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AN UNFOUNDED RUMOR.

Mr. J. Ross Robertson called attention to an American report that the mounted police were to be sent to Porcupine river in the Yukon and that if this was correct the Americans would send troops to Pyramid harbor. Incidentally he strongly endorsed the stand taken by the government against the proposal to remove the Yukon troops.

The premier explained that there was a Porcupine river and a Porcupine creek and that there was a police force put on Dawson trail, four or five miles from the creek. The government had no intention of fortifying the post. It was now quite sufficient. He was told the Americans proposed sending a force to Pyramid harbor. If he was not breaking a state secret he would strongly object to the American government sending a force to that dispute territory so long as the question of a permanent boundary is not settled.

The minister of militia stated with regard to the defence of Esquimalt, the new arrangement with the Imperial authorities provided that from 1st October, 1899, the dominion government should pay half the cost of the Imperial garrison there, the whole cost of 600 militia and half the cost of the barrack accommodation.

At 9 p. m., the last of the fifteen militia items taken into consideration at 11 o'clock the night before was finished.

RAILWAY ESTIMATES.

On the railway estimates Hon. Mr. Blair stated in connection with the vote, \$445,000 for improving the I. C. R. terminus at St. John that \$200,000 was spent on this work last year. Of this \$100,000 was for the expropriation of the Long wharf property. The minister added that the cost of the terminus at St. John would be \$698,156.

In reply to Mr. Borden, Halifax, the minister said he was assured by the contractors that the elevator at Halifax would be ready for the business of the coming winter.

In connection with the Long wharf at St. John. Hon. Mr. Fielding and Hon. Mr. Blair both explain that property was offered to the government for \$100,000, but after the valuations were put on it, it was valued at \$118,000. All that the government expected to pay was \$100,000, but the owners had a claim against the government for the balance of \$18,000.

Col. Tucker, on being asked his opinion as to the value of the property replied that men who had spent weeks in looking over the property and examining it were the best judges as to the correct value. He did not pretend to be a valuator.

Mr. Ellis said that the general opinion in St. John was that the property was worth \$100,000, which the government intended paying for it.

Hon. Mr. Blair explained that \$100,000 had been paid for it, and the government got a deed of the property. The \$18,000 was an additional claim put forward by the owners because the valuator had placed this additional amount on it. The house adjourned at 12.10 a. m.

OTTAWA, July 12.—The House went

into committee on supply shortly after 8 o'clock. Tuesday's discussion of the \$100,000 for the purchase of the Long wharf property at St. John was at once resumed.

Dr. Montague stated that according to the report of the valuator and the evidence taken by them, the original cost of the property was \$25,000 and the amount subsequently expended was not more than \$42,000, making \$67,000. He was informed that the owners were not able to get a larger advance on the property than \$26,000. He thought the matter should be referred to the public accounts committee.

Mr. Blair said he would be willing to have an investigation. The original price under forced sale was, as Dr. Montague had stated, but this purchase was made when property values were at the lowest ebb in St. John. The six original purchasers sold out to three of them sometime after the purchase and before any work was done. The transaction was made on a basis of \$50,000. After rebuilding it was earning \$5,400 a year. Adding interest, it had cost the late owners over \$90,000. St. John wharf property had lately increased rapidly in value, especially near the wharf lately built by the city.

Col. Dumville remarked that the Harris property was "no good."

Mr. Blair said the elevator was to be built there, not because that was the right place, but because the property was there and the government wanted to make use of it. That was the reason and the only reason why this site was chosen for the elevator. He could not understand why this property was ever bought.

Col. Dumville said the wharf owners were foolish to offer the property for \$100,000. It was valuable property, and he was sure the Exchequer Court would have allowed \$150,000.

