

Some Correspondence on The Central Railway Enquiry

Tory Purists Hoped to Drive Hon. Dr. Pugsley From Public Life and were Disappointed---Mr. Powell's Remarkable Letter to Hon. J. D. Hazen in 1908---Sir George Foster and Mr. Geo. W. Fowler, M. P. also Heard From--How the Dice Were Loaded.

An almost forgotten chapter of political history in New Brunswick was recalled on Tuesday in the House of Assembly when Dr. McGrath, of Northumberland, moved that a humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, praying that he cause to have laid on the table of the House copies of all correspondence, between the premier or any other member of the provincial government in the year 1908 and any person or persons, relating to the appointment of commissioners to investigate matters connected with the Central railway

and the New Brunswick Coal & Railway Company, and also copies of the correspondence between the then premier or any other members of the provincial government and any person or persons relating to the report of such commissioners.

Premier Foster promptly said an address was unnecessary, and laid the correspondence asked for on the table of the house. It consisted of letters from H. A. Powell, K. C., Sir George E. Foster, and George W. Fowler, M. P., to Hon. J. D. Hazen when he was premier of New Brunswick; and they were

interesting indeed.

A few days ago in the house of commons at Ottawa, Sir Robert Borden referred to some remarks Hon. Dr. Pugsley had made in 1909 in the same house respecting a judge of the Supreme Court of New Brunswick, who had been chairman of a board of Royal Commissioners investigating the Central railway, and had made a report which reflected seriously upon the member for St. John who was at that time holding the same position (Minister of Public Works) in the Federal government as Hon. Mr. Rogers does now.

Judge Landry, since deceased, had as his associates on that Royal Commission, Fulton McDougall, of Moncton, and A. I. Teed, of St. Stephen, all since deceased. H. A. Powell, K. C., was counsel for the government, of which Hon. Mr. Hazen was premier and attorney-general, and Mr. Powell was chief inquisitor at the investigation.

The report of the Royal Commission was not handed in to the Legislature until the last day of March, 1909, and so far as the house of assembly was concerned, that was the last that was heard of it. But not so in the house of commons at Ottawa. Dr. Pugsley was there and so were several of his political opponents, including the present Judge Crocket, George W. Fowler, and George E. Foster, and the attack in connection with the Central railway report was planned and staged in the hope that the Minister of Public Works Dr. Pugsley, would be given a political death blow.

It develops now, after eight years, that at the time the report of Judge Landry and his associates was handed in to the government of Hon. Mr. Hazen, the latter also received an astonishing letter from H. A. Powell, the counsel representing him and the government at the investigation, which throws an altogether different and startling light upon the report.

According to Mr. Powell he and the commissioners did not agree upon the



Taste!

You will heartily enjoy the taste and aroma of Cowan's Perfection Cocoa — and further, it is the most wholesome nourishing Canadian beverage.

report, and he frankly said in his letter to Premier Hazen: "There are a few things that I would like very much to have had different from what they are."

Caps the Climax.

And then Mr. Powell caps the climax in his letter by saying: "Fortunately the fellows on the other side will know nothing about the matter, and if the statement is challenged the REPORTER HAS MR. SHADBOLT'S EVIDENCE MUCH STRONGER THAN HE GAVE IT."

Dr. Pugsley was surely up against a strong combination, with the evidence on the record much stronger than such an important witness as the manager of the Bank of Montreal gave it.

But the true spirit and motive of the investigation is shown in the closing words of Mr. Powell's letter when he says: "Although I would like to have seen several things put more strongly than they have been and the RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MISAPPROPRIATION SHOWN TO REST MORE ON PUGSLEY'S SHOULDERS, I THINK YOU WILL FIND THE REPORT IS PRETTY STRONG."

Dispicable Methods

The letters and methods of Messrs. Powell and Fowler may not surprise the public, but certainly the tactics of Hon. (now Sir.) George E. Foster when the charge was about to be made against Hon. Mr. Pugsley in the house of commons at Ottawa, will be heartily condemned by every fair-minded man. He wired Premier Hazen for copies of the Royal Commissioners reports and also for the evidence, and then in a letter which followed the same day, he explained why he did so. He wrote: "Pugsley so far as now appears will try to bluff the matter out of the house here as not pertaining to federal affairs. He will say the report is not based on evidence and that he will, after getting a copy of the evidence, issue a statement showing this to be so. That will be his defence. We propose to get after him before he gets a copy of the evidence, but if by any possibility he does get it, then we need the evidence to meet him here."

