

ROBINSON AND BENTLEY SCORE THE GOVERNMENT

Record of Broken Pledges and Extravagance Laid Bare by Opposition Members in the Legislature--Government's Highway Act has Added to the Burden of Taxation but Results have been Unsatisfactory--Defeat of Reciprocity a Great Loss to the Province

The Legislature held an evening session yesterday at the conclusion of which an adjournment was made until Monday. The majority of the members have gone to their homes to spend the week end.

A number of St. John bills, including certain exemptions of taxes upon the Maritime Nail Works and C. H. Peters' tannery; amendment of the building act, and that relating to the collection of garbage, passed the second reading in the House tonight.

This afternoon there was an interesting discussion upon the amendment to the automobile act which concerned the qualifications of chauffeurs and not only their sobriety but the sobriety of every automobile owner who drives his own machine. The practice in certain counties of using autos for the transportation of liquor from licensed towns to others where local option was in force was talked about, and Mr. Labllois and Messrs. Copp and Sweeney took strong ground that this should be prevented. The premier promised that when the amendments to the liquor license act was taken up this question would be given consideration.

Mr. Bentley concluded his admirable speech upon the budget in the evening, scoring the government again and again for their broken pledges and their inconsistency. He touched upon their loyalty and contrasted their professions with their practice of guaranteeing bonds for a road to be built by a foreign contractor, and to Mr. Hazen's words that it would probably be linked up with a railroad across Maine. He said the news from Ottawa in regard to the Valley railway was disquieting and urged upon the government not to guarantee the bonds until the through line to Grand Falls was assured.

When he referred to the Dominion elections and Sir Wilfrid's attitude upon the navy and contrasted it with Mr. Borden's inconsistent policy which stultified Canada and disgraced her in the eyes of the world, providing not a dollar, not a ship, not a man for the protection of the empire, Provincial Secretary McLeod got excited and began to talk back from his seat. Mr. Bentley was quite equal to the occasion and gave him most effective replies.

HON. MR. ROBINSON

Hon. C. W. Robinson's contribution to the budget was well worthy of his high record in the New Brunswick legislature. It was impartial

BOAT RACE POSTPONED TO MONDAY

Putney, Mar. 30--The sixty-ninth annual eight-oared boating contest between crews representing the Oxford and Cambridge Universities which started this morning, at Putney Bridge, was declared no race, after both the shells had become water-logged.

Ideal weather prevailed for the race. Oxford won the toss and chose the Surrey side. The race started at 11.40 o'clock.

Cambridge abandoned the race at Harrod Stores. The Oxford boat was sunk off Chiswick Eytot.

The Oxford men however, succeeded in righting their craft and clambered in again. They then paddled along to Mortlake and completed the course, but the judges after consideration, declared the contest no race.

Putney, Eng., Mar. 30--The presidents of the Oxford and Cambridge boat clubs have decided that the race shall be rowed on Monday, April 1.

Rev. Dr. W. C. Keistead will address the College Y.M.C.A. in the Arts Building of the University on Sunday afternoon at four o'clock. His subject will be "The Prophet Amos."

and statesmanlike, eloquent and convincing and, coupled with his announcement of his retirement from politics, held the closest attention of the house and was vigorously applauded by the government and opposition members.

The Mail is compelled to hold over its report of his speech until Monday.

The House met on Thursday at three o'clock.

Hon. Mr. Murray presented the report of the Standing Rules Committee.

Mr. Shipp presented the report of the Corporations Committee.

Mr. Copp gave notice of enquiry regarding the New Brunswick Coal and Railway investigation.

Mr. Currie gave notice of enquiry regarding the number of flour mills.

Mr. Bentley gave notice of enquiry regarding the expenses of Game Warden Dean.

Mr. Tweeddale gave notice of enquiry regarding liquor licenses, amounts expended on bridges and stampage collections in Madawaska County.

Mr. LaBillois on behalf of Mr. Leger (Gloucester) gave notice of enquiry regarding game wardens and public works in Gloucester County.

