THE DAILY NEWS

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DAILY EDITION



Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1912. ous secret when he followed Sir ance."

Editorial Notes and Clippings

THE LAURIER NAVAL POLICY.

It was said of the Laurier navy by its political critics that it was inadequate. But neither Sir Wilfrid Laurier nor any of his supporters regarded the programme he presented as other than a beginning. It was the nucleus of a Canadian navy which, as we grew richer, would have grown and expanded and in which the the whole country would have taken pride and would have united to make an effective force on the ocean. As our own creation, built by ourselves and manned by our own people, it would have afforded protection to our own commerce and offered careers to our own children. As a force always to be placed. when necessity demanded, at the service of the Mother Country, its gradual expansion and increasing effectiveness

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would have been regarded with hardly less pride and hope in the home land than in Canada solved, as far as Canada's manifest in three ships. manned and maintained by the people of the Motherland and merged in her powerful navy -what pride beyond that which we all experience in the strength of Imperial defence

-Vancouver Sun.

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the oracle. The oracle spoke, in ant prosperity that is a preparterms oracular-that might mean ation which the veriest tyro in anything or nothing-one thing Parliament on naval affairs they certainly did mean-that the could make. Its existence would finally have government was still groping "Bye-Election Crookedness" earnest and zealous aid could policy which would be tolerable traditional amendment, to refer possibly solve, the need for to the two antagonistic parties to the naval fog in which the mobility in the British fleet. forming the coalition govern- Government is wrapped. Instead It would have supplied the ef- ment and its supporters. Mr. he presented a vote of censure fective naval force which Borden evidently finds it hard to Britain now lacks on the At- declare a scheme which will meet lantic, and, in conjunction with the approval of the ultra-Im-the fleet of the Australasian perialists and the Nationalists— Lester W. David Co., Ltd. dominion, it would have fur- that avoids an immediate refernished Britain with an ade- ence to the people and will pacify quate sea power on the Pacific. those who, with Mr. Monk, used
But what special pride as Can- to demand a reference before anyadians can we be expected to thing was done.

After the perfunctory moving and seconding of the address. Sir Wilfrid Laurier lost no time in First Ave. and McBride St. challenging the government on this subject, while at the same time he preserved his statesmanlike course, refusing to discuss or comment until the government put forth a concrete proposition. He, however, pointed out the contradiction between the statement in the speech from the throne III that conditions had been discov- Westholme Lumber Co. ered which "rendered it imperaive that the effective national force of the Empire should be strengthened without delay" and the repeated declarations of Premier Asquith and Mr. Winston Churchill, first lord of the admiralty, that "England feared no enemy; that she was prepared and ready to meet all comers."

Then Sir Wilfrid laid down the First Avenue free minded and patriotic policy of the opposition: "When the government's information has been placed before us, when the policy of the government has been announced, we on this side of the House will judge the question on its merits, guided only by the dual inspiration of what we owe to England as British subjects, and what we owe to Canada as Canadians."

To such a statement at least nome dignified and pertinent reply might have been hoped for from Premier Borden. His counwas to suggest why Sir Wilfrid Laurier had, last fall, changed his plan and instead of visiting the west when it was in the throes of an unusually brief harvest, decided upon his triumphial tour of Ontario. The recollection of that memorable series of meetings evidently rank-Subscribe For The Daily News led in the Premier's heart and those of his followers, judging by the efforts to raise a cheer at his ill-timed and ill-natured remarks.

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS Ottawa, Nov. 29 .- Parliament | Finally the Premier ventured ernment with dereliction of duty has now been sitting for a week to touch upon the naval ques- of the gravest character. "I have and the country is just as much tion itself. Every ear was prick- to say here and now that in the in the dark with regard to the ed up. The reporters were eag- elections of Macdonald and Richer to take down the words of elieu there were practices congreat question which it was called wisdom. The mountain was per- nived at by the Government to consider as it was when Pre- haps at last in labor. It was- which would put to shame the mier Borden and his colleagues laboring hard. "I do not propose worst records of Tamany Hall." came back from England with to deal with it (the naval ques- In the Richelieu bye-election Sir the cryptic statement that he tion) today, because the propos- Wilfrid Laurier showed the fine

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REPORT BY MAIL OF DOINGS

the vaguest reference to the pro- the Empire fears no enemy is not posed policy it was hoped by the a good reason, in my estimation members and the public that the why it should delay for a possible Prime Minister would unburden day of peril the preparation himself of part of his preci- which ought to be made in ad-

Wilfrid Laurier in the debate on | According to the brief referthe speech. The importance even ence made to this question by of this possibility was such that Mr. J. H. Rainville, the young crowded benches and galleries Nationalist selected to move the greeted the debate, while in the address "that preparation which press gallery there was an un- ought to be made in advance" is wonted gathering of journalists to consist of a contribution to the from all over the country, all on Imperial navy. So long as, Canthe qui vive for the utterance of ada continues its present abund-

for a way out of their self-made | With consistent wisdom Sir difficulty-that of preparing some Wilfrid Laurier declined, in the

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regarding the violent and dishonest methods adopted by Conservative members in the byeelections at Macdonald and Richlieu. Sir Wilfrid devoted much attention to this matter and in weighty phrase charged the Govmust get further information als of the government will come Italian hand of the Minister of from the admiralty before mak- before parliament at a very early public Works (Hon. Mr. Rogers). ing any statement. When it be- date, and we will have full op- in attempting to bribe a whole came apparent that the speech portunity for debating the ques- constituency with the public from the throne contained only tion. . . . But the fact that money with the aid of Sir Rod-

(Continued on Page 3.)

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