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ON PARLIAMENT HILL

(Continued from Page 4)

STEAMSHIP COMBINE PERTURBED

These plans of the federal administration to bring down the cost of shipping Canadian cattle and other products to Europe are simply warranted by the disclosure made in the sensational report of W. T. R. Preston, the commissioner appointed last summer to seek some methods of removing the existing ocean-rate discrimination against Canada. The remarkable extent to which the North Atlantic Steamship Conference operates as a monopoly for the maintenance of high freight rates is shown in his report, and already the comment emanating from Montreal, the centre of the Canadian end of that Conference, indicates the intense opposition to the resolute move of the Government.

THREE LEADERS SPEAK

The week's debate was featured by speeches of the three leaders, that of the Prime Minister being one of the most effective he has delivered in the initial debate of any session. It was a subject of comment that Mr. Meighen, leader of the opposition, lacked his customary vigor of attack. He was more discursive than usual and more mildly critical. His one remedial theme was higher protective tariffs for everybody—farmers included. The member of the opposition who talked most vehemently against the Government's program was Hon. Dr. R. J. Manion of Fort William, who at the end of the week delivered a fiery peroration. It was subjected to many interruptions from Liberals and Progressives, especially when Dr. Manion was extolling the saving graces of high protection.

A GREAT CONSTRUCTIVE PROGRAM

In his concluding remarks the Prime Minister, after referring at length to the plan to curb the North Atlantic Shipping Conference said: "The Government's action in this regard is only part of a great constructive program which has for its objective the development and increasing of the wealth of this country, and the development and increasing of wider export markets as well. We believe that the past taken last session has already in this short time fully justified itself, and we believe that the legislation which we are going to introduce during the present session, if it receives the support of this Parliament, will materially assist us to further the diversified industries of this country—agriculture, fishing, mining, lumbering and manufacturing; that it will help the whole industrial life of Canada, and by so helping our industrial life will improve the lot and well-being of the men, women and children who inhabit this Dominion from one coast to the other."

GOVERNMENT'S POSITION STRENGTHENED

It has become already evident, from talk in the corridors of Parliament, that the position of the Government, especially since the notable victory in West Hastings, has become greatly strengthened. When Parliament opened last year the Conservative opposition challenged the Government to go to the country. This year there is no such exultant challenge. Confidence lies obviously among the united following behind the Prime Minister. As for Western Canada, the Progressives show an even more friendly spirit toward the Liberals than in the past three sessions, and by their speeches in the first week of the present session, have indicated that they are not only cold to the allurements held out to them in Mr. Meighen's pre-session manifesto about freight rates, but they are at the same time ready to give the government every assistance in its evident purpose to solve the freight rates problem, on land and sea, in the best interests of the whole Dominion by wiping out as far as possible all discriminatory factors. Also, the Progressives are persuaded that the Government's general policy in the matter of taxation and tariffs is the

best that can be devised at this time to meet the conflicting needs of the country. At the same time, however, Mr. Forke served notice on the Government that his party would press for further tariff reductions.

TIME-WASTING AND EXPENSIVE TALK

An interesting sidelight on the tactics of the Conservative Opposition was presented on Friday in connection with the restoration of the debate after, as a result of an inadvertence, the motion terminating the discussion had been declared carried the previous evening by Deputy Speaker George N. Gordon. Mr. Meighen, his followers in the House and his press raised the old cry of liberty of speech and pictured the Liberals seeking to curtail that freedom. They wanted an opportunity to prolong the debate and to manufacture some good campaign literature on the assumption that there would be a general election this year. As a matter of fact two days previous to this there had been a tacit understanding between the three parties that the debate would be allowed to end on Friday so that the House could get down to business. It may be recalled that last year in the initial debate when the Progressives helped materially in making the discussion enter its third week the Conservatives were the first to loudly decry what they regarded as the obstructive tactics of the Westerners in seeking to prolong the debate. Now it is the Conservatives who are chided by Mr. Forke for a too long stream of futile, pessimistic talk.

NOTICE OF HIGH SCHOOL EXAMINATION DATES

The Department of Education has fixed the following dates for the various High School examinations:

High School Entrance—June 24 to 26.
Lower School—June 23 to 26.
Middle School—June 22 to July 3.
Upper School—June 22 to July 6.

A Word of Caution to Parents

To insure success at these important examinations the student must devote at least three hours per night to private study and it is the duty of the parent to see that he does it, independent of all help but his books. In this way only can the pupil be reasonably certain of passing his examinations at all. To master his subjects they student must become an independent thinker, and private study is highly conducive thereto.

