The St. Paul Globe

VOL. XXV.—NO. 147. TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 27, 1902.---TWENTY PAGES. PRICE TWO CENTS—{On Trains, FIVE CENTS.

WILL FORCE CANAL ISSUE

Democrats of House and Senate Think the Time to Act Is Here

HOUSE CAUCUS CALLED

PROMINENT MEMBER SAYS REPUBLICANS ARE BOUND TO PREVENT LEGISLATION

"YOUR UNCLE" LOREN WARNS

Fletcher Says Project Will Be Prolific of Scandal and a Boomerang for Any Party That Fathers It.

From The Globe's Washington Bureau, Post Building.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 26.—Democratic members of the house and senate believe the time has come for the passage of an isthmian canal bill, and Chairman Hay, of the house caucus, has issued a call for Wednesday, the purpose being to devise ways and means for compelling the passage of the canal bill at this session.

"The people of the United States want canal legislation. They have spent several millions of dollars for various commissions of experts to examine routes and make estimates. Now that work has been done to the limit, and there is no further excuse for delay, the Republican leaders have no intention to have the bill passed this session.

"It is their plan to debate and ten to pass a bill different from the house bill, and have it die in conference. We shall try to force the senate to pass the bill which has already gone through the house."

Loren Fletcer says the Democrats can make no worse mistakes than to take the responsibility for Republican legislation. Fletcher has claimed from the beginning that the canal project would be prolific of scandal, and would be a boomerang for any party fathering it.

ADVERSE REPORT ON CANAL BILL

Senate Committee Objects to Portion Regarding Route Selection.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 26.—Senator Morgan, from the committee on Isthmian canals, today submitted to the senate the adverse report of that committee on Senator Hoar's bill placing the selection of a route for an isthmian canal in the hands of the president. The committee opposes the bill on the ground that it makes no provision for further exploration of routes and leaves the president to make a selection on the state of facts already ascertained. It is contended that "however safely the country may rely on the wisdom and just discretion of the executive, the policy is not wise nor safe as a rule of government."

The report discusses the protocols with Colombia and Nicaragua and Costa Rica, and it is stated incidentally that former Colombian Minister Silva was invited to appear before the committee, but declined to do so.

Of the agreements with Costa Rica and Nicaragua, it is said that "they are definite and complete as to the character and scope of the rights they have agreed to concede to the United States," and it is argued that if they are ratified nothing will be left to dobut to complete the details of the arrangements necessary to carry the agreements into effect.

Colombia, on the other hand, is charged with playing for delay, and it is stated that "to hold Colombia to her present offer it is necessary, under Article 27, the ratifications shall be exchanged within eight months from its date and the practical impossibility of concluding all the necessary arrangements provided for in her proposition within eight months shows that her most earnest purpose is to cause delay."

It is charged that Colombia does not by her protocol propose to sell us the Panama canal and railroad property free of all existing claims, concessions and incumbrances, but leaves us to work out a title with the Panama company. It is then charged that "the insincerity of the attitude of Colombia with reference to the completion of the Panama canal is shown, almost without disguise, in the character of the demands made by that government as to the condition of transfer of the canal and the stock in the Panama railroad to the United States." The report adds:

"Colombia is anxious to get rid of the Panama Canal Company without giving offense to France, so that she can seize and possess all the plant of the canal company, all the lands and houses it owns in Panama, including the great hospital, the machine shops and wharves at Colon, all the vast machinery in use by the canal company, the hospitals and the houses, the palaces built for De Lesseps and his son, and become the owner of it all, along with the Panama railroad, which reverts to her in 1966.

"If the convention should be adopted, not only would delay attend the opening of the canal, but the United States would assume obligations to the world that it will be impossible to keep, and relations with Colombia that will deprive the canal of all value to the United States and will make it a cause of irritation that must involve the most serious consequences."

Women and Children

Should Attend the

Coliseum Matinees.

The Entertainment by the Star Vaudeville Performers Is the Best That Ever Came to St. Paul.

DAY'S NEWS SUMMARIZED

Weather for St. Paul and vicinity: Fair; Wednesday fair and warmer.

FOREIGN—

Signs in South Africa indicate a continuance of the war.

A whole Turkish battalion is wiped out by rebels in Arabia.

Terms of agreement between Morgan and German steamship companies are made public.

Lightning strikes a German military balloon and army officer has narrow escape from death.

Australia suffers heavily from drought.

WASHINGTON—

The Democrats of congress take steps to force passage of the isthmian canal bill.

