

THE DAILY MAIL

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FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 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.

GOVERNMENT BACKS DOWN.

Despatches from Ottawa state that the Borden Government is in a panic over Mr. Kyte's speech delivered on Tuesday on the motion of Sir Wilfrid Laurier for an enquiry into the operations of the first Shell Commission. Mr. Kyte, who represents Richmond, N. S., in Parliament, certainly handed out some straight talk and backed it up with documentary evidence which the Government cannot very well afford to ignore.

It will be remembered that when Hon. Dr. Pugsley preferred his charges in Parliament several days ago against the Shell Commission, Hon. Arthur Meighen, Solicitor General, and one of the Government's chief apologists, declared that an investigation could only be held with the consent of the Imperial War Office. Sir Robert Borden took the same ground, in his reply to the speech of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. As a result of the statements made by Sir Robert Borden and Hon. Arthur Meighen, the Government now finds itself between the devil and the deep sea. The Premier and his Solicitor General are on record as stating that no enquiry can be held while some twenty of the more honorable Conservative members of Parliament threatened to kick over the traces if an enquiry was not held.

Today's despatches state that the Government, yielding to the demand of many parliamentary supporters, will appoint a Royal Commission to investigate charges made in connection with the purchases made by one John Wesley Allison. Sir Sam Hughes has been ordered home from England and an effort will be made to make him the scapegoat for the administration. The Government's backdown is a decided victory for the opposition, particularly Hon. Dr. Pugsley, Mr. Carvell and Mr. Kyte, but the country will not be satisfied with any halfway measure. What is wanted is a thorough investigation into all war purchases, and punishment for those who have profited from "blood-stained graft." The question will come up in Parliament on Tuesday next, when the Opposition may be expected to renew their demands for a thorough and impartial investigation.

Mr. Pinder's speech in the Legislature yesterday will be rather disappointing to those of his friends who have been boasting for weeks that the old gentleman was going to take a fall out of the Government. Whatever Mr. Pinder's intentions may have been, he yielded to subtle promises made by Harry Woods and others, and fell into line as a humble supporter of the Government. He promised to make a few remarks on the public works estimates in supply, but any criticism he may offer will be directed at his ancient enemy, Hon. John Morrissey, and not at the Government. Mr. Pinder may be satisfied with the Government, but the Government is not satisfied with Mr. Pinder, and is planning to throw him overboard in this county at the next election.

In the Legislature on Tuesday Acting Premier Murray, in reply to a question in regard to Mr. A. R. Gould's loan from the Prudential Trust Company, stated that "it is the intention of the Government to repay any loan which had been legitimately made and the proceeds of which had gone into the construction of the railway." It is evident from this that the Government does not intend to repay that portion of Mr. Gould's loan, amounting to \$100,000 or so, which found its way into the Flemming corruption fund at the last election.

In the Legislature yesterday Mr. Slipp indulged in some milk and water criticism of the Agricultural Department. When such a thick-and-thin supporter of the Government as the junior member for Queens finds it necessary to criticize, even though he tempers his criticism to the shorn lamb, things must be in bad shape.

Conundrum: If the St. John Standard got \$14,000 from the gentlemen who handled the proceeds of the guaranteed bonds of the North New Brunswick and Seaboard Railway, how

much should it have received from the bond proceeds of the Valley Railway and the Southampton Railway?

Messrs. Dugal and Pelletier are doing their work and doing it well. It should not be necessary to ask for much of the information they are seeking, but there is so much secrecy now about public expenditure that many inquiries are necessary. The trouble appears to be that even then they can only get at part of the truth, and sometimes the truth is not told.

Mr. R. B. Hanson, one of the Local Government's paid advocates, was conspicuous at the Board of Trade meeting on Wednesday evening. Being apparently unable to justify the Government's change in plans, the best he could do was to move an adjournment with a view to shutting off discussion.

Acting Premier Murray and Attorney General Baxter have gone in a junketing trip to Ottawa on Valley Railway business. Will they bring another three million dollar promise? and will another change of route be announced on their return?

It is not much wonder that Government supporters in this city are afraid to place themselves on record with regard to the change of route of the Valley Railway. They are afraid that it may be changed again. Once bitten, twice shy, you know.

