

THE DAILY MAIL

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1919

A SPLENDID SPEECH.

Premier Foster's able and comprehensive speech in the Legislature in the debate on the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne stands out in marked contrast to the fiery outburst of Mr. J. A. Murray, opposition leader, on the previous evening. The Premier was in good form and his speech is generally conceded to have been one of the best which the Legislature has listened to in many years. He did not indulge in "cheap talk" as did the leader of the opposition, but devoted his time to a review of large questions—questions in which the people are vitally interested—questions which affect the welfare of every man, woman and child in the province. It was not the speech of a swashbuckling politician, but that of a plain business man who is striving earnestly and successfully to improve the conditions of life in the good old province of New Brunswick and administer its affairs in an honest, capable and businesslike way. His speech was characterized by intense earnestness and it profoundly impressed the members of the House, just as it will impress the people of this province.

Besides presenting to the House a full account of the able stewardship of himself and colleagues, the Premier did not spare the fearful and wonderful political combination which occupies the space to the left of the Speaker. His pointed allusions to the Flemming and Tennant chancery suits, and to the activities of certain politicians in connection with the now celebrated patriotic potato enterprise, did not provoke any great amount of applause from the members of His Majesty's loyal opposition. The rival factions which sit on the Speaker's left do not constitute a happy family at the present time, and naturally the Premier's observations on patriotic potatoes and kindred topics did not add to their peace of mind.

The Opposition forces have thus far not covered themselves with glory in the debate on the address. Before the House met they boasted of the great things they were going to do to the government, but it looks as if they were going to have difficulty in delivering the goods. In fact, it would seem that the artillery of the opposition had been loaded with potatoes and spiked.

Premier Foster, in discussing the chancery suit entered by the government against the Valley Railway boarders, gave full credit to Mr. Baxter for the heroic efforts he is putting forth in a professional way to prevent the province from recovering the moneys wrongfully obtained by Flemming and Tennant and Nagle. As the Premier pointed out, Mr. Baxter's position as a member of the Legislature with respect to this case is a very peculiar one.

Mr. Tilley, M. P. P., contributed a fairly good speech to the debate on the Address in the House last evening. In commenting on the subjects outlined in the speech from the throne he offered some criticism of a constructive nature. Mr. Tilley is a useful member of the House, and it is said is grooming himself for the Opposition leadership, which is likely to soon become vacant. It is generally understood that he is not very proud of the exploits of the potato politicians of his party.

The debate on the address at Ottawa was brought to a sudden end yesterday by the lack of a quorum of fifteen members. It is the second occasion in the history of parliament when such an incident has happened, the last time being in 1917, when the Military Service Act was under discussion. When members do not display enough interest to attend the sittings of the House, a debate should very properly end and something of a more interesting nature be taken up.

Opposition Leader Murray, in the course of his "fighting speech" on the address, claimed that he and his associates had thousands of concrete

cases wherein ordinary roadwork had been paid for during the year and charged as permanent work. He then proceeded to cite a case where a check had been issued to a Kings county man for an outlay in the neighborhood of one dollar. The opposition stock in trade this session is based on small things.

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MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE OUTLINES BILL

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the provision of truck farms of smaller area nearer the cities for the soldiers whose disabilities will not permit of farming on a larger scale. These provisions he said, are the most generous afforded by any of the provinces.

After congratulating the farmers of the province upon the magnificent increase in grain production in response to the empire's appeal the minister related the steps taken by the department of agriculture which had made it possible to grow enough wheat to feed the province for a year.

It was the aim of the department to work on a strictly non-political basis for greater production, better quality and profitable markets.

Referring to the federal government proposal to establish cold storage facilities and an abattoir in Halifax, the minister said that he had advocated the choice of St. John as the site and was seeking the co-operation of the St. John Board of Trade in achieving this.

The exceptional opportunities afforded by the province for the production of sheep, stock which pays one hundred per cent per annum was touched on by the speaker who also told of the government measures to aid in increasing the flocks and the marketing of wool.

Government aid for hog raising, dairying, bee-keeping, cattle raising and poultry clubs and the satisfactory results were touched on and the minister made the interesting announcement that the department is arranging to bring in fifty pure-bred bulls for the improvement of stock.

Deputy Minister

Mr. E. P. Bradt, the new deputy minister of agriculture then addressed a few words to the assembled farmers thanking them for the kind attention they had given to the former speakers. He stated that with the co-operation of the farmers the work of the Agricultural Departments was very successful. At present the province was importing large quantities of beef which the speaker stated the province could raise itself, and he urged the farmers for a greater production along this line. He touched on the remarks of the former speakers and referred to the United Dairymen's Association formed at Sussex for increased production.

County Vice President's Report

On the motion of Mr. Doucette the County Vice-Presidents' Reports were laid on the table, to be taken up for discussion in full at the pleasure of the chairman of the meeting some time Wednesday morning.

Appointment of Committees

The appointments for the finance and resolutions committees were made as follows:

Finance Committee: H. D. Mersereau, Edward Scovil, D. J. Daigle.