MARCH "ROD AND GUN"

The stories in the March issue of "Rod and Gun in Canada" are sure to excite the interest of every sportsman. Staking All on Horse Sense, by E. Dalton Tipping, Western Experiences by Donald Graham, The Tenderfoot by Roderick O'Neill, are a few of the entertaining stories contained in this number. Canada's Wild Buffalo by Maxwell Graham is an article brimful of interesting and valuable information on this subject. In addition there are the regular stories—That Tent and Thirty-five Below by F. V. Williams, Slightly Mistaken by Martin Hunter, Some Adventures with the Great Horned Owl by Bonnycastle Dale, and Emperor Geese and Queenly Swans by J. W. Winson, which cover a variety of subjects and the departmental editors, W. C. Motley, R. P. Lincoln, C. S. Landis and M. U. Bates have brought their departments up to their usual high standard, helping to make the March number one of the best yet. Published monthly by W. J. Taylor, Limited, Woodstock, Ont.

Plenty of Furniture

Plenty of Opportunity—
But the February Sale
Closes Saturday
Night

THERE'S SOMETHING IN THIS GREAT SALE OF FURNITURE THAT OUGHT TO BE IN YOUR HOME.

One of the best things about it is that it has the right kind of Furniture for every home—and all reduced in price during the month of February—everything from a modest little chair to the most magnificent Suite.

And the Reductions are Real Reductions. There's never any hanky-panky of raising prices above standard and then lowering them for advertising effect at Fall.

It has been a sale of astounding activity, but the most astonishing thing about it is that no matter how much Furniture may be sent out from it, there never seems to be less Furniture in it. In our Basement Store-Room and on the way, there is enough Furniture to start a sale all over again if we wanted to and keep it going at the same record rate for weeks to come.

That is why it can be said of this Sale without exaggeration or boastfulness that its opportunities are still abundant.

"EXTENDED FURNITURE" PAYMENTS

You can buy Furniture in the February Sale and arrange to pay for it on the Falls' Budget Home-Lovers' Plan, undoubtedly the most straight forward, convenient and liberal system of extended payment ever devised. "You pay one-quarter (1/4) down and the balance in monthly payments over a period of six months."

FIRST SHOWING OF NEW SPRING MILLINERY SATURDAY

So delightfully Spring like—so refreshing—so new. Mostly French Hats direct to Falls' Store—that's the selection we offer you. Wide, varied, highly desirable—and last, but not least, prices much lower than equal Hats are sold for.

"Miss Eleanor McCool in Charge"

Miss Wark, Corsetiere in charge of our Corset Department, has returned from the Gossard School of Instruction after completing a full course in fitting, etc. We feel that many of our customers will appreciate this opportunity of consulting with a graduate corsetiere and take advantage of the fitting services Mrs. Wark will be pleased to give. A very large showing will be made Saturday of the new spring models in "Gossard," "Nemo" and "C/c A-La Grace" Corsets.

Falls' Department Store, Simcoe

THE FALLS' DEPT. STORE

Here and There

An unusual consignment passed through Montreal recently in the care of the Dominion Express Company when six Rocky Mountain sheep were shipped to Austria to form part of a zoological exhibit there. The animals, which are valued at \$600, came from the National Park at Banff, Alberta.

Alberta farmers have recently been shipping a new commodity to the market. During the past few years there has been a considerable increase in the number of bee-keepers and last year 100 keepers had a total production of nearly 60,000 pounds of honey, valued at approximately \$15,000. The exact number of bees is not known.

Contract for aeroplane spruce has been made between Vickers Limited, manufacturers of aeroplanes, and Frank L. Buckley, of Vancouver, B.C. The spruce will be logged on the Queen Charlotte Islands and milled at the Buckley Mill at Port Clement, on Graham Island and at Burrard mill, in Vancouver. The contract calls for the delivery of two million feet during 1925.

Canada leads the world in automobile exports in proportion to production, domestic sales or ownership of motor vehicles or to population. Not relatively but absolutely the automobile exports of the Dominion are only exceeded by those of the United States. Since 1920 the motor vehicle exports of Canada have nearly doubled, the increase being from 9.3 per cent. to 17 per cent. of the automobile export trade of the world.

A special train of forty-two cars containing nearly 900 head of stock for export to Great Britain, arrived at the Canadian Pacific Railway's East End stock-yards, Montreal, recently. These, added to shipments from Packerham, Ont., Toronto and other points in Ontario and Quebec, made up what cattlemen claimed to be the greatest concentration of Canadian cattle for export in the history of the trade. From the yards the cattle were shipped by special train to the ship's side at St. John, N.B.

When the round-the-world cruise passengers aboard the Canadian Pacific steamship "Empress of France," reached Egypt recently, they were entertained by Enani Khattab, a prominent sheik holding authority over a large number of villages along the Nile. Unfortunately, the sheik succumbed to a sudden attack of heart failure. The visitors from across the Atlantic before returning to their ship were permitted to attend the funeral, which was conducted in the desert with weird and impressive religious rites, an experience few world-travellers have known.

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