

FOUR MEMBERS OF THE COLTER FAMILY PLAYED ACTIVE PART IN THE PUBLIC LIFE OF CANADA

(By Observer in Telegraph-Journal.)

There was a by-election in the province of Ontario in 1886 in which a young New Brunswicker, Charles Colter, was the Liberal candidate. He was born in York County, attended the University of New Brunswick, studied law and after devoting some years to this purpose and teaching school removed to Haldimand, Ontario where in 1886 he was chosen as the Liberal candidate for the Dominion parliament and elected by over a hundred majority. In the general election the next year Colter was again successful, but this time by the narrow majority of one vote. There must have been some protest over that for we find Mr. Colter had to run another by-election later in the year and this time he lost, Dr. Montague beating him by seventeen votes. These seemed to be unusual party determination in this constituency. It was formerly known as Haldimand and Monck. There was another by-election in 1889 and the New Brunswick was elected again, this time by 46 majority. About a year later, the courts again voiding the election, there was another election and Dr. Montague was successful. This time he held the seat until the general election of 1891 when he was again elected, and retained until 1895. In the meantime there had been changes in the leadership of the Conservative party and Sir Mackenzie Bowell was the Prime Minister. Montague was chosen as one of his cabinet, first without office and later as Minister of Agriculture in 1895. He was not allowed to do this without opposition, but he had a majority of 594, which was increased to over 700 in the general election a year later, when Sir Wilfrid Laurier attained power, but Haldimand returned to the Liberal fold four years later and elected Thompson by 137 majority. Some years Colter was remembered for his fighting record and appointed a county court judge in Ontario. He died a few days ago having reached 83 years.

Others in Politics.

Charles was not the only New Brunswick Coulter who liked politics. Some members of the family spelt their name with a "u" and some plain Colter. Dr. N. R. Colter, of Carleton county, where he was a political candidate in opposition to Fred Hale, was an outstanding member of the medical profession. He lived and practiced in Woodstock. Some members of his family hailed from Sunbury county and others from York. Fred Hale was a well-known and popular lumberman of Carleton county. His politics at first were not so fixed that he was antagonistic to all the Liberals. The county of Carleton had been Liberal from Confederation, when Charles Connell was its first member. In fact this was so true that there was no opposition to any candidate from 1867 to 1878. First, Connell was elected for two terms, then Stephen Appleby in 1874 and Connell again in 1878. David Irvine, another Liberal, succeeded him in 1882, and Dr. Colter was first elected as a member in the by-election of 1883. Fred Hale, who was, some say, an Independent, was elected in 1887. Dr. Colter succeeded in wresting the seat from him in 1891, but Hale beat him in 1896, and in 1900 was elected again. The constituency went Liberal again in 1904, when Frank Carvell was elected and continued its member until he was appointed Chairman of the Railway Board in 1919, and Thomas W. Caldwell was elected as a Progressive in the by-election which followed. The same gentleman was elected in 1921, but the county was Conservative again in 1925 and 1926, with J. K. Flemming as its choice, and Liberal by acclamation with Abdon Foster as the representative in the by-election occasioned by his death.

P. O. Superintendent.

Dr. Colter became the superintendent of the inspector branch of the Post Office department in New Brunswick after his retirement from politics, and as such became well known throughout the whole province. He gave the same thorough attention to the duties of his office as had characterized his professional and political activities in earlier years. When he became a public official he ceased to be

a politician. He saw the postal service enlarged and strengthened during his tenure of office, and many of the improvements in the service in New Brunswick can be traced to the thoughtful recommendations of Dr. Colter while in charge. The minister for New Brunswick during some years of the period when Dr. Colter was chief inspector was Hon. William Pugsley, and the plans for a new and larger post office building in Saint John was made then. But the same kind of political service which assisted Dr. Colter to his position made another gentleman more acceptable to the party in power in 1916, when his resignation was accepted. He died a few days later.

Hon. George J. Colter.