The United States navy department will transport lumber donated by Canadian government to the homeless people of St. Vincent.

Manufacturers of oleo believe they see a loophole in the recently passed bill.

DOMESTIC—

There is considerable activity among settlers at Cass Lake in filing land tenders.

Frank Robinson, aged 20, kills his sweetheart and attempts suicide at Kansas City.

Judge at Athens, Ky., assesses offenders against law and order $10,000 in one day.

Student at University of Vermont is drowned as result of a class fight.

Presbyterian general assembly adjourns.

President Mitchell and members of Union Civic Federation confer on strike situation at Chicago.

Attempt to hold up a Burlington train in Missouri fails.

Jealous husband in Brooklyn fatally shoots wife and kills himself.

LOCAL—

Mayor Smith has signed the ordinance permitting the merging of the Grand avenue and Lafayette street car lines.

Chamber of Commerce goes on record as opposed to Dr. Ohage's contentions in public baths controversy.

Dr. Jacob E. Schadle testifies on witness stand as to his transactions with Broker C. H. F. Smith.

Alwin B. Margraff dies as a result of being crushed between two Selby cars at Seven corners.

West Side meeting denounces Dr. Ohage's condemnation scheme in vigorous terms.

Friends of Rogers and Tegner are not disposed to let St. Peter hospital case end with statement issued by board of control.

Auditor Dunn hopeful that Minnesota will secure favorable action from secretary of interior regarding indemnity lands.

Board of control settles Red Wing case according to its original decision.

One-third of North Dakota's wheat area cannot be seeded.

Representatives of Hennessey & Cox may institute suit to prevent paving repairs being awarded to Indianapolis company.

Gov. Van Sant appoints Mrs. G. F. Stevens to fill her late husband's unexpired term as surveyor general of Duluth division.

Former students of Shattuck Military academy have formed an association with Reuben Warner, Jr., as president.

Closing meetings of the Baptist Home Missionary society are held. Convention closes with joint meeting of all societies today.

MINNEAPOLIS—

Norwegian Lutheran synod unable to agree on plan of union.

Minneapolis is to have a new agricultural implement manufacturing company capitalized at $300,000.

First of the police bribery cases to be taken up today.

Mayor Ames publicly announces his positive withdrawal from politics.

Eleven cases versus former Sheriff Phil Megaarden nolled after two trials resulting in disagreement.

POLITICAL—

Gov. Vant's Washington trip is said to be in interest of his candidacy for vice-president.

There is Ohio Republican talk of Senator Hanna succeeding himself next year and running for president in 1904.

BUSINESS—

Stock market is more active, but at the expense of the standard stocks.

Wheat prices rise; all conditions favoring the bulls.

RAILROADS—

Edwin H. McHenry becomes chief engineer of the Canadian Pacific system.

Owing to extensive betterments the local waterfront presents a much improved appearance.

Northern Pacific buys out the Duluth Transfer Railroad company.

SPORTING—

St. Paul-Minneapolis game is postponed on account of wet grounds and cold weather.

Otto Selloff secures the decision over Art Simms in the eighth round.

Tommy Ryan wins from Jimmy Handler in the fourth round at Kansas City.

SCHEDULED TO OCCUR TODAY.

Metropolitan—Coliseum benefit, vaudeville performance, 2:30 and 8:15.

Grand—Because She Loved Him So, 8:15

Star—Miss New York, Jr., burlesquers, 2:30 and 8:15.

Lexington Park—St. Paul versus Minneapolis.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMSHIPS.

Port.	Arrived.	Sailed.
New York	Zealand.	
Boston	Merion.	
St. Johns	B. Ayrean	
Hamburg	Patricia.	
London		Manitou.
Gibraltar	Livonian.	
Bremen	Bremen.	
Queenstown	Saxonia.	
Hongkong		Victoria.
Plymouth	K. W. der G.	
Moville	Pretorian.	
Sydney, NSW	Loana.	

NEW HANNA SCHEME

To Succeed Himself as Senator and Then Run for President

PLAN FOR NEXT YEAR

This Is One of the Enterprises Discussed on the Eve of the Ohio Republican Convention—Attitude on Trusts.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, May 26.—With the exception of Senator Foraker, the Ohio Republican leaders are all here for the state convention which convenes tomorrow. Gov. Nash, the temporary chairman; Gen. Grosvenor, the prospective permanent chairman; Chairman Dick, of the state executive committee, and other congressmen and leaders spent the evening at the residence of Senator Hanna considering disputed planks in the platform.