But as it happened, Dr. Pugsley had a copy of the evidence and made such a conclusive answer to the charges as utterly confounded his political enemies and foiled their plot to drive him from public life.

The Letters in Full

The letters in full are as follows:
Would Put "Genial Wm." Out.
House of Commons, Ottawa,

May 21, 1908.

Hon. J. D. Hazen, K. C., M. P. P., Attorney General, Fredericton, N. B.

My Dear Hazen: Yours to hand. I am sorry Trites has declined and I cannot understand why since I spoke to him and had his consent before I mentioned his name to you. There is a very good man, Fred C. Harris by name, who is manager of the Cape Tormentine railway. There is also Capt. Geo. A. Coonan of Harvey, Albert Co., who built a portion of the Albert Southern Railway, and J. S. Armstrong, C. E., of Rothesay, so you can take your choice. I suggested to the surveyor general that A. I. Teed of St. Stephen, might be a good man if Mr. Thorne or W. S. Fisher would not act.

I still think you should have a junior counsel to assist Powell in this matter and the small additional expense should not stand in the way as this is a very important thing for us. I believe we can put the Genial Wm. out of business if this matter is properly handled.

Mr. Borden was much pleased to hear that the boys in N. B. were so strongly with us on the Aylesworth bill.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) George W. Fowler.

From Mr. H. A. Powell.

Powell & Harrison, Barristers, Solicitors, Notaries, etc.

St. John, N. B., March 31, '09.

Hon. J. D. Hazen, Attorney General, Fredericton, N. B.

Dear Hazen — As I phoned you last evening, the report of the commissioners was sent forward by express. The Act authorizing the investigation directed the report to be addressed to the provincial secretary to be by him laid before the Governor. This language we interpreted literally and the report is directed to the provincial secretary and he can lay it before the Governor which, I presume, will be

done at once. After that I suppose it will be laid on the table of the house. The Times has printed a number of copies, I do not know how many, which they will forward to you in a day or two.

You will notice in the report there are some corrections made in writing and the errata had to be made. Mr. McDougall was very strongly of the opinion that I should have as little as possible to do with the final making up of the report, inasmuch as the charge might be made that I and the not the commissioners had got up the report. I spent all day Monday with them in Moncton. At that time the report had not been completely drafted and a good deal of the proof had not been read. It was arranged between us that Mr. McDougall would send me down the proof and I would revise it and make all necessary corrections. On Saturday Judge Landry rang me up and arranged that I would go up on Monday morning to finally revise their work. On Sunday, however, Mr. McDougall rang me up and told me that he and Judge Landry had finally revised it themselves and the report was all printed, and consequently not to come up.

On Monday morning Judge Landry rang me up again, wanting to know why I had not gone up. Monday night the commissioners all gathered at St. John with the report completely printed. There are a few things that I would like very much to have had different from what they are. In the first place, I urged on them the great undesirability, in view of your pushing your claim against the Dominion government for increased subsidy, of minimizing the cost of the fifteen mile section and branches as is done on pages fifty-six and fifty-seven of the report, and I drew up myself a statement, which could not be used against your contention, but the commissioners determined not to insert the statements on pages fifty-four, fifty-five and fifty-six.

The reference to the Intercolonial on page fifty-six struck me as affording scope to Pugsley and the newspapers to attack the commissioners on the absurdity of the comparison between the fifteen mile section and the Intercolonial so I had them insert the words "as was intimated." They had an error of fact in respect to the bridges on the fifteen mile section which I had them correct. Another error was the reference to the provincial engineer having made the estimate; it was the company's engineer.

Another matter which I am sorry has gone in as it did inasmuch as it will give the opposition press an opportunity to make an attack on the commissioners is the statement at the bottom of page 19 to the effect that it appears conclusively from the evidence that the whole \$250,000 par value of the 3 per cent. bonds had been guaranteed and delivered to the company up to August 6, 1903. The only evidence to that effect was an impression Mr. Shadbolt had that the whole \$250,000 of 3 per cent. bonds which were delivered

When You Can't Sleep
YOU SHOULD USE

MILBURN'S
HEART AND NERVE PILLS

Sleeplessness is caused by the nervous system becoming deranged.