That members of the Board of Trade with Conservative leanings are unable to stomach the change of plans in connection with the Valley Railway was proven by their silence at Wednesday night's meeting.

Is the Government's policy in regard to the Valley Railway so weak that its supporters in this city are afraid to discuss it in public?

ON THE SIDE.

Spring can fire whenever it is ready.

As for the first robin, it must have been unprepared.

Winter has sung its swan song, says someone. No encores, please.

Of course you often meet the fellow who expects worse weather in April.

A preacher says cold storage religion in a church hurts it. But why store it there?

"Hash," says one writer, "is not appreciated." That's about the only thing that hash is not.

War news: Last night a battalion of newspaper correspondents made a fierce attack on one or two small war bulletins and spread them all over several pages. All was quiet on the remainder of the front.

The Russians are said to be using 140,000,000 gallons of vodka stored up since the decree forbidding its use as a beverage in the manufacture of synthetic rubber, which requires alcohol as a solvent. No longer usable to make rubber stomachs, its natural diversion into kindred fields is logical.

AGREED TO WITH AMENDMENTS.

The bill to incorporate the New Brunswick Association of Graduate Nurses was agreed to with amendments before the Corporations Committee this morning. Mr. R. B. Hanson appeared on behalf of the promoters of the bill. Mr. J. C. Hartley appeared on behalf of the Woodstock Hospital and objected to a provision of the bill which would shut out that hospital. It finally was decided that no nurse could qualify from a hospital within the province at which more than fifteen beds were occupied continuously or from one outside New Brunswick with fewer than twenty-five beds.

THIMBLE PARTY.

Mrs. C. L. Tracy was the hostess at a very enjoyable thimble party at her home on Church street last evening. There were about fifty guests in attendance. During the evening there were vocal solos by Mrs. Mailman and piano selections by Miss Marguerite Tracy.

COMPLAINT FROM GUIDES.

A delegation of guides waited upon Hon. J. A. Murray, the acting minister of lands and mines, on Wednesday and asked that steps be taken to ensure a more rigid enforcement of the game laws. Complaint was made that many of the wardens were drawing pay for their services were utterly useless. Hon. Mr. Murray promised that the matter would have consideration.

GIVES THE LIE TO STANDARD CHARGES

Second of Board of Trade Resolution in St. John is a Life Long Conservative

St. John, N.B., March 30. To the Editor of The Standard: Sir,—Considering what has been published as to where the resolution emanated from, which was submitted at the meeting held in the Board of Trade rooms on Tuesday evening, favoring the "eastern route" for the those whom it has been intimated Valley Railway, I think, in justice to framed is, I should state that I (a life-long Conservative) prepared the resolution, as chairman of the Valley Railway committee of the Board of Trade, with the facts before me which I have gleaned in my work on that committee, and with the knowledge I received as a member of the delegation who waited on the government at Fredericton on the 16th inst.

Mr. Skinner, Mr. Foster, Mr. Carter or any other person, except Mr. Burditt, who was my associate at Fredericton, were not consulted as to what it should contain nor did they know, as far as I am aware, until they came to the meeting, that a resolution was prepared.

In an effort to have the matter brought before the meeting in such a way that it could not be laid to either political party, it was thought best to have a Conservative move it and a Liberal second it or vice versa. Mr. Skinner kindly consented to move the resolution.

Why the Fredericton Board of Trade used practically the same resolution, I, nor the Board of Trade, have no knowledge, but it was not at the suggestion of myself or any official of the St. John Board.

I thank you for allowing me, any wrong impression which has been through your columns, to correct created regarding this matter.

Yours respectfully,

ALLAN H. WETMORE.

CONGRATULATIONS IN ORDER.

Mr. and Mrs. Tippet Rickard of Barker's Point, are rejoicing in the arrival of a son last night.

ASSESSMENT FOR 1916 IS A RECORD BREAKER

Estimated That It Will Cost \$125,000 to Run the Civic Machine.

The annual assessment for the City of Fredericton was made up last night and amounts to \$125,000. This is \$18,800 in excess of that of last year, which was \$107,000. The new assessment will make necessary a rate of taxation closely approaching \$2.00.

