

ANSWERS TO ENQUIRIES IN THE LOCAL HOUSE

Insurance Placed on Road Machinery by Mr. B. F. Smith Before the Election—Machines Scattered About the Province—A Straight Denial to Insinuating Questions Involving the Integrity of the Premier.

The following is the reply to notice of an inquiry by Mr. B. F. Smith, made in the House on Tuesday:

Q. What insurance has been placed by the present Government since April 1st?

A. On taking control of the Department of Public Works the Minister found that there was no insurance on the large quantities of road machines and machinery purchased by the former Government and stored in various places throughout the Province and the following insurance was placed thereon to protect the Government against the loss of such costly machinery and plant.

\$1,737 in the Occidental Fire Insurance Company on ten road machines stored in the Agricultural Department sheds.

\$1,934 in the Occidental Fire Insurance Company on seven road machines and one road plow stored in frame shingle roofed building No. 30 on south side of Westmorland street, Fredericton.

\$3,438 in London Mutual Fire Insurance Company on six road making machines and machinery stored on the premises of George Thompson at Musquash, St. John county.

\$4,000 in the Royal Insurance Company, Limited, on road making machines and machinery stored at "Three Mile House," St. John county.

\$2,000 in the L'Union Fire Insurance Company, Limited, on road machines stored at "Three Mile House," St. John county.

\$2,000 in General Fire Insurance Company of Paris on road making machines and machinery stored at "Three Mile House," St. John county.

\$800 in Royal Insurance Company, Limited, on road making machines and machinery stored on the premises of H. W. Woods at Welsford, N. B.

In addition to the above the following insurance has been renewed:

\$2,500 in the Westchester Fire Insurance Company on building and contents, Provincial Hospital.

\$2,500 in Sun Insurance Office on the Agricultural Department.

\$2,500 in surance in the Western Assurance Company on the Agricultural Department.

\$3,750 in the Royal Insurance Company on the Jordan Sanitarium.

Q. What firms has such insurance been placed with?

A. Answered by reply to preceding question.

The Victoria Election.

Q. 1. Is it true that Mr. James Burgess, who on the 24th of February last was elected one of the members for Victoria county, was repaid or obtained an agreement to be repaid in the sum of Five Thousand dollars expended by him in obtaining his election, such agreement of repayment being in consideration of the resignation of his seat.

A. It is not true that Mr. James Burgess who on the 24th of February last was elected one of the members for Victoria county was repaid or obtained an agreement to be repaid in sum of Five Thousand dollars expended by him in obtaining his election such agreement of repayment being in consideration of the resignation of his seat.

Q. 2. Was the said Mr. Burgess promised by anyone, and if so, who, that he would receive each year during the term of the present House the same sessional indemnity as he would have received if he had continued a member?

A. The said Mr. Burgess was not promised by the Premier of this Province or by any member of the Government or by anyone else within the knowledge of the members of the Government that he would receive each year during the term of the present House the same sessional indemnity as he would have received if he had continued a member.

Q. 3. If the consideration mentioned in questions Nos. 1 and 2 were not the exact terms of Mr. Burgess' resignation, what were these terms?

A. No terms or conditions whatever were attached to the resignation of Mr. Burgess which was a generous and voluntary action.

Another Pipe Dream.

Q. 1. Is it true that Mr. Arthur T. LeBlanc, one of the Members of this House representing the County of Restigouche, elected on the 24th of February last, was offered the sum of \$2,000 (Two Thousand Dollars) or any, and if so, what sum, as an inducement to vacate his seat in order that Mr. Walter E. Foster, who was then without a seat in this House, might be a candidate for the vacancy so to be caused?

Ans. The Premier and the Government deny in the most emphatic terms that Mr. Arthur T. LeBlanc one of the members of this House representing the County of Restigouche elected on the 24th of February last was offered the sum of \$2,000 either directly or indirectly or any sum whatsoever, as an inducement to vacate his seat in order that Mr. Walter E. Foster who was then without a seat in this House might be a candidate for the vacancy so to be caused.

Q. 2. Is it true that the said Mr. LeBlanc was offered as an inducement for so resigning his seat that he would receive each year during the term of the present House the same indemnity as he would be entitled to receive if he continued a member of the House? If so, who made such offer?

Ans. There is not a word of truth in the insinuation or statement that the said Mr. LeBlanc was offered as an inducement for so resigning his seat that he would receive each year during the term of the present House, the same indemnity as he would be entitled to receive if he continued a

IRISH TO HOLD A CONVENTION

London, May 17.—John Redmond the leader of the Irish Nationalists in the House of Commons, today rejected the proposal of Premier Lloyd George for a settlement of the Home Rule question, but accepted the proposal for the immediate calling of a convention to decide on a government for Ireland.

