

THE DAILY MAIL

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PROVINCIAL FINANCES.

That the old government was most reckless and extravagant in its financial operations is clearly shown by the statement covering receipts and expenditures from November 1st last until May 1st of this year, a period of a little more than six months. In that time the government managed to get away with \$769,957.59, while the receipts were only \$492,804.84, leaving a deficit for the period of \$277,153.00. This exhibit is a most painful one and must convince all fair minded men, regardless of party, that no mistake was made on February 24th last in ordering a change of rulers. Had the same government, with its loose and questionable financial methods, been given a new lease of power, the province at the end of October of this year would have been face to face with a deficit of at least half a million dollars.

The financial statement of the province, published in the Royal Gazette last December, showed a surplus of receipts over expenditures, which amounted to some \$12,000. It is apparent now that this was a fake surplus, cooked up for the purpose of deceiving the people. An expenditure of \$72,000 made on the roads last fall was juggled into the accounts as "special expenditure" with the intention of adding it to the public debt under Mr. B. Frank Smith's alleged road policy. The total amount expended on the roads last year under the heading of "special improvements" was \$159,000, and this was to be included in the half million dollars which the then Minister was to borrow under his policy.

Expert auditors have been at work making a thorough audit of the provincial accounts, and it is expected that their report will be laid before the Legislature within a short time.

The old government, when it went out of power, not only left an empty treasury, but they had pretty well disposed of all of the prospective revenue for the year to come. It is quite apparent from information now available that the finances of the province are in a deplorable condition as a result of the bad government of recent years.

Ex-Attorney General Baxter made the statement in the Legislature a few days ago that the Attorney General of the Province could collect the succession duties in two weeks. Mr. Baxter in his capacity as Attorney General collected some succession duties last year, and his commissions on the same amounted to the snug sum of \$4,590. This will be regarded by many people as fairly generous remuneration for two weeks' work. Mr. Baxter, while he did the work in two weeks, seems to have been content to wait a much longer period for his pay. According to the Auditor General's report, he received only \$670 during the fiscal year, but turned up later on and collected the balance, amounting to \$3,250.30. It is the intention of the present government to turn the succession duties into the provincial treasury, less the amount of the deputy attorney general's salary.

Mr. Baxter found fault with Attorney General Byrne in the House last evening for not falling in line with some suggestions he had offered in regard to a government bill, and by way of reprisal declared that in future the Hon. Mr. Byrne would have to get along without his profound knowledge and assistance. Mr. Baxter's ability as a lawyer is not questioned, but his motives and methods are fairly well understood by the people of this province, more especially by those who sit on the right of the Speaker in the Legislature. The present Attorney General is not a gallery performer, but is a man possessed of good sense, who is faithfully striving to perform his duty to the public. Honesty and sincerity of purpose in a public man are qualities which inspire confidence, while on the other hand craftiness and low cunning are very apt to make one an object of suspicion.

An Ottawa correspondent of the Halifax Herald pays the following tribute to Mr. F. B. Carvell, M. P.: "In days gone by, Frank Carvell fought

the Conservatives with a bitterness and controversial skill hardly equalled in his time. He gave no quarter and he asked none, and often what appeared in his conduct to be a lamentable lack of patriotism compelled the Halifax Herald to fight him and his policies with all the vigor and strength it could command. But today, at the time of national crisis, there has been revealed a splendor of patriotism in the heart of this rugged, uncompromising man and the Halifax Herald in consequence, gladly pays him the tribute of sincere admiration."

The Chatham World has elected Mr. Lawrence Doyle, defeated candidate in Northumberland, to the Legislature in place of Hon. Robert Murray, whom it claims is disqualified by reason of holding the office of master of the supreme court. The World's generosity towards Mr. Doyle is remarkable. One would have thought that it would have handed the seat over to one Commodore Stewart, ex-M. P. P., who also ran.

