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I wish to announce to my friends and the public generally that I have accepted the agency for the CANADA LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

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## NOTICE TO RETURNED MEN

Any returned men wishing to subscribe for the "Veteran" may do so by applying to Secretary E. H. Coy of the local G. W. V. A. at the G. W. V. A. rooms. The subscriptions have been taken out of the hands of the agents and in future will be subscribed to through the G. W. V. A. branches.

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## PUBLIC STENOGRAPHER

The Office of MISS MARY C. McCARTHY, Public Stenographer 445 (King street), which has been closed since August 15th, will be re-opened on THURSDAY, October 16th, for all lines of commercial and reporting work.

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## MAIL CONTRACT

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the Postmaster General will be received at Ottawa until noon on FRIDAY the 14th November, 1919, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails, on a proposed contract for four years, 3 times per week on the Tracey Station Rural Route No. 2, from the 1st April next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of tender may be obtained at the post office of Tracey Station and at the office of the Post Office Inspector.

H. W. WOODS,  
Post Office Inspector.  
St. John, N. B., Oct. 3rd, 1919.

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Those who expect to enter this school for the WINTER TERM opening JANUARY 5th, should write for full particulars NOW.

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HON. MR. VENIOT ON THE  
QUESTION OF WHARVES

The Minister of Public Works Deals With the Falsehoods of the St. John Standard—Puts the Blame for the Delay in the Transfer of the Wharves Where it Properly Belongs—Correspondence With the Federal Department of Public Works is Quoted.

To the Editor of The Telegraph.

Sir,—I notice that the Standard of yesterday attempts to justify its false statement touching the filling of the plans and transfers of the provincial wharves to the federal government by printing a letter purporting to be signed by the federal deputy minister of public works, Mr. Hunter. The Standard distinctly made the charge that I, as Minister of Public Works had so far "failed to file the surveys under which the transfer (of wharves) may be made." For such alleged neglect on my part that newspaper made a very bitter attack on both the government and the department over which I preside. When I gave to the public such facts as clearly proved that the Standard was not telling the truth, it now attempts to hide itself behind a letter which in no wise treats with the filing of the transfers in question. This letter signed by Mr. Hunter says: "In reply I would advise you that the transfer of these structures has not yet been fully completed." This applies to structures referred to in the letter written to him by some one, a copy of which does not appear in print. Why?

Were I unable to refer to the file in my office to prove that I had caused to be filed at Ottawa the plans and transfers, as already stated by me, the production of the Hunter letter alone would be sufficient to show that plans had been filed, because he says distinctly that "the transfer has not yet been fully completed." He does not attempt to show that no transfers had been filed. This is only another attempt on the part of the Standard to crawl out of a nasty position in which its inborn practice of misrepresentation has placed it.

The Standard produces Mr. Hunter's letter and asks its readers to "read what the deputy minister of public works has to say."—In doing this it hopes to leave the impression that I deliberately falsified the records in order to answer its former charge. The Standard has been so accustomed to deal with public men in its own party, who have on more occasions than one, deliberately and with premeditation, falsified the public records of this province, that I am not surprised at the attitude it now takes towards the department over which I have control. I may say to it that it can rest easy on that score, because there is no one in that department who has had any connection with patriotic potatoes or the boodling of the Valley Railway funds.

Now, Mr. Editor, in order to move clearly show how decidedly astray the Standard is, I will ask you to print a letter direct from the department of public works at Ottawa dealing with the filing of these plans and orders-in-council.

First permit me to explain as follows: In making my statement in your paper last Wednesday, I stated that the last lot was forwarded to Ottawa on August 3. This was an error. I was then speaking from memory, but in looking over the record I find I should have said July 29. Further I may say that out of seventy-seven transfers sent forth up to that time sixty-eight had been received in Ottawa up to July 12.

The following is a copy of a letter acknowledging the receipt and acceptance of sixty-eight transfers from Mr. Des Rochers secretary of the department of public works at Ottawa. This letter is in reply to one addressed to Hon. F. B. Carvell advising him of the forwarding of the transfers.

Ottawa, July 12, 1919.

Sir—I have been instructed to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters dated respectively July 2 and July 7 inst., together with one certified copy (with duplicate plans attached) of each of the sixty-eight orders-in-council passed by the provincial government, transferring certain wharf properties to the Dominion.

I understand that some further legislation was passed by the provincial legislature at its last session providing that the provincial government would save the Dominion harmless against any claim for compensation which may be made in connection with the wharf properties so transferred. I would be obliged if you would send me a copy of this Act, as requested in our minister's letter of June 20

last to the Hon. P. J. Veniot.

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) R. C. DESROCHERS,

Secretary

M. B. Dixon, Esq., Clerk of the Executive Council, Fredericton, N. B.

The copy of the act asked for in this letter has been forwarded some days before the request by myself, but the clerk of the executive forwarded another copy.

On August 2 Mr. Desrochers forwards another letter acknowledging the receipt of nine more wharf transfers none of which with one exception were situated on the St. John River.

The only question that ever arose between the federal and provincial departments touching those wharf transfers on the St. John River was in connection with the Glenwood and Public Landing wharves and this was settled without any delay and the MacGowan highwater wharf and the Upper Jemseg highwater wharf. These wharves had been transferred by order-in-council dated May 1 and were referred to the solicitor at Ottawa, who suggested some slight change, but we received no notice of this until August 15. The changes were made and consisted only of placing the high and low water wharves at both places in one order. By this it can be readily seen that all wharf transfers had been submitted to the federal solicitors and found correct and accepted by them.

with the exception of the four mentioned above.

You will see by the foregoing that the department at Fredericton did everything that was required under the act. If there remained anything to be done by the federal department in order to assume control of these wharves no fault for the delay can be attributed to the provincial department. The fact that there existed some difficulty in taking over two or three of the wharves is no reason why those taken over in July and even August would not be attended to by the federal department. If they did not believe that they were obliged to do so they certainly should have notified the provincial department.

The act includes some ninety wharves and wharf sites and it appears that only some seventy-seven orders-in-council were issued. For fear The Standard may think it has found a mare's nest I may say that in cases where the site contained a high water and a low-water wharf, as in the case in several instances on the St. John River the order-in-council includes both in one.

In its editorial comments The Standard gives the names of some sixteen wharves the majority of which it claims there was no attention given to. I may say that in carrying out the arrangement made with the federal government to keep wharves in repair until the transfers were made, for which the province was to be reimbursed, the provincial department, in the present fiscal year expended the sum of \$1,415.65 distributed as follows:

On general small repairs to	
Burton Wharf	\$383.33
Durham Wharf	482.98
Nuttall's Wharf	41.50
various wharves St. John River	129.56
Cedars Wharf	277.02
Poole's Wharf	101.46
Total	\$1,415.85

The Cedars wharf was not transferred with the others, owing to a misunderstanding between the two departments, which now being adjusted. Feeling confident that the delay in the matter of the transfer was not the fault of my department, I wired on Oct.

(Continued on page three.)

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A. C. McCULLOCH,

Department of Agriculture, Fredericton, N. B.

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