

## FEDERAL ELECTIONS.

ADDRESS BY MR. FISHER.

THE NEW PROTECTION.

DISAGREEMENT WITH MR. DEAKIN'S DEFENCE POLICY.

THE FINANCIAL AGREEMENT.

OBJECTS TO THE PEOPLE SETTLING THE MATTER.

MELBOURNE, February 9.

The Hon. A. Fisher, leader of the Federal Opposition, arrived to-day by the 4 a.m. train from Brisbane. He was welcomed at the station by the Mayor (Alderman C. S. McNeil) and prominent members of the W.P.O. Mr. Fisher addressed a public meeting this evening, in the Town Hall, which was well filled. The Mayor presided, and on the platform were Messrs. G. Ryland, C. Collins, and M. A. Ferricks, M.M.L.A., Mr. McDowell, member for Coolgardie, Western Australia, and also members identified with the local unions. A number of ladies were also on the platform.

Mr. Fisher, who, on rising, was loudly applauded, thanked the electors for the confidence they had reposed in him. He criticised Mr. Deakin for his depreciation of the Labour Party, with its policy of progress. Labour was in Parliament for the principle of white labour and defence for Australia. In 1903 Mr. Fisher and Mr. Watson opposed successfully a proposal to subsidise the home Government for Australian defence. Defence was only effective when the money and the men were found by the country intending to defend itself. Labour had shown how to manage old age pensions, and Mr. Deakin had never had occasion to touch the Labour Party for unfaithfulness in its support, though he had done so. Mr. Deakin's action would be understandable if it came from Sir George Reid, but the attack made by Mr. Deakin in opening the campaign was inexcusable. Criticising Mr. Deakin's statement, reported in the "Courier," that he must give highly by the subject of the new protection, Mr. Fisher said there should be no industry in Australia that could not give a fair return for the capital invested by the employer, and if an industry could not pay labour a living wage, then it was not desirable to establish it. Yet this vital question was lightly passed over by Mr. Deakin.

Mr. Deakin's defence policy was held up to ridicule. Mr. Deakin's idea, he said, was to strengthen England's naval power by the gift of a Dreadnought. "A noble ambition," he said in derision, "and this is a way Mr. Deakin has of cleverly putting things so as to hoodwink the people. Mr. Cook had said there were no rivers in Australia (laughter) and Sir George Reid had said, 'What is the use of the mosquito fleet proposed by the Labour Party?' Since then, Canada had adopted this same policy, and the great Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the Premier of Canada, had said, in effect, that Canada's fleet was to belong to the people of Canada, but in case of emergency would be available for England's use. Touching on the financial question Mr. Fisher said federation was intended to consolidate the Australian States into a Commonwealth. The difference of opinion between the Federal Government and the Labour Party touching finance was not so much a question of amount as of principle. The provision made for 10 years under the so-called "Braddon Blot" he believed to be a good temporary arrangement, but a fresh basis had to be devised. It was, of course, impossible to have a strong protective tariff and a large Customs revenue at the same time. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Deakin wished to increase the form of taxation that as Sir George Reid said, fell on the multitude, and he (Mr. Fisher) did not wish to see this. The financial adjustment had caused much discussion, and this could not be avoided. Mr. Fisher urged the people to leave this financial matter to Parliament, and not to provide for it in the Constitution, because once there it could not well be removed. Referring to land settlement and the advent of new blood which was assisting to fill up the empty spaces in the Wide Bay district, Mr. Fisher laid stress on the wisdom of preventing the introduction of aliens to destroy the purity of the Australian people. (Applause.) Answering Mr. Deakin's criticisms of Labour Party tactics in what Mr. Deakin called deserting their friends, Mr. Fisher said the party's doctrine was "Those who are not with us are against us." Mr. Deakin, the self-constituted apostle of loyalty, had said Mr. Watson, after giving a "definite promise of support," had changed his mind. Other similar examples were given of Mr. Deakin's omission to fulfil promises of support in the House. Regarding the sugar industry Mr. Fisher said that when legislation on sugar growing first came in only 12 per cent of cane was produced by white labour, and now 90 per cent was so produced. In concluding, Mr. Fisher said he was ready to bow to the will of the majority whether returned or rejected.

