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STRIKING CONDEMNATION OF MEN WHO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE COUNTRY'S PERIL

The Sordid Story of the Patriotic Potatoes—B. Frank Smith and His Political Associates Make Profit of Loyalty of the People Starving Women and Children of Unhappy Belgium Deprived of Necessary Food and Assistance

Centreville, Sept. 8.—The answer to Hon. James A. Murray's tirade of abuse of the opposition workers and speakers at Richmond Corner last night was given by E. S. Carter in his speech at a splendid meeting here tonight. The minister of agriculture was answered in detail and such a volume of proof was produced from the official records as to show the patriotic and Belgian potato transaction up in its true light. The part B. Frank Smith played in this outrageous transaction was shown in detail and the evasions of Minister Murray in the legislature, his denial of facts, his contradictions, were all plainly set forth.

THE GOVERNMENT CAMPAIGN OF MISREPRESENTATION

The candidates, Messrs. McCain and Upham, were given a splendid reception and P. J. Veniot, in a comprehensive and telling speech, showed how the present provincial government deserved the condemnation of the people. He ridiculed the falsehoods in the government press, particularly the statement of

the two representatives who are here following the campaign and who telegraphed their newspapers that H. M. Blair, former deputy minister of public works, had spoken in the opposition interest at Newburgh and at Northampton, while had spoken in the opposition interest at any opposition meeting nor has as a matter of fact Mr. Blair has not spoken at any opposition meeting nor has he been asked to speak. The falsehoods of the government press, the violence of their head lines and the words placed in the mouths of the members of the government are causing amazement and disgust among their own supporters. It will be remembered how desperate a campaign the government newspaper conducted in the Westmorland by-election and their prediction of 1,000 majority up to polling day. Their predictions regarding Carleton county are equally misleading and untruthful. If political passion does not prevent a sober consideration of public affairs the verdict of Carleton county will be like that of Westmor-

Mr. Carter's Telling Speech.

Mr. Carter spoke as follows:

A great deal has been said from time to time about one of the most scandalous transactions in the history of our provincial government.

I refer to the abuse of the loyalty of the people of New Brunswick, which splendid feeling towards the empire and the motherland prompted our government, the representative of the king, to issue special warrants authorizing the expenditure of \$150,000 to express that loyalty and at the same time to succor and relieve the starving and suffering Belgians.

GRAVE CHARGES REPEATED. I charge that that feeling of loyalty was used to make a profit and outrageous overcharges, particularly for B. Frank Smith and his business associates and political friends.

I further charge that the responsibility for this rests upon the government of the day and especially upon B. Frank Smith, now a member of the government, and Hon. James A. Murray, minister of agriculture, and his deputy, J. B. Daggett.

I also charge that the large sum of money authorized by the governor was lavishly spent and much of it was wasted; that false information and contradictory answers were given in the legislature from time to time to mislead the people; that the accounts of the province were held open for nearly two months to close the potato account and to receive money for sales of potatoes that had been made and were paid for from eight to ten months previously.

I charge further that thousands of barrels of these potatoes bought and paid for by the people of New Brunswick to succor suffering Belgians were permitted to rot in the warehouses of St. John or were peddled around the streets of that city—sold for a mere song—and what were not hauled to the hog pens in Lancaster were eventually shipped to Cuba and taken from port to port in the West Indian market to find a sale.

I charge that B. Frank Smith took advantage of a letter of credit given the bank at Florenceville by his friend, the deputy minister, J. B. Daggett, to ship thousands of barrels of potatoes more than were asked for to be paid for by the first warrant of \$75,000 and that eighteen carloads of these potatoes arrived at St. John in a condition unfit for handling and shipment, being heated and soft, and were rejected by the inspector, Leslie Slipp.

I further charge in connection with this that Deputy J. B. Daggett and B. Frank Smith insisted on these rejected potatoes being received and they were taken into the warehouses and were largely lost, but that no refund was made by Smith or others for this loss. There is not a word or a line in the auditor-general's report for either 1914 or 1915 to show that B. Frank Smith either refunded one cent or one dollar or rebated his profit of ten cents per barrel on 11,946 barrels—the so-called "surplus stock"—he shipped over and above the first order.

I charge that because of this greed of Smith and his business associates, A. C. Smith & Co., to make profit of the loyalty of the people and their haste to ship potatoes so early that they rotted, the poor people of Belgium—the starving children of the men and women who had sacrificed their lives, their homes and their country to save England and France from the horrors of the Germans—were deprived of that food and assistance so necessary to them.