It is proposed to oppose all trusts that fix prices against consumers, but not to oppose such combinations as save expenses in productions. Those insisting on a reduction of the tariff on industries that they claim no longer need protection do not want to go further than to recommend such reductions as congress may see fit to make, without specifying where or how congress should reduce the same. Cuban reciprocity is the most disputed point before the platform makers.

Looking to Next Year.

Next year members of the legislature that choose the successor of Hanna are to be elected, with a full state ticket, and one of the purposes of the leaders this year is to secure the control of the party machinery for the important state contest of 1903, and for the presidential election of 1904. The Hanna men claim tonight that they will secure at the district meetings tomorrow eighteen out of the twenty-one members of the state central committee. There is some comment on Hanna for senator to succeed hiself next year, and for president the following year.

The feature is the skirmishing for the nomination for governor next year. There are more candidates here for nominations next year than this year. Those who have friends here in the interest of the gubernatorial nominations next year are Congressmen Dick, Taylor, and Nevins; Harry M. Daugherty, who was defeated by Gov. Nash for the nomination three years ago; State Senator W. G. Harding, of Marion; Albert A. Douglas, of Chillicothe; Myron T. Herrick, of Cleveland, the Ohio member of the Republican national committee, and Judge Ferdinand J. Jealke Jr., of Cincinnati.

IS HE THE VALET OF A HUMBERT?

Rumored Arrest in Jersey City in Connection With Story of Swindling in Paris.

NEW YORK, May 26.—A rumor, which could not be verified, was circulated at detective headquarters in that city that Capt. Titus' men had arrested in Jersey City today the valet of one of the Humberts, the people charged with wholesale swindling in Paris. The man's name could not be learned.

It is said that the New York detective department received information that a valet of the Humberts had preceded them, presumably for the purpose of scouring the ground here for a hiding place. An accurate description was forwarded by the Paris police, and the New York plain clothes men have been keeping up a keen watch for this man.

They believe he arrived here on May 13. He was traced to Bensonhurst, L. I., where his trail was lost. It was learned there, however, that a man answering to the description of the Humbert valet had crossed over the Brooklyn bridge into New York and had been seen in Jersey City.

There is an element of doubt that the man in Jersey City is the fugitive valet, but the information comes in an indirect way from police headquarters that the arrest is a most important one.

Just a Little Surrender.

PRETORIA, May 26.—Forty-six Boers with their wagons and cattle surrendered at Balmoral, Transvaal, yesterday.

DULUTH TRANSFER RAILROAD IS SOLD

Northern Pacific the Purchaser, and Now Owns the Entire Big Dock.

DULUTH, Minn., May 26.—The Duluth Transfer Railroad company has been sold to the Northern Pacific road for $550,000. The transaction was authorized at a meeting of the board of directors and of the stockholders held in Duluth this afternoon, General Counsel Bunn, of the Northern Pacific road, representing that corporation.

The sale is one of the most interesting pieces of railroad news that has developed at the head of the lake in many years. The Duluth Terminal is considered a most important piece of terminal property, and will add much to the Northern Pacific's already complete system in this city. The Northern Pacific company had $22,000,0000 in terminals on both sides of Superior bay before it acquired those of the old St. Paul & Duluth. The transfer company owned twenty-two miles of track and the west side of the big dock at the foot of Seventh avenue west.

The Northern Pacific now owns the entire dock. The Northern Steamship company has a lease of the west side of the dock, which has just been sold with the Transfer railroad to the Northern Pacific and has used it for steamship purposes for the past eight or nine years.

The Duluth Transfer railroad line extends from Duluth through the West End and West Duluth to Ironton, where it connects with the old Duluth & Winnipeg line, now the Eastern Minnesota. It makes connection with many important points for the delivery of cars in and out. Albert Harrington, of Minneapolis; O. H. Simonds, of Duluth, and the late John Willard, of Mankato, were among the leading promoters of the company. The purpose of the railway was to serve the St. Louis Bay front industries and the ultimate intention was to extend to the Superior side. The company secured a charter for a bridge across the St. Louis river with that object in view.

KING EDWARD MIGHT DO A STATUE-GIVING STUNT.

BUSY DAYS FOR THE CASS LAKE SETTLERS

Decision of Supreme Court in Red Lake Case Causes Many to File Tenders.

Special Telegram to The Globe.

ST. CLOUD, May 26.—Judge McClennan, as trustee representing the settlers, will offer to the St. Cloud land office a filing on the northeast quarter of section 16, on which the thriving little city of Cass Lake is situated.

