

The Daily Mail

Published every afternoon (except Sunday) at No. 613 Queen Street, Fredericton, by THE MAIL PRINTING COMPANY.

Telephone No. 67

Fredericton, N. B., April 15, 1913

WHAT THE CLOSURE MEANS

The Government's proposed closure resolutions now before Parliament. It was announced in the Government organs as not a closure but merely a revision of the rules. As a matter of fact, it is a system of closure so drastic that when it becomes law Canada will no longer be governed by Parliament, but by the Cabinet; the Government will be able to practically ignore the Opposition, and at the same time force supply through without that discussion which has hitherto been the chief protection of the country against extravagance and corruption.

Broadly speaking the measure provides for a strict closure on any issue after a day's notice by a Minister of the Crown; that all but certain specified motions shall be decided without debate or amendment, and that on two days out of every Parliamentary week the Opposition shall be denied the privilege of bringing up matters of importance before the House goes into committee of supply. Censure and criticism of the Government may be practically shut out.

It will be seen that it is so drastic that it well deserves the epithet given it by the Opposition of strangulation, not closure.

Should this iniquitous measure become law it will place Opposition completely at the mercy of the Government. They can apply the gag at the pleasure of the "millionaire" Cabinet or of the "interests" whose interests they so carefully conserve. While the Government studiously tries to conceal the revolutionary effect of the measure and to intimate that it is only being adopted to force the Naval Bill through, it is certain that once they have obtained this most dangerous weapon they will use it to the limit. Undoubtedly they are using the Naval Bill as an excuse to try and secure the closure; Once they have gained it they will use it remorselessly to force through legislation on such measures as the Bill to grant millions of special aid to the Canadian Northern, the Banking Bill, the Revision of the Tariff, the Highways' Aid Bill, and similar extremely contentious measures.

Should the Government have this closure club put into their hands they and their millionaire friends would be able to adopt the fine old Tory principle of ignoring the common people and could force through Parliament a mass of legislation to which is only desired by the "interests" and is equally opposed to the real interests of the people and Liberal principles.

This dangerous proposition is being fought to the end by the Liberals and they, in the interests of good government will oppose the closure with every constitutional means at their disposal as determinedly as they have fought the Naval Bill. It so completely changes the position with regard to the latter that it will undoubtedly influence the Senate when the Naval Bill reaches the Red Chamber.

What the closure includes is shown by the following comparison between the old and the proposed rules. While the Government claim that these rules are antiquated they were only adopted in May 1909 and have worked satisfactorily until the Government found it necessary to garrot the Opposition to win its ends.

Old Rule 21 provided that no member should speak twice in full session, except to correct any misapprehension, with the proviso that the mover of the matter under debate should be allowed to reply at the close, but "It is the duty of Mr. Speaker to see that every member wishing to speak has the opportunity to do so before the final reply."

Under the closure on motion of any minister the gag may be applied on the succeeding day, with twenty minutes as the limit for

speeches, and the vote to be taken at two in the morning whether any member wishes to speak or not. With a friendly Speaker the whole time could easily be monopolized by the Government.

The old rules provided that in Committee members could speak as often as they thought fit.

Under the closure, supply can be forced through by a simple motion that the question be now put, which which cannot be debated or amended.

This old rule provided that before going into committee of supply any member could voice any grievance or censure that might be necessary, and this could be debated.

Closure cuts this all off. It puts the gag on censure in effect a complete stop could be put to the ventilation of such scandals as the MacDonald by-election, the Codrington charges of the Pelletier post-office mail bag scandal. It takes away an invaluable right enjoyed by the people's representatives for 600 years.

The practical effect is that the closure will guillotine discussion at the will of the government; force through any measure they desire any scandal they do not wish ventilated. It would be hard to imagine such a measure as in the interests of the people.

The Toronto Star is pained to find Hon. W. T. White, Minister of Finance, astray in his Bible knowledge. In his speech on the Closure the Minister of Finance made a reference to something as being "like the image seen in his dream by Belshazzar, principally brass but with feet of clay." "That," says the Star, "was not Belshazzar's dream. It was Nebuchadnezzar's. Let us refer Hon. W. T. White to the second chapter of the second book of Daniel from the 31st to the 33rd verses. What Mr. White really seems to have been thinking about was the hand writing on the wall."

Commodore Stewart, the bachelor-statesman-journalist from Northumberland, is a candidate for alderman in Chatham. In his paper, The World he makes a strong bid for the support of the widow on the ground that he was instrumental in having the tax exemption on their property increased from \$100 to \$500. With all due respect to the worthy Commodore, we don't think he has much claim on the feminine vote.

The local government should get busy at once and provide a ferry service at the highway bridge. It is a fortnight now since the draw span was carried away and the people have been put to a great deal of inconvenience. They have been very patient, but patience will soon cease to be a virtue.