The chief item of increase is the vote of \$10,250 for the Patriotic Fund. Fredericton's share of this important fund is to be raised by taxation in 1916 instead of by voluntary contributions. Another heavy item is an increase of \$5,000 in school estimates. The School Board now is spending \$35,000 per year, which is within \$5,000 of the limit set by the legislature. For sinking funds principal and interest there is an increase of \$435.80. The Fire Department estimates are increased by \$3,000. For Streets and Public Works the increase is \$2,250 and for Administration of Justice \$500. In the Contingent Department there has been a decrease of \$2,435.80.

Improvements to be Made.

In certain departments improvements are contemplated. The Fire Department is to have a new ladder-truck, which is much needed. The new truck will entail the maintenance of another horse by the department. The electric fire alarm system is also to be overhauled. In the City Hall Department the chairman, Ald. Shea, intends to enlarge and repair the city vault and also to repaint the City Opera House scenery.

The Board of Health has asked again for the erection of a Isolation Hospital. In the present state of affairs, it is not likely that the building will be proceeded with this year.

Estimated Assessment.

	1915	1916
Schools	\$31,000.00	\$35,000.00
Printing, interest and sinking funds.....	\$27,180.32	22,746.12
Less provided for by revenue.....	4,870.00	1,000.00
Aid to Victoria Hospital	1,000.00	1,200.00
Maintenance public health	1,200.00	4,200.00
Maintenance Municipal Home	4,200.00	10,000.00
Maintenance street lighting	10,000.00	7,000.00
Maintenance Fire Department	7,000.00	5,000.00
Maintenance roads, streets and bridges	5,000.00	12,500.00
Maintenance public works generally	5,000.00	6,500.00
Maintenance administration of justice	6,000.00	10,250.00
Aid to Canadian Patriotic Fund (Fredericton branch)	14,239.68	11,803.88
Maintenance City Government and contingencies		
Grand total	\$107,000.00	\$125,000.00

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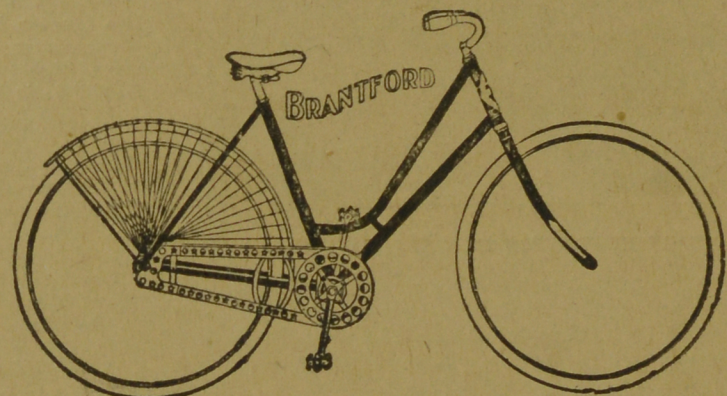
36 inch "LADY BIRD" SILK, Turquoise, Navy and Grey	\$1.25
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33-inch COLD WASH SILKS, Navy, Old Rose, Copenhagen	88c.
36-inch BLACK GUARANTEED MOUSELINE PATRICIA	\$1.50
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RETAIL

BREAKING UP VICTORIA.

Mr. Fred Heans of St. John, is breaking up the bulk of the steamer Victoria, which burned at her wharf there. He intends to rebuild the hull into a lighter or coal barge. The engines are destroyed but the boilers are reported to be in good condition.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

As long as a man does his level best he isn't going down hill.

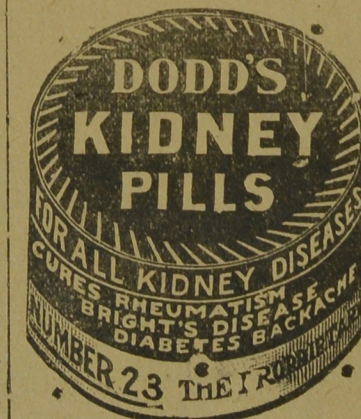
Don't worry if your sins find you out—they'll be sure to call again.

A shiftless man is always boasting of what he would do if he has the money.

In after years a man rejoices because of the failure of youthful ambitions.

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