Mr. LaBillois gave notice of enquiry regarding cheese and butter factories and the expenses of the Agricultural Commission.

Mr. LaBillois gave notice of motion for Tuesday next to prohibit the running of automobiles on the public highways on one day of each week.

Mr. Wilson introduced a bill to repeal the Act relating to a sugar refinery in St. John City.

Mr. Dixon presented a petition of the St. John Branch of the Canadian Suffrage Association in favor of a bill to amend the Election Act.

Mr. Guphill presented a petition in favor of a bill to amend the act incorporating the Canadian terminals Railway Company.

Mr. Hatheway introduced a bill to incorporate the St. John Art Club.

The House went into Committee with Mr. Munro in the chair and agreed to the bill to amend the act providing for the division of Grand Falls Victoria County, also to the bill relating to the Motor Vehicle Law with amendments.

Mr. LaBillois asked that a provision be made in the bill to enforce a heavy fine in instances where automobiles were used to carry liquor into Scott Act counties. He said automobiles had been used for this purpose in northern New Brunswick.

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OPERATORS AND MINERS TO HOLD CONFERENCE

Philadelphia, Mar. 30--As the result of telegrams exchanged today, between George F. Baer, representing the operators and John P. White and other officials of the mine workers union, a conference will be held in this city on April 10 to discuss the demands of the anthracite men for higher wages and better working conditions.

MANY CARS LOST IN U.S.

Niagara Falls, N.Y., March 30--P. R. officials who came here from Toronto yesterday to look into the blockade of cars near the border, said that 15,000 of the company's cars are lost in the States. They are trying to round them up and claim the American roads hold them to fill with merchandise for Canada in preference to using their own cars.

Mrs. Harry Chestnut has returned from a pleasant visit spent in Ottawa.

Miss Gladys Edgcomb of St. John is visiting her sister, Mrs. Jack Neill.

Borden's Investigator Exposed in True Light

Mr. A. B. Morine, Head of the Inquiries Commission was Formerly a Newfoundland Politician and made a Record for Himself--His Record Laid Bare in Parliament by Mr. Carvell--Certificates of Character Read from Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Sir James Winter and Bishop Howley--Premier Borden Dumbfounded

Ottawa, March 29--"To use the power of filling positions as a reward for party service and without regard to the character and capacity of the individual selected, is a gross breach of a solemn public trust. The character of a government may be judged by its appointments," said R.L. Borden in enunciating his "Halifax platform."

Parliament was given striking and startling opportunity today to judge of the character of another member of the "Hunt for Scandals" commission, which the maker of the Halifax platform hastened to appoint when the Canadian people gave him their confidence last autumn.

The commission is officially termed the "Public Inquiries Commission." Its purpose is defined to be the conducting of an investigation into all the departments of the government extending back over the Laurier regime with a view to unearthing anything of a character to do injury to the reputation and record of the previous administration.

It was hurried into its work with a view to furnishing material for the ill-fated ministerial campaign against Hon. George P. Graham in South Renfrew. But so far it has failed to furnish any "scandals" even for partisan exploitation.

THE "PURITY" BOARD.

The commission consists of Hon. A. B. Morine, chairman, and Messrs. Ducharme and Lake. Mr. Lake was a defeated Conservative candidate at the last election. Mr. Ducharme's record and character has been dealt with in the House by Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, and today parliament heard from F. B. Carvell, in a vigorous address, something of the career and reputation of Chairman Morine.

So serious were the charges of Mr. Carvell, and so startling was the character of the evidence he adduced that the government benches remained dumb and silent at the conclusion. Finally Premier Borden rose, evidently exasperated and ill at ease, and complained petulantly that sufficient notice had not been given him of the charges.

"They will be laid before Mr Morine," he said, "and when he has been given opportunity to furnish an answer to them we will announce to the House and to the country what action the government proposes to take."

Mr. Carvell spoke on the motion to go into supply. He opened by quoting the Halifax platform declarations of Mr. Borden and said he proposed to address himself to the premier regarding the manner in which he had kept faith with the country in respect to these pledges. He referred at once to the Morine commission and said he proposed to deal with the chairman of that body.