Mr. Fielding read correspondence between himself, as acting minister, and the wharf owners, showing that the vendors made an offer in writing to sell the property for \$100,000, or have it expropriated with the understanding that the claim would be for only that amount. He had afterwards told Judge McLeod and Dr. Stockton that he considered there was no basis for this claim of the full amount of the award of \$118,550. This view was expressed by order in council. No doubt there would be further applications from the vendors, but for his part he would not consent to pay more than \$100,000. He pointed out that two of the three owners had been opponents of Mr. Blair. After further discussion of the Long wharf purchase, Mr. Blair, replying to Dr. Montague, gave particulars of the St. John terminal wharf contracts.

Dr. Montague—Who are the contractors?

Mr. Blair—Connolly Brothers.

Dr. Montague—Surely not!

Mr. Blair—Yes.

Dr. Montague—Then I move that the speeches made by members opposite attacking the Connollys be expunged from Hansard.

Mr. Blair stated that Messrs. Mayes of St. John, Heney, of Ottawa, and the Con-

nollys were the tenderers. Mayes was the lowest. When he was notified he asked to be allowed to bring from the United States and operate in St. John an American dredge, to be returned at the close of the contract, without payment of duty. The government did not consent and Mayes declined to enter into the contract. He forfeited his deposit of fifteen thousand dollars.

Dr. Montague wanted to know how much Mr. Mayes' tender was below that of the Connollys.

Mr. Blair was not then able to furnish the information.

Dr. Montague asked whether this Mr. Mayes had not joined the Connollys, either as partner or sub-contractor.

Mr. Blair said he would not be surprised if such were the case.

The item was held over for further information about the Connolly contract.

After some discussion on the dismissal of I. C. R. Superintendent A. R. McDonald, the committee took up the discussion of canals, which continued till a late hour.

Mr. Powell to-day presented the petition of the Methodist conference of Nova Scotia respecting purity in elections.

Mr. Blair, in reply to Mr. McDougall, of Cape Breton, stated that Bruce McDougall, of Moncton had been appointed to a position on the Intercolonial Railway staff. The government was aware that McDougall had published a paper in Moncton called "The Plain Dealer," but the appointment had been made on the recommendation of one in whom the government had confidence.

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THE SENATE AND THE I. C. R.

OTTAWA, July 13.—In the senate yesterday the redistribution bill was read the first time.

Hon. Mr. Mills proposed the second reading should be taken on Friday.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell said that it would be better to postpone the second reading until after the next general elections.

Hon. Mr. Mills—Oh no!

Sir Mackenzie Bowell—You had better make it Monday.

The second reading was fixed for Monday next.

The Grand Trunk agreement bill was discussed in the senate yesterday.

Senator McCallum opposed the bill strongly. He said that those senators who had voted against the bill could not now swallow themselves.

Hon. Mr. Mills said the old contract was dead and they were not now voting on it.

Senator Clemow argued with what Senator Wood had said on the question.

Senator Prowse wanted to wait until the Quebec bridge was built and said the I. C. R. would get running rights over it. He, of course, denied that he was speaking for the C. P. R.

Senator DeBoucherville said the bill was a worse one than that which the senate threw out.

Senator Perley's motion for a six months hoist to the G. T. R. agreement bill was defeated by 17 for to 37 against.

The bill was then read a second time and further consideration for the present was postponed. It is understood that Sir Mackenzie Bowell has agreed to eliminate clause 40 in the agreement, so that the G. T. R. will be realized from the 99 year traffic agreement as well as the Intercolonial. It is likely that the bill will go through in that shape.

Following is the senate vote on the six months hoist.

Yeas—Hon. Messrs. Armand, Lernier, DeBoucherville, Casgrain, Clemow, Landry, McCallum, McDonald, (Cape Breton), McMillan, Merner, Monplaisir, Owens, Perley, Primrose, Prowse, Wood—Total, 17.

Nays—Atkins, Allan, Baird, Baker, Bowell (Sir Mackenzie), Carling, (St. John), Cochran, Dandurand, Dever, Drummond, Ferguson, Fiset, Forfet, Kerr, King, Kirchoffer, Longue, Lovitt, McDonald (P. E. I.), McInnis, McLaren, McSweeney, Mills, O'Donohue, Ogilvie, Paquet, Poirier, Powell, Scott, Snowball, Temple, Templeman, Thibideau (Bigand) Vidal, Villeneuve, Wark, Yeo—Total, 37.