This tender will be made tomorrow, and will be rejected by the officials of the St. Cloud land office on the grounds that the land is located within an Indian reservation and consequently not subject to entry. From this decision an appeal will be taken to the commissioner of the general land office.

Since last Friday the settlers in the Cass Lake country have been busy, and on that day and Saturday four filings were offered by Cyrus T. Harris and William T. Caveny, Minneapolis, and James E. O'Brien and Robert Harris Cox, St. Paul, on section 16, six miles east of Cass Lake. Today George H. Walsh, of Cass Lake, offered seven filings, sections 16 and 36, covering all of 145-41-36.

Several other similar tenders were made during the day. The activity is the result of the recent decision of the supreme court of the United States in a Red Lake case, holding that sections 16 and 36 were not reserved for Indians or allotted to the state. This is the way those who are filing on the sections named read the decision.

Others are of the opinion that the settlers are losing valuable time in making such tenders of filing and appealing to the higher authorities. The filing fever has started in earnest, however,, and it is expected that every quarter of the sections named in the Cass Lake and Leech lake reservations will be filed upon.

LEADERS IN CHICAGO

President Mitchell Confers With Members of Civic Federation

MAY CHANGE SITUATION

Session Is an Executive One, but It Is Understood That Another Meeting of the Anthracite Workers Will Be Called in Few Days.

CHICAGO, May 26.—A conference that promises to change the aspect of the anthracite strike situation was held in this city today between several members of the National Civic Federation and union interests. President John Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers of America, who has been in Chicago several days relative to the situation in the bituminous coal fields, met Frank P. Sargent and Franklin MacVeagh, of the federation, and Samuel Keefe, of the 'Longshoremen's union and plans for further arbitration endeavors on the part of the federation were discussed.

In Executive Session.

The meeting was executive and definite statements as to the details of the conference were not announced. It is understood, however, that the plan agreed upon contemplates calling another conference of the mine operators and the whole committee of the National Civic Federation at New York with a view to arbitrating the strike question.

It is said that the plan will be sent to Senator Hanna for approval before a recommendation for further arbitration is made. If the plan is carried into effect, it is expected that some definite announcement of it will be made within a week or ten days.

No Signs of Weakening.

President Mitchell declined to go into details of the meeting, but said it was not called by him and that his presence in this city was not for the purpose of bringing about a settlement of the anthracite difficulties. He said further that the mine workers were showing no indication of weakening in their position.

Franklin MacVeagh said he was not in a position to speak, save that the meeting was not called at the request of President Mitchell.

OUTCOME IS STILL IN DOUBT.

Position of Mine Engineers Uncertain—Firemen Will Strike.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., May 26.—It is still a matter of conjecture whether the mines in the anthracite region will be completely shut down next Monday, when the order issued by the executive boards of the United Mine Workers, governing the hours of labor and wages to be paid engineers, firemen and pump runners goes into effect.

The United Mine Workers and the officers of the Stationary Firemen's association on the other hand, claim that unless the coal companies grant the demands made upon them the great bulk of the engineers, firemen and pump men will quit work. The operators are bringing all the influence they can to hold the men at work, while the striking miners are also doing missionary work. Many of the engineers do not like the predicament they are placed in. If they quit work they will displease the company officials and may never be reinstated, while if they remain at their posts and the miners should win the strike, they would probably find things would not be so pleasant for them at the collieries in the future. In order to reach those who are wavering, a call was issued tonight for a mass meeting of all engineers, pump men and firemen in the Wyoming district in this city next Friday evening. At a largely attended meeting in this city tonight a committee from local No. 484, United Mine Workers, reported that it had called upon many engineers during the day and that nearly all had given their word that they would join the other strikers next Monday unless the demand for a shorter work day was granted.

While the position that will be taken by a great many of the engineers and pump men is not known, it is known for a certainty where the firemen stand. They will

Continued on Seventh Page.

OLEO MEN THINK THEY SEE LOOPHOLE IN BILL

Contend That Wording Will Allow Them to Mix Butter With Butterine and Escape Tax.

From The Globe's Washington Bureau, Post Building.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 26.—Makers of oleomargarine believe that they have a "joker" in the law recently passed which will let them out of the 10-cents-a pound tax on the product. The alleged discovery was brought to light in a hearing today before the treasury department, where regulations are being drawn for enforcement of the law. Tawney, who was present, listening to the arguments of the butterine people, is convinced that there is nothing in it, but the manufacturers intend to carry their point to the courts in case the treasury officials do not admit the contention.

