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NOT A HIGHWAYS AND BILL BUT A BILL TO SPEND PUBLIC

The Senate Stood Firm Against Scheme - Borden Government Defeats Every Effort to Apportion Money According to Population---Mr. Carvell's Motion Voted Down

ways Aid Bill and the Senate did a straight party vote the Borden suspicion that the primary object of not kill the measure. The Bill, as government refused this by 42-21. presented to the House of Commons | The wisdom of the amendment of provement of the highways, but the by the Government, was skilfully de- the Senate, admitted by Mr. Borden building up of a political machine,

admitted by Mr. Borden and Mr. Mr. Borden refused to adopt.

The bye-elections have provided the | Cochrane, the Minister of Railways, Government press with another ex- to be a proper and sound principle. cuse for reviving the old falsehood, And yet they refused to adopt it, so often exploded, that the Liberal and so determined were they to re- good roads, and if they did not Party in the House of Commons tain the spending of this money in they would not get good roads at "blocked the Government's Highway their own hands for political pur-Bill," and that the Liberal majority poses, that rather than accept the Mr. Cloran-True! in the Senate "killed the measure." amendment of the Senate, they re-This story, as we have frequently fused to put the Bill on the Statute! pointed out, has not a shadow of Book. The Highway Bill was not the other Provinces of Canada." foundation. The charge made by the killed by the Senate. It was allow- Sir Richard Cartwright's speech Conservative press that the Liberal ed to die by the Government itself. clearly shows that it was the inten-Party is hostile to the provision of On June 5, 1913, Mr. Carvell tion of the Senate to provide such good roads is utterly false, and any moved that the sum of \$1,500,- safeguards as would prevent the use attempt to make the public believe 000, provided in the estimate for of these road grants for party purthese misrepresentations is bound to highways under the defunct bill, be poses. The mere fact that Mr. Bormade an ordinary subsidy so that den refused to accept the Senate's The Liberal Party in the House of the money could be apportioned amendment, which he had to admit Commons did not block the High- amongst the provinces this year. On was fair and just, strengthens the

signed to provide the Government to be based upon sound principles, and the provision of a huge camwith a weapon for political manipu- has never been questioned, and can- paign fund which could be switched lation, and the spending of public not be successfully assailed. Mr. into any constituency at the Govmoney for political purposes. In- Borden in the House of Commons ernment's sweet will. The Senate did stead of a Bill for the benefit of promised that the Dominion grants not kill the good roads Bill; the the public Highways it was a Bill for highway improvement would be Government itself refused to let it for the benefit of political highway- handed over to the Provinces on live. men. Under it the Government the basis of population, but Mr. would have been free to flood a con- Borden's promises had proved so unstituency on the eve of a bye-elec- reliable that the Liberals rightly, tion with public money for cam- and as a matter of legislative pro-. The Senate did not interfere with should be expressly embodied in the any provision of the Bill designed to statute. The Liberals also urged The hard working editor of the secure good roads. What it did was that the Dominion grants for road bright and newsy little paper, The to insert an amendment which would purposes, like ordinary Provincial Hartland Observer, finds it imperahave ensured that the money to be subsidies, should be handed over to tive to take a rest. The Observer voted under the Highway Bill would the Provinces, to be administered by had a distinctive individuality under

on the basis of population. This clusive jurisdiction over the high- newspaper men generally will learn was the stand taken by the Liberals ways. Both of these unquestionably with regret that he is obliged to in the House of Commons, it was fair and reasonable proposals for give up the active menagement of The obvious intention of the Government was to use the road grants for political purposes. The Senate stood firm against this scheme to exploit the public funds, in the interests of party politics. A reference

to the debates in the Senate in the fair-minded man that the action of the Liberal majority was inspired not by a desire to kill the Bill, but nently separating my connection to make it as effective as possible as a genuine measure of public aid. On March 18th, 1912, Sir Richard of A. D. Colwell, for at least a few Cartwright, then the leader of the Laberal Opposition in the Senate,

"I do not in the very slightest degree dispute that good roads are a right good thing, but I will remind the honorable gentleman (Mr. Lougheed) that even good roads may be too dearly purchased under certain conditions. There is such a thing as buying gold too dear. There is such a thing as buying good roads too dear, particularly if it were to involve, as I shall presently show to my honorable friend, that it may involve, very serious indeed on the constitution of this country."

