

# THE DAILY MAIL

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SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1919

DESERVED CONDEMNATION.

In commenting on the vote of censure passed by the Legislature on four of the Opposition members, the St John Globe says:

"The fourteen who recorded their opinion that the facts disclosed warranted a motion 'expressing regret that greater care was not exercised' and 'deprecating' the suppression of facts, were the same fourteen who voted against the declaration that the conduct of the members was 'highly reprehensible,' 'calculated to lower the dignity of the House' and merited 'censure' and resignations. What will follow? The majority in the House has declared for the resignation of four leaders of the opposition. The opposition itself has declared a want of confidence in the business leadership, administrative skill and political acumen of three of those four. Can the situation remain as it was left by the legislative vote? Having passed a censure on certain members, and declared that they should resign, the government can hardly let the matter drop. Regardless of what the government may do, Thursday's vote makes opposition reorganization imperative. The fourteen men who declared their colleagues had not exercised proper care in the purchase of the province's gift to Belgium, and who condemned the policy adopted in suppressing the facts, cannot possibly stultify themselves by acknowledging the leadership and direction in party affairs of any they have thus condemned. The resolution carried has created for the government an interesting situation. The resolution defeated has created for the opposition an equally interesting situation. Both resolutions condemn and denounce the potato transaction, and while there is a considerable difference in the terms used, there is no actual difference in the result. It was a rotten business and the members of the Legislature have placed themselves on record as saying so."

Mr. Pinder, M. P. P., who built a railway which is costing the province \$4,500 a year, besides its share of the interest in the Federal subsidy, says he never knew a Liberal government to go out of office except as the result of thieving. The old gentleman should tell what put the Murray government out of office and while on the subject he should state whether the Roblin government in Manitoba and the McBride government in British Columbia were Liberal governments. He should also tell why, when his friends were in power in this province, he was not permitted to handle patronage.

While the potato politicians condemned by vote of the Legislature, spent a lot of time abusing Commissioner McQueen, they utterly failed to show wherein his report was not based on the sworn evidence taken at the enquiry. And in this connection it might be pointed out that the principal witnesses at the inquiry included Messrs. J. A. Murray, J. B. M. Baxter, B. F. Smith, George B. Jones and Rev. J. B. Daggett.

Mr. Campbell, of St. John, who is probably the most highly respected man on the opposition side in the Legislature, was selected to move the whitewash amendment to the government's resolution condemning the potato politicians. He was evidently not very proud of the honor conferred on him, as his speech was the shortest delivered during the debate.

The four members of the Legislature whose conduct was described by a resolution as "highly reprehensible and calculated to lower the standard of public life," took their seats yesterday just as if nothing had happened. It cannot very well be said that they are lacking in nerve.

Although back bench members of the opposition are convinced that their leaders were guilty of business incapacity and deception, they are still apparently willing to follow them. In other words, they have been brought to time by the crack of the party whip.

## LEGISLATURE IS OPPOSED TO DAYLIGHT TIME

(Continued from page three.)

honest collection of stumps was responsible for the fine showing in that Dept. Hon. members opposite gave no credit to the Department for its splendid achievement and had confined their criticism to the administration of the game law. They must know that the hon. Minister was doing his best to protect the game, yet they complained because he made the law too drastic. He held that if game was to be protected, stringent laws were necessary and he would say to his hon. friends that if they knew of violations of the law they should not wait to come to the House but should give the information to the Hon. Minister of Lands and Mines.

With regard to the Department of Public Works he could say that it was well administered and the appropriations were well expended. The only reproach he had against the Hon. Minister was that he did not distribute the money as some of them would like and give a larger proportion to counties that had long been neglected. He hoped that during the coming year there would be a larger appropriation for Madawaska. That county was situated between Maine and Quebec where the people had good roads. There had been a marked improvement in Madawaska in recent years and he hoped before long they would be able to compete successfully with Maine and Quebec for automobile traffic.



MR. J. E. MICHAUD, M. P. P.

The Department of Agriculture was rendering good service. It had a capable head who devoted all of his time to its affairs. He believed the govt. was to be congratulated on the success of its administration in general. He was glad to know they were grappling with the great problems connected with re-construction. The resources of New Brunswick were capable of great development and in that respect he thought ore attention should be given to the subject of colonization. Good roads were also a necessity. Success could only be brought about by co-operation, not only between capital and labor but between the different elements composing the population, all should work together for the common good.

His hon. friend from St. John (Potts) had stated that he was in favor of revoking the Treaty of Paris, but it was well perhaps that nobody paid much attention to what that member said. It might be a good thing to grant him leave of absence so that he could airplane over to the Peace Conference where he might consort with the delegates from the Balkan States among whom he would feel perfectly at home.

MR. POTTS—Don't forget they are going to use the English language over there.