There was another Colter in York county, George J., who was first elected to the House of Assembly in 1878. There were three new men from York in the House that year, and the two beside George J. Colter were Andrew G. Blair and Frederick P. Thompson. The fourth was a re-elected member, John James Fraser. Later in their lives all four were honored in different ways. We can all remember Blair's gruelling fight in the Legislature as an opposition leader from 1878 to 1882, his re-election in York county and his accession to the premiership in 1883, when the Hanington-Landry government was defeated. When he relinquished the premiership of this province in 1896 to join Sir Wilfrid Laurier's first cabinet much history had been made in New Brunswick. The government of which he was the first leader continued in power under different successors—Mitchell, Emmerson, Tweedie, Pugsley, Robinson—until 1903, when the Conservatives succeeded a Liberal twenty-five-year tenure of office. But with Blair in 1878 there was F. P. Thompson, who was re-elected in 1882. He resigned in 1885 and many years later he was made a Senator of Canada and was one of the busiest of men with much public and private business to interest him.

Another Change.

In the general provincial election of 1886 William Wilson, who had been elected to fill the vacancy caused by Thompson's resignation the year before, was chosen with Bellamy and Moore to succeed George J. Colter and E. L. Wetmore. Colter had been made an Honourable by a place in the Hanington government in May, 1882. He was Chief Commissioner of Public Works and President of the Board of Agriculture. Wetmore, his colleague, was the chief opposition leader after Hanington but he found it more profitable in a western province where in a short time he was elevated to the Bench.

The Late T. H. Colter.

There was another Colter after George J. who was in the House at Fredericton. In 1890 when the general election was so close that Premier Blair found it expedient to arrange with the independent members from Northumberland and L. J. Tweedie was taken in the government as Surveyor-General, the return of the four members from York was protested, and as a result there was a by-election and Thomas H. Colter replaced Richard Bellamy in the House. Less than three years later all of the York members, including Blair himself, were defeated in the general election. In 1896 there was a similar result in this county, but in 1899, fourteen years after F. P. Thompson had resigned his seat, he ran again with Turney Whitehead, Alex. Gibson, Jr., and John A. Campbell, and turned the tables on their opponents. Thompson was not a candidate in 1903 but Whitehead was, with the brilliant George W. Allen and George A. Burden. The latter is the only one of all of those mentioned who is still alive, and is in the service of the government Crown land office. Thomas Colter became registrar of deeds of York, and held the office until a few years ago when he too passed to the majority.

It is said that the President of Venezuela, has, during the past twenty years, accumulated a fortune of \$250,000,000. There's a bozo who has reached practical politics to the ninth degree of efficiency.

AUBURN PRISON WAS ALMOST DESTROYED

Auburn, N. Y., July 30—Auburn Prison, one of the largest penal institutions in New York, was almost destroyed on Sunday night a fire, which accompanied the boldest plot ever carried out by its hundreds of convicts.

Although most of the buildings either went up in flames or were damaged badly by the spectacular blaze, all but eleven of the 1,700 prisoners, who hoped to gain their freedom by the coup were held at bay by guards and volunteers with machine guns.

Only the greatest bravery of Warden E. S. Jennings and the little band of guards who fought a gun battle with the convicts inside the walls saved the entire prison from disaster.

The plot to burn the prison and effect a wholesale break was unquestionably one of the most well-timed and matured conspiracies ever hatched in a big institution.

Last Sunday night, after a 10-hour battle to get the situation under control, Warden Jennings said that 10 prisoners were missing and assumed to have escaped, two convicts were killed and 1 others suffered from wounds or injuries.

Four of the little band of guards which stood off a vastly superior force of rebellious criminals were in Auburn Hospital with bullet wounds, two others were suffering from the effects of gas bombs thrown by the prisoners, and four firemen were taken to the hospital suffering from injuries and suffocation.

The big gray buildings within the walls, which cost the State \$4,000,000 to construct only a few years ago, were almost levelled by the flames.