Had the people of New Brunswick depended upon the men they trusted, upon the government they elected with so great a majority, Belgium would have not had much help from this province—a paltry 14,000 barrels—but from every county, every village, every home, the cry went up, "Let us help the starving Belgians," and business men and corporations and cities and county councils, churches, societies, men women and children gave what they could.

Farmers drove their produce from the fields to the waiting cars, where ministers, Protestant and Catholic alike, labored earnestly with their people to store the goods and send them on their journey across the seas to the suffering children of a stricken country.

Note the contrast, you men and women of Carleton county! While Deputy Daggett was placing your money—the funds of the province in the Florenceville bank for Smith, so that he need not use one cent of his own—while he and his business associates, were hoarding more than one hundred thousand dollars of New Brunswick money, out of which they made a huge profit—the generous hearted people of the province were giving without payment and with full hearts all they were able to relieve the distress and the suffering of the Belgian people.

I know how serious these charges are and were I not able to prove them I would have no justification for saying that which I am now making it impossible for B. Frank Smith or James A. Murray to remain in public life.

I add the name of the minister of agriculture because he is the head of the

(Continued on page eight.)

STATEMENT OF BONDED DEBT

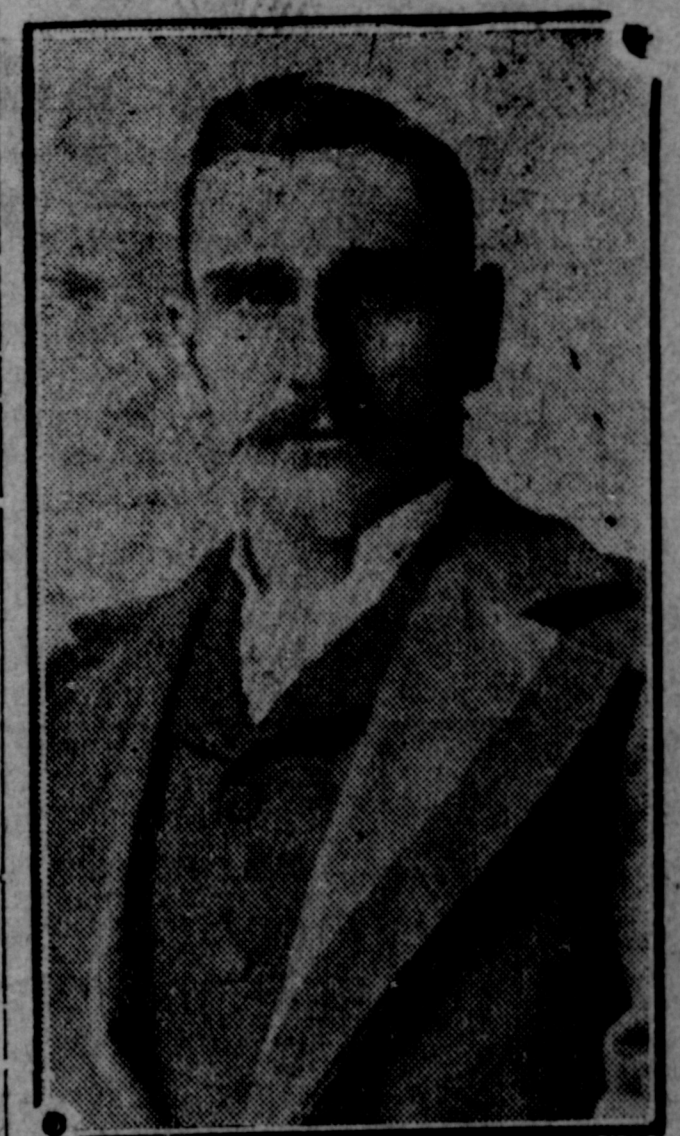
(From Auditor General's Reports)

1908—Bonded Debt page 3.	\$ 5,384,533.99
1911—Bonded Debt page a-43	6,719,978.48
1913—Bonded Debt page a-45	7,407,272.07
1914—Bonded Debt page a-43	8,178,567.72
1915—Bonded Debt page a-45	8,278,885.43
1916—During the Legislature Hon. Dr. Landry, Provincial Secretary, reported bonded Debt	10,804,885.43
Valley Railway Bonds	\$4,250,000
Southampton Railway Bonds	155,000
New Brunswick and Seaboard Railway Bonds	297,000
Fredericton and Minto Railway Bonds	425,000
Woodstock Cold Storage Bonds	10,000
	\$15,941,885

THE INCREASE IN OUR INTEREST

1909—Interest on public Debt	\$197,857.05
1910— " " " "	251,816.61
1915— " " " "	335,637.49

All of the above figures are from the reports of the Auditor General as published from year to year.