Perhaps too much worry has gotten on your nerves, perhaps you have overworked yourself, or have been excessive in your use of tobacco, but whatever the cause, the nervous system must be built up again before restful sleep can be assured.

Those whose rest is broken into by frightful dreams, nightmares, sinking and smothering sensations, who wake up in the morning as tired as they went to bed, can have their old, peaceful, undisturbed, refreshing sleep back again by using Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills.

Mrs. John Sloan, Haley Station, Ont., writes: "Over a year ago I was very nervous. I could not sleep at night, and I would faint at the slightest fright. I tried several doctors, but they did me practically no good. I noticed your advertisement and immediately tried Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, and I am proud to say they cured me."

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are 50c. a box or three for \$1.25, at all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

The Onward Sweep of Prohibition!



Sports and Drink

A well-known baseball manager says:

"Because constant, 'moderate' drinking gets a ball player just as sure as boozing, I don't bother with youngsters that drink."

THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ACT

The policy of the Dominion Alliance is to encourage the repeal of the Canada Temperance Act (Scott Act) in counties in which it has been operating. Where this is done the new Provincial Prohibitory Law would then become effective.

It is always easier to enforce one uniform law. The New Brunswick Government cannot put its new law in effect in Scott Act counties, as the latter is Dominion legislation, which has precedence over provincial legislation. Friends of temperance who live in Scott Act counties are, however, asked to co-operate in the more thorough enforcement of that Act so long as it continues in operation.

When the staggering cataclysm of the world-upheaval broke over Europe in 1914, the Entente Nations faced not one, but two powerful foes—Germany and drink!

By one gigantic stroke Russia shook herself free from the toils of the monstrous vodka demon. Many other nations followed her wonderful example in varying degrees. From the great upheaval must come compensations. One of the greatest for Canada is her great heritage—Prohibition.

Do you realize that every province in Canada, except British Columbia and Quebec, are now actually enjoying Prohibition! And Prohibition is winning too in Quebec; 976 municipalities in Quebec are "dry" and only 182 "wet"! What a glorious heritage! But the day is not far off when the great test must come. Shall Prohibition laws remain permanently on the law books—or only for "duration of the war"?

The answer depends upon the use we make of the weapon of prohibitory law while it is in our grasp. Upon the shoulders of every man and woman in this province (who wants to see the curse abolished forever) lies a heavy burden of responsibility! Prohibition **must be enforced** and the trenches held, not by a few zealous officers of the law alone—but **by the whole people!**

Help to Enforce Prohibition

Since September 16, 1916, Ontario has enjoyed good enforcement of Prohibition in all but a few districts. Not the most daring anti-prohibitionist harbors the slightest hope for a return to the curse of the traffic in Ontario. Here are some figures showing results in Ontario's largest cities for the last three months of 1915 and 1916:

	DRUNKENNESS		ALL OFFENCES	
	Under License	Under Prohibition	Under License	Under Prohibition
	1915	1916	1915	1916
Toronto	2,908	953	8,291	5,682
Ottawa	286	234	587	607
Hamilton	498	61	1,341	749
London	367	144	783	501
Brantford	152	16	354	260

Note—"It will be noted that Ottawa has not much reduction in arrests for drunkenness, and that it has an actual increase in all offences. It is perhaps strange that it should show any reduction in the drunkenness record, inasmuch as it is separated only by a river from the license city of Hull."—*Pioneer*, Toronto.

United public opinion in New Brunswick can enforce any law—upon every man and woman in the province lies the responsibility of helping the officers of the law enforce Prohibition properly.

Dominion Temperance Alliance

NEW BRUNSWICK BRANCH

DONALD FRASER, President
Plaster Rock, N.B.

REV. THOS. MARSHALL, Vice-President
Fredericton, N.B.

REV. H. C. ARCHER, Executive Secretary
Fredericton, N.B.

W. G. CLARK, Treasurer
Fredericton, N.B.