GIRL'S DEATH WAS RESULT OF CARELESSNESS

Newcastle, July 30—Miss Odell Jimmo, aged 22 years, of Escuminac, N. B., met her death through carelessness on the part of Albert Hedquist, in applying the brakes of his car, and we recommend Hedquist's driver's license be cancelled for the year of 1929. This was the verdict brought in at the inquest held here last evening by a jury empanelled to inquire into the death of Miss Jimmo, who was killed early Saturday morning, when a new car in which she was driving with Hedquist and a party of friends, while returning from a dance turned turtle and hurled the occupants into the road, as the driver, in attempting to press the horn of the vehicle, turned out the lights by mistake.

Miss Jimmo was thrown 10 feet from the car, and sustained injuries which proved fatal shortly after she was admitted to the Miramichi Hospital.

The jury was composed of Arthur Petrie, Stafford Lindon, Finlay Copp, Arthur Copp, Moses Whitney, William Touchie, and Mark Sutherland.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS ARE GAZETTED

His Honor The Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to make the following appointments:

Charlotte—Frank Thomas of Wa-weig to be Chairman of Revisors for the Parish of St. Croix in place of John McKay removed from the Parish.

Gloucester—William J. Cormier of East Bathurst to be a Justice of the Peace; Charles Landry of West Bathurst and William F. Sullivan of Bathurst to be Revisors for the Town of Bathurst.

Madawaska—Louis Phillippe Strois of Edmundston to be a Justice of the Peace.

City and County of Saint John—Frank A. Nicholson care of Manufacturers' Life Insurance Company, City of Saint John to be a Commissioner for taking affidavits to be read in the Supreme Court.

Westmorland—Dr. Robert D. Roach of Dorchester to be a Coroner in place of Allen W. Chapman, deceased.

SEE NEW BRUNSWICK FIRST!

Nowhere in the world will you find more beautiful or more diversified scenery than in the Province of New Brunswick. Before you travel far afield, be sure to see what your Province has to offer in the way of improved roads, charming scenery and varied attractions. If you can possibly do so, lay aside your work for a day, a week, or longer, get out your motor car and visit some part of New Brunswick that you have never seen before. Take your wife and family or your friends along with you and see what a wonderful time you can have. Throw away dull care! Take full advantage of the sunlight, of the summer weather, of the woods, of the improved roads! You will return home stronger physically, more alert mentally and better able to tackle the problems of life.

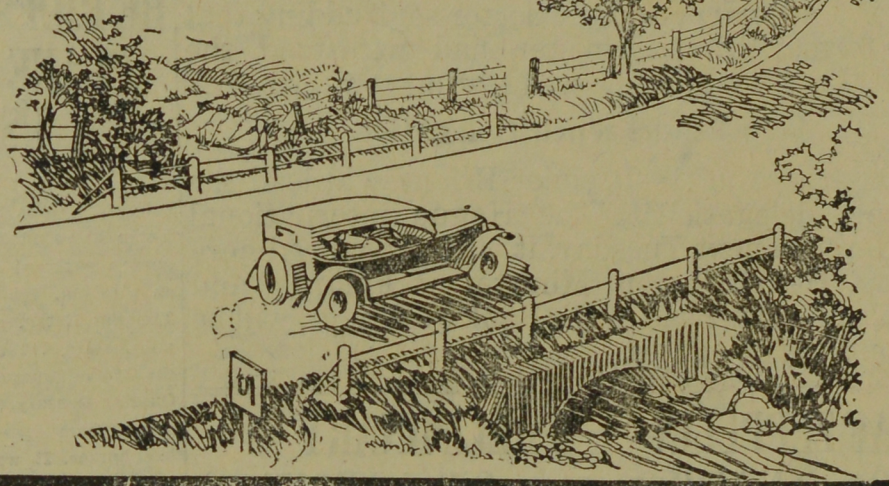
Plan to motor leisurely through the country; show more interest in the scenery and less in your speedometer. Remember that New Brunswick roads cost millions of money to construct and to properly maintain. New Brunswick roads are your property to be used as if you owned every mile in your own right.

You are urged to enjoy New Brunswick's improved roads, which will be free of accidents, if you and other motorists will drive carefully.

You'll be careful, won't you? Thank you!

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