

The Carleton Sentinel.

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WHOLE No. 2931.

OTTAWA LETTER.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Ottawa, 4th April.—This has been a dreary week in Parliament. The members returned from their Easter holidays on Tuesday, and resumed at once the debate on the budget, which began two weeks ago. They could not have done this with any genuine relish; for the subject has been discussed in all its bearings over and over again, and not one of the speakers has been able to contribute a single original or striking thought to the controversy. What Mr. Borden and the first two or three members who followed him said has been repeated in substance by all the succeeding talkers. They have dressed the matter up in a change of words; but the essence has been the same.

It is distinctly discreditable to the chief deliberative assembly of the nation that weeks of valuable and costly time should be taken up with this sort of useless repetition of speeches. The purpose is, of course, quite obvious. The men who talk are not really addressing themselves to the House; they are talking to their constituents. They are only concerned that the official reporters shall get down what they say, and that afterwards copies of Hansard may be available for distribution throughout their ridings. In this way Parliament is made the arena for campaigning, and until public judgment is aroused in relation to the matter the thing will probably go on from bad to worse. As the time for an election approaches this abuse of the functions of Parliament is likely to become more aggravated.

This talking for campaign purposes is peculiarly the sin of the Opposition. In the former regime the Liberals were not entirely free from the reproach of using the machinery of Parliament for the distribution of partisan literature; but what they did in a mild way has been carried by the Conservatives to unreasonable extremes. Both sides ought to be ashamed of such tactics, and of such an exhibition as has been going on here at Ottawa ever since 1896. One of the direct effects is to materially reduce the time of Parliament for the proper discussion of matters of broad and national interest, and to that extent the country loses. Politics will always be inseparable from the form of Government which we have; but there is no defence for this interminable speech making on purely partisan topics.

A sample speech from the Conservative side was made by Mr. Porter at the opening of the House on Tuesday. In principle and general tenor it was precisely the same as a score of those which had preceded it. He struggled valiantly with the proposition that the present tariff embodies the essence of the National Policy, and yet is unsatisfactory. In this view he claimed that all the prosperity which the country had enjoyed since 1896 was due to the protective principle left in the tariff, while the alleged depression in several industries was due to the reductions which the Liberals had made. It is surprising that men should stand up in Parliament and in apparent earnestness assert such a claim.

The relation between Canada and the United States was a theme which Mr. Porter discussed in common with his predecessors in the debate. His object was to make it appear that the present Administration had at one time magnified the importance of free commercial intercourse with our neighbors to the South, but had really done nothing to carry out that policy. Such a statement could only be made by ignoring the plain facts of modern history. It is true that the Liberals have failed to secure reciprocity with the United States; but this result has not come about for the want of trying. No reasonable nor unprejudiced person will say that Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues have not honestly tried, with patient perseverance, to bring about better trade relations between the Dominion and American Republic. In fact, negotiations have not yet ceased.

Mr. Porter rated the Government for promising many reforms in the various Departments of the public service, and doing nothing in that direction when power was entrusted to them. This is a taunt which smacks of cowardice. If the present Ministers have chosen to leave in office thousands of the appointees of their predecessors, and have elected to follow along lines laid down in past years, Conservatives ought at all times to commend such a course, rather than to speak of it as a thing reflecting upon the courage of Liberals. Fair minded men will be dis-

posed to question the good taste of the Opposition in this regard.

Of course, the speaker of Tuesday last had much to say about the public expenditure. He claimed that the Liberals had attained office on a distinct pledge to reduce the outgo, while they had actually largely increased it. Like those who had gone before in the debate, he did not read that plank in the Liberal platform which was adopted in 1893, in relation to expenditure. Had he done so, he would have found that not a word was said about reducing the expenditure; but rather that the "strictest economy" was enjoined. Economy is a relative thing, and must always be measured by the amount of money available. When the Liberals adopted their platform in 1893 the revenue was declining and the expenditure increasing; so that huge deficits were the result. Under Liberal rule the public income has been nearly doubled, and as the combined surpluses since 1896 exceed \$20,000,000 it cannot fairly be said that the present Government has failed to exercise economy.