The bill was then read a second time. On the same division reversed, and the committee stage fixed for Friday.

The Drummond County bill was then read a second time on the same division.

CANADA'S REVENUE.

LARGER THAN EVER BEFORE IN THE DOMINION'S HISTORY.

OTTAWA, July 8.—A statement of Canada's finances for the year ending 30th June has been prepared by the department. The year has been a record breaker. Hon. Mr. Fielding in his budget speech predicted a handsome surplus of about \$4,600,000; but after all expenditures are to hand this will be more than borne out. Figures for the year show that \$5,035,581 more revenue has been received this year than for 1898, which was the highest on record before. Revenue has also exceeded expenditure by about \$11,000,000. Details are as follows:—

Revenue.	1898	1899.
Customs.....	\$21,467,037	\$14,971,744
Excise.....	7,812,038	9,594,646
Post Office.....	3,434,607	3,159,817
Public works and railway.....	3,807,265	4,367,754
Miscellaneous.....	2,373,527	2,003,194
Total.....	\$38,894,474	\$44,698,155
Expenditure.....	\$30,996,898	\$33,698,592

The revenue for month of June alone was \$3,431,296, as compared with \$3,221,427 in June of 1898. The expenditure was \$2,244,640 as compared with \$2,090,360. The capital expenditure was as follows:—

	1898	1899
Public works and railways.....	\$3,175,975	\$4,699,692
Dominion lands.....	104,268	140,126
Railway subsidies.....	1,283,666	3,194,302
Militia.....	130,157	285,850
N. W. I. rebellion.....	1,174	1,798

There was about three millions added to the public debt during the year. It is now \$26,000,000. The expenditure on ordinary account increased by about \$2,700,000.

HOW DREYFUS WAS TORTURED.

FOUR YEARS OF CRUELTY AND TORTURE ON DEVIL'S ISLAND.

The fact that the Supt. of Devil's Island was immediately dismissed by the French Government as soon as the particulars of the cruelty and torture of Dreyfus became known after his return to France shows what the poor innocent prisoner suffered during the four long years there.

When Dreyfus returned his mind appeared unbalanced but now he has almost completely recovered. To a warm friend Mathia Labori, Dreyfus has told some of the tortures he was subjected to. His guards were the roughest, most heartless of ruffians. They imagined they would gain favour with the authorities by treating the prisoner with violence and meanness.

One day, when Dreyfus was in a high fever, he accidentally upset a jug of water near his bed. His punishment was that no water was given him to drink for twenty-four hours. By noon next day he was almost raving mad with thirst.

When a letter was sent pretending to warn M. Lebon, Minister of the Colonies, that Dreyfus would attempt to escape, although the letter was proved a forgery, Lebon ordered Dreyfus to be put in irons. Notwithstanding that he was very ill he was strapped and chained to his bed. Thus he was left twenty days without medical attendance.

But this outrage, Dreyfus says, saved him. He was so sick at heart, so ill of body, he was willing to die. But when he realized that there was a plot to kill him, he gathered all his energy to resist and he lived.

THE STORY ABOUT THE CAGE.

is not true, but the torturer, Lebon, devised for Dreyfus a palisade-like inclosure that was little better than a cage.

Another idiotic measure was to keep a lamp burning over Dreyfus' bed all night long. The pretext was that his every movement must be watched. The light attracted swarms of fearful tropical insects that eat man alive. They turned sleep into a nightmare. Dreyfus dreaded the night more than the broiling sun and more than those human hyenas who stole Dreyfus' food and fed him for weeks on the most revolting messes telling him that his family had ceased to send money to him.

For months Lebon suppressed letters to him. Then, again, his guards were instructed to pester and harass Dreyfus into making a confession.

