

## THE DAILY MAIL

Published every afternoon (except Sunday) at 613 Queen Street, Fredericton, by THE MAIL PRINTING COMPANY.

Subscription price.....\$3.00 per year  
Telephone 67.

MONDAY, MAY 29, 1916

## A LAME EXPLANATION.

Rev. J. B. Daggett, Secretary of Agriculture, has come to the front with a belated statement concerning his payment of \$500 toward the celebrated big note negotiated in the interests of political purity and honest government at the time of the Guthrie-Scott by-election in York. Stripped of verbiage, including a reference to one Judas Iscariot, the statement is nothing more than an admission that Mr. Blair's version of the transaction as set forth in his statutory declaration, is correct. Rev. Mr. Daggett confesses that he came across with \$500 to help retire a note, the proceeds of which were used for a corrupt purpose, but says that it was nothing more than "a simple act of kindness to Mr. Blair." The parties who were induced to put their names on the back of the now celebrated note no doubt were under the impression that they were doing "a simple act of kindness" to Mr. J. Kidd Flemming, who assured them that the money would be promptly forthcoming to retire the said note; but in the end they got stung and had to pay up. Rev. Mr. Daggett seems to have been much more fortunate; but one would think by the way he whines that he was an endorser of the note and had been stuck for the entire amount of it. Although according to his belated confession he committed "the greatest blunder" and the "worst mistake" of his whole life when he "listened to the pleadings of Harry M. Blair and assisted him in what he professed to be a tight corner," he is not out of pocket one dollar by his act of philanthropy. He merely went to Hon. Mr. Murray, the head of his department, talked the matter over with him, "thinking only of Major Guthrie, who was at the front," and secured a promise from the Minister, who also seems to have had "great admiration for Major Guthrie," that \$500 would be forthcoming. Being assured that he was taking no risk, he drew \$500 from his "personal account" at the Bank of Commerce, and with this amount he pulled "my friend Blair out of the mud." He does not deny Blair's statement that he handed the money over to Mr. T. V. Monahan of the Barker House, but he says that in less than a week the money was paid back to him.

Rev. Mr. Daggett is described by Hon. Mr. Murray as an "ex-clergyman of the Baptist denomination" and "still a member in good standing" of that denomination. It is urged on this account by Hon. Mr. Murray that "his statements with regard to the affair will have greater weight with the people of the province than that made by Mr. Blair." Possibly this may be true, but in this particular instance there does not seem to be any question of veracity involved. Mr. Blair in his affidavit states that Rev. J. B. Daggett contributed \$500 towards the payment of an election note, and that the funds were provided by Hon. J. A. Murray, the head of his department. Is this statement denied by Rev. Mr. Daggett? Not a bit of it! He admits every word of it, and winds up by intimating that Blair is a Judas Iscariot for placing the facts before the public. Rev. Mr. Daggett is the Secretary of Agriculture and it is no part of his duties to finance a political note. He could very well have kept out of the mess just as other less pious government officials kept out of it. As "an ex-clergyman of the Baptist denomination" he should not have allowed himself to be dragged down to the level of a political heeler. His wishy-washy story about having been actuated by feelings of admiration for Major Guthrie will not go down with an intelligent public. Rev. Mr. Daggett made a mistake when he helped finance an election note, and he made another mistake when he tried to explain it away.

It is reported from Westmorland that the so-called Local Government party as at its disposal an enormous hoard of funds for use in the by-election. Desperate men are playing for a big stake, and they will stop at nothing to accomplish their object. A party which spent \$20,000 in York to defeat an independent candidate in a by-election will not hesitate to spend \$100,000 in Westmorland to defeat Dr. Smith.

According to Mr. Harry Blair's affidavit the only contributions received towards the \$5,000 note was one of \$500 from Rev. J. B. Daggett, and another of \$75 from J. Malakoff Chappell. Rev. Mr. Daggett's benevolence was prompted by a desire to save Major Guthrie, while the thought uppermost in J. Malakoff's mind was to save the party at the expense of Major Guthrie.

