

St. Croix Avis

80TH YEAR.

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TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

Paris, April 28th.--M. Andre Tardieu, spokesman for ex-Premier Clemenceau in the Chamber of Deputies, was pulled from the platform by Communists while electioneering at Sartrouville. A message today said M. Tardieu's clothing was torn and he was bruised by blows. The meeting was suspended in disorder.

London, April 28th--The rapid spread of sleeping sickness in Great Britain is causing considerable alarm. In January last there were 75 cases. February 217. March 468 and in the first three weeks of the present month 649 cases were reported. The proportion of deaths has not been large, but the after-effects of the disease very often are serious.

London, April 28th--Mr. MacDonald has cancelled some of his engagements to speak in Wales, in order to preside at a meeting of the Cabinet on the subject of the budget tomorrow morning. A difference apparently has arisen among the ministry on the proposed abolition of the Mackenna duties and in some quarters it is predicted that a crisis may arise over the question. The crucial point in view of all political writers is the question of retention or abandonment of the Mackenna duties on motor cars, bicycles and musical instruments, clocks and films. The Chancellor of the Exchequer is known to favour abolishing the duties and can rely upon a majority of the Labourites and Liberals to support him, but there is a section of the Liberals and even some of the Labourites who wish the duties retained in the interest of the workers in certain industries, notably the manufacture of

motor cars. These workers fear loss of occupation if the protection afforded by the duties is withdrawn. The entire Conservative Party also favor retention of the duties, which will automatically expire on May 1st unless renewed.

London, April 28th.--The Irish Free State Government has sent a note to the Colonial Office, asking that it give effect to the boundary article of the Anglo-Irish Treaty without further delay, says a despatch to the Daily Mail from Dublin. All efforts to adjust the boundary line between Ulster and the Irish Free State have proved unavailing. Last week another conference on the subject was held in London between representatives of Northern and Southern Ireland, it came to naught. Under the terms of the Anglo-Irish Treaty, the British Government, in case of failure by the Northern and Southern Governments in Ireland to reach an agreement is to appoint a boundary commission which will draw a definite line between the respective territories.

Wellington, N. Z. April 28th.--Mr. Massey, the Premier, speaking at a state luncheon here today to the officers of the visiting Special Service Squadron on a cruise round the Empire, said: "Great Britain alone cannot bear the whole burden of naval defence. The Dominions have done their share, but more is required if the sea force is to be kept in an efficient state. The last has not been heard of the Singapore naval base scheme, and the Dominions must stand to their responsibilities." He hoped that the Admiralty would ask New Zealand to maintain another cruiser on the Pacific. Vice-Admiral Sir Frederick Field, commander of the squadron, stressed the fact that for many years no complete reliance must be placed on naval power. With regard to the Dominions he advocated three cruisers as a measure of safety. There is a want of understanding between the people at home and in the dominions, he said, and an interchange of cruisers would do much to breakdown the misunderstanding. He was satisfied that the visit of the special squadron to the dominions would do much toward establishing the desired better understanding between the people thereof and those of the Motherland.

London, April 29th--The budget presented by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the House of Commons today provided for a reduction of three half pence

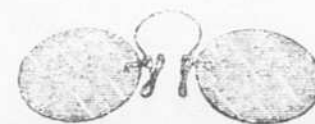
per pound on sugar. The tea duty is reduced one half. The duty on dried fruit would not be renewed under the budget provisions and would lapse on August 1st. The budget schedule provided for a reduction of one half in the duties on cocoa, coffee and chicory. The Chancellor recommended also that the corporation profits tax be abolished. He announced that the Labour Government is unable to endorse the late Government's dominion preference proposals. The Chancellor prefaced this announcement with the statement that we on this side of the House never believed that the interest of the Empire could be best served in the long run by a system of tariffs. Mr. Snowden added, however, that the late Government's pledge to submit the preference proposals to the House of Commons would be fulfilled to the fullest extent. It was not proposed, he added, to ask Parliament to abolish the preferences now in force but the Labour Government reserved full liberty to propose whenever it is deemed expedient, to reduce, or abolish, all kinds of preferences now granted. No alteration in the Income Tax or the super tax was proposed by the Chancellor and no changes in the postal rates are proposed. The Chancellor estimated the total cost of all the reductions in taxation recommended this year at 31,000,000 pounds and in the full fiscal year at 40,443,000 pounds. He therefore would be left with an estimated surplus of 4,024,000 pounds.

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