"See even your family has abandoned you, they constantly said to him. "Better own up and confess."

The fact is that Dreyfus became the plaything of his course idle goalers. He often heard them making disrespectful remarks about his wife; he heard their persistent intimation: that she was anxious to remarry. Dreyfus wrote urgent appeals for explanations. His letters were never forwarded. So he was left despairing until, wild, he was his guards' play-

thing. Why, they even took it on themselves to deny him access to a narrow court where he could exercise by walking. For days they locked him in his cabin and barred the doors and windows until the heat drove him nearly insane. Dreyfus was so exasperated that once he threatened to strangle one of his torturers. But he immediately realized that they would welcome the slightest pretext to shoot him. So he afterwards submitted to all the infamies.

And one such infamy was to take from him an unfinished letter to his wife, a letter full of love he felt—to read it aloud in his hearing, to laugh at his expression of emotion, and to make vile comments on them. But when Lebon was overthrown more humane guards were substituted.

DAYS OF DREARINESS.

"How did Dreyfus exist? How did he pass the time?" correspondent queried.

"At first he read and wrote and tried to bury himself in mathematics," replied M. Labori. "But he has confessed that he lost hope, as the climate and the tortures undermined his health and he became less capable of intelligent occupation. For months he passed several hours a day pacing the fenced enclosure like a caged lion. Finally he had not even energy enough to do that. Panting with heat, he crouched in a corner, moving only as the sun moved, that he might keep in the shade. At last he had become so brutified that he neglected to make elementary cares of the toilet.

"Did the thought of suicide ever come to his mind?"

"Yes, he said, often during the last two years, but it would have been impossible for him to have taken his life since the agitation in his behalf began in France. His guards most dreaded suicide, lest they should be accused of his murder. Dreyfus is now studying his case after a plan I have mapped out. He has all the documents. The trial will probably not take place before August.

"And you are confident of the result?"

"Confident."

M. Labori arose, and, with a toss of the head, said: "If they want to fight, now is time let them all come."

Stiff Limbs and Joints.

Miss A. Edwards, Fordwich, Ont., writes: "Last fall my little sister eight years old, was laid up with stiff limbs and joints, even her fingers and toes were stiff and she suffered greatly. After using Hagyard's Yellow Oil for a time she got perfectly well and is going to school again."

WIFE'S "TEN COMMANDMENTS."

DIVORCE GIVEN A HUSBAND WHEN HE SHOWED THE COURT RULES GOVERNING HIS CONDUCT.

Judge Haney, of Chicago, granted William Schneckebier a divorce recently when shown the new "Ten Commandments" William's wife had set up for his observance. Here they are:

These are the new commandments ten, which wives now make for married men:—

1. Remember that I am thy wife, That thou must cherish all thy life.
2. Thou shalt not stay out late at night When lodges, friends or clubs invite.
3. Thou shalt not smoke indoor or out, Or chew tobacco "round about."
4. Thou shalt with praise receive my pies, Nor pastry made by me despise.
5. My mother thou shalt strive to please, And let her live with us in ease.
6. Remember 'tis thy duty clear, To dress well throughout the year.
7. Thou shalt in manner mild and meek Give me thy wages every week.
8. Thou shalt not be a drinking man Cut live on prohibition plan.
9. Thou shalt not flirt, but must allow Thy wife such freedom anyhow.
10. Thou shalt get up when baby cries, And try the child to tranquilize. These my commandments from day to day Implicity thou shalt obey. Shineck also showed that his wife had been unfaithful.

ROBBING THE POOR.

FREDERICKTON, July 13.—Some thieves have been getting in their work in the churches lately. A few weeks ago the poor-box in St. Dunstan's church was opened and all the money stolen. A day or two later the curate of St. Mary's reported that the poor-box in his chapel had been robbed, and now comes the information that the poor-box in the Anglican Cathedral has been opened and all the money contained in it stolen. It is supposed this theft was committed some time on Tuesday night.

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