Right at this point it may not be amiss to interpolate a fact or two with respect to the public revenue for the nine months of the current fiscal year. Up to the end of March the receipts from Customs amounted to \$23,598,608, as against \$21,640,015 for the corresponding period last year. It is estimated from present indications that the Customs revenue for the year will be nearly \$2,000,000 greater than in 1901. The receipts from inland revenue, consisting largely of excise on spirits and tobacco, are also mounting steadily upward, so that another large surplus is clearly in view. At the same time, the estimates before Parliament are based on a lower expenditure, which ought to be satisfactory to the most prudent person in the land.

Like all the Conservatives in Parliament, Mr. Porter did a lot of amazing juggling with ordinary and capital expenditure in order to build up a sum sufficiently large to show how terribly prodigal the Liberals now in office have been. Space will not permit his figures to be given; but, of course, he quite neglected to point out that many millions of the total consisted of a pure matter of book-keeping. For example, Parliament is called upon to vote every dollar of money required to carry on the Intercolonial; but, on the other hand, while these appropriations are nearly twice as large as they were in 1896 the receipts are in proportion. The same is true of the Post Office and the Yukon. In the very nature of things the outgo for these services must always be approximate to the income.

Beneath all of Mr. Porter's criticism in relation to the public expenditure was the implied reproach that the Liberals are spending the money in such a way as to keep themselves in office. This charge is in keeping with the familiar political axiom that all Oppositions believe all Governments to be corrupt. It is quite another thing, however, to establish such an allegation. At the same time, it is not an easy thing to answer this sort of fault-finding. The course of the Opposition in this regard is like calling upon an honest man to prove his honesty. If the twelve Apostles were carrying on the Government of Canada they could not do so in such a way as to prevent their opponents from imputing all sorts of bad motives, and they could only do so as the present Ministers are doing—quietly leave the matter to an on-looker and fairly just public.

It is not expected that a division will take place before Tuesday or Wednesday next, and then, the Government having withdrawn all legislation, the Opposition will not have an excuse for failing to proceed in a business-like way with the consideration of the estimates. It is inevitable that a fierce attack will be made upon the Administration of the Intercolonial; but Mr. Blair will probably be prepared to defend his course as ably as he has done in the past.

F. A. Howard, the genial proprietor of the Commercial Hotel, Grand Falls, has been and is making numerous alterations in his hotel. Fewer Bros have just finished their work at the hotel, including the installing of a bath room up stairs, a closet down stairs, and a lavatory in the office. The painting work is now underway and an observatory is being erected, which will give a fine view of the Falls. When the work is completed, Mr. Howard will be able to give his patrons first class accommodations, and with such attentive assistants as his daughters have proved to be, there is every reason why Mr. Howard should look for a good patronage.

TOWN COUNCIL.

At the regular meeting of the Town Council, Monday evening, His Worship Mayor Belyea was in the chair, and all the councillors present.

Treasurer Bourne's report for the month of March showed the receipts to be \$783.96.

Marshal Gibson's report for the same month showed collected for taxes and licenses, \$729. On motion, the usual percentage on licenses collected, amounting to 40 cents, was allowed.

Police Magistrate Dibblee's report for last month showed; fines paid \$20.50, unpaid \$10, costs \$2.50, balance \$18.

Auditor Charles Appleby reported that he had examined the books of the late treasurer, Julius T. Garden, and found the accounts correct with the exception of one item which amounted to \$3.55.

Coun. Lindsay said the accounts should, as well as the auditors report, be handed to the board.

Coun. R. B. Jones did not think that it was customary to do so although he had no objection to it.

On motion the accounts will be handed to the finance committee, that it may report on the same at Friday's meeting of the council.

Supt. Munro presented a report stating that the ice freshet had done some damage to the pier in the Meduxnakik supporting the water pipe, and the wharf at the pumping station; he suggested what he thought would be needed in the way of repairs both for the water and sewer service.

On motion Coun. Dibblee, seconded Coun. Lindsay, the communication was referred to the water and sewer committees.

Coun. Dibblee thought that the Council should visit the pumping station and decide about the repairs to the wharf. The committee had not time, before the ice freshet, to encase the pier in the Meduxnakik, hence the damage. He understood Mr. McVay was to build a pier for the C. P. R., in the Meduxnakik, in the near future, and that would be a good opportunity to have a granite nose put on the damaged pier, although he would much prefer to have local men do the work if they could do it satisfactorily.