MORINE'S RECORD.

Mr. Morine was minister of finance and minister of customs in the Newfoundland administration of Sir James Winter. Owing largely to the influence of Mr. Morine, the Newfoundland railway, for the construction of which R. G. Reid had been paid \$13,000,000, was returned to him for a consideration of \$1,000,000. In consideration of this sum, Mr. Reid was to have the operation of the road for fifty years, from 1893, with the right of acquiring ownership at the end of that period. Mr. Reid was to be allowed to acquire other franchises and, though the road was constructed and the land grants had been made the contract provided that Mr. Reid was to have additional land grants of 2,500 acres per mile. It was estimated that this would give Mr. Reid practically all the useful lands on the island and on them he was to have all the timber and mineral rights.

CHAMBERLAIN'S REMARKS.

The governor general, Sir Hebert Murray, declined to sign the contract on his own responsibility and referred to it to the home government. Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, then colonial secretary, replied that he did not deem it wise to interfere in a matter essentially one of local finance, but he could not refrain from

pointing to "the serious consequences which may result from this extraordinary measure, as practically all of the crown lands become, with full mineral rights, the freehold property of a single individual. The whole of the railways are transferred to him, as are the telegraphs, the local sea communications and the dock at St. John's. Such an abdication by a government of some of its most important functions is without parallel. The colony is divested forever of any control over or power of influencing its own development and of any direct interest in or direct benefit from that development. It will not even have the guarantee for efficiency and improvement afforded by competition which would tend to minimize the danger of leaving such services in the hands of private individuals."

The Pall Mall Gazette, London, on Feb. 26, 1898, commenting on the bargain, said:

"Newfoundland no longer belongs to the Queen or even to Mr. Chamberlain. Sir Charles Dilke need fear no more for the imperial cod and the French will not have to obtain Lord Salisbury's consent 'merely as a matter of form.' The country has been handed over, body, soul and spirit to Mr. R. G. Reid, the more famous son of a famous Canadian contractor."

NEWFOUNDLAND AROUSED

Continuing Mr. Carvell pointed out that the transaction aroused great indignation on the island. Public meetings of protest were held in all parts of the colony in which clergymen took a prominent part. The St. John's Telegram under the heading, "The Rogue's Parliament," editorially characterized Morine as "a cunning political rogue."

A month after the contract was confirmed, a brother of Morine's was appointed passenger agent of the railway.

The member for Carleton proceeding told the house that subsequent official correspondence went to show the reason for Morine's activity in putting through the Reid deal. On November 3, 1898, the governor-general's secretary wrote Morine as follows: "His excellency desires to be informed whether it is not a fact that you were at the period when the railway contract of 1898 was negotiated and made holding a retainer as legal adviser to R. G. Reid."

Mr. Morine replying the same day wrote: "Your excellency: in reply to your question of this date I have the honor to say that I was before and at the time of the making of the railway contract of 1898 and am now the professional adviser of R. G. Reid on legal questions and matters submitted by him to me, but not on such questions, if any, arising between him and the colony, and I have not and would not, while I am a member of the executive council advise him on any such matter in which there was a conflict of interest between him and the colony."

MORINE DISMISSED FROM OFFICE

The action of the governor-general was prompt and decisive, declared Mr. Carvell. "He informed him the next day that he did not believe him and peremptorily dismissed him from office calling upon him to resign all the offices he held under the crown."

"But, this was not all," continued the member for Carleton. Sir James Winter, the premier, in a letter referred to Mr. Morine as a man who has already established for himself the character of one of the most unscrupulous scoundrels that ever entered the house. "Yours truly (Signed) James S. Winter."