The announcement is made in the Tory press that Premier Fleming, Attorney General Grimmer and Provincial Secretary McLeod are to leave on a junketing expedition to Ottawa. We are told that they are to discuss "the long standing fishery claim" with the Federal authorities.

Mr. C. J. Morrissey, son of Hon. John Morrissey, has been elected mayor of Newcastle by acclamation. Last year he aspired to the position but was defeated.

NOTHING SMALL
ABOUT SWEENEY CLAIM

A Boston paper recently published the following:

"An injunction was granted today by Judge Crosby in the equity motion at the session of the Suffolk Superior Court on a bill filed by Alfred L. Sweeney against Nathaniel Jones and others. This injunction is binding upon R. E. Paine of Brooklyn and Clarence Hale of Portland, who are trustees of large paper and pulp tract land in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.

It appears that Messrs Paine and Hale have consolidated many interests in timber limits in counties in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia and that they are about disposing of them to Messrs Jones, Schofield and other associates for SEVERAL MILLION DOLLARS. Jones, Schofield and associates owe a large sum of money to the petitioner Alfred Sweeney, a citizen of Boston and Mr. Sweeney is restraining them and also Messrs Paine and Hale from conveying these valuable timber and pulp resources to other capitalists. From information received we are reliably informed that the property involved in the option and which the injunction is

FOUND THE CAUSE
THE REST WAS EASY

Dodd's Kidney Pills Quickly Cured His Kidney Disease

How Hudson Marchbank, After Suffering for Five Years, Found Quick Relief and Permanent Cure in the Greatest of Canadian Remedies

Marchbank, King's County, N.B., April 14—(Special)—After suffering for five years from kidney disease, brought on by a strain, Hudson Marchbank, Esq., the well-known farmer of this place, is again a strong, healthy man, and another grand cure for Dodd's Kidney Pills has been put on record. In an interview, Mr. Marchbank says:

"About five years ago I hurt my back from lifting and it developed into kidney disease. My back pained me all the time and I was very much troubled with headaches. My appetite was awful, I had a bitter taste in my mouth in the mornings; I perspired freely and my perspiration had a disagreeable odor.

"I used liniments and plasters but they did not do me any good and as there were other symptoms that my kidneys were affected I decided to try Dodd's Kidney Pills. After using two boxes my back was completely cured and my kidneys have not troubled me since."

When Mr. Marchbank decided that his kidneys were the cause of his troubles, the rest was easy. Almost any of his neighbors could tell him that Dodd's Kidney Pills always cure diseased kidneys.

NATIVE OF NASHWAAK.

The St. John Globe has the following:—The latest New Brunswicker to come back to his native province to live, after years spent in the United States and the Canadian West, is Mr. J. S. McBean of Victoria, B.C. Messrs. Alfred Burley & Co. has just sold him the Nathan Benjamin farm at the head of the second Lake Loch Lomond. The new owner is a native of the Nashwaak and for the past twenty-five years has been ranching all through the American and Canadian West. Now he has made up his mind that there are just as good opportunities here as elsewhere for the industrious farmer and he has come back to stay. The property consists of 300 acres of good land, with excellent buildings. He takes immediate possession.

There are lots of things as unsettled as the weather, if not more so. The naval question, for instance, and the war in the Balkans.

to bind has been variously estimated at from \$24,000,000 to \$30,000,000. (Mr. Sweeney spent some time in this vicinity a few years ago and was supposed to be carrying on negotiations for the Gibson property. Some of his Fredericton friends would be pleased to hear of him making a raise from some source)

FORTY YEARS IN USE, 20 YEARS THE STANDARD, PRESCRIBED AND RECOMMENDED BY PHYSICIANS. FOR WOMAN'S AILMENTS, DR. MARTEL'S FEMALE PILLS, AT YOUR DRUGGIST.

Cure That March Cold?

The dangers of a MARCH COLD are just as serious as any other. Don't treat the attending aches and pains of MARCH COLDs lightly. They are serious enough to deserve your immediate attention.

HUNT'S
Laxative Cold Tablets
are tablets upon which you can rely at all times.
25c a bottle.

HUNT & MACDONALD
DRUGGISTS PHONE 65

FOR CHILDREN
"The CLASSIC SHOE"

Made on Wide Toe Lasts Perfect Fitting
Highest Grade of Leather
Tan, Black and Patent

H. S. CAMPBELL SHOEMAN

JOHN J. WEDDALL & SON

Linoleums and Oilcloths

The most popular and Sanitary Floor Coverings for Bed Rooms, Halls, Dining Room, Kitchen, Bath, etc.

HOUSEKEEPING and HOUSECLEANING is made a Pleasure when using our Oilcloths and Linoleums.

The Dust is all on the surface and easily removed, and unlike Carpets, do not have to be taken up for Housecleaning. We carry the following widths and designs.

OILCLOTHS in 1, 1 1/2, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 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