

THE DAILY MAIL

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1918

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

Discussing the provincial financial situation, as disclosed by the annual statement of the Auditor General, the St. John Times says:

"It is most unfortunate that there should be a deficit of \$600,000, but the people know now that it exists, and know also that the Foster government did not create it. Before the provincial elections took place the Times, in common with other opponents of the old government, warned the people that they would discover whenever a full investigation of the finances of the province was made, and the result is not at all surprising to those who carefully watched the career of that reckless administration and the grafters who flourished under its wing. The change of government did not come soon enough, and now the province must shoulder the burden they placed upon it during a series of spendthrift years. That the interest charges alone to be paid by the province amount to more than \$600,000, shows how serious is the problem which confronts the Foster government and the people.

We are facing this condition in war time, when the cost of labor, materials and everything else relating to public expenditure is higher. Under such conditions the strictest economy must be exercised, and at the same time more revenue secured. Premier Foster and his colleagues would do well to take counsel with business men, go very thoroughly into the whole matter of retrenchment, take pains to make all the people fully familiar with the situation, and then act with boldness and decision. It is not their fault that the province is confronted with a huge deficit; but it will be their fault if they do not grapple with the situation courageously, placing the blame where it belongs and calling upon the people to assist in restoring the finances to a healthy state."

AN ABSURD PROPOSAL.

Some of the York County Councillors think that the farmers should have the privilege of shooting big game all the year around. The scarcity of meat is urged as a reason for having an all-the-year-round open season. The proposal might be of some little benefit to some farmers, but it is difficult to see where the rest of us would get off at. If permitted to kill game in open season, the farmers would haul the meat to the city and sell it at top-notch prices, just as many of them did last fall. Those who need meat and are not in a position to raise it, would get it with the cash just as they do now. The proposal to make it legal to kill off the big game of the country is a most ridiculous one. Instead of destroying our natural resources at a time like this, it is of the utmost importance that we should make every effort to conserve them for the future. Both the province and the Dominion will need every available source of revenue when this war is over to make ends meet.

Says the St. John Globe: "New Brunswick last year collected in succession duties the sum of \$30,436.25, but paid out as expenses of the collection the sum of \$3,920.30, the interest on a hundred thousand dollars at four per cent." It was the old government that spent the major portion of the sum above mentioned. The present government abolished commissions on succession duties, and its share of the expenditure is represented by one-half the year's salary of the Deputy Attorney General, or \$900.

The proposal to establish a county poor farm was killed in the Municipal Council on Friday. The poor are always with us and the most modern and business-like way to care for them is to place them on a farm, where they will be comfortably housed and such of them as are able to work can do so. The method in vogue in most of the parishes of York county is fifty years behind the age.

It seems that Mr. George B. Jones, M. P. P., was around when the Valley Railway melon handed out by the

Nova Scotia Construction Co. was being carved. He handled \$40,000 of the swag, ten per cent. of which went into Kings county. Mr. Jones has been closely connected with the Valley Railway from the outset in one capacity or another.

Mr. George B. Jones, M. P. P., told Commissioner Stevens at St. John yesterday that he compelled Mr. W. B. Tennant to pay a \$10,000 election note which he (Jones) and others had endorsed. He said that he told Tennant that he could well afford to pay, in view of the disclosures made before Commissioner Stevens. Tennant, according to the witness, "squealed like a stuck pig," but finally paid. As the province is urgently in need of money, it is to be hoped that steps will be taken to compel Tennant and other Valley Railway boodlers to disgorge their ill-gotten gains.

In his evidence at the Valley Railway enquiry yesterday, Mr. Thomas Bell, of St. John, told how the "swag" had been distributed among the different counties at the last provincial election. He said that \$5,000 was sent to the County of York out of the fund. It is pretty well known that about three times that sum was expended in this county, and the question naturally suggests itself, where did the remainder come from?

The greater part of the \$5,000 donated by the York County Council to the Halifax Relief Fund, was put to very practical use. A crew of mechanics were sent to the Nova Scotia capital, and assisted in making habitable homes damaged by the explosion.

The people of New Brunswick will have good reason to remember the set of politicians who went into power in 1903 on a policy of honesty, retrenchment and reform.

The York Municipal Council took the proper course when it decided to co-operate with the provincial government in the handling and distribution of seed grain.

Through Our Sieve
Jerusalem, Constantinople, Sofia, Vienna, Berlin!

Witness now the annual apotheosis of the buckwheat cake.

Still, farmers would not like wheatless days to become a fixed habit.

Even the Kaiser doesn't seem to be able to stand the Bolsheviks.

The early bird needn't be too early on meatless days.