MR. MICHAUD said he thought all languages were being used over there. The hon. member in a previous speech had cast reflections on the province of Quebec. He (Michaud) held no brief for Quebec, but he could say that in political matters and in the moral fibre of its people it would compare favorably with the other provinces. The hon. member had said that only one language should be used in the country. He

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(Michaud) would like to join him in that but he did not think it would be in the interests of the province at large. He would not have referred to the matter had his hon. friend not brought it up and he hoped it would not be necessary to deal with it again. He appealed to both sides of the House to do what they could, to bring about unity among the different elements and in that respect they should not forget that it was men of different languages serving under Marshal Foch who had achieved the greatest victory of modern times.

Potts on Deck

MR. POTTS said he was privileged on a second occasion to follow a speaker from the other side who had raised a question of languages. The Minister of Public Works in his speech on the address had said that the English was dying out and that the French population was increasing. As an independent member he (Potts) was prepared to give his views and if necessary go down for the principle for which he stood. He was honest when he said that he was for preserving the English language in the province. If what he had heard from the other side was to be the sounding trumpet he wanted his hon. friends to know that there were others who would heed the signal. He thought that the English language was the official language of New Brunswick and there was no law for any other.

If a man went to Quebec to sell goods he was told that they would not buy from him because he was not French. They were also told that if they did not have a French representative they could not do business in that province.

MR. MERSEREAU said he wished to protest against the remark made by the hon. member. He had done business in Quebec and knew that what the hon. member stated was not a fact.

MR. POTTS, continuing, said he could give concrete cases right in New Brunswick similar to what he had described as occurring in Quebec.

He did not have to go outside of the legislature in order to prove that what he had said was true. Some hon. member had pinned on his desk a notice, printed in French, bearing the name of the Minister of Lands and Mines. It was squandering public money to have to print public notices in both languages.

MR. BURCHILL asked if the C. G. R. management did not have notices at Railways crossing in both languages.

MR. POTTS remarked that what the hon. member had said was as true as what he (Potts) had been saying. That was a reason why they should work together. His hon. friend opposite (Michaud) thought today that he had found a weak point in his armor and had tried to put the probe in. He was glad he had. The more he probed the better he liked it. He had nothing to withdraw from what he had said previously. He believed that the mother tongue in this province should be preserved and he had as much right to think that as his hon. friend opposite had to want his own mother tongue preserved. He had said what he had in no personal spirit and believed that he could meet his friends French or English in the same spirit as ever.

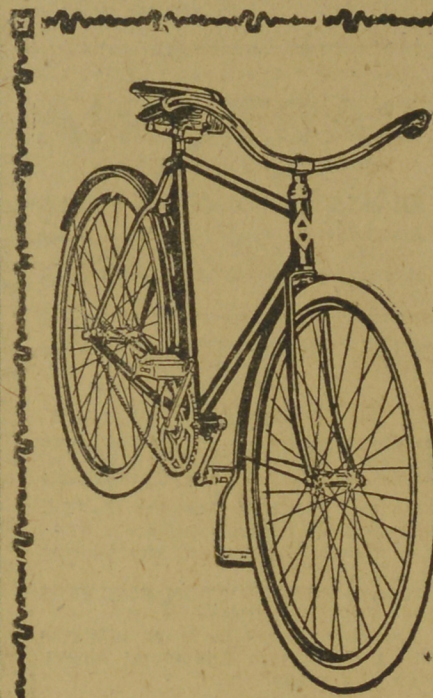
He was proud that he was on the side of the House where it could be seen some of the most honorable men who ever had legislated for the province. He would not have said that yesterday, but he could today. It had been the unpleasant duty of his colleagues and himself to sit in judgment on his hon. Leader and others and pass a verdict upon their conduct. It had been a severe judgment and it had been brought before the House. He thought credit was due to members of the opposition for going the length they had. On the other hand the govt. had come in with a resolution not to purify and improve political conditions but in order that its members and supporters might say to the country that they had asked these men to resign their seats. There had been an incident to which he must refer. When his hon. colleague (Campbell) had asked of the Premier a certain question it had been the Hon. Minister of Public Works who had got to his feet and mumbled out an explanation. At that time the face of the Hon. Premier showed plainly that he could not get

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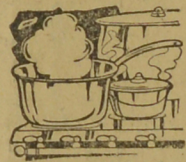
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on his feet. His hon. colleague had asked whether the resolution with regard to hon. members of the House had been prepared in advance and it had been the Permanent Roads Minister who had leaped to his feet and given the answer which trampling had prevented the Premier from giving. He (Potts) afterward had asked the Hon. Premier if the resolution had been printed in advance of the hearing of the hon. members in the House and in silence the Premier had sat in his seat. If there was anything the people hated it was a coward. And this was the Premier of New Brunswick, and let him remind the House that this

(Continued on page five)

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