On resuming, his seat Mr. Fisher was loudly applauded. A number of questions were asked and answered.

Mr. McDowell also spoke. Mr. W. Deakin proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Fisher. This was seconded by Mr. C. Adams and carried with enthusiasm.

MOVEMENTS OF THE TREASURER.

[From Our Special Representative.]

MELBOURNE, February 9.

The Treasurer will leave to-morrow for Western Australia, and will not return until after the elections.

LIBERAL SENATORIAL CANDIDATES.

Messrs. Glassey and Macrossan at Ravenswood.

RAVENSWOOD, February 9.

Messrs. Glassey and Macrossan, Liberal candidates for the Senate, addressed a splendid meeting here last night. Councilor A. L. Wilson, chairman of the Shire Council, presided, and there was a large number of prominent men on the platform. The body of the hall was packed, and a large proportion of the audience being ladies. The candidates dealt with financial problems, showed the beneficial results that would accrue from the financial agreement, declared that the Labour Party favoured undisturbed the defence and naval policy of the Commonwealth, and the proposals for the acquisition of the Northern Territory, and declared themselves in favour of a railway line from Pine Creek to Camooweal, thence to Junah and Thargomindah, and to Bourke. They were opposed to a Federal land tax, and showed the inconsistency of the Labour Party as regards the financial proposition of Mr. McDowell. They were strong advocates, but now their opponents, Mr. Macrossan made a very good impression, and both candidates got a splendid hearing. It was one of the most successful meetings ever held here, and a unanimous vote of confidence was carried.

Mr. D. Houghton, the candidate opposing Mr. McDowell, the House of Representatives, was introduced by the chairman and delivered a short speech. He made a good impression, and is considered to have good prospects of success.

MR. JASPER HARVEY AT LONGREACH.

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Mr. Jasper Harvey, anti-Socialist Federal candidate for Maranoa, addressed a meeting of electors in the Shire Hall last evening. Just before the meeting a dust storm broke over the town, and this prevented many from attending the meeting.

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land tax, which he strongly opposed; and the Northern Territory. He also dealt with Socialism, his views on this question causing much dissent. A number of questions were asked and answered. Mr. Harvey left this morning for Barmah.

THE HERBERT.

MOSSMAN, February 9. Mr. T. W. Crawford, Liberal candidate for Herbert, opened his campaign at Mossman on Tuesday night, and was accorded a splendid reception.

A.N.A. EXHIBITION.

MELBOURNE, February 9.

Immense crowds are daily visiting the Queensland Court at the A.N.A. Exhibition, and numerous inquiries have been made from the officer in charge, Mr. Murdoch McLeod. His Excellency the Governor-General (Earl Dudley) and the Mayor of Sydney (Mr. J. J. McGowan) were interested visitors this afternoon.

WHITE AUSTRALIA.

COLONISING TROPICAL AREAS.

PROFESSOR GREGORY'S VIEWS.

LONDON, Wednesday.

Professor J. W. Gregory, Professor of Geography in the University of Glasgow, and previously Professor of Geography in the University of Melbourne, read a paper before the Royal Geographical Society yesterday, on "The geographical conditions controlling the development of Australia." He expressed his conviction that there was no region in tropical Australia which Europeans could not colonise. It would be possible to tell in twenty years whether the colonisation of the tropical territory by whites was practicable within a reasonable time, and if not, coloured races might be admitted under stringent regulations confining them to this area.

THE SACKVILLE PEERAGE.

QUESTION OF LEGITIMACY.

CLAIMANT'S CASE COLLAPSES.

LONDON, Wednesday.

The hearing of the claim of Mr. Ernest Henry Sackville-Vest to be rightful heir to the Sackville Peerage and estates was continued in the House of Lords yesterday, before Mr. Justice Bigham. The claimant informed the Judge that since he was not allowed to fetch evidence from Spain to prove that Gabriel Oliva (who was the alleged husband of the claimant's mother, Josephine Duran) was a bachelor, he must withdraw the petition, though it broke his heart to do so. Sir Robert Finlay, K.C., replied on the whole case. He produced a copy of the certificate of the plaintiff's mother's marriage with Oliva in 1851, and also a copy of a stamped certificate dated 1851, which was found among the woman's papers, and which accorded with the Church Register before the latter was tampered with about 1890.

