

# The Carleton Sentinel.

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## Hon. Mr. McKeown's Speech.

In the Legislature Monday afternoon Hon. Mr. McKeown delivered a powerful address.

Discussing roads he said whatever might be said against the highway act passed by the late government it was at any rate an honest and fair attempt to put the roads in a fair condition and it seemed to him that the act which had just been introduced seemed to be only a kind of political engine for the advancement of party purposes. The supervision of the highways used to be under the control of the chief commissioner. Why take them out of his control and put them into the department of the attorney general?

He had heard that that official was the father of the bill. Was it that the sturdy Liberal principles of the chief commissioner revolted from the principles of such a bill as the present? Why turn it over to the attorney general? Why use this political engine as the means of saddling the province with between three and four hundred officials whose payments must come out of the moneys which should be spent on the roads? What was reiterated over and over again in the recent campaign? Why, that the roads should again be handed over to the people. Instead of this the government had created a board of paid officials and for what reason? He could not understand why the control of these boards should be placed in the hands of a paid appointee, except it be for purposes of political patronage. The leader of the government said that he wanted to take the roads out of politics, but it seemed to him (the speaker) that the bill did very little towards it.

Hon. members would see that the bill did not contain the first principle of placing the burdens of keeping the roads on the municipalities. It was the pride of the late government that they, with the assistance of the municipalities, kept the roads. Did not the municipalities find some of the money and the government make up the remainder. In case of any mishap or washout or any other damage to the road the government came to the rescue even to the extent of overdrawn their bank account. The present bill reverses the whole of this. On the first of the year the government gives to the municipalities a certain sum of money and tells them to find the rest themselves. He hardly thought such a proposition would commend itself to the house as either just or fair.

There are many things not in the

speech which he expected to find there. One of these was the question of prohibition. The Hon. member for St. John was greatly interested in that subject and he looked upon his presence on the execution council as a guarantee of legislation along that line. He knew that the government was not confined to the legislation outlined in the speech and he would like to have the Hon. member's views as president of the council as to how he proposed legislation on the subject on the promise of which he won his election.

## THE CENTRAL RAILWAY.

Another matter on which he would like the opinion of the president of the council was the Central Railway. It was said there was going to be a commission appointed for the purpose of looking into and investigating the affairs of that railway. He joined most heartily in the idea and the more full that inquiry was the more satisfied would he be and he hoped there would be no delay in commencing business. He was full of faith for the future of that road and there was nothing to shake his belief that the road would in years to come be one of the best paying investments the province had ever had.

The development of the coal fields was a matter of considerable importance, and he would like to know whether the members for Sunbury and Queens Counties shared the views that had been so freely expressed in some quarters on the waste of public money which it was alleged had been caused in taking over the road. In the year 1902 three hundred tons of coal had been brought over that line. In 1906 the output had increased to thirty thousand. The premier had said somewhat exultantly that last year this account had fallen off by a thousand tons. The fact was not that the coal had not been got, but that they could not get cars. He had no doubt whatever that in years to come honorable gentlemen opposite would point to that railway as one of the greatest assets in the province, and no one would join more heartily than he in that sentiment. The leader of the government had said that the expenses of the road were so great as to make it not worth the cost of running.

Hon. Mr. Hazen—I did not say that. What I said was that the expenses were out of all proportions to the receipts and to the expenses of any road of a similar nature in the province.

Mr. McKeown—The smaller the road the greater the operating expenses naturally would be, and when the hon. gentleman says that the expenses are out of proportion to any other railway he is wrong. Business had been carried on last year under exceptionally difficult circumstances. Many repairs had been necessary and under such circumstances the operating expenses had been higher than in case of a straight run. It had been said too that one of the late commissioners had been paid a sum of \$6,000 for his services. Such was not the fact. He had been paid only \$3,500. The other \$2,500 was for something quite different. When the commission gets down to business he trusted that every person who knew anything about the railway would make a point of attending on the commission and saying what he knew.

The hon. gentleman who seconded the address made some remarks about the sum of sixty thousand dollars which had gone where it should not. He hoped that the hon. gentleman would go before the commission and say where he got his information. Another matter he would like cleared up. It had been freely stated that Senator Thompson held a hundred dollars' worth of stock in the old company which he had sold to the government for twelve thousand dollars. The hon. gentleman should also explain where he got this information. If they could only gather up all of the misstatement which have been made about that railway there is no book in the world would be big enough to hold them.