G. W. UPHAM.

ham," would like to know something of what Mr. Smith had done in the past. The speaker touched briefly on all questions now before the public concerning the depletion of the condition of affairs.

A. B. Copp, M. P., delivered in an able speech and paid his respects to "Rev." B. Daggett. The Standard and Gleaner wanted the people to vote against McCain and Upham because the Tories were afraid of Mr. F. B. Carvell, to whom the speaker paid a warm tribute.

The sensation of the day was caused by Mr. Veniot when he read, amid the most tense silence an affidavit from Valley Railway Contractor Arnell implicating Premier Clark in a graft deal engineered by James H. Orocket. Mr. Veniot said he realized fully the responsibility of making this charge against the present Premier of the Province. He produced photograph of the drafts and checks used in the deal. The reading of the affidavit made a profound impression on the audience present.

The speaker said he had heard Rev. J. B. Daggett, at the outdoor meeting, now going on, refer to Mr. Carter and himself as political and moral degenerates. "If they want to go into personalities we can meet them vehemently declared Mr. Veniot, and I can tell some of them that every virtuous mother calls in her daughter when she hears the sound of the wagon wheels of some of these gentlemen. We know them, we have their record and if they want to wash dirty linen we can assure them we will make them regret the references made to me and my political associates. They are afraid to come here and meet us—they are in a panic. Mr. Veniot dealt with the patriotic potato transaction and backed all his statements by the governmental reports. If Mr. B. Frank Smith says we are wrong let him come here and I challenge him to meet me on this platform and discuss this deal." Mr. Veniot's speech was received with the wildest cheering.

Dr. Smith on rising was given three cheers. He spoke briefly of the campaign in Westmorland. He understood that Mr. Baxter refused to sit with Mr. Smith as a member of the government, this being the reason Mr. Mahoney was chosen. But after hawking the office all over the province Mr. Smith accepted. In spite of a huge corruption fund and rivers of rum the government was defeated in Westmorland. "You will be up against the same tactics here," said Mr. Smith, "but I feel that this beautiful county of Carleton will do its duty and elect McCain and Upham."

TORIES IN A PANIC

Boodlers Are Present At Meeting

The Tories held an open air meeting Thursday. Daggett ticked H. M. Blair and was cause of some excitement. Blair told him some truths that evidently struck home. It was a disorderly gathering and the speakers devoted all their time to vilifying the Opposition. The party is alarmed and feel that Daggett has done them irreparable harm. All the noted boodlers were present to back up B. F. Smith. It was a sorry spectacle.

Tories Getting Desperate

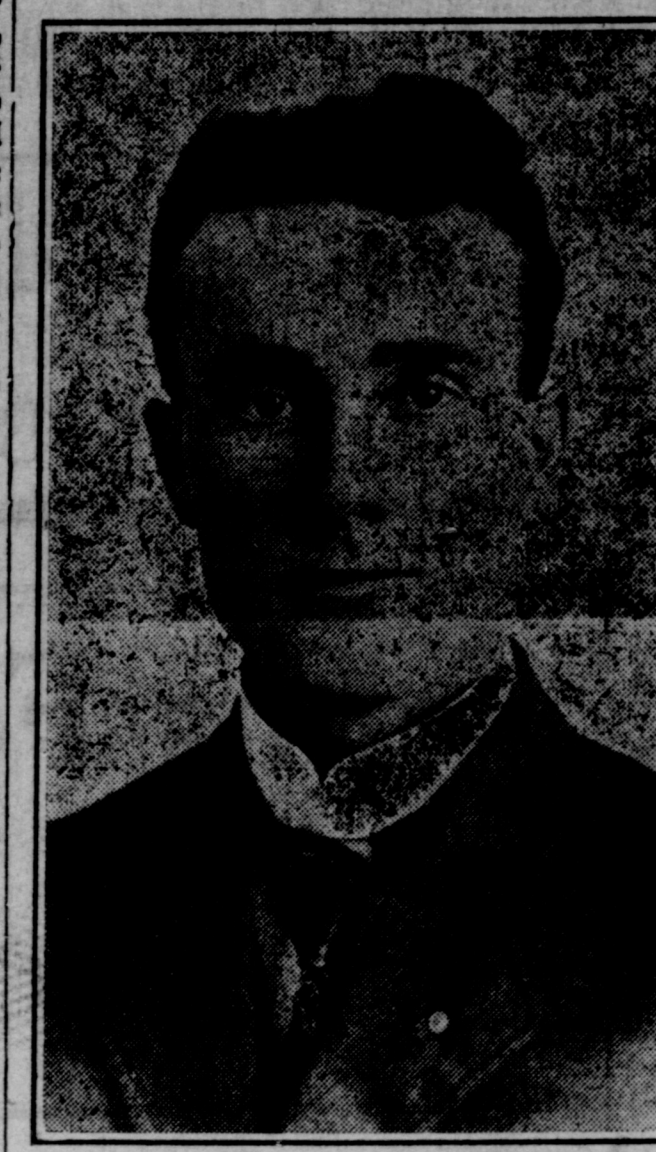
Store Burglarized and Posters Torn From Windows—Suspected Parties Under Surveillance and Arrests May Follow