Judgment was reserved.

DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

THE BANISTER CASE.

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY'S VIEWS.

LONDON, Tuesday.

Recently the Court of Appeal dismissed Canon Thompson's appeal against the decision of the King's Bench Division in the case of *Banister v. Thompson*, on the question of the refusal of holy communion to Mr. and Mrs. Banister, on the ground that Mr. Banister had married his deceased wife's sister. The case was first heard by Sir Lewis Dibbon, Dean of the Arches, who dismissed Canon Thompson's appeal, declaring his action to have been unlawful. The case has now been revived by a letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury (Dr. Davidson) in reply to a letter from Professor Inge, of Cambridge. The Archbishop contemplates the Erastian interpretation set upon the judgment of Sir Lewis Dibbon, and adds, "Sir Lewis Dibbon said no word which implied that the Church had lost the essential right to determine the conditions of admission to holy communion. It rests with the Bishops' Court to excommunicate or not. The only question before Sir Lewis Dibbon was the validity of an incumbent's repulsion, on his own responsibility."

PRUSSIAN SOCIALISTS.

DEMONSTRATION AT BRESLAU.

POLICE USE THEIR SABRES.

LONDON, Tuesday.

The Socialists in Breslau, Prussia, not being satisfied with the provisions of the Prussian Franchise Bill, organised a demonstration. They claimed that the Bill would not give a franchise any wider than that now in existence. The police dispersed the crowd with sabres, and many persons were wounded.

FRENCH NAVY BILL.

LARGE PROGRAMME OF NEW VESSELS.

LONDON, Tuesday.

The French Cabinet has approved of a Navy Bill which provides for a battle fleet in home waters, to consist of 28 battleships, 10 cruisers, and 52 destroyers and submarines. The defence fleet is to comprise 44 submarines and four minelaying vessels. The construction of six battleships will shortly be commenced, to be completed in 1915. The age of battleships for active service has been fixed at 25 years, cruisers at 20, and destroyers and submarines at 17.

COLD IN NEW YORK.

EIGHT DEATHS RECORDED.

LONDON, Tuesday.

Intense cold, accompanied by a gale, prevails in New York. Scores of persons have been received at the hospitals, suffering from exhaustion and frostbite. Eight deaths occurred yesterday from the cold.

VANCOUVER MAIL SERVICE.

ANOTHER YEAR'S EXTENSION.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR BETTER VESSELS.

BRISBANE AS A PORT OF CALL.

[From Our Special Representative.]

MELBOURNE, February 9.

The Vancouver mail contract has been prolonged for another year from July 31. This will allow time for negotiation for the employment of quicker and better vessels. Some time ago the New Zealand Government proposed that Auckland should replace Brisbane as a port of call, but the Commonwealth authorities are by no means likely to do anything which would be prejudicial to the interests of Brisbane.

WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP.

HACKENSCHMIDT V. SCOTT.

## RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

SENSATIONAL SMASH IN SYDNEY.

CARRIAGES AND BRAKEVAN COLLIDE.

OFFICIAL SEVERELY INJURED.

RUNAWAY WAGGONS AT BUNDAMBA.

SYDNEY, February 9.

At the Central Railway Station early this morning four railway carriages which were to form part of the 6.50 Newcastle train crashed into a brakevan standing against the buffers at the dead end of No. 1 platform. The van and the rear carriage were jammed into one another, and Robert Bowmaker, a trimmer examiner, who was working in the rear car, had to be cut out of the wreckage with a tomahawk. He now lies at the Sydney Hospital, with a dislocated right shoulder and a broken left leg.

The four carriages were shunted by an engine out of the yard, and then let go to join the brakevan, but either they were shunted off too violently, or were brought too far down from the yard.

