

THE DAILY MAIL

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TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1916

What I said November 9, I repeat now: "We shall never sheathe the sword, which we have not lightly drawn, until Belgium—and I will add Serbia—recover in full measure all and more than they have sacrificed; until France is adequately secured against aggression; until the rights of the small nations of Europe are based upon an unassailable foundation, and until the military domination of Prussia is wholly and finally destroyed."—Premier Asquith.

MORE GOVERNMENT BUNGLING.

An answer given by Hon. Dr. Landry in the Legislature on Friday last in reply to a question by Mr. Dugal ought to startle this province, if the province has not become so accustomed to revelations of mismanagement and fraud as to cease to be startled.

The Flemming government a few years ago handed over to the C. P. R. the New Brunswick Coal & Railway line. It was announced at the time that the C. P. R. was to pay to the province 50 per cent. of the net earnings—mark that; it is not gross earnings that are to be divided, as is the case with the Valley Railway and other railways in the province, but earnings after all possible items of expense have been paid. People then felt that the C. P. R. would see to it that there were no net earnings to be divided with the province. Time has proved this to be true; so that the transfer was practically a gift of the railway to the C. P. R. for a period of nine hundred and ninety-nine years.

But it now appears by the answer handed down by Dr. Landry, that what had been told before was only half the story. Besides giving away the railway, the C. P. R. was given a free hand to spend money on the road in the way of betterment, and the province was to pay the interest on the whole amount which the C. P. R. chose to spend and was also to pay a portion of the principal.

One naturally asks, How much of such easy money will the C. P. R. decide to expend in this way? The answer handed down does not disclose that the agreement binds the C. P. R. to confine itself to any limit, and from other dealings of the government we will be safe in assuming there is no limit.

This business-like government does not know what has been spent upon their account since Dec. 31st, 1914, nor how much interest the province has become liable for since that time. But one thing the government does know, and that is that up to Dec. 31st, 1914, the C. P. R. claims to have spent in betterment \$97,413.53, and that the province must pay five per cent. interest on that sum. In other words, this province must not only continue to pay for all time the interest on a million dollars and over which originally went into the road, but must continue to pay to the C. P. R. \$4,870.67 per year interest on this \$97,413.53 which the company is said to have spent in improving this road, which was presented to them, and must also pay interest upon whatever sum the C. P. R. may since that time have spent and may continue to spend.

The C. P. R. seems not to have followed in this case the old adage, "Never look a gift horse in the mouth." When the government gave them the railway, the C. P. R. seems to have insisted upon the government providing money to improve it; and, like dutiful servants, the Flemming government agreed to do so.

Must the province also pay the interest on every sum the C. P. R. chooses to spend during the whole period of 999 years for which the road was handed over? If so it may be taken for granted that there is provision for another election fund hidden away in the scheme, as there was in the contract for the Valley Railway—and the province will pay interest on this as well.

It is time the whole contract was made public. Is it not time that these stewards of the people, as the Hon. Mr. Morrissey designates the government, informed the people what they have done with the people's property, and thus cease their hedging and prevarication?

In other words, is it not time for the government to commence telling the truth?

If the government does not soon carry out its promise and deal with the case of Mr. A. J. H. Stewart, M. P., it will be up to the opposition members of the Legislature to challenge his right to hold his seat. It is understood that Mr. Stewart's case was a topic for discussion at the last government caucus, and several pure and high-minded statesmen, including

Harry Woods, George B. Jones, Doctor Price and J. L. White, expressed the opinion that he was not good enough for them to associate with. It seems that Mr. Stewart's great misfortune is that he was caught with the goods. His critics on the government benches claim that if he had any regard for the interests of the party he would have exercised greater care. Having failed to do this, he must go the way of Kidd Flemming.

Mr. W. B. Chandler, K. C., of Moncton, once went on record as stating that what the province of New Brunswick needed was not heaven-born statesmen, but a little common honesty in the administration of its affairs. What must Mr. Chandler think of the statement made in the Legislature last week, that a certain report which he made in his capacity of a Royal Commissioner was not sufficiently specific to warrant the government in taking action against the men whom he found guilty of plundering the public treasury.

The resolution declaring for national prohibition for a period of three years was defeated in Parliament yesterday by a vote of 67 to 46. Five Conservatives voted for the resolution and four Liberals voted against it. Quite a number of members were absent when the vote was taken. An amendment by Mr. R. B. Bennett, of Calgary, passing the question along to the various provinces to deal with, was adopted.

Chatham World: The only source from which the Provincial Government can get the money to pay interest on the cost of its proposed road to Vanceboro is the lumber industry of the province. Will the lumber interests of this county support a policy that will necessarily result in the imposition of a higher rate of stumpage? If not, they should get busy in opposition to the Government's schemes.

Sir George E. Foster apparently did not seem to have one of his moments of weakness yesterday when the prohibition question was before Parliament. Consequently he did not record his vote for Mr. Stevens' resolution.

ON THE SIDE.

Who is going to see the first robin?

We can't help it—what is the Easter hat going to cost?