"Under such a case-gate," declared Mr. Carvell, "under the opinion of the governor-general, it seems

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PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN GETS \$2,000 GRANT FROM CITY

The City Council in committee last night decided to make provision in the assessment for the current year for a grant of \$2,000 toward the publicity campaign which has been undertaken by the Board of Trade. The grant was decided upon in view of the representations of a delegation from the Publicity Committee of the Board of Trade, which waited upon the Council and presented a memorial. The delegation was composed of Mr. F. B. Edgcombe, chairman of the committee; Mr. H. S. Campbell, secretary of the Board of Trade; Mr. R. B. Vandine, Mr. George W. Hodge and Mr. J. J. Woddall. Mr. Campbell acted as spokesman and presented the memorial. In the course of his remarks, Mr. Campbell, who had considerable data with him, showed conclusively that the time had arrived when small growing towns, the same as private business houses, must advertise in order that the outside world might know their facilities for industrial enterprises and their other advantages. He produced statistics and pointed out where western towns had grown rapidly through following this method of general advertising. Several Maritime Province towns had adopted this system this year. Amherst, N.S., was spending \$5,000 for the purpose, while St. John was raising, by private subscription and public grants, \$50,000. Fredericton's chances with three railways about to come into it, were as great as those of any town in the Maritime Provinces and with a little publicity and outside advertising, there was no need why Fredericton's population should not be doubled in ten years. Already outside capital had been attracted and negotiations were now going on whereby several important industries might be established in the near future.

ALDERMEN ON COMMITTEE.

The committee decided to recommend the granting of the request with the proviso that two members of the City Council be added to the Publicity Committee in order that the city may be represented in the expenditure of the money.

TO MEET SHORTLY.

The Publicity Committee will meet shortly to decide upon the plan to be followed in the expenditure of the money now at the disposal of its members. The city grant and the amount received through private subscriptions now amount to about \$3,000. The committee is still ready to receive subscriptions, however. It is probable that the services of a publicity agent will be secured at an early date and a campaign of advertising begun.

THE MEMORIAL.

The memorial presented to the City Council last night, which sets forth the aims and intentions of the committee, is as follows:

March 28, 1912.

To His Worship the Mayor and Gentlemen of the City Council:

The members of the Fredericton Board of Trade believe that the time has arrived when the advantages of our beautiful city and the splendid agricultural surrounding country should obtain very much greater publicity than has ever been given them in the past; and our position as a distributing centre, our splendid opportunities for manufacturing, and our ideal location as a residential city should be so widely advertised as to attract capital and industries and make for a greatly increased population.

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WAS WELL KNOWN HERE

Late Dr. Finlow Alexander, Montreal had Remarkable Career

Was a Medical Doctor, an Anglican Minister and a Roman Catholic Recluse

Montreal, Mar. 30--With but one immediate relative and a few religious friends in attendance, the remains of the late Dr. Finlow Alexander, who once occupied a considerable share of public attention, were laid to rest this morning, in the Cote des Neiges Cemetery with Roman Catholic ceremonies. The most-tasteful funeral ended the career of a man who has been in turn a medical doctor, a minister of the Anglican Church, and a Roman Catholic recluse. He left the medical profession for the ministry, identifying himself with the Anglican Churching himself with the Anglican Church. His first mission assigned him was at Cobourg, Ont. Shortly afterward he was transferred to Guelph. He next accepted a call to Fredericton, N. B., where for eighteen years he was sub-dean of the Anglican Cathedral under the late Bishop Medley.

It was the conversion of the late Cardinal Newman to Catholicism which influenced Dr. Alexander. The sub-dean resigned his position and came to Montreal in 1894, where he was received into the Roman Catholic Church by the late Archbishop Fabre. Since that time he has practically lived in retirement.