Bowmaker, who lives in the Glebe, said: "I was working in the last compartment of the rear carriage up in the yard, with a man named Britten. I didn't notice anything particular, except that the car seemed to be travelling pretty fast. Britten had just said to me, 'It's pretty near time they put her to scrap,' when suddenly he made a jump for the door, and out he went on the platform. Then I could see how frightened his face was, and he called to me from the platform, 'Look out, there is going to be a smash.' The minute he said that I flung myself back on to the seat opposite, and lay flat. Just as I did so the whole carriage was driven in on me. As it jammed into the van I was pinned every way with the jagged ends. Something was crushing my hip and shoulder, with one big sin. Log of wood just off my face; they got to work with tomahawks. One of them crawled in to me through the wreckage, and got his back against that 4in. log, and his feet against something, and eased me a good bit. Then they got me out."

The traffic was not interrupted.

Late on the day night, during shunting operations at Bundamba with the 10.25 p.m. coal train to Roma-street, the brakevan and 15 wagons ran away down Jenkins siding, rushing through the gates. The brakevan, a hopper containing timber, a water-gin containing water, and a coal hopper containing coal ran over the end of the siding, and there are no blocks. The water-gin and the coal hopper were thrown over on their sides, but otherwise no damage was done. A break-down train and crane were sent to the locality at daylight yesterday morning to put the wagons on the line.

## BRITISH POLITICS.

MR. LLOYD-GEORGE INTERVIEWED.

LORDS TO BE FIRST DEALT WITH.

OTHER PRONOUNCEMENTS.

AN IMPERIAL NAVY.

LONDON, Tuesday.

Mr. Lloyd-George (Chancellor of the Exchequer) has returned to London. In the course of an interview he said the Government must deal first with the House of Lords. Pending a Cabinet meeting, he was unwilling to discuss the Budget.

Captain Cecil W. Norton, the Liberal Whip, speaking at West Islington, said: "In a fortnight the Budget will be passed, and we will be attacking the veto of the House of Lords. The Liberals have also to face the task of curtailing corrupt practices at elections, and putting an end to unimpaired status quo."

Mr. Griffith, Liberal M.P. for Anglesey, writing to the "London Mail" proposes that the number of members of the Upper House should be curtailed to 200, and that the British Dominions and colonies should be asked to nominate forty members who have done Imperial work. Canada sending ten, Australia eight, and other colonies proportionately. An Imperial Navy, he states, is now an urgent necessity. The Dominions have perceived this need, and have begun to build warships, but unless they are given a chance of expressing their feelings with regard to the management of the Navy, Great Britain cannot expect any fixed method or percentage of contribution. He adds "We have had enough of slamming the door in the face of the colonies."

## INDIAN VICE-ROYALTY.

POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT OF LORD KITCHENER.

LONDON, Wednesday.

The London "Mail" states that if the Liberal Party remain in office long enough, Lord Kitchener will succeed the Earl of Minto as Viceroy of India. The present unsettled condition of India demands a Viceroy whose character and training would inspire confidence among Europeans and natives alike.

## SEDITION IN INDIA.

THE PRESS BILL PASSED.

STATEMENT BY THE VICEROY.

DEPORTEES TO BE RELEASED.

LONDON, Wednesday.

The Legislative Council of India has passed the Anti-Sedition Press Bill after a sitting of seven hours. The Bill, which the Viceroy, Lord Minto, caused a sensation by stating that the Government had decided to release the Indian deportees who were imprisoned 14 months ago, on the ground that the political movement of which they were the leaders had since degenerated into an anarchical conspiracy waging war against the British and Indian communities alike. It would be long, he stated, before the present evil was exterminated unless both communities worked together, and he believed that the release of the deportees would encourage mutual efforts in that direction.

The announcement was cheered by the Indian members of the Council. English opinion, however, gravely questioned the wisdom of the release of the deportees, believing that this action is due to pressure from home.

## SAN FRANCISCO BOYCOTTED.

CHINESE ON THE PACIFIC COAST.

LONDON, Wednesday.

The Chinese on the Pacific coast of the United States have decreed a boycott against San Francisco, owing to the alleged ill-treatment of Orientals at the immigration station there. Chinese vessels trading to the Pacific coast have been instructed to use the northern ports.