The dispute turns on the word "artificial," as applied to coloring of butterine. The oleo people claim the right under law to mix real butter with their product, taking for the purpose butter which has a naturally high color and thus imparting to their oleo a color which, while rather light, will still make it look like butter and be salable. This coloring, they contend, will not be artificial coloring matter, and the mixed product, they say, should be treated simply as renovated butter, and be subject only to the tax of ¼ cent a pound.

The department has not yet ruled on the contention.

STUDENT DROWNED AS RESULT OF CLASS FIGHT

Nelson P. Bond, Freshman at Vermont University, Jumps in Lake To Evade Sophomores.

PLATTSBURG, N. Y., May 26.—The feeling which has existed between the freshmen and sophomore classes of the University of Vermont, culminated here today in the drowning of Nelson Pease Bond, of Burlington, Vt., treasurer of the freshman class.

The freshmen had arranged to have their annual banquet at the Cumberland house, and Bond, with four other freshmen, came over on the morning boat from Burlington to make the final arrangements. Five sophomores sailed to Port Kent on the sloop Alert and took the train for Plattsburgh, arriving in the afternoon. The main body of freshmen, forty in number, arrived on the steamer Vermont at 7 in the evening, after a hard fight on the Burlington dock.

Bond left his companions at 5 o'clock in the afternoon for a stroll, and it is alleged was set upon by two sophomores, presumably for the purpose of kidnapping him and keeping him from the banquet. He fled before his pursuers until he reached the Wilcox's dock, an out of the way place on the north lake front. The pursuers claim he jumped into the lake in an effort to escape by swimming. They endeavored to rescue him by a boat, but could find no oars, and he sank before they could reach him.

Coroner McMasters will hold an inquest, and the matter will be probed to the bottom. Bond was nineteen years old.

FRIGHTFUL FEATURE OF AUSTRALIAN DROUGHT

Horses' Palates Slit So They May Revive by Swallowing Their Own Blood.

LONDON, May 27.—Cabling from Sydney, N. S. W., the correspondent of the Daily Mail gives an account of the terrible drought from which, as a climax to seven dry years, Australia is now suffering. The correspondent says that the losses in stock in Australia since 1899 amount to $75,000,000. Unemployed men are drifting into the cities by thousands, and there the state governments are providing them with relief.

The only districts that have escaped the drought are the Northern rivers district of New South Wales, and parts of the Riverna district.

The situation has been aggravated by the federal duties on fodder, which prevent its importation. Communication in the interior has been paralyzed, as the waterways are unnavigable. Owing to the expense of fodder, the firm which had the contract has abandoned the hauling of the Queensland mail, the cost of this transportation having risen from $30,000 to $150,000 annually. The sheep are dying by the million, and even the rabbits are starving. Animals have stripped the bark from the trees for food.

A common method of treating exhausted horses is to slit the animal's palate with a knife. The horse is revived by swallowing his own blood. Numbers of "Sundowners" and "Swagmen" have been found dead by the wayside. The governments are doing everything possible to alleviate these conditions, but meteorologists despair of an early change in the weather conditions.

YOUTH USES A GUN WITH FATAL RESULTS

Kills His Sweetheart, Wounds a Rival and Turns Weapon Upon Himself.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 26.—Frank Robinson, aged twenty years, today shot and killed his sweetheart, Gertie Rawlins, aged sixteen years, shot and fatally wounded his rival, Albert H. Ferguson, aged nineteen years, and fatally injured himself, in an apartment house in this city.

Shortly before the tragedy was committed Robinson wrote a note to his mother in which he said that as Ferguson had supplanted him in the affections of the girl he loved, he purposed to kill them both and then kill himself. He proceeded to the room where Ferguson and the girl were, and upon being admitted, drew his revolver and opened fire on the couple.

The girl was shot near the heart. She rushed screaming into the street, where she fell dead. Ferguson was shot in the abdomen. Robinson shot himself in the left breast, and his death is momentarily expected.

LOSSES TO FRENCH ART AND LETTERS

Benjamin Constant, Painter, and "Henri Greville," Authoress, Die in Paris.

PARIS, May 26.—Jean Joseph Benjamin Constant, the painter, is dead. He was born in Paris, in 1845.

Henri Greville (Alice Marie Celeste Durand), the French authoress, is also dead.

