

THE DAILY MAIL

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 1917.

MORE BOODLING DISCLOSED.

Evidence brought out by Commissioner Stevens at the Valley Railway inquiry at St. John yesterday proves conclusively that the carnival of graft and jobbery which prevailed under the late Provincial Government did not cease when Mr. J. K. Flemming was forced out of the Premiership.

The most startling evidence was given yesterday by Mr. Thomas Cozzolino, the president of the Nova Scotia Construction Company, which concern has the contract for the lower section of the Valley Railway. Mr. Cozzolino swore that his company paid Mr. W. B. Tennant, a Tory henchman, the sum of \$100,000 for his influence, and had to promise to turn over one-half the profits before getting the contract. Mr. C. O. Foss, the new chief engineer, in his evidence testified that the profits of the contracting company on the Westfield-Gagetown section of the road would be in the vicinity of \$233,207. The company, it seems, contracted to build the Centreville-Andover section on the same terms, but just prior to the election they were given a new contract at an increased price, which according to Mr. Foss would have added \$77,000 to the profits. It came out in evidence during the day that the Smith & Merrithew company and Messrs. Kennedy & McDonald, for some unexplained reason were treated more generously than the other sub-contractors.

Mr. W. B. Tennant, who was paid so generously for his influence, is a director of the Standard newspaper and has for some years acted as a sort of gatekeeper and toll-taker for interests pretty close to the now defunct Murray-Baxter government.

When the enquiry is resumed again Mr. Tennant will be called to the stand to explain for the information of the public what disposition he made of the easy money which seems to have come his way.

SPEED THE PLOUGH!

The familiar slogan, "Speed the Plough" is frequently used by newspapers and public speakers in connection with the campaign for greater production of food products. A writer in a recent issue of the Farmer's Advocate points out that the Government of Canada, by its high tariff policy has been doing all in its power for the past ten years to retard the speed of this most useful and necessary agricultural implement. He cites some statistics issued by the Dominion Department of Trade and Commerce to show that during the ten months ending January 31st, 1917, the farmers of Canada imported \$955,000 worth of ploughs, on which they paid the sum of \$191,000 in customs duties and \$75,000 in war taxes, making a total of over a quarter of a million dollars.

He goes on to say that during the same period the farmers of the country have probably paid three times that amount in the tariff profits added to the ploughs which they purchased at home, bringing the total taxation on ploughs up to a round million dollars. But this is not the whole story, as during that period the manufacturers of ploughs imported \$418,000 worth of mouldboards, landsides and other parts of ploughs, which come in duty free. This is how food production in Canada is being stimulated by legislation, which has been in force for some years. It is claimed by the manufacturers that they cannot make ploughs in competition with outside manufacturers, but this claim is given a rude jolt by a statement in the government report showing that during the ten months already referred to they exported to other countries Canadian made ploughs to the value of \$482,000. If the government at Ottawa wants to give a real impetus to the movement for greater production, it should lose no time in abolishing the duty on farm implements.

ROGERS MUST GO.

The position of Hon. Robert Rogers in the Cabinet becomes more difficult to himself and the government as the days go by. The Hamilton Herald, independent, says:

"Hon. Robert Rogers vehemently denies the truth of the findings of Judge Galt, the Commissioner appointed by the Manitoba government to investigate certain administrative irregularities of the late Manitoba government. His denial is satisfactory so far as it goes. All his political and personal friends will hope that he will be able to clear himself of the stigma that the Commissioner has put upon him. But the fact remains that Mr.

Rogers is discredited before the country and the world by Judge Galt's report. The Judge declares that Mr. Rogers was one of the chief parties to a 'fraudulent conspiracy,' the object of which was to obtain public money for use by the Conservative party in political elections, Dominion as well as provincial.

"Mr. Rogers is one of the leading members of the Borden government, the head of the chief spending department. His honor is clouded by this report. It would seem to be impossible for him to remain in the cabinet. He should resign. If he can clear himself of the imputation made by Judge Galt, his position before the country will be stronger than ever."

Every time Mr. B. Frank Smith comes into conflict with the Minister of Public Works, and gets into trouble, Opposition Leader Murray comes to his rescue by rising to a point of order. Yesterday Mr. Smith tried to get an enquiry before the House which contained a statement of fact, but failed in his purpose. Hon. Mr. Veniot entered a protest, a point of order was raised and the Speaker took time to consider the matter.

Through Our Sieve

Any man can get along with any woman—all he has to do is to let her have her own way.

Even the beatitudes are mixed—it is the peacemakers not the meek who seek to inherit the earth.

Russia is discovering that war time is not suited to conducting experiments in utopian philosophy.

It requires a lot of will power for a girl of 25 to act as if she didn't care to get married.

Hindenburg will continue to be Germany's idol until he becomes Germany's scapegoat.

In view of the recent aeroplane actions, it can hardly be denied that modern warfare has an upward tendency.

Not all the brave men are marching to the music of a military band; some are trudging along with memories of the Lohengrin march in their ears.

Live stock in England has been placed on a government ration—which inspires a wild desire to see a hog dieting.