The government's sole purpose was to develop the interests of the province by opening up the mines of Sunbury and Queens, and he (the speaker) hoped to see the road pushed through to Fredericton.

Hon. Mr. Hazen—The hon. member forgets that his leader said last year that there was no occasion to carry this road through to Fredericton.

Hon. Mr. McKeown said he was not here then so he did not know what was said. Bills had been promised for the assistance of agriculture work which would fall to the commissioner of agriculture, and he will have the heartiest support of the members of this side of the house in any measure calculated to benefit

that industry. He trusted that agriculture would advance during the tenure of office of that gentleman as well as it did under that of his predecessor.

With reference to the proposed workmen's compensation bill, which he supposed would be left to the fatherly care of the gentleman sitting behind him (Mr. Hatheway), he was glad too the government were following in the footsteps of the last administration, and they might depend on the heartiest support of himself and his colleagues. Turning to the question of school books, the government had been in office such a short time and had so much to do on account of the many dismissals to be made and stalwarts Liberals replaced by Conservatives, that they had not had time to fully go into the question. He had hoped the chief commissioner would have better protected his fellow Liberals.

Hon. Mr. Morrissey—Yes, I ought to be very kind to you people. I thought I was read out of the Liberal party.

If the leader of the government was able to carry out his pre-election promises no one would be more pleased than himself. He was in possession of information that the cost of books in New Brunswick was less than in any other province. The deception of statements to the contrary was so apparent that he wondered when gentlemen considered it worth while to continue to repeat them.

He could not let this matter pass without protesting against the hollowness made by the then opposition when seeking the support of the electors. However, they were in power now and it was for them to make these promises good, and while they, as opposition, would look to the fulfilment of these promises to the utmost, they would at all times give their hearty help and support in the carrying out of any legislation for the good of the province.

E. W. Mair has opened up his Soda Fountain in full blast with everything of the choicest quality.

## Where They Live.

The members of the local legislature are domiciled as follows for the session:

Hon. J. D. Hazen, Barker house.  
Hon. J. K. Flemming, Barker house.  
Hon. John Morrissey, Barker house.  
Hon. W. C. H. Grimmer, Barker house.  
Hon. Dr. Landry, Barker house.  
Hon. Robt. Maxwell, Barker house.  
Hon. H. F. McLeod, at his home, Charlotte street.  
W. B. Dickson, Barker house.  
George B. Jones, Barker house.  
Fred M. Sproul, Barker house.  
George D. Prescott, Barker house.  
Dr. McInerney, Barker house.  
H. W. Woods, Barker house.  
A. R. Slipp, residence, Church street.  
Donald Munro, Barker house.  
B. F. Smith, Barker house.  
John A. Young, Long's hotel.  
Thomas A. Robison, Long's hotel.  
Hon. C. W. Robinson, Queen hotel.  
Hon. H. A. McKeown, Queen hotel.  
Hon. F. J. Sweeney, Queen hotel.  
Hon. C. H. LaBillico, Queen hotel.  
C. M. Leger, Windsor hall.  
Col. J. W. Baker, Windsor hall.  
J. P. Byrne, Queen hotel.  
Dr. Sormany, Windsor hall.  
James Burgess, Windsor hall.  
J. F. Tweeddale, Windsor hall.  
A. B. Cepp, Queen hotel.  
William Currie, Windsor hall.  
John E. Wilson, Barker house.  
W. F. Hatheway, Barker house.  
Dr. Taylor, Barker house.  
George J. Clark, Barker house.  
J. K. Pinder, Dr. McNally's Brunswick street.  
Hon. Donald Morrison, Barker house.  
C. S. Cyr, Windsor hall.  
Parker Glasier, Barker house.  
Dr. Bourque, Barker house.  
Col. Sheridan, Barker house.  
J. A. Murray, Queen hotel.  
S. Legere, Lorne hotel.  
D. P. MacLachlan, Windsor hall.  
W. L. Allain, Windsor hall.  
James Lowell, Queen hotel.  
T. A. Hartt, Barker house.

Rev. A. E. Lepage has a couple of waggons for sale very low.

E. W. Mair is still selling the celebrated COLONEL Golf ball at the usual low price.

"Take a Kodak with you",  
is the order of the day, and  
"if it isn't an Eatman  
it isn't a Kodak."

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RESERVE, 11,000,000

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LOCAL OFFICE, - KING STREET

G. A. WHITE, Manager.

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