

MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE HOLD UP OF LIQUOR MEN

Another Sworn Affidavit by H. M. Blair
Read at Political Meeting in Dorchester
--Baxter's Henchmen Wanted to Buy
up Members of the House for \$50 Each
--B. Frank Smith was Sandwiched at a
Joint Political Meeting.

Dorchester, May 24.—J. H. Hickman presided at a large and enthusiastic meeting here tonight in the interests of the Opposition party. P. J. Veniot and E. S. Carter made rattling speeches. Mr. Veniot, who spoke for forty-five minutes, dealt fully with the patriotic potatoes question, and pointed out that the refund of \$4,000 from B. Frank Smith, M. P. P., was not mentioned in the Auditor General's report of last year at all, and at the close of his speech he invited Mr. Smith, who had come in while he was speaking, to take the platform and make any answer he could. Mr. Smith accepted, and it was understood that he should have half an hour to speak. He was allowed forty minutes and he made much the same defence of his connection with the purchase of the potatoes as he made in the Legislature, but he did not explain why there was not any mention of the transaction in the Auditor General's report.

He made the interesting statement that he had no connection whatever with the firm of A. C. Smith & Co., of St. John. At the close of this speech he said that Flemming had done wrong but that no government was perfect, and that this government was as good as the average.

Mr. Carter's Speech.

E. S. Carter then spoke, going over what Mr. Smith had said and pointing out that there should be no profiteering in matters of this kind. He charged Mr. Smith with shipping potatoes in much greater quantity than could possibly have been thought to be necessary.

Mr. Carter took up some of the matters that had been discussed and half denied by Messrs. Baxter and Murray. He referred with some particularity to the collection of the liquor funds in St. John in the winter of 1915, and to the letter Mr. Dugal had read in the House of Assembly.

With some detail Mr. Carter recited the story of the liquor collection, particularly when legislation affecting the gentlemen in that business in St. John was foreshadowed. Two legal associates of the Attorney General went to Fredericton, and before the legislation was introduced and while it was under consideration, lobbied in the interests of their clients. He said that the nature of the lobbying was best described in a statement that had been made by H. M. Blair, formerly secretary of Public Works, who had been asked by one of these men to assist him to do the work. Mr. Blair occupied probably a unique position. He was the active official in connection with the greatest spending department of the government; he was in closer connection with the members of the House than any other official of the government; when they wanted favors they went to Harry Blair; if there was additional road money to be spent it was through

Harry Blair they made the request. So when the lawyer in question approached Mr. Blair to help him in connection with his lobbying, he knew very well what he was doing.

The Blair Affidavit.

Mr. Carter finished his speech by reading an affidavit by H. M. Blair dealing with one feature of the fund collected from the liquor licensees of St. John city and county at the time when legislation adverse to them was known to be under consideration by the government.

Blair in his affidavit asserted, with many details, that the legal associate of the Attorney General came to him Fredericton at the time in question, and asked his assistance in lobbying on behalf of the liquor interests. When Blair asked what he (Blair) was to do he was told to go among members of the Legislature and see how many he could get for \$50 each. This interview took place in the Barker House, Blair swore, in the writing room, and immediately afterward Blair decided to inform the Attorney General about it, as he thought lobbying against what he believed to be a government measure might be dangerous for an official to take part in. He started for Hon. Mr. Baxter's room, he said, but met him at the top of the stairs and they went into the parlor together.

He said he told Mr. Baxter that his partner had asked his assistance in this business. He was speaking in a fairly loud tone and Mr. Baxter asked him to come around to the other side as he was hard of hearing in one ear. He said he did so, and then told the Attorney General about the proposed bribery, and that Mr. Baxter said: "I must not know anything about this, you understand," but that the Attorney General told him it would be all right to go ahead with the other man.

Blair in his affidavit said that he took no part in the lobbying or bribing of any member and has no personal knowledge of what was done. Blair's affidavit also dealt with the Moncton bridge contract, in connection with which he says that Mr. Baxter's partner or legal associate offered him \$1,000 if he would arrange to give the contract to a West St. John firm.