The Government workers and executive committees in the county are getting desperate. Saturday night the Everett store in the main street of the town, rented by the Opposition for campaign purposes, and in the windows of which many posters with campaign mottoes were pasted, was broken into the blinds and posters torn down. This was done, it is said, with the knowledge and approval of well known Government workers.

The truth must hurt. The posters were printed in two colors, a red border with bold black letters, and the plain unvarnished facts set forth the names of those who paid back money and the amounts found a place on one poster. The posters will be replaced and guards will watch this building and also the Opposition headquarters. (A prominent tory legal light is said to be connected with this affair with two others whom he engaged to carry out the work. The parties are now under surveillance and arrests may be made at any moment.)

Sensational Affidavit Read At Opposition Meeting

Premier Clark in Graft Deal Engineered By James Crockett—Big Gathering Hears Able Speeches



A. D. MCCAIN.

The formal nomination proceedings were held at the court house at noon, Thursday. Sheriff Tompkins presided with R. P. Hartley acting clerk.

Andrew Davis McCain and George William Upham were nominated by the following:

A. E. Jones, E. W. Mair, John Bohan, J. H. Stairs, J. H. Thompson, C. L. Smith, C. D. Jordan, W. P. Jones, Albert Simonson, W. F.

Thornton, A. E. Clark, Jas. F. McLean, John McLaughlin, Dr. H. M. Martell, H. E. Gray, Michael Madrus, Patrick Bradley, J. H. De Witt, W. E. Stone, Chas. Comben, John A. Atherton, Joseph Fawer, George H. Dent, N. P. Grant, Arthur Burpee, T. H. Drysdale, Wm. Kearney, Geo. Foster, A. F. Gaiden and many others.

B. F. Smith and William Sutton were nominated as government candidates.

A cheering, enthusiastic crowd was present at the afternoon meeting in the Hayden-Gibson Theatre of the Opposition forces. There was added interest when it was announced that Dr. Smith the Westmorland victor, appeared on the platform. Mr. Kennie Tracy, warden of the county, was chairman. Andrew McCain made the opening speech. On rising he was tendered an ovation. His remarks on the timberland condition, Valley Railway affairs and the highway were to the point. His reference to the condition of the roads were of a nature that will cause the new minister to ponder considerably. The canvas made by the government party was solely that we have the Minister of Public Works and he has the money and will spend it. "No doubt this is true," said Mr. McCain, "and God help this province if he has it five years."

Mr. Upham thanked the audience for the reception accorded him. He said Mr. Smith spent the whole of his time talking about the office of Minister of Public Works and vilifying Mr. F. B. Carvell. "The people of this county," said Mr. Up-

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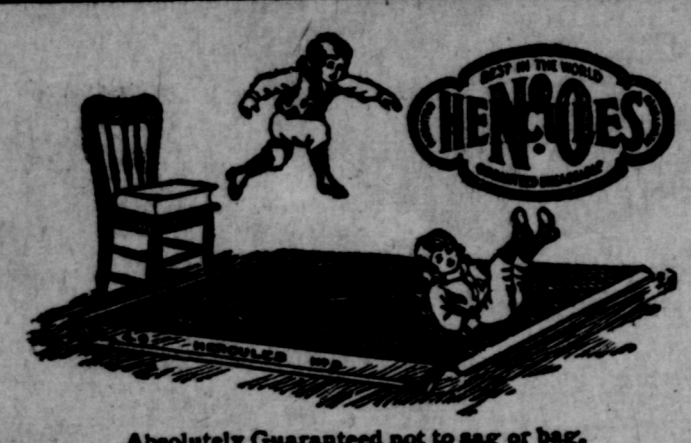
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