"Nothing can make a woman suffer like an unbecoming hat," says a lady writer. Something should be done to alleviate the sufferings of the unbecoming hat.

Had to Pay Good Price For Valley Ry. Contract

(Continued from page 1.) the contrary, he testified that he "made a kick about it" on his own account, but the protest of the president of the company did not seem to have affected the arrangement.

The hearing was then adjourned for a fortnight, when G. H. Lindsay, the vice-president and general manager of the construction company, the man who made the arrangements for the contract and for the "partnership" of Mr. Tennant, is expected to be present to give evidence. Mr. Tennant will be called to the stand also.

Mr. Cozzolino's Evidence. Mr. Carvell produced a copy of a resolution passed by the board of directors of the company giving Mr. Lindsay full power to act in the matter of the contract, the resolution, which was dated in December, 1915, bearing the signature of A. McIntyre, secretary-treasurer of the company. Mr. Cozzolino confirmed the signature and the subject matter.

Friends in New Brunswick. In reply to Mr. Carvell's question as to why Mr. Lindsay should be given such extensive powers, the witness replied that Mr. Lindsay had said that he had friends in New Brunswick and that he could get the contract.

Mr. Carvell—"And who were these friends?"

Witness—"He said that he could get the contract if he took W. B. Tennant in with him and gave him half the profits."

Q.—Did he have an agreement to that effect with Mr. Tennant?

A.—Yes, he had an agreement, but none of us saw it; not even our lawyer.

Q.—Was it a written agreement?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Did Mr. Lindsay have power to enter into the contract without any further authority from the company?

A.—He was to report to us before he sent in the tender.

Q.—Did you know at that time that the tender was to be made on a mile-

age basis.

A.—Yes, we knew it from the newspapers; that was all we knew about it.

Q.—Had you had any conversation with Mr. Tennant on the subject?

A.—No, I had never talked to Mr. Tennant, not about this; I had met him perhaps five or six years before.

Q.—When Lindsay made this proposal to Mr. Tennant, was it made personally or on behalf of the company?

A.—On behalf of the company, I presume; I don't know.

Half and Half.

Mr. Stevens—Did Lindsay report back to the company?

A.—He reported that he had the job on shares with Tennant, with

Mr. Carvell—Did Lindsay say how Mr. Tennant landed the job?

A.—No, the contract was signed while I was away. Lindsay said he would have to go half and half.

Q.—How was Mr. Tennant so sure that he could get the contract?

A.—I could not tell.

Q.—Did Mr. Tennant put up any money?

A.—No, not that I know of.

Q.—What was Tennant putting up?

A.—He was to get the job.

Tennant's Influence.

Q.—Was it his influence that he was putting up?

A.—Yes, I guess so.

Q.—He finally got the job?

A.—Yes.

Q.—But nothing came of the first tender?

No, it was turned down.

Q.—Were you present when the second tender was put in and when the contract was signed?

A.—No.

Q.—Did you know that Mr. Lindsay was signing the contract?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Was it on the same basis, that Tennant was to put up no money but was to get half the profits?

A.—Yes.

Q.—How much has Mr. Tennant got out of the contract so far?

A.—I can't tell. The auditor is now auditing the books. As soon as he is through I can tell.

Tennant Got \$100,000.

Q.—Did Mr. Tennant get something when the contract was signed?

A.—Yes.

Q.—How much?

A.—Lindsay gave him the cheque; I could not be sure about it.

Q.—Now, Mr. Cozzolino—

A.—That is true. I don't know. It might have been \$50,000, \$100,000 or \$200,000.

Q.—It was not under \$50,000?

A.—No, I don't think so.

Q.—Was it around \$100,000?

A.—Yes, I guess so. As far as I know I think it was \$100,000.

Q.—He got part of his profits in advance?

A.—It looks like that.

Q.—Who is this Mr. Tennant?

A.—I don't know.

Q.—Where does he live?

A.—I don't know; he has an office in St. John.

Q.—What is his Christian name?

A.—W. B. are his initials; that's all I know.

Q.—He is the man who was once a Methodist parson?

A.—So they tell me.

Q.—What has Mr. Tennant received since this \$100,000?

A.—Not a cent, so far as I know.

Q.—Do you know what Mr. Tennant was to do with this \$100,000?

A.—I don't know.

Q.—Did Mr. Tennant or Mr. Lindsay tell you that Mr. Tennant had to divide with the others?

A.—No, sir.

STOCK MARKET

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Crucible steel.....	80½
Erie.....	25½
Erie 1st pfd.....	39 1-2
Marine Pfd.....	79½
Union Pac.....	135½
U. S. Steel.....	130½
Air Brake.....	179
Kenn.....	50
Marine Com.....	29
Reading.....	93
Rubber.....	56½
Studebaker.....	81½
Bethlehem.....	141
Wool.....	47½

MONTREAL.

Civic.....	77
Detroit.....	109
Quebec.....	26
Toronto.....	78½
Braz.....	40½
Cement.....	60½
Iron.....	63
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