Coun. Lindsay said he was chairman of the committee appointed to investigate the late Marshal Harvey's accounts. At a former meeting, he wanted to have the auditor do that work but the Council thought otherwise. He was only prepared to report progress at present. He found that several ratepayers had paid money to Marshal Harvey, which had not been credited on the treasurer's books. Messrs Hatch \$5.71, Scovil \$8.50, Everett \$12, Glew \$5.71, Sutherland \$17.21, and others, the total amounting to \$60.82, and he did not know how much more had been paid until the present marshal would discover cases of ratepayers having paid, in his search for taxes.

Mayor Belyea—Have you notified the late Marshal Harvey on the subject.

Coun. Lindsay—I have not seen Mr. Harvey lately, but I will embrace the first opportunity of doing so, and asking that gentleman to explain matters, as I have no doubt he will be able to do.

Coun. Dibblee thought Mr. Harvey should be seen immediately, as it left that gentleman in an unenviable light to have such statements appear in the newspapers.

On motion Coun. Dibblee, seconded Coun. Balmain, an extension of time was granted the committee.

Coun. Lindsay said he had some conversation with the principal assessor, who made some good promises, one of them being that he would have the assessment out by May 1st. The assessors wanted to know if it was the intention of the Council to fit up the property book this year.

On motion Coun. Lindsay, seconded Coun. A. E. Jones, the finance committee was authorized to get a record of the transfer of property during last year.

Coun. Balmain said that when the matter came up at a former meeting, the chairman of the finance committee did not ask for any appropriation for the work, consequently the expense was not provided for.

Coun. R. B. Jones said at the meeting referred to the Council endeavored to please the ratepayers by cutting down the appropriations, and many things were overlooked. They had now less money than the town probably could get along with for the present year. The expense in getting the transfer of property during the last year would amount to \$55, and he thought the assessors would be able to manage the assessment without securing the transfer of property.

Coun. Lindsay pointed out that for the want of a list of transfers, the town lost \$90 in an estate being divided. He was anxious to have the assessment out early and had seen the principal assessor, who shortly afterwards had the notice of assessment printed.

Coun. R. B. Jones—That \$90 was lost last year notwithstanding that we had the list of transfers, and we not only lost the \$90, but the expense of getting the transfers. Coun. Lindsay is not the only man who has seen the assessors, although it might be supposed from his remarks that it was on account of his hustling the assessors that the work was being rushed. He will not allow his remarks to go, without rising to say that the finance committee was also advising the assessors on the matter.

Coun. Lindsay said the present watering cart was not in a condition to be of any further use. The street department intended getting a new one and, at next meeting, he would present to the board the estimated cost of a new cart.

Mayor Belyea remarked that it would be wise for the Council to drive over the principal streets, nearly all of which were in good shape, and see what improvements were urgently needed. The street at Maxsted's corner and one at the lower end of town needed repairs.

Coun. Lindsay said the washout at the lower end of town had been noticed by the street committee and repairs would be made immediately. As regards Maxsted's corner, in consequence of heavy rise of water this year, the water flowed over the road, but it would also be attended to.

Coun. A. E. Jones said the Council should take action looking to repairs on the street adjoining Broadway and the Houlton road. The street should be drained to keep the water out of the cellars of ratepayers living there. No Councillor present, if he was living there, would put up with the nuisance. Except last year, there had been an overflow of water every year.

On motion Coun. A. E. Jones, seconded Coun. Burt, the Council decided to visit that locality the next afternoon and see what repairs were needed.

On motion Coun. Lindsay, seconded Coun. Burt, G. W. Vanwart and H. N. Payson were appointed pound keepers and field drivers, their barns to be constituted "pounds."

On motion Coun. Lindsay, seconded Coun. Burt, Israel Churchill was appointed a member of the police force.

A discussion took place on the bill of H. P. Baird for anti-toxene, and further information will be forthcoming at next meeting.

Coun. A. E. Jones asked why the Council ordered the two unfortunate women, who had been assisted by the town and living in town, to be sent to the poor house. He promised to ask a similar question, at next meeting, when Coun. Lindsay, who had asked permission to leave the meeting, was present.

