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The Daily Mail

* The Weather. *
* Maritime: Rising tempera- *
* ture, increasing southerly winds *
* with snow or rain. *

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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1917

TWO CENTS PER COPY

ELECTORS OF NEW BRUNSWICK PRONOUNCE AGAINST GRAFT

The Provincial Government Condemned by the People

**23 Opponents Returned on Saturday Against 21 Supporters
---Three Cabinet Ministers Among the Slain---Opposition
Made a Clean Sweep of the North Shore.**

New Brunswick has a public conscience and on Saturday it declared itself most emphatically against the small-bore politicians who have been misgoverning the province for the past nine years. Of the 44 seats contested on Saturday, the Opposition won 23, and they succeeded in defeating three members of the Government—Hon. Dr. Landry in Kent, Hon. A. R. Slipp in Queens, and Hon. Arthur Culligan in Restigouche.

The Opposition had to fight against the influence and patronage of two governments, backed up by barrels of money and oceans of rum, yet they came out triumphant. It is a most unusual thing to defeat a government at the polls in New Brunswick—it has happened only once or twice since Confederation—and the result of the voting on Saturday was therefore all the more remarkable.

The North Shore counties were swept clean by the Opposition. Kent, where Hon. Dr. Landry considered himself impregnable, furnished the biggest surprise of the day. The great county of Westmorland, where the Opposition won a by-election in May last, and the City of Moncton returned full Opposition tickets. In Northumberland and Restigouche the Opposition candidates also swept the deck clean. The defeat of Hon. A. R. Slipp in his native county of Queens along with his colleague, was another big surprise. The rout of the Government ticket in Sunbury was expected by most of the supporters of both political parties.

The most severe blow to the Opposition was the defeat of their able leader, Mr. W. E. Foster, in St. John county. He made a splendid fight against strong odds, and deserved to win. While the result in St. John was not what the Opposition expected, all are pleased with the return of Dr. W. F. Roberts, one of the Opposition candidates in the city.

The counties of York, Carleton and Charlotte declared for a continuance of the present regime and its corrupt methods by electing full Government tickets. Government workers in these counties were apparently able to make the people believe that the administration was certain to be sustained. A term or two in the cool shades of Opposition may have a soothing effect.

Mr. Dugal, Who Drove Flemming From the Government, Had Big Majority in Madawaska

Friends of good government all over the province must rejoice over the great victory won by Mr. L. A. Dugal and his colleague in the county of Madawaska. Mr. Dugal was one of two Opposition members returned in the last House.

Flemming tried to win him over to the Government side, but failed. He was elected to support the Opposition and he stood bravely by his guns. By the means of questions prepared for him by the Opposition organizers, he kept the Government on the anxious seat and exposed a great deal of crooked work. During the session of 1914 he made grave charges against Premier Flemming, which were afterwards proven before a Royal Commission. The victory of yesterday is in a measure due to efforts of Mr. Dugal and his constituents did well to show their appreciation by more than a 2 to 1 vote.

In Victoria county Mr. Titus Carter saw the storm coming and got out while the going was good. His colleague, Mr. J. L. White, who seconded the resolution to whitewash Flemming, was buried beneath an avalanche of ballots. The victory achieved in Victoria by Messrs. Tweeddale and Burgess was one of the most notable of the campaign.

Opposition Leader Thanks His Followers For Loyal and Faithful Support in the Contest

W. E. Foster, leader of the Opposition, last evening made the following statement for publication regarding the elections: "After our efforts I could not say otherwise than that I am immensely pleased with the results. The victory was one that came from a free and independent electorate. It shows how public opinion can change, and is another warning to public men that the electors will not tolerate a government which does not, to a reasonable degree, conduct their affairs along proper and business-like lines.

"The result is all the more wonderful when consideration is given to the fact that the time was so short we were at a

great disadvantage in many constituencies, and owing to the season of the year were greatly handicapped in making a general canvas, while on the Government side were a horde of their officials (and in one case a deputy minister) who went into many counties and used every effort to prolong the life of the Government that employed them.

"The same influences that were used in the sweep of 1912 were again in evidence on Saturday, in both the city and the county of St. John. In 1912 I predicted that the story would be told some day of the sources from which the huge campaign fund of that year was obtained. In the case of the present contest the sources will probably be revealed as we ourselves will be able to investigate its origin. The activity of certain gentlemen in the county on Saturday in their determination to defeat me affords at least one prominent clue.

