

THE DAILY MAIL.

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THE OPPOSITION'S OPPORTUNITY.

The Opposition convention to be held in St. John next Monday and Tuesday will mean much for New Brunswick. Ever since the disgraceful revelations of two years ago, when Mr. Dugal made his charges of wrongdoing in the Legislature, thinking people throughout the province have been demanding cleaner, better government. They have looked in vain to the new Premier and the new Attorney General, who instead of following up their professions of reform, were content to sit in silence and watch the Flemming wing of their party condone the conduct of their ex-Premier that had met with such condemnation at the hands of the Royal Commission that investigated the Dugal charges.

Again the opportunity to clean house was presented, when they appointed another Royal Commissioner, Mr. W. B. Chandler, K. C., to investigate any and all charges that might be made against the administration or any of its officials. We will pass over his refusal at the start to investigate Mr. E. S. Carter's charges with respect to the Dalhousie stumpage payment, and his reconsideration of that decision when the public knew the fact; we will overlook for the present his refusal to investigate whether the government official Berry received gifts or bribes from Crown Land licensees; we will pass over Mr. Chandler's refusal to investigate what disposition was made of a large sum of money—thousands of dollars—which was contributed by liquor dealers in St. John while the Legislature was considering amendments to the Liquor License Law; or again of the Commissioner's refusal to investigate the expenditure of \$150,000 for patriotic potatoes, and just consider when he made his report what action was taken by the government.

The report was in the hands of Premier Clarke for some time—weeks—before it was made public. He and his Attorney General, who, it is understood, demanded such an investigation when he entered the Government, had ample time to consider it and the action that was necessary in the best interests of the public. Instead of prompt and energetic measures—a demand for the resignation of the offending members by Mr. Chandler and the prosecution of those concerned with defrauding the province, the personal newspaper organ of Attorney General Baxter, the St. John Standard appeared with an apologetic article, claiming that the province had not lost anything, that the Government was not to blame, and that the same sort of thing had been going on for a long time.

What a comment to make upon a report which showed how in the Departments of Crown Lands, Public Works and Agriculture, private members and party heelers had fattened themselves at the pub-

lic expense. The men who had been in close touch with the administration of the affairs of the province, Clarke, Murray, Morrissy and Landry, could not discover that fraud was rampant, and yet such outsiders as Messrs. Carter, Veniot and Dugal were able to discover and prove many facts that were investigated and found true by two Royal Commissioners.

And yet they (the Government press) say the Government is not to blame! Who will believe it?

The Provincial Opposition Convention will be held at an opportune moment. The people are looking for better government, and they must have it, or the resources of the province will not stand the strain of reckless management and fraud.

The task of the Opposition is not easy. They may well hesitate to undertake to clean up the mess. One thing is sure, they who have unearthed and condemned fraud must make it clear to their leaders and their followers that they must not only go into the fight for better government with clean hands, but they must keep their hands clean. Fraud and corruption begin at the ballot box. Any party that buys its way into power must wink at certain frauds which rob the people and the province.

We want to see the Provincial Opposition go to the people with two slogans:

"Not a dollar for votes."

"Not a dollar for whiskey."

Stand by those principles and, win or lose, what follows will be easier.

So, we say the Opposition Convention will be all-important. The opportunities for a clean-cut policy, for radical departures from the past, should be taken advantage of. **We must place more dependence upon the people and endeavor to get them to take more interest in the management of their most important affairs.**

Abandon patronage as far as possible. Take the big public services out of politics. Hew to the line, and remember always to seek to govern the province in the interests of the people and not of the politicians.

The announcement is made that Mr. Irving Todd, president of the St. John and Quebec Railway Company, has tendered his resignation. The reason given is ill-health and pressure of private business. This is a very good story for the marines. Mr. Todd, who is a close personal friend of Premier Clarke, was appointed president in September last. Two months ago he informed some of his friends that he did not like to be humbugged, and would pitch the job if the Government did not do something. The Government failed to do what Mr. Todd as an honest, conscientious man thought it should do, and he has resigned. The Government, by calling for tenders for the completion of the road, before deciding on the route to be followed, is simply trying to fool the people. Mr. Todd refused to become a party to this game of humbug. He is deserving of commendation for the courage he has shown.

A correspondent wants to know if the Carleton county Conservatives are singing the new song, "We did not raise our Kidd to be a scapegoat."

NORWEGIAN CONSUL
ACCUSED OF ESPIONAGE

London, Jan. 3.—Reuter's Athens correspondent says that the Norwegian consul at Saloniki was arrested at the time the Austrian, German, Bulgarian and Turkish consuls were taken into custody on the order of the French commander, General Sarail. The arrest of the Norwegian official is said to have resulted from the discovery at the Austrian and German consulates of documents implicating him in connection with espionage.

JAPANESE WARSHIPS TO
PROTECT THE SUEZ CANAL

Tokio, Jan. 3.—Announcement is made by the Jiji Shimpo that a squadron of Japanese warships will sail for the Suez Canal, presumably to protect Japanese shipping. It is said the armored cruisers Kasuga, Tokiwa and Chitose have been assigned for this service.

PRESIDENT WILSON
RETURNING HOME

Hot Springs, Va., Jan. 3.—President Wilson will cut short his honeymoon and start back to Washington tonight, because of the new developments in the international situation caused by the destruction of the British liner Persia.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

The monthly meeting of the City Council will take place on Tuesday night. The Council will meet in committee tonight. The receiving of annual reports will be the principal business of the session.

OBITUARY

LAPE JULIA M. TAYLOR.

The death of Mrs. Julia M. Taylor, wife of Mr. Thomas Taylor of Springhill, occurred on Friday last, after a lingering illness. The deceased was forty years of age and is survived by her husband, three daughters and two sons. (The funeral took place Sunday afternoon, Rev. Mr. Wilkinson conducting the service at St. Peter's church. Interment was made at Springhill.)

LATE AARON INGRAHAM.

The funeral of the late Aaron Ingraham took place Sunday from his late home, 332 Saunders street, and was largely attended. The service was conducted by Rev. A. F. Newcomb. The remains were taken to Bear Island, where service was conducted by Rev. Mr. Rutledge. Interment was made there.

LATE SARAH J. FULTON.

Mrs. Sarah J. Fulton, wife of Thomas Fulton of Ripples, Sunbury county, died Saturday at the advanced age of seventy-seven years. Death was due to the infirmities of old age. The deceased is survived by four sons, John of Lakeville Corner, Harry and Thomas W. of Fredericton and Sidney of Ripples, and two daughters, Mrs. John Randall of Lakeville Corner, and Mrs. S. J. Thomas of St. John. The funeral took place this afternoon with interment at Ripples. The service was conducted by Rev. Mr. Peters.

LATE FRANCIS X. SUSSEY.

Francis X. Sussey of this city, died Saturday at his home, King street, at the age of seventy-eight years. The deceased was a native of Madawaska but located in Fredericton when a young man and since that time followed the trade of shoemaker here. The funeral took place this morning with High Mass of Requiem at St. Dunstan's church by Rev. Father Carney. Interment was made at the Hermitage. Mr. Joseph Sussey is a son of the deceased.

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF
PARTNERSHIP.

Notice is hereby given that the partnership heretofore subsisting between A. Mazzuca and Samuel Campbell as General Merchants, in the City of Fredericton, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. Business to be carried on by the said Samuel Campbell.

Dated this twentieth day of December, A. D. 1915. A. MAZZUCA.

LOST.—Between Washington's Cafe and Sanders street (via York street) a gold locket attached to a bicycle pin. Finder will leave at Washington's Cafe or at The Mail Office. 1 in

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