Coun. Balmain rose to a question of privilege. "It would be remembered that the board unanimously requested the clerk to prepare a bill to be sent to the present Legislature, authorizing the town to change 6 per cent on unpaid taxes. The bill had been prepared and sent to S. B. Appleby, but that gentleman had not presented the bill to the Legislature. Mr. Appleby had treated the board discourteously in not complying with its wishes. In conversation with Mr. Appleby that gentleman told him (Balmain) that such a motion would be a wrong move, but he (Balmain) told him it might be a wrong move for the 30 per cent of defaulting ratepayers, but not for the 70 per cent who paid their taxes. Mayor Belyea said he had received a letter from Mr. Appleby who said that nearly every man he spoke to on the subject pronounced such a course as advocated to be vicious legislation if made a law.

Coun. Lindsay said some ratepayers thought the Scott Act committee should stand between the Inspector and culprits. He had not interfered and would not in the future.

Mayor Belyea—It is current report that a certain party had been convicted in Scott Act cases and the fine was \$100, and costs \$132. Is that so?

Coun. Lindsay—I have no knowledge of the circumstances and do not want to know.

Mayor Belyea—While I have no sympathy with the culprits, if that amount of costs was charged it does not look right.

Coun. Balmain—The rumors are correct. Twelve Scott Act papers were served. The Inspector wanted \$600 fine and \$90 costs to settle, but eventually he settled for \$100 fine and \$132 costs.

Coun. A. E. Jones thought in jus-

tice to both parties the Inspector should make a report. He was an employee of the town, and he should be asked to be present at the board on Friday evening, so that he and the committee should understand each other at the commencement of his work.

Coun. R. B. Jones said there was not a rumsseller in town who was ignorant of the law. They knew if they sold liquor they would be fined. When the Inspector serves them with Scott Act papers, they come to the councillors looking for sympathy, but they do not come to him. Inspector Colpitts should be backed up by the board.

On motion Coun. A. E. Jones, seconded Coun. Burt, Inspector Colpitts will be asked to meet with the Council on Friday evening. The meeting then adjourned.

News From The Country.

Newburg.

April 7th, 1902.

The roads have been very muddy in this section. We are in hopes to have a supervisor of roads in this parish, as the Government aid is poorly expended.

We are glad to hear that Dove McLaughlin is recovering.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hourihan buried their youngest child on April 6th.

Thomas McGuire, Jr., has returned home after spending five months in Uncle Sam's domain and James A. McGuire also.

We are glad to hear that John Gallagher Sr. is recovering after being laid up with a sore leg.

There is a cold going round here; it misses nobody young or old.

A number of young men have gone to the drive from this place, leaving their sweethearts behind.

Mr. and Mrs. Thos. McGuire and their daughter Clara, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Gallagher, Sunday.

There is one thing about the roads that should be seen to, that is to prevent people from ploughing into the road and filling up the ditch; it prevents the water from running and leaves the road in a fearful condition—Road Master? ONLY ME.

Jacksontown.

Perhaps a little Jackson town news would be appreciated by your readers, as the correspondents, from this locality have been very quiet of late. The only reason that I can give for this silence, is that everybody has been too busy entertaining and being entertained. There have been parties and suppers; I could not attempt to give you the number as I am not high enough up in figures.

An observer can truly say that Jackson town can produce a jolly lot of young people, and a younger branch has been organized this winter, which seem to be following the older one's example.

Just now Easter brings a large number of school teachers into our vicinity. Many of the teachers have homes here, while some are attracted by the fair sex.

Some of our Jackson town residents seem to be dissatisfied with their way of living and want a change. I wish that I had the ability of setting words to music, I would give them a potato song which they might sing here and imagine they were in Aroostook. Yet, while so many are leaving, we are glad the place still gives attractions to outsiders. One new family has recently moved here and we hope the young ladies will take fresh courage as the number of young men have been so bountifully increased, and that is not all, for another new family is to move here the first of April.

The friends and relatives of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Everett met at their home Thursday evening, 27th, and presented them with a beautiful set of dishes.

Saturday evening, 29th, the young people held an oyster supper at Mr. Frank Burpee's and before leaving presented Mrs. Burpee with a beautiful oil painting. Both family's are to move to new homes this week and will be greatly missed by the entire community.

