

THE DAILY MAIL

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FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 1917.

THE FOSTER GOVERNMENT.

Those semi-astute politicians who a few weeks ago were endeavoring to assuage their grief at the—for them—distressing result of the outcome of their appeal to the people, by hugging to their breasts the cheering thought that the Foster administration would fall to pieces almost as soon as it came into existence, are now rapidly coming to the conclusion that they were a trifle premature in their ideas, to say the least. Each day that passes finds Hon. Mr. Foster and his colleagues increasing their already firm hold on the confidence of the people, and becoming more and more firmly established in the good opinion of the friends of decent government. That there is ample reason for this encouraging condition of affairs is evidenced by the sound and business-like policies that the government is bringing forward. Would any sane elector, for instance, ever expect to see the late government promoting legislation intended to deprive one of its members of a source of income of several thousands a year and turning over that sum to swell the revenues of the Province instead? Did the late government, in all the years it was in power, ever make any serious attempt to evolve a sound and workable road policy such as has been outlined by the present Minister of Public Works? In fact, were the late government ever known to do anything, or follow any policy, that was not intended to benefit themselves and their party first, and the general welfare of the people at large afterwards?

Those who laid the flattering unction to their souls that Premier Foster's inexperience of Legislative affairs would soon land him in deep water, wherein he would go under, are surprised and chagrined to find how readily and with what great degree of success he is adapting himself to his new duties. Although he has not so far taken any very prominent part in the debates of the House, when he has done so he has shown a capacity for leadership and that he had a firm grasp on public affairs, that is in itself a striking tribute to his ability and capacity for adapting himself to difficult positions. It is safe to say that when he has had an opportunity to learn a little more of conditions as they now exist in the administration of affairs and becomes better acquainted with and thus able to unravel the intricacies of method pursued by his predecessors, the good opinion already formed of him will increase tenfold.

What is true of the Premier is true also of his colleagues. Mr. Veniot's speech in the House yesterday shows very clearly that he is a match—indeed more than a match—for any of the honorable gentlemen opposite. Few men have ever been made to look more foolish in the Legislature than Mr. B. Franklin Smith was when the Minister of Public Works got through with him last night; and Mr. Smith will probably think twice before again attempting to claim credit for himself that rightly belongs to others. His claim that the road policy which the government is now pursuing originated with himself, is the most impudent piece of effrontery ever put forward by a public man, when the fact is that he based his own bastard notions on that subject on the present government's policy months after it had been publicly announced by them in the press. Mr. Smith may be an expert on public matters when those matters are concerned with hay and potato deals; but when it comes to matters in which statesmanship and sound business principles are needed, the hon. member for Carleton is away behind.

Yesterday was a genuine field day in the Legislature. The government brought down its bill for the establishment of permanent highways, and the opposition forces under Gen. Smith and Col. Baxter at once attacked it in close formation. They were met with a withering machine gun fire and in the end some of their own artillery was turned upon them with disastrous results. The enemy was completely routed and retired to his dugouts in great confusion.

Hon. Mr. Murray, while he is the nominal leader of the opposition in the Legislature, does not appear to exercise much control over his followers. This was exemplified during the debate on the highway bill last evening. After Premier Foster had spoken and explained some matters over which there had been contention, Mr. Murray rose and accepted the explanation and practically declared the debate closed so far as his side was concerned. Immediately afterwards Mr. B. F. Smith got up and delivered a long speech and was followed by Mr. Tilley, who presumed to speak for the whole opposition.

If the members of the Opposition in the House could only by some hook or crook discover the identity of the party who administered the solar plexus blow to one Billy Patterson, it would no doubt add greatly to their piece of mind.

The members of the opposition in the Legislature had an uncomfortable time of it yesterday—and the worst is yet to come.

Through Our Sieve

Tempus fugit were here—we'll admit this is a dead language one.

So much fighting gives the world an awful appetite.

Might plant garden seeds in blotting paper.

There'd be more daylight saving if the sun would do its bit.

Liberalism and democracy rule the roost in the Legislature this session.

And there's no way to give a military appearance to a straw hat.

It's getting so a man can't tell a necessity from a luxury by the price.

England may not be raising so many hops, but she is no less on the jump.

What has become of the old fashioned girl who complained because there was nothing to do?

To the first boy or girl discovering a June bug we will give a copy of B. F. Smith's highway policy.

On the French front the battle rages back and forth; on the Italian front it rages up and down.

The cynic says: Marriage is putting your heart in pawn and tearing up the ticket.

The legislative halls do not re-echo with the clank of the obsolete spur this session.

Some men looking for a job hope they'll "see it first," so they can side-step.

The Russian socialists love the German socialists, but the trouble comes in trying to swallow Cousin Will's brand of doctrine.