Blair refused. Subsequently he says he told Mr. Baxter about this, and Mr. Baxter said he would like to see that firm get the contract if they felt they could handle it.

Blair said that when he told Hon. Mr. Morrissey later the Minister asked him why he did not kick the lawyer out of his office when he was offered \$1,000.

Mr. Carter then compared the facts as stated by Mr. Blair to the statements made by Mr. Baxter, that no member of the government knew anything of this liquor collection.

You never hear a dressmaker say that figures cannot lie.

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G RMAN CHANCELLOR DISCUSSES PEACE

New York, May 23.—A special cable to the World from Staff Correspondent Carl H. Von Wiegand at Berlin, under yesterday's date, contains the following statements as given in an interview by Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg:

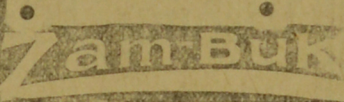
"I have twice publicly stated that Germany has been and is prepared to discuss the termination of the war upon a basis that offers a guaranty against further attack from the coalition of her enemies and insures peace to Europe.

"Only when statesmen of the warring nations come down to a basis of the real facts; when they take the war situation as every war map shows it to be; when with honest, sincere will they are prepared to discuss war and peace problems with one another in a practical manner—only then will we be enaring peace.

"I fear we will not come nearer to the peace desired by all peoples as long as the responsible statesmen of the Entente powers indulge in and confine themselves to observations about Prussian militarism and to pathetic declamations about their own superiority and perfection."

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EXPERT TELLS PROPER WAY TO SOW SPINACH

(By Prof. Spade.)

Spinach seed may be sown early in hotbed or cold frame, or when the ground is workable, out in the open. It is ready for table use in six weeks after sowing.

Cover seeds about one inch deep and sow about 40 seeds to the foot in rows. Successive sowings will give you spinach all season. Thin plants where too thick, and use thinnings for table.

Spinach may be sown in early spring between rows of peas, cabbage or potatoes, or any other slow maturing crop.

A little nitrate of soda on the land will help the crop wonderfully both in early growth and in the production of large leaves. For late spinach sow in August, which may be carried through the winter by covering with straw.

TYPISTS WHO HAVE DONE WELL OUT OF THE GREAT WAR

(Continued on page 3.)

and \$30,000 to Honorary Col. William McBain, of Valcartier Camp fame.

This leaves \$25,000 to be accounted for. It probably remains in the Allison family—the Colonel will use it as cigar money.

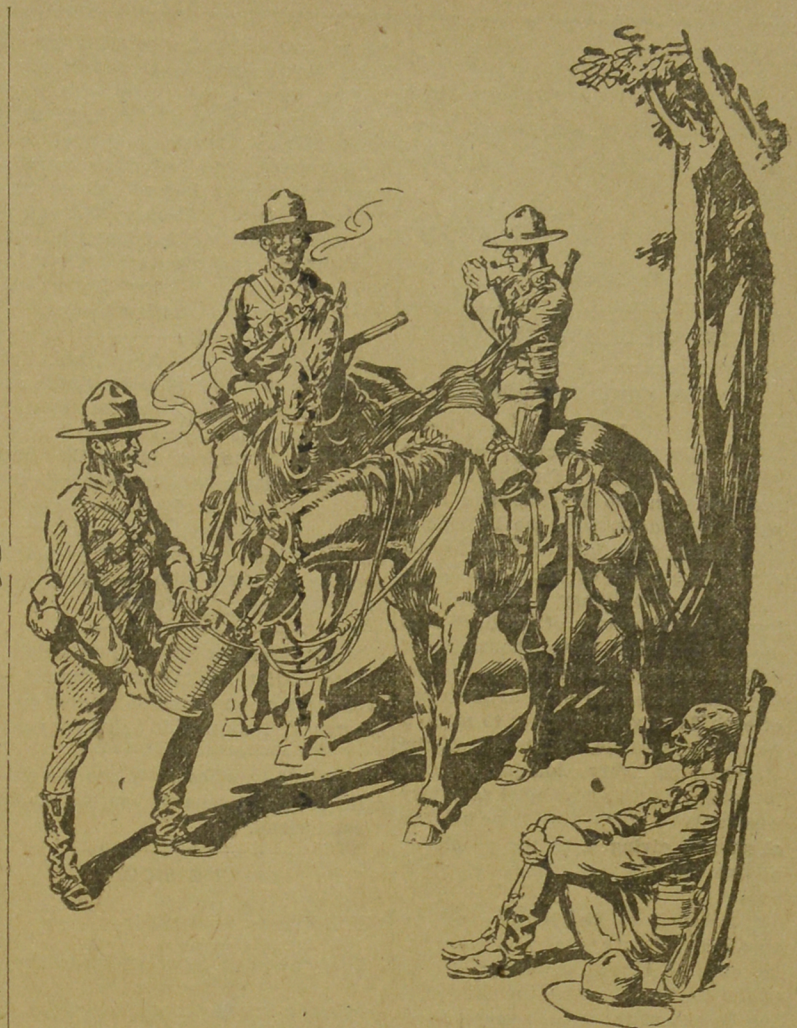
A Toothsome Amount.