Even a sealskin cap doesn't save a man's tender toes in zero weather.

Lenine and Trotzky make a great knockabout team in international vaudeville.

The fact that a girl can't hit an easy mark doesn't prevent her from marrying one.

Some people seem to think their opinions will get moths in them if they are not constantly aired.

Probably there is nothing more disappointing to a woman than to have another woman whisper something to her which she already knows.

Miss Carrie Robbins says it does seem too bad that when heat is so scarce and we can have so few clothes anyway, that so many of them have to be of chiffon and Georgette crepe.

MR. TENNANT'S STORY

(Continued from page 5.)

Q.—Would there be any other person who would know about the counties?

A.—No.

R. B. Emerson and M. E. Agar were with me on the local committee. I constituted the general committee myself.

Mr. Tennant Recalled.

Mr. W. B. Tennant was recalled and corrected a statement in his former evidence, viz.: "I don't care a darn for public opinion." What he meant to say was, "I don't care a snap of my fingers what the public think, so long as I am right."

Hon. J. B. M. Baxter.

Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, M. P. P., who was next called, said that he had no recollection of a package of money being left at his office, but he had a dim recollection of Mr. LeBlanc handing a package to Mr. Bell. He declared that members of the government did not interfere with the Valley Railway directors. He did not know that Mr. Tennant was connected with the N. S. Construction Company but knew he was acting for them. In regard to the St. John County election he thought he had paid Mr. Tennant out of his own pocket all that could be used properly. He favored having the evidence taken of every member of the late government and also the directors of the Valley Railway.

The enquiry was adjourned until Thursday next.

MARYSVILLE HAPPENINGS

Marysville, January 5—Mr. and Mrs. J. R. McConnell, and Miss Doris McConnell have returned from St. John where they have been visiting relatives for the past few weeks.

Miss Mabel McDonald will leave this evening to resume her duties at St. Michael's Academy.

Mr. Harrison Eno has returned from a visit to Nappan, N. S.

A team composed of players from the Queen Hotel Bowling Alleys and a picked team from the members of the Dawson Club were contestants in a very interesting bowling match Thursday evening. The game resulted in a victory for the Fredericton team by forty-one pins. The first string was won by the Fredericton team by a margin of forty-one pins, the second by thirty pins. The "Whooper" which is due to arrive here at 9.30 was over four hours late in arriving Thursday night with the result that the team from Fredericton was compelled to wait for this length of time before returning to Fredericton.

Although the Town Council occupied a considerable length of time in discussing ways and means for coping with the snow-plough problem at their meeting on Wednesday evening the results do not seem to reflect very great credit on the board as the streets are in bad condition. Some sort of contrivance was hauled over the sidewalks yesterday morning which judging from appearances must have been a very crude affair. If the much talked of new snow plough is to be of any benefit to the citizens of the town it is time that it made its appearance. If the members of the Town Council were disposed to attend strictly to the business of the town for which purpose they were elected, and eliminate personalities and long-winded discussions the results would doubtless be more beneficial to the citizens generally.

A special meeting of the lady members of the Dawson Club has been called for Monday evening, next.

Killed in Action

St. John Globe: Any lingering hope that their son, Pte. William V. Owens might still be alive was dispelled this morning by an official despatch to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank Owens, 272 Tower street, West side. The message stated that Pte. Owens, previously reported missing, was now officially announced to have been killed in action on Aug. 15th, 1917. Last week Mrs. Owens received a letter from a representative of the Red Cross, London, Eng. in which the writer stated that the popular young soldier had been shot through the heart by machine gun fire, and that Pte. Gould was at his side at the time.

Councillors at County Jail.

The members of the Municipal Council of the county of York last night visited the county jail on the invitation of the jailer, High Sheriff J. B. Hawthorne, and the Buildings Committee of the council. The building was inspected and the improvements made recently after the appointment of Sheriff Hawthorne were particularly noted. All the councillors were favorably impressed with the condition in which the premises were kept. The latter part of the evening was occupied by an entertainment for the councillors in the sheriff's apartments.

A New Solicitor.

At the meeting of the County Council this afternoon, Mr. C. D. Richards was appointed County Solicitor in the place of Mr. Gregory Feeney, who was a candidate for re-election. The vote stood 22 to 8 in favor of Mr. Richards. Mr. Feeney afterwards submitted a bill for three and one half days service at \$15 per day, covering the work of this session, and the Council referred it to a committee. Mr. Feeney was appointed last year on a close vote.

U. N. B. Alumni Meeting.

The January meeting of the Associated Alumni of the University of New Brunswick will take place at St. John on the 11th inst. The meeting will be held in the Equity Court Chamber and begin at 8 p. m. Several members from this city will attend.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

(Continued from page 1.)

assessor, or against his colleague.