BOERS MAY STILL FIGHT

New Phase Suddenly Assumed in the South African Situation

SIGNS ARE LESS HOPEFUL

TOO MANY POINTS OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BURGHERS AND BRITISH

CAN'T BUDGE THE MINORITY

Recent Optimistic Feeling in Connection With the Negotiations Has Little if Any Basis of Solid Facts.

PRETORIA, May 26.—The prevalence throughout South Africa of the optimistic feeling in regard to the peace negotiations is hardly based upon solid facts. The protraction of the conference at Vereeningen is not necessarily a hopeful sign.

The delegates to the conference, although they have abandoned their hopes of securing independence, still have many points of difference with the government, while an obstinate minority continues to regard the resumption of hostilities as the best outcome of the present situation and at any moment these points of difference may be accentuated into a refusal to continue the negotiations.

It is most likely that those who are in favor of peace will throw up the sponge so long as a decent minority is desirous of continuing the struggle, and all these dissonant elements must be taken into account before it is possible to give any sort of prediction as to the issue of the present negotiations.

Latest British Refusal.

THE HAGUE, May 26.—It is said in Boer circles here that the peace proposals made to the conference at Vereeningen, Transvaal, include the condition that the Boers in the field be allowed to consult with the Boer delegates in Europe before a definite settlement is reached. It is declared also upon the same authority that the British government refused, May 23, to accede to this request.

Insists That Peace Approaches.

LONDON, May 26.—The Daily Mail this morning says the cabinet council to be held today will decide upon points of detail mostly of a financial nature which have been raised by the Boers in the negotiations. Great Britain's decision will then be communicated to the Vereeningen conference by the delegates at Pretoria, and being the best obtainable terms, they will almost certainly be accepted. The results should be announced officially either Thursday or Friday of this week, probably on Friday, the day upon which King Edward's birth is celebrated. Peace is quite certain, says the Mail, and the delegates at Pretoria are only engaged in endeavoring to gild the pill for the Vereeningen conference to swallow. The Mail says further:

"Our dispatches from Pretoria assert that numerous communications are passing between Lords Kitchener and Milner in South Africa and London. Lord Kitchener, although he is still full of energy, is much aged in appearance as a result of the severe and continuous strain which he has undergone. The consensus is that the recent negotiations have proved Lord Kitchener to be a great diplomat as well as a great soldier.

"It is difficult to appreciate the magnitude of the difficulties Lord Kitchener has had to contend with. The Boer leaders are all deeply impressed with his personality and trust him implicity. It is understood that Lord Milner, the British high commissioner in South Africa, has gracefully admitted that the ultimate credit for the accomplishment of the great task is due to Lord Kitchener."

Parliament Hears of the Hitch.

Just before parliment rose after midnight last night, a rumor reached the lobbies that a hitch had occurred in the peace negotiations. Nothing official concerning this rumor could be ascertained, but the press dispatch from Pretoria may be regarded as an indication that such a hitch has occurred. Little information from Pretoria has been able recently to pass the censor there.

That the government yesterday fully anticipated a speedy conclusion of peace is believed to be shown by the postponement from yesterday until Friday or later of the budget bill in the committee stage with the view, as was frankly admitted on the government side of the house, of enabling the budget to be recast in the event that peace is secured.

The tax on grain has proved so unpopular throughout the country and has had such an unexpected effect in reuniting the Liberal party with a most effective election cry, that there is little doubt the government will welcome an excuse to drop it.

Grain Tax to Be Dropped.

The belief that the government intends to drop the tax on grain is so strong that all members of the house of commons who have leanings toward protection met informally last night and sent an appeal to the ministers to dispense with this tax.

Another strong reason for the desire to do away with this tax is the effect it has had in the colonies, where it has been regarded as an opportunity to demand preferential treatment—a demand which will be strongly pressed at the coming conference of colonial premiers in London—and which is likely to cause the government considerable difficulty by emphasizing a sharply defined divergence of opinion in the cabinet. There the Chamberlain party is advocating a "zollverein" policy and the retention of the grain tax, while the Balfour party advocates just the reverse. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, the chancellor of the exchequer, is said to be quite willing to surrender the tax on grain.

Predicts Cabinet Dissolution.

The Daily News predicts that, once peace is secured, the present ministry will go to pieces in twelve months through the irreconcilable dissensions between the Salisbury and the Chamberlain sections. Meanwhile Lord Rosebery is drawing the Liberals closer together. He has consented to preside at a Liberal meeting to be held in London to protest against the government's education bill. This bill has also proved to be an unpopular measure, so much so that many of the government's supporters are urging the government to modify it.