

## Make no Mistake in Date Wednesday Jan. 9

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Extra Today - - - Special TWO PART COMEDY

Mon.—WM. S. HART in "The Apostle of Vengeance."

## MR. TENNANT TELLS HOW SWAG WAS DISTRIBUTED

Counties in the Southern Part of the Province Were Given a Generous Allowance--York's Share was \$5000--Mr. Bell Tells the Whole Story.

St. John, Jan. 5. — After weeks of investigation which has lately been resumed in the Valley Railway inquiry the trail of the \$20,000 sent by W. B. Tennant as election funds to Thomas Bell led at yesterday's sessions to the law offices of J. B. M. Baxter.

Although his memory of a \$20,000 parcel being carelessly thrown into his open vault is lacking, Hon. Mr. Baxter has a "dim recollection" of seeing his clerk, J. A. LeBlanc, "handing something to Mr. Bell." He does not know "whether or not it was the parcel in question, but thinks it only fair to let the commission know that he has the recollection."

Further light also was thrown upon the note for \$20,000 drawn in favor of W. B. Tennant and signed by George B. Jones with the understanding that other signatures also would be attached. W. B. Tennant already has made two payments of \$5,000 each on this, although, according to George B. Jones' evidence he "squealed like a stuck pig." Mr. Jones says that he himself would squirm a bit if forced to pay any of the note and asserts that he will never do so "without a show-down." He claims that he was induced by promises to sign a \$20,000 note himself, and that he does not think it fair.

As soon as the morning session permitted him to leave, he rushed to Mr. Tennant's office and there, according to Mr. Tennant's testimony later, had an interesting dispute as to who should pay the note. Mr. Tennant says very pointedly that "Mr. Jones has not paid anything yet, but that the 'yet' must be spelled with a capital Y."

It is a remarkable thing concerning the testimony thus far that none of the witnesses, George B. Jones, Thomas Bell or J. B. M. Baxter, appears to have had much to do with W. B. Tennant in a political way, according to their own word, although all are leading members of the Conservative party in which Mr. Tennant has been active. Mr. Bell walks into J. B. M. Baxter's office — he "does not remember just why" — and gets from Dr. Baxter's clerk a \$20,000 package which had been left by Mr. Jones. He knows nothing at all of Mr. Tennant's connection with the money, although it was obtained originally from him. Hon. Mr. Baxter has a "dim recollection" of a parcel being handed over but, according to his evidence, made no inquiries as to its nature or destination. How long the money remained in the safe of the then attorney general before Mr. Bell called for it does not appear.

Frequent answers to questions at yesterday's session when the trail grew warm were: "I don't know" and "I can't remember," while Mr. Baxter's "dim recollection" was something of a novelty.

The inquiry is to be resumed next Thursday morning at 10 o'clock, and intimation was made that all members of the late government would be called.

George B. Jones, M.L.A., of Kings county, was interrogated as to the \$20,000 which campaign money referred to yesterday and which he had received from W. B. Tennant to give to Thomas Bell, treasurer of the local Conservative organization. Jones said Bell was not in when he called and so he took the money to J. B. M. Baxter's office and there put it in the safe. In reference to a \$20,000 election note, floated which he had signed he said he did not know who else was on it. Half of it had been paid and the rest was under discount in St. John. When asked who paid the \$10,000 he asked to have that question left until he could have counsel.

Q.—Did Mr. Tennant intimate to you that you were the only person who signed the note?

A.—He did on the renewal and I said that I did not.

Q.—Where did you sign the note?

A.—At home. Mr. Tennant mailed them to me. I always destroyed any correspondence I received.

### Tennant Squealed.

"After the first renewal I refused to sign the note unless some of the others went on with me, which they evidently had not done. Mr. Tennant said that the election was over and it was hard to get them to sign up."

Q.—Did he ever get them?

A.—I don't know.

Q.—Who were they?

A.—I don't know.

After a short recess Jones said Tennant had paid the \$10,000 on the note, that Tennant "protested very hard and squealed like a stuck pig." I told him that according to the facts brought out by the Valley Railway inquiry, he could well afford to. I told him I certainly would not. It is not my intention to pay it without a show-down."

### Mr. Bell's Testimony.

Mr. Thomas Bell was the first witness called at the afternoon session. He told about getting a package of money from Mr. Baxter's office during the provincial election campaign. Mr. Jones told him that the package contained \$20,000. The money went into the campaign fund. He kept no records as to what counties the money went. He thought \$5,000 of the money went to Charlotte county. He thought about \$5,000 went to York county but was not sure. He did not remember how much went to Northumberland.

### Distributing the Swag.

Mr. Jones—I think it is necessary to find out where and to whom the money went.

Q.—Whom did the money go to in Westmorland?

A.—I think that if I give one I should give them all. At the same time I wish you would not press the question.

Mr. Stevens—Give us the names of those you can remember. Take York county.

A.—If I must, I will try to remember. John D. Palmer in York.

Q.—Carleton?

A.—I think his name was Wallace Gibson, in the lumber business.

Q.—Victoria?

A.—I don't remember.

Q.—Madawaska?

A.—I don't remember. I had an idea it was John E. Eagles.

Q.—Restigouche?

A.—I don't remember.

Q.—Gloucester?

A.—I don't remember.

Q.—Northumberland?

A.—There was some money, but I can't remember.

Q.—Kent?

A.—Some money was sent, but I do not remember to whom. I think \$5,000 was sent.

Q.—Westmorland?

A.—I ought to remember Westmorland, but it has slipped my memory.

Q.—Moncton city?

A.—I think \$1,000 was sent, but I don't remember to whom.

Q.—Albert?

A.—\$2,000 was sent there. I can't say to whom?

Q.—St. John?

A.—Mr. Tennant says I gave him \$2,000. I think he is right.

Q.—St. John City?

A.—I took care of that myself. I don't remember how much.

Q.—Kings?

A.—Geo. B. Jones, I think. I don't think it was \$4,000. I think it was \$5,000.

Q.—Queens?

A.—R. B. Hanson. He took care of Sunbury also. The amount would be about \$3,000.

Q.—How much in St. John?

A.—I think between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Q.—Did you know J. D. Palmer, of Fredericton, was a director of the railway when you paid him the money?

A.—I knew him as such, but I did not pay it to him as such. I am only giving my impressions and recollections of the payments and to whom they went. I cannot remember them.

(Continued on page 4.)

Just remember the name

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Choice Peas	17c "
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Choice Peaches	17 and 25c "
Bakers Cocoa, (bulk)	35c lb.
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