Coun. Everett stated that he also cherished no hard feelings.

On motion it was decided to amend the assessment of the parish of St. Mary, making the rate for assessing two per cent.

On the motion of Coun. Seymour a pound district was established in the parish of Douglas.

Halifax Relief.

County Solicitor Feeney drew attention to the fact that the vote of \$5,000 for Halifax Relief should be confirmed. He gave the opinion that the expenditure was extraordinary and made necessary special legislation. He

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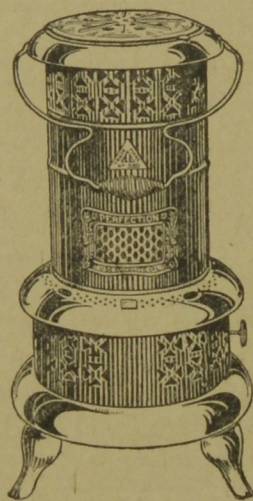
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2 Black Wolf Stoles, Reg. Price, \$25.00, Sale Price	\$15.00
1 Black Wolf Muff, Reg. Price, \$35.00, Sale Price	\$29.00
2 Mink Stoles, Reg. Price \$35.00, Sale Price	\$19.00
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believed, however, that the Provincial Government would provide for the necessary legislation without expense to the county.

A resolution confirming the grant was then passed.

Justice Report.

For the committee on Administration of Justice Coun. Everett presented the following report:

To the Warden and Municipality of York.

Gentlemen: Your Administration of Justice Committee met with a like committee appointed by the City Council to adjust the Administration of Justice account for the year 1917.

This account amounted to \$5,920.32. Fredericton's share of this amount was settled at \$2,503.92.

The report was adopted.

Seed Grain Appropriation.

On the motion of Coun. T. W. Brewer the committee appointed to supervise the distribution of seed wheat and seed oats in co-operation with the Provincial Department of Agriculture was given borrowing powers sufficient to finance the transaction.

Parish assessments were passed as follows.

Kingsclear.
Support of poor \$600.00
Patients in Prov. Hospital 156.00
Parish Clerk 6.00

District Clerk 4.00

Parish election 16.00

Assessors to be paid 3 per cent.

St. Mary's.

Support of poor \$540.00

Patients in Prov. Hospital 104.00

Parish indebtedness 200.00

Parish Clerk 6.00

District Clerks 12.00

Assessors to be paid 3 per cent.

Douglas.

Support of Poor \$1,200.00

Patients at Prov. Hospital 260.00

Assessors to be paid 2½ per cent.

McAdam.

Support of poor \$100.00

Parish indebtedness \$80.00

Parish Clerk 6.00

Miscellaneous 350.00

Assessors to be paid 3½ per cent.

TENDERS FOR GRAVEL.

Sealed tenders addressed to G. R. Perkins, City Clerk, will be received up till the Eleventh Day of January, 1918, for delivery during the summer season at several different points in the city, of gravel suitable for city streets.

R. W. McLELLAN,
7 Ins. Chairman Street Committee.



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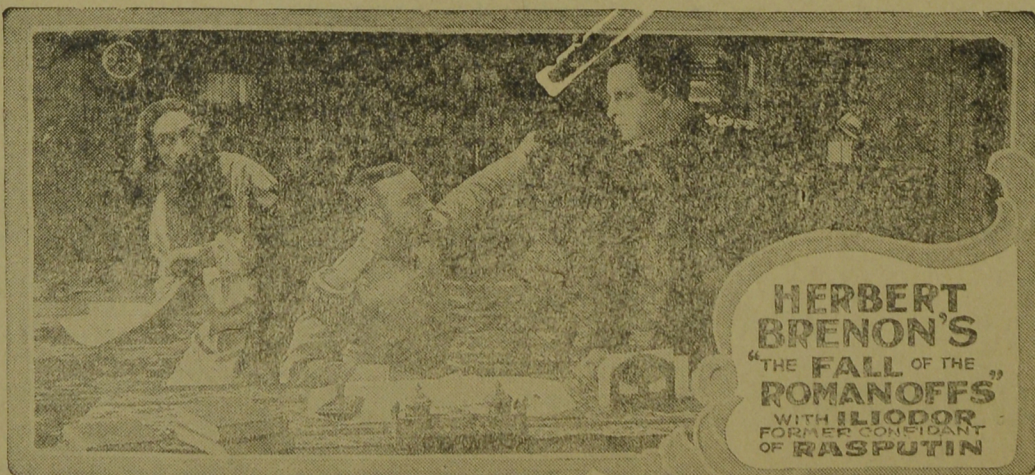
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