PERSONAL.

Miss McMillan of Moncton, is here in company with Mrs. McDonald and her son, Angus McDonald of Moncton, for the encenia.

The Dean and Mrs. Neales have returned from Windsor, N. S., where they attended the King's College commencement.

OATMEAL AND RAISINS.

Perhaps oatmeal would be more attractive to some palates if some acceptable flavor or addition could be added to the porridge. Try this:

Stir into two cupfuls of cooked oatmeal a half-cup of seeded raisins cut in half. Put into individual moulds and harden. Serve with cream.

N. B. TELEPHONE COMPANY HELD ANNUAL MEETING

Expansion of Business During the Past Year Created Record—Heavy Increase in Cost of Material and Labor and Also in Taxation Makes it Necessary to Curtail Development—Net Earnings Show No Increase—The Directors and Officers Were Re-elected.

The annual meeting of the New Brunswick Telephone Company was held here Thursday afternoon. The shareholders met and their meeting was followed by that of the directors. The directors were reelected and the officers also.

The directors are: S. H. White, Sussex; A. W. Bennett, Sackville; P. B. Black, Sackville; R. O'Leary, Richibucto; L. B. McFarlane, Montserrat; A. R. Slipp, Fredericton; W. B. Snowball, Chatham; R. B. Emerson, St. John; Hon. F. P. Thompson, Fredericton; F. B. Carvell, M. P., Woodstock; J. M. Robinson, St. John; F. W. Sumner, Moncton; G. W. Ganong, St. Stephen; J. L. McAvity, St. John; H. P. Robinson, St. John.

The officers are as follows: S. H. White, President; Hon. F. P. Thompson, 1st Vice-President; F. B. Black, 2nd Vice-President; A. W. McMackin, Secretary Treasurer.

President's Report.
The annual report of the president and directors for the year ending March 31st, 1917, as submitted was as follows:

To the Shareholders of the New Brunswick Telephone Company, Limited:

Your Directors submit herewith the annual financial statement of your company covering the period from April 1st, 1916, to March 31st, 1917. It will be noticed that there has been a very considerable increase in the value of our plant during the twelve months just past, over \$200,000 having been expended in extending our toll lines and in the purchase of real estate and erection of buildings. During the year just closed we have purchased the large brick building immediately adjoining the central office building in the City of St. John; erected a new exchange office in West St. John; made a substantial addition to our Moncton office and purchased land for future buildings in Campbellton and Sussex. The total number of telephones in service by this company on the last day of our business year was 18,293, a gain of 1,691 phones for the year, as against a gain of 912 for the year previous. In this regard the growth for the past twelve months constitutes a record. There has been a marked increase in demand for toll service as well, so that during the year your Directors found it necessary to install additional copper circuits between practically all of our important toll centres.

Your Directors throughout the calendar year 1916 continued the payment of \$500 per month to the Canadian Patriotic Fund along the lines agreed upon at the last annual meeting.

Serious Situation.

The future presents many problems which your Board of Directors will have to grapple with, brought about by war conditions. It is becoming increasingly difficult to secure the necessary material for the construction of our plant. Prices today are from two to three times greater than under normal conditions. Added to this the increased rate of wages, the increase in taxation for patriotic and other purposes has brought about a situation which your Directors believe it is advisable to place fairly and squarely before our shareholders. It will be observed that while there has been a substantial increase in the total of our earnings, the net amount is less than last year, and barely sufficient to pay our dividends. It would be most difficult for this company to increase its rates to recoup itself for additional expenses so that your Directors feel the utmost economy in the development of our business must, for the immediate future at least, be exercised.

Future Possibilities.

There is an insistent and growing demand for telephone service to points outside the province and even outside

the Dominion, due to growing business relations between the Maritime Provinces and the financial centres of Canada and the United States. Recent inventions have made long distance telephone communication of this character possible and we may safely predict that it is only a question of time when the desired results will be obtained.

Since our last meeting the war has made additional demands upon our staff, rendering it increasingly difficult to carry on the mechanical work of the company. Many of our employees have gone overseas and some of our employees in France have made the supreme sacrifice.

S. H. WHITE,
President.

Financial Statement.