It seems to be conceded beyond a doubt that Potts is the biggest joke the Legislature has seen since the days of Pitts.

It is all right to be economical, but thrifty landladies of boarding houses are advised that it is not necessary to shave the bread with a safety razor.

PERSONAL.

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. L. Tibbitts have removed to the apartment house on Charlotte street owned by Mr. Gordon Scott.

Dr. Hugh Peppers of Centreville, Carleton county, is among the visitors to the city today.

Mr. Lawson, Waterloo Row, returned yesterday from a visit to St. John. Miss Silver of Luenburg, N. S., is here, the guest of Miss Lucille Hawkins.

Mr. Leon Theriault of Grand Anse, Gloucester county, is among the visitors to the city.

Mr. J. F. Whitley of St. Stephen, is a guest at the Barker House.

Mr. H. R. Wellington of Toronto, is a guest at the Barker House.

Mr. D. W. Simpson of St. John, is a guest at the Barker House.

Mrs. J. J. Sullivan of Lawrence is a guest at the Queen.

Miss Stone of Lawrence, is a guest at the Queen.

Mr. C. O. Foss, chief engineer of the Valley Railway, St. John, is a guest at the Queen.

Mr. J. W. Pugsley of St. John, is a guest at the Queen.

Mr. G. A. McLennan of St. John, is registered at the Queen.

Mr. H. A. Ryan of St. John, is a guest at the Queen.

Mr. J. W. Davidson of Rothesay, is a guest at the Queen.

Misses Rochte and Bolton of New York, are guests at the Queen.

Mr. Fred Rochte of New York, is a guest at the Queen.

Mr. B. L. Gerow of St. John, is a guest at the Queen.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY.

House is Desirous of Saving Time—Three Committees in Session This Morning.

The House of Assembly probably will adjourn this afternoon until 8.30 Monday night. Monday is to be observed as a public holiday but the House is desirous of losing as little time as possible. The budget is expected on Tuesday.

Corporations.

The Corporations Committee met this morning and took up the bill to consolidate the acts relating to the Moncton Hospital, but owing to the fact that those interested in the bill were not in attendance to explain it, further consideration was stood over until Wednesday next.

Municipalities.

The Municipalities Committee at its meeting took up the bills relating to the Richibucto and Rexton electric light district, to authorize the town council of St. Andrews to establish a water supply system, and a bill to confirm a contract made between the town of Edmundston and Fraser, Ltd., and agreed to the same after certain amendments had been made to the two last named.

Law Committee.

The Law Committee had under consideration the bill to vest certain lands and premises in the City of Moncton of which the Free Meeting House stands in trustees, the bill to vary the trust deed of the Congregational chapel at St. John and the bill in addition to the Police Act in the City of St. John relating to the purchase etc., of junk. These were agreed to, and the bill to confirm Walter Limerick in the title to certain lands in the City of Fredericton, was stood over for further consideration.

LIEUTENANTS ONLY, WANTED

London, May 31. — The Canadian Associated Press learns that as there is now a large number of senior Canadian officers in England surplus to requirements who cannot be employed here, and as there are few demands from France for officers of higher rank than lieutenant, it has been decided that all officers of higher rank than lieutenant who are surplus to requirements, and have arrived in England up to and including May 15, will have the option of reverting to lieutenant's rank, in order to become available for reinforcements overseas, or returning to Canada. Officers who may arrive subsequently will have the option of reverting to rank of lieutenant within a month of their arrival, if not they will be returned to Canada.

Joins Agricultural Dept.

Mr. M. A. McLeod, editor of the Maritime Farmer, has joined the provincial agricultural staff and will have charge of an important branch of the work. Mr. McLeod has an intimate acquaintance with the needs of the farmer in New Brunswick. No man has been closer to them and his relations with the most advanced agriculturists have always been of the most friendly character.

STOCK MARKET

NEW YORK	
Beet Sugar.....	97
C. P. R.....	162
Crucible steel.....	82
Erie.....	26
Erie 1st pfd.....	39 1-2
Marine Pfd.....	85
Union Pac.....	138 3/4
U. S. Steel.....	135
Air Brake.....	179
Kenn.....	50
Marine Com.....	29
Reading.....	93
Rubber.....	56 3/4
Studebaker.....	80
Bethlehem.....	141
Wool.....	47 1/2

MONTREAL.

Civic.....	77 3/4
Detroit.....	112
Quebec.....	26
Toronto.....	78 3/4
Braz.....	40 1/2
Cement.....	60 1/2
Iron.....	63
Steel Co.....	60
Spanish.....	13 1/2
Shaw.....	122
Can Cottons.....	52 1-2
Laur. Pulp.....	185
Scotia.....	96

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