Resolutions Committee: Isaac W. Baird, A. J. Gaudette, M. A. McLeod, Charles Fawcett and George E. Fisher. The resolution committee were appointed to receive resolutions and bring them up at Thursday's meeting in the proper form. The nomination committee was not appointed last evening.

MARYSVILLE HAPPENINGS

Marysville, Mar. 12—At the Dawson Club Bowling Alleys last evening Capt. Minue's team captured four points from Capt. Dunbar's team. The scores were as follows Minue 1264, Dunbar 1197.

Miss Geraldine Reid has recovered from her recent illness.

Mrs. Rowley Manzer is quite ill at her home in Sandyville suffering from the effects of a slight stroke of paralysis. Her condition today shows some slight signs of improvement.

Mr. Blake Dennison son of ex-Coun. and Mrs. M. V. Dennison who lately returned from overseas is visiting relatives at Boston.

Coun. J. W. Walker was in St. John yesterday on business.

HON. W. E. FOSTER DELIVERS SPEECH IN THE HOUSE

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the defendant by A. B. Connell, K. C., J. B. M. Baxter, K. C., and M. G. Teed, K. C. While it was admitted on the argument that there was a cause of action set forth in the statement of the claim and that therefore the action cannot be dismissed, the defendant was allowed to amend his defence by asking, in effect, that some other of the allegations upon which the interrogatories were based be struck out. The evident object of this amendment is that the defendant may avoid answering interrogatories. The court reserved judgment which will probably not be given until the next term in April.

Mr. Baxter's Part.

The principal argument for the defendant was made by the hon. member for the County of Saint John, who strenuously contended that the legislature helped to pass in 1918 was insufficient and did not accomplish the purpose intended. He was strenuously opposing the return of money to the exchequer of the province. He had been a member of the House when the Act was passed and he might say he did not vote for it, but he did not oppose it. He might also argue that he had a right to accept professional fees. His hon. friend as a member of the House was in a difficult position. In effect he argued that Flemming, Tennant and Nagle should retain this money. Two of these names came into his mind in connection with the election in St. John county. At East St. John Thomas Nagle had been a worker on behalf of his hon. friend, and at West St. John the largest poll in the constituency, W. B. Tennant had worked against him (Foster).

Boodlers Must Disgorge.

He could inform his hon. friend that the government differed decidedly on this matter. Its policy was to make these men disgorge if there was any law by which they could be compelled. The cases will be fought to a finish. He also could inform the House that the Crown's legal advisers had the greatest confidence in the outcome of this litigation and that when all technicalities should be brushed aside there would be a trial of the important questions involved. The attitude of the hon. gentlemen opposite was incomprehensible to him. They had been swept from power not altogether on account of the corruption which reigned during their regime, but because they refused to repent. They had passed the famous whitewash resolution on J. K. Flemming. He could tell them that unless they repented the people of New Brunswick would not change their opinion.

MR. BAXTER—Do you want us to repent and get back?

HON. MR. FOSTER—Come along, we will make the fight all the hotter.

Friends of Mr. Charles Fisher will regret to learn that he is again confined to his bed suffering from a complication of nervous troubles.

A number of young people gathered at the assembly room of the Dawson Club last evening where a very enjoyable time was spent in dancing.



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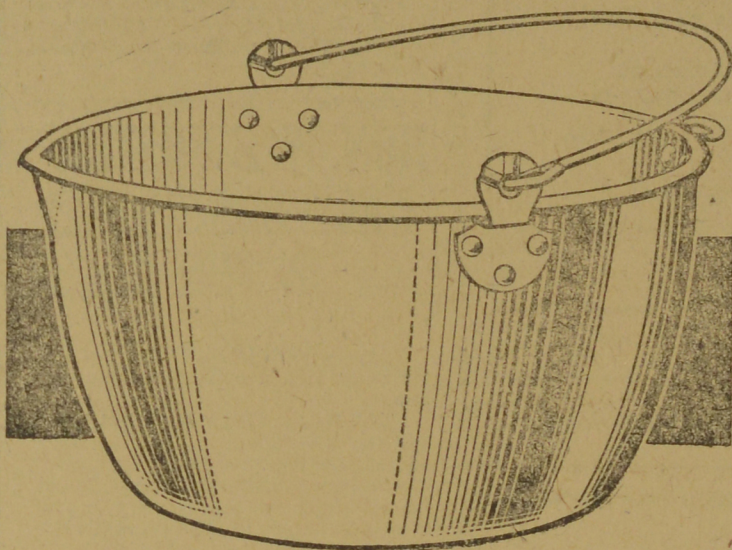
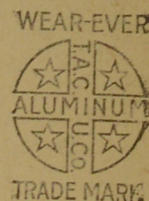
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Says the local graft organ in commenting on Mr. Murray's speech in the House on Monday: "Never for years has there been such an opening speech on the debate on the address." For once the organ has told the truth.



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