The news of the death of Dr. Alexander will be learned with regret by many people in this city. It was while acting as sub-dean of the Anglican Cathedral here that he became a convert to the Roman Catholic Church. Prof. Stockley, then on the staff of the University here, and a close friend of Dr. Alexander, became a convert to Roman Catholicism at the same time, and the incident created quite a sensation. Dr. Alexander removed to Montreal with his family shortly afterwards and has since resided there. He was a native of the old country and was about eighty years of age. A widow and one son, Mr. C. F. Alexander reside in Montreal.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENTS EXPECTED THIS YEAR

New Boiler for Pumping Station-- Extension of Tarvia Pavement-- Larger Water Mains

It is the intention if the legislation empowering the city to make the necessary bond issue is passed, to make extensive improvements at the City Pumping Station. The cost of the improvements will be well up to \$10,000. They include the increase of the battery of boilers to three by the addition of another. This addition will make necessary the enlargement of the boiler-room and the enlargement will be sufficient to accommodate street lighting apparatus should it be decided at some future date to do away with the Carleton Street plant. The Water and Sewerage Department will make other improvements during the year including the laying of eight-inch water-mains on Westmorland and Carleton streets between Queen and King streets. The old wooden surface sewer on Carleton between Queen and Brunswick streets is also to be replaced with terra cotta pipe.

The program of the Street Department it is understood will include the extension of the tarvia pavement on York Street as far as Saunders or Aberdeen Street and the placing of concrete curbing and gutter where they are lacking on that street. It is also probable that Regent and Westmorland Streets will be paved with tarvia between Queen and King Streets.

Mrs. A. K. Grimmer, nee Babbitt, is here from the west and is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George N. Babbitt.

MINERS WILL RESUME WORK

A Large Majority of them Vote to put an End to the Strike

The Industrial Centres of the Old Country Facing Another Gloomy Week-end

(Canadian Press)

London, March 30--Notices which have come today from the scattered coal districts of Great Britain show that large majorities of the miners desire to resume work.

The results thus far in Monmouthshire are five to one in favor of returning to the pits. Hundreds more miners went back to work in Warwickshire today, and it is anticipated that there will be a general resumption in that county on Monday.

At a conference of the miners in Glasgow a large majority agreed to recommend the men to vote for the resumption.

London, March 30--Although the first votes taken among the miners of Lancashire on the question in favor of resuming work pending the settlement of the minimum rates of wages in the various grades by the district boards to be appointed under the coal mines minimum wage act show that a majority of the men there is opposed to returning to work until the district boards have fixed the minimum wages there are indications throughout the rest of the country which show an increasing desire of the miners to return to the pits. There is considerable reluctance, however, among the colliers to take any definite step until the result of the ballot of the whole miners, about which there seems to be little doubt, is definitely known. Practically all the leaders of the men are advising the miners that nothing will be gained by remaining out. This action on the part of the leaders must have an effect on the result of the ballot.

There has been today a further closing down of factories, while the public utilities company and municipalities which had laid in enough coal to keep them going for over a month, are beginning to feel the pinch, and are restricting the supplies of gas and electricity to their consumers.

The industrial centres are facing another gloomy week-end. Although the relief committees which have been organized in every town and village throughout the country are doing their best to keep the homes of the hundreds of thousands of workers who are now without resources, supplied with the barest possibilities of life.

WHITELAW REID THE KING'S GUEST

(Canadian Press)

London, Mar. 30--King George and Queen Mary entertained / Whitelaw Reid (the United States ambassador, and Mrs. Reid at Luncheon today at Buckingham Palace. The function was one of a series which their majesties have given for diplomats since their from the Durbar in India.

PERSONAL

Mrs. W. C. H. Grimmer, who has been spending some weeks here with Hon. Mr. Grimmer, left on Monday evening to visit her sister in Winnipeg.

Mrs. F. B. Edgcombe and daughter, Miss Louise Edgcombe are visiting in New York, where they will remain until after Easter.

Sheriff Tibbitts, of Victoria county and Mrs. Tibbitts are guests of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Tibbitts.

Mrs. Frank Hothway and her mother Mrs. Marvin, of St. John, are here, guests of Mrs. Luke Stewart.

SMALL MARKET TODAY

The country market today was small but a fair variety of produce was offered for sale. Prices ruled as follows:--Butter 25 to 27 cents per lb.; eggs, 20 to 23 cents per dozen; veal 8 to 12 cents per lb.; beef 7 to 9 cents per lb.; pork 8 to 10 cents per lb.