The financial statement for the 12 months ending March 31st last was as follows:

Assets.	
Plant	\$1,932,048.34
Supplies	73,504.16
Accounts receivable	52,664.61
Liquid assets	111,801.94
	\$2,170,019.05

Liabilities.	
Capital stock	\$1,420,180.00
Capital stock subscribers	3,021.47
Debentures	45,500.00
Total reserve for depreciation	621,578.22
Bank of Nova Scotia	296.83
Accounts payable	26,049.88
Dividend declared March 15th, 1917	28,403.60
Total liabilities	\$2,145,030.00
Surplus	24,989.05
	\$2,170,019.05

Earnings and Expenses.	
Gross revenue	\$539,612.88
Operating expenses and depreciation	430,288.04
Net revenue	\$109,324.84

Profit and Loss.	
Cr.	
By surplus March 31st, 1916	\$24,736.86
Less business profits war tax	8,407.70
	\$16,329.16
By premium on stock	13,838.60
By net revenue	109,324.84
	\$16,329.16

Dr.	
To interest on bonds	\$ 2,593.75
Dividend July 15, 1916	27,427.60
Dividend Oct. 15, 1916	27,680.00
Dividend Jan. 15, 1917	28,398.60
Dividend Mar. 15, 1917	28,403.60
	\$114,503.55

Carried forward	\$24,989.05
P. F. Blanchet, C. A., Auditor.	

Help for the Farmer's Wives

A number of Patriotic competent young women, school teachers and stenographers, are offering their services for a reasonable wage to the farmers' wives during their holidays. Apply to

JAMES GILCHRIST,
Provincial Immigration Office,
108 Prince Wm. Street,
St. John, N. B.

MURAD CIGARETTES

TO-DAY—

at this very hour—more smokers are trying Murads for the first time than all other high-grade cigarettes combined.

Almost 100 per cent of these new Murad smokers continue Murad smokers.

What is happening today has happened every day since Murads were first introduced.

What is responsible for this?

Not advertising—Quality!

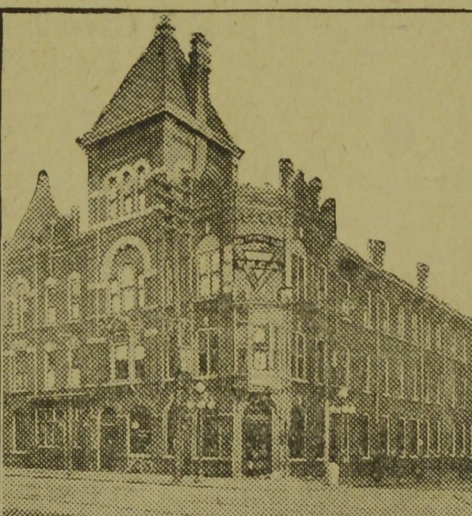
And the endorsement of Murads by one smoker to another, from coast to coast.

Smugglers

Everywhere—Why?

The Transformation

Right in the heart of the great city of Toronto, in the centre of the principal business district, close by the cross-roads of main traffic, stands the "second longest bar" in all Canada. Observers say they used to count hordes of men entering this stronghold of the Traffic. Were the frequenters of the bar better men when they came out?



On September 16th, 1916, Prohibition went into force in Ontario, and, of course, the bar lost its license. On the 16th of April, 1917, the old bar was busier than ever! But what an arresting, beautiful transformation! Would that you and your sons could have been there to see the sight. The old bar-room was a bevy of flowers. Fifty fair ladies served refreshments to Toronto's most prominent citizens and their wives, and not one of them all but was proud to be seen in the old barroom.

The aching, worrying hearts of the army's mothers are relieved now when they see their sons enter this building—for the old bar is helping to save men now instead of ruining them.

The hotel is now the "Y.M.C.A. Soldiers' Club," one of the Young Men's Christian Association's long chain of clubs, marquees, huts and "dug-outs" extending from Vancouver to the firing line in France—those helpful sentinel-posts that safeguard our precious soldier men and boys wherever soldiers are congregated. To the Y.M.C.A. Canada owes a debt of gratitude she never can adequately repay.

Like New Brunswick, the Traffic in Ontario has the opportunity, after the war, of putting Prohibition to the test at the polls. But Prohibition in Ontario is being **enforced**, and the old strongholds of the Traffic—the long bars we mean—are one by one being turned to useful purposes. Many of the hotel buildings that depended for existence upon bar trade are now devoted to commercial enterprises—constructive instead of destructive.

Does New Brunswick want to return to the destructive license system, and again be a partner in the old firm of John Barleycorn and Company, Limited?

Or does New Brunswick want to maintain Prohibition for ever? If so, Enforcement must be province wide, must be both strict and effective.

Help to Enforce Prohibition

Every man and woman in this province shares the responsibility for the proper enforcement of Prohibition—not the officers of the law alone. **Your** duty is clear.

Dominion Temperance Alliance

NEW BRUNSWICK BRANCH

DONALD FRASER
President
Plaster Rock, N.B.

REV. THOS. MARSHALL
Vice-President
Fredericton, N.B.

REV. H. C. ARCHER, Executive Secretary
Fredericton, N.B.

W. G. CLARK
Treasurer
Fredericton, N.B.