Miss Jennie Smith is the guest of Dr. Secord during Easter vacation. Mr. Norval Britton of Hawshaw, was a guest at the home of Mr. Burt, Easter Sunday.

It is very inconvenient to have clean waggons in the rainy season, and consequently rubbers have to suffer. We hope some of our young men will not be overdone with their long walk.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Estey and daughter are visiting relatives at Bath, Car. Co.

Mr. Will Mallory, St. Andrews, is visiting his old home.

Some of our young people have been setting the example of Saturday

evening for courting, but Sunday seems to be more convenient to many.

Miss Blanche Estey is spending a week with her sister, Mrs. Alexander. Maggie and Lena McLeod, Sadie Estey, Carrie and Phebe Hartt, all returned to their schools again on Tuesday. RUBBERNECK.

Rockland.

April 2nd, 1902.

The funeral of Mrs. J. W. Belyea, on 2nd inst, was attended by a large and respectable gathering, interesting service conducted by Rev. J. D. Wetmore at residence of deceased the Scripture lesson and prayer by Rev. G. W. Foster.

Benedict Clarke with family have moved into house recently occupied by W. A. Hayward Esq.

W. A. Hayward Jr and wife have gone to your town to reside. It is rumored Mr. H. who is son of the Sheriff, will hold the position of jailor and turnkey.

Miss Nellie Estabrooks, who teaches at Bloomfield, spent Easter holidays here at home of her mother. Miss E. has a host of friends in this her native place and her visits are always appreciated.

Bloomfield contains gallant young men, judging by sample who visited us during Easter vacation; nothing further to say.

Page and Estabrooks are in demand with wood cutter; everybody wants them, for they saw more wood in same space of time than has ever been accomplished in this section by other wood sawyers, and they are tidy respectable men to entertain during the time the work is being done. A number of our most active young men have gone to Miramichi, Tobique and Aroostook waters to work on drives.

The water is low for driving the Beckagimie lumber, but the stuff is coming if a little slow and expensive.

Rev. J. D. Wetmore will spend the few following weeks in New Hampshire, in evangelistic work.

A. H. Sawyer, Esq., owner of Hartland mill property, was in our village on Friday last and dined with A. W. Estabrooks.

Representative McCain listened to complaints and promised to visit the coldstream bridge and examine it; he cannot furnish a better crossing any too soon as the present rotten affair is a dangerous trap and cannot be repaired. A new bridge is needed and a good one will pay the best in the end.

C. C. Carter, Esq., with family are very happily situated in their neat new residence on Page farm.

Boundary lines between farms are now being traversed and fences put in good repair.

This is a convenient point to establish pulp works; capitalists are solicited to investigate.

Bigger gold mine sends out specimens of quartz more like the best produced in Colorado than any I have seen, and I have seen a lot of it; fortunes up there for enterprising men.

Present indications favor operating skimming plant at this place this season. 3000 lbs of milk per day is needed and we are informed that it is in sight. A few prominent farmers have canvassed the territory and report favorably; it is hoped that it may prove a success and profitable to all parties concerned. Such industries add to the business and wealth of communities.

Mr. Samuel M. Nevers is confined to the house with a heavy cold, so we are informed.

For the time since logs commenced running it has been necessary to keep a few men stationed along shore to prevent jams and keep lumber moving; a competent jovial soul is placed here, who while paying strict attention to his business finds time for a "little nonsense now and then which is relished by the best of men." Chas Carr is a good man on the stream and lives in Upper Brighton.

Baptist sewing circle last Friday met at residence of John Noble.

Rev. G. W. Foster baptized 5 in coldstream on Sunday last; on same day Rev. J. D. Wetmore baptized 1 at Hartland, making 29 since he commenced special meetings there.

S. S. Page is our road Commissioner in District No 3.

ANON.

New York has a restaurant where a meal may be obtained for a cent. It is not a charity, but a commercial undertaking, the amount named paying for a bowl of soup, or a portion of hominy, oats, or barley, each it is declared, containing sufficient nourishment for a meal.

Hon. Dr. Borden has received information from the war office to make the fourth contingent for regiments instead of three. This will likely increase the contingent to about 2,300