CANADIANS IN A HEAVY SCRAP

On the British Front in France, June 4, via London. — (From a staff correspondent of the Associated Press.) The fighting which raged yesterday about the electric power station southwest of Lens was as intense as any since the beginning of the Battle of Arras, considering the number of troops involved.

Canadian troops were in the thick of it, first and last. They gained the ruins of the electrical works shortly before two o'clock Sunday morning after a splendid dash in the moonlight and it was not until nearly eight o'clock Sunday night that they were finally driven back to their original positions under the pressure of German counter-attacks in which an overpowering weight of men were employed. The works were held eighteen hours against the concentrated German artillery. One difficulty with which the Canadians were confronted was the fact that in preparing the attack on the works the artillery had reduced the buildings so effectively and had so obliterated the trenches dug about them that practically all shelters were eliminated. While the objectives eventually were lost, the enterprise was not without compensations for 112 prisoners were taken and valuable identifications were obtained. The prisoners represented at least three different German regiments which engaged in the first fighting and in the counter attacks.

Through Our Sieve

Won't be able to save the cost of a straw hat after all.

Ah! if Hindenburg had only been here yesterday!

Russia's democracy should not cut off its head merely because its feet are tangled.

The amateur gardener is sure the word robin is spelled wrong—it should be robbin'.

Amateur gardeners are now looking for the person who put the "dig" in the dignity of labor.

Though the Russian bear walks like a man, it should not stop there—but act like one.

The Kaiser travels in an armored car—also we suppose with an armored conscience.

This war has successfully squelched the oldest inhabitant. He cannot recall any bigger war.

"Love is a thistle," burred the poet. And we all know what kind of an animal eats thistles.

A Baltimore amateur gardener dug up a \$500 diamond. That's nothing; some of us hope to get a bushel of beans by fall.

There is always a man in town who thinks he can cross the tracks in an automobile about a foot ahead of the locomotive—sometimes he makes it.

If the hen could only be taught to do her bit in the garden and learn while scratching for bugs to hoe the potatoes with the same motion!

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W. J. LAMPTON PASSES AWAY

American Humorous Writer Who Once Visited Fredericton—Noted for His Satirical Verse.

New York, May 30. — Colonel William James Lampton, journalist, who once described himself as "the plain poet of the people," died today at the French Y. M. C. A., where he made his home while in this city. Colonel Lampton was best known as a contributor of satirical verse on current topics to the daily newspapers.

Colonel Lampton made hundreds of friends in this city, as it was his custom to make the acquaintance of lonely persons for the purpose of brightening their spirits with his pleasant-tries, a self-imposed task, it is related, which rarely met with ill-success. His poetry bore the imprint of his disposition, his satire being written in humorous vein on topics of the day.

Colonel Lampton was born in Lawrence county, Ohio, fifty-eight years ago. He was educated in Kentucky and later attended Ohio Wesleyan university and Marietta college in Ohio. From the latter institution he received an honorary degree of A. M. in 1891. His newspaper career commenced when he edited his own newspaper, a small Republican daily in Ashland, Ky., from 1877 to 1878. Afterwards he was employed on various journals.

Col. Lampton was in Fredericton as a tourist several years ago, staying here several days. On one occasion he put some of "Uncle" Harry Braithwaite's experiences into verse. His military title was given him on appointment to the staff of the governor of the state of Ohio.

Returned from the West. Ex-Warden John Scott returned to his home in this city yesterday after a year's absence in the Canadian West. The ex-warden is in his eighty-sixth year but travels alone. He was as far as Vancouver where he visited his daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin, Miss Baldwin and Miss Gaynor of Toronto are here for a few days.

STOCK MARKET

NEW YORK	
Beet Sugar.....	95
C. P. R.....	160
Crucible steel.....	80
Erie.....	25
Erie 1st pfd.....	39 1-2
Marine Pfd.....	85
Union Pac.....	138 3/4
U. S. Steel.....	130
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
Detroit.....	109
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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