress was renewed. Gen. Otis said that he had no authority to grant an armistice on the basis suggested. The Filipino envoys returned through the lines this afternoon, after taking luncheon with Mr. Schurman.

Gen. Otis, in his conference with the envoys promised amnesty to all offenders, provided that the Filipinos surrendered unconditionally. The appearance of the Filipino commissioners in the streets, driving with Aid-de-Camp Sladen, aroused the greatest curiosity today, natives and foreigners alike rushing to their windows to see them. The commissioners visited the Filipino wounded in the hospitals, talking freely with them, and giving each patient a half dollar. They expressed themselves as greatly pleased at their reception and treatment.

Col. Arguelles, the senior envoy, was a member of the Filipino commission appointed to treat with the Americans last January. He said he believed that Lieut. Gilmore and the missing sailors of the Yorktown were now prisoners in the hands of the Filipinos and were being brought across the island from the vicinity of Baler by their captors.

Chairman Schurman, of the American Philippines Commission, in an interview yesterday afternoon said that he had attended the conference between the Americans and the Filipino envoys, and, at the request of Gen. Otis, had given expression to the sentiments of President McKinley regarding the future government of the Philippines. After this conference closed, Col. Arguelles requested a further conference with Mr. Schurman alone. The request was granted, and the conference lasted two hours. Arguelles began talking independence, and then about a suspension of hostilities, but Mr. Schurman declined to discuss these matters. Arguelles said that he thought a suspension of hostilities, pending the convening of the Filipino Congress and the discussion of the situation by that body, would satisfy the sentiment of the Filipino, giving peace with dignity.

Mr. Schurman explained that the insurgents were merely fighting for a constitution. They could, if their arms were laid down, now help the American commissioners to frame a scheme of government for recommendation to President McKinley, thus influencing the determination of a future government, and giving them more dignity than a suspension of hostilities would. Mr. Schurman was requested by Arguelles to write to Aguinaldo, but he declined to do so.

Col. Arguelles impressed Mr. Schurman as being sincere and honorable, but not as being conversant with the secrets of the insurgent politicians. Arguelles' statement led Mr. Schurman to believe that the action of the Filipinos in sending him and his fellow envoy into the American lines was the beginning of the end.

Arguelles' mission, Mr. Schurman said, had not surprised him, as the commissioners have held conferences with former insurgent Cabinet officers, who, last week, advised Aguinaldo's leaders to lay down their arms, as their cause was hopeless.

The Oceania, voicing the opinion of the Spaniards here, says that the proposition for an armistice is absolutely contrary to the utterances of the insurgent press and the ideas of Senor Mabini, the Filipino Foreign Secretary; but emanating from Gen. Luna, who is known to be an irreconcilable insurgent, it bears greater significance than if made by any other of the rebel leaders.

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## Harrowing Condition of Districts in the Famine Provinces.

LONDON, May 1.—Letters from the famine provinces of Russia tell of great distress. In the Province of Kazan, the centre of the famine district, the Red Cross Society alone is feeding 132,000 persons. The relief delegate in the Province of Ufa reports that peasants are after him and begged for food on their knees in the snow. The St. Petersburg Skyva Viedomosti, in a vivid description of the misery and disease prevalent in Kazan, says:—"Crime, mortality, and the number of still-born infants have increased, and now scurvy and typhus are devouring the population like a conflagration fanned by the wind, but this is a case not of houses and barns, but of human lives being destroyed."

Meanwhile, to all the Russian difficulties new embarrassment is added. Except in Finland, whose loyalty survives even the perfidious blow at its independence, there is not a single high-class educational establishment open to-day. All have been closed by the police till the end of the year, and only a minute proportion of the students is undergoing examinations. The St. Petersburg prisons cannot find room for more students, yet arrests and domiciliary visits are occurring nightly. Many of the students have been exiled to Siberia. On Thursday last 230 girls in the Women's High school were ordered by the police to leave the city within forty-eight hours. The disintegration thus caused and the disorganization in the public service which will result in the future are incalculable, and add greatly to the Russian necessity for relief from external anxiety.

## Seal on Marchand's Lips.

PARIS, May 1.—The Government has strictly forbidden Major Marchand to communicate with anyone while passing through Suez and Egypt. The French residents of Egypt are indignant over the injunction, as they had planned an enthusiastic demonstration of welcome in honour of the officer who had carried the French flag through the heart of Africa. The Government, however, fears indiscretions which might complicate affairs with Great Britain.

## Pope's Jubilee Bull

LONDON, May 1.—Enterprising newspapers in Rome have been making strenuous efforts to obtain an advance copy of the Pope's bull proclaiming a jubilee at the close of the century. It was finished before his Holiness underwent the recent operation. It will be issued simultaneously in all the Catholic chronicles of the Christian world on Ascension day. It will be found to be in the nature of a farewell exhortation to the faithful of the Holy church, to be strenuous in well doing. The Pope himself regards it as his final announcement to the Catholic world.

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## Troops at Honk Kong.

LONDON, May 1.—The English Government has given orders for an extensive increase of the military forces at Hong Kong. It is true that 100 men of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, and supported by 100 Sikhs of the Indian regiment, stationed at Hong Kong, sufficed to route in the open a force of 2,000 Chinese troops who endeavoured to resist the British occupation of the Kau-Loon territory on the mainland opposite to Hong Kong, and which some months ago was ceded by the Chinese Government to England. But the Kau-Loon territory comprises Kau-Loon city, which has an unenviable reputation as the most wicked and criminal city of the whole Chinese Empire and of the far Orient. It is densely populated, and in order to keep the native element under firm control and subjection it will be necessary for the Governor of Hong Kong to have at his disposal a considerably larger military force than at present.

## To Provoke a Crisis.

St. John's, Nfld., May 1.—The Newfoundland Government, it is announced, does not intend to agree to enforce the French shore modus vivendi any longer than the close of this year, by this step forcing the British Government to bring about a settlement of the difficulty during the present season.

When the Colonial Legislature meets, on May 11, an important pronouncement is expected on this question.

## Killarney Lakes for Sale.

DUBLIN, May 1.—The Irish Land Court will shortly offer the most admired portion of the Lakes of Killarney for sale. The Muckross estate has already been sold to the tenants, and the mansion, deer park, etc., will be offered with the lakes. The sum mentioned as likely to be the price asked is £30,000. It is feared that the purchaser may exclude the public from the lakes.

## Another Andree Message.

LONDON, May 1.—The latest Andree story comes from Copenhagen, where it is reported that a bottle containing a note from the explorer was found in the Polar ice driven ashore at Husavik, Iceland.

## The Great Fire at the Windsor, N.Y.

Was an awful calamity, but cannot be remedied. Now, Catarrhzone can remedy and is a positive cure for catarrh and kindred dreaded diseases. This statement is backed up by bushels of testimonials, which we have and can produce. Souffles, ointments, washes, etc., have been proved useless in giving relief or curing catarrh, bronchitis, irritable throat, nasal and ear passages, but Catarrhzone, the ozonated air cure, does not only give immediate relief, but effects a permanent cure. Why delay? Send at once for sample bottle and inhaler, 10 cents. Outfit, \$1.00.

## Farm Boots

It's about time you put off those heavy winter boots and got something lighter for spring work.

A good servicable plow boot is what you want; we have them, our own make \$1.35. Imported ones 90c to \$1.20. Women's strong boots 85c to \$1.40. Boy's and Girl's strong boots 65c to \$1.35.

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