The \$105,000 to Miss Edwards, Allison's sister-in-law-secretary, is a more toothsome amount. If Miss Edwards did not have a good figure before, she certainly has one now. We can well imagine with what tender affection she will be regarded in the Allison family and how carefully she will be guarded from fortune hunters and people like that. Private secretaries of the gentler sex seem to have found this war a bountiful jade. Miss Ena McAdam, Sir Sam's secretary, it will be remembered, had a shovel with a hole in the middle patented and Sir Sam forthwith ordered \$35,000 worth for his department; and now comes Miss Edwards, who pulls down \$105,000 for secretarial work of even a lighter character. Their success cannot fail to cause a spirit of unrest among lady amanuenses the Dominion over. Hereafter \$15 a week for typewriters will be counted a mere bagatelle.

This evidence also discloses the function of honorary colonels. Honorary Colonel Geo. Washington Stephens seems to have got \$10,000 because he was a rich man and could therefore stand a little more. Col. Wm. McBain, who is also a rich man, got \$30,000 for no other reason than to keep his sweet smile. Sir Sam has always admired Col. McBain's white teeth.

Judging from the evidence, the Honorary Colonel's duty is to receive a commission from Sir Sam in the first place and to take one from everybody he can ever afterwards.

A real colonel "does" his bit, but an honorary colonel "gets" him.



TOMMY NEEDS THE SMOKES.

Contributions to the Overseas Tobacco Fund may be left at the Board of Trade rooms or with the Canadian Bank of Commerce.

Mail Ads Bring Results

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We have just opened a shipment of pretty Silk Crepe de Chene Waists, Voil Dresses, Wash Gloves, Fancy Hosiery, Middies, Wash Skirts, Children's Dresses, etc.

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The Printing and Publicity Specialist Talks To His Son

"Say, John, I feel quite sick today," said Mr. Blank. "Please visit the different doctors in town, and find out who will cure me for the least money. Get your quotations tabulated and then let me see them. Of course we will engage the doctor who charges the least."

"Why, I never heard of such a thing," said John. "The idea of getting quotations from a doctor; it's the asylum for you."

"Well now, why not? I am a specialist in printing and publicity. I study my business just as carefully as any doctor can do. If I do say it that shouldn't, I have just as much brains as the average doctor. I strive to give my customers the benefit of my knowledge, my artistic skill and judgement and my ideas on publicity. I give service as the term is understood in the Twentieth Century.

"When some people around here have a little printing to be done, they visit all the printing offices, get quotations from each one, and then give the work to the man who gives the lowest figures.

"The ordinary user of printing knows his own business, but he is no more a judge of the work of printing than he is a judge of what sort of medicine a doctor should give him for the cure of his ailment. If people ask me for quotations and pass me by if my price happens to be a little more than the other fellow, why shouldn't I apply the same method to the doctor, lawyer, dentist and painter? Why not? It's a mighty poor rule that won't work more than one way."

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