Congratulates the Electors of the Province

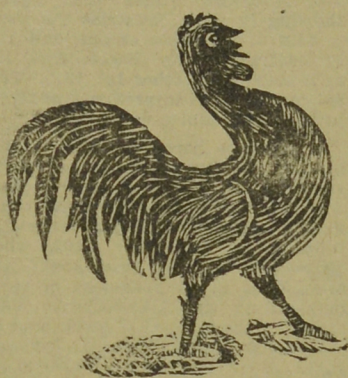
On the Great Triumph for Better Government

"Under the circumstances the electors are to be congratulated upon the great triumph for better government.

"On Monday the deferred election will take place in the county of Gloucester. If the result is favorable to the Opposition party, this of course will mean the resignation of Premier Murray and his government.

"I wish to publicly express the thanks of the Opposition party for loyal and unselfish support given by so many business men throughout the province at such an inconvenient season of the year. I know full well the sacrifices made by so many, more especially those who consented at the eleventh hour to become candidates. I regret the defeat of some of those who at my personal solicitation offered their services to the province, but they have the satisfaction of knowing that their example assisted to a nuntold extent in winning the provincial victory. Their advice and assistance will still be available, if in a lesser degree, to the cause for which they fought so manfully and against such great odds."

VICTORY!



How the Parties Stand At the Present Time

	Govt.	Opp.
Restigouche	2	2
Northumberland	4	4
Kent	4	4
Westmorland	4	4
Moncton City	1	1
Albert	2	2
Kings	3	3
St. John County	2	2
St. John City	3	1
Charlotte	4	4
Queens	2	2
York	4	4
Sunbury	2	2
Victoria	2	2
Carleton	3	3
Madawaska	2	2
Total	21	23

The election in Gloucester is taking place today. It returns four members.

MAMMOTH LINER HAS BEEN SUNK

Queenstown, Feb. 26.—The Cunard line steamship Laconia, of 18099 tons gross, which sailed from New York Feb. 18 for Liverpool, has been sunk.

THE ALLIED TROOPS SHOWING ACTIVITY ON THE WESTERN FRONT

**German Forced Back and British Troops
Capture a Number of Important
Posts---French Penetrate German
Lines to the West of Verdun.**

(Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press.)

British Headquarters in France, Feb. 25, via London, Feb. 26.—On one portion of the British front at least the war today became a war of movement. Under cover of fog and mist which have been particularly heavy in the past forty-eight hours, the Germans carried out the greatest retirement they have made on the western front in the last two years, and the British have swept into possession of Pys, Serre, Miraumont and Petit Miraumont, including the famous Butte de Warlencourt, which has been the scene of the fiercest fighting or the war, and in places is deep with the bones of dead men.

The exact extent of the German retirement is not known tonight, but it is estimated that it approaches a depth of three miles at some points.

British Patrols are Harrassing Germans And Keeping in Touch with Their Movements

British patrols are out in all directions, harrassing the Germans and keeping in touch with their movements. Until they report, it will not be possible to say just where the Germans have determined to fix their next line of resistance. Nevertheless, it can be stated that the British, now or soon, will be in a position possibly to force the evacuation of Bapaume, which has been the key to the German position since the beginning of the Somme offensive.

PARIS, Feb. 26.—"Late yesterday French detachments broke into the German lines near Ville-Sur-Tourbe, 25 miles west of Verdun, destroyed a number of shelters and brought back prisoners and materials," says today's official announcement. "Two surprise attacks by the enemy, one on our trench positions north of Beaulne, northeast of Soissons, the other on one of our posts northwest of Avocourt, were broken up. We took prisoners, including one officer.

"There was intermittent cannonading at some points on the front. Yesterday our pilots brought down three German airplanes, all of which fell within our lines."

WILL BE IN A POSITION OF ARMED NEUTRALITY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—President Wilson appeared before Congress at one o'clock this afternoon and asked for authority to place the United States in a state of "armed neutrality" to resist the German submarine menace.

Continued invasion of the plain rights of neutrals on the high seas, further sacrifices of American lives and ships, the intolerable blockade of American commerce—almost as effectual as if the country was at war—have taken the place of war has provoked such an intense feeling.

dreaded "overt" act which was expected to shock the world, and have forced the President into the next step toward war.

President Wilson asks to be empowered to take whatever steps are necessary, which includes the arming of ships, the conveying of merchantment by war vessels, or what other steps are necessary, made it plain again that he wanted peace, but not at the price of American rights or by driving the American flag from the seas.

Congress is expected not only to authorize the President to use the armed forces of the country, but also to provide the money. Whether armed neutrality will mean war depends on whether Germany realizes that the United States is ready to protect its neutral rights by whatever means are necessary.

News of the sinking of the Cunard liner Laconia, with Americans aboard, was received here as the President was on his way to address Congress. Its grave possibilities added emphasis to the President's words.