"Send along another ten thousand" was the somewhat urgent message

which Sir John A. Macdonald is said to have forwarded to Sir Hugh Allen more than forty years ago. What response Sir Hugh made is not a matter of record. We do know, however, that when Mr. J. Kidd Flemming got a similar message during the York by-election, he came across with \$6,900.

Rev. J. B. Daggett says that when he listened to the pleadings of H. M. Blair and helped finance the big note, he committed the greatest blunder of his career. The parties who endorsed the note and got stung also appear to have committed a grave blunder.

## ON THE SIDE.

Amateur gardeners can expect a visit from Jack Frost early in June.

The fearless and outspoken silence of the local graft organ on the local political situation is some joke.

The rich man is thankful if he has a good digestion; the poor man if he has anything to digest.

"Kids to be Germ Proof." Yes, if you can only get 'em to wash good back of the ears on Saturday.

It is not always wise to judge the head by the glory of the new straw hat.

All three members of the police commission sang in the same church choir on Sunday.

These are the days when cunning little potato bugs hover around waiting to welcome the first potato to get above ground.

The June bug is around again with all his old-time sociability. He will give you a bump in the eye and enter the house without knocking.

As far as can be learned, the June bug and the kissing bug are not related, though they appear to have quite a lot in common.

VENIOT AND LANDRY  
IN JOINT DEBATE

Memrancook, N.B., May 28—More than two thousand people assembled to hear the joint debate between Dr. Landry and P. J. Veniot here today. The best of order prevailed and the speeches took place in the open air. Dr. Landry spoke first, for one hour, and spent forty-five minutes explaining the Kent and Gloucester county forged checks. He also tried to explain the Flemming deal. He touched next on the old government and never touched on the public debt or other important questions.

Mr. Veniot followed, showing where Dr. Landry had placed misinterpretation on the findings of the Royal Commission. Dr. Landry having said the "government forced Flemming to resign to clean the house," Mr. Veniot asked him why he voted to whitewash Flemming.

Mr. Veniot then dealt with the public debt, the increase in interest, the oyster bed, steel, and every point he made he placed official document under Dr. Landry's nose and defied him to contradict him, which he could not do. Dr. Landry took quarter of an hour to reply but it did not seem to make any impression on the crowd.

Mr. Dugal, in rising to speak, got one of the grandest receptions ever given to a public man. He certainly had seven-eighths of the immense crowd with him. He made a very telling and effective speech. Memramcook will give Smith a large majority.

AMERICAN AVIATORS WITNESS  
VERDUN FIGHT FROM CLOUDS

Paris, May 23 (Delayed)—Because of unusual skill and bravery shown by the American aviators in the course of the week they have been at the front they have now been transferred to the Verdun sector, where, on account of the present onslaught by the enemy, they will have full opportunity to chase aerial foes.

William Thaw of Pittsburg, and Elliott Cowden of New York, served in this region several days a few weeks ago, but the first American to fly over the battlefield since the Germans renewed their attack was Carroll Winslow of New York. Winslow, who, on this occasion, received his baptism of fire, described the scene to me thus:

"The French pilot who was with me was familiar with the Verdun region, and he pointed out Dead Man's Hill. It was just when the Germans were making their Sunday attack on that famous position, but there was no battle to be seen. There was nothing but smoke and it looked more like a forest fire than anything else. On account of the altitude and the noise of the motor I could not hear the cannon, but when we landed at an aero camp where we were to pass the night, the noise was terrific. The weary pilot, accustomed to banging, slept peacefully, but I could not. It was like a tremendous, never-ending thunderstorm, magnified several times."