Not the good roads, but inroads ipon the constitution was the object of Sir Richard's attack. It was one than in years. of his latest public appearances. He

pronounced his warning that the constitution must not be infringed. Fur-

"I regard this measure as one of a very dangerous character. I say that as between Province and Province it is hopelessly unjust. The Ministers want us to put this money at their absolute disposal, to use when and where they please in the best way they can conceive their own political interests. I might sum up this measure in brief by declaring that it is bad in principle, worse in detail, and the motive, I believe, to provide a huge fund for corruption, is worst of all. Were I to suggest a short title for this Bill, I would recommend the following-that this should be declared a Bill to make the British North America Act so much waste-paper, and to provide a permanent fund for the use of the Government of the day. Nothing can be plainer than the language of the B.N.A. Act, which declares that local works and undertakings shall be absolutely and exclusively under the control of the Local Governments." At another part of his speech Sir

Richard pointed out that: "At any conceivable time, when there was an election going on, either Federal or Provincial, the Dominion Government might deluge any particular Province with any amount of money with which they could get Parliament to intrust them, and everyone knows that there is no more insidious or dangerous form of corruption than that of being able to offer the voters of any particular constituency a number of roads in places where they desire to have them, free of charge, at the Federal expense. I am told that in a recent election the electors of a certain constituency were told that if they elected the Government candidate they would get

"What was done then can be done on a larger scale all over

the Government Bill was not the im-

be distributed among the Provinces them as local authorities having ex- the management of Mr. Stevens and the paper. We join in the hope that his retirement may be "reckoned in

In the last issue of the Observer

For more than twenty-three years I have been editing a newspaper in the interests of the people of Hartland and vicinity. I now feel that I deserve a holiday. While not permawith the Observer I feel that I can leave it in the very capable hands weeks. Until further notice Mr. Colwell will handle all business connected with The Observer, and he is order now. very well qualified to do it. My own course has not been definitely decided upon, but should it happen now to thank the people of Carleton county for their sturdy friendship and able support of my enterprise. Relieved of all the worry that attends the running of a country newspaper, I, for the first time in many years, feel to breathe free air; and yet the ultimate destiny of The Observer is still in my hands, and I am hoping that the period of my absentation from The Observer office may be reckoned in weeks rather

FRED H, STEVENS.

WAS ARRESTED

William McIntyre Charged With Theft of \$10,000 from Bank of Nova Scotia

shortage was discovered in the east- tenements. ern branch, and the Chicago police were wired, but McIntyre had disap- Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.

The poker-hole

of the Kootenay

range is in just the

right place for poking down the asher

peared. Pinkerton men traced him across the border into Toronto, fin- Ladies benefit by ally locating him at the King Edward Hotel here.

Building Boom for St. Stephen

Calais, Oct. 27-St. Stephen is booked for a building boom, on account of the new shoe factory which is nearing completion over there. Toronto, Oct. 24-Charged with the One out of town concern has bought theft of \$10,000 from the Bank of land and arranged for the erection Nova Scotia at St. John, N. B., of twenty dwelling houses of modern William McIntyre was arrested here type. In addition to this, an autotonight, McIntyre had been a clerk mobile garage is in course of conin the Bank in St. John and was struction, and other projects are in transferred to Chicago. It was while contemplation. St. Stephen has alhe was in Chicago that the large ways been rather short on desirable

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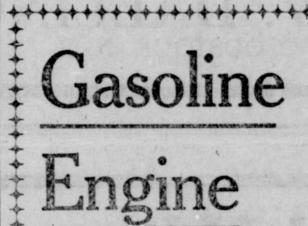
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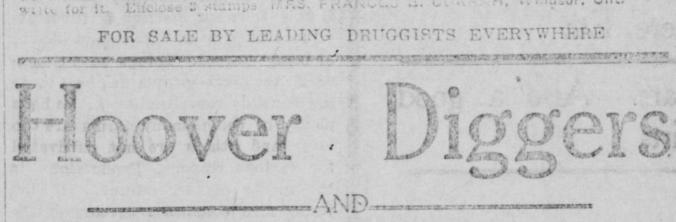
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