

# THE DAILY MAIL

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SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1917

## THE OPPOSITION LEADER.

Mr. Jas. A. Murray delivered his first speech in his new role of opposition leader in the Legislature yesterday afternoon. He was in good form and his remarks were followed by his fellow members with considerable interest, as there was naturally a lot of curiosity as to just what he would say. A leader of a government which failed to secure an endorsement from the people on February 24th, the case he was called upon to present to the House was not a strong one, and it is only a matter of simple justice to him to say that he made the most of it. He put on a bold front and tried to appear happy in his remarks, but it was plain to be seen that the duty which now devolves upon him is as unpleasant as it was unexpected, and he will escape from it just as soon as his party services are recognized by the powers that be at Ottawa. It was Mr. Murray's first public deliverance since the late election, and it was thought that he would make some attempt to explain away the rout of his party at the polls, but he failed to do so. He indulged in mild criticism of the speech from the throne, but he boasted of the great things which his government would have accomplished for the province had it remained in office. He was most generous in handing out advice to the new government, but his words might have carried more weight if there was any evidence to show that he had made any serious attempt when in power to do the things which he is now apparently anxious that his successors should do.

He acknowledged that Premier Foster was a man of ability, but seemed to be afraid that the alleged sinister influence of some of his advisers would prevent him from faithfully performing his duty to the public. On this score the opposition leader need give himself no unnecessary concern. There never was a government in the history of the province which surrounded itself with so many evil influences as that which was bowled out of office on February 24th by the people whose confidence it had so outrageously betrayed, and there is not the slightest danger of the new administration adopting any of the crooked methods which got its predecessor in office in bad with the people.

It was apparent from the tone of Mr. Murray's speech that he is now occupying a position that he never dreamt of occupying, and that he will seek a safer and more congenial berth just as soon as the opportunity to do so presents itself.

## A BUSINESS LIKE SPEECH.

Premier Foster delivered his maiden speech in the debate on the address in the Legislature yesterday and made an excellent impression. The Premier, while he makes no pretence at oratory, is a clear and forcible speaker, and makes use of language which is easily understood. His address yesterday was not the deliverance of a swash-buckling politician, but that of a capable and experienced business man who is in public life from a sense of duty to his country. While his remarks were not lengthy, they carried weight, and he covered a lot of ground, and readers of the Mail will find in the report of his address in this issue much food for thought.

The Premier made a fitting reference to the great world war, and in connection with this subject he intimated that before prorogation a committee from both sides of the House might be appointed to consider the matter of providing a suitable memorial to our gallant New Brunswick boys who have fallen on European battlefields. The Premier takes the ground

that the time to inaugurate a movement of this kind is while the people are in a spirit for giving and there are many who will agree with him in this view.

Opposition Leader Murray, in his address, commented on the fact that the Lieutenant-Governor had acted on the advice of the Dominion Alliance in appointing a chief inspector under the Prohibition Act. Premier Foster in his reply took occasion to point out that the old government having permitted the Alliance to prepare the act, it was scarcely in order now for Mr. Murray to complain at the action of the present administration in permitting that organization to recommend a suitable person to look after its enforcement.

The Premier's observations on the financial condition of the Province were timely and will be heartily endorsed by all those who have the interests of the Province at heart. He called attention to the fact that the income of the province was practically stationary, while the public debt had grown to very large proportions. Under the circumstances he was quite justified in sounding a warning note and expressing the opinion that it would be inadvisable for the province to carry on extensive public works involving expenditure on capital account while the war is in progress.

While discussing provincial finances, the Premier stated that a thorough audit was now being made by a reputable firm of accountants, whose report would be laid before the House as soon as completed.

Hon. Mr. Foster, while new to parliamentary life and procedure, has already given evidence of his capacity to take a firm grip of affairs. It is a most fortunate thing for New Brunswick that at this time of national stress its affairs should be under the direction of an honest, conscientious, level-headed business man of the type of the present Premier.

Opposition Leader Murray does not approve of the idea of placing control of the Crown Lands in the hands of a commission. He says that in the late election it lost the late opposition a number of seats in the southern counties of the province. We are to assume from this that but for the Crown Land policy of the present government it would have made a clean sweep of the province. The opposition leader certainly pays a poor compliment to the "business-like" government which went out of office by the will of the people on February 24th.

Mr. John Young, M. P. P. for York, bloomed forth as a real humorist in the Legislature yesterday. He wanted to know by what authority Mr. A. C. Fleming was dismissed from the position of supervisor of public buildings. The next thing we know Mr. Young will be interrogating the government as to whether or not its attention has been called to a certain affidavit sworn to by John A. Humble and C. W. Pond in 1910, describing in detail an original and unique method of manipulating road accounts.

The Standard editorially advises the people to closely watch the newspapers for reports of the proceedings of the Legislature. Turning to its news columns, we find the following extended report of Premier Foster's speech on the address:

"Mr. Foster followed." The people will have to read other papers than the Standard if they want the truth.

## THANKFUL MOTHERS

Mothers who have once used Baby's Own Tablets for their little ones are always strong in their praise of this medicine. Among them is Mrs. Marcelle Boudreau, Mazonette, N. B., who writes: "Baby's Own Tablets are the best medicine I know of for little ones. I am very thankful for what they have done for my children." The Tablets regulate the bowels and stomach; cure constipation and indigestion; break up colds and simple fevers; in fact they cure all the minor ills of little ones. They are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

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## Through Our Sieve

Germany is trying to take candy from the Russian infant.

When cast in the stream of adversity people are either stones or corks.

Women never rope a man in; they just give him enough rope.

Even the hot anxiety we all have to get at the garden doesn't seem to have any effect on the temperature.

The simon-pure pessimist now is the man who worries about the August drought.

Don't forget this summer that an early bird in the garden is worth two on the golf links.

Two things most women can't forgive in a rival—blonde hair and a widow's veil.

Curbing the Kaiser is "interesting if true." But the only effective way we know to curb him is to throw him out.

One of the things it would be nice to be able to grow in the backyard is a load of coal.

Every man has a pet theory of his own on running a garden or a woman.

The long-suffering housewife says that the modern servant girl's chief ambition is to be expert enough in the kitchen to get up an attractive lunch for her beaux.

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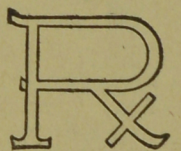
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