STUDEBAKER TAKES OUT  
DOMINION CHARTER

Announcement is just made by the Studebaker Corporation of Canada, Ltd., that in line with their policy of expansion and in view of the fast increasing sales of Studebaker cars in all parts of Canada, a 'dominion charter has been secured to replace the previous charter taken out in the Province of Ontario, under which the Studebaker Corporation has been conducting its affairs.

While the re-incorporation of the Studebaker is one of the most important events of the year in automobile circles, the move is not one to occasion surprise, when it is known that direct factory branches for the sales of Studebaker cars are being opened in the Provinces of British Columbia and Alberta, with several others in prospect. In view of this expansion, involving the extension beyond the Province of Ontario, where the Studebaker plant is located, there are certain undeniable advantages in incorporating under a dominion charter, as the Studebaker Corporation has done, making it purely a Canadian company, which will assemble and sell Studebaker cars in Canada as an independent unit.

In securing the new charter, the Studebaker Corporation becomes a full fledged independent Canadian business. Sales of Studebaker cars have doubled since January 1 over their record during the corresponding period last year and the great factories at Walkerville are working full capacity all the time to keep pace with Canadian orders for cars.

Judging from reports sent in by Sales Manager J. E. Grady, who is on a trip among western Studebaker dealers, every indication points to a continuation of the record business which has been the rule thus far this year. Mr. Grady reports unprecedented prosperity and declares that the bright conditions everywhere will have their effect in bringing the demand for cars up to a new high mark.

Destructive Fire  
In Vancouver

Vancouver, B.C., May 29.—Fire today partially destroyed the million dollar plant of the New England Fish Co., and the Alberta Pacific grain elevator here. The loss is estimated at \$600,000. No lives were lost.

For a third time the entire water front was threatened, as the fire department is working short handed, for many of its members have departed for service in the British army.

Eight Jurors in  
Murder Trial

Waukegan, Ill., May 29.—At the opening today of the third week of the trial of W. H. Orpet for the murder of Marion Lambert, eight jurors had been sworn in and one man had been tentatively accepted. Since the trial began 738 men have been examined for jury duty and fifty more were summoned today.

## PIONEERS

(Continued from page 8.)

## Five Recruits.

Last week was very poor as far as local recruiting is concerned. Five men were enlisted but only four were shown in the official report, the other enlisting too late on Saturday. There seems to be no reason which can be assigned for the ups and downs in recruiting. The last recruit is John S. Lint, 20, Royal Road, who joined the 145th Battalion at Moncton. He is the first recruit to enlist here for the 145th.

## PERSONAL.

Mr. A. D. Poitias of Montreal, is in the city.  
Mr. W. B. Wallace of St. John, is at the Queen.  
Mr. R. G. Willard of Montreal, is a guest at the Queen.

## BARS MUST CLOSE.

Winnipeg, May 29.—All hotel bars and liquor stores in Manitoba discontinued business Wednesday evening.

This is "Middy Waist" Season  
Children's Middy Waists

in 6, 8, 10, and 12 years

White with Red Collars

White with Blue Collars

White with White Collars

## Ladies' Middy Waists

White with Blue Collars and Pockets

White with White Collars and Pockets

Blue and White Stripes

Pink and White Stripes

Drop in and secure one of these waists while the sizes are here.

## JOHN J. WEDDALL &amp; SON

## LAWN TENNIS GOODS

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Racquets, Balls, Nets and Tapes.

Every Racquet Guaranteed.

Genuine Slazenger's English Tennis Balls

50c each or \$1.35 per set of 3.

## R. CHESTNUT &amp; SONS

WHOLESALE

THE HARDWARE PEOPLE

RETAIL

DOMESTIC SANITARY AND HEATING ENGINEERS

## THE CHINESE CAFE

Persons wishing a good meal or lunch should call at the new Chinese Cafe. Excellent dinners served for 25 cents. Don't forget to try the famous Chop Suey.

Good board with or without lodging. Meal tickets sold. Orders taken for home cooking.

Upstairs over E. G. Hoben's Store, cor. King and York streets.

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