It's the young man's fancy that puts the ring in spring.

As a stayer, Stewart, of Gloucester, is in a class by himself.

As a real weather prophet the first spring robin can give the groundhog spades and cards.

Last June's brides are now prepared to give competent advice to next June's.

"Great Men Poor Talkers." Then it's only the ones that think they are great that we so frequently hear.

New Brunswick now has a Premier and an acting Premier on the job—and still things are not going right.

What will the maple honey makers of Queensbury do for bottles when we get prohibition?

Can't you wait 999 years and see the government make a success of giving away railroads to the C. P. R.? Gee, but you're impatient!

No, Mr. Ivorydome, we are not sure Willard and Moran were not pulling off a Charlie Chaplin imitation until we see the films.

PROVINCE MUST PAY FOR VANCEBORO LINE

(From Hansard, March 20.)

Mr. Carvell—Who is to pay the expense of building the road (from a point north of Fredericton to Vanceboro)?

Hon. Mr. Rogers—I suppose the Valley Railway will assume the responsibility of building the road from Meductic to some point on the national boundary.

Mr. Pugsley—My honorable friend has not been very definite as to two propositions. One is as to the connection between Fredericton and Vanceboro or some other point on the international boundary. As I understand it, Mr. Gutelius recommends that that branch be built by the St. John & Quebec Railway under the general law, under which provision would be made for the government of New Brunswick to guarantee the bonds of the road. That would mean an addition to the indebtedness of the province of New Brunswick of the cost of this connection with the New England system. That is the proposition of Mr. Gutelius?

Mr. Rogers—That is the proposition.

Mr. Rogers had already said that while the government of New Brunswick had answered definitely with re-

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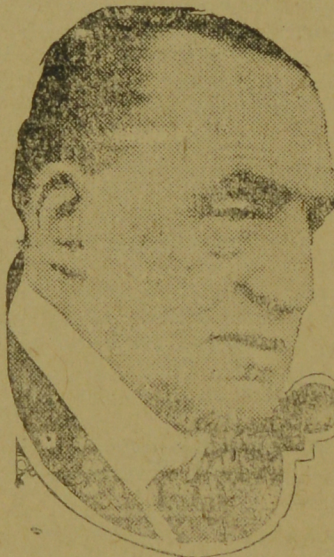
You feel different as soon as "Pape's Diapepsin" comes in contact with the stomach—distress just vanishes—your stomach gets sweet, no gases, no belching, no eructations of undigested food, your head clears and you feel fine.

Go now, make the best investment you ever made, by getting a large fifty-cent case of Pape's Diapepsin from any drug store. You will realize in five minutes how needless it is to suffer from indigestion, dyspepsia or any stomach disorder.

CARSON MAY LEAD
THE OPPOSITION

(Canadian Press.)

London, March 28—The morning papers give prominence to the announcement that Sir Edward Carson is restored to health and that he will mark his return to parliament by presiding today over the Conservative party's war committee.

SIR EDWARD CARSON
the "Winter Leader"

The Morning Post believes that Sir Edward intends to form and to lead an opposition to the coalition government. The newspapers wish him success in the venture and says:

"Nobody can say the country is satisfied with the way it is now governed. The coalition still has an obedient parliament and the whole power of the nation at its back, but it is so weak that it exists only because no alternative has yet been organized. We attribute the debility of the coalition government to the fact that it has never touched the heart nor embodied the spirit of the British people. How can a nation show confidence in the government, which has never shown any confidence in itself?"

"The nation is conscious of a certain lack of leadership."

spect to the extension of the road from Gagetown to Westfield, they had not answered definitely with respect to the Vanceboro branch. As to this Dr. Pugsley said:

"I do not wonder that the government of New Brunswick has not signified to this government its acceptance of such a proposition. I do not hesitate to say that such a proposition (New Brunswick to issue bonds for the Vanceboro line) would be resisted most strenuously by the vast majority of the people of New Brunswick, because they feel that they have already on their shoulders a sufficiently heavy burden in connection with the Valley Railway, without undertaking a further obligation of two or three millions for the purpose of getting another, and to my mind utterly useless, connection with the New England system."

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WAR TIME ECONOMY.

The Auditor General's report, under the heading of "Contingencies, Lieut- enant Governor," contains the follow- ing:

A. G. Plummer, 200 dinner cards	\$10.00
A. G. Plummer, 200 Christmas cards	10.00
A. G. Plummer, alteration to dinner card plate	2.00
A. G. Plummer, 500 At Home cards, and plate, etc.	31.00
A. G. Plummer, embossing cards for Government House, Sackville.	.91
J. Spence & Co., 3 Union Jacks for Govt. House and Office.	13.75
The Gleaner, Ltd., advertising receptions	10.78
J. T. G. Hatt, coaching, Fredericton	337.25
D. Watson, coaching, St. John	119.70

WHAT SHE FEARED.

He—Why so pensive—aren't you enjoying the prom?
She—Oh, yes, but I'm afraid people'll think I'm a co-ed.

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