## TURKISH PLOT.

TO DESTROY THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES.

LONDON, Wednesday.

The correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" states that two porters, who were carrying a case with explosive cake, entered the palace in Constantinople before the superintendent.



THE MAYOR AND MAYORESS OF GYMPIE.

Alderman W. E. and Mrs. Burbridge.



THE MAYOR AND MAYORESS OF HAMILTON.

Alderman C. E. and Mrs. Lever.



COUNCILLOR P. M'INTOSH.

Chairman Tarampa Shire Council.



BRISBANE FIRE BRIGADE.

STORAGE OF PACKING MATERIAL.

AN IMPORTANT DISCUSSION.

The monthly meeting of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade Board was held yesterday afternoon. There were present: Messrs. J. F. Church (in the chair), A. C. Saltmarsh, J. Chapman, and J. Young, the Secretary (Mr. E. Stayer), and the superintendent (Mr. J. E. Hinton). Accounts amounting to £501/14/9 were passed for payment. It was resolved that £500 should be transferred from the Savings Bank to current account.

## A PERSIAN REFUGEE.

The Government of Russia has granted an asylum to Rakhim Khan, a Persian, and refuses his extradition on the ground that he is a political offender.

## A CHINESE RAILWAY.

Great Britain has intimated that China must consult Russia and Japan before entering into arrangements for the construction of the Chinchau-Aigun Railway.

## MR. ASQUITH IN LONDON.

The Right Hon. H. H. Asquith, Prime Minister, has returned to London.

## BOYS FOR VICTORIAN TRAINING FARMS.

Sir John Taverner, Agent-General for Victoria, has chosen a dozen respectable lads from nominations at the Stanford Emigration Office for a year's training on Victorian farms, and they will sail for Melbourne by the steamer *Mitildes*. Their age range from 16 to 18 years, and they are chiefly shop boys and factory hands.

## THE CHARLESWORTH CASE.

Miss Violet Charlesworth, whose arrest has already been reported, is charged with having defrauded Martha Smith of £400, and Dr. Edward Jones of large sums, the accused having assumed the name of Cameron. Defendant was remanded on bail.

## SITUATION IN SOMALILAND.

The "Times" correspondent at Calcutta states that there is a disquieting impression in consequence of the hasty withdrawal of the British advanced posts in Somaliland. It is considered that this will be disastrous to the friendly native tribes, who relied upon British protection, and are now suffering from the reprisals of the Somali Mullahs.

## COMMAND OF THE TURKISH FLEET.

The Turkish Government has appealed to Great Britain for the services of an Admiral as organizer and commander of the Turkish fleet, in succession to Rear Admiral Sir Douglas A. Gamble, who has resigned that position on account of ill health.

## TYPHOID IN CANADA.

The recent serious epidemic of typhoid fever in Montreal is now regarded as being under control, but 84 cases have been reported in Toronto during the past five weeks.

## THE KING OF SWEDEN.

King Gustaf, of Sweden, who underwent an operation for appendicitis, is reported to be progressing excellently.

## THE FRENCH FLOODS.

Mild weather in the north of France continues. As a result, owing to the melting of the snow, the River Marne has risen 4 ft., and the Seine is again rising steadily.

## THE LILLE TRAGEDY.

Antoine Favier, the owner of the house in which M. Thain, cashier of the Bank of France at Lille, was robbed and murdered, has been arrested at Nancy.

## AMERICAN ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION.



THE MAYOR AND MAYORESS OF GYMPIE.

Alderman W. E. and Mrs. Burbridge.



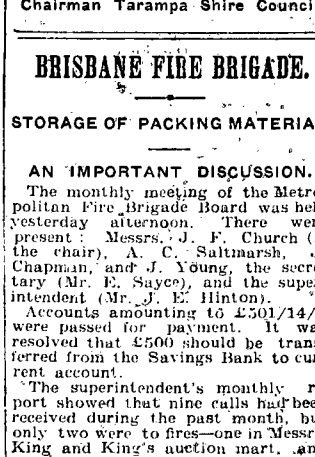
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Chairman Tarampa Shire Council.



BRISBANE FIRE